Fryderyk Chopin

1810–1849

100th Anniversary of Glos Polek • 200th Anniversary of Chopin’s Birth
2010 Youth Conference • 2010 Youth Trip to Poland
Early Spring Promotion • National Cash Raffle • Easter Traditions
Easter Coloring Contest • 2009–2010 Scholarship Recipients
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NEXT DEADLINES
FOR Głos Polek

May 2010 issue:
Deadline for articles is March 31

August 2010 issue:
Deadline for articles is June 30
Dear Members,

As we look ahead at the New Year—and at the new decade—there are many things we would no doubt like to change for the better. Who wouldn’t want an improved economy, an end to wars and strife, a more civil public discourse, a more efficient government? While we can affect some of these things by being involved as citizens, they remain beyond the scope of what a single person can hope to accomplish. There are, however, plenty of things we can do as individuals to make the world a better place in the coming year—and in the coming decade.

We can resolve to be kinder to our family members and coworkers. We can commit more time to volunteering and community service. We can extend a helping hand to friends and neighbors in need. And we can become more active members of PWA. In a world where life seems to be moving ever faster, sometimes spinning out of control, touching the lives of the people closest to us is the best way to remain grounded and to affect change.

There will be many ways for PWA members to become involved and touch others in the coming year. 2010 is the year we celebrate the 200th anniversary of the birth of one of the greatest Polish composers, Fryderyk Chopin. It is the year of the 100th anniversary of the “Glos Polek,” our own publication. It is the year of another PWA Youth Conference in Philadelphia and the year we offer our young members a chance to visit Poland.

You can take part in the musical tributes to Chopin that will be held all around the country and throughout the world, sharing the beauty of his music with your family and friends. You can contribute to our fundraising drive for the “Glos Polek” Centennial and become part of the historic centennial issue. You can motivate a young person to explore his or her Polish heritage by taking part in the youth trips planned this summer. And you can encourage others to join our organization in order to make new friends and find ways to make a difference in the lives of others.

It will be a busy year for all of us at PWA and I hope that you will join us in making this a special year for our organization as we pay tribute to our past, celebrate our heritage, and look forward to an exciting future!

I would like to extend my best wishes to all members and friends of PWA for a Happy New Year, a Happy Spring, and a Happy Easter!

Fraternally,

Virginia Sikora
National President
For the bicentennial of Fryderyk Chopin’s birth, many cities around the world are planning tributes to one of the world’s most beloved composers. Hundreds of events celebrating his music will take place in the next 12 months. Chopin Year 2010 officially kicked-off in Warsaw on January 7th with a concert at the Warsaw Philharmonic featuring the Chinese pianist Lang Lang.

Poland’s Chopin Bicentennial celebrations include the opening of a new museum dedicated to the composer, as well as numerous concerts in Poland, a ballet premiere, and a variety of educational programs. Other events include the 16th International Chopin Piano Competition; concerts at the Warsaw Philharmonic Hall and the Polish National Opera; and a touring festival that will play 1,200 concerts worldwide. The Chopin Museum will open in March 2010 in Warsaw as part of a Chopin Route that will highlight significant landmarks of the composer’s life. A Chopin Center near the Museum is set to launch in February. It will include a library, conference room, and offices.

Concerts, exhibits, and competitions will also take place this year in France, Austria, Britain, the United States, and China, among many other countries. The international appeal of the pianist and composer echoes his personal life. He was born in a small Polish village on March 1, 1810, to a Polish mother and a father with French origins; he lived in Warsaw as well as Vienna and Paris, and traveled extensively in Europe. He was a virtuoso performer and an innovative composer who changed the way music for the piano was composed and played by giving it a new prominence as a solo instrument. Chopin lives on in his music—which often echoes Polish folk tunes and ballads—and his waltzes, mazurkas, polonaises, ballades, etudes, preludes, nocturnes, sonatas, and concertos continue to find an enthusiastic audience around the world today, as they have for many generations of music lovers in the past.

For more information on Chopin’s Bicentennial events around the world, visit the official Chopin 2010 website at www.chopin2010.pl/en.
CELEBRATING THE 100th ANNIVERSARY OF GLOS POLEK
Join our Centennial Fundraising Drive!
See Donation Coupon on Page 6

Save the Date!
Centennial Banquet on September 26, 2010

The first issue of Glos Polek was published on November 3, 1910, and it has been in print, without interruption, for the past 100 years. Ours is one of very few publications in the United States that has been owned, edited, and managed by women for so long. It is truly an accomplishment we can be proud of!

A Centennial Exhibition, called “A Voice of Their Own” will open in Chicago in October 2010, and it will travel to a number of venues in the United States and Poland over the next two years. We will publish the schedule of the traveling exhibition in the next issue of the newspaper.

The exhibit will tell the story of PWA and its members taken from the front pages, articles, and photographs of the Glos Polek. It is a remarkable story of ordinary women living in extraordinary times. The exhibit will show how our organization grew and prospered and how it responded to the challenges the world faced in the last 100 years. A catalogue with the history of the PWA and photos of the exhibition objects will be printed and offered for purchase.

To raise funds for the exhibition, we are holding a Centennial Banquet in the Chicago area on September 26th, and asking our members and friends for their support of our Centennial Fundraising Drive. Banquet invitations will be mailed later in the year, but the Fundraising Drive kicks off on February 1st and ends on June 1st. Please use the coupon on page 6 to send in your donations, choosing the level of sponsorship that is right for you.

All donors will have their names published in the Centennial Issue of Glos Polek. Become a part of PWA history! Show your pride in our achievements! Make sure your name is included in the Centennial Issue of Glos Polek!
SUPPORT OUR FUNDRAISING DRIVE FOR THE GLOS POLEK EXHIBIT

“A Voice of Their Own”

Become a part of PWA history! Make sure your name is listed in the Centennial Issue of Glos Polek. Use the coupon on this page to send in your donations by June 1st.

DONOR LEVELS AND BENEFITS

**KRAKOWIAK**  $1 - $99
1. Name will be published in Centennial Issue of Glos Polek

**KUJAWIAK**  $100 - $199
1. Name will be published in Centennial Issue of Glos Polek
2. Donor will receive a copy of the Exhibition Catalogue

**OBEREK**  $200 - $499
1. Name will be published in Centennial Issue of Glos Polek
2. Donor will receive a copy of the Exhibition Catalogue
3. Name will be published in the Exhibition Catalogue

**MAZUR**  $500 - $999
1. Name will be published in Centennial Issue of Glos Polek
2. Donor will receive a copy of the Exhibition Catalogue
3. Name will be published in the Exhibition Catalogue
4. Invitation to Curator Tour and Cocktail Reception

**POLONAISE**  $1,000 and over
1. Name will be published in Centennial Issue of Glos Polek
2. Donor will receive a copy of the Exhibition Catalogue
3. Name will be published in the Exhibition Catalogue
4. Invitation to Curator Tour and Dinner Reception

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**GLOS POLEK CENTENNIAL – FUNDRAISING DRIVE – February 1 to June 1, 2010**

**Celebrating Our History with Pride!**

Name of Individual Donor as it will appear in the Centennial Issue (please print):
_________________________________________ PWA Group No. _______ (if applicable)

City/State: ____________________________________________

or

Number of Donor Group, Council, District as it will appear in Centennial Issue:
_________________________________________ City/State ________________________________

Choose Donor Level:

_____ KRAKOWIAK  $1 - $99  _____ KUJAWIAK  $100 - $199  _____ OBEREK  $200 - $499

_____ MAZUR  $500 - $999  _____ POLONAISE  $1,000 and over

Contact Info:
Name: ___________________________________________ Tel. No. _________________________
Address: ___________________________________________ City/State __________________________
Zip __________________
Email Address: ___________________________________________

Make checks payable to: **PWA Charitable and Educational Foundation (Memo: Glos Polek)**

Mail checks to: Polish Women’s Alliance, 6643 N. Northwest Hwy, 2nd Fl., Chicago, IL 60631

Questions: 1-888-522-1898, ext 206
ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP AND YOUTH FUNDRAISER

On Sunday, September 27, 2009, the Annual Scholarship and Youth Fundraiser of the PWA Educational and Charitable Foundation was held at the Rosewood Banquet Hall in Rosemont, Illinois. It was an elegant affair, with PWA officers and members as well as many guests and representatives of Polish American organizations in attendance. The goal of educating the next generation of young Polish Americans is a cause that deserves widespread support. Our youth is our future and encouraging them to achieve their academic goals has long been a cause supported by the PWA and its members.

The guests of honor included Bishop Thomas J. Paprocki, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Chicago who gave the invocation; Father Thaddeus Dzieszko, the Pastor of St. Constance Church who said benediction; Past President of District III Evelyn Lisek who led the singing of the national anthems; and Judge Aurelia Pucinski, Cook County Circuit Court - County Division, and PWA member, who was the keynote speaker.

National President Virginia Sikora served as Mistress of Ceremonies and welcomed the guests. Secretary-Treasurer Antoinette Trela was the Chairperson of the event. Vice President Sharon Zago, National Director Dawn Muszynski Nelson, and District I President Lidia Filus also attended. Entertainment was provided by students of the Paderewski Symphony Orchestra Music Academy. Music was by the Carl Linden String Ensemble. A raffle was conducted by Secretary-Treasurer Antoinette Trela Vander Noot and National Director Dawn Muszynski Nelson. All proceeds from the banquet will support PWA scholarships and youth activities. Sincere thanks to everyone who attended as well as to the patrons and well-wishers who submitted donations to the program book.

Photos clockwise from top: Guests and PWA members during cocktail reception; Students of the Paderewski Symphony Orchestra Music Academy perform on their violins; Officers and Guests at the Fundraiser, from left, Vice President Sharon Zago; Robert Maycan, Treasurer of the PACCF; National President Virginia Sikora; Father Thaddeus Dzieszko, Pastor of St. Constance Parish; National Director Dawn Nelson Muszynski; and Secretary-Treasurer and Chairperson of the Fundraiser Antoinette Trela Vander Noot.
COUNCIL 9 ELECTS OFFICERS

Chicago, IL—The following PWA members graciously accepted the nominations of the delegates of Council 9 and were voted into office for the year 2010 at the Council 9 election meeting held on December 12, 2009: Left to right in photo: Lillian Cook, Youth Director; Laura Pawlowski, President; Arlene Wlodarek, Vice President; Teresa Fic, Treasurer; and Sylvia Kania, Secretary, sworn in by Vice President Sharon Zago.

