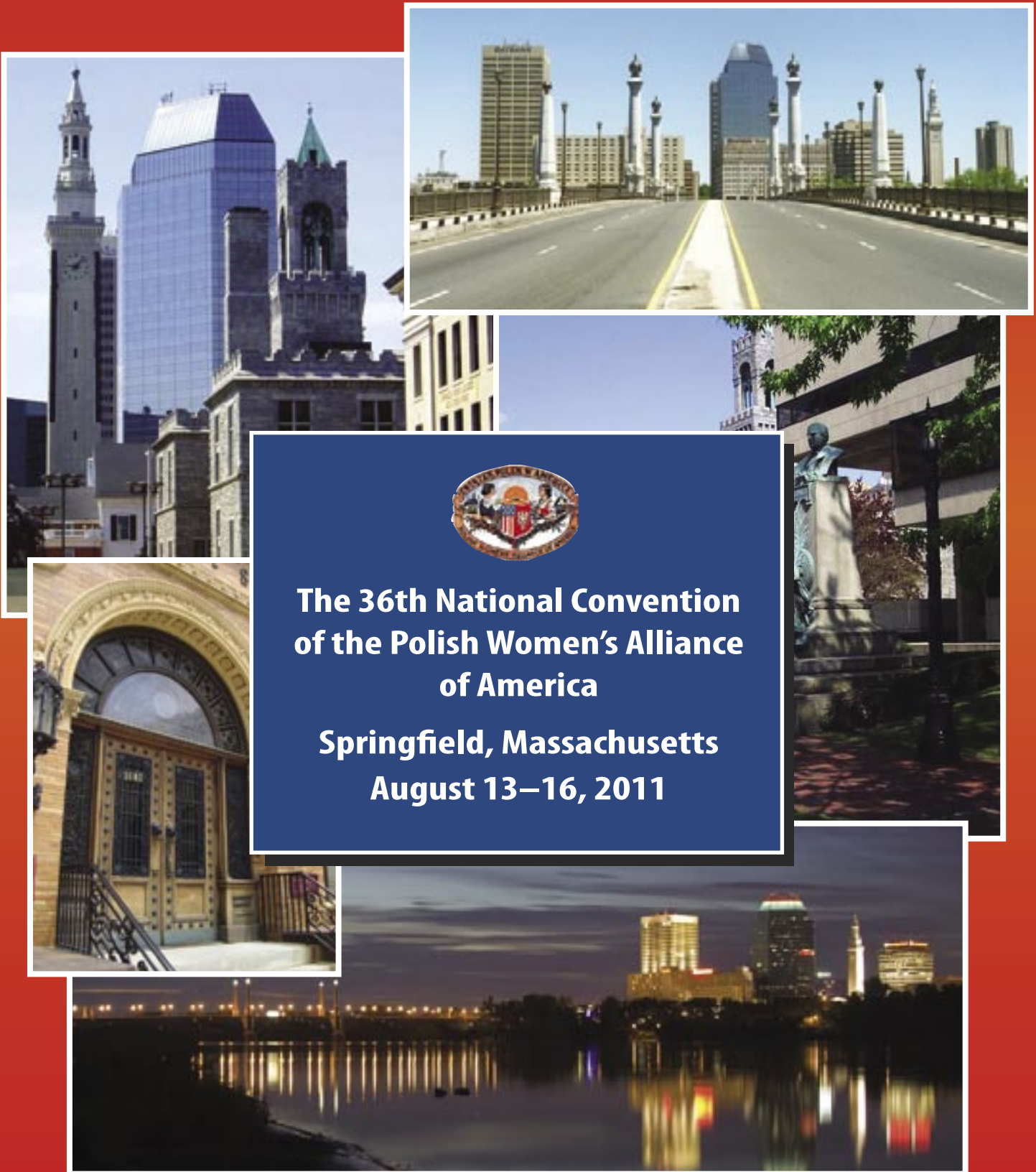


# GŁOS POLEK

POLISH WOMEN'S ALLIANCE OF AMERICA

SUMMER 2011 NO. 3 MMXI



**The 36th National Convention  
of the Polish Women's Alliance  
of America**

**Springfield, Massachusetts  
August 13–16, 2011**

*THE POLISH WOMEN'S VOICE* – PUBLICATION OF THE POLISH WOMEN'S ALLIANCE OF AMERICA  
*GŁOS POLEK* – ORGAN ZWIĄZKU POLEK W AMERYCE

## About Us and Our Newsletter

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**ZWIĄZKU POLEK W AMERYCE**  
Wychodzi cztery razy w roku

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**Cover:** Springfield, Massachusetts.  
Host city of the 36th National  
Convention of Polish Women's  
Alliance of America

### GŁOS POLEK DEADLINES

**The deadline is  
October 1, 2011  
for the Fall issue.**

**The deadline is  
January 1, 2012  
for the Winter issue.**

**The deadline is  
April 1, 2012  
for the Spring issue.**

**You can also contact us by e-mail or visit [www.pwaa.org](http://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**.

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Secretary-Treasurer Antoinette Trela Vander Noot – [secretarytreasurer@pwaa.org](mailto:secretarytreasurer@pwaa.org)  
Głos Polek Editors – [editor@pwaa.org](mailto:editor@pwaa.org)



*Dear Members and Freinds,*

Welcome to the Convention issue of *Głos Polek*! The 36th National Convention of Polish Women's Alliance of America will be held in Springfield, Massachusetts, from August 13 to 16, 2011. As the Convention Delegates arrive in this beautiful and historic city, we'd like to greet them warmly and look forward with confidence to a productive and successful Convention. We express our sincere thanks to District VIII Massachusetts and the Pre-Convention Committee with Jennie Starzyk Benton as Chair for the preparations and arrangements they have made for the Delegates and Guests.

In this issue you will find the announcements of candidacies for the General Administration as submitted by the Nominations Committee and you will also find the Amendments to the Constitution as submitted by the Committee on Constitutional Amendments. Delegates will be voting on the candidates for National Office and on each proposed amendment, but all members are encouraged to review them carefully and discuss them with the Delegates who will represent their Groups and Councils at the Convention. This is your opportunity to influence the direction of our organization for the next four years.

In other news, we are again sponsoring a Summer Cultural Program in Poland for our youth members; the Scholarship Committee has sent out the award notifications and the names and photographs of our scholarship recipients for 2011-2012 will be published in the next issue of *Głos Polek*; and we have closed the *Głos Polek* Centennial Exhibition in its second venue at the Polish Center of Wisconsin. The Exhibition will also be on view during the National Convention in Springfield.

I would like to wish our Members and Friends a safe and happy summer, our students much success as they head back to school at the end of August, and our Delegates a productive and memorable Convention. I look forward to seeing many of you in Springfield and thank all of you for your hard work and support during the past four years. They were challenging years in many ways, but they brought progress to our organization, although much still remains to be done. They also brought much joy and satisfaction to me personally.

May our Patroness, Our Lady of Czestochowa, keep our Delegates in her care as they travel and deliberate, and may she bless our Convention and our beloved organization.

Faternally,

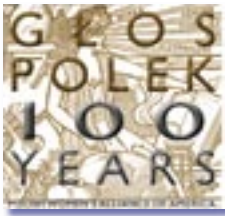
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Virginia Sikora".

Virginia Sikora  
National President



## "Głos Polek" Exhibition

### Głos Polek Exhibition Opening at the Polish Center of Wisconsin



Franklin, WI—The *Głos Polek* Centennial Exhibition, *A Voice of Their Own*, opened at its second venue, the Polish Center of Wisconsin, on Friday, May 6, 2011. The Polish Center of Wisconsin is located on a wooded hillside in Franklin, a suburb of Milwaukee, and the windows of the gallery space, where the exhibition was installed, looked out on budding trees and a sparkling blue lake, providing a beautiful spring backdrop for the Exhibition Opening.

Many PWA members from Wisconsin and Illinois, representatives of Polish American organizations, and guests attended the Opening. English Editor of *Głos Polek*, Mary Piergies, opened the short program and introduced National President Virginia Sikora, who welcomed the guests and thanked the Polish Center and PWA District VI for their hospitality and assistance. The next speaker was District VI President Diane Reeve, who introduced special guests, including Milwaukee Alderman Mr. Joe Dudzik, and Council VI officers Penny Manke and Diane Jones, who had helped with the planning of the Opening. Alderman Dudzik presented Virginia Sikora with proclamations from the Milwaukee City Council, from the Mayor of Milwaukee Tom Barrett, and the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors. The Proclamations paid tribute to the PWA, the *Głos Polek* Centennial, and the Exhibition. The Director of the Polish Center of Wisconsin LuAnn Launstein was the last speaker, and she expressed how excited the Center was to be hosting this Exhibition about a very special chapter of Polish American history.

There are many people to thank for their help in transporting and installing the Exhibition and for planning and promoting the Opening: Polish Center of Wisconsin Director LuAnn Launstein and her staff; District VI members Diane Reeve, Penny Manke, and Diane Jones; PWA member GG Jones, for taking photographs of the event; President Virginia Sikora, Vice President Sharon Zago, and Sales Director Bo Padowski for representing the Home Office at the Opening; Polanki President Susan Mikos for initiating and facilitating the bringing of the Exhibition to Wisconsin over a year ago; Exhibition curator Maya Piergies; and Danuta Zarek, Lidia Rozmus, and Barbara Mirecki for installing the exhibition so professionally and effectively. Finally, sincere thanks to the Culture Committee of the Polish Center of Wisconsin for generously hosting the elegant reception. Serdeczne Bóg Zapłać to all.

The Exhibition closes at the Polish Center of Wisconsin on June 26, 2011, and will next be on view at the National Convention in Springfield, Massachusetts in August.



*Alderman Joseph Dudzik presented three Proclamations from the Mayor, the City Council, and the County of Milwaukee honoring the Centennial of Głos Polek to National President Virginia Sikora at the Opening. In photo from left, Alderman Dudzik, District VI Wisconsin President Diane Reeve, President Sikora, and Vice President Sharon Zago.*



*PWA Sales Director Bo Padowski with PNA National Director Hady Rabiega*



*Former National Treasurer Barbara Miller with husband, Laurence Miller*



*From left, Sales Director Bo Padowski, Polish Editor Lidia Rozmus, President Virginia Sikora, Alderman Joe Dudzik, District VI President Diane Reeve, Vice President Sharon Zago, and English Editor Mary Piergies.*

Photos: G. Jones, L. Rozmus

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### **Saturday, July 9**

Council 9 Meeting at 1 p.m. at St John Brebeuf Parish, 8307 N Harlem Ave., Niles, Conference Room 3. Contact: Laura Pawlowski, President, at (708) 945-7489. Bring a friend and catch up on the latest news. Refreshments are always welcome.

