# FRATERNAL JOURNAL

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

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**Debutante Ball 2011 To** 

During the summer months a special exhibit, "The 1940's Polish House" was displayed in Eckley Miners Village near Hazleton, PA. The Village is maintained by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. It is a prime example of a planned 19th century industrial coal mining town representative of conditions experienced by immigrant families as they lived through the industrial revolution. Visitors witness first hand what transpired in the early days for coal miners and their families.

Eckley Miners Village Exhibit

The Wilkes University Polish Room Committee was invited to develop an authentic display for the Polish House and enlisted our aid in terms of the loan of historical items and volunteer support. Added to the collection of artifacts owned by their group, the Wilkes women loaned materials from private individuals and also obtained banners, documents and photos from our organization

Polish Union/Ameripol members who volunteered at the exhibit on several weekends included our CEO Charlotte Androckitis, Terry Rumensky, Rev. Patrick



**CEO Charlotte Androckitis stands** next to a Polish Union Group banner at the Eckley Miners' Village in

Albert, Mary Ellen Kolodziej and Bernard

The Debutante Ball Committee met recently to finalize plans for the Dinner Dance which is scheduled for November 5, 2011 at Fiorelli's Restaurant in Peckville, PA. This annual affair is sponsored by Polish Union USA, a fraternal benefit society with headquarters in Wilkes Barre, PA.

Committee members selected the theme "A Special Rose" in honor of President Rose Wartko who passed away recently. She founded the Debutante Ball program of Polish Union and actively participated for the past 32 years, having the pleasure of seeing countless young ladies introduced into society. They, their families and friends cherish many joyful memories as a result of the leadership Rose provided.

This year the Committee decided to invite former Debutantes as special guests to offer their sentiments in tribute to Rose. The program will begin at 5:00 PM with entertainment afterwards by George Tarasek Orchestra. This affair is open to the public



**Emily Stefanec and Katryna Reilly as** co-chairs of the Debutante Ball.

and tickets are available by calling the Home Office at 570-823-1611.

## **Community**

# **Bachurek Elected State** Legion Auxiliary Chaplain



Anastasia Nancy Bachurek, Board member of Polish Union USA, was recently elected Chaplain of the American Legion

Auxiliary at their state Convention in Valley Forge, PA. Mrs. Bachurek is well known in Polish Union circles for her extensive work with the Activities Committee, having served on committees for St. Joseph's Day Programs, Vigilia Dinners, Debutante Balls, Pysanki Classes, Palm Weaving, Christmas Ornaments, Wycinanki and other projects. Nancy is also renowned for her work with the Legion Auxiliary for many years. She is a member of the Dickson City Legion Auxiliary Unit and has served in all of the offices of her Unit, currently holding the office of President for the past 21 years. Nancy was a District President of the Lackawanna-Susquehanna Council for 10 years having held various offices in the District as well. She also finds time to volunteer at the Gino Merli Veteran's Center, Mellow Theater, Electric City Theater, and Cultural Center. Scranton Congratulations to Nancy from everyone at Polish Union.



At the Miners' Village, Seated, from left: Mary Wllen Kolodziej, Fran Mazy and Marie Voitek. Standing: Linda Chiampi, Susan Najaka, Joyce Latoski and **Barbara Smith** 



Chaplain Patrick Albert and Director Terri Rumensky enjoyed the Exhibit'

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FRATERNAL JOURNAL PAGE 2

## In Memoriam Our sympathy to the families of

recently deceased members of Polish

Children C.S.71.				
Group	Member	State		
321	Marion Krolick	PA		
395/400	Ann Benson	PA		
293	Czeslaw Rumienski	FL		
400	Mary Mynyk	PA		
502	William Buck	MD		
257	John Paciga	PA		
321	Irena Blaso	PA		
155	Karolina Porada	NJ		
51	Genevieve Figlerski	PA		
502	Anna M. Cole	PA		
257	Maryann Stefanowska	PA		
405	Wladyslaw Judycki	PA		
191	Leroy T. Korth	FL		
400	Rose Wartko	PA		
70	Tomasz Czkalski	PA		
378	Stefania Scaduto	IL		
206	Henry Appnell	FL		
74	Shirley Kuhl	PA		
400	Bernice Soltis	PA		
175	Constance Cerase	PA		
155	Louis E. Rezem	NJ		
100	Adam Trypus	FL		

May the souls of the faithful departed rest in

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

#### **Unfiled Claims**

Each year our Home Office reports a number of members deaths, yet, beneficiaries have not filed a death claim with us. Until the claim is made and processed we cannot issue the death benefit due. If you know of anyone who might not have filed a death claim that they are beneficiary to, encourage them to contact us. We will help you make arrangements to file a legal death claim. Call us during business hours.

If someone has lost the original policy as the beneficiary, or the policy was misplaced while the deceased was still alive, you may request a duplicate policy providing you have a legal Death Certificate for the deceased member.

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Lawrence Wroblewski

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# The Legacy of Rose Wartko and Polish Union's Future President Rose Wartko's obituary in the

prior issue of our Journal documented some of her many accomplishments as an Officer and member of Polish Union USA. Additionally those who worked with Rose on various projects and day to day activities of our organization reflect on her dedication to the mission of Polish Union. Her organizational skills and compassionate concerns for all were a hallmark of her work and she will be fondly remembered. We are especially thankful to her daughter Judy who established the Rose Wartko Educational Fund thus assuring that memories of Rose will continue for years to come.

#### Polish Union's Future

During the Summer Board meeting I was elected as your President and wish to thank the Board for expressing their confidence in me. My goal is to work productively as a team member with the Officers, Board, Committees, and Volunteers in perpetuating the growth and stability of our organization. The first task is to coordinate and address the priorities outlined by our Focus Group and more recently at our Board meeting. Some elements of our first phase are the enhanced website, new brochures, and further use of the media in publicizing our range of insurance and fraternal benefits.



Dresident's Desk

BERNARD KOLODZIEJ

Delegates at our last Convention adopted the new Ameripol trade name to be used in conjunction with Polish Union and that is being phased in as our Marketing initiatives develop. Name recognition for identification by a diverse population is necessary when we review our current membership and recruit new members .Although we continue to offer programs consistent with our ethnic heritage, the range of activities has broadened to encompass the interests of people from all walks of life.

Just as life insurance is for all, so too are the added fraternal benefits and we ask for your help in supporting this concept. Please address comments, concerns and suggestions to me by calling or emailing the Home

### **Northeast Fraternals Meet**

The Fraternal Societies of North East Pennsylvania met recently at the offices of The Ladies Pennsylvania

Slovak catholic Union with Martha Iskra presiding.

The first order of business was Acting President Iskra's memorial message for President Rose Wartko who recently passed away. Mrs. Wartko was recognized for her dedicated efforts in Fraternal work both in the Northeast Fraternals and her lifelong work in the Polish Union, especially the last 10 years as President of that organization.

