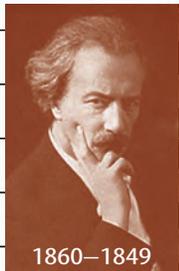


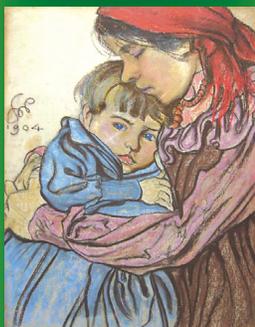
GŁOS POLEK

POLISH WOMEN'S ALLIANCE OF AMERICA

SPRING/SUMMER 2010 NO. 2 MMX



Ignacy Paderewski



Mother's Day



600th Anniversary
of the Battle of Grunwald

Glos Polek Centennial
Insurance Promotion

Glos Polek Centennial
Fundraising Drive

May Queens

Honor Roll of Groups

Annual Report

PWA Raffle

A Nation Mourns



About Us and Our Newsletter

Urzędowy Organ
ZWIĄZKU POLEK W AMERYCE
Wychodzi cztery razy w roku

THE POLISH WOMEN'S VOICE

Published by

THE POLISH WOMEN'S ALLIANCE OF AMERICA

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- Insurance pages 14-16
- In Memoriam pages 17-18
- Youth Section page 19
- Polish Section pages 20-24

Take advantage of the
Głos Polek 100th Anniversary
Special Insurance Promotion
See page 14.

Cover: Poland mourns the tragic
death of President Lech Kaczynski,
his wife Maria, and 94 other victims,
in a plane crash in Smolensk,
Russia, on April 10, 2010.
See pages 4 and 12.

GŁOS POLEK DEADLINES

The deadline is
July 1, 2010
for the August issue

The deadline is
September 1, 2010
for the Centennial issue.

You can also contact us by e-mail or visit www.pwaa.org

If you have access to the Internet you can contact Polish Women's Alliance of America at the following
e-mail addresses or call our toll-free number at **888 522-1898**.

President Virginia Sikora – president@pwaa.org • Vice President Sharon Zago – vicepresident@pwaa.org
Secretary-Treasurer Antoinette Trela Vander Noot – secretarytreasurer@pwaa.org
Głos Polek Editors – editor@pwaa.org

From the President



Dear Members,

The Spring/Summer issue of *Glos Polek* is dedicated to a number of anniversaries that are important to Poles, Polish Americans, and PWA members. 2010 marks not only the 200th anniversary of the birth of Fryderyk Chopin, it also marks the 150th anniversary of the birth of another great Polish composer and musician, Ignacy Jan Paderewski, who dedicated himself to his art and to his love of Poland, bravely pursuing the cause of her independence throughout his life.

We also mark the 219th anniversary of the Polish Constitution on May 3rd and the 600th anniversary of the Battle of Grunwald on July 15th. And for PWA members, this year brings the 112th anniversary of the founding of our organization and the Centennial of our own publication, the *Glos Polek*.

Anniversaries are special moments, when we pause to look back at the people and events that helped shape our world and that continue to influence our lives. The victory at Grunwald changed the course of European history, the Polish Constitution helped sow seeds of democracy in the world, and the founding our organization helped women achieve freedoms and opportunities long denied them.

And so in this beautiful month of May, as we celebrate our own anniversary on May 22nd, remembering our founders and the generations of members who helped build the organization, we also honor those members and groups that contributed the most to the growth of the PWA in the past year. Congratulations to the May Queens and to the Groups on the Honor Roll who are listed in this issue of *Glos Polek*. Thank you for your hard work and your shining example in bringing a new generation of members to the PWA. You inspire all of us to do more!

On Founder's Day, I ask all of you to renew your commitment to our organization and its ideals and to encourage others to join us. Be sure to take advantage of our new ***Glos Polek Centennial Promotion*** announced in this issue, and to contribute to our ***Glos Polek Centennial Fundraising Drive*** which will help fund the Centennial Exhibition, Centennial Banquet, and other celebrations planned for this year.

*With best wishes to all our members for a Happy Spring
and a Happy Mother's Day!*

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Virginia Sikora". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Virginia Sikora
National President

A Nation Mourns

Shortly before we went to press, we learned of the tragic airplane crash on April 10, 2010, in Smolensk, Russia, that took the lives of Polish President Lech Kaczynski, his wife Maria, and 94 others, including many Polish government officials and top military leaders. The delegation was on its way to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the Katyn Forest Massacre, at the site in western Russia where over 20,000 Polish Army officers were executed by the Soviet secret police in 1940, in one of Poland's greatest national traumas.

The Officers and Members of Polish Women's Alliance join the world in expressing their deep sorrow at this tragedy and send their sympathy and condolences to the people of Poland and the families of the victims.

Cześć Ich Pamięci.

Virginia Sikora, National President

President Virginia Sikora Receives "Woman of Excellence" Award From Illinois State Treasurer

Niles, IL—National President Virginia Sikora was honored by Illinois State Treasurer Alexi Giannoulias for being a financial role model during the tenth annual Smart Women Smart Money (SWSM) conference held on March 18, 2010. The conference, which addressed financial and investment strategies for women, was presented by Dollars and Sense Inc., a nonprofit organization, and by the State Treasurer's office. PWA was one of the sponsors of the event, along with Northern Trust, Country Financial, Visa, and State Farm. Several hundred women were on hand to hear experts speak on financial issues facing women and their families.



In photo, National President Virginia Sikora and Illinois Treasurer's Chief of Staff, Robin Kelly.

in creating a scholarship endowment fund for PWA members who are pursuing college degrees.

Dr. Pamela Lowe, director and president of Professional Eye Care Center, was also honored at the conference with the "Woman on the Rise" award. Congratulations to President Virginia Sikora and Dr. Pamela Lowe!



HONOR ROLL OF GROUPS FOR 2009 MEMBERSHIP

Through the joint effort of our Groups and the Home Office we are pleased to honor the following PWA Groups that signed up at least five New Certificates in 2009:

Group	District	Council	No. of New Certificates
132	3 IN	21	12
267	14 PA	44	12
450	14 PA	40	10
128	3 IN	21	8
221	2 PA	2	8
786	5 MI	20	8
105	14 PA	40	7
480	1 IL	19	7
754	7 OH	7	7
149	1 IL	13	6
185	9 CT	8	6
275	11 NE	25	6
763	12 MD, DC	34	6
70	1 IL	19	5
224	2 PA	2	5
821	1 IL	27	5

We'd like to say a special thank you to all Groups, Councils, and Districts for encouraging new membership. We ask for your continued support in membership development and welcome any ideas and suggestions that you feel would be beneficial to the organization.

Fraternally,
Antoinette Trela Vander Noot

May Queens

Congratulations to Our May Queens for 2009!

We are proud to announce the following individuals, to whom we pay tribute in this issue of *Glos Polek*, for their efforts in signing new members to our organization in the 2009 calendar year. We thank them for their hard work and extend our sincere congratulations.



FIRST PLACE MAY QUEEN

Grazyna Buczek

Gr. 754 Council 7 District VII
Independence, Ohio
Introduced 13
new members
2 annuitants and 11 insured
Total face amount \$21,100



SECOND PLACE MAY QUEEN

Bernardine Regis

Gr. 450 Council 40 District XIV
Nanticoke, PA
Introduced 12
new members
All insured members
Total face amount \$68,381



THIRD PLACE MAY QUEEN

Bernadette Vlock

Gr. 409 Council 25 District XI
Omaha, Nebraska
Introduced 12
new members
All insured members
Total face amount \$47,000



FOURTH PLACE MAY QUEEN

Mary Ann Michalak

Gr. 132 Council 21 District III
Munster, Indiana
Introduced 12
new members
All insured members
Total face amount \$28,000



FIFTH PLACE MAY QUEEN

Bertha Kuckla

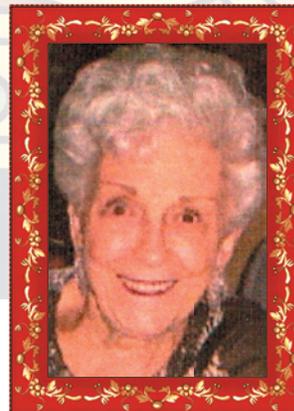
Gr. 267 Council 44 District XIV
Dupont, PA
Introduced 11
new members
All insured members
Total face amount \$39,723



SIXTH PLACE MAY QUEEN

Mary Ann Watterson

Gr. 221 Council 2 District II
Parkhill, PA
Introduced 10
new members
All insured members
Total face amount \$101,275



SEVENTH PLACE MAY QUEEN

Eleanore Kowynia

Gr. 202 Council 9 District I
Chicago, IL
Introduced 10
new members
All insured members
Total face amount \$42,079



EIGHTH PLACE MAY QUEEN

Barbara Misiolek-Gamble

Gr. 786 Council 20 District V
Clinton Township, Michigan
Introduced 10
new members
2 annuitants and 8 insured
Total face amount \$25,000

Ignacy Jan Paderewski (1860 – 1941)



“Those of us who love Poland are glad that she can claim him as a son, but let her always remember that Ignacy Jan Paderewski belongs to all mankind.”

—Charles Phillips, *The Story of a Modern Immortal*, 1934.

Ignacy Jan Paderewski was not only a world-renowned pianist, virtuoso performer, and brilliant composer, he was also a respected politician, statesman, and philanthropist, as well as one of the most famous and interesting personalities on the world stage in the first half of the twentieth century. He was born in a small village in Podolia in Russian-occupied Poland in 1860, and the arc of his extraordinary life carried him through the major historic events of his time to a hero's burial at Arlington National Cemetery in 1941. His dying wish had been to be buried in Poland when it was once again a free nation—that wish was granted in 1992, fifty-one years after his death.

Paderewski was a hero in his homeland and a tireless advocate and ambassador for Poland abroad. His musical career lasted fifty years and took him as far away as America, Australia, and New Zealand where he thrilled audiences with his inspiring piano performances. He spoke passionately about Poland's quest for independence during his concerts, including one he gave at the White House for President Woodrow Wilson. His political activities made him a welcome figure in London, Paris, Geneva, and Washington D.C. during both World Wars. He represented Poland at the Paris Peace Conference in 1919 and was one of the signors of the Treaty of Versailles which ratified Poland's new borders with Germany after Polish independence was reinstated. He served as Prime Minister in the first post-war government.