COUNCIL 27 ELECTION MEETING

Chicago, IL—The Election Meeting of Council 27 was held at the House of the White Eagle on Saturday, December 12, 2009. The following officers were elected at the meeting (from left in the photo): President Czeslawa Kolak, Vice President Lidia Filus, Secretary Bo Padowski, Treasurer Monika Serafin. Thanks for her many years of service as Council 27 Treasurer to Barbara Ciepiela of Group 114. Best wishes for a Happy New Year to all from Council 27.

COUNCILS 40 and 44 INSTALLATION

Councils 40 and 44 of District XIV held a combined Christmas Dinner and election of officers at Genetti’s Best Western, Wilkes-Barre. Elected and sworn into office by District XIV President Helen Lopez in the photo from left to right are: Council 40 (Wilkes-Barre): Bernardine Borinski, Treasurer, Marilyn Mazzarella, Recording Secretary, Cheryl Hillard, Vice President, Bernardine Regis, President. Council 44 (Scranton): Dorothy Talipski, President, Mary Ann Fritz, Vice President, Arlen Skrzyzowski, Recording and Financial Secretary, and Margie Milewski, Treasurer. Absent when picture was taken is Joann Jones, Financial Secretary of Council 40.

GENERATION TO GENERATION PROGRAM

Council 40, Wilkes-Barre, along with other organizations affiliated with the Polish American Congress of Northeastern Pennsylvania, provided a “Four Seasons of Poland” display at the Generation to Generation Dance held recently. The dance was sponsored by the Generation to Generation Committee of Luzerne County who invited PAC to present this program. Over 1,000 Luzerne County residents attended the event which featured three bands offering three different sounds: polka, big band, and rock ‘n’ roll. Felicia Perlick, President of PAC of NEPA and National Director of PWA coordinated the display with assistance from PWA members, in photo from left: Bernardine Borinski, Bernardine Regis, Rita Bosavage, Emelia Kramer, Cheryl Hillard, and Felicia Perlick. Also assisting were Carol and Michael Matiko, Bernard and Pam Dymond of PNA, and Bernard Kolodziej, Polish Union of NA.

Support the Glos Polek Exhibit Fundraising Drive
Make sure your family name is included in the Centennial Issue of Glos Polek.
See pages 5 and 6 for details
Council 27 Christmas Party for Children

Chicago, IL—The annual Children’s Christmas Party of Council 27 was held on Saturday, December 5, 2010, at the PWA Home Office. In attendance were 30 children and 30 adults. The chair of the event was Bo Padowski and her assistants were Antoinette Trela Vander Noot, Maryla Folmer, Teresa Makowski, Grace Dubowski, and Renek Pietrzyk who took on the role of Sw. Mikolaj/Santa. Together with his helpers, Alex Vander Noot and Matthew Stadnicki, Santa gave out gifts to every child at the party. A very merry time was had by all!

Council 9
Children’s Christmas Party

Chicago, IL—Santa arrived just in time to listen to the hopes and desires of Council 9 children for when he comes to visit them on Christmas Eve. The children enjoyed photos with Santa, ornament making, a home-cooked luncheon, Christmas carols in English and Polish, and a generous raffle. A special raffle of two very large prizes (one for a boy and one for a girl) was provided by Council Secretary, Teresa Fic. Thank you to the Committee for organizing such a fun event: Arlene Wlodarek, Barbara Kopala, Eleonore Kownia, Sharon Zago, Sean Meehan, Dillon Cook, Stephen Cook (Santa), Lillian Cook, and Judy Cook.

10-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF MARIE SKŁODOWSKA CURIE POLISH LANGUAGE SCHOOL

The Polish Language School that was launched 10 years ago in Park Ridge, with the support of PWA District I, celebrated its tenth anniversary on October 17, 2009, at St. Juliana School in Chicago, IL, where classes are held during the school year on Saturday mornings. The school has been a huge success and now has an enrollment of 160 students, from kindergarten through high school. The anniversary celebration was very well attended and included the consecration of the school’s banner, which has a picture of Marie Curie Sklodowska on it, by Father Wladyslaw Podeszwiw, as well as performances by the students. PWA was represented by Vice President Sharon Zago and District I President Lidia Filus (see photo). Greetings from National President Virginia Sikora were read to the students and assembled guests. Congratulations to principal Agnieszka Trzupek, the teachers, staff, parents, and students of Marie Sklodowska Curie School. We wish you many more years of continued success.

Corrections:

Fall 2009 issue of Glos Polek, page 13: The sentence about Marie Sklodowska Curie’s first Nobel Prize should have read: “[She won] the first one in 1903 with her husband Pierre Curie and Antoine Henri Becquerel.” The words “Pierre Curie and Antoine” were omitted in error.

Fall 2009 issue of Glos Polek, page 24: The name of Leonore M. Attfield of Gr. 456 Niagara Falls, NY, was erroneously included in the In Memoriam list. We are happy to report that Leonore Attfield is alive and well. Our sincere apologies.
ANNOUNCING HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS FOR SENIORS GRADUATING IN 2010

Polish Women’s Alliance of America offers two special scholarships for high school seniors graduating in 2010. There are two awards in sports and two awards in academics. Each award is worth $500 in value. Komitet Oswiaty and the Scholarship Committee recognize that students who make a commitment to dedicate themselves to a high academic level or high sportsmanship level benefit society by their service to others and should be rewarded.

You can read the scholarship requirements and fill out the forms online on our website at www.pwaa.org/youth.html. The application period is February 1 to March 15, 2010.

This is the third year that we are able to offer two awards in each category due to your support of our cash raffle. See page 12 for this year’s raffle info. We thank you for the opportunity to give back to our youth through your generosity. See our 2009 – 2010 Scholarship Recipients on pages 23-26 of this issue.

PWA POLISH LANGUAGE CLASSES

Study Polish language and culture. Become inspired by Polish history and tradition. Join our Polish Classes for Adults, offered Thursdays at the PWA Home Office at 7:30 p.m “POLISH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE I - BEGINNING POLISH FOR ADULTS” Bilingual classes in Polish and English. Offered for 10 weeks starting January 21, 2010.

“TREASURY OF POLISH LITERATURE & FILM” Bilingual classes in Polish and English. Offered for 10 weeks starting April 8, 2010.

You can get more info and download the syllabus for the classes from our website at www.pwaa.org. Contact Vice President Sharon Zago for more information or to register at 1-888-522-1898, ext 208.

PWA YOUTH CONFERENCE IN PHILADELPHIA
July 14 – 18, 2010
For PWA Members Ages 14 – 16

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION EXTENDED TO MARCH 15th

Join us this summer for a memorable experience! Have fun! Travel! Learn! Make new friends!

You and other PWA members from around the country will get a chance to explore your American and your Polish heritage in Philadelphia and its surroundings. A busy and fun-filled program has been prepared for you. Register now! You have until March 15, 2010, to sign up for the Conference.

The itinerary for the five days of the Conference is printed below. You can find more details on our website at www.pwaa.org/youth.html. Please note that the itinerary is subject to change.

July 14 – Arrive in Philadelphia, check into downtown hotel, Ride the Ducks boat tour, dinner at City Tavern, Independence Hall Light Show

July 15 – Independence Hall, Liberty Bell, Polish American Cultural Center, Kosciuszko House, Betsy Ross House, Dinner and Murder Mystery

July 16 – Battle of Brandywine battlefield tour, Constitution Center, IMAX movie in Franklin Institute, pizza and movie night

July 17 – Battleship New Jersey tour, Trip to Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa in Doylestown, Ghost Tour of the historic haunted town of New Hope

July 18 – Check out, fly home.

Letters of invitation and registration forms were mailed to all eligible PWA members in November. If you did not get a letter or if you or your parents have any questions, please call Youth Conference Chair Sharon Zago at 1-888-522-1898 ext 208.
**Friday, February 12**
Council 27 meeting at the PWA Home Office at 5 pm. All delegates are invited to attend. Contact Czeslawa Kolak, President, at 773-792-1352.

**Tuesday, March 16**
Council 3 Meeting at 12 noon at the Ford Community and Performing Arts Center, East Entrance (Senior Center entrance) 15801 Michigan Ave Dearborn, MI. Contact: Judy Szecz, President, at (313) 843-6775.

**Saturday, April 10**
District I Swieconka at the House of the White Eagle, Niles, IL. Entry at 11:30 a.m., luncheon at 12:30 p.m. Adults $29. Children $14. A raffle will be held. All proceeds to benefit District I Scholarships. Please call President Lidia Filus for reservations by April 3 at 847-698-0250.

**Sunday, April 11**
Group 341 Krakowianki meeting from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Panera Bread Company conference room, 3401 Boulevard of the Allies, Pittsburgh, PA. Contact Vicki Niemiec at 412-472-5754.

**Sunday, April 18**
District III Swieconka “Blessed Food” at the Carmelite Banquet Hall, 1628 Ridge Rd., Munster, IN. Entry at noon, dinner at 1 p.m. Reservation deadline April 12. Cost $25. Send checks made payable to PWA District 3 to: Delphine Huneycutt, 4909 Baring Ave, East Chicago, IN 46312. For more info, please call 219-398-9069.

**Tuesday, June 15**
Council 3 Meeting at 12 noon at the Ford Community and Performing Arts Center, East Entrance (Senior Center entrance) 15801 Michigan Ave Dearborn, MI. Contact: Judy Szecz, President, at (313) 843-6775.