### **Saturday, July 16**

District I Pre-Convention meeting at the House of the White Eagle, Niles, IL, from 4 to 6 p.m. All Delegates to the National Convention are urged to attend this informative and important meeting. Contact District I President Lidia Filus at 773-442-5784 or L-Filus@neiu.edu

### **Tuesday, July 26**

Polish American Day at Chicago's Cellular Park. White Sox vs. Detroit Tigers, game starts at 7:10 p.m. PWA Vice President Sharon Zago to throw out the first pitch. Please call 1-888-522-1898 ext 208 for discount tickets.

### **Saturday, July 30**

District XIV's Tenth Annual Scholarship Breakfast at 9:30 a.m. at Terry's Diner, Moosic, PA. Scholarship recipients, families, friends, and District members and guests are encouraged to attend. For reservations and more information contact District XIV President Helen Lopez at 570-735-1066.

### **August 13 – August 16**

36th National Convention of Polish Women's Alliance, Marriott Hotel, Springfield, Massachusetts. Please call the Office of the Secretary Treasurer at 888-522-1898 ext 206 for more information or check the Convention News Page at [www.pwaa.org](http://www.pwaa.org).

### **Friday, August 26**

Council 13 will host the District I Patron's Day Celebration celebrating the feastday of the Patroness of Polish Women's Alliance, Our Lady of Czestochowa, at St. Joseph Church in Summit, Illinois, with a Mass at 11 a.m. followed by luncheon at the European Chalet. Contact Council 13 President Helen Wojcik at 773-586-9234.

### **Sunday, August 28**

PWA Day at Our Lady of Czestochowa Shrine in Doylestown, PA. For details, please contact Vice President Sharon Zago 1-888-522-1898 ext 208.

### **Saturday, September 17**

Council 9 meeting at 1 p.m. at St Bartholomew Parish, Lower Church Hall, corner of Addison and Laverne. Group 819 will host their annual Penny Social following the meeting. Donations are welcome for the sale. Contact Sylvia Kania for Penny Social information at 773-985-7807, 773-780-4750, or [kaniasylvia@yahoo.com](mailto:kaniasylvia@yahoo.com). Contact Laura Pawlowski for Council information at 708-945-7489.

## Attention Delegates to the 36th National Convention

For all Delegates arriving at and departing from Bradley Airport in Hartford, CT on Saturday, August 13th and Wednesday, August 17th respectively, transportation will be provided between the Hartford Airport and the Marriott Hotel in Springfield, MA. Transportation is being coordinated by PWA District 9, Sophie Marshall, President.

If you have not already done so, you must contact Ruth Susmarski, Assistant to the President, at 888-522-1898 ext. 201 to advise her of your travel itinerary.

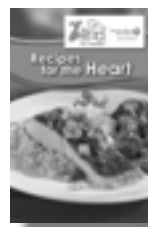
Upon arrival on Saturday, you should collect your luggage at the lower level Baggage Claim Area. Even if you do not have checked luggage, proceed to the Baggage Claim Area. Look for greeters holding signs with the PWAA logo. It may take a few moments for you to make contact, as Delegates will be arriving from numerous cities.

Do not leave the Baggage Claim Area until you have been met by a PWA greeter and instructed as to where to board the bus/van for transport to the Hotel.

On Wednesday, August 17th, transportation will be provided from the Hotel back to Bradley Airport for your trip home.

Wishing you a safe trip and looking forward to seeing you in Springfield, MA!

### **American Heart Association Go Red for Women Drive**



For donations from \$10 to \$24  
Gifts: Go Red pin & Track Card

For donations over \$25  
Gifts: Go Red pin, Track Card,  
and Go Red Cookbook



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to: PWA Educational & Charitable  
Foundation – Memo: AHA

Send to: **Polish Women's Alliance – AHA Drive**  
**6643 N. Northwest Hwy, 2nd Fl., Chicago, IL 60631**

### *Welcome to our New Members!*

**A warm welcome is extended to these new members.**

**For March, April, and May**

<b>Gr.</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Introduced by</b>	<b>City/State</b>
0009	Charlie R Jordan	Home Office	Sterling, CT
0022	Kyle J Burgess	Adeline Kulbieda	Roselle, IL
0031	Gerald R Malewicki	Home Office	Lansing, IL
0043	Tatiana Prince	Home Office	Chicago, IL
0043	Jolanta H Czajkowski	Grace Dubowski	Chicago, IL
0043	Jozefa A Nowobilski	Grace Dubowski	Burbank, IL
0049	Evan C Sheehan	Valerie Bilchak	Manchester, MD
0061	Timothy J Weglarz	Home Office	Tinley Park, IL
0061	Jessica P Weglarz	Home Office	Tinley Park, IL
0083	Brennen T Hendrix	Sylvia Kania	Granite City, IL
0105	John V Stavish	Home Office	Scranton, PA
0114	Gabriella Makowski	Teresa Makowski	Chicago, IL
0114	Dominick J Wisniewski	Halina I Wisniewski	Mount Prospect, IL
0114	Danuta E Peszynski	Home Office	Des Plaines, IL
0128	Timothy P Williamson Jr	Alice Barsic	Alexandria, VA
0132	Kimberly A Klein	Mary Ann Michalak	Munster, IN
0189	Leah N Kucera	Rosemarie Kucera	Burlington, WI
0211	Elzbieta Sidorkiewicz	Home Office	Des Plaines, IL
0211	Nicholas Tovar	Home Office	Chicago, IL
0214	Nathan E Konop	Mary Ann Konop	North Versailles, PA
0214	Joslin A Kelly	Mary Ann Konop	New Kensington, PA
0226	Joanna Kasianowicz	Social Member	Cedar Springs, MI
0248	Maleana Raymond	Home Office	Napa, CA
0267	Greyson D Williams	Home Office	Drums, PA
0267	Caitlin E Waninger	Home Office	Quakertown, PA
0267	Scot J Coyne	Bertha Kuckla	Dupont, PA
0267	Colin P Waninger	Home Office	Quakertown, PA
0277	Ryan J Kanapsky	Jane Topor	Commerce TWP., MI
0318	Josie G Niemiec	Frances J Niemiec	Livonia, MI
0348	Sean Gildea	Jean Scupski	Sugar Notch, PA
0356	Rylyn Sempek	Margurite Thiltges	Bennington, NE
0388	Jordan Calta	Home Office	Lake Villa, IL
0388	Katie Calta	Home Office	Lake Villa, IL
0409	Leah A Laird	Joan Wawrzynkiewicz	Shawnee, KS
0417	Nathan X Enslin	Home Office	Abingdon, MD
0440	Kassandra Olejniczak	Home Office	Arlington Hts, IL
0440	Jacqueline Scislowski	Home Office	Arlington Hts, IL
0440	Matthew Scislowski	Home Office	Arlington Hts, IL
0450	Robert F Geiser IV	Bernardine Regis	Hudson, PA
0480	Shane D Derwinski	Sylvia Kania	Chicago, IL
0480	Brody T Derwinski	Sylvia Kania	Chicago, IL
0499	William T Callahan	Alvira Balut	Cedar Rapids, IA
0509	Haley Barnak	Dorothy Wisneski	Cleona, PA



*Welcome to our New Members! (cont'd)*

<b>Gr.</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Introduced by</b>	<b>City/State</b>
0509	Giacomo Montesanti	Dorothy Wisneski	Guilford, CT
0509	Mary A Lowry	Dorothy Wisneski	Mountaintop, PA
0525	Avery S Kopf	Theresa Fic	Park Ridge, IL
0525	Addison M Kopf	Theresa Fic	Park Ridge, IL
0530	Irelyn R Iracki	Julia Iracki	Wilkes Barre, PA
0562	Dylan C Leahy	Evelyn Lisek	Decatur, GA
0562	Evy K Vedo	Evelyn Lisek	Chicago, IL
0591	Arthur P Giordano	Home Office	Monroe Twp, NJ
0598	Hanna Kwapniewski	Marion Listwan	N Arlington, NJ
0598	Casey Thibeault	Marion Listwan	Matthews, NC
0598	Madison A Kwapniewski	Marion Listwan	N Arlington, NJ
0598	Milena M Kwapniewski	Marion Listwan	Lyndhurst, NK
0616	Meredith Bayus	Shaina Geml	Grosse Pte Woods, MI
0658	Zander Schmidt	Alyce Schmidt	Old Forge, PA
0658	Chelsea J Chaytor	Home Office	Plainsboro, NJ
0675	Sarah I Hess	Christine Hess	Willow Grove, PA
0675	Nathan S Hess	Christine Hess	Willow Grove, PA
0675	Joseph W Hess	Christine Hess	North Hills, PA
0677	Alexandra Siwulec	Home Office	Rumson, NJ
0721	Bailey K Maul	Kathryn L Mackovyak	Portage, PA
0752	Izabella L Kaymark	Home Office	Anaheim, CA
0763	Jillian M Warner	Home Office	Baltimore, MD
0769	Claire Edwards	Shaina Geml	Rochester Hills, MI
0769	Erica R Geml	Shaina Geml	Warren, MI
0769	Abigail Dowie	Angela Tomczyk	Canton, GA
0769	Veronica L MacDormott	Angela Tomczyk	Warren, MI
0769	Gabriel T Dowie	Angela Tomczyk	Canton, GA
0769	Tyler Shinavier	Shaina Geml	Lake Orion, MI
0769	Hannah Dowie	Angela Tomczyk	Canton, GA
0769	Shelby Shinavier	Shaina Geml	Lake Orion, MI
0769	Emaleigh J Rakus	Angela M Tomczyk	Warren, MI
0786	Emily C Patyna	Cynthia Piepszak	Commerce Twp, MI
0786	Isabella M Fedele-Szyndlar	Cynthia Piepszak	Warren, MI
0786	Alexander A Szyndlar	Cynthia Piepszak	Warren, MI
0786	Jadyn J Chyba	Barbara Misiolek-Gamble	Shelby Twp, MI
0786	Prestyn J Chyba	Barbara Misiolek-Gamble	Shelby Twp, MI
0786	Noah P Patyna	Cynthia Piepszak	Commerce Twp, MI
0786	Lucyna V Wendt	Home Office	Brighton, MI
0814	B R Cerajewski	Social Member	Los Angeles, CA
0821	Adrian Tolczyk	Czeslawa Kolak	Park Ridge, IL
0821	Sylvia Tolczyk	Czeslawa Kolak	Park Ridge, IL
0821	Joseph Dzik	Home Office	Niles, IL
0821	Anita Dzik	Home Office	Niles, IL
0821	Krystyna Dziemian	Home Office	Chicago, IL

# Candidates for National Office



## CANDIDATES FOR OFFICE IN THE GENERAL ADMINISTRATION OF POLISH WOMEN'S ALLIANCE OF AMERICA

### *Candidate for the Office of National President*



**Virginia Sikora**

August is convention time for the Polish Women's Alliance. And Convention time for me is decision-making time. I must make a decision whether I wish to run for the position of National President of the Polish Women's Alliance of America, thus seeking a fourth term for this office. It didn't take much time to make that decision. With the serious encouragement I received from many PWA members and friends, I could see only

one possible conclusion, one possible answer:

Yes! Yes! Yes!

