



FRATERNAL JOURNAL

*Official Newspaper of the
Polish Union of U.S.A.*

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www.PolishUnionUSA.com

2010 Ms. Polish Union of USA Winner Named

For everyone who attended the Wafer Supper thank you for welcoming the finalists and celebrating the winners. The new Ms. Polish Union 2010 (Sarah Ruth Connolly) and the runner up (Leigh Anne Machowski) were crowned by Ms. Polish Union 2009 (DeAnna Namowicz) with help from Nancy Bachurek and Sheri Pudlosky Brierley (Event Chairperson).

The judges who had the task of interviewing and naming the winner were Linda Zaneski, Kristen Swetz and Cheryl Malak.

The 2010 Ms. Polish Union of USA is Sarah Ruth Connolly. Sarah lives in Swoyersville, Pa. and is a senior Redeemer High School where she has been an honor student and has taken honor classes. She participates on the field hockey and soccer teams at school. In her spare time she likes to work on art projects (including computer graphics) and jewelry making. Sarah has won numerous awards at the Luzerne County Fair for her jewelry. In addition, Sarah is also a coordinator of child care for Dallas Baptist Church Recovery Group meetings and is a volunteer at the Back Mountain Memorial Library Auction. Sarah plans to pursue a career in elementary education as a teacher.

The runner-up to 2010 Ms. Polish Union



Ms. Polish Union 2010 Sarah Ruth Connolly at left is seated next to runner-up Leigh Anne Machowski. They are flanked by Sheri Pudlosky Brierley, chairperson, DeAnna Namowicz, Ms. Polish Union 2009 and Nancy Bachurek.

of USA is Leigh Anne Machowski: Leigh Anne is a junior at Crestwood High School and lives in Mountain Top, Pa. She is on the varsity cheerleading squad and has been on the team since her freshman year. For the past two years she was chosen as an All Star and an All American Cheerleader and will be participating in the New Year's Day parade in London, England. Leigh Anne assists with the coaching of Mountain Top Blitz cheerleading squad and is a gymnastics instructor at Northeast Sports and Fitness. In her spare time she likes to dance and work on gymnastics. Also, Leigh Anne was a 2009 Debutante in this organization's annual Debutante Ball and she is the recipient of The Vrabel Award.

Congratulations to both Sarah Ruth and Leigh Anne!

Polish Union - Grand Council of Penna. Catholic Beneficial League Enter Merger Process

The Executive Committees of the Polish Union of USA and of the Grand Council of Pennsylvania Catholic Beneficial League have reached agreement that the two organizations should merge.

A special Polish Union Convention has been scheduled for March, 21 2010 at the Ramada Hotel and Convention Center in Wilkes-Barre to approve the merger.

If approved the Grand Council will

operate as a Division of the Polish Union.

Grand Union members would be entitled to all the rights and privileges afforded Polish Union members. Also, delegates from Grand Council Groups would be seated at the upcoming 37th Quadrennial Convention of the Polish Union this September.

Full details of the proposed merger are found on page six of this issue.

Convoking The 37th Convention of Polish Union of U.S.A.

A PROCLAMATION:

I, Rose Wartko, President of the Polish Union of U.S.A., in accordance with Article V of the By-Laws, of the Polish Union of the United States of North America, (Polish Union) do hereby issue this Proclamation setting forth the dates of **September 17 and 18, 2010** at the **Ramada Hotel and Convention Center, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania**, as the date and place of the Polish Union's 37th Convention.

The pre-convention committee was selected at the October 13, 2009 Board of Directors Quarterly Meeting by my nomination and approval by the Board of Directors. The pre-convention committee shall consist of the following: Rose A. Wartko, Charlotte L. Androckitis, Jeffrey J. Malak, Bernard Kolodziej and John P. Bednarski.

Changes to the Constitution

The various groups of the Polish Union are hereby notified to send to the By-Laws Committee, c/o the Home Office, any suggestions which the groups may have as to any changes and amendments to the constitution. As the By-Laws committee is required to send out any such proposals to each delegate and group secretary at least two months before the convention, any groups or individual members seeking to send suggestions should do so before May 1, 2010.

Constitution Committee

I, Rose A. Wartko, President of Polish Union of U.S.A., with the approval of the Board of Directors, has appointed the following as members of the Constitution and By-Laws committee: Rose A. Wartko, Charlotte L. Androckitis, John P. Bednarski and Bernard Kolodziej.

Delegates to the Polish Union's 37th Convention will be elected in accordance to the Polish Union Constitution and By-Laws.

Let us now resolve that our 37th Convention will be filled with enthusiasm and vitality as we continue our journey through the 21st Century.

Fraternally yours,
Rose A. Wartko, President

Check Presented to the Eastern PA Pol-Am Congress



The Polish Union presented a donation to the Polish American Congress - Eastern PA District, for their warm welcome, luncheon and of course great seating at the annual Pulaski day Parade held on October 4, 2009. Shown in the photo is Charlotte Androckitis, General Secretary of the Polish Union; Linda Howell co-chair of the Bus Trip, Theresa Romanowski, PAC accepting the check from Chris Pagoda Chair of the Bus Trip.

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT,
AND CIRCULATION

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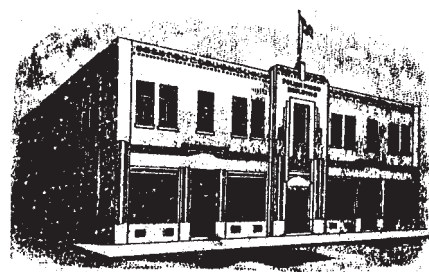
Charlotte L. Androckitis, General Secretary
Managing Editor

In Memoriam
Our sympathy to the families of recently deceased members of Polish Union of U.S.A.

Group	Member	State
73	Gertrude Job	PA
175	Leo T. Schmidt	PA
197	Stanley J. Czachor	PA
206	Estelle Bonk	NY
25	Stanislawa Wysomierska	NY
395	Mary Czachor	PA
401	Robert Kane	PA
182	John Navadauskas	PA
385	Marie Myszkowski	IL
74	Genevieve Stempien	PA
400	Walter Dudzinski	PA
395	Clara kakareka	PA
31	Barbara Smiech	PA
138	Wladyslaw Falchek	PA

† † †
May the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace.