**Sunday, September 2**
Save the date! **Głos Polek** Centennial Banquet, Rosewood Restaurant & Banquets, Rosemont, IL. All members and guests are invited to attend the 100th Anniversary celebration of our own publication. Cocktails at 4 p.m. Dinner at 5 p.m. Tickets $100. For more info, please call 1-888-522-1898, ext. 206.

**LOWICZ DANCERS RECITAL**
On Sunday, March 28, 2010, the Lowicz Dancers of PWA Gr. 786 will hold their Fifth Annual Recital at 2:30 pm in the auditorium of Berkley High School, 2325 Catalpa, (south of 12 Mile and east of Coolidge) in Berkley, Michigan. Tickets will be available at the door and are $5 for adults and $3 for children. Contact: Barbara Misiolek Gamble (248) 689-7993 or visit the Lowicz Dancers web page on the PWA website at www.pwaa.org/lowiczdancers/.

**PWA Invites Members and Friends for an Unforgettable Tour of London and Paris April 2010**
Join PWA and Collette Vacations on a seven-day tour of London and Paris from April 15 to April 22, 2010.

Visit Big Ben and Buckingham Palace, the Eiffel Tower and Notre Dame, and spend time exploring other sights of two of the world’s most beautiful and famous cities!

The tour is open to all PWA members as well as family and friends. Please spread the word. It will be an unforgettable experience, whether this is your first time visiting these cities or a return trip.

You can see the itinerary for each day and learn more about the cost and deadlines here: http://www.collettevacations.com/group-page/index.cfm?ID=368823 or you can contact: Vice President Sharon Zago at 1-847-384-1208 with questions.

**UPCOMING FOUR FRATERNAL EVENTS**

**Saturday, February 20, 2010**
Polish American Day at the United Center, Chicago, IL. See the Chicago Bulls play starting at 7 p.m. Group tickets are available.

**Thursday and Friday, May 21–22, 2010**
First Annual Adult Four Polish Fraternals Bowling Tournament, Pittsburgh, PA. See insert in this issue of **Głos Polek** for registration form and more information. Registration deadline is April 15, 2010.

**Date to be Announced**
Chicago Wolves hockey game, to benefit the Bishop Abramowicz Seminary.

For more details on these events, please call 847-384-1208.
PWA NATIONAL CASH RAFFLE

This is your chance to WIN BIG with POLISH WOMEN’S ALLIANCE!

Win $4500 in Prize Money
Return your lucky tickets as soon as possible.

Entries must be postmarked June 1, 2010, to be eligible.

GRAND PRIZE $ 2000
Second Prize $ 1000
Third Prize $ 500
Fourth Prize $ 250
Fifth Prize $ 250
Sixth thru Tenth Prizes $ 100

Drawing will be held on June 19, 2010 in Springfield, Massachusetts.
Proceeds to benefit Komitet Oswiaty, the PWA Education Committee, promoting Polish culture and heritage and supporting our youth.

Please support our 2010 National Raffle. Watch for your tickets in the mail. You could be one of the lucky winners!

PWA BOOK CLUB
Books and Films

The list of books and films for 2010 has just been announced below. If you live in the Chicago area, please join our weekly discussions on Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. at the PWA Home Office. If you cannot attend the Book Club meetings, why not read along? You can send us your book reviews and we’ll be happy to post them online. Our moderator is Professor Ireneusz R. Raciborski, MA, who is also the instructor for the PWA Polish Language classes. Watch our website at www.pwaa.org for dates and locations of film viewings.

We will be reading five books in English, and watching the corresponding films, as follows:
– Nights and Days, by Maria Dabrowska
– Emigrants, by Stanislaw Mrozek
– On the Bank of the Niemen, by Eliza Orzeszkowa, Honorary Member of PWA
– Solaris, by Stanislaw Lem
– Fire in the Steppe, (Pan Wolodyjowski), by Henryk Sienkiewicz

For more information, please contact Vice President Sharon Zago at 1-888-522-1898, ext. 208, or see the full list of books and films on our website at www.pwaa.org.

REQUEST FOR FORMS

Please check the forms you would like to receive:

_ CHANGE OF BENEFICIARY
_ CHANGE OF ADDRESS
_ ADULT RATES FOR LIFE INSURANCE
_ YOUTH RATES FOR LIFE INSURANCE
_ LIFE INSURANCE APPLICATION
_ ANNUITY RATES & APPLICATION

NAME: ___________________________ GR.NO. ________
ADDRESS: __________________________________________
CITY/STATE: __________________________ ZIP: ________
TEL: __________________________
EMAIL ADDRESS: __________________________

MAIL FORM TO:
Polish Women’s Alliance of America,
6643 N. Northwest Hwy, 2nd Fl.
Chicago, IL, 60631

Group 814 PWA Essay Contest Winners

Group 814 California was proud to have two winners in the “Best Memories of the Summer of 2009” Essay Contest. Patricia Senkow wrote a hilarious spoof on the traditional family camping trip and her exploits during the trip, earning an Honorable Mention and $25. Sharon Morris won First Prize and $100 for her effort. She wrote about her trip with a group and all of her adventures and misadventures, which included hoop skirts, period clothing and a bus…. They were surprised to be awarded at the Group 814 Christmas Party on December 5, 2009. To find out more and read the essays, please visit the PWA website. In the photo from left: Patricia Senkow, District XIII President Alicia Van Laar, Sharon Morris, and Group 814 President Mary Anne Wilk.
**Welcome to Our New Members!**

A warm welcome is extended to these new members (from August 2009 – November 2009).

We are so glad you have joined us!

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<td>Antonio J Flores</td>
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Early Spring Promotion

Insurance Corner: Ask Bo
with Bo Padowski

Q: I would like to apply for the Education Life Builder Plan for my 4 and 11 year-old grandchildren. However, I looked on your website www.pwaa.org and noticed that the rates only go up to age 10. What can I do?

A: That’s right, the Education Life Builder Plan can be purchased for children up to age 10. So you can apply for this plan for your younger grandchild but for the 11 year-old I would recommend the new SILVER EQUITY POLICY, or you could apply for this new plan for both grandchildren.

The New PWAA Silver Equity Policy was created for children from newborn to age 15, with a benefit payable at age 25. It is similar to the Education Life Builder Plan. The Silver Equity Policy is also a combination of an annuity policy and whole life insurance. The annuity policy is similar to a savings account with interest compounded yearly. The life insurance certificate is a whole life insurance policy, which accumulates cash value and may earn dividends, which allows you to purchase additional paid-up insurance, just like our regular life insurance certificates. The annuity builds to the face amount at attained age 25.

Premiums can be paid as a Single Payment or Annually over a period of 10 years. In Poland, we call this kind of policy “Polisa Posagowa” or a Dowry Policy. When the child starts his or her adult life, they will get the accumulated funds to help with any financial needs they may have at that time in their lives. They can pay off student loans, buy a car, get married, or maybe even have a down payment for their first home or condo.

The Silver Equity Policy can be purchased from $1,000 up to $25,000. You will find the rates and applications on our website www.pwaa.org. Or you can contact me by phone at 888-522-1898 or email at padowski@pwaa.org. Sample rates for $1,000 face amounts are on page 15 of this issue.

EARLY SPRING PROMOTION
February 15, 2010 to May 31, 2010

Apply for one of the Whole Life Insurance Policies from the current PWAA portfolio or open a new Annuity Account during this promotion and receive a FREE GIFT, a beautiful colorful 12-page booklet Easter in Poland with Polish Easter Traditions and Recipes.

This promotion is available to all PWAA members and friends, ages from newborn to age 85.

We offer Single Payment or 10-Year Pay Whole Life Plans with Face Amounts from $1,000 to $25,000.

You will find sample rates on page 15 and an application on page 16. If you need more information or rates, please visit our website at www.pwaa.org, or call our Home Office toll-free at 888.522.1898 ext. 228, or send email to padowski@pwaa.org.

To apply, simply complete a life insurance application and mail it to us with the applicable premium payment payable to:

Polish Women’s Alliance of America
6643 N. Northwest Hwy. 2nd Floor,
Chicago, IL 60631-1360

Hurry! If you apply on or before March 15, 2010, we will add a bonus, a beautiful 16-page booklet from the same series,

Christmas in Poland, with Polish Christmas Traditions, Polish Christmas Carols, and Recipes.

2009 IRA CONTRIBUTIONS

Tax Season is here! The 2009 annual contribution limits for both Traditional IRAs and Roth IRAs are $5,000 under age 50 and $6,000 for age 50 or older. The deadline for contributions for 2009 is April 15, 2010. Be sure to check with your tax adviser if you qualify to contribute for 2009 and which plan is better for you.

If you need an application for a Traditional IRA, Roth IRA, or an Annuity, go to our website at www.pwaa.org and click on Forms, where you’ll be able to find all applications for Life Insurance and Annuities as well as forms for Change of Beneficiary, Change of Address, and more. Or you can use the Request Form on page 12.
Early Spring Promotion

SAMPLE RATES FOR PWA EARLY SPRING PROMOTION INSURANCE PLANS

WHOLE-LIFE INSURANCE - $1000 FACE AMOUNT
Ages 0 to 20 (nearest birthday)

10 Year Payment Life
Annual Payment

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Single Payment Whole Life

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For rates for ages 21 and older please call 888-522-1898 ext 228, or send email to padowski@pwaa.org.

SILVER EQUITY POLICY – $1000 FACE AMOUNT
Ages 0 to 15 (nearest birthday)

10-Year Payment Whole Life plus Annuity (Annuity equal to Face Amount payable at age 25)

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Single Payment Whole Life plus Annuity (Annuity equal to Face Amount payable at age 25)

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For more rates or different face amounts for these plans, please call 888-522-1898 ext 228, or send email to padowski@pwaa.org.

TAX TIME!! PWAA ANNUITIES!!
OPEN A TRADITIONAL OR ROTH IRA
with Polish Women’s Alliance of America

The higher your initial premium, the higher your first-year interest rate on a NEWLY-OPENED Annuity up to 4.25%

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<tr>
<td>$100,000 and over</td>
<td>4.25%</td>
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</table>

Don’t wait! Let your hard-earned money start working for you today!