I wish to declare my candidacy for another term for the office of National President of the Polish Women's Alliance, and I wish to inaugurate my campaign with the same challenging words I used for all of my campaigns in the past: "Forward ... Together!"

Those words capture the spirit and plan for all of my initiatives of the past. They express succinctly how I approach every Presidential activity. We must make "Progress," and we must do it "Together." Let me repeat the words I used four years ago in my announcement to run for the office of National President:

"If you were to ask me how I would describe my eight-year tenure as National President, I think I would begin my answer with these very same words because I think they describe accurately my two terms.

"'Forward' -- that was the direction of all my plans, that was the direction of all my decisions, that was the direction of all my actions -- 'Forward' into the future, 'Forward in the spirit of progress, 'Forward' for the betterment of our beloved Polish Women's Alliance.

"And the second part -- 'Together' -- that was the spirit of all my deliberations, all of my actions, all of my projects. It was my attempt to implement a basic principle of fraternal philosophy, 'In unity there is strength.' I believe that for the past eight years, you have been on-the-scene witnesses of my presidential tenure. The Polish Women's Alliance has consistently and faithfully loved 'Forward ... Together.'"

Looking back at the last four years of my presidential per-

formance, and adding to those the eight years before that, I must say that four more years as National President will afford me the opportunity to complete the projects I have begun and a chance to introduce new ones.

One large area of planning and action that needs to be continued is the area of electronic high technology. So much is happening and at such a rapid pace that we must keep abreast of all the new developments that will streamline and benefit our office procedures and save us money through great efficiencies.

Identifying new demographics and developing and launching new insurance programs and packages is an ongoing requirement. One exciting example of this is "Pre-Need Insurance for Funerals and Their Arrangements." We are also committed to exploring new opportunities to sell insurance programs that are attractive to the younger generation.

One time-consuming but essential activity is keeping up with all of the insurance regulation changes in the States where we are licensed to sell insurance -- laws with which we must conform.

We want to continue our Summer Youth Program of having our youth between the ages of twelve and fifteen, whose primary language is English, visit Poland to learn its history and culture, to be exposed to its customs and traditions, to sample Polish food, to visit important sites, and to learn at least a smattering of Polish vocabulary: We continue to do this with the cooperation of the Polish American Congress Charitable Foundation (of which I am the President), the parents of the children, and the PWA.

Other areas to which I would direct my attention are:

1. Continued cooperation of the PWA in the Polish Cultural projects already begun and the introduction of new ones for the benefit of our membership. This also includes social services, teaching forums, and other practical services.
2. Work on specific new activities to attract new members, especially both old and new immigrants.
3. Participation in new strategies for our investment plans and to respond to changing trends in our country's financial situations.

These are just a few of the things I want to work on and bring to successful fruition.

All of this can happen only if we -- the National Officers, National Directors, District Presidents, local Officers, and all the members of the PWA -- go "Forward ... Together."



## Candidates for National Office

And so I appeal to you for your support and for your vote in my effort to be re-elected National President of the Polish Women's Alliance of America.

Teraz proszę po raz czwarty o wasze poparcie i głosy, abym mogła dalej skutecznie pracować dla naszego kochanego Związku, abym mogła dokonać sprawy już rozpoczętej, i wprowadzić nowe pomysły dla dobra naszej organizacji. Moje stare ale skuteczne hasło "Naprzód ... Razem" przypomina mi codziennie, gdzie i jak dążymy do naszego wspólnego celu: dobro i przyszłość Związku Polek. Proszę o wasze poparcie i głosy. Niech wam dobry Bóg błogosławi a Matka Boska Częstochowska, nasza Patronka, nas prowadzi i się nami opiekuje.

**Virginia Sikora**

### Candidate for the Office of National President



**Lidia Filus**

*Niech nasz Związek Polek żyje,  
z Bogiem się rozwija.  
Siostra każda ducha krzepi,  
nigdy nie zabija!*

Słowa Hymnu Związku Polek w Ameryce pragnę ogłosić swoją gotowość do służby na rzecz naszej siostrzanej organizacji o bogatych, pięknych i wzniosłych tradycjach, które przyświecały jej założycielkom.

I wish to declare my candidacy for the Office of National President and I wish to begin my service faithful to the universal values represented by the organization's founders, with the help of PWA's Patroness, Our Lady of Czestochowa. As an educator with almost 40 years of experience I hold understanding and serving the community as important priorities. My extensive service in the university faculty governance system and in professional and community organizations speaks to my commitment and strong organizational skills which will be of benefit both to the leadership and to the membership I would serve. My mathematical background with emphases on application to economics, business, decision theory, risk analysis, and actuarial sciences makes me an ideal candidate for this position.

During my career as an educator I was exposed to a broad range of responsibilities, which gave me an opportunity to interact with different individuals on and off the university campus. I have been able to develop an excellent working relationship with them and proved to be an individual who can work efficiently with diverse groups. I have served the university community in different capacities. Secretary of the Faculty Senate, Secretary and Chair of the

Faculty Council on Academic Affairs, University Planning and Budgetary Council, Strategic Planning Committee, Internal Audit Committee, University Personnel Committee, and Associate Dean of Arts & Sciences are a few examples of my service to Northeastern Illinois University (NEIU). I have served the University Professionals of Illinois as the NEIU Chapter Treasurer. I was instrumental in developing an exchange program between NEIU and Poland. For my services, I received the Faculty Excellence Award several times.

I have a record of successful leadership in community organizations such as President of the Council of Educators in Polonia and President of the Chicago Chapter of the Kosciuszko Foundation, as well as records of successful cooperation with other organizations. My service in education was recognized by special awards from the Council of Educators in Polonia and Citibank. For my leadership role in the Polish community, I was awarded the Order of Merit of the Republic of Poland by the late President of Poland, Lech Kaczynski.

I served PWA as the founding member and treasurer of St. Queen Jadwiga Millennium Group 821, Council 27 President and Vice President, and currently as President of District I. I also served on the organization committee to found the Maria Sklodowska-Curie Polish Saturday School, presently under District I patronage. I was Queen of May. I served on the Budget Committee at the 34th National Convention; on the Rules and Order Committee at the 35th National Convention; and on the Permanent Budget Committee between the 34th and 35th Conventions.

As an educator, I know that the most effective model of leadership is to lead by example. We are fortunate to live in times which gave us such a great role model as the Blessed John Paul II. He teaches us how to communicate with individuals from diverse groups, generations, and nations.

Another great model, to whom the present year is dedicated, is the greatest Polish woman scientist, Maria Sklodowska-Curie, an honorary member of PWA. She dedicated her life and her talents to serve science and people.

It's time to take an example from those two great and at the same time humble heroes of all times. Everybody has a talent which has to be discovered, nurtured, developed, and used for creating a better organization and a better society. This cannot be accomplished by one person, but we can do it together and, as stated in our organization's anthem, we can move forward from fraternity to solidarity.

*Razem, więc razem, dobrą wolą świećmy.  
Zgodę i szlachetność społeczeństwu nieśmy!*

I can promise that I will not disappoint you if you elect me.

Faternally yours,

**Lidia Filus**

# Candidates for National Office

## Candidate for the Office of National President



Members of the Nominating Committee and Delegates:

Growing up in a Polish Catholic home, my mother always stressed to us that "God comes first." She followed that with the phrase, "Bez Boga, ani do proga," meaning "Without God you cannot reach the threshold."

### Delphine Huneycutt

With that in mind, first and always, I give praise, honor, and glory to God. In His name I declare my candidacy for the Office of National President.

Some of you do not know me, so allow me to introduce myself. My name is Delphine Huneycutt. I am Polish by birth. My father was born in Domaradz, Poland, and immigrated to America at the age of 18. My mother was born in Cohose, New York, but was raised in the village of Lodz, Poland. I am a mid-westerner, and have lived in Indiana my entire life.

My background in the world of business covers 45 years. I have worked as an administrative secretary for three different firms. I worked the normal business hours of 8 a.m to 5 p.m. I am not one to be idle, so I decided to put my evening hours to good use and opened my own business – a grocery store which I named "Dolly's Grocery."

I had no previous experience in this area – just a lot of enthusiasm. I employed one manager who took care of the store while I worked my daytime job. I worked the night shift to closing. With God's help, the store was a huge success. Working twenty hours and sleeping four each day was a real eye opener. I learned not only how to work hard, but how to run a business effectively. I eventually got out of the grocery business and spent more time with my two children.

My children grew older, and as their activities moved from the home to school to sports and to scouts, I again needed something to fill my idle time. My evenings for the past 20 years have been spent working in customer service at three major retail stores. I learned a variety of jobs and firmly believe that experience is the best teacher.

I have been a member of the Polish Women's Alliance for over 30 years. I have been the President of PWA Group 132 (Our Lady of Consolation, East Chicago, Indiana) and I am also the Recording Secretary in Council 21. I am ending my two-year term as District 3 Indiana State President and chose not to seek a third term.

As District 3 State President, I worked to promote our Polish heritage, culture, and traditions. I started a yearly

Wigilia celebration as a scholarship fundraiser. Our Wigilia begins with a Polish Mass at the Carmelite Monastery in Munster, Indiana. The St. Cecilia Choir (of which I am a member) sings our beautiful Polish Hymns and we have dinner which includes sharing the Oplatek. Our Wigilia celebration has grown throughout the past eight years. Adult children make the Wigilia a Christmas gift to their aged parents – and the evening is a memory the parents remember.

With the success of our Wigilia, our second scholarship fundraiser was followed by Swieconka. This too has been successful. Our PWA members from Group 128 and the President from Council 21 have worked with me to make our two events a success. I am grateful to them for their time, ideas, and support.

All non-profit organizations are invited to decorate a Christmas Tree at the Indiana Tourist Center during the Christmas season. My PWA members were there to give support. We are proud to say our Polish Christmas Tree won First Prize for two years, back-to-back.

The first National Convention I attended was in Buffalo, New York, in 1991. I was Chairman of the Credentials Committee and I have served as chairman of a committee for every National Convention that has followed: Election Chair - 1995. Rules and Order Chair - 1999, Credentials Chair - 2003. I had the privilege of serving as the Convention Chairman at the National Convention in 2007.