Paderewski founded an international committee to assist the people of Poland with branches around the world and during the first two years of World War II leading up to his death, he continued to fight tirelessly for Allied support of Poland against the invading Nazis. His wife, Helena Paderewska, was a political activist in her own right, helping children who were victimized by war and founding the Polish White Cross. She was named Honorary Member of the PWA in recognition of her many achievements in Poland and internationally.

There are hundreds of organizations around the world named after Ignacy Jan Paderewski to honor his life and efforts on behalf of the Polish people. Paderewski was a great supporter of the Polish Museum of America in Chicago at the time of its founding and you can see many of his personal objects, including his grand piano, in the newly refurbished Paderewski Room at the PMA. For more information on Chopin & Paderewski Year 2010 activities, please visit <http://www.chopin-paderewski.org/>

600TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF GRUNWALD



The July 15, 1410 battle fought on the rolling fields between the villages of Grunwald and Tannenberg not far from Lodz, Poland, was the largest battle in Medieval European history. It was a battle between the Teutonic Knights, a mounted military order that had created its own German state along the Baltic Sea, and the combined forces of the Kingdom of Poland and the Grand Duchy of Lithuania, recently joined through their ruler, King Wladyslaw Jagiello.

It was a massive battle with 24,000 knights on the Teutonic side pitted against 39,000 on the Polish-Lithuanian side. The decisive victory of Polish-Lithuanian forces over the Order of the Teutonic Knights stopped the expansion of Germany into Polish territory in its quest for more lands for settlement and trade. Poland's victory secured her western border and the country withstood further incursion from its German neighbors. The Teutonic Order never recovered its former power, and the financial burden of the ensuing reparations eventually caused a rebellion of cities and landed gentry against the authority and wealth the Order had amassed.

(cont. on page 12)

Welcome to our New Members!

A warm welcome is extended to these new members.
We are so glad you have joined us!

Gr.	Name	Introduced by	City/State
0043	Liliana L Moore	Grace Dubowski	Chicago, IL
0070	Jacob M Isaacson	Charlotte Isaacson	Woodridge, IL
0070	Julia C Isaacson	Charlotte Isaacson	Woodridge, IL
0070	Elena L Isaacson	Charlotte Isaacson	Woodridge, IL
0083	Ryan Hellman	Eleanore L Kowynia	Tinley Park, IL
0087	Elaina C Enich	Home Office	New Albany, OH
0105	Nadia G Glod	Felicia S Perlick	Essex Junction, VT
0114	Ireneusz Wisniewski	Teresa Makowski	Lake Zurich, IL
0114	Martyna B Makowski	Teresa Makowski	Chicago, IL
0114	Amelia M Makowski	Teresa Makowski	Chicago, IL
0114	Veronika U Krutul-Azevedo	Teresa Makowski	North Riverside, IL
0128	Graham J Ziemba	Home Office	Round Lake, IL
0128	Diana Laudeman	Home Office	Fort Wayne, IN
0128	Megan Page	Home Office	Munster, IN
0128	Laura Laudeman	Home Office	Fort Wayne, IN
0132	Logan M Wojno	MaryAnn Michalak	Joliet, IL
0132	Emilee J Crow	MaryAnn Michalak	Houston, TX
0132	Noah A Crow	MaryAnn Michalak	Houston, TX
0132	Dylan A Wojno	MaryAnn Michalak	Highland, IN
0132	Kaelin L Rindoks	MaryAnn Michalak	Hammond, IN
0132	Justin M Rindoks	MaryAnn Michalak	Hammond, IN
0149	Paul Nowaczyk	Gloria M Nowaczyk	Downers Grove, IL
0149	Catherine Nowaczyk	Gloria M Nowaczyk	Willow Springs, IL
0149	Dana Nowaczyk	Gloria M Nowaczyk	Downers Grove, IL
0149	Carly Nowaczyk	Gloria M Nowaczyk	Downers Grove, IL
0149	Anna Nowaczyk	Gloria M Nowaczyk	Willow Springs, IL
0149	Kelly Nowaczyk	Gloria M Nowaczyk	Downers Grove, IL
0211	Sophia M Edels	Home Office	Barrington, IL
0221	Ronald Condrin	Mary A Watterson	Pittsburgh, PA
0221	Michael B Donley	Mary A Watterson	Pittsburgh, PA
0224	Brianna J Waters	Home Office	Augusta, CA
0226	Gloria J Kolera-Smith	Barbara Misiolek-Gamble	Troy, MI
0226	Ruth Witalec	Home Office	W Bloomfield, MI
0254	Stanley A Suchocki	Alma H Kedzierska	Glendale, AZ
0267	Ryan P Rupprecht	Bertha A Kuckla	Old Forge, PA
0267	Mia Tallini	Dorothy Wisneski	Glenside, PA
0275	Callie A Zalewski	Bernadette M Vlock	Elkborn, NE
0275	Allyson C Zalewski	Bernadette M Vlock	Omaha, NE
0288	Madison Rosencrans	Home Office	Riverview, FL
0288	Olivia Rosencrans	Home Office	Riverview, FL
0305	Zoe L Brueseke	Lucille B Kopczyński	South Bend, IN
0305	Lucy A Brueseke	Lucille B Kopczyński	South Bend, IN
0306	Alyssa L Cooper	Home Office	Arnold, PA
0306	Noelle Short	Home Office	Brook Park, OH

INSTALLATION IN COUNCIL 1



Milwaukee, WI—Taking the oath of office administered by Vice President Sharon Zago are officers of Council 1, District VI, from left: President Robert Wasilewski, Youth Counselor Penny Manke, Treasurer Diane Reeve, and Vice President Diane Jones.

NEWS FROM COUNCIL 40



Wilkes-Barre, PA—Officers and members of Council 40 wrapped Christmas gifts as part of the Barnes & Nobel fundraising program. Donations from store patrons were used for the Council 40 Scholarship Fund. Participating were, from left, in front row Council President Bernardine Borinski and National Director Felicia Perlick. Back row, Vice President Cheryl Hillard and Jean Scupski. Also assisting was Robert Hillard, on leave from the U.S. Navy (not in photo).

PWA FOUNDERS DAY
May 22, 1898 - May 22, 2010
Going Strong for 112 Years!

Welcome to our New Members! (cont.)

Gr.	Name	Introduced by	City/State
0309	Evan J Zader-Baumann	Home Office	Lansing, MI
0356	Samantha LaFramboise	Rita Skinner	Papillion, NE
0390	Ryan T Abram	Diane Urbino	Checktowaga, NY
0417	Jacob A Olkowski	Home Office	Belair, MD
0418	Jax Zielinski	Home Office	Chesterfield Twp, MI
0422	Alexis C Shimukonas	Home Office	Zieglerville, PA
0426	Bruce F Miller	Eleanore L Kowynia	Los Angeles, CA
0439	Mary C R Michalak	Home Office	Plymouth, MI
0444	Olivia I Wozniak	Deborah Hojnacki	Portage, IN
0456	James J Attfield	Home Office	Niagara Falls, NY
0456	Justin C Attfield	Home Office	Niagara Falls, NY
0474	Tiffany L Morris	Home Office	Fairchance, PA
0477	Jayne A Radvan	Home Office	Sarver, PA
0528	Sophía R Kosciuk	Home Office	Dickson City, PA
0535	Eleonor A Bianca	Home Office	Scranton, PA
0535	Anthony Savero	Home Office	Wilkes Barre, PA
0535	Montana Savero	Home Office	Wilkes Barre, PA
0570	Evan M Kielb	Victoria Kielb	Sterling, MI
0579	Avery C Furlong	Mary E Kurtz	Omaha, NE
0579	Jadyn B Swenson	Bernadette M Vlock	Omaha, NE
0598	Jane K Wasowski	Marion Listwan	Brunswick, OH
0616	Diana E Kilmer	Home Office	O'Fallon, MO
0665	Evelina Pilichiewicz	Grazyna Buczek	Lakewood, OH
0721	Preston D Gillin	Kathryn L Mackovyak	Ebensburg, PA
0754	Daria Gitiforooz	Grazyna Buczek	Macedonia, OH
0754	Louis J Ballas	Grazyna Buczek	Parma, OH
0754	Alexis N Curtis	Home Office	Emmette, ID
0754	Hunter J Curtis	Home Office	Emmett, ID
0776	Nicolette C Carlton	Victoria T Moulen	Beaverton, OR
0778	Gabrielle Baffes	Home Office	Joliet, IL
0782	Holden W Lane	Stella Sawruk	Nutley, NJ
0809	Sarah J Roberts	Home Office	Orlando, FL
0809	Ashley N Roberts	Home Office	Orlando, FL
0814	Aiden J Howard	Home Office	Okatie, SC
0814	Mark W Howard	Home Office	Santa Barbara, CA
0814	Sophia J Taylor	Home Office	Tamworth, NH
0821	Dante Kolak	Czeslawa K Kolak	Chicago, IL
0821	Anthony Krysciak	Czeslawa K Kolak	Chicago, IL
0821	Jacqueline Les	Czeslawa K Kolak	Schiller Park, IL
0821	Joshua Les	Czeslawa K Kolak	Schiller Park, IL

GROUP 211 MOTHER'S DAY

Meeting & Luncheon will be held on Wednesday May 12 at Zia's Restaurant, 6699 N. Northwest Hwy., Chicago. Meeting at 1 p.m. after followed by luncheon. Cash Raffle. All PWA members, non-members and guests are welcome to join us. Donation - Group 211 members \$15; non-members/guests \$20. RSVP by May 7th. Contact Antoinette Trela Vander Noot at 847 384-1206 office or 847 323-1005 evenings.

FOUR GENERATIONS IN GROUP 160



Chicago, IL—From left, Jennifer Olson, mother; Evelyn Mocadlo, great-grandmother and Group 160 Financial Secretary, holding Henry; and Joanne Perrault, grandmother and Group 160 President. Congratulations to the Mocadlo family and Group 160!

INSTALLATION IN GROUP 814



Van Nuys, CA—Installation of Group 814 officers took place at the February meeting. In photo from left, President Mary Anne Wilk, Treasurer Helen Simmons, and installer Francine Conte. Vice President Alicia Van Laar was absent. The Secretary will be elected at the next meeting of Group 814.

Mothers hold their children's hands for a short while, but they hold their hearts forever.