The minimum initial deposit to open any PWAA Annuity contract is $250. Call 888-522-1898 ext. 228 or 226 for more information and an application. Or send email to padowski@pwaa.org. Get a Free Gift for any new annuity opened between February 15, 2010, and May 31, 2010.

Glos Polek
Winter/Spring 2010
Early Spring Promotion

From February 15, 2010 to May 31, 2010

For a limited time only
$1000 Insurance Policies are back!

**$1000 WHOLE LIFE POLICY**
Ages newborn to 85
10-Year Payment Plan or Single Payment Plan

**SILVER EQUITY POLICY**
Ages newborn to 15
Benefit payable at age 25
10-Year Payment Plan or Single Payment Plan

**FREE GIFT!**
Get a beautiful booklet *Easter in Poland* with each new policy.

To Apply:
Fill out the application on this page and mail it with the applicable premium payment payable to:

Polish Women’s Alliance of America
6643 N. Northwest Hwy, 2nd FL.
Chicago, IL 60631-1360.

See sample rates on page 15.

Call 888-522-1898 ext 228 for more information.

---

CREDIT CARD AUTHORIZATION

Please charge a one-time premium of $ ________________________ to my ____ VISA ____ MASTER CARD or ____ DISCOVER card.

Name on Credit Card _________________________________________________

Card Number _______________________________ Exp. Date _______________

Signature ________________ Billing Address_____________________________

Zip Code __________________
Participate in Polish Women’s Alliance of America Membership Cruise Contest!
Win a fabulous cruise for two to the Bahamas!
Contest starts June 1, 2009 – ends May 31, 2010

General Terms of Contest:
1. You must submit at least 15 new life insurance applications with a total face amount of at least $70,000.
2. Only Whole Life insurance policies qualify (annuities do not count).
3. Each submitted application must be approved and a certificate must be issued and accepted.
4. You must sign the application as the witness. The witnessing member must be 21 years of age or older and in good standing with PWA (no delinquent loans or premiums). Licensed agents, National Officers and PWA staff are excluded.
5. In the event of a tie, the witnessing member who obtains the higher total face value of new applications will be declared the winner.
6. In the event of a tie in both the number of applications and face amount totals, the winning member will be chosen in a drawing. The drawing will take place at the Home Office on June 15, 2010.
7. Eligible members who are part of the drawing and do not win, will receive a $300 bonus award.

The witnessing member who enrolls the most new members will win A 4-night Bahamas cruise for two in 2010 including round trip air fare to Port of Embarkation for two.

Questions? Call 888-522-1898 ext 228
Easter Traditions

Polish Easter Eggs – Pisanki

Eggs are a symbol of spring and rebirth all around the world, and they have also become the most enduring symbol of Easter and the Resurrection. In Poland, Easter egg-making has developed into a true art form and there are as many methods of making them as there are traditions and rituals associated with them. Easter eggs are called pisanki in Polish, which comes from the word pisać, which means to write. Designs are drawn or words are written on a hardboiled egg with a wax stylus, then placed in a dye. When the wax is scraped off, a white pattern is revealed on the colored egg.

Although pisanka has come to mean Easter egg in Polish, it represents only one of the methods used to decorate eggs in Poland. Here are some of the most popular types of Polish Easter eggs:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pisanki</td>
<td>Eggs with wax patterns “written” or drawn on them, then dyed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kraszanki</td>
<td>Solid-color eggs, dyed with plant materials such as beets, onion skins, and leaves</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malowanki</td>
<td>Hand-painted eggs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drapanki</td>
<td>Solid-color eggs with a design scratched onto the surface</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wyklejanki</td>
<td>Eggs decorated with colored yarn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nalepianki</td>
<td>Eggs decorated with paper cut-outs or straw</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sometimes, hollow eggs are used instead of hardboiled. The eggs can then be displayed all year long, ensuring good health and prosperity. The solid-color eggs were used for consumption; the decorated and hollow eggs would be saved from year to year. Once blessed in church on Holy Saturday, eggs were never thrown out, nor were the eggshells. Instead they would be buried in the garden or field as crops were sown, bringing good fortune and ensuring a good harvest. The water used in cooking Easter eggs was also saved and used to water fruit trees and to wash beehives. This was believed to result in sweet-tasting fruit and delicious golden honey.

Before Święcone, the traditional Polish Easter Brunch, a blessed Easter egg is shared by the family, as Easter wishes are exchanged. Pets and livestock were given a blessed Easter egg to eat as well.
**Polish Palms**

Since palm trees do not grow in Poland, people bring pussywillow branches, bundles of colored straw, or wildflower bouquets instead of palms to church on Palm Sunday. Parishioners form a procession through the streets and around the church, carrying their “palms” and celebrating the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. The priest blesses the palms during Mass and they are later tucked behind holy pictures in Polish homes and said to bring good luck and blessings to the family all year long.

**What Is in a Polish Easter Basket?**

On Holy Saturday, Poles around the world go to church with their Easter baskets to have them blessed by a priest. The food from the basket is then placed on the Easter table and shared during Świecone, the name of the Easter brunch that is served after Mass on Easter Sunday. The contents of the Easter basket are both traditional and symbolic, reflecting the religious meaning of the Easter holiday.

- **Pisanki**  
  Easter eggs are the symbol of life and rebirth.

- **Chleb**  
  Bread is a symbol of Christ, the Bread of Life.

- **Chrzan**  
  Horseradish symbolizes the passion and suffering of Christ.

- **Sól**  
  Salt is an element that is needed to sustain life and has long been a symbol of prosperity and Polish hospitality.

- **Kiełbasa**  
  Polish sausage symbolizes abundance and God’s generosity.

- **Masło**  
  Butter symbolizes goodness and is usually placed in the basket in a little dish or shaped into a lamb.

- **Baranek**  
  The lamb is a symbol of Christ, the Lamb of God. It can be made of butter, sugar, or chocolate.

- **Wino**  
  A small jar of wine symbolizes the blood of Christ.

- **Woda**  
  A small jar of water is placed in the basket to be blessed along with the food. It is then used during the year to bless the home as well as fields, gardens, and livestock.

- **Świeca**  
  A candle that is blessed in church on Holy Saturday is lit in the home on later in the day and used during the year in times of illness or death of family members. It symbolizes the victory of light over darkness, of goodness over evil.

The basket is usually covered with a white linen or lace cloth and decorated with greenery, pussywillows, and daffodils.

**Śmigus – Dyngus**

Dyngus Day or Wet Monday is the name for Easter Monday in Poland. This tradition dates back to the old pagan custom of purification by water before the coming of spring, that is still practiced around the world today, from Europe to China. For Catholics it has come to symbolize the cleansing of the soul from sin. For Polish children and teenagers, it has come to mean a day of fun, when you can splash your siblings, friends, and parents with cold water!

Young men lie in wait for young women, hoping to catch them unawares with buckets of water. Children wake early to sneak into their parents’ bedroom with containers of water. Everywhere in the streets you will see young people running with buckets and hiding from each other and having a good time. Sometimes people even land in a stream or river—but it is all in good fun and is supposed to bring good luck in the coming year. The only thing worse than being doused with water on this day is not being doused!
In April 2008, PWA President President Virginia Sikora in her capacity as President of the PAC Charitable Foundation (PACCF) and PACCF Vice President Christopher Nowotarski met in Poland with the President of Wspolnota Polska Andrzej Stelmachowski to discuss the planning and development of a new Cultural Learning Program for Polish American students. A little more than a year later, the plans discussed in that meeting became reality.

The pilot cultural program took place this past summer in Pultusk, Poland, with 19 students between the ages of 12 and 15 from three fraternal organizations participating: the Polish Women’s Alliance of America, the Polish Falcons, and the Polish Roman Catholic Union. Most of the participants had never visited Poland before and most did not speak Polish. They visited Warsaw, Krakow, Oswiecim, Wieliczka, Torun, and Jasna Gora in Czestochowa. It was an exciting educational experience for the participants, who learned firsthand about the history, culture, and traditions of the land of their ancestors. The program was a success and plans are being made to continue the program in 2010. See page 21 for details of this year’s trip plus registration form.

The three PWA members who attended the 2009 program were Ernest Stapor of Group 821, District 1; Emily Gamble of Group 226, District 5; and Alex Vander Noot of Group 211, District 1.
Youth Trip to Poland

TRAVEL TO POLAND THIS SUMMER!

Announcing a Cultural Program for PWA Members Ages from 12 to 15

The Polish American Congress Charitable Foundation (PACCF), in cooperation with Wspolnota Polska, is offering a great opportunity for PWA members to explore the country of their heritage this coming summer. You’ll join other young Polish Americans on a trip that will offer unforgettable experiences, great memories, and lasting friendships. Have fun as you travel through Poland, visiting her beautiful cities and historic sites and meeting her friendly people.

The Cultural Program encompasses a two-week period and the cost per participant is being equally underwritten by the PACCF and the PWA, with the balance of $500 being the responsibility of the participant’s family. In addition, Wspolnota Polska has generously agreed to underwrite the land portion of the Program. Included is round-trip airfare from Chicago, lodging, all meals, travel in Poland, as well as tours and admissions. Participants should bring their own spending money for souvenirs and miscellaneous purchases not included in the above. Adult chaperones will accompany the students while traveling to and from Poland and during their entire stay in Poland. There are two different sets of dates to choose from:

TOUR I  July 18 to August 1, 2010
TOUR II  August 1 to August 15, 2010

Space is limited and the participants will be chosen by a random drawing, so please fill out and return the registration form below as soon as possible, along with a deposit of $100. The registration deadline is postmark April 1, 2010. The deposit will be refunded if your name is not chosen in the drawing that will be held on April 8, 2010, at the PWA Home Office. (The deposit is non-refundable if your name is chosen and you decline to participate.) Selected participants will be notified by mail and their names will be printed in the next issue of Glos Polek (May 2010).