We have a great organization, but there is potential for it to be even better. I have grand plans for our organization:

- I believe we need the active involvement of our youth in the PWA. I want out younger members to have a voice and the opportunity to actively work with us in the organization. I would like to start a mentoring program, make National Officers more accessible to them, and give them a page in the *Głos Polek*, where they can share their interests with other young people in other groups.
- I find it unacceptable that once members reach the age of 96 they are no longer considered a member of the PWA and they must cash out their insurance holdings. For PWA members who have, or will, reach the age of insurance payment from the PWA. I will make every effort to see that those members receive "Lifetime Membership Status" with privileges in the PWA. This change, I believe, is important, necessary, and long overdue.
- I am in favor of giving our active groups an incentive to bring in more members and insurance applications. I believe organizations become more successful when there is a "Give and Take" partnership. I will also do my best to generate interest in re-activating our inactive groups. We can benefit by using the information and knowledge they have gained.

## Candidates for National Office

Four years ago, I made the decision to run for the Office of National President. At that time, I realized that I can be an effective National President. My goal is to make a significant difference in the organization for the better and I need your help.

In closing, I ask for your trust, your support, and most importantly, I want your vote. God bless you. Proszę o wasze poparcie mojej kandydatury. Dziękuję. Z Bogiem.

Respectfully submitted,

**Delphine Huneycutt**

### Candidate for the Office of National President



**Grazyna Migala**

Dear Delegates:

I, Grazyna Migala, do hereby submit my candidacy for the office of President of the Polish Women's Alliance of America.

I seek this office because of my deep respect for the ideals and goals of the PWA and my desire to carry on the tradition of service, which is the proud legacy of our organization. I have been approached by several individuals

asking if I plan to run again for National Office. Upon recalling what I accomplished when I was a national officer and the thought of being able to do so much more if I again had such an opportunity, I decided to run for the office of President of the Polish Women's Alliance.

I have been a member of the P.W.A. for over 25 years. I served this great organization for two terms as national officer, the first four years my position was as Secretary General, and from 2003 - 2007 when the name was changed, National Secretary. In those eight years I believe I accomplished a great deal, learned a lot, and worked hard to fulfill my obligations.

From the very beginning I felt that the work in the office was very important, but equally important was the growth of this organization. In my eight years in office I devoted my time to implement efficiency in the office, cutting staff and costs, and at the same time I tried to find ways to attract new members. I recall now that my greatest challenge awaited me when I first got elected and had to deal with an antiquated computer system, in the midst of the dreaded and fast-approaching Y2K. Within a few weeks I was able to find the right computer programmer and we converted all our computer data just before the deadline.

I learned a great deal from our longtime members and ad-

ditionally from organizational materials I studied, and throughout all of them I found a common spirit which motivated people to appreciate the important mission of the organization and a desire to join. I know that Our Founders served as examples for their contemporaries and for subsequent generations of Polish American women. They set noble and lofty goals of sacrifice, love, action, and faith. Thanks to the fact that the PWA was built on such strong foundations, it has endured to this day.

From the very beginning, the mission of the Polish Women's Alliance was to unite women of Polish descent in order to help each other in their daily lives, to upkeep their traditions, to encourage their children to learn about Polish culture and traditions, and to provide insurance. For those reasons they organized dancing groups, children's choirs, Polish language schools, etc. In that wonderful spirit, in 2000 I organized the Marie Skłodowska Curie Polish School, which is flourishing to this very day, with hundreds of children and their parents grateful for the opportunity to benefit from that school.

There is so much more that can be done. I ask all Delegates to please give me the opportunity to serve this organization as National President.

Drogi Delegatki:

Pragnę zgłosić swą kandydaturę na urząd Prezeski Związku Polek. Jestem członkinią Związku Polek od przeszło 25-ciu lat i dobrze władam językiem angielskim i polskim. Wierzę, że moje kwalifikacje profesjonalne i doświadczenie w pracy organizacyjnej przyczynią się do dalszych sukcesów Związku Polek. Uprzejmie proszę o poparcie mojej kandydatury.

Respectfully submitted,

**Grazyna Migala**

### GŁOS POLEK CONVENTION ISSUE

**Candidates for National  
Office continue on page 12  
and on pages 25-29**

**Special Pull-Out Section with  
Amendments to the Constitution  
pages 13-24**



# Candidates for National Office

## Candidate for the Office of National Vice President



**Sharon Zago**

Dear PWA Delegates  
and Members:

I, Sharon Zago, hereby declare my candidacy for the office of National Vice President of the Polish Women's Alliance of America. I am very grateful for the many opportunities that were presented to me to use my knowledge, dedication, and creativity to make our beloved organization open and inviting to all members. You have placed your

trust and confidence in me for the past 12 years. I now stand before you again at the 36th National PWAA Convention to ask you for that same support of my candidacy once again.

I would like to highlight some of the accomplishments achieved under my tenure during this last term. First and foremost, as chairman of Komitet Oswiaty, my committee, and I have strived to continue to offer the High School Senior Sports and High School Senior Academic Scholarships, the Junior/Senior Academic Scholarship for undergraduate college students, and the Jagiellonian Summer Program Scholarship. Even though the economy is going through hard times, we have not cut any of these academic programs but managed to add two additional awards to the high school scholarship category.

I have continued to forge bonds of cooperation with national Polish fraternal organizations to create joint youth competitions of sportsmanship and unity. As a result, in 2009, our PWAA youth members who were able to participate from all over the country took Second Place in the finals of the tournament. I have strived to make our organization a presence in the community through the creation of Polish American Days in cooperation with PNA, PRCUA, and PFA. These programs provide great social and discounted group benefits as well as a show of force for the Polish community. As Vice President, I have continued to manage annual PWAA contests that share our members' personal experiences, artistic and writing creativity, and promotion of the Polish language. As chair of Komitet Oswiaty, I diligently manage and search for ways to keep these accounts funded. Our strong Polish language schools in Chicago and Ohio and our energetic Polish dance schools in Michigan also benefit from these efforts.

As chairman of the Youth Committee, we were very proud to continue our educational youth conferences, which gives our young members the opportunity to personally meet and spend some time with other younger members of PWAA. I have continued to encourage all members to be connected to our traditional customs and traditions through various

means of communications and programs.

Since its beginning, the PWAA has conducted an annual pilgrimage to the Shrine at Our Lady of Czestochowa in Doylestown, PA, in August. I have been able to uphold this tradition through my strong organizational skills and proper planning, along with my ability to identify and disseminate proper communication.

I have shared with you some of the accomplishments that were established in this department under my tenure, but there is much more work to be done. PWAA membership participation has increased in areas we have not dreamed of before. This is a good start but we must not rest. We must continue our networking, we must continue our analysis of membership expectations, and we must continue using our talents to make this your organization.

This is not an easy task and those who have tried before know the challenges that must be faced. Even though this is a difficult area in all fraternal organizations, I will strive to go forward with strength and confidence that it can be done. We must not break with tradition but find new and contemporary ways to connect with it. We must reconnect with our customs, our heritage, and our spirit through the PWAA. PWAA must be prepared to go into the next century. We must reconnect as members and we must take what we do know that works and build on it. Reconnecting members with PWAA through creative, contemporary programs with participation for all ages (not just one age group) by using my experience and creativity will be my focus and primary goal for the next four years.

I HUMBLY ASK FOR YOUR  
VOTE AND SUPPORT IN THIS ELECTION!  
UPRZEJMIEM PROSZĘ O POPARCIE  
MOJEJ KANDYDATURY W TYCH WYBORACH!  
RE-ELECT SHARON ZAGO

Candidates continued on page 25

**Niech nasz Związek Polek żyje**

**Niech nasz Związek Polek żyje  
Z Bogiem się rozwija,  
Siostra każda, ducha krzepi,  
Nigdy nie zabija!**

**Razem, więc razem,  
Dobłą wolą świećmy.  
Zgodę i szlachetność  
Społeczeństwu nieśmy!**



## PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE POLISH WOMEN'S ALLIANCE OF AMERICA



Presented to the Delegates of the 36th National Convention  
Springfield, Massachusetts,  
August 2011



All additions are underlined and in red and all deletions are lined out and in red. Where no changes have been proposed, those Articles and Paragraphs are not mentioned.

Although every effort has been made to carefully present the proposed amendments, any errors printed here will be addressed during the discussion of these proposed Amendments on the National Convention floor.

### ARTICLE II

Par. 3. Groups, ~~Youth Divisions, Councils,~~ and Districts make up the structure of the P.W.A.

- A Group consists of at least fifteen (15) adult members.
- ~~A Youth Division consists of members under eighteen (18) years of age.~~
- ~~A Council shall be composed of at least two (2) Groups.~~
- A District covers a geographic area which includes the ~~Council(s) and~~ Groups.

### ARTICLE III

Par. 11. With the advice and consent of ~~the Pre-Con-  
vention Committee and the~~ District Presidents and the General  
Administration, the President shall appoint the Officers of the National Convention.

Par. 12. The President and, after their installation-  
appointment, the Officers of the National Convention shall conduct the business of the National Convention in the order established in Article IV.

### ARTICLE IV

Par. 1. Every Active Group of the P.W.A. ~~that is not  
in arrears in the payments of its premiums and its Council dues~~ shall be entitled to one (1) delegate for the first one hundred (100) members. An Active Group shall be entitled to one (1) additional delegate for each additional one hundred (100) members or portion thereof. By way of example, an Active Group having a membership of 101 to 200 members inclusive shall be entitled to two (2) delegates, and an Active Group having a membership of 201 to 300 members inclusive shall be entitled to three (3) delegates, and so on. The number of

delegates shall be based on the number of members of the Active Group as of September 30 of the year prior to the year of the National Convention. For purposes of determining the count of delegates to the National Convention, the Secretary/Treasurer shall total the number of active certificates, paid-up certificate members, and annuity contracts in the Group, ~~and in the Youth Division~~. Each member of an Active Group shall be counted only once, notwithstanding the number of certificates or annuity contracts owned by any such members.

Par. 3. Only adult beneficial members who meet the following additional requirements qualify to be elected delegates and alternates of the Groups:

- (a) Membership in the Group for at least three (3) years, or six (6) months in the case of a newly-organized Group;
- (b) Attendance of at least one half of the meetings of the Group in the course of the previous calendar year;
- (c) Must be in good standing with no delinquent loans or premiums;
- (d) No national officer of another fraternal organization may be a delegate or alternate to the P.W.A. National Convention.

Par. 6. Delegates who have credentials accepted by the National Convention are entitled to participate in the deliberations. The National President, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer, Directors, and District Presidents ~~and Council  
Presidents~~ shall be delegates to the National Convention by virtue of their office. The delegates elected to the National Convention shall perform the duties of that office and shall likewise act as delegates to all such Special Conventions as may be called at any time in the interim between regular National Conventions. In the event of death, resignation, suspension, or other incapacity of any delegate, the alternate shall become the legal delegate. The five (5) appointed members of the Committee on Constitutional Amendments of the National Convention shall be delegates to the National Convention.