† † †
A Mass for deceased members is celebrated monthly by Chaplain Rev. Patrick L. Albert



Home Office of the Polish Union of U.S.A., Downtown, Wilkes-Barre, PA
The beautifully designed edifice was dedicated in 1938. the lower floor contains a two-room auditorium. Business offices and board room are located on the second floor. there are many designs on the exterior and interior of the building which refers to the fraternal's ethnic heritage.

Polish Union of U.S.A. Officers and Board Members 2006-2010

President: Rose Wartko, 1st Floor, 848 N. Main Ave, Scranton, PA 18504 •.
General Secretary: Charlotte L. Androckitis 53-.S9 N. Main St., Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701
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Medical Examiner: Dr. Leon Skweir. M.D. 2060 Minesite Rd., Allentown. PA. 18103
General Counsel: Jeffrey J. Malak 138 S. Main St., Wilkes-Barre, PA 18703
Chaplain: Rev. Patrick L. Albert 612 Hudson St., Forest City, PA 18431

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Mr. Chester P. Tracewski, Jr. 112 First St., Blakely, PA 18447

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HONORARY OFFICERS

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Honorary Member

Cardinal Adam Maida, Archbishop of Detroit

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E-mail POLUNION@EPIX.NET

Buy Polish Union Life

By the time you read this article, we are now in the New Year, 2010. I hope you all had a Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year. As I sit here writing this article, I'm wondering why someone might ask you why buy Polish Union Life Insurance. Some of thereasons people purchase Polish Union Life insurance is to provide an income for family members and dependents. To cover day-to-day expenses , like groceries and utilities as well as other emergencies like illness and home repairs when the wage earner dies, and to cover funeral cost and other final expenses.

Polish Union Life Insurance is the greatest financial product ever designed. With a stroke of a pen and just one payment, a person can create an estate worth thousands of dollars. If a member dies, Polish Union will pay the beneficiary the full amount of the policy, not the amount the member paid in premiums or what the member intended to pay. It is paid at a time when everything else in your life has been turned up side down. hat is why Polish Union Life Insurance is unique and special.

You as a member of Polish Union, can do your family and friends a favor by enrolling them as a member of Polish Union. And remember, insurance rates in the Polish Union are economical. The only way Polish Union members can really take advantage of all of our fraternal benefits is by participating in Polish Union activities, such as Children's Easter, Halloween, and Christmas Parties, the family picnic, the scholarship program, "Miss Polish Union", and the Debutante Ball, etc. Polish Union has life insurance plans to fit the needs of every family member, and for everyone concerned,



President's
Desk

ROSE A. WARTKO

there is a sense of belonging to a great organization as the Polish Union.

Parents and Grandparents: This is a good time to check if all of your children and grandchildren are members of Polish Union. Do they have enough life insurance?

Did you know that Polish Union has increased the scholarship aid to students attending college this year? A student must be a member of Polish Union for five years to receive \$200.00 a year and must have \$5,000.00 of life insurance and to receive \$300.00 a year the student must have \$7,000.00 of life insurance and to receive \$400.00 a year, the student must have \$10,000.00 of life insurance and a student that has \$20,000.00 and over of life insurance will receive \$800.00 a year.

Have you updated your policy lately? Did you check your beneficiary on your insurance policy lately? Were you recently married—do you need to change your name on the policy—have you moved and need to change your address with us? If any of the above questions is a yes, please contact your group secretary or call Polish Union at (570) 823-1611 and Chris or Linda will be glad to help you. Thank You.

What Are Disclaimers And Why Would I Want To Use One?

Hello. My name is Attorney Jeffrey J. Malak and I am General Counsel of the Polish Union and a partner in the law firm of Chariton & Schwager, Wilkes-Barre, PA . I will be providing you with information which you may find useful with regard to various legal topics. Please look for the Lawfully Yours column in future Fraternal Journal issues.

Disclaimers are an important part of postmortem tax planning. Sections 2518 and 2045, which were added to the Internal Revenue Code in 1976, set forth the requirements for making an effective disclaimer for federal tax purposes. The regulations provide that, in order to be effective for federal tax purposes, a disclaimer must comply with local or state law.

To be valid under Pennsylvania law, a disclaimer must be in writing, describe the interest disclaimed, declare the disclaimer and be signed by the disclaimant.

Virtually all interests devolving by whatever means may be disclaimed regardless of any spendthrift or other restriction. A disclaimer may be made on behalf of a decedent, minor or incapacitated person by such person's personal representative, guardian or power of attorney holder with court approval.

In a situation where an interest passes by Will or intestacy, a disclaimer must be filed with the clerk of the Orphans' Court and a copy of the disclaimer delivered to any fiduciary in possession of the disclaimed property. Unless a decedent has provided for an

Lawfully
Yours

JEFFREY J. MALAK, ESQ



alternative disposition in the case of a disclaimer, the disclaimant will be treated as having predeceased the decedent.

For purposes of Pennsylvania Inheritance Tax, if a qualifying disclaimer, or renunciation, is not barred and is made prior to the time the inheritance tax return is due, the property will pass as if the disclaimant had predeceased the decedent and inheritance tax will be assessed accordingly. This could have the effect of shifting the inheritance tax rate from 4.5% to 15% if the effect of the disclaimer is to bypass a spouse in favor of a lineal decedent, collateral relative or non-relative.

LEGAL DISCLAIMER: I am not giving you legal advice. Information provided in this column is of a general educational nature and may not reflect the law in your state. If you have a particular situation which you wish to review, you should consult with an attorney of your choice who is qualified to provide help in the area of law with which you are concerned.

Search Is On For Office of
General Secretary

In accordance with Article IX, page 15, of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Polish Union, A committee has been appointed "to seek out," interview and recommend for nomination, a person for the Office of "General Secretary", to the delegates of the 37th Convention.

Requirements for the position, as set forth by the committee, includes appropriate education and experience in life insurance, fraternal work, business administration, public relations, community activities, personel management and marketing experience.