Felicia Perlick was welcomed as a new member of our group. She is one of the National Directors of The Polish Women's Alliance and gave an update on developments at their recent Convention.

Activities of the past year were reviewed and some preliminary planning was done regarding the next few months. The next meeting is scheduled for October 19, 2011 at the Offices of Polish Union/ Ameripol. This day is designated as "Make A Difference Day" and members were reminded to bring in donated goods for the Domestic Violence Center, the nonprofit agency which we supported for the past several years. Items such as blankets, sheets for twin beds, diapers and related goods will be accepted.

The November meeting will include election of Officers and the Annual Christmas meeting is scheduled for December 14, 2011 at the Ramada Inn, Wilkes-Barre, PA.



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 2010-2014**

CEO/National Secretary: Charlotte L. Androckitis 53-.S9 N. Main St., Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701

President: Bernard Kolodziej 35 W. Noble St., Nanticoke, PA 18634 CFO-VP: John Bednarski 327 Lee Park Ave., Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702 CLO: 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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#### DISTRICT DIRECTORS ILLINOIS & MID-WEST

Mrs. Toni Storts 1816 Downing Ave., Westchester, IL 60154 Mrs. Joan Wisinski 13210 S. 85th Ave, Palos Park, IL 60464

#### HONORARY OFFICERS

Bernard Kolodziej, Hon. Vice-President; Helen Czeck, Hon. Ass't Secretary Honorary Directors: Aloysius Bogusko, Alice Czyzyk, Chester Tracewski; Honorary Medical Examiner, Dr. Leon Skweir.

#### Honorary Member

Cardinal Adam Maida, Archbishop of Detroit

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# Polish Union of U.S.A. Salutes



# **OCTOBER**

"Polish-American Heritage Month"

A National Celebration of Polish History, **Culture and Pride** 

## Self Help in Pennsylvania Coal Towns Lead To Fraternal Societies

BY BERNARD KOLODZIEJ, Polish Union USA, President.

Poor immigrant families in the coal regions of Pennsylvania were usually at the mercy of the coal companies and had to depend on one another in times of special need. The head of the household, as long as he was a productive worker, had the privilege of low rent company housing for his family. Boarders were usually taken in to supplement the family income since few other outside sources of income existed at the time. Families subsisted by maximizing the resources at hand and basically depending on the breadwinner for a normal family life.

Should the head of the household become disabled or lose his life in a mine accident radical changes in the family were inevitable. Eligibility for housing was predicated on the existence of a productive mine worker in the home. This often led to a newly widowed woman marrying a boarder or someone in the nearby community thus assuring the family of available housing. Short term disabilities were usually addressed through help from neighbors and relatives who pooled their limited resources in such charitable endeavors. Some help did come in later years from the coal companies and the government with the establishment of regional hospitals which had a priority on caring for injured mine workers.

Community activities in the patch towns centered around the churches or social groups which developed from common interests in recreation, social gatherings, and church membership. Just as we witness situations with immigrant groups of today, the common elements for many was ethnic heritage, language, religion, and related factors. The waves of immigrants in the late 1800's and early 1900's and their particular experiences have been well documented. We are herein focusing primarily on some of the factors that brought about the formal development of self help and benefit societies in Northeastern PA.

The hardship and uncertainty of life in company towns motivated people to cobble together local self help groups, contributing what little they had to aid neighbors and friends. These groups often found solace and direction in their local churches or other places where they gathered on a regular basis. Sharing experiences and ideas at these gatherings helped the people to appreciate the value of organized efforts similar to the activities of labor groups in large cities.

Historically, immigrant groups formed benefit societies based on need and their ethnicity was usually the common denominator. The Ancient Order of Hibernians organized jointly in Pennsylvania and New York in 1836. The Order of the Sons of Italy in America was founded in New York in 1905 to offer health, education, and death benefits for their members. The First Catholic Slovak group was established in 1892 in Cleveland,

Ohio to provide sick benefits and disaster assistance to their members. The Polish Roman Catholic Union began in 1873 in Detroit, Michigan. In 1880 the Polish National Alliance was established in Chicago, Illinois. The Polish Women's Alliance also started in Chicago in 1889.

Closer to home in Northeastern Pennsylvania, the National Slovak Society which was organized in 1890 in Pittsburgh, had five founders and began with a treasury of \$200. The founders were; one each from Freeland, Hazleton, Plymouth, Pittsburgh, and Cleveland, Ohio. Polish Union USA with national headquarters in Wilkes Barre actually began in 1890 in St. Paul, Minnesota. All of the aforementioned organizations now have groups of members in the vicinity.

Additional Benefit Societies with local ties include the Ladies Catholic Slovak Society, organized 1898 in Hazleton and presently located in Wilkes Barre. The Ukrainian Fraternal Association, recently merged with Provident, was founded in Scranton. The Russian Brotherhood Organization was founded in 1900 and the Russian Orthodox Catholic Mutual Aid Society started in 1895 in Wilkes Barre. They merged a few years ago with the Polish National Union of Scranton which was founded in 1897. Other groups including Jednota, Sokols, and Polish Falcons also remain active to some degree in our area.

The intent is to illustrate just how broad the expanse of fraternal benefit societies was in the early 1900's. We have witnessed decreases in membership and merging of many fraternal benefit societies because of numerous economic, governmental, and sociological factors including the aggressive competition from Commercial insurance agencies. Survival and growth of the remaining fraternals will be difficult if they remain focused on one ethnic or religious sector. Many are diversifying in terms of product lines and outreach to the general public.

Modern day immigrant groups face challenges which are different and more complex but in some instances their problems are similar. The ongoing debate on immigration policy and related matters will continue while newcomers struggle to cope as best they can. Would a look back in history suggest at least a partial solution to the problems of today? These concerns will be for others to resolve.

Polish Union USA/Ameripol is a non profit fraternal benefit Society, founded in 1890, with National Headquarters in Wilkes Barre, PA. There are over 9000 members with the major concentration in Northeastern PA. The organization offers life insurance benefits and other privileges to the general public. Their members are organized into Groups, much like the early days, and they are involved in a variety of social, cultural, community service, and family focused activities. Visit www.polishunionusa or call 570-823-1611 for more details.

# Progress Committee Welcomes New Member Fr. Patrick Albert



Progress Committee: Seated in the photo are Charlotte Androckitis, CEO & National Secretary, and Alice Czyzyk. Standing are Theresa Rumensky, member; Father Patrick Albert, Chaplain and Bernard Kolodziej, President. Absent from photo is Chester Tracewski.

The Progress Committee met recently with Chaplain Patrick Albert as an invited guest. He outlined plans to initiate a gifting program of Polish Union insurance benefits by individuals to their Church. The Committee engaged in preliminary discussion on the matter and decided to pursue it further. We also recommended to the Board that Father Albert join our Committee and this was subsequently approved.