Par. 8. The Delegates of the National Convention shall be administered the Oath of Delegates by the President of

# Proposed Amendments

the P.W.A. Duly installed Delegates shall continue to serve as Delegates so long as the individual continues in Good Standing and until the next National Convention After taking the oath, the delegates shall identify themselves and the Group they represent when recognized by the Chairman of the National Convention.

Par. 11. The Order of Business of the National Convention shall be:

- a. Address by the Chairman of the Pre-Convention Committee
- b. Opening of the National Convention by the National President
- c. Presentation of Colors
- d. Singing of “Jeszcze Polska Nie Zginęła” and “The Star Spangled Banner”. ~~and “Jeszcze Polska Nie Zginęła”~~
- e. Invocation
- f. Report of the Committee on Credentials
- g. Reading of the list of delegates
- h. Administration of the oath to the National Convention delegates by the National President
- i. Report of Committee on Rules of Order
- j. Recommendation of Committee on Budget regarding salaries of Convention Officers and reporting Convention Committees
- k. Installation Appointment of the National Convention Officers and the appointment Convention Parliamentarian by the National President

## ARTICLE V

Par. 6. The Secretary of the National Convention shall keep a true and correct official record of all proceedings of the National Convention, read all correspondence, maintain the roll of the delegates and members of the National Convention Committees, record and read motions, and attest to the minutes adopted by the Assembly. The Secretary shall submit the minutes of the National Convention to the National President no later than thirty (30) days after the National Convention. The Secretary/Treasurer shall make a copy of the Minutes of the National Convention available to all Delegates no later than December 31st following the National Convention.

## ARTICLE VI

Par. 2. THE PRE-CONVENTION COMMITTEE:  
At least one (1) year prior to the convening of the National Convention, the President of the P.W.A. shall appoint the Pre-Convention Committee in consultation with the District President of the locality where the National Convention is to be held. The Committee shall ~~consist of at least nine (9) members who shall~~ elect the Executive Officers of the Committee and consist of such subcommittees as necessary.

## ARTICLE VII

Par. 1. A Special Convention shall be called by the President of the P.W.A. for the purpose of handling emergency matters upon

- (a) the written demand of not less than ~~fixesix~~ (56) members of the General Administration and not less than one-fifth (1/5) of the total number of Groups of P.W.A. in good standing and entitled to representation at the time of the issuance of the demand; or
- (b) the written demand of a majority of all of the Active Groups presented to the President of the P.W.A. If the President fails to call the Special Convention pursuant to the demand of the Groups, then the Vice-President appoints a Committee composed of five (5) members of the General Administration, who will call a Special Convention.

## ARTICLE VIII

Par. 2. Only members of the P.W.A. who have been beneficial members for at least five (5) years, and who have held an office for at least two (2) years in a Group, Council, or District, who are citizens of the United States, with a knowledge of the English language, and who hold no office or position in any other insurance company or fraternal benefit association shall be eligible to file applications for office in the General Administration.

Only candidates who possess all of the requisite qualifications and who can devote full time and effort to the organization may file for the offices of President, Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer.

Par. 4. A majority of the votes cast shall be necessary for the election of officers in a contested election. If two candidates for the same office receive an equal number of votes in the final election, another vote by ballot shall be held until a candidate receives a majority of the votes cast determine the election.

~~Par. 11. The President, Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer, and Directors of the General Administration, elect~~



# Proposed Amendments

ed at the 31st National Convention and at subsequent National Conventions, shall be limited to serve twelve (12) consecutive years each in the same elective office.

After twelve (12) consecutive years in the same elective office, the person may seek election to a different elective office in the General Administration.<sup>1</sup>

## ARTICLE IX

Par. 1. The General Administration of the P.W.A., consisting of the duly elected National Officers and Directors, shall be vested with all executive authority and shall be charged with the general supervision of the P.W.A. The General Administration is the duly authorized body to act on behalf of the organization, with full power to promote and advance the interests of the P.W.A. for the good of the entire membership, Groups, ~~Youth Divisions, Councils,~~ and Districts. It shall carry into effect the mandates of the National Convention. Board meetings shall be held at least quarterly.

Par. 4. If a vacancy occurs in the General Administration between National Conventions, the Executive Officers shall publish notice of the vacancy in "Głos Polek" (The Polish Women's Voice), as soon as possible, and require the filing of applications for the vacancy within thirty (30) days after the date of publication. The General Administration shall then convene a meeting of all of the District Presidents and the remaining members of the General Administration to fill the vacancy within thirty (30) days after the filing of an application for the position. Should any member of the General Administration or a District President apply for the vacant position, she/he shall be ineligible to vote to fill such vacancy. Should a vacancy occur ~~no~~ less than twelve (12) months prior to the next scheduled National Convention, then an election to fill the vacancy shall not be held. Should a vacancy occur in the office of the President less than twelve (12) months prior to the next scheduled National Convention, then the Vice President shall assume the duties of the President until a new President is elected by the National Convention and installed in the interim.<sup>2</sup>

## ARTICLE X

Par. 12. **VICE-PRESIDENT.** The Vice-President shall have the following duties:

- (a) daily attendance at the office unless official duties require presence elsewhere;
- (b) administer the scholarship programs;
- (c) serve as chairman of the Education Committee (Komitet Oswiaty);
- (d) develop youth activities and ~~work with the Councils;~~

- (e) organize and participate in the Youth Conference;
- (f) explore outside funding for P.W.A. benefit through grants, foundations, etc.;
- (g) attend any function which enhances the organization, promote the ideas and objectives of the P.W.A., be involved in community affairs;
- (h) encourage holiday observance of Oplatek and Swieconka as well as other events;
- (i) render a detailed written report at the National Convention;
- (j) report to the President and perform any other duties assigned by the President;
- (k) serve as Vice President of the Polish Women's Alliance of America Charitable and Educational Foundation; and
- (l) serve as Interim President in the event of a vacancy in the office of President as stated in Article IX, par. 5.

Par. 13. **SECRETARY/TREASURER.** The Secretary/Treasurer shall have the following duties:

- a) be in daily attendance at the office unless official duties require presence elsewhere;
- b) keep detailed minutes of the meetings of the General Administration and provide copies of same to the members of the General Administration for correction and approval;
- c) send copies of said minutes to the District/~~State~~ Presidents within ~~two~~four (4) weeks after the meeting;

## ARTICLE XI

Par. 1. The official publication of the P.W.A. shall be the "Głos Polek" (The Polish Women's Voice). It shall serve the purposes of the organization and shall contain an educational section and suitable other sections relating to membership, organization, reports, communiqués, correspondence, and excerpts from the minutes of meetings of the General Administration, Districts, ~~and Councils,~~ Groups ~~and Youth Divisions.~~

## ARTICLE XIII

Par. 1. Every District shall have the right to elect a District President, District Vice President, District Secretary and District Treasurer (jointly referred to as "District Officers"). The District President ~~who~~ shall be the representative of the P.W.A. for that District and act as a liaison for the District with the General Administration.

# Proposed Amendments

Par. 2. The District ~~President Officers~~ shall be elected to ~~a~~ four (4) year terms by the delegates for the District at a District Convention held at least eight (8) months and not more than twelve (12) months prior to the National Convention and shall be confirmed by the National Convention.

Par. 3 If a vacancy occurs in a ~~District Office, the office of District President~~ between National Conventions by reason of death, resignation, or serious illness extending over six (6) months, the District shall hold an election to fill such vacancy, a new District President at a Special District Convention called and conducted by the President of the General Administration.

~~Par. 4. The District President confirmed by the 31st National Convention and subsequent National Conventions shall be limited to serve twelve (12) consecutive years.~~<sup>3</sup>

Par. ~~45~~. The duties of the District Presidents shall include:

- (a) serving in an advisory capacity to the General Administration;
- (b) organizing and reviving dormant Groups ~~and Councils~~ in localities where none exist;
- (c) paying diligent attention to the general welfare of the Groups ~~and Youth Divisions~~;
- (d) appoint a Youth Director;
- (~~h~~)(e) fostering a spirit of harmony and unity within their district;
- (~~e~~)(f) raising funds for the District and the National Scholarship Program and supporting National initiatives;
- (f)(g) submitting a detailed report of their activities every three (3) months in order to receive their salary;
- (~~g~~)(h) attending any ~~annual~~ District President's Conference with the General Administration;
- (h)(i) submitting an annual report at the Conference;
- (i)(j) inducting new Groups ~~and Youth Divisions~~;
- (j)(k) presiding at installations of officers in ~~Councils and~~ Groups;
- (k)(l) discussing benefit insurance and annuities at ~~Council and~~ Group meetings;
- (l)(m) calling District Seminars in all years except in the year of the National Convention;

(n) calling at least three (3) District meetings annually;

(~~m~~)(o) calling a District Convention in the year of the National Convention at least eight (8) months and not more than twelve (12) months prior to the beginning of the Convention;

(~~n~~)(p) serving as a Delegate to the National Convention;~~;~~~~and~~

(~~o~~)(q) submitting a four (4) year report of her/his activities to the National Convention;

(r) making the minutes of all meetings of the General Administration available to all Group Presidents.

Par. 5. **THE DISTRICT VICE-PRESIDENT:** The District Vice-President shall:

(a) assist the District President; and

(b) in the absence of the District President, perform all other duties provided for under the Bylaws of the P.W.A. and under the rules and regulations of the District.

Par. 6. **THE DISTRICT SECRETARY:** The District Secretary shall:

(a) record accurate minutes of the meetings of the District;

(b) maintain a complete and accurate minute book;

(c) handle all correspondence;

(d) submit a copy of the minutes of the District Convention to the General Administration and to the District President within thirty (30) days; and

(e) perform all other duties provided in the Bylaws of the P.W.A. and the rules and regulations of the District.

Par. 7. **THE DISTRICT TREASURER:** The District Treasurer shall:

(a) receive all monies collected for the District upon a proper receipt;

(b) pay all requisitions issued by the District President and countersigned by the District Vice President;

# Proposed Amendments

- (c) maintain an accurate and complete financial account of income and disbursements;
- (d) prepare a financial report for the District;
- (e) perform all of the duties provided for in the Bylaws of the P.W.A. and the rules and regulations of the District;
- (f) file a fidelity bond with the District (if required by the District); and
- (g) file the Bank Reporting Information Form on the District with the National Office annually.

Par 68. Every District President must be a P.W.A. member for at least of five (5) years and have held an office for at least two (2) years at the District, Council, or Group level.

Par. 97. District Convention shall acquaint members with the work of the organization and educate them in the rules of parliamentary procedure and facilitate orientation on matters deliberated at the meetings of the Groups, **Councils**, District Convention, and National Conventions. A major objective of the District Convention is a discussion of matters which contribute to the growth of membership and welfare of the organization.