Persons who feel they meet the requirements and are interested in the position, send a letter of application and goals to:

Search Committee For General Secretary
Polish Union of U.S.A.
P.O. Box 660
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18703-0660

Polish Nuns Visit Home Office
Living Monument to John
Paul II is Nuns’ Goal



Pictured with Polish Union of USA General Secretary, Ms. Charlotte Androckitis, is L-R, Sr. Mary Joseph Calore, SSCJ; Mother Ryszarda Wittbrodt, SSCJ; and Sr. Rafala Golonka, SSCJ

On November 10, 2009, three Sisters of the Congregation of Servants of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus (Siostry Sercanki) visited the Wilkes-Barre PA National Office of the Polish Union of USA and met with General Secretary, Ms. Charlotte Androckitis. Visitors included Mother Ryszarda Wittbrodt, a native of Poland and Provincial Superior of Sacred Heart Province, Cresson, Pennsylvania; Sister Rafala Golonka, religious superior and administrator of the John Paul II Nursing Home (Dom Opieki im. Jana Pawla II), in Kamesznica, Poland, Wilkes-Barre native and Provincial Councilor and Vocation Director, Sister Mary Joseph Calore, SSCJ, and friend and development advisor, Frank Pasquini of Wilkes-Barre.

The Polish Sisters were happy to meet members of the Polish Union, a fraternal organization that does much to further benefits to Poles and preserve Polish culture among the younger generation, and were very impressed by the beauty of the architecture and the historical significance of the Polish Union’s National Office.

Mother Ryszarda and Sister Rafala shared with Polish Union General Secretary Charlotte Androckitis about their new project of renovating and expanding the Sisters’ nursing home in Kamesznica, Beskid Zywiecki, Poland — a residential care center for poor, chronically ill women. Their million-dollar project aims to renovate and expand the building, allowing for larger rooms shared by residents, a bigger chapel, a rehabilitation room and community day room. The Sisters are presently engaged in efforts to secure funds to finance this much-needed project which will benefit poor and elderly women especially suffering from mental or physical disabilities, Alzheimers disease and dementia and who need specialized long term or short term professional

care.

As the Sisters pointed out, in the oftentimes painful decision to enlist the help of nursing home care, loving families want to secure the best care for their loved one. In a family-based society such as Poland where economic or family situations warrant the move of a dear one from the family home to a care facility, families want to provide a true home to their mothers, grandmothers, sisters and aunts... The Sisters in Kamesznica strive to provide this home in the spirit of the Servant of God, John Paul II, who so upheld the dignity to be accorded every human person. This is why the Sisters describe this project as “Building a Living Monument to John Paul II.”

The Sisters regard it as a great privilege to have been the Congregation who served the late Holy Father John Paul II as his personal aides and staff when he was Cardinal in Krakow and throughout his whole Pontificate in the Vatican.

This Congregation is an international, pontifical religious family founded in Krakow, Poland by St. Joseph Sebastian Pelczar and the Servant of God Mother Klara Szczesna to perform works of mercy on behalf of children and girls, as well as the sick and poor.

Members of the Polish Union who may wish to give a tax deductible gift in support of the John Paul II Nursing Home in Kamesznica may send their donation to Mother Ryszarda Wittbrodt, SSCJ, 866 Cambria Street, Cresson, Pennsylvania 16630. Please mark the memo line: “Kamesznica Fund.”

You are welcome also to send your prayer intentions as the Sisters will remember them in their prayers. To learn more about the Sisters please visit their website: www.sacredheartsisters.org.



Sisters taking care of the residents of John Paul II Nursing Home, Kamesznica, Poland

Children’s Christmas Party

This years Combined Children’s Christmas Party was held on Saturday, December 5, 2009 at the Polish Union of the USA’s Community Room in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. As always, it was a festive afternoon. The children colored winter pictures & watched a Christmas movie with snacks of Hot Chocolate with marshmallows and popcorn, and then they played games and won prizes. Lunch was then served. After lunch, Santa’s arrival came with a hearty HO! HO! HO! to everyone. Then each child came up to sit on Santa’s lap and receive their specially chosen gift while he listened to each of their special wishes for Christmas and had their picture taken with him. Everyone enjoyed a wonderful afternoon eating, playing games, mingling and having a craft to take home.



Find Fraternal Journal File Articles and Get
The Latest Information At:
POLISHUNIONUSA.COM

We need YOUR help to make our
Tree of Knowledge
Grow!

The Polish Union of USA is seeking donations toward the Polish Union Educational Fund.

Each year, those who donate to the Scholarship Fund will receive a leaf on the Polish Union Tree of Knowledge, as well as being acknowledged in both the online and print versions of the Fraternal Journal. During the past 15 years, the Polish Union of USA awarded more than \$135,000 to 658 applccants to help defer tuition costs.

By sponsoring a leaf on the Polish Union Tree of Knowledge, you can help us continue helping students by supporting the Polish Union Educational Fund. Leaves may be purchased in your own name, your business name or as a living memorial for a loved one.

Please complete the form below and return it (a photocopy is also acceptable), along with your donation to: Polish Union of the United States of North America Tree of Knowledge, P.O. Box 660, 53-59 North Main Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18703. Please make checks payable to the "Polish Union-Educational Plan

Name/Company _____
Telephone _____
Address _____
City/State/Zip _____
E-mail _____

Enclosed is (please check one)

- ☐ My first annual donation toward the“Tree of Knowledge” _____enti-
tling me to a Tree of Knowledge leaf.
(Minimum of \$20 per payment).
☐ My donation toward the “Tree of Knowledge”. I do not wish _____to receive a Tree
of Knowledge leaf or have my name published in the Fraternal Journal.

Please Print My Tree of Knowledge Leaf As Follows:
Leaf Inscription:

Maximum of 4 lines with 20 characters per line, including spaces.

About Our Members



Stella Goreschak recently celebrated her 95th Birthday. Shown in the photo are her 4 lovely daughters: Gail Schultz, Gerri Sherwood, Georgette Reilly and Glenda Yablonsky. Stella is a member of Polish Union since 1973 and a treasurer of the Zonta Club since 1970. She is blessed with 16 grandchildren and 16 great grandchildren who are all Polish Union members.? Dwu Sto Lat, Stella!