REGISTRATION FORM for 2010 SUMMER CULTURAL PROGRAM IN POLAND

For PWA Members—Ages 12 to 15

Child’s Name _____________________________________________________ M___ F ___

Date of Birth ___________________________ PWA Group No. ____________

Address ______________________________________________________________________

City ___________________________ State _____ Zip _____________

Home Phone ___________________________ Cell Phone ___________________________

Email Address: _________________________________________________________________

Name of Parent/Legal Guardian __________________________________________________

Please check one:

___ Tour I: Jul 18 – Aug 1 ___ Tour II: Aug 1 – Aug 15 ___ Either Tour is fine.

DEPOSIT: Please include a $100 deposit with your registration. The deposit will be refunded if the child’s name is not selected in the drawing to be held on April 8, 2010. Please make the check payable to Polish Women’s Alliance and mail it postmarked no later than April 1, 2010 to: Polish Women’s Alliance of America, 6643 N. Northwest Hwy, 2nd Fl., Chicago, IL 60631. Questions? 1-888-522-1898, ext 228.
Youth Bowling

Komitet Oswiaty Announces
The 2010 POLONIA YOUTH BOWLING TOURNAMENT

Attention PWA Youth Members Ages 3–18!

Information about the Youth Bowling Tournament will be mailed to all youth members. If you do not receive your packet in the mail, please call the Office of the Vice President at 1-888-522-1898 ext. 208 if you’d like to participate or if you have any questions. Read the rules below so you know how many games you need to bowl for your age group and how to send in your scores. Your parents will need to fill out the application included in this issue and vouch for your scores.

Good Luck!!

RULES FOR JUNIOR BOWLING TOURNAMENT FOR PWA YOUTH

1. All Bowlers must be PWA members as of December 31, 2009, and in good standing.
2. Separate events will be held for boys and girls in five age groups:
   - Pee wee: ages 3 to 5 years
   - Bantams: ages 6 to 8 years
   - Preps: ages 9 to 11 years
   - Juniors: ages 12 to 14 years
   - Majors: ages 15 to 18 years
3. Individual’s age as of December 31, 2009, determines the age classification.
4. All bowlers must bowl in their age division.
5. All participants may participate only once in this tournament. Parent or adult must complete application for each participant.
6. Pee wee and Bantam bowlers may use bumpers and scores for two games.
7. Preps, Juniors, and Majors scores are based on three games bowled.
8. Average rules: Use the current league average as of December 31, 2009, for at least seven league sessions. Bowlers with less than twenty-one games or seven league sessions will be classified as scratch bowlers. The tournament manager will add the handicap to raw scores of the scratch bowlers using YABA guidelines.
9. Individuals will bowl on one weekend of their choice from January 1 through June 30.
10. All scores and printouts from the bowling alley of the scores should be mailed in with the bowling applications.
11. Pee wee division: The child must be able to pick up the bowling ball with two hands off the rack and carry it to the foul line. No parental or adult assistance is allowed to help the child to the foul line. Please follow this rule!
12. Proper attire must be worn (bowling shoes).
13. Foul lights must be in operation.
14. Application, score sheets, and bowling score printouts must be mailed to the PWA Youth Committee c/o Sharon Zago, Vice President, and postmarked no later than June 30, 2010, to be eligible for prizes. (See insert in this issue for Junior Bowling Tournament application.)

Komitet Oswiaty: Sharon Zago, Vice President and Chairman; Committee Members: Antoinette Trela Vander Noot, Secretary-Treasurer; Directors: Dawn Muszynski Nelson, Helen Simmons, Marcia Mackiewicz Duffy, and Felicia Perlick; Ex-Officio: Virginia Sikora, National President.
PWA Scholarship Recipients

Polish Women’s Alliance of America congratulates its 2009 – 2010 Scholarship Recipients

District I

Illinois
Florida
Missouri

Michael Spindor Watson
Indiana Univ.-Bloomington
Council 9 Gr. 6

Tess Buchberger
Illinois State University
Council 9 Gr. 61

Keith Olson
Triton College
Council 9 Gr. 61

Brian Hughes
University of Illinois
Council 9 Gr. 61

Katherine Pietrucha
Univ. of Notre Dame
Council 9 Gr. 61 & 820

Matthew Kowynia
DePaul University
Council 9 Gr. 202

Andrew Paleczny
DePaul University
Council 27 Gr. 820

Angelica Paleczny
University of Illinois
Council 27 Gr. 820

Michal Dubowski
Poznan Univ. of Med. Sciences
Council 27 Gr. 821

Kaitlin Kowynia
Northern Illinois Univ.
Council 9 Gr. 202

District II

Western
Pennsylvania

Jeff Cook
Rockford College
Council 9 Gr. 525

Kyle Cook
Northern Illinois Univ.
Council 9 Gr. 525

Carl Cymennan
Southern Illinois Univ.
Council 9 Gr. 661

Alex Duncan
Lewis University
Council 9 Gr. 661

James Keszkovsky
Florida College
Council 9 Gr. 798

Michelle Brennan
Wilbur Wright
Council 9 Gr. 819

Emily Heller
Florida State University
Council 13 Gr. 743

Paul Orawiec
Illinois Inst. of Technology
Council 13 Gr. 743

Marlana Radcliffe
Univ. of N C Chapel Hill
Council 13 Gr. 743

Erin Murray
Bradley University
Council 13 Gr. 743

Rachel Black
Univ. of N C Charlotte
Council 19 Gr. 31

Diana Ciepiela
DePaul University
Council 27 Gr. 114

Jacqueline Faber
University of Illinois
Council 27 Gr. 211

Rachel Walker-Baker
Purdue Univ. Calumet
Council 27 Gr. 211

Jennifer Basak
Indiana University
Council 27 Gr. 388

Christopher Dujutrek
Southern Illinois Univ.
Council 27 Gr. 816

Andrew Paleczny
DePaul University
Council 27 Gr. 820

Angelica Paleczny
University of Illinois
Council 27 Gr. 820

Michal Dubowski
Poznan Univ. of Med. Sciences
Council 27 Gr. 821

Robert Stanczyk
Oakton Community College
Council 27 Gr. 821

Carla Beaver
Madonna University
Council 2 Gr. 182

Erica Beaver
Schoolcraft College
Council 2 Gr. 182

Andrea Kolano
Duquesne University
Council 2 Gr. 182

Joseph Kolano
Gannon University
Council 2 Gr. 182

Julian Kosevoc
Pennsylvania State Univ.
Council 2 Gr. 182

Michelle Kosevoc
Drexel Univ. College of Medicine
Council 2 Gr. 182

Susanne Leitch
Illinois State University
Council 2 Gr. 182

Douglas Pazehoski
University of Pittsburgh
Council 2 Gr. 182

Dana Weber
Waynesburgh Univ.
Council 2 Gr. 182

Scott McCullough
Berklee Coll. of Music
Council 2 Gr. 182
PWA Scholarship Recipients

District II (cont.)
Western Pennsylvania

- Anthony Niemiec
  Comm. Coll. of Allegheny County
  Council 2 Gr. 341
- Megan Niemiec
  University of Alabama
  Council 2 Gr. 341
- Alyssa Beck
  Juniata College
  Council 2 Gr. 475

District III
Indiana

- Melissa Wik
  St. Mary College
  Council 21 Gr. 37
- Stephen Trzupek
  Indiana University
  Council 21 Gr. 77
- Warren Lane
  Indiana University
  Council 21 Gr. 128

District V
Michigan

- Alexa Piszczatowski
  Indiana University
  Council 3 Gr. 386

District VI
Wisconsin

- Autumn Misiolek
  Univ. of Detroit Mercy
  Council 20 Gr. 786
- Kasia Schemanski
  Macomb Comm. College
  Council 20 Gr. 786
- Thomas Schemanski
  Macomb Comm. College
  Council 20 Gr. 786
- Ann Srodon
  Oakland University
  Council 20 Gr. 786

District VII
Ohio

- Richard Shliviick
  Winona State Univ.
  Council 1 Gr. 189
- Michael Green
  Boston University
  Council 28 Gr. 317
- Stephanie Chmielewski
  Xavier University
  Council 7 Gr. 87

District VIII
Massachusetts

- Virginia Schminke
  Hiram College
  Council 7 Gr. 809
- Matthew Maloney
  University at Cincinnati
  Council 28 Gr. 141
- Matthew McLean
  Wentworth of Technology
  Council 28 Gr. 141
- Alexandra Gallant
  Merrimack College
  Council 28 Gr. 317

District IX
Connecticut

- Diana Pawela
  Univ. of Mass. Amherst
  Council 28 Gr. 559
- Jennifer Czerniewski
  University of Alabama
  Council 8 Gr. 185
- Silver Walker
  Savannah Coll. of Art
  Council 8 Gr. 185
- Michael Young
  Rensselaer Polytech. Inst.
  Council 8 Gr. 185

District IX (cont.)
Connecticut

- Warren Lane
  Indiana University
  Council 21 Gr. 128
- Alexa Piszczatowski
  Indiana University
  Council 3 Gr. 386

District III
Indiana

- Anthony Niemiec
  Comm. Coll. of Allegheny County
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- Megan Niemiec
  University of Alabama
  Council 2 Gr. 341
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  Juniata College
  Council 2 Gr. 475

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  Indiana University
  Council 21 Gr. 77
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  Indiana University
  Council 21 Gr. 128

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  Indiana University
  Council 3 Gr. 386

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  Council 7 Gr. 809
- Matthew Maloney
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  Council 28 Gr. 141
- Matthew McLean
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  Council 28 Gr. 141
- Alexandra Gallant
  Merrimack College
  Council 28 Gr. 317

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Connecticut

- Diana Pawela
  Univ. of Mass. Amherst
  Council 28 Gr. 559
- Jennifer Czerniewski
  University of Alabama
  Council 8 Gr. 185
- Silver Walker
  Savannah Coll. of Art
  Council 8 Gr. 185
- Michael Young
  Rensselaer Polytech. Inst.
  Council 8 Gr. 185
PWA Scholarship Recipients