Par. 108. Each Group may elect one (1) delegate for every twenty-five (25) members or a fraction of such number ~~as District Delegates. The President and Recording Secretary of the Council shall also be delegates to the District Convention, and all of their expenses shall be paid by the Council.~~ The expenses of the delegates from the Group to the District Convention shall be paid by the Group they represent. The District President shall serve as Chairman of the Convention and shall appoint as many committees as are necessary, at least thirty (30) days prior to the Convention.

~~The District President shall appoint a Vice-Chairman and a Secretary for the District Convention. The Secretary of the District Convention shall submit a copy of the minutes of the District Convention to the General Administration and to the District President within thirty (30) days.~~

Par. 119. Only adult beneficial members who meet the following additional requirements qualify to be elected delegates and alternates of the Groups:

- (a) Membership in the Group for at least one (1) year, or six (6) months in the case of a newly-organized Group;
- (b) Attendance of at least one half of the meetings of the Group in the course of the previous calendar year;

- (c) Must be in good standing with no delinquent loans or premiums;
- (d) No national officer of another fraternal organization may be a delegate or alternate to the District Convention.

## ARTICLE XIV RESERVED COUNCILS

Par. 1. A Council shall be composed of at least two (2) Groups.

Par. 2. Each Group has the right to one (1) delegate to the Council for every twenty-five (25) members or a fraction of such number.

Par. 3. Every Group must belong to a Council within the District and pay the sum of at least five (\$5.00) dollars annually for each delegate. Any Group failing to pay the Council assessment forfeits its right to participate in Council meetings and is prohibited from voting on Council matters and attending the District and National Conventions.

Par. 4. The General Administration shall assign a number to each Council.

Par. 5. The General Administration, in consultation with the District President, shall assign all Groups to a Council, taking into account the geographic location of the Group and Council.—

Par. 6. The Administration of the Council shall consist of a President (no member of the General Administration or District President shall be eligible for this office), as many Vice-Presidents as may be deemed necessary by the Council, a Recording Secretary, a Financial Secretary, a Treasurer, and a Youth Director.

Par 7. The duties and responsibilities of the Officers of the Council shall be determined by each Council in accordance with the Articles of Incorporation, Constitution, and Bylaws of the P.W.A.

Par. 8. The Council President shall be a delegate to the National Convention by virtue of the office.

Par. 9. An officer of a Council may be removed from office by a vote of the members of the Council for neglect of official duties or conduct unbecoming the officer's position in the P.W.A. Such vote should be conducted by the District President.

Par. 10. An officer who has been duly notified of her/his removal from office and of the appointment of a successor shall immediately render a full accounting and surrender all of the records and property of the Council to the successor in office.



# Proposed Amendments

Par. 11. Vacancies in an office caused by death, resignation, withdrawal, etc., shall be filled by a special election according to the above rules. The successor shall serve in the position for the unexpired term.

Par. 12. The Officers of the Council shall be limited to twelve (12) consecutive years of service in the same elective office.<sup>4</sup>

Par. 13. A Council may have national and organizational banners which it may lend to the Groups whenever needed.

Par. 14. The Councils shall:

- (a) cooperate with the District President in organizing Groups and Youth Divisions;
- (b) discuss with the General Administration and the respective District President possible mergers of Groups;
- (c) protect the rights of the insured members of the Groups and Youth Divisions;
- (d) mediate differences arising between and among the Groups;
- (e) promote efforts for the growth of the membership of P.W.A.;
- (f) make arrangements for these suggested celebrations; Tadeusz Kosciuszko Day, Casimir Pulaski Day, May 3rd Constitution Day, Mother's Day, May 22nd P.W.A. Founders Day, Swieconka-Easter, Our Lady of Czestochowa Day (August 26, P.W.A. Patroness), and Wigilia-Christmas;
- (g) arrange commemorations of anniversaries and organize programs particularly for children; and
- (h) encourage and foster adult education through essays and lectures on Polish culture, traditions, history, and literature; parliamentary law; economics; and health and fitness.

Par. 15. If a Council has a Youth Counselor who collects monies, she/he must be bonded and turn over to the Treasurer all monies collected.

Par. 16. The delegates to the Council shall be administered the following oath:

"I, a delegate to Council \_\_\_\_\_ of District \_\_\_\_\_ of the Polish Women's Alliance of America, under oath declare before God and those here assembled, that I will be guided in all deliberations exclusively for the welfare of the Polish Women's Alliance of America, so help me God and Our Lady

of Czestochowa, Patroness of Polish Women's Alliance of America."

Par. 17. The Officers of the Council shall be administered the following oath:

"I, \_\_\_\_\_ (name and surname), assuming the duties of the office of \_\_\_\_\_ in Council \_\_\_\_\_, District \_\_\_\_\_, Polish Women's Alliance of America, under oath before God and in the presence of the delegates here assembled, do solemnly swear that I will perform the duties of the office entrusted to me faithfully and conscientiously, and I promise to surrender all property belonging to the Council upon expiration of my term of office, so help me God and Our Lady of Czestochowa, Patroness of Polish Women's Alliance of America."

## ARTICLE XV

Par. 2. A new Group shall consist of at least fifteen (15) insured members. In localities where a Group of P.W.A. is already in existence, a new group shall have a minimum of twenty-five (25) insured members. If a group falls below fifteen (15) Beneficial Members, the General Administration shall merge the group into another group in the area after consultation with the District President.

Par. 9. Every Group shall at a minimum have the following officers: President, ~~Financial~~ Secretary, and Treasurer. A different person must hold each of these offices.<sup>5</sup>

Par. 10. In addition to the above a Group may have the following officers, Vice-President, ~~Recording Secretary~~, Trustees, Sergeant at Arms, ~~and Youth Counselor~~.

Par. 11. All candidates for the position of Group officer shall:

- (a) be insured members of the P.W.A. in the respective Group where they are seeking to hold office;
- (b) not hold an office in any other Group unless the candidate receives prior written approval of the General Administration;
- (c) not hold an national office in any other fraternal benefit society or insurance organization.

Violation of any of the above sections shall subject the officer to suspension from office.

Par. 15. Annually, the Bank Information Reporting Form is to be completed and forwarded to the office of the Secretary/Treasurer ~~as well as the District President~~ no later than the 31st of January.

Par. 19. An "Active Group" shall be defined as one having at least three (3) officers and conducting at least

# Proposed Amendments

~~one (1)~~ two (2) business meetings a year.

~~Par. 25. Each Group shall endeavor to establish a Youth Division, which during the first year of its existence should have no less than three (3) insured juvenile members.~~

~~Par. 26. If a Group is in existence for more than five (5) years and has less than twenty-five (25) members, the General Administration together with the District President shall merge such Group with another group in the same geographic location. The affected Council or Councils shall, through their Presidents, cooperate with the General Administration and District President in proposed mergers of Groups.~~

Par. 25~~7~~. Where, for valid reasons, a Group desires to merge with another Group, it shall:

- (a) Obtain the unanimous approval in writing of the officers of both Groups to the merger and its terms;
- (b) Receive written approval of the General Administration and; District President, and ~~Council President~~ prior to the implementation of the merger;
- (c) Give notice to all members of both Groups of the merger;
- (d) Surrender all Group funds, records, and property to the newly merged Group.

Par. 26~~8~~. The Order of Business for all Group Meetings shall be:

- (a) Call to order of the meeting by the President of the Group.
- (b) The reading and acceptance or disposition of the following:
  1. Minutes of the prior ~~group~~regular meeting;
  2. Minutes of any special meeting;
  3. Correspondence; and
  4. Reports of officers.
- (c) Oath of newly insured members.
- ~~(d) Report of Financial Secretary.~~
- ~~(e)~~(d) Report of Treasurer.
- ~~(f)~~(e) Reports of committees.
- ~~(g)~~(f) Old business.
- ~~(h)~~(g) New business: election or installation of officers, nomination of standing committees, etc.

~~(i)~~(h) Adjournment of meeting

## ARTICLE XVI

Par. 1. THE PRESIDENT: The President shall:

- (a) preside at all meetings;
- (b) enforce all laws of the National Office, District, ~~Council~~ and Group;
- (c) decide all questions of order;
- (d) appoint all Committees except where the regulations provide to the contrary;
- (e) sign all requisitions for payment of money authorized by the Group;
- (f) call a special meeting of the Group upon the death of an officer or when necessary;
- (g) perform all duties required in the Bylaws of the P.W.A. and in the rules and regulations of the Group;
- (h) at least once a year, call a meeting to audit the books; and
- (i) be ex-officio member of all Group Committees.

Par. 2. THE VICE-PRESIDENT: The Vice-President shall:

- (a) assist the President; and
- (b) in the absence of the President, perform all other duties provided for under the Bylaws of the P.W.A. and under the rules and regulations of the Group.

~~Par. 3. THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY: The Financial Secretary shall:~~

- ~~(a) keep an accurate and complete financial account of the Group and its individual insured members;~~
- ~~(b) collect at the meeting all monies due to the Group where applicable;~~
- ~~(c) deliver same to the Treasurer upon proper receipt where applicable;~~
- ~~(d) furnish such written reports as the Secretary/ Treasurer may request;~~

# Proposed Amendments

(e) ~~report on membership changes occurring in the Group;~~

(f) ~~perform all other duties required under the By-laws of the P.W.A. and the rules and regulations of the Group; countersign all requisitions with the Treasurer; and~~

(g)(a) ~~file a fidelity bond with the Group (if required by the Group).~~

## Par. 4. THE **RECORDING** SECRETARY:

The **Recording** Secretary shall:

- (a) record accurate minutes of the meetings of the Group;
- (b) maintain a complete and accurate minute book;
- (c) handle all correspondence;
- (d) inform the Secretary/Treasurer and District President of the newly elected officers;

(e) ~~report on membership changes occurring in the Group;~~

(e)(f) ~~perform all other duties provided in the Bylaws of the P.W.A. and the rules and regulations of the Group.~~

~~In the event a Group does not elect a Recording Secretary, the President may appoint an individual to perform the above duties.~~

## Par. 5. THE TREASURER: The Treasurer shall:

- (a) receive ~~from the Financial Secretary~~ all monies collected for the Group upon a proper receipt;
- (b) pay all requisitions issued by the ~~President-Financial Secretary~~ and countersigned by the Vice President;
- (c) maintain an accurate and complete financial account of income and disbursements;
- (d) prepare a financial report for the Group;
- (e) perform all of the duties provided for in the Bylaws of the P.W.A. and the rules and regulations of the Group; and
- (f) file a fidelity bond with the Group (if required by the Group).
- (g) file the Bank Reporting Information Form on the Group with the National Office annually.

Par. 6. THE TRUSTEES: At least once a year the Trustees shall audit all of the books of the ~~Financial Secretary and~~ Treasurer. All books and documents of the ~~Financial Secretary and~~ Treasurer must be accessible to the Trustees and to the President.

Par. 7. SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: The Sergeant-at-Arms shall maintain order during meetings.