In Scranton/Wilkes-Barre Area: Easter Party For Children

Saturday, March 13, 2010
Beginning at 11:30 a.m.
Polish Union Building
53-59 N. Main Street
Wilkes-Barre
Sponsored By The Young Adult Committee
Sheri Pudlosky-Brierly, Chair

For Reservations:

- Parents are invited to bring their children ages 0-10 to the party.
- There will be an Egg Hunt, Entertainment and a visit from the Easter Bunny. Refreshments will be served.

Reservations Necessary
Phone the Polish Union Home Office at 823-1611 by March 3rd to make reservations.



Volunteers To Help At This Event Are Welcome Phone 610-517-5505

Happy Birthday - Sto Lat To Our Senior Members January-March, 2010

Reaching Age 96 Helena Borek, Chicago, IL Sophie Kurland, Justice, IL	Beatrice Szostek, Old Forge, PA Jerome Tima, St. Paul, MN Eleonore Wlodarczyk, Arlington Hts., IL
Reaching Age 90 Wladyslaw Beverly, W. Caldwell, NJ Caroline Czopek, Wyckoff, NJ Walter Daszkowski, Staten Island, NY Bronisla Grobleski, E. Brunswick, NJ Helena Gulik, Oak Lawn, IL Genowefa Kroll, Chicago, IL Tadeusz Majocha, New Castle, PA Elsie Pacelli, Wilmington, DE Bernice Wierzbicki, Omaha, NB Paulina Zurinskas, Dubois, PA	Reaching Age 80 Eleonora Baer, Lake Placid, FL Edmund Bielski, Trenton, NJ Louis V. Braleski, Johnson City, NY Dorota Brozdowski, Upper Mountain, NJ Ryszard Falkiewicz, Trenton, NJ Patrick Gigliello, Pittston, PA Christine Kowalski, Jobstown, NJ Tekla Kuchinski, Moosic, PA Virginia Labas, Scranton,PA Eleanor Larson, Glen Lyon, PA Franciszka Mazor, N. Cambria, PA Margaret McIntyre, Hazleton, PA Julia Miscavage, Plains, PA Eugene Pelczar, Shickshinny, PA Marcella Pienta, Wilkes-Barre, PA Dolores I. Prushinski, Nanticoke, PA Jozef A. Schmidt, Churchville, NY Antoni Swa, Palm Harbor, FL Camille Waranowicz, Sayresville, NJ Stasia Pedesko, Port Saint Lucie, FL ...
Reaching Age 85 Jan Cimoch, McKees Rocks, PA Maksmilian Dunal, Norridge, IL Joseph Dziadkowicz, Boca Raton, FL Wanda Homyak, Princeton, NJ Wladyslaw Hynoska, Chalfont, PA Anna Kalasin, South River, NJ Anna Kozlowski, Scranton, PA Weronika Krajewska, Moosic, PA Mary Kuzminski, Wilkes-Barre, PA Irene Mark, Simpson, PA Adelina Matuk, Schaumburg, IL Francis Miskiewicz, Wilkes-Barre, PA Genevieve Novak, Tiffin, OH Jean Olakowski, Palatine, IL Apolonia Przybylinska, Berwick, PA	<p><i>And to all our Members and Readers who celebrate Birthdays in these months, Happy Birthday—Sto lat</i></p> <p>...</p> <p>NOTE: If a member does not wish to have their birthday announced, please notify the Home Office.</p>

A Wonderful Wafer Supper

The Polish Union held the annual Wafer Supper on November 29th at 2pm at the home office in Wilkes-Barre. The afternoon event began with the lighting of the Advent Wreath by Alice Czyzyk and a mass followed. The celebrant of the mass was Fr. Albert. DeAnna Namowicz, Bernard Kolodziej, Nancy Bachurek, Jeff Malak and Charlotte L. Androckitis read the readings and other announcements and aided Fr. Albert with the service.† The new Ms. Polish Union 2010 (Sarah Ruth Connolly) was crowned by Ms. Polish Union 2009 (DeAnna Namowicz) directly following the mass. Rose Wartko started off the dinner with a toast; wafers with wishes for a happy and healthy new year were shared by all who attended. Dinner was served by the Pudlosky Family. The afternoon celebration concluded with Chester Tracewski leading everyone in singing Christmas (koledy) songs. There were over 70 people who attended this event. Old friends were reunited and new friendships were formed during this supper. The Young Adult committee wishes everyone a peaceful new year. If you are interested in attending or helping with this event please contact the home office at 570-823-1611.



Join Our Family Activities

Clip and Save

Members are encouraged to participate in all educational, cultural, civic and social activities sponsored by Polish union of USA. the following activities are yours for the taking. They are designed for all ages. We urge you and your family to participate in them.

2010

February 27	February Winter Tea Party, Radisson Lackawanna Station, Scranton 1:00 P.M.
March 10 March 13	March Pisanki Class, 6:30 P.M. at St. Catherine's Hall, Moscow PA Children's Easter Party – Polish Union Community Room, 53-59 North Main St Wilkes Barre, PA 11:30 A.M.
March 20	St Joseph's Celebration, 5:30 P.M. After Five Supper Club, Dickson City
May 22	May Chicago Area Spring Luncheon, 1:00 PM Location to be announced
Sept 17-18	September 37th Quadrennial Convention, Ramada Inn, Public Square, Wilkes Barre, PA
October 23	October Chicago Area Fall Annual Fall Meeting, 1:00 PM, Location to be announced.

...
All dates and times are subject to change. For the latest revisions or additions, or to register on-line, go to www.PolishUnionUSA.com or phone (570) 823-1611.

Join Us For A Festive Saint Joseph’s Dinner, March 20

Just as St. Patrick’s Day is celebrated with much merry-making by the Irish, although it falls during the season of Lent, so the people of Poland and Polish-Americans have chosen to commemorate St. Joseph’s Feast Day in a similar fashion. Various Pol-Am organizations and fraternals hold parties and get-togethers and for this day, the strict Lenten regulations do not oblige.

Festivities begin with a program and family-style dinner served at 5:30 p.m.

Saturday Evening
March 20, 2010
Program & Dinner 5:30 p.m.
After Five Supper Club
280 Main St., Dickson City

Members, their families and friends are invited to attend—the young and golden-agers will enjoy the affair. The color and decor of the evening will be red and white. It is recommended that ticket reservations be made by March 11th. To reserve your spot phone: Nancy Bachurek, 489-0690, Sophie Dubiak, 346-1131, Bill Giebus, 822-3005 or the Polish Union Home Office, 823-1611.