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY TO ALL OUR MEMBERS!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Thursday, May 27

PWA Book and Film Club presents a viewing of "On the Neman River" based on Orzeszkowska's best-selling novel "Nad Niemnem." PWA Home Office, lower level, 6643 N. Northwest Hwy, Chicago, at 3:15 p.m. In Polish with English subtitles. Admission is free. Light refreshments will be served. Contact: 847-384-1208 for more info.

Tuesday, June 15

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

Sunday, July 11

Group 105 of Plymouth, PA, 100th anniversary celebration. Mass at 11 a.m. at All Saints Parish (formerly St. Mary's), followed by a luncheon at the Shawnee Room, Main St., Plymouth. Contact: President Bernardine Borinski or Fin. Sec. Felicia Perlick.

August, date to be announced

Council 9 will be hosting Patron's Day in District I to celebrate the feastday of Our Lady of Czestochowa. Additional information will be mailed or please check the PWA website for updates. Contact: Laura Pawlowski, President, at (708) 945-7489 or via e-mail at laurapawlowski@sbcglobal.net.

Saturday, September 11

District I State Convention at 2 p.m., House of the White Eagle. Save the date! Details to follow.

Saturday September 18

Council 9 Meeting at 1 p.m. Penny Social to follow. Additional information will be mailed or check the PWA website for updates. Contact: Laura Pawlowski, President, at (708) 945-7489 or via email at laurapawlowski@sbcglobal.net. Bring a friend and catch up on the latest news. Appetizers are always welcome.

Saturday September 18

Group 819 Penny Social at St. John Brebeuf during the Council 9 meeting. All are invited to join us for an afternoon of fun. If you have usable items to donate for sale, please contact President Sylvia Kania at 773-685-7807.

Tuesday, September 21

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

Sunday, September 26

Save the Date! Glos Polek Centennial Banquet at The Rosewood Restaurant and Banquets, Rosemont, IL. Cocktails at 4 p.m. Dinner at 5 p.m. Tickets \$100. Proceeds will benefit the Centennial Exhibition of Glos Polek. For more information, please call 1-888-522-1898.

PWA NATIONAL CASH RAFFLE

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

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

The deadline is June 1, 2010. Entries must be postmarked June 1, 2010, to be eligible.



GRAND PRIZE \$ 2000

Second Prize \$ 1000

Third Prize \$ 500

Fourth Prize \$ 250

Fifth Prize \$ 250

Sixth thru Tenth Prizes \$ 100

Drawing will be held on June 19, 2010 in Springfield, Massachusetts.

Proceeds to benefit Komitet Oswiaty, the PWA Education Committee, promoting Polish culture and heritage and supporting our youth.

UPCOMING FOUR FRATERNALS EVENTS

Fun for the whole family! Join other Polish Americans at these events this spring and summer!

◆ **Thursday and Friday, May 21-22**

First Annual Adult Four Polish Fraternals Bowling Tournament, Pittsburgh, PA

◆ **Saturday, June 5**

Polish American Day at Six Flags Great America and Six Flags Hurricane Harbor in Gurnee, IL

◆ **Tuesday July 6**

Polish American Day at White Sox Park – Cellular Field in Chicago, IL

For more information on these events, including flyers, please visit our website at www.pwaa.org or call 847-384-1208.

REMINDER – YOUTH BOWLING TOURNAMENT

Youth Bowling Tournament applications, score sheets, and print-outs need to be returned to PWA postmarked no later than June 30th.

Please visit www.pwaa.org/youth.html#bowling_2010 for more information or call 847-384-1208 with questions.

Annual Report

Annual Statement of the Polish Women's Alliance of America for the year ended December 31, 2009

ASSETS:	
BONDS	\$ 45,735,354.00
PREFERRED STOCKS	\$ 455,520.00
COMMON STOCKS	\$ 35,000.00
MORTGAGE LOANS	\$ 4,028,814.00
CERTIFICATE LOANS	\$ 274,860.00
CASH	\$ 1,149,589.00
ELECTRONIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT	\$ 536.00
UNCOLLECTED PREMIUMS	\$ 2,713.00
INVESTMENT INCOME - DUE AND ACCRUED	\$ 552,993.00
OTHER THAN INVESTED ASSETS	\$ 1,266,585.00
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 53,501,964.00
LIABILITIES, SURPLUS AND OTHER FUNDS:	
AGGREGATE RESERVE	
FOR LIFE CERTIFICATES & CONTRACTS	\$ 50,515,322.00
LIABILITY FOR DEPOSIT-TYPE CONTRACTS	\$ 33,733.00
CERTIFICATE & CONTRACT CLAIMS, LIFE	\$ 497,207.00
PREMIUMS RECEIVED IN ADVANCE	\$ 5,199.00
INTEREST MAINTENANCE RESERVE (IMR)	\$ 93,141.00
GENERAL EXPENSES - DUE OR ACCRUED	\$ 9,497.00
ASSET VALUATION RESERVE	\$ 61,880.00
MISCELLANEOUS LIABILITIES	\$ 1,410,362.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$ 52,626,341.00
TOTAL SURPLUS	\$ 875,623.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES & SURPLUS	\$ 53,501,964.00
<hr/>	
SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS:	
PREMIUM & ANNUITY CONSIDERATIONS	\$ 1,460,700.00
NET INVESTMENT INCOME	\$ 2,884,471.00
AMORTIZATION OF INTEREST MAINTENANCE RESERVE	\$ 15,509.00
MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	\$ 22,145.00
TOTAL	\$ 4,382,825.00
DEDUCT:	
DEATH BENEFITS	\$ 1,031,352.00
MATURED ENDOWMENTS	\$ 91,047.00
ANNUITY BENEFITS/OLD AGE BENEFITS	\$ 873,309.00
SURRENDER BENEFITS & WITHDRAWALS	
FOR LIFE CONTRACTS	\$ 300,512.00
INTEREST AND ADJUSTMENTS ON CONTRACTS	\$ 1,869.00
INCREASE IN AGGREGATE RESERVE	
FOR LIFE CERTIFICATES	\$ 911,651.00
COMMISSION ON PREMIUMS, ANNUITY CONSIDERATION (DIRECT BUSINESS ONLY)	\$ 3,269.00
GENERAL INSURANCE EXPENSES AND FRATERNAL EXPENSES	\$ 1,229,934.00
INSURANCE TAXES, LICENSES AND FEES	\$ 75,535.00
TOTAL	\$ 4,518,478.00
NET GAIN (LOSS) FROM OPERATIONS BEFORE REFUNDS TO MEMBERS	\$ (135,653.00)
NET REALIZED GAINS OR LOSSES	\$ (601,416.00)
NET GAIN(LOSS) FROM OPERATIONS	\$ (737,069.00)



From the Office of the Secretary-Treasurer

As required by the PWA Constitution and Bylaws, the Annual Financial Statement of the Alliance is being published in this issue of *Glos Polek*.

I would like to highlight some of the more significant items that occurred in 2009.

Our Assets increased from \$52,283,773 at year-end 2008 to \$53,501,964 at year-end 2009, or approximately 2%. The portfolio of the Alliance continues to be balanced between U.S. Agency Bonds, highly rated Corporate Bonds, and general obligation Municipals, including Build America Bonds. The average rate of return on our portfolio is 5.75%. All investments are closely monitored due to the continuing volatile atmosphere in the securities industry. In 2009, the current mortgage portfolio of the Alliance continued to be a safe and steady source of monthly income, providing an average rate of return of 6.64%.

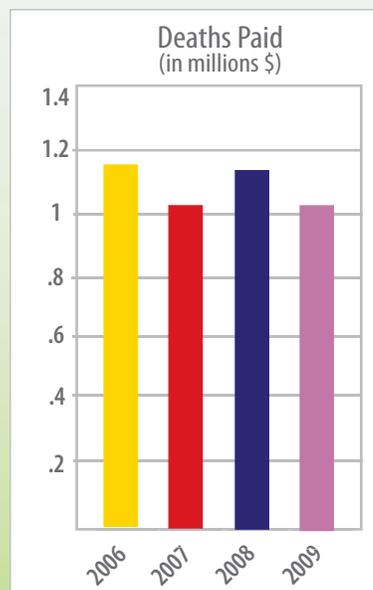
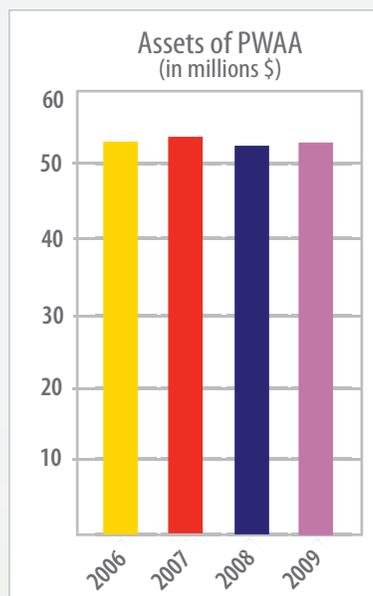
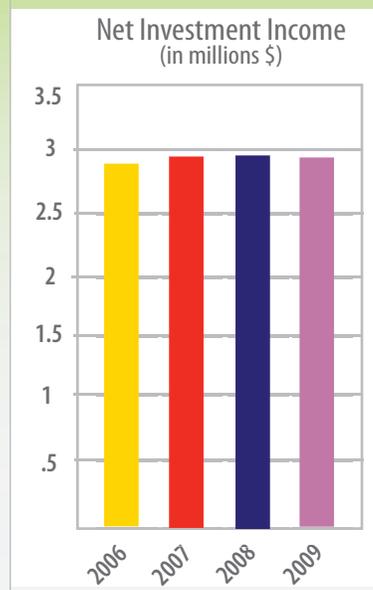
The 110th Anniversary Maximizer promotion first offered in August 2008 and continued through July 2009 served to generate an additional \$269,200 in premium income for the year, representing over \$1,242,000 in increased insurance value. Likewise, the interest rates paid on our Annuity accounts have continued to be a very safe and attractive investment option for our members, and the Alliance currently holds approximately \$15,474,722 in deposits paying between 3% and 4.75%. Premium and Annuity income in 2009 reflected an increase of over 5% compared to 2008.