The main task of this Committee is to increase membership. We receive suggestions and direction from fellow Board members, focus groups and members in general. Some of the efforts currently being coordi-

nated are upgrading of marketing initiatives including new brochures, advertising, expanded website use, special offers for specific groups of paid up members, recruitment of sales personnel, and gifting through local Parishes as mentioned earlier. Other responsibilities of our group are assigned by the Executive Committee as they deem appropriate.

All members are reminded that the Recommender's Fee Program is scheduled to end on December 1, 2011. Earn a financial reward by recruiting new members now. Call your Group Secretary or the Home Office for details.

# Send Us Your News Polish Union Members as well as Grand Council Members are asked to send articles

Polish Union Members as well as Grand Council Members are asked to send articles along with a picture (if possible) to Public Relations Coordinator, Chris Pagoda at the Home Office via mail; or

E-mail to: cap@polishunionusa.com
If you have questions call Chris at (570) 823-1611.

# Gift ideas from Polish Union/Ameripol

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# Polish Union Hosts Regional Meeting of Small Polish Fraternals



Executives of several Polish Fraternals met on September 13, 20111 at the Polish Union headquarters to discuss common concerns and share ideas on the future growth and development of their respective organizations. Geographic areas represented were Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, New Jersey, and Northeastern PA. Deliberation centered on the issues impinging on survival of small Fraternals, the need to maintain compliance with regulatory bodies, creative marketing initiatives, fiscal management, office practices and related matters. Consensus was formed to convene in the spring of 2012 for continued discussion and constructive dialogue.

Pictured above are; Seated left to right, Charlotte Androckitis, Polish Union/Ameripol, John Kuzmirek, Polish Falcons, and Tim Kuzma, Polish Falcons. Standing, I. to r. Frank Knurowski, Sons of Poland, Atty. John Jakubowski, Polish Beneficial, Loretta Zekanis, Polish Beneficial, Atty. Jeffrey Malak, Polish Union/Ameripol, Dorothy Kostecka-Wieczerzak, Sons of Poland, Bernard Kolodziej, Polish Union/Ameripol, and Trish Del Busse,

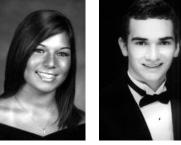
Polish Falcons.

PAGE 4 Fraternal Journal

# Meet Our 2011-2012 Scholarship Recipients







DENDE, C.



DOBLIX, J.













KOLODZIEJ, S.



Leja, J.



MACHOWSKI, L.



MILLER, T.



Namowicz, D.



PELCZAR, J.



PELCZAR, K.



ROBINSON, R.





ROJEK, T.



STACHOWICZ, R.



STANSKI, S.



SUCHOSKI, J.





TRYBA, K.



WASIAKOWSKI, A





WILSON, K.



Ziobro, R.

Young people, all members of the Polish Union of U.S.A., are recipients of 2011-2012 Henry J. Dende Scholarship Stipends from the Polish Union of U.S.A. This educational assistance is only one part of the fraternal's continuing efforts to assist its members and serve the community. A listing of this year's recipients is found below.

Emily Kate Antene, Gr. 275, Brookfield, IL, is the daughter of John III and Cynthia Antene. She is a Senior Communication and Marketing major at St. Louis Univ., St. Louis, MO.

Sara Anne Antene, Gr. 275, Brookfield, IL., is the daughter of John and Cindy Antene. She is in her second year as a Communications major at the Univ. of Dayton, Dayton, OH.

Ellen A. Cornelius, Gr. 290, Chicago, IL, is the daughter of Charles and Janet Cornelius. She is a Chemistry major in her second year at Illinois Wesleyan Univ., Bloomington, IL.

Amanda Rose DeFiccio, Grs. 180 & 25m Lawrenceville, NJ, is the daughter of Robert, Jr. and Mary Jo DeFiccio. She is a Senior Health & Exercise Science major at The College of New Jersey, Ewing, NJ.

Christopher A. Dende, Gr. 293, is the son of Christopher S. and Veronica A. Dende. He is a Finance/Economics major in his fourth year at the Univ. of Rochester, Rochester, NY.

Jonathan M. Doblix, Gr. 131, Hanover Twp., PA., is the son of Edward and Judith Doblix. He is a Senior English, History & Secondary Education major at the Univ. of Mary Washington, Fredericksburg, VA.

Robert Joseph Gilroy, Gr. 400, Scranton, PA, is the son of Joseph and Lisa Gilroy. He is a Freshman History major enrolled in the Univ. of Scranton, Scranton,

John VanLoon Grimes, Gr. 405, Wilkes-Barre, PA., is the son of Thomas and Ann VanLoon Grimes. He is in his second year pursuing a Physician's Assistant degree from King's College, Wilkes-Barre, PA.

Allison C. Hogan, Gr. 100, Milford, CT., is the daughter of Thomas and Lynne Hogan. She is in her fourth year as a Politics major at New York Univ., New York, NY.

John William Jegerski, Gr. 380, Hickory Hills, IL., is the son of Kenneth and Carol Ann Jegerski. He is a Freshman Teaching Mathematics major at Moraine Valley Com. College, Palos Hills, IL.

Madeleine Elizabeth Kern, Grs. 73/138, Monkton, MD, is the daughter of Michael and Carol Kern. She is a Political Science/Education major in her second year at Dickinson College, Carlisle, PA.

Sarah Beth Kolodziej, Gr. 131, Wilkes-Barre, PA, is the daughter of Mark Noel and Carol Kolodziej. She is a Freshman Education/English major at King's College, Wilkes-Barre, PA.

Dominique Kozuch, Gr. 395, Jermyn, PA, is the daughter of Andrew and Dorothy Kozuch. She is a Junior Illustration & Art History major at Marywood Univ., Scranton,

Joanna Maria Leja, Gr. 221, Chicago, IL., is the daughter of Karol and Helen Leja. She is a Social Work major in her Senior year at Northeaster Illinois Univ., Chicago, IL.

Leigh Anne Machowski, Mountaintop, PA, is the daughter of Joseph and Barbara Machowski. She is a Freshman Education major at LCCC, Nanticoke, PA.

Timothy Joseph Miller, Gr. 180, Lawrenceville, NJ, is the son of Christopher and Susan Marie Miller. He is a Freshman Electrical Construction major at Mercer County Adult Night School, Trenton, NJ.

Matthew S. Montville, Gr. 51, Wilkes-Barre, PA., is the son of Robert and Linda Montville. He is in his fourth year pursuing a Doctor of Pharmacy degree at Wilkes Univ., Wilkes-Barre, PA.

DeAnna Simone Namowicz, Grs. 51/144, Nanticoke, PA., is the daughter of Peter and Denise Namowicz. She is a Sophomore Biology/Pre-Physical Therapy major at Arcadia Univ., Glenside, PA.