Price of tickets is \$30.00.

News From

CHICAGOLAND

DISTRICT DIRECTORS

Toni Storts 708-216-9624 Joan Wisinski, 708-448-6936 days, or 708-361-4180 evenings.

Chicago Christmas Fun

The Annual Chicago Groups Combined Childrens Christmas Party was a huge success. All children twelve and under attending received a gift from Santa. Mrs Santa was on hand for face painting and balloon creations The Pizza Buffet and sweet table was enjoyed by all children and adults. Thank you to the committee for all your hard work. Toni Storts, Joan and Tom Wisinski, Helen and Karol Leja, Barbara Kowalski and Santas Helpers. A few scenes of the fun are seen below.



The Annual Fall Meeting and Pot luck Luncheon was held on Saturday October 24, 2009 at the Alliance of Polish Clubs at 1pm. Toni Storts led the meeting with a Polish Prayer by Helen Leja. The convention to be held September 17-19, 2010 was discussed for Group Secretaries to seek out delegates to represent their groups. The Tree of Knowledge was explained to all members attending. The Childrens Christmas Party was announced for Saturday December 5, 2009 at Mayfair Banquets in Westchester, Il from 2p-5p. A delicious lunch was prepared by members attending and a raffle was held.

Tom Wisinski on March 29th-Jeanette Wood on March 19th-Todd Zientek.

January Birthdays: Jenna Galas, Helen Hyerczyk, Tracy karalow, jennifer Rafferty, Arlene Sapata, Rosalie Storts, and Anthony VanDusen

February Birthdays: Gary Doman, Christine Casper, Rev. Frank Burek, Krista Bednarz, Debra Rafferty, Randolph Doman, Richard Dubin, Catherine Fencel, Ken Fencel, Catherine Golata, melissa Hlavac, Ashley Jennings, Jackie Milbratz, Staci Joy Tepper, Trisha Tepper, and Shauna Winters

March Birthdays: Linda Doman, Linda Dank, Ronald Capek, Jolene Bluder, marissa Galas, Jessie Kalfas, Michael Kalfas, Veronica Kalfas, Sharon Kalfas, Tara Murphy, Sharon†Kalfas, Lauren Spencer, Sarah Rose Tepper, Steven Tepper and Paige Young

Happy New Year 2010 to all Members. The Tree of Knowledge helps all Scholarship Receipients. Read about it in the Newsletter.

To purchase insurance or add to your existing policy contact your Group Secretary or call Joan Wisinski-Illinois District Director 1 888 789-5182 or 708 361-4180 or email-wisinski85@com-cast.net

2010 Meeting Schedule for Council Ten-Chicago Groups May 22, 2010 Saturday at 1pm Spring Luncheon and Meeting Location to Be Announced October 23,2010 Saturday at 1pm Annual Fall Meeting and Pot Luck Luncheon-Location to be announced.

Join our Group Cruise to Scandinavia July 31-Aug 14 2010 on the Msc Orchestra, Call Joan at 1 888 789-5182 for more information



Merger Agreement of the Polish Union and the Grand Council of Pennsylvania Catholic Beneficial League

The Agreement of Merger dated January 4, 2010 by and between the Polish Union of the United States of North America ("Polish Union") and the Grand Council of Pennsylvania Catholic Beneficial League ("Grand Council") is being furnished to all Polish Union members by publication in the Fraternal Journal, the official publication of the Polish Union. This Agreement of Merger will be affirmed at a Special Polish Union Convention to be held on March 21, 2010 at the Ramada, located at 20 Public Square, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. The full Agreement of Merger is published below.

AGREEMENT OF MERGER THIS AGREEMENT OF MERGER

(hereinafter referred to as the "Agreement"), made this 4th day of January, 2010, is by and between the Polish Union of the United States of North America ("PUNA"), a Pennsylvania domiciled Fraternal Benefit Society located at 53-59 North Main Street, Wilkes-Barre Pennsylvania 18703 and the Grand Council of Pennsylvania Catholic Beneficial League (hereinafter referred to as the "GRAND COUNCIL"), a Pennsylvania domiciled Fraternal Benefit Society located at 24 Race Avenue, Lancaster, PA 17603.

WHEREAS, with the best interests of the GRAND COUNCIL members in mind, the Officers and Directors of the GRAND COUNCIL have reached an agreement with the Officers and Directors of PUNA to merge the GRAND COUNCIL into PUNA. GRAND COUNCIL and PUNA are fraternal benefit societies with the same religious (Roman Catholic) and geographical origins (Pennsylvania) and with similar fraternal goals of service to its members; and

WHEREAS, all the GRAND COUNCIL memberships and contracts will be transferred to PUNA, and PUNA will assume all liability for each in-force GRAND COUNCIL contract and/or life insurance certificate as though it had been originally issued by PUNA;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual agreements included herein, and intending to be legally bound thereby, the parties agree as follows:

1. The GRAND COUNCIL agrees to merge with PUNA.
2. The GRAND COUNCIL agrees to transfer to PUNA all of its assets and will cooperate with PUNA to accomplish such transfer. Assets will be valued at market value as of the date of transfer for use in determining the solvency distribution set forth below in this Agreement.
3. The GRAND COUNCIL agrees to reduce its liabilities to zero by payment in cash and/or transfer of assets to PUNA. Liabilities will be those reported in the financial statements according to NAIC accounting regulations.
4. PUNA agrees to accept all current certificate holding GRAND COUNCIL members into PUNA.
5. PUNA agrees that the solvency distribution between the GRAND COUNCIL and PUNA will be equitable and some portion of the difference between the GRAND COUNCIL solvency and PUNA's solvency will be distributed in the form of paid up additional insurance for GRAND COUNCIL members.
6. PUNA agrees to assign GRAND COUNCIL groups an administrative number for billing and other administrative purposes.
7. PUNA agrees to permit each GRAND COUNCIL group to remain self-governing without interference from PUNA.
8. PUNA agrees to permit each GRAND COUNCIL group to keep and maintain its own treasury (excluding premium income) which shall remain under that GRAND COUNCIL group's control. PUNA will not seek to gain control of any local group's funds unless that local group should request PUNA's assistance in administering their funds.
9. PUNA agrees to retain the President, Secretary, Grand Treasurer and Grand Financier of the GRAND COUNCIL with their current salaries until December 31, 2011 or earlier, if agreed to in writing by both the GRAND COUNCIL and PUNA.
10. PUNA agrees to offer the President and Secretary of the GRAND COUNCIL advisory seats on the PUNA Board of Directors with a stipend until December 31, 2011, contingent upon their participation and/or attendance at Board of Director meetings.
11. PUNA agrees to offer the GRAND COUNCIL delegate positions beginning with PUNA's 2010 convention in accordance with PUNA's Constitution and By-laws.