District IX (cont.)
Connecticut
- Marissa Goba
  Fairfield University
  Council 8 Gr. 500
- Andrew Gotschall
  University of Miami
  Council 8 Gr. 500
- Christopher Gotschall
  University of Miami
  Council 8 Gr. 500
- Timothy Lavigne
  Lyndon State College
  Council 8 Gr. 552

District X
New Jersey
Eastern N Y
Philadelphia
- Emily Szuklarek
  Univ. of Connecticut
  Council 15 Gr. 598
- Lauren DeMetro
  Clark University
  Council 15 Gr. 598

District XI
Nebraska
- Amy Degaetano
  Cornell University
  Council 38 Gr. 611
- Kate May
  Creighton University
  Council 25 Gr. 275
- Stacy Kurcz
  College of Saint Mary
  Council 25 Gr. 409
- Amber Wawrzykiewicz
  Univ. of Nebraska Lincoln
  Council 25 Gr. 409
- Joseph Wagman
  Creighton University
  Council 25 Gr. 434
- Nicolette Frejci
  Metropolitan Comm. Coll.
  Council 25 Gr. 579

District XIII
California
- Ambrose Kucharski
  Calif. State Univ. of Northridge
  Council 35 Group 814
- Bailey Porter
  Univ. of Texas San Antonio
  Council 35 Gr. 814
- Joseph Houde
  Francis. Univ. of Steubenville
  Council 40 Gr. 431
- Amanda Little
  Univ. of Minnesota Duluth
  Council 40 Gr. 431
- Michael Dineski, Jr.
  Shippensburg Univ.
  Council 40 Gr. 434
- Shaina Dymond
  DeSales University
  Council 40 Gr. 530
- David Uffner
  Grand Valley State Univ.
  Council 40 Gr. 530
- Matthew Lanyon
  Indiana Univ. Pennsylvania
  Council 40 Gr. 530
- Mitchell Vitovsky
  Clemson University
  Council 44 Gr. 351

District XIV
Eastern Pennsylvania
- Joseph Stanek
  Mansfield University
  Council 40 Gr. 348
- Krystina Durako
  King's College
  Council 40 Group 362
- Michael Vojtko
  E.Stroudsburg Univ.
  Council 40 Gr. 105
- Kurt Jones
  Bloomsburg University
  Council 40 Gr. 28
- Bryanna Demerly
  Virginia Polytech. Instit.
  Council 40 Gr. 348

Polish Women’s Alliance of America Scholarship Committee
Sharon Zago, Vice President and Chairperson.
Antoinette Trela VanderNoot, Secretary/Treasurer; National Directors: Dawn Muszynski Nelson, Helen Simmons, Marcia Mackiewicz-Duffy, and Felicia Perlick; Ex-Officio: Virginia Sikora, National President.
Special Scholarship Recipients

Academic College Scholarships

Kaitlin Kowynia
Schaumburg, IL
District 1 Council 27
Group 202

Rachel Walker-Baker
Crown Point, IN
District 1 Council 27
Group 211

Bernadette Miszczyszyn
Prospect Heights, IL
District 1 Council 27
Group 440

Lauren De Metro
Summit, NJ
District 10 Council 15
Group 598

Joseph Stanek
Ashley, PA
District 14 Council 40
Group 267

High School Academic Awards

Matthew Kosovec
Gibsonia, PA
District 2 Council 2
Group 182

Tiffany Senkow
Pittsburgh, PA
District 2 Council 2
Group 182

Michael S. Brand
Hackettstown, NJ
District 10 Council 38
Group 677

Lauren De Metro
Summit, NJ
District 10 Council 15
Group 598

Bernadette Miszczyszyn
Prospect Heights, IL
District 1 Council 27
Group 440

High School Sports Awards

You can read the essays submitted by the Special Scholarship Winners on our website at www.pwaa.org/youth.html.

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS - SIGN UP FOR EMAIL UPDATES

If you would like us to add your email address to your account information with PWA in order to send future updates and correspondence to you by email instead of by regular mail, please send us your email address by writing to editor@pwaa.org or by filling out and mailing the coupon below to our address:

Yes, I would be interested in receiving updates and correspondence from PWA via email:

Name __________________________________________________________  Gr. No. _________
Address __________________________________________________________________________
Phone No. ___________________________  Email Address ____________________________
HAPPY EASTER TO ALL!
EASTER COLORING CONTEST RULES

CONTEST RULES:
1. Cut out the picture on page 27 or download it from our website at pwaa.org/Contests.htm, color it, then send it to: PWA Coloring Contest, Polish Women’s Alliance 6643 N. Northwest Hwy, 2 Fl, Chicago, IL, 60631.
2. Deadline: Postmark March 31, 2010
3. Please include the following information on a separate piece of paper, attached to the coloring picture: Name, Age, Address, PWA Group No., Telephone Number, and Email Address.
4. Contest is for PWA members only.

Want to become a member?
Call Bo at 1-847-384-1200, ext. 228.

Contest Prizes:
First Prize $100 Savings Bond
Second Prize $75 Savings Bond
Third Prize $50 Savings Bond
5 Honorable Mentions $10 each

Age Categories:
The above Prizes will be awarded in each age category: 3–4 years; 5–6 years; 7–8 years; 9–11 years; 12–14 years; and 15–17 years.

Questions? Call Vice President Sharon Zago at 1-888-522-1898, ext. 208.

WINNERS OF THE FIRST POLISH WORDS MIX’N’MATCH CONTEST CATEGORY: WOMEN

The names of the following three winners were drawn from among all qualifying entries on November 17, 2009, at the PWA Home Office. Each winner will receive a check for $25.

Congratulations to:
Andrea Biladeau, District VIII, Council 28, Gr. 196
Allison Skowron, District I, Council 9, Gr. 188
Jordan Kammer, District III, Council 21, Gr. 132

We invite you to enter our Second Mix’n’Match Contest – see details on this page. You could be one of the lucky winners!

NEW MIX’N’MATCH CONTEST Category: Spring – Easter

Match each Polish word with the correct English translation and submit your answers postmarked no later than March 31, 2010.

1. Bazie A. Flowers
2. Koszyk B. Spring
3. Słonce C. Grass
4. Jajko D. Lamb
5. Wiosna E. Pussywillows
6. Kwiaty F. Sun
7. Pisanka G. Egg
8. Królik H. Easter egg
9. Trawa I. Basket
10. Baranek J. Bunny

ONLY ONE ENTRY PER PWA MEMBER

Correct entries will be placed in a lottery and three $25 prizes will be awarded for the first three correct entries drawn. Contest is open to PWA members of all ages. You can also enter online at http://www.pwaa.org/Contests.htm.

Submit by email to: vpres@pwaa.org
Or mail to:
Polish Women’s Alliance of America – Contests 6643 N. Northwest Highway, 2nd Floor Chicago, IL 60631

Please be sure to include your name, address, phone number, email address, and PWA Group number with your entry.

You can read the winning essays on our website.
www.pwaa.org/Contests.htm

Congratulations to the winners of our 2009 Essay Contest. There were three Prizes and two Honorable Mentions in each category.

Adults – 17 and older

<table>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Place</td>
<td>Sharon Morris</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Place</td>
<td>Irmina Stec</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third Place</td>
<td>Katrina Odrobina</td>
<td>5</td>
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Honorable Mention

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Distr.</th>
<th>Coun.</th>
<th>Gr.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Patricia Senkow</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>814</td>
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<tr>
<td>Martha Nowak</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>786</td>
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Youth – up to age 16

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Place</td>
<td>Rachel Burns</td>
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<tr>
<td>Second Place</td>
<td>Rosako Wagner</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third Place</td>
<td>Hayden Kammer</td>
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Honorable Mention

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Distr.</th>
<th>Coun.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Natasha Kirchen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emily Guirey</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Congratulations to:
Andrea Biladeau, District VIII, Council 28, Gr. 196
Allison Skowron, District I, Council 9, Gr. 188
Jordan Kammer, District III, Council 21, Gr. 132

You can read the winning essays on our website.
www.pwaa.org/Contests.htm
**In Memoriam**

We note with sadness the passing of the following PWA members.  
May they rest in peace.

*(All deaths between August 1 and November 30, 2009)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gr. No.</th>
<th>Member</th>
<th>City/State</th>
<th>Gr. No.</th>
<th>Member</th>
<th>City/State</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0006</td>
<td>Severyna Langelan</td>
<td>Silver Spring, MD</td>
<td>0303</td>
<td>Irene Kozlowski</td>
<td>Venice, FL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0006</td>
<td>Lillian Korney</td>
<td>Chicago, IL</td>
<td>0303</td>
<td>Robert Novak</td>
<td>Glenshaw, PA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0022</td>
<td>Genevieve H McMeekin</td>
<td>Chicago, IL</td>
<td>0306</td>
<td>Helen E Abraham</td>
<td>Natrona Hts, PA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0031</td>
<td>Mary E Nowaczyk</td>
<td>Griffith, IN</td>
<td>0306</td>
<td>Martha Szafranski</td>
<td>Natrona Hts, PA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0031</td>
<td>Stanisława Zydtek</td>
<td>Downers Grove, IL</td>
<td>0313</td>
<td>Mary C Pogozelski</td>
<td>Rome, NY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0031</td>
<td>Mary Kozarewicz</td>
<td>Orland Park, IL</td>
<td>0314</td>
<td>Clara Butkowski</td>
<td>Erie, PA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0047</td>
<td>Irene M Scharnier</td>
<td>Chicago, IL</td>
<td>0326</td>
<td>Arleen D Munns</td>
<td>N Olmsted, OH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0047</td>
<td>Genowefa I Kuczak</td>
<td>Chicago, IL</td>
<td>0341</td>
<td>Rosemary M Szymanski</td>
<td>Fort Mill, SC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0049</td>
<td>Jadwiga Bilkowski</td>
<td>Weirton, WV</td>
<td>0341</td>
<td>Eleanor Maryniak</td>
<td>Pittsburgh, PA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0055</td>
<td>Helena Kaminsky</td>
<td>Brookpark, OH</td>
<td>0348</td>
<td>Ann Housenick</td>
<td>Mountain Top, PA</td>
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<tr>
<td>0061</td>
<td>Patricia Marks</td>
<td>Bloomingdale, IL</td>
<td>0366</td>
<td>Mary J Potts</td>
<td>Hobart, IN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0070</td>
<td>Sophia Modzelewski</td>
<td>Chicago Hts, IL</td>
<td>0366</td>
<td>James Pazera</td>
<td>Newport, RI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Melania Wilk</td>
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We note with sadness the passing of the following PWA members.
May they rest in peace.