~~Par. 8. YOUTH COUNSELOR: The Youth Counselor shall:~~

(a) ~~have charge of the Youth Division;~~

(b) ~~arrange diversified programs;~~

(c) ~~remit to the Treasurer of the Group all monies collected;~~

(d) ~~encourage new insured membership; and~~

(e) ~~if the Youth Counselor collects monies, she/he must be bonded.~~

## ARTICLE XVII

### RESERVED

### LAWS AND RULES OF YOUTH DIVISIONS OF THE POLISH WOMEN'S ALLIANCE OF AMERICA

~~Par. 1. Children under the age of eighteen (18) shall belong to the Youth Division.~~

~~Par. 2. Application for insured membership in the Youth Division shall be made by a mother or father, blood relatives, or by a guardian.~~

~~Par. 3. Upon application and satisfactory evidence of insurability, a certificate of insurance shall be issued to the member of the Youth Division.~~

~~Par. 4. Unless the ownership of the certificate is vested in another person, the right to exercise every option, benefit, or privilege allowed by the P.W.A. or by the certificate shall belong to the applicant. After the child attains the age of eighteen (18), the ownership of the certificate shall remain with the applicant unless the applicant elects otherwise. If the applicant elects to transfer ownership to the child at the age of eighteen (18) years, the child shall be entitled to all of the rights and privileges of an adult insured member and shall be subject to all the conditions and obligations set forth for adult insured members.~~

~~Par. 5. The beneficiary of a youth certificate may be a person upon whom the insured member is dependent or the heirs and next of kin as defined by law.~~



# Proposed Amendments

## ARTICLE XVIII

Par. 1. Members of the P.W.A. may be honorary, beneficial (insured), and social.

- a. “Beneficial Member” shall mean an individual who owns a life insurance or annuity certificate.<sup>6</sup>
- b. “Social Member” shall mean an individual who is not a “Beneficial Member”.

Par. 4. Individuals under the age of eighteen (18) shall be a “Youth Member”. A Youth Member shall be counted in all aspects as a member but shall have no right to vote on matters until the Youth Member attains the age of eighteen (18). Application for Youth Membership shall be made by a mother or father, blood relatives, or by a guardian.

- a. The beneficiary of a Youth Member certificate may be a person upon whom the Youth Member is dependent or the heirs and next of kin as defined by law.

Par. 5. Unless otherwise stated in the application, all rights to exercise every option, benefit, or privilege regarding Certificates issued on Youth Members are vested in the applicant. After the Youth Member attains the age of eighteen (18), the ownership of the certificate shall remain with the applicant unless the applicant elects otherwise. If the applicant elects to transfer ownership to the Youth Member at the age of eighteen (18) years, the Youth Member shall be entitled to all of the rights and privileges of an adult insured member and shall be subject to all the conditions and obligations set forth for adult insured members. In the event that the owner of a certificate issued on a Youth Member dies, ownership shall be transferred as the owner directs. In the event the owner fails to provide a direction as to ownership, the ownership shall pass to the insured Youth Member.

Par. 8. Premiums are payable by every insured member of the P.W.A. on the first day of each calendar month or as otherwise stated.

Par. 109. Each member shall pay any applicable Group dues to the ~~Treasurer~~Financial Secretary of the Group.

## ARTICLE XIX

Par. 4. If a Group suspends a member, the Secretary of the Group ~~Each Group~~ shall report the suspension to the General Administration ~~the names of all suspended members.~~

## ARTICLE XX

Par. 3. Immediately upon receiving a request for a transfer, the ~~Financial~~ Secretary of the Group shall issue the transfer card and notify the ~~General Administration~~Secretary/Treasurer of the transfer.

Par. 4. Upon receipt of the transfer card, the accepting Group's ~~Financial~~ Secretary shall complete the card and forward it to the General Administration.

## ARTICLE XXI

Par. 2. Every member, officer or director who is charged with a breach or violation of the regulations of the Constitution and Bylaws that is fraternal by nature as opposed to financial shall have the right to demand in writing the appointment of an arbitration committee to investigate the entire charge. If the matter concerns a complaint against a group or any of its members or officers, the President of the Group shall appoint a judicial committee, in writing, consisting of five (5) members to render a finding and decision. If the matter cannot be resolved satisfactorily, either party may appeal to the General Administration. If the President of a Group should violate any law of the P.W.A., then upon the request of at least five (5) members, the Group President shall be arraigned before an arbitration committee that which is appointed by the General Administration to render a finding and decision. If the complaint is against a District Officer, District Delegate, or member of the General Administration, the Board of Directors shall appoint a judicial committee consisting of five (5) members to conduct an investigation, render a finding and recommend a decision to the General Administration. In the deliberations concerning the findings and recommendations, any member of the General Administration subject to the complaint shall be excluded from the discussions. If the complaint is against all members of the General Administration, then the complaint will be referred to the National Convention for resolution. After exhausting all these tribunals, then she/he may appeal in writing to the National Convention.

## ARTICLE XXII

Par. 1. The purpose of this article is to prescribe the sole means to present and resolve grievances, complaints or disputes between insured members, certificate or policy owners or beneficiaries and the P.W.A. or its directors, officers, agents and employees relating to the P.W.A.'s insurance benefit products (for instance, benefit certificates or policies and annuities). The provisions contained in this Article XXII shall only apply to financial matters relating to members, owners and/or beneficiaries and the certificate or policy in question. Fraternal disputes shall be handled under Article XXI above. Procedures set forth in this article are meant to provide prompt, fair and efficient opportunities for dispute resolution consistent with the fraternal nature of the P.W.A. without the delay and expense of formal legal proceedings.

## ARTICLE XXIII

Par. 4. The funds of the P.W.A. shall be the Benefit Insurance Fund; and the Financial Aid Fund; ~~and the Relief Fund.~~

# Proposed Amendments

Par. 5. The Benefit Insurance Fund shall consist of all monies not designated for the Financial Aid Fund ~~or the Relief Fund.~~

Par. 6. The Benefit Insurance Fund shall receive as income:

- (a) All premiums, annuity deposits, and dues;
- (b) All investment income;
- (c) All proceeds from the sale or maturity of the assets of the P.W.A.; and
- (d) All income from any other source except those specifically designated for the Financial Aid Fund ~~or the Relief Fund.~~

Par. 7. The Benefit Insurance Fund shall pay the following:

- (a) All benefits provided in its insurance and annuity certificates;
- (b) All refunds in the form of dividends or interest;
- (c) All expenses not allocated to any other fund, ~~and~~
- (d) ~~No less than ten (\$0.10) cents per month will be paid annually to each Active Group, for every one thousand (\$1,000.00) dollars of insurance in force in the Group for fraternal promotion~~

~~Par. 13. The Relief Fund shall consist of the amount on hand on December 31, 1966, plus all income specifically allotted for the Relief Fund less any deductions made from the Fund. The Relief Fund shall be used for cases of critical need as determined by the General Administration.~~

## ARTICLE XXIV

~~Par. 2. In every application for a benefit insurance certificate, the age of the insured shall be taken as of the date of the nearest birthday.~~

~~Par. 3. The owner, or in the case of a deceased member, the named beneficiary of a lost certificate may execute a release indemnifying the P.W.A. against any claims that may arise.~~

Par. 35. An Beneficial Memberinsured is entitled to all the benefits provided in the member's benefit certificate and as approved by the Department of Insurance.

## ARTICLE XXV

Par 4. ....

Any determination by the P.W.A., made in good faith, concerning the payment of proceeds of the benefit certificate to a beneficiary shall be forever binding upon the Beneficial Memberinsured member and/or all beneficiaries.

Par. 6. Except in Illinois and New York, ifff no claim is received by the P.W.A. from one qualified to submit a claim within five (5) years from the date it is established from the records of the P.W.A. that monies became due and payable, or if the proper claimant cannot be located within said period of time, the benefits provided in the insured's certificate or certificates shall be paid into the Polish Women's Alliance of America Charitable and Educational Relief Fund.

Par. 7. If a claimant presents a claim after five (5) years, and the money that became due and payable had been transferred to the Polish Women's Alliance of America Charitable and Educational Relief Fund, such claim shall be paid out of the Polish Women's Alliance of America Charitable and Educational Relief Fund.

## ARTICLE XXVII

Par. 4. The Articles of IncorporationAssociation, Constitution and Bylaws of the P.W.A. shall be binding on every insured member and on all beneficiaries of insured members. No subordinate body nor its subordinate officers or members shall have the power or authority to waive any provision.

~~Par. 5. The Articles of Incorporation, Constitution and Bylaws of the P.W.A., the insured member's certificate together with any riders or endorsements attached, and the application for insured membership signed by the applicant with all amendments to each shall constitute the entire insurance contract between the P.W.A. and the insured member.~~

~~Par. 6. Any changes, additions, or amendments to said Articles of Incorporation, Constitution, and Bylaws duly made or enacted subsequent to the issuance of the insurance certificate shall bind the insured member and her/his beneficiaries, and shall govern and control the agreement in all respects in the same manner as though the changes, additions, or amendments had been made prior to and were in force at the time of the application for insured membership.~~

Par. 68. The Constitution and Bylaws of the P.W.A. shall be printed in ~~both the~~ English and made available in the Polish language; however, in case of any conflict the English text shall prevail.

# Proposed Amendments

## Endnotes:

<sup>1</sup> This amendment was approved by a written ballot submitted to the delegates of the previous convention and is only being presented for informational purposes. The revised language will not be addressed or voted upon at the upcoming convention.

<sup>2</sup> This amendment was approved by a written ballot submitted to the delegates of the previous convention and is only being presented for informational purposes. The revised language will not be addressed or voted upon at the upcoming convention.

<sup>3</sup> This amendment was approved by a written ballot submitted to the delegates of the previous convention and is only being presented for informational purposes. The revised language will not be addressed or voted upon at the upcoming convention.

<sup>4</sup> This amendment was approved by a written ballot submitted to the delegates of the previous convention and is only being presented for informational purposes. The revised language will not be addressed or voted upon at the upcoming convention.

<sup>5</sup> This amendment was approved by a written ballot submitted to the delegates of the previous convention and is only being presented for informational purposes. The revised language will not be addressed or voted upon at the upcoming convention.

<sup>6</sup> This amendment was approved by a written ballot submitted to the delegates of the previous convention and is only being presented for informational purposes. The revised language will not be addressed or voted upon at the upcoming convention.

Respectfully submitted,

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS COMMITTEE

**Chairperson:** Mary Heslin, Gr. 289

**Members:** Stephanie Marcaccio, Gr. 9  
Edwin Waleryszak, Gr. 673  
Nancy Yiznitsky, Gr. 500  
Barbara Zielinski, Gr. 185

*Ex Officio Member: Virginia Sikora, National President*

*Advisor: Counsel Christopher Nowotarski*

**Note:** Delegates are strongly urged to read and review the Proposed Amendments and to discuss them with Group members prior to attending the Convention. If your District is planning a meeting of Delegates prior to the Convention, bring this issue containing the Proposed Amendments with you, or download and print out a copy of the Proposed Amendments from our website at [www.pwaa.org](http://www.pwaa.org). Also, please bring your copy of the current Constitution to the Convention, if you have one.