12. PUNA agrees to pay for the legal drafting of all merger documents and legal advertising required under this Agreement and under the laws of Pennsylvania.
 13. PUNA agrees to provide financial support to those activities and charities currently sponsored by the GRAND COUNCIL.
 14. PUNA agrees to offer GRAND COUNCIL members the same benefits as PUNA members.
 15. PUNA agrees to allow participation in PUNA's scholarship program, which offers qualified student members scholarship aid from \$200.00 up to \$800.00 in accordance with PUNA scholarship rules.
 16. PUNA agrees to provide one copy per family of the PUNA official publication, the Fraternal Journal, with a special GRAND COUNCIL section in the Fraternal Journal.
 17. PUNA agrees to create new letterhead with the combined PUNA and GRAND COUNCIL logo identifying GRAND COUNCIL as a division of PUNA.
 18. PUNA agrees to allow participation in all of PUNA's religious, cultural and social events.
 19. PUNA agrees to provide GRAND COUNCIL members access to office space and meeting rooms located at 53-59 North Main Street, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.
 20. PUNA agrees to provide each GRAND COUNCIL member with an assumption certificate, which will describe his or her current insurance and contract values. An assumption certificate will be mailed to the last known address of each GRAND COUNCIL member within ninety (90) days after this Agreement is approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Insurance and/or as required by law. In the event of the death of a GRAND COUNCIL member after the date of this Agreement, but prior to such deceased member's receipt of the assumption certificate, benefits will be paid by the PUNA as if the merger had been completed.
 21. PUNA and GRAND COUNCIL agree to bear their own expenses (except as provided otherwise in this Agreement) until the date of merger and final approval is obtained from the Insurance Department of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. After the date of merger approval, all expenses will be the responsibility of PUNA.
 22. PUNA and the GRAND COUNCIL agree that no brokerage fees or commissions will be paid to any person or party in connection with the merger of PUNA and the GRAND COUNCIL.
 23. PUNA and the GRAND COUNCIL agree the invalidity of any part of this Agreement shall not affect the remainder. Changes in form, which may be required by a Department of Insurance, shall not require re-submission of this Agreement. Any changes to the Agreement that are required by the Department of Insurance of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, which are not substantive in nature, are automatically incorporated herein.
 24. The GRAND COUNCIL confirms that it is not party involved in any pending lawsuit and/or litigation.
 25. PUNA and the GRAND COUNCIL agree this Agreement will be subject to the rules and regulations of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
 26. This Agreement may be executed in any number of Counterparts, any and all of which shall be deemed to be the original. A facsimile and/or e-mail signature shall be deemed the same as an original.
- IN WITNESS WHEREOF, each of the parties hereto has fully executed this Agreement as of the date set forth above.
- POLISH UNION OF THE UNITED STATES OF NORTH AMERICA
Charlotte L. Androckitis , General Secretary
Rose A. Wartko, President
- GRAND COUNCIL OF PENNSYLVANIA CATHOLIC BENEFICIAL LEAGUE
Thomas D. Stipe, Secretary
John J. Faust, President



Pisanki Class

Polish Egg Coloring

Sponsored by Polish Union of U.S.A.
Open To members and The General Public

Nancy Bachurek, Instructor

In The Scranton Area:

Wednesday, March 10, 2010 at 6:30 p.m.
at St. Catherines Hall, Moscow, PA

Rev. Robert Simon, Pastor

For Reservations in the Scranton Area Contact:
Nancy Bachurek, 489-0690 or Sophie Dubiak 346-1131

- Mini Class On the Decoration of Easter Eggs—"Pisanki"
- Reservations Necessary To Ensure Sufficient Materials Will Be Available
- Classes are open to Members and the General Public
- Classes Limited to 18 Persons—First Come, First Served
- \$12.50 fee for Supplies

For people of Polish and Slavic heitage, Easter would not be the same without the presence of delightful decorated eggs which fascinate and enchang children of all ages. They are called Pisanki (pee-sahn-kee)

Children's Halloween Party

The Young Adult Committee hosted this year's Children's Halloween Party at Polish Union. With 28 children attending, it was a big success. The committee would like to thank all the parents that came out on the cold, rainy night, to have some Halloween fun with their friends at Polish Union. The party began with a Halloween craft and coloring time, served food and munchies, a parade of costumes, and some entertainment and balloon spectaculars by The Amazing Magic Matt!



Our costume winners this year were: Brady Gribble, a monkey, Rece Woytowich, Spider Woman, Cassidy Birmer, Dorothy from the Wizard of Oz, Brennan Huber, Elmo, Thomas Hannon, Spiderman, Mia Pasquale, Dorothy from the Wizard of Oz, Jack Graham, Batman, Jullian Davis, a witch and Ashley Cox, an Egyptian Empress.



The Young Adult Committee would like to thank all of those who came to the event. Without your participation, we wouldn't be able to host such a fun party.



The Polish Chef

Kapusta And Much More

Sauerkraut Salad

Drain and rinse 2 c. sauerkraut, press out moisture and chop. Place in salad bowl and tear apart so it doesn't stick together. Add 1 chopped onion, 1 finely grated carrot and 1 peeled diced apple. Season with pepper and sugar, drizzle with salad oil and toss. Optional: Salad may also be seasoned with caraway.