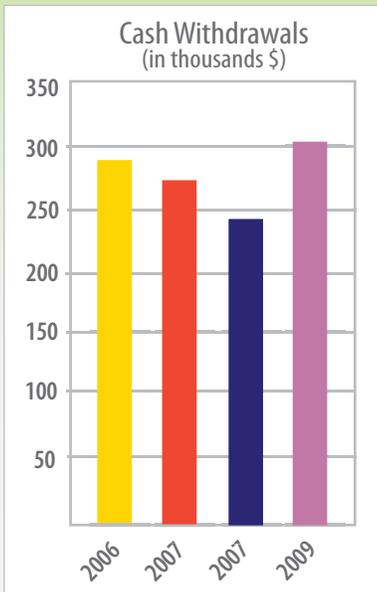
The Surplus of the Alliance increased by approximately 35% from 2008 to 2009, which reflects a pattern of steady and sound growth, up from the downturn in the economy that began in the second half of 2008. This was, in part, achieved through Management's continued commitment to lowering and containing general insurance and fraternal expenses, which decreased by over \$214,000 (or 15%) in 2009. There were many difficult decisions that the General Administration had to make in 2009 and, while not always popular, the positive results realized serve to reinforce that the Administration acted, as always, in the best interest of our entire membership.

As reflected in the accompanying charts, over the past four years

- ◆ Net Investment Income has continued to be generated at a steady rate.
- ◆ Assets have remained strong and reflect a pattern of increased growth.
- ◆ The loss of members due to death, while being beyond our control, has begun to change course.
- ◆ Cash surrenders are unfortunately on the rise, even with every effort being made to discourage a member from taking this action. The economic climate coupled with a related loss of jobs and benefits have prompted a larger number of insured to tap into their assets – of which whole life insurance is one.

In conclusion, Management is confident that through continued proactive and diligent adherence to the policies put into place in 2009, positive strides will again be realized in 2010. These include increased Premium/Annuity Income through creative and innovative marketing, further reduction in General Operating Expenses where possible, and confidence that the governing agencies will provide more stringent oversight and monitoring of companies which offer in-





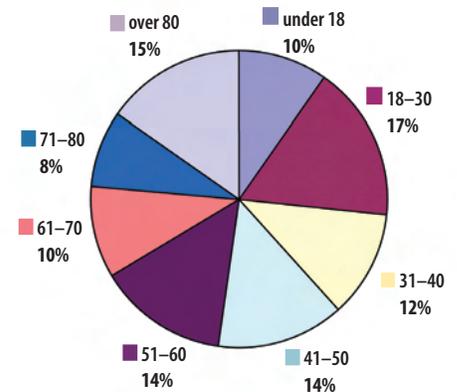
vestment opportunities to corporations such as ours and the general public at large. As stewards of an Organization that is in its 112th year, Management takes its responsibilities to ensure the protection of assets and financial well-being of the entire membership as our foremost obligation.

Let's continue to build upon something Great!

Respectfully submitted,

Antoinette Trela-Vander Noot
Secretary/Treasurer

Distribution of PWAA Policyholders According to Age



600TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF GRUNWALD

(cont. from page 6)

In Poland, Grunwald remains a rallying cry for Polish patriotism and the sovereignty of its borders. The battle was immortalized in a famous painting by Jan Matejko and in the internationally acclaimed epic novel by Henryk Sienkiewicz, *The Teutonic Knights (Krzyszacy)*. Sienkiewicz won the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1905 for his historical novels.

Ignacy Jan Paderewski was so inspired by the history of the Battle of Grunwald, that at the young age of 9, he decided that when he grew up, he would erect a monument to the heroes of the battle in 1910, the year of the 500th anniversary. His dream came true when he dedicated the Grunwald Monument in Krakow on July 15, 1910, in front of a crowd of 160,000 people. It was his gift to the city and to the people of Poland.



A NATION MOURNS

Millions of Poles watched and prayed as the coffins of President Lech Kaczynski, his wife Maria, and other victims of the April 10, 2010 plane crash in Russia began returning home. A week of mourning was declared in Poland as flags were flown at half-mast and hundreds of thousands candles lit at the Presidential Palace in Warsaw and at government buildings across the nation. Twenty monks rang the Zygmunt Bell at Krakow's Wawel Cathedral—the burial spot of Polish kings—a tolling reserved for times of profound importance or grief. Poland has not suffered such a traumatic event since World War II.

President Kaczynski and his wife will be laid to rest at the Wawel on Sunday, April 18. President Obama will travel to Krakow for the state funeral, along with many other world leaders. The President's visit will "express the depth of our condolences to an important and trusted ally, and our support for the Polish people, on behalf of the American people," according to a statement released by the White House. Condolences have been pouring in to Poland from around the globe.

Glos Polek 100th Anniversary

SUPPORT OUR FUNDRAISING DRIVE FOR THE *GLOS POLEK* EXHIBIT “A Voice of Their Own”

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



The original “Glos Polek” logo from the front page of the first issue published on November 3, 1910.

DONOR LEVELS AND BENEFITS

KRAKOWIAK \$1 - \$99

1. Name will be published in Centennial Issue of *Glos Polek*

KUJAWIAK \$100 - \$199

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

OBEREK \$200 - \$499

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

MAZUR \$500 - \$999

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

POLONAISE \$1000 and over

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

GLOS POLEK CENTENNIAL – FUNDRAISING DRIVE – February 1 to June 1, 2010 Celebrating Our History with Pride!

Name of Individual Donor as it will appear in the Centennial Issue (please print):

_____ PWA Group No. _____ (if applicable)

City/State: _____

or

Number of Donor Group, Council, District as it will appear in Centennial Issue:

_____ City/State _____

Choose Donor Level:

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

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

Contact Info:

Name: _____ Tel. No. _____

Address: _____

City/State: _____ Zip _____

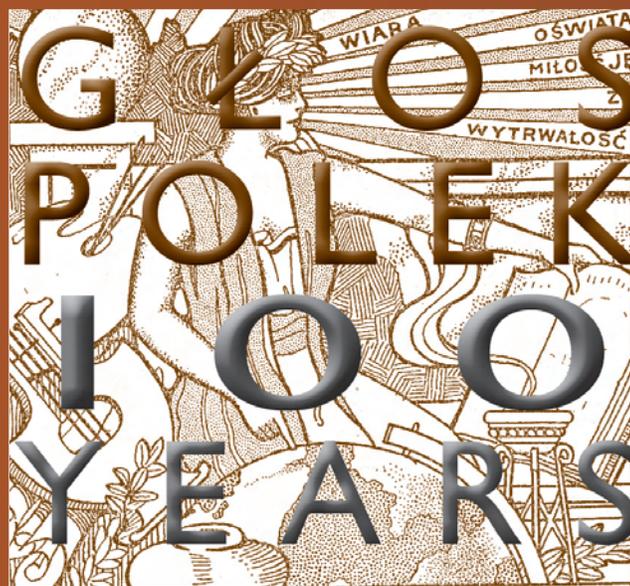
Email Address: _____

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

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

Questions: 1-888-522-1898, ext 206





100th ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL

Starts June 1, 2010 and Ends June 30, 2011

To celebrate the Centennial of our publication, *Glos Polek*, PWAA presents this Super Special Offer to all of our members and their families and friends. We are happy to offer you a **\$100** discount on the premium with our new

Mix'n'Match Offer.

To qualify, you must apply for two \$1,000 Single Payment Whole Life Policies. The two policies can be taken out for one person or for any two people—from newborn to age 85 (nearest birthday).

With Our *GLOS POLEK* 100TH ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL We Offer Special Prizes to PWA Groups

With each policy issued to a Group, a Bonus of **\$5** will be offered to that Group. In addition, each Group will be awarded special cash prizes as follows.

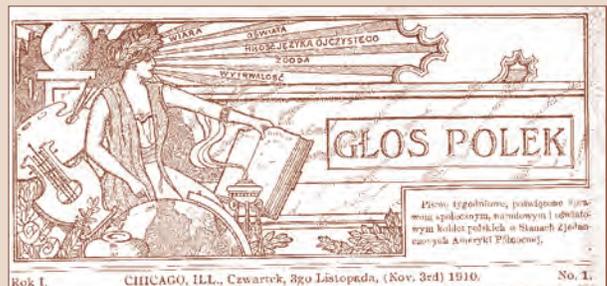
- ✓ **\$100** for 10 to 20 policies issued to the Group
- ✓ **\$250** for 22 to 40 policies issued and
- ✓ **\$500** for 42 and more

All Group awards will be announced and checks for winning Groups will be presented to the Group Presidents at the PWA 36th National Convention in Springfield, MA in August 2011.

Any Group officer or member who sells six or more applications as witness, will be recognized in the 36th National Convention Program Book and will receive a special gift.

No commission payments or introducer fees will be paid with this promotion; and it will not count for the May Queen Contest.

See sample discounted rates on page 15.



Logo from the first issue of *Glos Polek* – November 3, 1910

To take advantage of this **Mix'n'Match** promotion, simply complete two applications, include the discounted applicable premium payable to PWAA and mail to:

POLISH WOMEN'S ALLIANCE
6643 N. Northwest Hwy, 2nd Floor
Chicago, IL 60631-1360

www.pwaa.org

An application is available on page 16 in this issue of *Glos Polek* or on our website www.pwaa.org (click on FORMS, go to Life Insurance applications, choose the state where you live, and print) or you can request applications from the Home Office by calling toll-free

1-888-522-1898 ext 228

or send an email request to padowski@pwaa.org

SAMPLE RATES FOR *GLOS POLEK* 100TH ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL

SINGLE PAYMENT WHOLE LIFE – \$1000 FACE VALUE
Ages 0 to 20 (nearest birthday)

Age	Male		Female	
	Regular	You Pay	Regular	You Pay
0*	\$125.63	\$75.63	\$114.98	\$64.98
1	\$127.01	\$77.01	\$116.64	\$66.64
2	\$129.03	\$79.03	\$118.50	\$68.50
3	\$131.32	\$81.32	\$120.51	\$70.51
4	\$133.90	\$83.90	\$122.71	\$72.71
5	\$136.60	\$86.60	\$124.97	\$74.97
6	\$139.40	\$89.40	\$127.37	\$77.37
7	\$142.32	\$92.32	\$129.85	\$79.85
8	\$145.35	\$95.35	\$132.40	\$82.40
9	\$148.52	\$98.52	\$135.06	\$85.06
10	\$151.83	\$101.83	\$137.81	\$87.81
11	\$155.24	\$105.24	\$140.69	\$90.69
12	\$158.80	\$108.80	\$143.67	\$93.67
13	\$162.48	\$112.48	\$146.76	\$96.76
14	\$166.29	\$116.29	\$149.95	\$99.95
15	\$170.18	\$120.18	\$153.23	\$103.23
16	\$174.15	\$124.15	\$156.58	\$106.58
17	\$178.00	\$128.00	\$160.06	\$110.06
18	\$181.78	\$131.78	\$163.62	\$113.62
19	\$185.52	\$135.52	\$167.35	\$117.35
20	\$189.34	\$139.34	\$171.18	\$121.18

* up to 6 mos

Premium is calculated to the nearest birthday

For rates for ages 21 and older or for different face amounts, please call 1-888-522-1898 ext 228, send email to padowski@pwaa.org, or visit our website at pwaa.org

DON'T MISS THIS GREAT RATE ON ANNUITIES OFFERED BY PWAA

OPEN A TRADITIONAL OR ROTH IRA OR REGULAR ANNUITY WITH PWAA TODAY!

