

MARIE SKLODOWSKA CURIE ANNIVERSARY EVENT AND FUNDRAISER AT LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO



Nothing in life is to be feared. It is only to be understood.

--- Marie Skłodowska Curie

2017 has been declared the Year of Marie Skłodowska Curie, in observance of the 150th anniversary of the famous scientist's and double Nobel Prize laureate's birth in Warsaw, Poland, on November 7, 1867. A lecture, fundraiser, and reception were held on Thursday, October 26, 2017 at Klarcheck Information Commons on Loyola's North Shore campus. The event was part of Loyola's "Focus on the Book" series and was sponsored by Loyola University Chicago Libraries, the Loyola Women and Leadership Archives (WLA), the Interdisciplinary Polish Studies Program at Loyola, the Newberry Library, and Polish Women's Alliance of America.

The guest speaker was Dr. Helena Pycior, Professor Emerita of the Department of History at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. In her presentation "Marie Skłodowska Curie: Piecing Together the Historical Puzzle" Dr. Pycior spoke about her decades-long fascination with and pursuit of Curie archives, both in the U.S. and Europe. Curie visited the U.S. in 1921 and 1929, meeting with PWA members both times; she was named an Honorary Member of PWA during the first visit.

Proceeds from this event will benefit the PWA Archives Preservation Project at WLA. PWA has been fundraising for the project for almost a year now, and was proud to present a check for \$10,000 to the WLA from a private donation; more funds were raised at the event through a book and cash raffle. And Bozena Nowicka McLees, Director of Interdisciplinary Polish Studies Program at Loyola, spoke about her efforts to obtain additional funding from the Polish government for this conservation project.

A reception with wine bar followed - there were even two special "radioactive" cocktails prepared for the event, called "Polonium" and "Radium" after the two elements discovered by Marie and Pierre Curie. Over 120 persons attended the lecture and reception.



From left, David Spadafora, President, Newberry Library; Marianne Ryan, Dean, Loyola University Chicago Libraries; Bozena Nowicka McLees, Director, Interdisciplinary Polish Studies Program at Loyola; Dr. Helena Pycior, Professor Emerita, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee; Antoinette Trela, Acting Chief Operating Officer, PWA; Nancy Freeman, Director, Women and Leadership Archives at Loyola; and Vice Consul Piotr Semeniuk from the Consulate General of the Republic of Poland in Chicago.



Check presentation from anonymous PWA donor to WLA for the PWA Archives Preservation Project. From left Bozena Nowicka McLees, Antoinette Trela, and Nancy Freeman.



From left, "Glos Polek" editor Mary Piergies, Antoinette Trela, and FCSLA National Director Jeanette Palanca



The event was well attended by both students and guests.



Dr. Helena Pycior and Vice Consul Piotr Semeniuk



Two special “radioactive” cocktails were prepared for the event, called “Polonium” and “Radium” after the two elements discovered by Marie and Pierre Curie.

DISTRICT I PATRON'S DAY CELEBRATION

The feast day of Our Lady of Czestochowa falls on August 26th in the church calendar, and this year the District I Patron's Day observance was held on that very day. PWA members and guests gathered at St. Andrew the Apostle Church in Calumet City on Saturday morning, August 26, 2017, for a Mass dedicated to PWA members, both living and deceased. This is an annual event in District I that is always well attended. Different Councils in District I take turns hosting the event and this year it was Council 19's turn and Dorothy Polus, Council President, and her committee prepared an inspiring and welcoming celebration for all in attendance.

Following Mass, a luncheon was held at Steve's Lounge in Chicago, where members and guests could socialize and catch up with friends. A raffle was held to benefit the Women's Eleemosynary Foundation and Council 19 for future projects. We were very happy to welcome representatives from the FCSLA at this event. See photo caption below for names of the FCSLA Chicago District guests.



Front row from left: Acting District 1 President Lidia Filus, Acting District 3 President Evelyn Lisek, Council 19 President Dorothy Polus, and Council 21 President Diane Svitko. Back row: Council 9 President Laura Pawlowski; Group 821 President James Kolak; FCSLA Chicago District Financial Secretary Jarmila Hlubocky; Group 821 Vice President Czeslawa Kolak; FCSLA Chicago District President Lorraine Gibas; FCSLA Chicago District Treasurer Gary Ledvora; FCSLA Chicago District Past President Joe Ledvora; FCSLA Chicago District Vice President Fay Hlubocky; Council 27 President Bo Padowski; FCSLA National Director Jeanette Palanca; Council 13 President Barbara Miller; FCSLA Past National Vice President Rosemary Mlinarich, and Acting PWA Chief Operating Officer Antoinette Trela.