Pork Ribs and Sauerkraut

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Drain 1 qt. sauerkraut and rinse in a large pan of cold water, swishing it around with your hand. Drain well, chop coarsely, place in pot, scald with boiling water to cover, bring to boil and reduce heat. Add 1 mushroom bouillon cube (if necessary use beef bouillon) and cook uncovered 20 min. then cover and continue simmering. Divide 2 1/2 lbs. spare ribs or pork loin-back ribs into 2-rib portions. Rinse, pat dry and place bone-side-down on a rack in an uncovered baking pan. Bake about 1 hr. Transfer sauerkraut to a roaster and into it mix 1 peeled diced apple. Add ribs, covering them with sauerkraut and sprinkle with 2 - 3 T. rib pan drippings. In bowl mix 1 heaping T. Polish plum butter with 2 T. tomato paste (or ketchup) and 1/4 t. Kitchen Bouquet and stir into sauerkraut. Cover and bake another 60 min. at 325 degrees. Season with a little pepper, marjoram and garlic powder, stir lightly and let stand in oven another 20 min. for flavors to blend. Serve with boiled or mashed potatoes and a grated salad.

Grated Carrot Salad

With hand-held grater or in processor, grate 3 carrots and 1/2 celeriac (celery root). Add 2 peeled cored, coarsely grated apples and 1 - 2 heaping T. prepared non-creamed horseradish. Mix well and season with juice of 1/2 a lemon and just enough sugar for a nice balance. Lace with 1 - 2 T. sour cream or low-fat yogurt.

Polish Pork Stew

Rinse and pat dry 1 1/2 lbs. cubed stewing pork. Shake meat in a flour-filled plastic bag to coat evenly. In a heavy skillet, brown meat on all sides in 3 T. hot oil or shortening. Remove meat from skillet with slotted spoon and lightly brown 3 sliced onions in the same drippings. Return meat to skillet, add 2 - 3 sliced carrots, 1 small diced turnip (optional), 1 bay leaf and 1/2 c. beer. Reduce heat and simmer covered on low heat 45 - 60 mins. or until meat is tender, stirring occasionally. Add a little water if stew begins to sizzle. Season with salt & pepper, 1/4 t. paprika, 1/4 t. marjoram, 1/4 t. crushed caraway seeds and (optional) 1 bud crushed garlic. Stir ingredients and simmer briefly. Garnish with chopped parsley if desired. Serve with batter dumplings (see below).

Batter Dumplings

First, bring a large pot of slightly salted water to boil. Sift 1 1/2 c. flour into a bowl. Add 1/2 t-salt, 2 beaten eggs and about 1/2 c. water. Mix with wooden spoon to blend ingredients and then beat vigorously until batter is smooth. The more air bubbles beaten into the batter, the fluffier the dumplings will be. Dip a teaspoon into the boiling water, scoop up a spoonful of batter and drop it into the boiling water. Continue until batter is used up, dipping spoon in boiling water before each addition. When boiling resumes, reduce heat and cook covered 3 -4 min. Remove dumplings to colander and rinse. Drain well and serve with garnish.

Smaczneho!

The Irena Sendler Story



At a recent performance of “Life In A Jar”, Polish Union members were in attendance. Pictured are Terri Ruminsky,(Dir of Polish Union PK Dende, (Pres of Lackawanna Gaminna, a member of the cast, and Jack Bednarski..

While researching the holocaust for a school project, four Protestant kids from Kansas discovered a story of a Polish Catholic woman who defied the Nazis to save over 2,500 Jewish children.

The play they wrote telling this story isLife in a Jar. It is the story of Irena (Krzyzanowska) Sendler, a Polish Catholic social worker who saved the lives of children by going into the infamous Warsaw Ghetto. There she visited Jewish families to ‘talk them out of’ their precious children in order to save their lives. She, along with her network of twenty-five rescuers, secretly removed these children and placed them in convents and safe houses where they were cared for by compassionate and courageous Polish people until the war’s end. Irena felt, “it was simply the decent thing to do.” She would record the true identities of these children and for safe keeping place these records in jars which she buried under an apple tree. Hence the title - Life in a Jar.

Irena’s courageous and heroic actions

were almost lost to history. This play, written about her, eventually brought world recognition. Life in a Jar was recently preformed at the Mellow Theater, Scranton, to a grateful audience of both the Polish and Jewish heritage.

Irena was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize in 2007, the year it was given to Al Gore.

Irena died on May 12th, 2008 at the age of ninety-eight.

“Every child saved with my help is the justification of my existence on this Earth and not a title to glory.”

Irena Sendler

To learn a lot more go to –www.irenasendler.org

I personally believe that Irena represents the true heart and spirit of most Polish people and that the hands of God lead these four young people to reveal this story.

Bog ratuje Polska

Mrs. Karen Bednarski

Koffee Klatch

with D.K.



Dzien dobry! Welcome to my kitchen. The aroma of raspberry chocolate coffee enticed our guest to the serving table. One of the guests, just returned from the hospital following several operations, said he was kept together by tubes. Despite his hardship he was full of smiles and hope. He looked wonderful for 76 years and 25 pounds lighter. Despite his present ordeal he told us he is making plans to go to England with is English war bride to celebrate their 50th anniversary. Then Sharon walked in. She never smiles and is always sick. When asked it she went to the doctor, she says, “What’s the use?” Frank and Ruth were there and said, smiling, “Ruth goes to the doctor every time the weather changes.”

This conversation reminded me of a report I recently read stating that the ancient Chinese remedy of having belief may not be just a myth. The theory indicated that if you believe in something with strong faith, it will almost make it happen. The survey hints that for some unknown reason, those who believe they were getting wee, did improve from a chronic illness. Those who had no belief got worse.

It was then that I had a flashback from my mind. Once, at a private party, a hypnotist was entertaining a group of people. He put a friend of mine under hypnosis and touched her had with a dime. . . he told her it was a cigarette, and was sorry he had burned her. She pulled her hand away, (while still under). She reacted like anyone who got burned. After she came out of it, she notice a blister on her finger and said, “Where did I get this blister?” Well, we all saw the blister on her finger and we all knew where she got the blister when she was under hypnosis. We were all shocked at the power of suggestion. . . and the power of belief. Who knows the galaxy of power which lies between the heart and the mind?