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

Under \$5000	3.00%
\$5,000 to \$49,999	3.75%
\$50,000 to \$99,000	4.00%
\$100,000 and over	4.25%

Don't wait! Let your hard-earned money start working for you now!

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



Q: I read about the Youth Trip to Poland on your website, but when I called to register my son I was informed that this trip is only for PWA members. I was also told that in order to become member a person needs to apply for life insurance or open an annuity with PWA. My son is 13 years old. Which plan would be better for him? What other benefits will he get if he becomes a PWA member?

Frank, NE

A: Yes, that is correct. From the very beginning, when our organization was first established in 1898, a person had to apply for life insurance in order to become a member. Later, another option was added—opening an annuity account also allowed a person to become a member of our organization. Because of government regulations and the many restrictions on annuity contracts, I would not recommend opening an annuity account for a 13 year-old child. Additionally, being the owner of an annuity contract does not qualify members to apply for PWA scholarship or to take advantage of the many other benefits available to members who hold life insurance policies.

The best choice for you would be to apply for the Single Payment or 10 Year Payment Whole Life Insurance Policy for your son. We still have the Early Spring Promotion running until to May 31, 2010, and, starting on June 1, 2010, we are announcing the *Glos Polek* 100th Anniversary Promotion. You can read about our new promotion in this issue of *Glos Polek* and about our Early Spring Promotion by looking on our website. It is always a great idea to purchase whole life insurance for kids. The younger the policyholder, the lower the premiums. Purchasing a life insurance policy for a child will allow the policy value to start growing early and potentially provide cash value to borrow against later in life. Besides, buying life insurance for a child gives the assurance that he'll have insurance as an adult, in case an illness later in life should make him uninsurable. PWA has many benefits for young members—one of them is scholarships—with the current requirements being that the member has to have at least \$3,000 in whole-life insurance and be a member for at least five years. We organize contests, trips, conferences and many other activities for our youth members. Please look on our website or in our magazine, the *Glos Polek*, to check out other PWA events.

Plan applied for (Write Plan Name): _____ Face Amount: _____ Premium Mode (Check one): Ann S-Ann Quar Mo Single <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	APPLICATION FOR LIFE INSURANCE With POLISH WOMEN'S ALLIANCE OF AMERICA 6643 N Northwest Highway, 2 nd Floor Chicago, IL 60631	Office Use Only Group No. _____ Certificate No. _____ Plan No. _____ Amount of Insurance _____
--	--	---

1. Name of Proposed Insured _____		2. Residence Address _____	
3. Sex	Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/>	4. Date of Birth	5. Age
		(Mo) (Day) (Yr)	City _____ State _____ Zip _____
6. Height	Weight	7. Place of Birth	8. Telephone Number
			Home _____ Work _____
9. Marital Status (Check One)		10. If female, and ever married, give maiden name	
Single Married Widowed Divorced			
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>			
11. Social Security No. _____		12. Occupation _____	
		13. Name and Address of Employer _____	
14. Beneficiary			
Name _____		Relationship _____	
Address _____		City _____ State _____ Zip _____	
15. Contingent Beneficiary			
Name _____		Relationship _____	
Address _____		City _____ State _____ Zip _____	

DECLARATION OF INSURABILITY		Yes	No
1. Within the past 3 years, has the proposed insured used tobacco in any form?		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Within the past 3 years has the proposed insured ever had or been treated for:			
a. Disease or disorder of heart, kidneys, stomach, liver, lungs, bones or joints?		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Epilepsy, convulsion, dizziness, fainting, stroke or mental disorder?		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. High blood pressure, chest pain, diabetes, cancer or tumor?		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Alcoholism, alcohol abuse or drug abuse?		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Any other physical disease or deformity or consulted or been examined by any physician for other than a symptom-free check-up, or had an electrocardiogram, x-rays, or blood studies during the past 3 years?		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Has any application for life insurance on the proposed insured been declined, withdrawn, postponed, or modified in any way by any insurance company during the past 3 years?		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

A. Is the insurance intended to replace or change any insurance now in force? Yes No

B. What is the total amount of life insurance in force on the life of the proposed insured? _____

C. What is the total amount of life insurance in force on the life of the applicant, if other than the proposed insured? _____

D. Is the applicant a member of the Polish Women's Alliance? Yes No

E. Select dividend option: left on deposit cash purchase paid up additions

Information in this application is given to obtain this insurance and is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. This certificate shall not take effect unless the first or single premium is actually paid to the Alliance at the time of application.

Signature of Proposed Insured _____

Signature of Applicant, if other than Proposed Insured _____

Signature of Witness or Agent _____

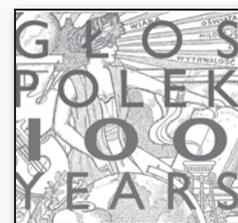
Full Amount Attached \$ _____ Signed at (City, State) _____ Date _____

Form No. LA-2005/PWA

Glos Polek 100th Anniversary Special Starts June 1, 2010, and ends June 30, 2011

To celebrate the Centennial of our publication, *Glos Polek*, we offer you a **\$100 discount** on the premium on our new **Mix'n'Match Offer**.

To qualify, you must apply for two \$1,000 Single Payment Whole Life Policies. The policies can be taken out for one person or for any two people – from newborn to age 85 (nearest birthday).



To Apply:

Fill out TWO applications. You will find one on this page (and you can make an additional copy) and mail them in with the applicable premium to:

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

See sample discounted rates on page 15.

Call 888-522-1898 ext 228 for more information or to request additional applications. Or you can send an email to padowski@pwaa.org.

CREDIT CARD AUTHORIZATION

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

Name on Credit Card _____

Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature _____ Billing Address _____

Zip Code _____

In Memoriam



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



Gr. No. Member	City/State	Gr. No. Member	City/State
0031 Shirley A Petrone	Decatur, IL	0215 Frances S Kaja	Milwaukee, WI
0031 Leonard A Czerwinski	Hammond, IN	0224 Stella Pedhaniak	Alquippa, PA
0031 Marie V Brach	Mokena, IL	0237 Regina A Dudek	Silver City, NM
0031 Jessie Ancich	Middletown, PA	0248 Clara Kurowski	Cranford, NJ
0035 Ruth V Nieckula	East Hazelcrest, IL	0259 Anne P Trestan	New Kensington, PA
0037 Ann J Janik	Crown Point, IN	0271 Stella Zackowski	Bethel Park, PA
0037 Mary Litera	Glasgow, KY	0275 Helen V Green	Omaha, NE
0037 Clarissa Hoyda	Whiting, IN	0275 Jadwiga Alex	Omaha, NE
0037 Mabel Hardy	Valparaiso, IN	0277 Cecilia E Macek	Allen Park, MI
0061 Lillian V Ellis	Riverwoods, IL	0280 Sophie D Gawarecki	Buffalo, NY
0061 Loretta Gabrys	Chicago, IL	0280 Maria S Zajac	New Britain, CT
0070 Dorothy R Linder	Chicago Hts, IL	0280 Leona Butova	Enfield, CT
0070 Mildred L Soderberg	Snowmass, CO	0280 Alice Griffin	Colchester, CT
0070 Jeanette Ripani	Indianapolis, IN	0287 Frances J Szymanski	Florence, MA
0070 Irene Sala	Monongahela, PA	0287 Genowefa Gorgos	Crystal Lake, IL
0070 Helena Brown	Holland, OH	0303 Josephine V O'Hara	Pittsburgh, PA
0070 Helen Lister	Chetek, WI	0304 Eugenia Doman	Pittsburgh, PA
0081 Elizabeth J Losinski	Peoria, AZ	0304 Stefania Domka	Mc Kees Rocks, PA
0104 Mary A Kreczynski	Racine, WI	0306 Blanche Ellena	Gibsonia, PA
0111 Lorraine C Mazzoni	Crown Point, IN	0317 Frances E Szumny	Chicopee, MA
0111 Valentyna Piotrowski	Merrillville, IN	0338 Irene A Natali	Butler, PA
0112 Grace R Marusak	Westville, IN	0338 Marianne Perhosky	Pittsburgh, PA
0112 Irene T Kandziorski	Chicago, IL	0338 Mary Strozyk	Ocala, FL
0128 Marion Dobrzynski	Hammond, IN	0341 Lucy J Norkus	Pittsburgh, PA
0128 Janina Nowak	Hammond, IN	0351 Antonette Striefsky	Carbondale, PA
0132 Antoinette Grzych	Munster, IN	0359 Stella Hodur	Buffalo, NY
0132 Veronica Soczawa	Hammond, IN	0364 Stephanie Horodyski	Gladwin, MI
0138 Diane M Shroka	Downers Grove, IL	0366 Geraldine Gibson	Lady Lake, FL
0141 Janet S Michon	Holyoke, MA	0381 Elizabeth K Purol	Fredonia, NY
0141 Mary Pope	Holyoke, MA	0386 Cecelia Smola	Canton, MI
0141 Victoria T Ceppetelli	Webster, MA	0388 Virginia L Basak	Prospect Hts, IL
0148 Eleanore S Sudikatus	Warminster, PA	0408 Monica A Wika	Schererville, IN
0149 Lorraine C Kurowski	Granada Hills, CA	0408 Cecilia Kar	Ravenel, SC
0160 Lorraine Soszynski	Chicago, IL	0418 Stephanie Lesney	Rockville, MD
0160 Mary Scordo	Chicago, IL	0419 Martha D Walczak	Buffalo, NY
0160 Dolores Danek	Mount Prospect, IL	0419 Antoinette M Klimeczko	Buffalo, NY
0173 Wladyslawa Ziobro	Angola, NY	0426 Wanda E Cooke	Phoenix, AZ
0175 Esther A Styma	La Salle, IL	0429 Mary Pisowicz	Hammond, IN
0181 Mary P Zeman	Peru, IL	0434 Regina R Marko	Wilkes Barre, PA
0182 Josephine Zula	North Huntingdon, PA	0434 Mary M Popis	Scranton, PA
0185 Elizabeth Czajka	Middletown, CT	0439 Catherine Herman-Diedrich	Cumberland, RI
0196 Josephine Prosciak	Easthampton, MA	0440 Anna Jaskulski	Crystal Lake, IL
0203 Elzbieta Kellar	Kingston, TN	0441 Josephine Tencza	Lake Grove, NY
0203 Geraldine J Selinka	Chicago, IL	0444 Wanda M Hojnacki	Gary, IN
0214 Stella Matuszewski	Pittsburgh, PA	0450 Stefania Wisnieski	Wyoming, PA