(All deaths between August 1 and November 30, 2009)

### Zofia Frackowiak – Group 44
**Past President of Council 27**

Past President of Council 27 and longtime member and officer of Group 44, Zofia Frackowiak, passed away on December 22, 2009, after a long illness. The funeral was held at St. Hyacinth’s Basilica in Chicago on December 28, 2009. Mrs. Frackowiak had been President of Council 27 for three terms and a very active member of PWA and numerous other Polish American organizations in Chicago. She was predeceased by her husband Jerzy and her daughter Ursula Ulankiewicz. She is survived by three children (daughter Grace Grzybek and sons Wesley and Christopher) and nine grandchildren. District I President Lidia Filus paid tribute to Mrs. Frackowiak at the wake, as did current Council 27 President Czeslawa Kolak and past District I President Delphine Lytell.

District I sent beautiful flowers to the funeral home and made a donation in Mrs. Frackowiak’s name to the Marie Skłodowska Curie Polish School in District I, which was founded when Mrs. Frackowiak was President of Council 27. The Council was very supportive of the school in its early years. A donation in her memory will be made to the school each year on the anniversary of her death.

PWA officers and members extend their sincere condolences to the family and friends of Zofia Frackowiak. May she rest in peace. **Wieczny odpoczynek racz Jej dac Panie!**

### Marlene Gill – President Group 819
**Park Ridge Society**

Officers and friends of Groups 661 and 819 and the Polish Women’s Alliance of America express their sincere sympathy to Ken Gill, the husband of Marlene Wilczynski Gill, and her family upon the news of her unexpected death on September 10, 2009. Marlene ran for National Director at the last two PWA National Conventions and her husband felt that the love she put into her convention poster was a part of her and displayed it at her wake. Marlene did a great job as chair of the District I Debutante Ball and as President and past officer of Group 819. Her enthusiasm and high-spirited personality will be missed by all. Marlene earned her Master’s degree at Northeastern Illinois University where she helped start the Polish American Heritage Program that continues to this day. She was an active member and officer in many Polish American and civic organizations. Please pray for her. **May she rest in peace.**
Recipes for Święcone – Polish Easter Brunch

The word “święcone” means “that which has been blessed.” Święcone or Święconka is the name for the traditional Polish Easter Brunch that is served after Mass on Easter Sunday. Most of the food served at Święcone had been placed in large baskets and taken to church to be blessed by a priest on Holy Saturday. The Easter table is covered with a white tablecloth, decorated with daffodils and pussywillow branches, and an Easter lamb made of butter, sugar, or cake is placed in the middle of the table and surrounded by colored psianki or Easter eggs. The meal begins with grace, followed by the sharing of a blessed Easter egg. Everyone exchanges wishes for health and happiness as they take wedges of the blessed egg from one another. Only then can the feast begin. A white borsch, called żurek, is usually first on the menu, followed by ham, sausage, cold roasts, patés, relishes, and salads. For dessert there are tall babas, flat mazurki, and delicate serniki. A sampling of Easter recipes follows. You can find more Easter recipes on our website at www.pwaa.org.

Easter Sour Soup
Żurek Wielkanocny
Crust of one loaf of unsliced rye bread, 2 cups rolled oats, 2 cups warm water, 1 1/2 lb Polish sausage, 1 1/2 quarts water, 1 tablespoon prepared horseradish, salt and pepper to taste, 1 tablespoon brown sugar, 8 hardboiled eggs quartered, 1 cup sour cream, 1/4 cup chopped dill

In a large mixing bowl, combine the oats with two cups of warm water. Add the bread crust and cover with a dishcloth. Let the mixture stand until it sours, at least 24 hours. Strain the mixture and reserve the liquid. Cook Polish sausage in 1 1/2 quarts water for one hour. (You can substitute white raw Polish sausage in this recipe, if you prefer.) Remove the sausage to cool and skim the fat from the broth. Combine the broth and oatmeal liquid. Add horseradish, brown sugar, and salt and pepper. Slice the sausage into bite-sized pieces and add to the broth. Bring the mixture to a gentle boil, then reduce the heat and simmer for about an hour. Serve over hardboiled egg quarters placed in soup bowls. Garnish with sour cream and fresh dill.

Cheesecake
Sernik
For the crust:
2 1/2 cups flour, 2 teaspoons baking powder, 1/2 cup sugar, 1/4 cup margarine, 2 eggs beaten, 1/4 cup milk, 1 can of pineapple or poppy seed pie filling

For the filling:
2 lb dry cottage cheese, 1 cup sour cream, 3 eggs beaten, 3 tablespoons melted butter, 1/2 lb cream cheese, 1 cup sugar, 3 tablespoons cornstarch, 1 teaspoon vanilla or almond extract

Mix flour, baking powder, sugar, and butter or margarine, cutting with a knife, like you would to make a pie crust. Then add eggs and milk and mix. Knead into a ball and press into a 9 x 13 baking pan that has been buttered on the bottom and sides. Let the dough go halfway up the sides of the pan. Cover the dough with pineapple or poppy seed filling.

Beat all ingredients for the filling in a large bowl until well blended. Pour over dough. Bake in a preheated 350-degree oven for one hour or until toothpick inserted in the middle comes out clean. Chill before cutting and sprinkle with powdered sugar before serving.

Happy Easter! Wesołego Alleluja!

Beet Horesradish Relish
Ćwikła
4 cups cooked sliced fresh or canned beets, 4 tablespoons wine vinegar, 4 teaspoons prepared horseradish, 2 teaspoons salt, 2 teaspoons sugar, 1 teaspoon caraway seeds (optional)

Grate the beets in food processor or on the smallest holes of a box grater. Toss with wine vinegar in a medium-sized bowl. Add horseradish, salt, sugar, and optional caraway seeds. Mix well. Cover and refrigerate overnight. Before serving, taste and add more horseradish or sugar as needed. Serve with Easter ham.
**Polski sos wielkanocny**

Składniki:
250 ml gęstej śmietany, 3 jajka, 3 łyżki drobno pokrojonego szczypiorku, 1 łyżka drobno pokrojonego koperku, 1 łyżka tartego chrzanu, sok z 1/2 cytryny, sól i cukier

Sposób przygotowania:
Jajka ugotować na twardo, ostudzić w zimnej wodzie, obrać, opłukać i przetrzeć przez sito lub drobno pokroić w kosteczkę. Do śmietany dodać przetarte jajka, szczypiorek, koperek, chrzan, sok z cytryny, doprawić solą i cukrem. Dokładnie wymieszać.


**Pieczeń świąteczna**

Składniki:
Kilogram cielęciny (wołowiny lub wieprzowiny), 3-5 dkg smalcu, sól

Sposób przygotowania:
Mięso opłucz w całości, obierz z błon, wyjmij kości i posól ze wszystkich stron. Jeżeli jest nierówne, zwiń je ciasno i owiąż.

Droga wierzbą sadzona wśród zielonej łąki,
Na której pierwsze jaskry żółcieją i mlecze.
Pośród wierzb po kamieniach wąska struga ciecze,
A pod niebem wysoko śpiewają skowronki.

Wśród tej łąki wilgotnej od porannej rosy,
Drogą, którą co święto szli ludzie ze śpiewką,
Idzie sobie Pan Jezus wpółnagi i bosy
Z wielkanocą w przebitej dłoni chorągiewką.

Naprzeciw idzie chłopka. Ma kosy złociste,
Łowicka jej spódniczka i piękna zapaska.
Poznała Zbawiciela z świętego obrazka,
Upadła na kolana i krzyknęła: "Chryste!"

Bije głową o ziemię z serdeczną rozpaczą
A Chrystus się pochylił nad klęczącym ciałem
I rzeknie: "Powiedz ludziom, niech więcej nie płaczą,
Dwa dni leżałem w grobie. I dziś zmartwychwstałem".

Jan Lechoń, "Wielkanoc"
Życie nie jest tak krótkie, by nie było w nim czasu na uprzejmość.
(Ralph Waldo Emerson)

Bon ton, czyli dobre maniery, etykieta, ogląda, savoir-vivre, konwenans towarzyski, znajomość obowiązujących zwyczajów, form i reguł grzeczności obowiązujących w danej grupie.
Najogólniej, zasady dobrego zachowania to: uśmiech, uprzejmość, życzyliwość, punktualność, dyskrekcja, lojalność, grzeczność, wygląd zewnętrzný, takt. To, co jest wspólne tym zasadom, to względ na innych.

Jak uporać się z szaszłykiem?
Szaszłyk podany na metalowym rożenku bierzemy do ręki za koniec rożenka i zsuwamy jeden kawałek mięsa (ewentualnie wraz z boczkiem, cebulą czy innymi dodatkami). Następnie nabijamy te kawałki na widelec i przenosimy do ust. Jeśli rożenek są duże, to kroimy je nożem przytrzymując widełcem. Jeżeli rożenek jest drewniany postępujemy podobnie, z tym że zsuwamy z niego od rąk cały szaszłyk, bowiem, ochładzając się, szaszłyk przywiera mocno do drewnianego rożenka, tak więc trudno go potem z niego zdjąć.

Jak jeść szynkę?
Grubo pokrojoną zwykłą szynkę jemy za pomocą noża i widełka krojąc ją na odpowiednie kęsy.
Cieniutko pokrojone jak „papierek” szynki włoskie i hiszpańskie jemy tylko palcami podnoszą je do góry i wpuszczając do ust. Jeżeli do szynki otrzymujemy specjalne długie i grube paluszki (tzw. grissini) kręcimy nimi owijając wokół nich plastry szynki (tworząc ruloniki) i gryzemy je aż zjemy wszystko.
Szanowna małżonka znowu zapomniała kupić mleko.