Joshua G. Pelczar, Gr. 189, Billings, MT., is the son of Brian and Tracie Pelczar. He is a Junior Business/Finance major at the Univ. of Montana, Missoula, MT.

Scott Twp., PA., is the son of Edward and Lynda Rojek. He is a Freshman Chemistry major at Colgate Univ., Hamilton, NY. Karlie E. Pelczar, Gr. 189, Billings,

Alexander Christian Rojek, Gr. 163,

MT., is the daughter of Brian and Tracie Pelczar. She is in her second year studying International Hospitality Management at Northern Arizona Univ., Flagstaff, AZ.

Richard J. Robinson, III, Grs. 495/400, Scranton, PA, is the son of Robert and Elaine Novak. He is a second year Nursing student at Penn State Univ., University Park, PA.

Taylor Lynn Rojek, Gr. 163, Scott Twp., the daughter Rojek. She is an English major in her fourth year at DeSales Univ., Center Valley, PA.

Rebecca A. Stachowicz, Gr. 240, Nutley, NJ, is the daughter of John and Laurie Ann Stachowicz. She is a Junior Music Therapy Research major enrolled in the Berklee College of Music, Boston, MA.

Shannon Renee Stanski, Gr. 407, Pittston, PA, is the daughter of Thomas and Karen Stanski. She is a Senior Elementary Education major at Penna. State Univ., University Park, PA.

Julia Kathleen Suchoski, Gr. 406, Wilkes Barre, PA, is the daughter of Robert and Carol Suchoski. She is a Finance and Marketing major in her Senior year at Bloomsburg Univ. of Penna. Bloomsburg,

Angelika Anna Tryba, Gr. 378, Prospect, IL., is the daughter of Pawl and Jolanta Tryba. She is an Accounting and Criminal Justice major at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL.

Klaudia Tryba, Gr. 378, Mt. Prospect, IL, is the daughter of Pawel and Jolanta Tryba. She is a first year Education major at Eastern Illinois Univ., Charleston, IL.

Wasiakowski, Mountaintop, PA., is the daughter of Bernard and Barbara Wasiakowski. She is a Freshman Pastry Chef Arts major at the Penna. College of Technology, Williamsport,

Carrie S. Wilson, Gr 51, Rome, PA., is the daughter of Edward and Pennie Wilson. She is a Sophomore Pre-Physical Therapy major at Lock Haven Univ., Lock Haven,

Kreshel A. Wilson, Gr. 51, Rome, PA, is the daughter of Edward and Pennie Wilson. She is a Senior Elem. Education/Early Childhood major at Mansfield Univ., Mansfield, PA.

Ronald Michael Ziobro, II, Gr. 206, Dupont, PA, is the son of Ronald and Sharon Ziobro. He is a Junior Criminal Law and Justice major at Penna. State Univ., University Park, PA.

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# News From

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

The Annual Fall Meeting and Pot Luck Lunch and Raffle for all Chicago Groups will be held on Saturday October 22, 2011 at 1 PM at the Alliance of Polish Clubs, 5835 West Diversey Ave in Chicago. All Group Secretaries and members are invited to attend. RSVP to Toni Storts at 708 562-3153 or Joan Wisinski at 708 361-4180. Please bring a Polish dish to share and a raffle prize.

The Annual Chicago Ares Combined **Groups Childrens Christmas Party** will be held on Sunday December 4, 2011 from 2 -5 pm at Mayfield Banquets 10835 Wakefield Ave, Westchester. Members age 12 and under are invited to attend with parents and grandparents. A pizza buffet will be served followed by a sweet table, Santa & Mrs. Claus will be there to handout presents. RSVP to your Group Secretary by November 4, 2011 or call Toni Storts at 708 562-3153 or Joan Wisinski at 708 361-4180

October Birthday Wishes to Group 275 members, Emily Antene, Ann Breier, Kristin Bustillo, Leonard Deptula, Lisa Dzialowy, Edwin Fudala, Carol Kotlarczyk, Jean Kozala, Chester Luszczak, Deborah Norbut, Andrew Patoska, Judith Rzonca, Ted Strenski, Edward Strzempa, Joyce Weber, Mark Wisinski on the 12th, Genevieve Wisniowski, Patricia Zolna, Alice Zurek and Veronica Zurowski.

Anniversary Wishes to Tom and Joan Wisinski of Group 275 on Oct. 13th, celebrating 55 years. Group 230 Anniversaries: Larry & Bridget Young and Lance & Jill Young.

Group 230 October Birthday Wishes to, Caden Aldrich, Ashley Arguetta, Toni Bluder, Donata Ciombor, Gary Gallas, Melissa Hlavac, Carol Jerousek, George Kalfas, Natalie Kalfas, Paulette Kalfas, Mark Klonowski, Kevin Moran, Alexandra Ogurek, Kyle Rafferty, Edwin Sierra III, Noah Young and Stanislaw Zur.

Congratulations to Emily Wisinski for winning The Metra Essay Contest for Elementary Students in the Chicago Area. A lap top was presented to Emily at a brunch

for all contest winners in all grade levels in August. Emily was accompanied by her Parents Tom and Venus Wisinski and her brother Tommy, her teacher and her school

November Birthday wishes from Group 275 to, Renee Bielunski, Denise Ferris, Gary and Jason Gabriel, Agnes Gomulka, John Jendras, Janice Kwaski, Bernadine Luszczak, Shannon Reberski and Wanda Winiarski.

Group 230 November Birthday wishes go out to, Marianne Bednarz, Kristy Dubin, Diane Falborski, Edward Gabes, Joshua Gasiorowski, Michael Golata, Kelly Hyerczyk, Patrick Kalfas, Kenneth Mejta, James Oberg, Edward Pielko, Prakseda Pribyl, Toni Storts, Armelia Sullivan, Laura and Lorraine Young. HAPPY THANKSGIV-ING TO ALL!

December Birthday Wishes to Group 275 Members: Nora Åntene, Odilia Bonkovic, Autumn Eklund turns 14 on Dec 6th, Carly Ferris, Diane Flowers, Linda Hainlen, Dolores Kaczmarski, Władysław Knapczyk, Genie Lanucha, Janet Liszka, Phyllis Mcvilley, Carol Michaels, Kevin and Kristins Parkinson, Stanley Pencak, Bronislawa Pikus, Edward Radek, Joan Regnier, Adrienne Ryan, Jason Sims, John Strenski and Eric Wisinski turns 9 on Dec 30th!