COUNCIL 27 SPRING LUNCHEON FUNDRAISER & WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY OBSERVANCE

- Celebrating Women's Ethnic Voices -



Chicago, IL-On Sunday, May 21, 2017, PWA Council 27 held a Spring Luncheon Fundraiser and World Press Freedom Day observance at Lone Tree Manor in Nilens, IL. A panel discussion with women journalists from local media outlets and fraternal organizations was followed by a family-style luncheon and a raffle to benefit the PWA Archives Preservation Project at Loyola University. There was also a Book Table offering books by journalists and other Polish and Polish American authors and poets for purchase.



The panelists included, from left in photo above: Lucyna Migala, Program Director at Radio WCEV 1490AM Chicago; Alicja Otap, Deputy-Editor-in-Chief at Dziennik Zwiazkowy; Magda Marczevska, News Director at Radio WPNA 1460AM Chicago; Geraldine Balut Coleman, Chicago Bureau Chief and Associate Editor of Polish American Journal; Lidia Kowalewicz, Executive Editor of Narod Polski; Lidia Rozmus, Polish Editor of Glos Polek; and Mary Mirecki Piergies, English Editor of Glos Polek and moderator of the panel discussion.



Special guests, above from left: Barbara Mirecki, Vice President of Group 693 and Book Table host; Bo Padowski, Council 27 President; Jeanette Palanca, National Director of FCSLA; Mary Piergies, English Editor of Glos Polek; and Antoinette Trela, Secretary-Treasurer of PWA.

UNESCO World Press Freedom Day was established in 1993 to recognize and promote the importance of a free and pluralistic press in democratic societies. This mission is even more important today, as assaults on press freedoms in many countries around the world continue to escalate, and, even in the U.S. the tradition of a vigilant and free press is now often maligned as "fake news" when it criticizes those in positions of power. Today's event was meant to recognize the importance of a free press and an ethnic press in our everyday lives. And to recognize the many women who now hold leadership positions in our Polish-American news outlets.

Proceeds from today's event will support the PWA Archives Preservation Project at the Women and Leadership Archives (WLA) at Loyola University Chicago. The goal of the Project is the preservation of back issues of the G?os Polek and other important documents of Polish Women's Alliance of America. Preserving (and digitizing) the history of this ground-breaking women's organization that is almost 120 years old, is both a challenge and a mission for the WLA that is worthy of our support, so that future generations of scholars and researchers will have access to the history of PWA, one of the largest and oldest women's organizations in the U.S.

Thanks to everyone who came and supported our event and the PWA Archives Preservation Project!

**STO LAT! JOIN UIUC HEALTH RESEARCH PROJECT
Part of an International study with Jagiellonian University**

We are studying Polish American women's health and need you!



ILLINOIS

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

The Clancy Lab at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) is part of an international study on women's health with Jagiellonian University in Kraków, Poland. Our goal is to understand some of the things that affect menstrual cycles, reproduction, and bone health. For this project we will be looking at hormones, physical activity levels, diet, and genetic markers in women in Polish and Polish American women.

One of the largest groups of Polish people outside of Poland can be found in Chicago and other Illinois communities. We are looking for Polish American women (you were born in the U.S., but your parent(s) or grandparent(s) were born in Poland) aged 18-45, in good health, not using hormonal birth control, non-smoking, and not pregnant or nursing. If this is you, please consider being a part of our study!

Please take our recruitment survey here: bitly.com/StoLat2

If you join this research project, we will give you a t-shirt! Once you complete the study, we will provide you with a \$70 gift card as a token of appreciation for your participation.

If you have any questions, you can contact Mary Rogers or Katie Lee, the graduate students in charge of the project (email: rogers10@illinois.edu or kmlee6@illinois.edu) or their advisor Dr. Kate Clancy at the University of Illinois (email: kclancy@illinois.edu). Thank you!

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RADIO INTERVIEW ABOUT PWA ARCHIVES PROJECT

PWA Secretary Treasurer Antoinette Trela was recently interviewed about the PWA Archives Preservation Project and the history of PWA on radio station WCEV in Chicago. The interview was conducted by Lucyna Migala on Mosaic, a program about subjects of interest to ethnic Americans. You can listen to the interesting and informative interview at the link below.



Antoinette Trela



Lucyna Migala

[CLICK HERE TO DOWNLOAD AUDIO FILE OF INTERVIEW](#)