Porady językowe według Jana Miodka i innych polskich językoznawców

Mąż czy małżonek?
Słowa „małżonek” i „małżonka” to oficjalne odpowiedniki słów „mąż” i „żona”. Używa się ich w oficjalnych zwrotach, np. „Pani minister z małżonkiem” czy „Pan minister z małżonką”. Można je też użyć w zwrotach konwencjonalnych, ale tylko przez osoby postronne, np.: Jak się czuje Pani małżonka? „Jak się czuje Pana małżonka?”
Mówiąc o swoim mężu i żonie mówimy: „mąż” i „żona” a „małżonek” i „małżonka” tylko z odcieniem żartobliwym lub ironicznym, np. „Szanowny małżonek był łaskaw wreszcie pozmiały po obiedzie”, „Szanowna małżonka znowu zapomniała kupić mleko”.

Co ciekawego w sieci?
http://www.herbypolskie.strefa.pl/
Genealogia & Historia. Genealogia wybranych dynastii świata starożytnego, krajów słowiańskich, innych państw europejskich oraz magnackich rodów polskich i litewsko-ruskich, herby polskie wraz z odmianami.

http://www.warsaw.prv.pl/
Bardzo bogata kolekcja fotografii Warszawy.

ZPwA akceptuje główne karty kredytowe przy wszystkich płatnościach i donacjach. Po informacje proszę dzwonić do biura skarbnika – telefon 888-522-1898, wew. 206
Wielkanocne jajka Faberge’a

Jajka Faberge’a (jaja carskie) są synonimem luksusu i uważa się je za arcydzieła sztuki jubilerskiej. Pochodziły z pracowni nadwornego jubilera cara Aleksandra III Romanowa - złotnika Petera Carla Faberge.

Historia ich sięga 1884 roku, kiedy to car Aleksander III zamówił u Faberge’a “specjalny wielkanocny prezent” dla swojej żony, carcy Marii Fiodorownej. Pomysł należał do artysty, i tak Faberge stworzył swoje pierwsze sławne jajko-arcydzieło. Było ono platynowe na zewnątrz, z białą emalią po wewnętrznej stronie “skorupki” i mieściło w sobie złote żółtko, które z kolei zawierało w swoim wnętrzu replikę carskiej korony i rubinowe jajko. Prezent, do momentu wręczenia, był trzymany w ścisłej tajemnicy; i to też stało się częścią tradycji.

Od tego roku, każdej Wielkanocy, Faberge dostarczał jajko dla cara, a po śmierci Aleksandra III (1894) jego syn, Mikołaj II, kontynuował zwyczaj obdarowywania jajkiem na Wielkanoc swojej żony Aleksandry i matki Marii. Tradycja przetrwała do 1916 roku. W sumie obydwaj carowie zamówili 54 jajka, które są znane jako kolekcja “jaja imperium”. Uważa się, że 7 jajek zaginęło, a reszta jest w muzeach. Ostatnie dwa jajka, planowane na rok 1917, nie zostały dostarczone; rodzina carska została uwięziona i rok później stracona.

Pracując dla dworu carskiego Faberge z każdym rokiem tworzył coraz piękniejsze i bardziej skomplikowane “klejnoty-niespodzianki”. W wyborze tematów inspirował się historią Rosji, życiem dworu, rosyjskim pejzażem, przyrodą i tradycjami. I tak, w kolekcji znajduje się jajko przedstawiające Aleksandra III na koniu, jajko z wizerunkiem Piotra Wielkiego na koniu, jajka: Zima, Azow, Konwalie, Dzikie kwiaty, Kaukaz, Napoleon, Kreml, a nawet Kolej Trans-Syberyjska. Jajka Faberge’a wykonane były w złocie, platynie, srebrze, brylantach, perłach, kolorowych emaliach, rubinach, wszystkich szlachetnych kamieniach, kości słoniowej i rdzakach minerałach. Przy ich tworzeniu wykorzystano dostępne w tych czasach osiągnięcia w łączeniu złota, srebra i platyny z klejnotami, a inspirację artystyczną stanowiły najpiękniejsze wzory europejskiej sztuki złotniczej.

Światowy Dzień Chorego

Z inicjatywy Jana Pawła II, od 1993 Kościół katolicki na całym świecie obchodzi 11 lutego - w święto Matki Bożej z Lourdes - Światowy Dzień Chorego. Celem ustanowienia tych obchodów jest pobudzenie wrażliwości wiernych i całego Kościoła na konieczność zapewnienia jak najlepszej opieki chorym, niesienia pomocy duchowej, popierania służby wolontariatu, doskonalenia metod leczenia i zacieśnianie współpracy ze światem medycznym.

Tradycja kościelnej troski i opieki nad chorymi sięga pierwszych wieków chrześcijaństwa. Przez całe stulecia Kościół katolicki jest wciąż wielkim promotorem opieki zdrowotnej na świecie. Według niepewnych danych sprzed kilku lat, prowadził prawie 90 tys. różnych rodzajów leczniczych i placówek służby zdrowia. Były wśród nich np. ok. 6 tys. szpitali, prawie 15,6 tys. ambulatoriów i przychodni, ponad 700 leprosoriów, przeszło 12 tys. domów opieki dla starców, przewlekle chorych, niewidomych i niepełnosprawnych oraz ponad 50 tys. placówek specjalistycznych, ośrodków rehabilitacyjnych i poradni rodzinnych. Uważa się, że jedna czwarta pacjentów cierpiących na AIDS jest leczona w ośrodkach prowadzonych przez Kościół.

Zakony w Polsce prowadzą 35 placówek dla uszkodzonych umysłowo i z niepełnosprawnościami, a także specjalistyczne placówki dla osób w podeszłym wieku, chronicznie chorych, narkomanów, których na AIDS, alkoholików, 7 hospicjów, 8 placówek specjalistycznych, ośrodków rehabilitacyjnych i poradni rodzinnych. Uważa się, że jedna czwarta pacjentów cierpiących na AIDS jest leczona w ośrodkach prowadzonych przez Kościół.

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Uroczysta sesja naukowa, zatytułowana “By nie zostali sami”, która odbędzie się 7 lutego w Warszawie, zainauguruje tegoroczne obchody Światowego Dnia Chorego w Polsce.

Oprac. na podstawie art. Krzysztofa Gołębiowskiego - “KAI”
“Fantazja na tematy polskie” *

W 200. rocznice urodzin Fryderyka Chopina (1810–1849)

“Gdy polonez chopinowski
tajne struny serca ruszy,
zawsze wtedy mam widzenie
Narodowej polskiej duszy.”

Maria Konopnicka

“Gdy polonez chopinowski”
O życiu i twórczości Chopina
wypowiadało się na przestrzeni
lat wielu muzykologów, poetów
i pisarzy. To, o czym mówili i
pisali najczęściej, to organiczny
związek dzieła Chopina z
polską kulturą, to „polskość”,
„polska mowa dźwięków”, to „narodowa polska dusza”
żyjąca w jego utworach. Dla Norwida, w Chopinie
zaklęta była Polska „...od zenitu Wszechdoskonałości
dziejów (...) Polska – przemienionych kołodziejów...”. Karol Szymanowski widział w utworach chopinowskich
idealny kanon polskiego muzycznego
piękna. Nierozerwalność twórczości
Chopina i polskości od początku
dostrzegali także zagraniczni
artyści i krytycy. Robert Schumann
pisał w sposób proroczy: „Gdyby
samowładny, potężny monarcha
Północy wiedział, jak niebezpieczny
wróg grozi mu w pełnych prostoty
melodiach mazurków, zakazałby
pewnie tej muzyki. Dzieła Chopina
to ukryte wśród kwiatów armaty”.

Inną wielką wartością i charakterystyczną cechą
muzyki Chopina, wyróżniającą ją na tle znanych stylów
muzycznych, jest niezwykła różnorodność uczuć i
nastrojów. Jest w jego muzyce filozoficzna refleksja,
burze i huragany, gniew, niezgłębiony smutek, a także
emanacja wielkiej witalnej energii, pojęci i optymizmu.

W latach niewoli, muzyka Chopina
miała siłę jednoczącą naród, była
inspiracją do walki i do przetrwania.
Obchody setnej rocznicy urodzin, w
1910 r., zorganizowane we Lwowie,
były tego wyrazem, kiedy to kulturowi
przywódcy narodu, artyści i pisarze ze wszystkich zaborów,
składali hołd Chopinowi wyrażając podziw i miłość dla
jego dzieła w najpiękniejszych i najbardziej podniosłych
słowach. Stanisław Przybyszewski, legendarny przywódca
„Młodej Polski”, wygłosił z tej okazji płomienną mowę,
w której utożsamiał duszę Geniusza z syntezą duszy
całego narodu, a inny wielki Polak, Ignacy Paderewski,
niezrównany interpretator muzyki Chopina, powiedział:
“(…) Zabraniano nam Słowackiego, Krasińskiego, Mickiewicza.
Nie zabroniono nam Chopina. A jednak w
Chopinie tkwi wszystko, czego nam wzbraniano: barwne
kontusze, pasy złotem lite, posępne czamarki, krakowskie
rogatywki, szlacheckich brzęk szabel, naszych kos
chłopskich połyski, jęk piersi zranionej, bunt spętanego
ducha, krzyże cmentarne, przydrożne wiejskie kościółki,
modlitwy serc stroskanych, niewoli ból, wolności żal,
tyranów przekleństwo i zwycięstwa radosna pieśń. Więc
krzepmy serca do wytrwania ... bo nie ginie naród, co ma
taką wielką, nie śmiertelną duszę”.

(ciąg dalszy na stronie 33)
Zdrowych, pogodnych świąt Wielkanocnych pełnych wiary, nadziei i miłości. Radosnego wiosennego nastroju, serdecznych spotkań w gronie rodziny i przyjaciół oraz radosnego Alleluja!

Zarząd Główny Związku Polek, pracownicy biura, oraz redakcja Głosu Polek.