Group 230 Birthday Wishes for December are: Judy Bardachowski, Christin Falborski, Kristine Kalfas, Carol Lepic, Barbara Olszewski, Kenneth Slowik, Leonard Smith, Kelly Rose Winters and Sylvia

The Tree of Knowledge is available for donations to our Scholarship Fund. A GREAT GIFT FOR ANY OCCASION, a Polish Union Insurance Policy to protect your loved ones. Childrens \$5000 or more eligible for the scholarship program. Call your group secretary or Joan Wisinski at 708.361.4180 to sign up new members or to add to your present

Merry Christmas & a Blessed New Year! submitted by Joan Wisinski

# Happy Birthday - Sto Lat To Our Senior Members

October-December, 2011

Reaching Age 96
Helen Boris, Wilkes-Barre,PA
Frances Eckholm, Rapid City, SD Marjanna Szczech, Old Forge, PA Bertha Tencza, aka Sr. Mary Anastasia, Euclid, OH Wladislawa Wasielewska, Gouldsboro, PA

Reaching Age 90

Leonard Gizinski, Bethlehem, PA Helena Hrydziuszko, South River, NJ Jozefa Jakubowska, Westchester, IL Stanislawa Jurich, Aston, PA Barbara Kolodziejski, Bruce Twp., MI Margaret Kownacki, McKees Rocks, PA Bertha Kraute, Hermitage, PA Elizabeth Kwiatkowski, Larksville, PA Josephine Libassi, Dunmore, PA Evelyn Ligenza, New Lenox, IL John M. Loncola, Momroe Township, NJ Flora Marinangeli, Moscow, PA Wanda Mikolajczyk, Clifton, NJ Edward F. Schmidt, Laflin, PA Bertha Solomon, Archbald, PA Sophie Stavetski, Glen Lyon, PA Zofia Stawarz, Chicago, IL Alphone Stepanik, W. Hazelton, PA Franciszka Zawacki, Dearborn, MI

Reaching Age 85 Jozef Czekalski, Wilkes Barre, PA

Mary Dellocono, Brooklyn, NY Cathryn Granda, Wyoming, PA Edward Komaniecki, Dekalb, IL Helena Kowalec, Wilkes-Barre, PA Martha Lukacinsky, Wilkes-Barre, PA

Nancy T. Mohler, Potomac, MD Daniel Palenski, Springfield, VA Hattie Pawlowski, South River, NJ Jan Pawlowski, Wilkes-Barre, PA Henry R. Perkoski, Lothian, MD Vincent Radgowski, Staten Island, NY Stephania Radomski, erwyn, IL Helen M. Rideski, Olyphant, PA Irma Scardina, Ambridge, PA Rita Wanich, Carlisle, PA Thaddeus Wilebski, White Bear Lake, MN Catherine Yurkovic, Poughkeepsie, NY Charles Zajczkowski, Wilkes-Barre, PA Josephine T. Zuba, Kingston, PA

Reaching Age 80

Lucy Bresnahan, Exeter, PA Dorothy Burda, Crestwood, IL Mary A. Colosimo, Syracuse, NY Dolores L. Denuel, Elizabethtown, PA Michael Dydo, Medina, NY Dolores Kotla, Trenton, NJ John F. Loehle, Jr., Huntington Sta., NY Laura Majchrowska, Chicago, IL Walter V. Perkowski, Staten Island, NY Rozalia Sia, Amherst, NY Kathryn Kra Snyder, Lancaster, PA Marie Strellish, Dupont, PA Frances Swiatek, W. Hazelton, PA

And to all our Members and Readers who celebrate Birthdays in these months. Happy Birthday—Sto lat

**NOTE:** If a member does not wish to have their birthday announced, please notify the Home Office.

## Council 10 Chicago Area

## FALL MEETING AND POT LUCK LUNCHEON

Saturday, October 22, 2011 at 1 PM

#### ALLIANCE OF POLISH CLUBS

5835 West Diversey Avenue • Chicago, Illinois

All Chicagoland Group Secretaries and members are invited to attend. Secretaries please contact your members.

Please bring a Polish dish, dessert or whatever to share along with your special recipe

We will also discuss our children's Christmas Party to be held Sunday, December 4, 2011 From 2pm to 5pm

Please RSVP by October 18, 2011 with who will be attending the Pot Luck **Luncheon from your Group** 

Joan Wisinski 708-361-4180 • Toni Storts 708-562-3153

# A Merry, Merry Christmas And A Blessed New Pear

Wesołych Świąt, Szcześliwego

Nowego Roku To All Our Members, Neighbors

and Friends

Polish Union of U.S.A.

## **Officers**

**CEO/National Secretary Secretary,** 

Charlotte L. Androckitis: **President**, Bernard Kolodziej: **CFO**, John Bednarski;

**CLO**, Jeffrey J. Malak: **Chaplain**, Rev. Patrick Albert



#### **Board of Directors**

Anastasia Bachurek • William J. Giebus, Joseph Pudlosky • Terri Rumensky Sheri Pudlosky-Brierly

#### District Directors

Illinois & Mid-West Toni Storts • Joan Wisinski

# 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

#### October

Chicago Fall Meeting and Pot Luck Luncheon. 1 p.m., Alliance of October 22 Polish Clubs, 5835 W. Diversey, Chicago Children's Halloween Party, Polish Union Community Room 1-3 pm October 23

#### November

Annual Debutante Ball, Fiorelli's, Peckville, PA begins at 5:30 pm November 5 November 19 Community Service opportunity beginning at 8 am, at the CEO Distribution Center, Second St., Plains Pa. Call the Home Office for

November 27 Annual Wigilia Dinner and Crowning of Miss Polish Union at the Polish Union Community Room, Wilkes-Barre

#### December

December 4 **Zonta Club Christmas Party** Chicago Area Children's Christmas Party, 2 - 5 pm. Mayfield December 4

Banquets, 10835 Wakefield Ave., Westchester December5 PA Children's Christmas Party Polish Union Home Office, Wilkes Barre beginning at 11 am

#### 2012

#### June

June 24 Family Picnic, Knoebels Park, Elysburg, PA. Luncheon Noon-3 pm

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.

Page 6 Fraternal Journal

# Help Us Find These Members The Polish Union of USA has been trying to locate the following individuals for quite

The Polish Union of USA has been trying to locate the following individuals for quite some time. We would like our members to help if you can identify and/or provide us with updated information on these individuals. Any information you have may help us to settle any funds that may be due to these individuals.