The Holiday Debt

Do you get a sick feeling in the pit of your stomach in January when bills start to roll in, always around the same time our unwelcome relatives arrive? The IRS wants a piece of our pie too. What better time than now to give some pointers to avoid debt.

—Set up a budget you can live with. This means making a list of money you owe and

—Set your priorities. eg. Budget for monthly payments, rent, car, insurance, mortgage, etc. . .

—Then budget for the monthly payments, credit cards and any outstanding bills. . . Contact your creditors if you can’t make immediate payments. Most creditors will agree since some payment is better than none.

— Consider taking a debt-consolidation loan. With this the interest rates are usually lower. Some card firms don’t make new charges until the old ones are paid. A non-profit organization called Consumer Credit Counseling Services can be reached at an office near you.

— Most important, learn to control yourself.

. . .

Dear PK:

My husband and I were betrayed by a couple we considered our friends. The problem is we have many of the same friends and are often at the same gatherings. How do we handle this situation when at a friends gathering?

—Betrayed

Dear Betrayed:

To be a far better person and not make your other friends uncomfortable, just say hello and make a few general statements to them. Remember, they can never hurt you again as they already did. By your casual greeting to them, they will be reminded. . . And I guarantee, they will be the ones who feel uncomfortable. Much more so than you do.

—pk

. . .

Helpful Hint: Never drive faster than your guardian angel can fly.

. . .

Strictly Personal: Birthday Greetings to: **Stella Goreschak, Doe** and **Alexis Kolodziej, Ceil Konopka, Helen Jurgiewicz, Irene Zak** and Happy Anniversary greetings to: **Chester and Barbara Tracewski.** Sto lat!

. . .

PLEASE SEND YOUR LETTERS, BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES TO ME FOR PUBLICATION....PK , 17 LAUREL DRIVE, SCRANTON, PA. 18505.

Wilkes University’s Polish Room Presents...

Polish Romantic Poetry

Sunday, February 7, 2010

2:30 PM - 4:00 PM

Wilkes University
Kirby Hall • 202 South River Street

Join us for an exquisite experience of fine poetry, high tea, and romantic ambiance.
Light refreshments will be provided.

This program is free and open to the public, but due to limited space, registration is requested at polishroom@yahoo.com

Pulaski Parade Festivities

Polish Union members took a bus ride to participate in Philadelphia Pulaski Day events. Included in the day were the dedication ceremony, luncheon, and parade



Zonta Club Holds Yule Party

The Annual Christmas Party of the Zonta Club was held on December 6th, 2009 at the After Five Supper Club in Dickson City, PA. The Zonta Club, which meets on a monthly basis is a combination of members from Groups #395 and #400. Rose Wartko is President of the Zonta Club. Pictured above are the head table and the tables of some of those members that were in attendance.

A religious program consisting of the reading of the Gospel and the blessing of the wafers was held with Rev. Joseph Brozena and our Chaplain, Rev. Patrick L. Albert participating. The wafer was then shared by the members and guests. A delicious meal was served, gifts were exchanged and bingo was held. Charlotte L. Androckitis, General Secretary of the Polish Union was an invited guest and spoke on behalf of the Fraternal.



You Are Invited To A Winter Tea Party

Saturday, February 27, 2010
1 p.m.

Radisson Lackawanna Station Hotel, Scranton

Price \$20.00 (Includes Tax & Gratuity)

Includes a variety of tea cookies, fresh-baked scones, mini pastries, tea sandwiches, tea and coffee

Everyone is welcome

This event is sponsored by the Polish Union and
Reservations can be made by phoning Nancy Bachurek,
489-0690 or Sophie Dubiak, 346-1131

37th Convention Highlights

The 37th National Convention of the Polish Union of U.S.A. will be held Friday and Saturday, September 17 and 18, 2010 at the Ramada Hotel and Convention Center in Wilkes-Barre, PA.

Suggestions to Change By-Laws

A member of the Polish Union has the opportunity to offer any suggestions, additions or changes to the Constitution and By-Laws of the fraternal. Such changes will be voted on by the delegates at the 37th Convention. Send in your suggestions by May 18, 2010 to Constitution and By-Laws Committee, Polish Union of U.S.A., P.O. Box 660, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18703

Interviews for Office of General Secretary

In Accordance with Article V, paragraph 8 of the Constitution and By-Laws, a committee has been appointed "to seek out, interview and recommend for nomination, a person for the office of General Secretary" to the delegates of the Convention.

Requirements for the position, as set forth by the committee, includes appropriate education and experience in life insurance, fraternal work, business administration, public relations, community activities, personal management and marketing experience.

Persons who feel they meet the requirements and are interested in the position, send a letter of application and qualifications to: Search Committee for General Secretary, Polish Union of U.S.A., P.O. Box 660, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18703.

Mandates

The office of the General Secretary will mail mandates to Groups for the election of delegates to the 37th Convention. The number of delegates each Group is entitled to depends on the number of members they possess in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws of the Polish Union.

We encourage members to attend their Group meeting when delegates to the



Convention will be elected. Call your Group Secretary for meeting date.

Candidates for Office and Board Members.

In accordance with Article V, paragraph 6 of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Polish Union a Nominating Committee will receive applications of candidates for Office or membership on the Board of Directors of the Society. The Board of Directors composed of: President; 1st Vice President; 2nd Vice President; General Secy.; Treasurer; Chaplain; Medical Examiner; General Counsel; Five (5) Directors (2 from Luzerne County, 2 from Lackawanna County and one for either County); also 2 District Directors (Chicago area).

All applications must be submitted to the Committee on or before May 15, 2010. Applicants must include their Group number, year admitted to the Polish Union, their background, etc.

Application blanks for elected Office or Board membership are available from the Nominating Committee, P.O. Box 660, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18703.

Convention Open To All

Any member of the Polish Union of U.S.A. can attend the Convention as a spectator. However, only duly-elected delegates (in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws) will have a voice and vote in business deliberations.

ATTENTION Pre-Convention/ 120th Anniversary Contest

Group Secretaries and Licensed Agents
Now is the the time to take advantage of the New Contest
starting with New Applications starting with issue date
September 1, 2009 ending August 1, 2010.

Limited Time Program

Sign up new members and be a winner of one of the cash prizes to be announced at the 2010 Polish Union Convention.