In Memoriam



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



Gr. No. Member	City/State
0451 Emma C Sikora	Jacksonville, FL
0452 Mary Karosus	Scott Twp, PA
0463 Rose Popko	Westfield, MA
0463 Josephine Majeski	Westfield, MA
0467 Johanna P Tomala	Pittsburgh, PA
0468 Eugenia Ozyp	Niagara Falls, NY
0469 Jane R Slevinski	Salamanca, NY
0469 Mary L Kochaniec	Flat Rock, NC
0481 Elenora Kowalski	Flint, MI
0485 Evelina Topolski	Tampa, FL
0485 Cecilia Casper	Coal Twp, PA
0499 Irene M Skowron	Gill, MA
0499 Stacia A Bak	Hadley, MA
0499 Gladys Brzostowski	Turners Falls, MA
0510 Mary Post	McAdoo, PA
0513 Genowefa Mantini	Ford City, PA
0520 Elaine K Wick	Depew, NY
0528 Anna Butkiewicz	Eynon, PA
0530 Phyllis K Blaum	Cherry Hill, NJ
0535 Marya Telisz	Old Forge, PA
0555 Phyllis Sobina	Warren, PA
0568 Jane A Groncki	Baltimore, MD
0568 Adrienne L Nitkowski	Rosedale, MD
0585 Wanda Kostecka	Waterford, MI
0586 Elaine M Dziedziak	Burbank, IL
0587 Lillian Camden	Linden, NJ
0589 Dorothy Kennedy	Clark, NJ
0591 Stella Maliszewska	Jersey City, NJ
0591 Tessie Murphy	Basking Ridge, NJ
0591 Rita E Fylak	Milton, FL
0595 Florence Zinkowicz	Union, NJ
0598 Alexandra Mateski	Brick, NJ
0602 Laura S Dopart	Linden, NJ
0611 Bertha Zawistowski	Bayonne, NJ
0611 Edward Markowski	Plainfield, NJ
0616 Harriet Urynowicz	Sterling Hts., MI
0632 Dorothy K Pospula	Rochester, NY
0637 Deborah A Paskowski	New Britain, CT
0661 Casimira M Tuman	Arlington Hts, IL
0661 Genowefa J Wisniewski	Des Plaines, IL
0661 Lottie Betlej	Chicago, IL
0661 Irene M Pasek	Niles, IL
0665 Stella Gavalya	Cleveland, OH
0675 Mary Kudach	Philadelphia, PA
0680 Helen M Ropelewski	Erie, PA
0743 Irene T Siessmann	La Grange Highlands, IL
0768 Florence Steger	Greenfield, WI
0768 Genowefa Rutkowski	Greendale, WI
0769 Amalie W Liebich	Fraser, MI
0776 Jozefa Piepszak	Dorchester, MA

Gr. No. Member	City/State
0778 Lillian Liszewski	Hobart, IN
0779 Dorota Eichenlaub	Vincentown, NJ
0782 Alfreda Delezanski	Nutley, NJ
0786 John L Machuga	Eastpointe, MI
0793 Stella Unangst	Elizabeth, NJ
0807 Ludmilla C Danielski	Sterling Hts, MI
0814 Eleanor C Conte	North Hills, CA
0814 Haline Heimstadt	Toluca Lake, CA
0815 Wanda Trafny	Highland, IN

Group 661 Volunteer Joan Flor

It is with great sadness that we bid farewell to Joan Flor, social member of Group 661, who spent countless hours re-organizing the PWA library last summer. Joan was an active member of our book club and an avid reader and contributor to the discussions. We will miss her warm smile and gentle ways. May she rest in peace.

REQUEST FOR FORMS

Please check the forms you would like to receive:

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

NAME: _____ GR.NO. _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

TEL: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

MAIL FORM TO:

Polish Women's Alliance of America,
6643 N. Northwest Hwy, 2nd Fl.
Chicago, IL, 60631



Academic College Scholarship Application Deadline Is May 15

PWA is now accepting applications for the Junior and Senior Year Undergraduate College Academic Scholarships for 2010-2011. The deadline is post-mark May 15, 2010. Please download the requirements and applications from our website at www.pwaa.org/youth.html.

NEW MIX 'N' MATCH CONTEST

Category: *Summer Fun*

Match each Polish word with the correct English translation and submit your answers postmarked no later than June 30, 2010.

- | | |
|----------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Lato | A. Pool |
| 2. Wakacje | B. Beach |
| 3. Urlop | C. Lake |
| 4. Basen | D. Mountains |
| 5. Rower | E. Summer |
| 6. Gory | F. Vacation (from work) |
| 7. Piasek | G. Bicycle |
| 8. Plaza | H. Skateboard |
| 9. Jezioro | I. Vacation (from school) |
| 10. Deskorolka | J. Sand |

Only one entry per PWA member. Correct entries will be placed in a lottery and three \$25 prizes will be awarded for the first three correct entries drawn. Contest is open to PWA members of all ages. Please be sure to include your name, address, phone number, email address, and PWA Group number with your entry.

Submit your entry by email to: vpres@pwaa.org or by regular mail to: Polish Women's Alliance of America/Contests, 6643 N. Northwest Highway, 2nd Floor, Chicago, IL 60631.



Announcing Participants in the Summer 2010 Cultural Program in Poland

The following members were selected to participate in the Summer Cultural Program in Poland. More information about the program and itinerary will be sent to participants in the next few weeks. If you have any questions, please call Bo Padowski at 1-888-522-1898 ext 228.

TOUR I: July 18 to August 1, 2010

Group/State	Name
821 IL	David Dzik
6 AZ	Kendric Knorr
579 KS	Nathan Kurtz-Enko
579 KS	Robert O'Hanlon
562 IL	Elise Schroeder
562 IL	Zachary Schroeder
128 CA	Angelina Kaniewski
786 MI	Michael Guirey
616 MI	Casey O'Higgins
481 MI	Vincent J Scarfone
114 IL	Michael Korta

TOUR II: August 1 to August 15, 2010

Group/State	Name
562 IL	Julia Schroeder
637 CT	Christopher Chorzepa
786 MI	Stanislaw Biestek
211 IL	Matthew Stadnicki
267 PA	Brianna Zawacki
267 PA	Victoria Zawacki
821 IL	Jacob Dzik
821 IL	Carolina Dzik
568 MD	Alyson Hartman
568 MD	Trent Hartman
579 NE	Tyler Jurek
579 NE	Steven Jurek



PWA Youth Conference in Philadelphia July 14-18, 2010

The registration period for the Youth Conference is now closed. Participants will be receiving information packets in the mail shortly. For more information, including an itinerary, please visit our website at http://www.pwaa.org/youth.html#youth_conf or call Vice President Sharon Zago, Youth Conference Chair, at 1-888-522-1898, ext 208.



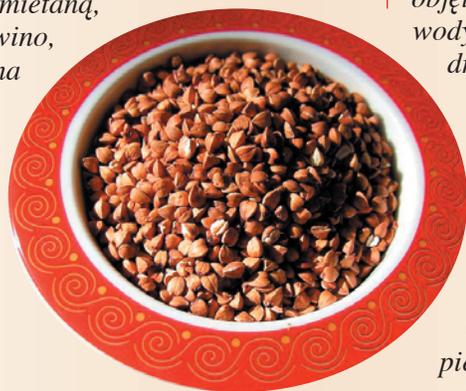
Przepisy kulinarne

- Pieczarki ze szpinakiem
- Kasza gryczana zapiekana z kiełbasą lub mięsem

Pieczarki ze szpinakiem

1 kg pieczarek,
4 łyżki oliwy,
2 łyżki śmietany,
1 kg szpinaku (może być mrożony),
szklanka białego, wytrawnego wina,
sól, pieprz

Szpinak ugotować, odsączyć z wody i przetrzeć przez sito lub zmiksować z solą. Pieczarki pokroić (lub w całości) i usmażyć na oliwie. Szpinak zmieszać z gęstą śmietaną, później z pieczarkami, wlać białe wino, zagotować i przez 10 min. dusić na małym ogniu.



Kasza gryczana zapiekana z kiełbasą lub mięsem

1/2 szklanki kaszy gryczanej,
1/2 łyżki masła,
2 cebule,
25 dkg kiełbasy lub mięsa gotowanego lub pieczonego,
1-2 łyżki oleju, pieprz, sól, 1 łyżeczka zmielonej kolendry (nie koniecznie), 2-3 łyżki drobno posiekanej pietruszki

Kaszę gryczaną opłukać, zagotować wodę z dodatkiem soli i masła, biorąc wody 2 razy większą objętość w stosunku do kaszy; Wrzucić do wrzącej wody kaszę, zamieszać i ugotować na sypko; Cebulę drobno pokrajać i zrumienić na oleju; Kiełbasę lub mięso pokrajać w kostkę, dodać do cebuli, lekko podsmażyć, dodać do kaszy, wymieszać i przyprawić do smaku solą, pieprzem i kolendrą; wyłożyć wszystko na półmisek żaroodporny lub inne naczynie wysmarowane tłuszczem; wstawić do nagrzanego piekarnika (350 F) i zapiec (ok. 20 minut); Gorącą kaszę posypać na półmisku zieloną pietruszką. Potrawę można także podawać z sosem pomidorowym lub grzybowym.