#### We Have Lost Contact With These Members

	ontact With These Members	
Name Philips, Rose M.	Last Know City Adamstown, PA	Group 502
Piasecki, Olivia Robin	Clarks Summit, PA	407
Pierson, Maria	Port Griffith, PA	265
Pietrowski, Thomas J.		
c/o Jiulia Pietorwski	Scranton, PA	293
Pilger, David Michael c/o Olga Smith	Scranton, PA	400 221
Piorkowski, Paul F. Pisarchick, Michael	St. Peters,MO Brockway, PA	401`
Pisinska, Apolonia	South River, NJ	155
Piwko, John	Huntley, IL	221
Pluzycki, Thomas R.	Chicago, IL	385
Pogorzelski, Beata	West Orange, NJ	25
Pojolich, Lee Polansi, Michal	Moosic, PA	293 258
Pranger, Barbara	Chicago, IL Chicago, IL	378
Pranger, Joseph	Chicago, IL	378
Pranger, Louise	Chicago, IL	378
Pranger, Robert	Chicago, IL	378
Pranger, Thomas R.	Chicago, IL	378
Przebieda, Julianne Purcell, Kevin J.	Littleton, CO Lancaster, PA	258 502
Pycz, John	Posen,IL	270
Quinn, Kayleigh c/o Quinn	Throop,PA	227
Radzinski, Julianna Rose	17	
c/o Rose Ann Radzinski	Dallas, PA	51
Reed, Jennifer	Bellevue, WA	258
Reed, Joanna Reed, Melissa M. c/o Mary Reed	Atoka, TN Mason, TN	258 258
Reed, Steven c/o Mary Reed	Mason, TN	258
Reese, Paul	Archbald, PA	227
Reilly, Kevin J.	Wilkes-Barre, PA	502
Reilly, Terrnce M.	Bausman, PA	502
Resavy, Michelle M.	Endicott, NY	320
Ritchie, Ethan Daniel Rohrer, Guy T.	Bel Air, MD Wilkes-Barre, PA	180 502
Roman, Jeanine	Burr Ridge, IL	275
Romanowski, Mary	Lake Ariel, PA	400
Ross, Althea c/o Victoria Laskiewicz	Moscow, PA	293
Ross, Christopher		
c/o Edmund T. Laskiewicz	Moscow, PA	293
Roszkowski, Robert Rowell, Jacqueline M.	Chicago, IL Wilkes-Barre, PA	378 502
Rudalavage, David R.	Eynon, PA	227
Rupe, Lynn	Deerfield Beach, FL	227
Rynkiewicz, Alexand	Hanover Township, PA	74
Sampson, Christine	Ocean Springs, MS	270
Schenberger, Linda C.	Wilkes-Barre, PA	502
Schmidt, Mary E. Schubert, Anna B.	York, PA Darien, IL	502 258
Schubert, Nicholas c/o A. Schubert	Darien, IL	258
Schultz, Nicholas J.	Phoenix, AZ	270
Scotnicki, Kathryn Marie	,	
c/o Marie Benckini	Scranton, PA	400
Scott, Barbara	Springfield, VA	138
Seccharioli, Justin Michael Semple, Jessica	Bridgeport, CT Dover, DE	400 73
Senkow,Karen	Dickson City, PA	400
Sexton, Kimberly M.	210110011 010,111	.00
c/o Stanley Jan Kulasik	Stickney, IL	258
Shebaugh, William c/o Shebaugh Photo	Virginia Beach, VA	400
Shelesky, Gretcher c/o Philip Shelesky	Archbald, PA	163
Shemonsky, Christopher	Dalton, PA Wilkes-Barre, PA	400 392
Sholtis, Stephen Shultz, Chris	Tacoma, WA	270
Shymanski, Megan Elizabeth	Dayton, NJ	155
Shypulski, Arthur	St. Paul, MN	3
Silverthorn, Agnes C.	Lancaster, PA	502
Simpson, Agnes	Hanover Township, PA	405
Simpson, Arianna H. Skibber, Christina	Wilkes-Barre, PA Philadelphia, PA	502 395
Slimak, Lynn A.	Lake Ariel, PA	227
Smajek, Wladyslaw	Broadview, IL	258
Smith, Annette M.	Salida, CO	502
Smith, Donna	Dunlap,TN	258
Smith, Michael Smith, Steven J. c/o Adeline Matuk	Wyoming, PA	392
Smith, Susan c/o Landowski	Schaumburg, IL Gig Harbor, WA	378 258
Sobczak, Edward	Oak Creek, WI	258
Sobol, Nicholas J.	Lagrange, IL	258
Solomon, Lillian E.	Casselberry,FL	502
Sopko, John	Tuscon, AZ	227
Stanuck, Chris	Waukegan, IL	221
Stanuck, Courtney A. Stelevich, Jennifer	Woukegan, IL Howell, NJ	221 392
Sterba, Mary F.	Wilkes-Barre, PA	502
Stipe, James M.	Lancaster, PA	502
Stoklasa, Genowefa	Old Forge, PA	275
Stoll, Bernard	Washington, MI	191
Stronger John A	Madison Township, PA	400
Strosser, John A. Suchak, Rose	Lancaster, PA Wilkes-Barre, PA	502 502
Sudowski, Gerry	, 111	155
Sullivan, James	Hockessin, DE	401

# Need extra cash?

# Become a recommender!



We recently initiated an incentive program for all who recommend prospective members.

When your referred prospect becomes a member you receive a \$20 cash award! For more details or

call our Home Office.

As an added incentive, we are offering Ameripol tote bags (while supplies last) to everyone who recommends three or more new members.

Help Polish Union grow and earn extra cash by becoming a Recommender today!

# Support The Henry J. Dende Scholarship Fund

# We Need <u>YOU</u> to make our Tree of Knowledge Flourish!

The Polish Union of USA is seeeking 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, our official publication.

By Spengaring a Leaf on the

By Sponsoring a Leaf on the Polish Union Tree of Knowledge, you can help us to continue to help students by supporting the Polish Union Henry J. Dende Scholarship Fund. Please consider making a donation each year.

Journal.

During the past 18 years, the Polish Union of USA has awarded more than \$179,000.00 to 781 applicants to help defer their tuition costs.

Leaves may be purchased in your own name, a business name or as a living memorial for a loved one.

Please complete the information below and return it (a photocopy is 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 Fund."

Name/Company

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Address

City/State/Zip .	
	Enclosed is (please check one)
	Lifeosed is (piedse check one)
My annual d	onation of \$toward the "Tree of Knowledge"
entitling me	to a Tree of Knowledge leaf and my name published in the Fraternal

(Millimum of \$20 required).						
My annual donation of \$ .	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	, 1					

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

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

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1			



## **Polish Culinary Shortcuts**

#### Hearty Ukrainian Barszcz Barszcz ukrainski

In pot combine 6 c. water and the bones cut away from 6 raw center-cut pork chops (see below). Add 1 bayleaf, 6 peppercorns, 2 grains allspice and 2 t. salt. Bring to boil, reduce heat and simmer about 1 hr., skimming scum from top until no more forms. Add 2 small sliced carrots, a stalk sliced celery, 1 small sliced parsley root and 1 coarsely chopped onion and continue simmering until carrots are tender. Remove any meat from bones, dice and add to soup. Discard bones. Add two 12 oz. cans of beets (not pickled beets!) including their liquid, a 12 oz. can drained navy bean\$ and (optional), 1 c. diced, cooked potatoes..Dissolve 1 T. flour in 1 c. milk and add to soup. Simmer about 3 min. If too thick, add a little dill-pickle liquid. Salt & pepper and sour to taste with sour salt. Garnish with fresh chopped dill before

#### Breaded Pork Cutlets kotlety schabowe;

With meat mallet, pound on both sides 6 port cutlets (removed from the~bones used in the preceding recipe) until 1/4 in. thick. Sprinkle with salt, pepper and a pinch of marjoram and/or garlic powder if desired. Dredge in flour, dip in beaten egg- (or Egg-Beater-type substitute) and roll in fine, plain bread crumbs. Gently press breading into cutlets so it stays put during frying. Fry to a nice golden brown on both sides in hot lard, vegetable shortening or oil, drain on paper towel and serve immediately. "Kotlety schabowe" are most Poles' favorite

#### Homemade Fruit Drink Compote kompot

Following a hearty meal of barszcz and breaded pork cutlets, rather than a rich dessert, many Poles would prefer a refreshing homemade fruit drink known as "kompot". in a serving pitcher combine the juice from 1 large can of pears (reserve the pears for the spiced pears below) with the juice one can of peach halves or black cherries. Dissolve several pinches sour salt in 2 - 3 c. boiling water and add to pitcher. Taste mixture. If it is still too sweet and syrupy (compote should be on the thin side), add a little more pre-boiled water. Chill and serve after a heavy meal. Optional: Cook 1 pt. hulled, washed strawberries in 2 c. water 5 min. and add to pitcher. (Small strawberries can be used whole and large should be halved.);

### Spiced Pears, Cherries or Peaches gruszki, wisnie lub

#### brzoskwinie w occie:

In pot combine 1 1/4 c. 6% white vinegar with 1 1/2 c. water. Add 2 crumbled bay leaves, 8 cloves, 8 peppercorns,4 grains allspice and (optional) 1/2 t. coriander. Bring to a boil, reduce heat, cover and simmer gently 15 min. Set aside to cool. In separate bowls arrange drained canned pear halves, peach halves and black cherries (from previous recipe). Strain marinade, discarding spices and pour over canned fruit. Let stand at least 1 hr. before serving. Drain off marinade and serve spiced fruit as a relish with cold meats, aspic dishes, sal-

#### Filled Pastry Roll-Ups paszleciki:

Open a tube of refrigerator crescent-roll dough. Spread each with a little filling, roll up and bake according to directions on package. The filling can be: leftover cooked meat, ground—either alone or combined with an equal amount of ground cooked mushrooms. Salt & pepper mixture to taste and add some bread crumbs to get a firm filling. No more than 1 c. filling is needed for 1 package of rolls.

#### Instant Beet-Horseradish Relish cwikla blyskawiczna:

In blender or processor combine 1 can drained beets, 1 heaping T. applesauce 1 or more heaping T. prepared non-creamed horseradish, juice of 1 lemon, 2 t. confectioner's sugar, 1/4 t. ground caraway- and several dashes of salt & pepper. Whirl briefly and serve with ham, kielbasa and other meats.

Smacznego!



# What Is It? This Is Our New Trade Name

Polish Union USA/Ameripol, a fraternal benefit society with national headquarters in Wilkes-Barre, PA has been in business for over 120 years. We have 9000 members and many of them reside in eastern PA. Because of our involvement in social - cultural activities, community projects, youth development programs and related endeavors many people are not fully aware of our primary business which is life insurance. For this reason we decided to add the name Ameripol to more effectively market our special products. We focus on 5, 10, and 20 thousand dollar policies for all ages with emphasis on children because they are potentially eligible for Scholarship benefits.

For more information call 823-1611 or visit www.polishunionusa.com

Your Key To Fraternal Journal Files and The Latest Info POLISHUNIONUSA.COM

# **Koffee Klatch**

with P.K.



PAGE 7

Dzien dobry! Welcome to my kitchen. A nice crowd is here to celebrate the holidays of Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Our autumn coffees are brewing and the holiday goodies are on the table. The group is up-in arms about a growing concern to them, and I think the entire country...

October is a scary month as Halloween approaches and that is a perfect month for our scary topic, "school bullying". This terrible topic is getting out of hand and growing... IT IS TIME TO STOP!. Not just talking about it like the newspaper's report, or the White House talks about it, but strong action must be taken.

Last week a child of one of our group had a niece who committed suicide the week before, and a neighborhood child also took her life because of bullying.

Our kids are beaten by groups of kids, not only boys, but girls are just as bad. All these kids are tortured by their peers in a savage way. Everyone talks about it, but nothing is being done!

Strong action is required now. All those who torture these children MUST GO TO COUNSELLING AND SERVE JAIL TIME...After that, should be required to work (and watched as they work with handicapped children, and perhaps learn some compassion and the pain of a disability...Counseling is a prerequisite (something which is required before something else hap-

Our children are often brought up by parents who abuse them and that is all they know....those parents should also be punished. SO, America has some extra work on their hands...to save our children....and, school officials must never let this continue with our disciplinary action being taken and reported. America must get tough to save our children and our country.

Thanksgiving and Christmas are happy holidays. So, let's be happy with the thought that the above scare will soon have some action taken by our higher officials....(I

KNOW I WILL CONTINUE TO PURSUE

GOD BLESS YOU ALL AND HAPPY HOLIDAYS)

Natural Tranquilizers: Why crack under stress—-A big laugh is the best way to release stress.

Listen to music -close your eyes while listening to soft music or a waterfall, ocean sounds and breathe slowly...or you could take a walk, or how about soaking it away with a bubble bath....

#### Dear PK:

I have been married 30 years. My wife is getting on my nerves. I have always gone where she wants to go. Now there are a few places I want to go and she puts up a fuss because she wants to go somewhere else. I feel like a child who needs permission to go where I would like to go. Now after 30 years, I feel like leaving...any suggestions??

#### Dear Ben:

She sounds very controlling and selfish...get your kids to help you or go without her where you want to go, by yourself or your friends. If things don't improve see a priest or a counselor..show her this letter. Maybe she will wake up..

Strictly personal: Birthday greetings to all those born in October, November and December....especially the BABY JESUS

THE TROUBLE WITH RELAXING IN YOUR OWN HOME IS THAT NO MAT-TER WHERE YOU SIT, IT SEEMS YOU'RE LOOKING AT SOMETHING YOU SHOULD BE DOING.\*\*\*

Send your comments and letters to me....if you want anything published just write to me: PK, 17 Laurel Drive, Scranton, Pa. 18505

# A Polish **Christmas**

**Dictionary**Here are some basic Christmas words every Polish American should know...

Advent Mass Roraty Wigilia Christmas Eve Midnight Mass Pasterka Christmas Boze Narodzenie Gift Prezent Christmas Tree Choinka Christmas Wafer Oplatek St. Nicholas Swiety Mikola Poppy-Seed Cake

Makowiec Carol Koledy Carolers Kolednicy Christmas Crib Zlobek Siano Nativity Play Jaselka Peace on Earth Among Men of Good Will

Pokoj Ludziom Dobrej Woli Happy New Year

Szczesliwego Nowego Roku

## Once Upon a Christmastime

Once upon a Christmastime

The angels sang with joy, To herald the coming Of a precious Baby Boy. Their shouting filled the heavens And shook the mighty earth, And sent the shepherds searching For the place of His glorious birth, And when they found the manger And gazed upon His face, They knelt in adoration In that low and holy place. Oh, Father, fill me with the love That filled the earth that night, A love that reaches throughout the world, And fills it with Your light.