Z okazji Dnia Matki



Stanisław Wyspiański (1869 - 1907) wybitny artysta okresu "Młodej Polski" – dramaturg, poeta, malarz, grafik, architekt.

Mamo, chciałbym ci przynieść latający dywan,
I kaczkę, która znosi szczerozłote jajka,
Żebyś żyła beztrosko - wesola, szczęśliwa,
Lecz takie dziwy znaleźć można tylko w bajkach.

Lecz dzisiaj za twe troski, trudy, poświęcenia,
Za twą miłość matczyną nigdy nie zachwianą
Mogę tylko twą sztyję otoczyć ramieniem
I szepnąć ci do ucha: Dziękuję ci, mamo.

“Do matki” (fragment) W. Grodzieńska

Wanda Grodzieńska (1906 - 1966) – polska poetka, prozaik, krytyk literatury dla dzieci, tłumaczka. W latach 1945-55 była redaktorką “Świerszczyka”. Jest autorką wielu zbiorów wierszy dla dzieci (m.in. “Najprawdziwsza bajka”, “Były sobie koty dwa”, “O ślimaku, co szukał wiosny”), a także opowieści biograficznych o Mickiewiczu.





BON TON

Życie nie jest tak krótkie, by nie było w nim czasu na uprzejmość.

(Ralph Waldo Emerson)

Jak jeść pewne owoce i jarzyny

Melon i ananasy podaje się pokrajane w plastry lub kawałki. Nabiera się je na swój talerzyk i zjada widelczykiem i kraje nożem. Ananasy

można podawać na półmisku z lodem.

Awokado, jeśli jest pokrajane w plastry lub w sałatce, zjada się widelcem, a jeśli podawane w połówkach, to łyżeczką.

Szparagi kraje się nożem i widelcem.

Oliwki je się najczęściej palcami i palcami usuwa się pestkę z ust. Jeśli oliwki są w sałatce, to nabiera się je widelcem, tak jak resztę sałatki, i widelcem usuwa się pestkę.

Małe czerwone pomidory (Cherry tomatoes) je się w całości, nie należy ich kroić.

Banany obiera się i je rękoma, ale jeśli są podawane do stołu, to po obraniu je się nożem i widelcem.

Groszek je się widelcem zgniatając go delikatnie przed nabraniem.

PODZIĘKOWANIE KOMISJI 7



Cleveland, OH – Komisja 7 Obw. VII-go Związku Polek w Ameryce wraz ze Szkołą Języka Polskiego im. I. J. Paderewskiego składa serdeczne podziękowania na ręce wszystkich sponsorów i uczestników bankietu, wydane go w celu udzielenia finansowej pomocy dla ciężko poszkodowanej Kasi, oraz wszystkich członków Związku Polek, którzy przesłali donacje w odpowiedzi na nasz apel.

Wasze wsparcie i hojność pozwoliły nam zebrać pokaźną sumę pieniędzy, która zostanie przeznaczona na leczenie dziewczyny. Jeszcze raz, gorące wyrazy wdzięczności dla wszystkich ludzi otwartych na cierpienie innych!

“MOJA WIERNA MOWO”



Porady językowe według Jana Miodka i innych polskich językoznawców

Związki frazeologiczne i ich znaczenie

“**Pies ogrodnika**” – osoba, która sama z określonych dóbr (rzeczy, przywilejów, możliwości) nie korzysta, a przy tym uniemożliwia skorzystanie z tych dóbr innym.

“**nie zasypiać gruszek w popiele**” - nie zaniedbywać spraw wymagających załatwienia.

“**Czytać, przeczytać coś od deski do deski**” – przeczytać coś od początku do końca; dawne książki posiadały drewniane oprawy i osoba zapoznająca się z danym tekstem musiała, siłą rzeczy, czytać od deski do deski. Drewniana była cała okładka.

“**czekać na Godota**” – oznacza nadaremnie czekać na coś, co się nie zdarzy, lub na kogoś, kto nie nadejdzie. Godot to tajemniczy bohater tytułowy sztuki Samuela Becketta, *Czekając na Godota*, na którego czekają nadaremnie Gogo i Didi; Godot nie pojawia się.

“**Biały kruk**” – rzecz unikatowa, rzadka, osobliwa, zwrot używany głównie w bibliotekarstwie w odniesieniu do rzadkich, cennych, książek, zwykle starodruków. Jak wiadomo, kruki mają czarne upierzenie, a zatem to metaforyczne określenie ukazuje pewnie wiarę w istnienie rzadkich, nietypowych okazji.

W SIECI

<http://encyklopedia.pwn.pl/>

Internetowa encyclopedia PWN zawiera wybór 80 tysięcy haseł i 5 tysięcy ilustracji ze stale aktualizowanej bazy encyklopedycznej Wydawnictwa Naukowego PWN.

<http://miasta.org/>

Przewodnik po Barcelonie, Budapeszcie, Londynie, Nowym Jorku, Paryżu, Pradze i Sztokholmie.

<http://www.intute.ac.uk/> (po angielsku)

Strona prezentująca najlepsze źródła internetowe użyteczne dla studiów i badań naukowych.



8 Maja – Międzynarodowy Dzień Czerwonego Krzyża i Czerwonego Półksiężyca

Humanitaryzm, bezstronność, neutralność, niezależność, dobrowolność, jedność i powszechność to siedem zasad, które legły u podstaw Czerwonego Krzyża – organizacji założonej w Genewie 29 października 1863 r. Dzień 8 maja, rocznica urodzin Henry Dunanta (1828–1910), szwajcarskiego filantropa i finansisty – ojca idei Czerwonego Krzyża, obchodzony jest jako Międzynarodowy Dzień Czerwonego Krzyża i Czerwonego Półksiężyca – największej i najstarszej organizacji humanitarnej na świecie, która istnieje w 178 państwach i zrzesza ponad 100 milionów wolontariuszy. Symbol czerwony krzyż na białym tle jest odwrotnością flagi szwajcarskiej, a czerwony półksiężyc jest znakiem islamskiego odpowiednika Czerwonego Krzyża, organizacji, która powstała w 1876 roku w czasie wojny rosyjsko-tureckiej.

Polska, pozbawiona niepodległości, nie mogła być członkiem stowarzyszenia, ani nie miała prawa do powołania własnej organizacji czerwonokrzyżskiej. Polski Czerwony Krzyż powstał tuż po odzyskaniu przez Polskę wolności. Z inicjatywy Stowarzyszenia

Samarytanin Polski zwołano 18 stycznia 1919 naradę wszystkich istniejących na ziemiach polskich organizacji kierujących się w działaniu ideałami Czerwonego Krzyża. Organizacje te podczas narady odbywającej się pod patronatem Heleny Paderewskiej utworzyły Polskie Towarzystwo Czerwonego Krzyża.

PTCK zostało zarejestrowane przez Międzynarodowy Komitet Czerwonego Krzyża i uznane za jedyną organizację czerwonokrzyżską działającą na całym terytorium państwa polskiego 24 lipca 1919. Do Ligi Stowarzyszeń Czerwonego Krzyża zostało przyjęte 16 września 1919. Międzynarodowy Komitet Czerwonego Krzyża trzykrotnie otrzymał Pokojową Nagrodę Nobla, a założyciel organizacji, Henry Dunant, w roku 1901, był pierwszym jej laureatem.

Foto: Muzeum Czerwonego Krzyża i Czerwonego Półksiężyca w Genewie. (źródło: Wikipedia)



600-lecie Bitwy pod Grunwaldem 1410–2010 (c.d. ze strony 24)

polskich spod Grunwaldu, a po mszy i po przemówieniu Paderewskiego, pod odsłoniętym pomnikiem, 600-osobowy chór, składający się z członków

chorów działających we wszystkich zaborach, po raz pierwszy wykonał publicznie *Rotę*, do słów wiersza Marii Konopnickiej, skomponowaną przez Nowowiejskiego. Na tę wielką rocznicę został też namalowany przez uczniów Matejki, Tadeusza Popiela i Zygmunta Rozwadowskiego, wielki obraz przedstawiający Bitwę pod Grunwaldem. Cała uroczystość była wyrazem jedności, pomimo zaborów, i wielkiego ducha narodu, którego nie można pokonać.

W 600-letnią rocznicę, tak jak już od 12 lat, tylko że bardziej uroczysto, odegrana będzie na polach Grunwaldu inscenizacja bitwy z udziałem "rycerzy", miłośników średniowiecza z całego świata, w celu krzewienia historii i odtwarzania tradycji i dawnego rzemiosła. Na uroczystość przybędzie około stu tysięcy widzów, przybędą też delegacje zagraniczne i przywódcy państwowi. W programie są turnieje tematyczne, walki na kopie i maczugi, pokazy sztuki kuglarskiej, festiwal muzyki ludowej - wszystko we wspaniałej średniowiecznej atmosferze. Będzie to napewno niezapomniane widowisko.

Ignacy Paderewski – "Książę pianistów" (c.d. ze strony 23)

w 1922 r., wyjechał z kraju, osiadł w swojej siedzibie w Morges w Szwajcarii i powrócił do muzyki. Cały czas jednak śledził sytuację polityczną w Polsce i w Europie. W okresie II wojny światowej Paderewski jeszcze raz pojawił się na polskiej scenie politycznej, kiedy w 1940 r. został przewodniczącym Rady Narodowej w Londynie. Zmęczony już i schorowany ciągle jeszcze wygłaszał przemówienia polityczne, wzywał państwa sojusznicze do walki z Niemcami, mówił o okrucieństwie wojny i tragicznym losie narodu polskiego. Zmarł 29 czerwca 1941 r. w Nowym Jorku.

Wiele krajów obdarowało Paderewskiego najwyższymi zaszczytami w uznaniu zasług artystycznych, humanitarnych i patriotycznych, za hojność dla weteranów wojennych, środowisk twórczych i intelektualnych. Artysta otrzymał m.in. Order Imperium Brytyjskiego, francuską Legię Honorową, odznaczenia Belgii, Hiszpanii, Włoch, Rumunii, Saksonii, Lombardii, czy wreszcie Polski - Wielką Wstęgę Orderu Orła Białego, Order Polonia Restituta i pośmiertnie Virtuti Militari.