"Live your life so that you would not be ashamed to sell the family parrot to the town gossip."

-Will Rogers

Donna M. Maroney

# Happy Thanksgiving To all our Members

and Friends from Polish Union U.S.A. Officers and Board of **Directors** 



FRATERNAL JOURNAL PAGE 8

## **Ethnic Diversity Celebrated** at the Farmer's Market



Pictured above are Polish Union/Ameripole members Karen Bednarski, Paige Jaslar and Jane Strzelecki working at Covered Wagon Produce at the Farmer's Co-op in Scranton, PA. It's a fresh food paradise where vegetables, fruits, artisan breads, baked goods, meats, maple syrup, honey etc. can be purchased. Open Mon., Wed. and Fri. through November.

Ethnic diversity abounds. At the market they have met people from Romania, Nepal, Bhutan, Puerto Rico, India, China, Japan, Italy, Newfoundland, Afghanistan, the Philippines, Syria, Vietnam Nigeria and the Dominican Republic. Who would think?

When meeting these immigrants, they are welcomed and also told, proudly, of

'our' Polish heritage!

# The Challenge of Being a Polack

BY KAREN BEDNARSKI

Recently I attended an upscale, classy social event in town. It was wonderful. I happened to sit next to a woman who, while relating a story, casually and purposely, twice, repeated an ethnic slur. Everyone at the table listened to her story. Unfortunately, I became confused and embarrassed and felt that I had to do something. Having such a good time, I didn't want to leave the area or cause a scene. What was I going to do? I just couldn't ignore it. Yes, I felt communication was

Later, in my dizzied state, I mentioned to her that I had recently joined the Wilkes University Polish Room Committee and that a few days before I had made a large pot of barscz, a.k.a., I am Polish and don't say that in front of me and all these people! I thought of the delicious barsczt and

remained calm. My desire for righteous indignation was satisfied and no one got

In her inebriated state she didn't understand my story and might have thought me silly. Maybe I was, but now I feel that I can calmly be in her company again when I must and then compassion might replace communication.

On a serious note, there are some people that prey on and make fun of us Poles. Of course we don't deserve it. We are 'mostly' a kind and humble lot always trying to help and do the right thing which is seen by others as vulnerable and useable. We Poles should be more aware of this fact. Let's work together and literally teach our children and ourselves how to cope with this problem. To be Polish is not a joke! 'Indifference (to our problem) is the opposite of love.'

What do you think?

#### 33rd Annual Debutante Ball

A Special Rose

A Tribute To The Late Rose Wartko



Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2011 Fiorelli's Restaurant, Peckville, PA Emily Stefanac &

Katrzyna Reily Co-Chairs

Program at 5:30pm Dinner to follow Dancing and Refreshments from 7 to 11pm

> Entertainment provided by the George Tarasek Orchestra

#### \$30 for Adults and \$15 for Children

Anyone interested in attending this magical affair can purchase tickets by contacting the Polish Union of USA at 570-823-1611. Please contact them with any questions as well or email the chairperson directly at Casper3819@aol.com.

# Join Us November 19 For a Few Hours of Community Service

Father Patrick Albert is extending an invitation to join him for a few hours helping distribute food orders to needy families. November is a very busy month for the employees and volunteers at the Commission on Economic Opportunity warehouse. They are an integral part of the Feeding America Program and hundreds of volunteers join in this effort. Through the encouragement of Chaplain Albert, Polish Union volunteers have assisted by spending just a few hours registering families at the food distribution site. For the past several vears Father Albert led a group of our volunteers and he plans to do this again on Saturday November 19, 2011 at 8:00 AM in

the CEO distribution center, Second St. Plains, PA. This is your chance to help thousands of needy families for the Thanksgiving holidays. Giving of your time and talents will give you a good feeling for the Holiday Season. Those who cannot give of their time may choose to send cash donations to our office and we will forward them to CEO. Other dates and times are scheduled in the entire month of November. That information is available through our Home Office or you can call Maura Modrovsky directly at 570-826-0510 ext. 215. Thank you for your support on behalf of Father Albert and our Progress Committee.

# HALLOWEEN PARTY FOR KIDS IN N.E. PENNSYLVANIA

The Halloween Party for ages 0 - 12 years, who are members of the Polish Union, will be held at the Polish Union headquarters Community Room, Wilkes-Barre. The party will be

Sunday. October 23rd 2011 1 to 3 pm in the Community Room. 53 North Main St.

There will be a costume parade. food, treats, magic, and lots of fun for all participants. Parents or chaperones: If you wish . to get in the Halloween spirit. please feel free to dress-up too! For reservations contact the Polish Union Home Office before 4:30pm

Please RSVP by , October 16th

at (570) 823-1611.



#### Gifts, Games and Entertainment

## Children's Christmas Parties



Chicago Area

 The Chicago area combined groups of the Polish Union of USA will sponsor their Annual Children's Christmas Party on Sunday, December 4, 2011 from 2 to 5 p.m. at Mayfair Banquets, 10835 Wakefield Ave, Westchester, IL 60154

All children age 12 and younger will receive a gift from Santa Claus

We will have a special guest appearance by Mrs. Santa Claus

Reservations are required. Make your reservations with your Group Secretary before November 1, 2011, with the name and age of the child attending

#### Scranton Wilkes-Barre Area

· Our Annual Children's Christmas Party will be held on Saturday, December 10, 2011 beginning at 11:00am in the Polish Union of USA's Community Room located in the lower level at 53-59 North Main Street, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.

The Polish Union would like to invite all members between the ages of 0-12 to our Annual Children's Christmas Party. There will be Coloring, Games, Crafts,

Christmas story, Movie, and of course the Special Visit from Santa. Don't forget to bring your cameras.

Lunch will be provided for the children. Reservations are required in advance. Please contact the Polish Union Home Office @ 570-823-1611 by December 3, 2011. As always, we look forward to seeing all of our members for a festive afternoon. Reservations are a must (state the number of children attend-

### Christmas **Parties For** Children

Chicago Area Saturday, December 4th 2 to 5 p.m. **Mayfair Banquets** 

Westchester, IL Phone Your Group Secretary Prior to November 1

Scranton, Wilkes-Barre Saturday, December 10th Beginning at 11 a.m. **Polish Union Community** Room 53-59 North Main Street Wilkes-Barre

Reservations Are Necessary