*"Paderewski in Poetry: Master of Harmonies or Poland's Savior?"
by Maja Trochimczyk (internet)

oprac. lmr

Ignacy Paderewski – “Księżę pianistów” i polityk

Wyleciałeś jako orle z gniazda
młodych skrzydeł doświadczyć potęgi [...]
By z wędrowki mozolnej a długiej
Przynieść Polsce swój wieniec zasługi [...]
I już jasność Twej gwiazdy nie skona,
Bo ojczyzna Twą sławą... wstawiona.

*Julian A. Świącicki: Greetings to Paderewski (fragment)**

To wygłoszone w Warszawie w 1899 roku, na przyjęciu na jego cześć, “przesłanie-życzenie” Paderewski spełnił, i jako wielki artysta, jako polityk, hojny filantrop, człowiek wielkiego serca, uczciwości i rozumu przyspożył sławy swojej ojczyźnie.

Ignacy Jan Paderewski urodził się 6. października 1860 r. w Kurylówce na Podolu. Od wczesnych lat dziecięcych wykazywał zdolności muzyczne i w 1872 roku rozpoczął studia w Konserwatorium Warszawskim. W 1878 roku po otrzymaniu dyplomu podjął pracę w tejże uczelni jako nauczyciel fortepianu, a w 1881-82 kontynuował dalsze nauki w Berlinie, gdzie studiował kompozycję, instrumentację i kontrpunkt. W 1884 roku udał się do Wiednia i podjął studia pianistyczne u najlepszego pedagoga fortepianu w XIX w. – Teodora Leszetyckiego.

Początek wielkiej kariery muzycznej Ignacego Jana Paderewskiego przypadł na rok 1887. Rozpoczęła się ona koncertem na cele dobroczynne, w którym obok Paderewskiego wystąpiła słynna włoska śpiewaczka Paulina Lucca. Od chwili wiedeńskiego debiutu, stał się artysta powszechnie znanym i podziwianym. W 1888 roku odniósł kolejne sukcesy w Paryżu, gdzie okrzyknięto go największym wirtuozem po Chopinie. Od tego momentu sale koncertowe Europy stanęły przed nim otworem.

Wielkim sukcesem okazało się jego pierwsze tournée w latach 1891-1892 po Stanach Zjednoczonych, podczas którego dał 107 koncertów. Zyskał sławę jednego z największych pianistów, a jego kariera wirtuoza trwała ponad 50 lat. Paderewski odbył dwadzieścia tournée koncertowych w Stanach Zjednoczonych, dwukrotnie koncertował w Australii i Nowej Zelandii, grał w Ameryce Południowej i w Afryce oraz setki razy w Europie, od Madrytu po Petersburg. Wśród jego słuchaczy były koronowane głowy Europy, a królowa Victoria prosiła o prywatne koncerty. Grał Chopina, Liszta, Beethovena, Szumana i swoje własne utwory. Na jego repertuar koncertowy składało się około trzystu kompozycji. Ignacy Paderewski także komponował; jego utwory do dziś znajdują się w światowym repertuarze pianistycznym i orkiestrowym. Najsłynniejsze kompozycje to: Koncert a-moll na fortepian i orkiestrę op. 17 (1888), opera “Manru” (1900), Sonata fortepianowa es-moll op. 21 (1903), Symfonia h-moll “Polonia” (1907). Towarzyszący popularności sukces



finansowy artysta wykorzystał w działalności publicznej. Majątkiem dzielił się hojnie, zarówno z rodakami, jak i obywatelami wielu innych krajów. Zasiłał fundusze i fundacje, z jego udziałem finansowym powstawały sale koncertowe i pomniki, m.in. C. Debussy’ego i E. Colonne’a w Paryżu, pomnik Liszta w Weimarze, Beethovena w Bonn, Chopina w Żelazowej Woli i Kościuszki w Chicago.

Muzyka nie była jedyną pasją Paderewskiego; dla Polski zasłużył się nie tylko jako rostrawiający

jej imię artysta, ale także jako dyplomata działający na rzecz przywrócenia jej niepodległości. Od najmłodszych lat wychowywany w duchu patriotyzmu, syn powstańca z 1863 r., włączał się aktywnie w działania zmierzające do odzyskania dla kraju wolności. Pięknym i znaczącym gestem było ufundowanie Pomnika Grunwaldzkiego w Krakowie z okazji 500. rocznicy wielkiej bitwy (1910 r.). Mowa Paderewskiego z okazji uroczystości odsłonięcia przepojona była wiarą w odrodzenie kraju.

Po wybuchu I wojny światowej zaczął prowadzić szeroko zakrojoną działalność dyplomatyczną na rzecz Polski i Polaków. W 1915 r. wspólnie z H. Sienkiewiczem utworzył Komitet Pomocy Ofiarom Wojny w Polsce, a światowa sława obydu założycieli spowodowała, że sprawa Polski znalazła zainteresowanie wśród polityków w Europie i Ameryce. Tego samego roku wyjechał do Stanów Zjednoczonych, gdzie kontynuował swą działalność na rzecz Polski. Przed każdym ze swoich występów przemawiał na temat postulowanej przez niego niepodległości Polski. Zebrał 600 tys. podpisów pod apelem do prezydenta W. Wilsona o podjęcie działań zmierzających do przywrócenia niepodległości Polsce. Jego osobiste zaangażowanie i postawa Polonii Amerykańskiej przyniosły niewątpliwy sukces; sprawa Polski znalazła się w tzw. 14 punktach Wilsona, (1918), które określały program pokojowy po zakończeniu wojny. Punkt 13 postulował: “ Stworzenie niepodległego państwa polskiego na terytoriach zamieszkałych przez ludność polską, z wolnym dostępem do morza, niepodległością polityczną, gospodarczą, integralność terytoriów tego państwa ma być zagwarantowana przez konwencję międzynarodową.” W latach 1917-1919 Paderewski był członkiem Komitetu Narodowego Polskiego w Paryżu, przedstawicielstwa Polski na emigracji - namiastki rządu polskiego.

25 grudnia 1918 roku Paderewski powrócił do kraju i 16 stycznia 1919 r. objął funkcję premiera, a także stanowisko ministra spraw zagranicznych. Jego rząd był pierwszym rządem polskim uznanym zarówno w kraju, jak i za granicą. 28 czerwca 1919 r., stojąc na czele delegacji na konferencję w Paryżu podpisał wersalski traktat pokojowy. Czynną działalność polityczną zakończył

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600-lecie Bitwy pod Grunwaldem 1410–2010

“Gdzie są ich (tj. krzyżaków) miecze,
konie opancerzone, ludzie w stal zakuci
i uzbrojeni? Gdzie floreny i skarby nie-

zliczone, którym zaufali? Zawiodło wszystko!” - pisał w liście do Jagiełły Jan Hus, wielki reformator i przywódca czeskiego ruchu narodowego, gratulując królowi polskiemu zwycięstwa.

15 lipca 1410 r. na polach Grunwaldu wojska polskie, litewskie i ruskie, pod wodzą króla Władysława Jagiełły, rozgromiły siły krzyżackie. Tak zakończyła się jedna z największych bitew średniowiecznej Europy. Po stronie polsko-litewskiej walczyli Łotysze, Czesi, późniejsi Ukraińcy, Białorusini, Mołdawianie - ludy tzw. “Młodszej Europy”. Rycerze Zakonu Krzyżackiego, pochodzący głównie z krajów niemieckich, wspomagani byli przez przedstawicieli stanu rycerskiego z całej Europy Zachodniej - Francuzów, Anglików, Duńczyków, Włochów, Kastylijczyków, Aragończyków, którzy upatrywali możliwości awansu i wzbogacenia się na “nowych ziemiach”.

W swoim przemówieniu na inauguracji obchodów 600. rocznicy prof. H. Samsonowicz powiedział: “To właśnie owo pierwsze w dziejach tak spektakularne pokonanie zakonu krzyżackiego wprowadziło Polaków do grona najważniejszych, najbardziej wpływowych nacji kontynentu europejskiego. Jestem pewien, że gdyby wtedy istniała Organizacja Narodów Zjednoczonych,

to właśnie po Grunwaldzie państwo polskie znalazłoby stałe miejsce w ówczesnej Radzie Bezpieczeństwa.”

Bitwa pod Grunwaldem na trwałe wpisała się w polską historię jako symbol zwycięstwa, i pamięć o niej towarzyszyła losom państwa i narodu. Przez wszystkie lata rocznice Grunwaldu były pamiętane w kazaniach wygłaszanych na tę okoliczność, a pamięć o bitwie żyła także w przekazie ustnym, w legendach i pieśniach. Szczególnie bogaty pod tym względem jest folklor Warmii i Mazur oraz Ziemi Lubawskiej, gdzie tradycja grunwaldzka odgrywała ważną rolę w umacnianiu przywiązania do polskości. W XIX i na początku XX wieku, kiedy Polska była pod zaborami, a także w czasie II Wojny Światowej, Grunwald stał się symbolem walki uwiecznionej zwycięstwem, nadziei i wiary w siły narodu. Wielkość zwycięstwa grunwaldzkiego służyła “ku pokrzepieniu serc” i miała przeciwdziałać propagandzie niemieckiej, usiłującej tendencyjnie pomniejszyć rolę i znaczenie narodu polskiego w przeszłości. Taka idea przyświecała H. Sienkiewiczowi, kiedy pisał “Krzyżaków” i J. Matejce kiedy malował “Bitwę pod Grunwaldem”. Tak rozumiany był symbolizm bitwy przez Wyspiańskiego, kiedy w *Weselu* stworzył postać Zawiszy Czarnego – polskiego rycerza spod Grunwaldu, żeby przekonać naród o potrzebie wykrzesania wielkiej siły do walki o niepodległość.

Wielką manifestacją tych idei były obchody 500-lecia bitwy grunwaldzkiej, które miały miejsce w Krakowie w 1910 r. Na uroczystość zjechało się około 150 tysięcy Polaków ze wszystkich zaborów. Na tę okazję Ignacy Paderewski ufundował Pomnik Grunwaldzki (dłuta Antoniego Wiwulskiego), który stanął na placu Ma-tejki. W czasie mszy dziekczynnej w Kościele Mariackim Feliks Nowowiejski grał na organach “Bogurodzicę” – pieśń rycerzy



“Bitwa pod Grunwaldem” - Tadeusz Popiel i Zygmunt Rozwadowski

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