## 36TH NATIONAL CONVENTION OF POLISH WOMEN'S ALLIANCE

Springfield, Massachusetts

August 13 - 16, 2011

## CONVENTION COMMITTEES

While most Convention Committees perform their duties during the Convention, there are three Committees that are called to work before the Convention convenes and we would like to acknowledge them here. They are the Pre-Convention Committee, the Committee on Constitutional Amendments, and the Nominations Committee.

Sincere thanks to the Committee chairpersons and to the Committee members for their hard work in advance of the 36th National Convention.

### PRE-CONVENTION COMMITTEE

**Chairperson** Jennie Starzyk Benton, Former National Director, Gr. 422

**Co-Chair** Alice Manijak, Council 28 President, Gr. 141, 287

**Secretary** Jeanne Moriarty, Gr. 422

**Treasurer** Alvira Balut, Gr. 499

**Ad Book** Alice Manijak, Gr. 141, 287  
Jennie Starzyk Benton, Gr. 422

**Banquet** Jane Bielski, Gr. 317  
Barbara Moriarty, Gr. 422

**Decoration** Stasia Wozniak, Gr. 559  
Diane Miller, Gr. 559

**Election** Monica Moriarty, Gr. 422  
Irene Lestage, Gr. 776

Patricia Connors, Gr. 463

**Invitations** Jeanne Moriarty, Gr. 422  
Monica Moriarty, Gr. 422  
Andrew Moriarty, Gr. 422

**Liturgy** Victoria Moulen, Gr. 776  
Irene Lestage, Gr. 776

**Publicity** Lydia Bielski Magill, Gr. 317

**Raffle** Alvira Balut, Gr. 499  
Helen Kapinos, Gr. 499  
Claire Madej, Gr. 499  
Patricia Connors, Gr. 463

**Transportation** Sophie Marshall, District IX President

**Welcoming** Jane Bielski, Former District VIII President, Gr. 317  
Mary Lee Bertrand, Gr. 422

### NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

**Chairperson:** Andrea Torok, Gr. 128

**Members:** Camille Kopielski, Gr. 211  
Carolyn Lisek, Gr. 562



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"/>	<b>APPLICATION FOR LIFE INSURANCE</b> With <b>POLISH WOMEN'S ALLIANCE OF AMERICA</b> 6643 N Northwest Highway, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Chicago, IL 60631	<b>Office Use Only</b> 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 (Mo) (Day) (Yr)	5. Age	
6. Height	7. Place of Birth	8. Telephone Number Home _____ Work _____	City _____ State _____ Zip _____
9. Marital Status (Check One) Single <input type="checkbox"/> Married <input type="checkbox"/> Widowed <input type="checkbox"/> Divorced <input type="checkbox"/>		10. If female, and ever married, give maiden name _____	
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

## 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 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Billing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

## Current Portfolio

### WHOLE LIFE PLANS

#### New Issue Ages

Issue age **16** days to **85** years  
 (nearest birthday)

Minimum issue amount \$3,000  
 Maximum issue amount \$50,000

- **SINGLE PAYMENT WHOLE LIFE**
- **10 YEAR PAYMENT WHOLE LIFE**

### LEVEL TERM PLAN

#### New Plan

- **TERM INSURANCE TO AGE 25**

Single Payment Term

Issue age 16 days to 20 years  
 (nearest birthday)

Issue amounts \$10,000; \$15,000 or  
 \$25,000

### EDUCATION LIFE BUILDER 2006

Issue age 16 days to 10 years  
 (nearest birthday)

Minimum issue \$3,000

Maximum issue \$25,000

This is a combination of an  
 annuity rider and single payment  
 whole life insurance

### SILVER EQUITY POLICY

Issue age 16 days to 15 years  
 (nearest birthday)

Minimum issue \$3,000

Maximum issue \$25,000

This is a combination of an annuity  
 rider and single payment or 10 year  
 payment whole life insurance

### ANNUITIES

#### Up to 3.75% current rate

Contract Number FPDA 2006

Minimum initial premium \$250

Minimum additional

premiums \$100

Minimum guaranteed interest 3%

- **FLEXIBLE PREMIUM DEFERRED ANNUITY**

- **TRADITIONAL IRA**

- **ROTH IRA**

Please call Bo Padowski at  
 1-888-522-1898 ext. 228, send  
 e-mail to padowski@pwaa.org or  
 visit our website: [www.pwaa.org](http://www.pwaa.org)

## *Candidates for National Office (cont'd)*

### ***Candidate for the Office of National Secretary/Treasurer***



**Antoinette  
Trela-Vander Noot**

Dear Members of the Nominating Committee & Delegates to the 36th National Convention:

I, Antoinette Trela-Vander Noot hereby declare my candidacy for re-election to the office of National Secretary/Treasurer.

It has been a challenging four years in office. During this period the world saw the greatest economic crisis since the Great Depression of the 1930s. In each case, both business entities and individuals were profoundly affected. Many were unable to survive. Those that did had to make difficult and often-times unpopular decisions to ensure their very survival. Business models that had been in place for decades, had to be completely restructured from the ground up.

I am truly proud of the fact that I was not afraid to take the necessary steps, as Secretary/Treasurer and part of your management team, to begin the process of building a new and structurally stronger organization. So, whereas, I might not win any popularity contests through my actions over the past four years, be assured that the overall well-being and very existence of the P.W.A. of A. was and is my top priority.

In addition to having served as your Secretary/Treasurer these past four years, I had the privilege to serve as a National Director from 1999-2007. This further strengthened my knowledge of and commitment to an organization of which I have been a member since shortly after birth. It is hard to believe that it has been over fifty years ... shhhh!

On the local level, I have held the position of Financial Secretary of Group 211, Council 27 of District 1 for over 25 years. Ours has been a very active Group within the organization and has a membership in excess of 400 certificate holders.

My professional background, in addition to having served as your Secretary/Treasurer, includes having worked in the field of accounting for over 20 years, including my years spent as the Chief Bookkeeper at P.W.A. Headquarters in the 1980s. For over 10 years, I held the position of Director of Accounting for the U.S. division of an international manufacturing company, reporting directly to the President based in Germany. To satisfy my entrepreneurial side, I was then self-employed for approximately five years as the owner of an upscale women's resale boutique, which also offered fundraising opportunities to charitable groups.

The measure of one's true, unwavering commitment is best reflected by one's willingness to take on challenges when there are obvious obstacles to be overcome, rather than only when the outlook is seemingly positive.

There is still much work ahead for your management team, in terms of increased membership development and attaining solid and steady financial growth. I ask for your vote in order that I be allowed to continue to utilize my knowledge of the insurance industry, my respect for the founding principles of those who came before us, and my realistic view of where we are today and vision of where we can be tomorrow.

I humbly ask for your Support and for your Vote.

Let's continue to build upon something Great!

Respectfully and Fraternally,

***Antoinette Trela-Vander Noot***

### ***Candidate for the Office of National Secretary/Treasurer***



**Delphine Lytell**

Dear Members and Convention Delegates of Polish Women's Alliance,

Every national convention of Polish Women's Alliance is an opportunity for delegates to meet, receive reports since the last convention, discuss the business at hand, set an agenda until the next convention, and elect those who will lead the organization for the next four years. Amazingly this is the process which has governed

PWA since its founding just a little over one hundred thirteen years ago. Having been a national Vice President, President, and District I President, I place my name before the convention delegates for the position of Secretary/Treasurer.

What has prompted this decision is a desire to bring my experience and knowledge to an important position in the organization that aims to serve the needs of our members as well as to be a vital part of the governance of PWA on the national level. I had an opportunity for direct "hands-on" experience with the Secretary General's office (as it was known at that time) during my tenure as President when a vacancy occurred in that position.

Throughout my long association with Polish Women's Alliance, having been signed up for membership in infancy by my mother, I have had the honor of working to promote the ideals of our beloved organization. Times have truly changed but such ideals as preserving and promoting the Polish language and Polish customs are timeless and worthy of our efforts to sustain them.

## Candidates for National Office

However, a fraternal organization that sells insurance and annuities is also governed by departments of insurance in the states where it sells insurance. Sound business practices and an attention to insurance laws and regulations are vital to the continued success of PWA. All who seek national office must be persons of integrity and have enough business know-how to govern the organization wisely. Additionally, the officers need to work with one another and be aware of serving the members, for this is one aspect of the position that helps our members to truly vest themselves in the organization when they see that the national office is there for them.

Finally, another aspect of PWA is its fraternal designation. As just such an organization, PWA must seek to continue its basic structure and incorporate as much as possible various fraternal activities which enhance not only PWA but also serve our members and their communities at large wherever our members live. This fraternal part must also find support and guidance from the national office.

With all of this in mind, I ask for the delegates at the Thirty-sixth National Convention of the Polish Women's Alliance to consider my candidacy for the position of Secretary/Treasurer. My personal goal is to be a valuable member of the general administration by working for the good of our beloved Związek Polek every day that I am in office.

With gratitude,

**Delphine Lytell**

### Candidate for the Office of National Director



**Dawn Muszynski Nelson**

Dear Madame Chairperson and Members of the Nominations Committee,

I am writing to express my desire and intent to run for re-election for the office of National Director. I am a proud member of District 1, Council 13, and Group 743 and have served as an officer in that group for 15 consecutive years. I am 36 years old and presently employed as an Account Manager for a group of non-profit organizations.

The Polish Women's Alliance of America has always been an integral part of my family life as a way for us to actively preserve and celebrate our Polish heritage. As a life-long member of this organization, I have enjoyed spending the past 36 years attending many group, council, and district functions. My family consists of four generations of PWA of A members and I consider it a blessing to be able to attend

these same celebrations with my grandmother, mother, and now my two young daughters.

For as long as I can remember, I have been an active member of our organization. As a youth member I went from being the entertainment at our group's social activities to planning it. I organized raffles to help our group raise money for the Scholarship Fund which I later received for three years. I attended the Youth Conference and later had the opportunity to travel as a chaperone.

As an adult member of the Polish Women's Alliance of America I have served as a group officer for more than a decade. In 2003, I served as Treasurer of the Pre-Convention Committee and in 2007 I served as the Secretary for the Committee on Constitutional Amendments. Also in 2007, I had the privilege of being elected to the office of National Director. As Director, I've served on various committees and have had the honor of representing our organization at a variety of events and occasions. Being involved in making decisions for the good of our organization is an important role and I do not take this responsibility lightly. Serving as National Director for the past four years has been one of the most challenging yet tremendously rewarding experiences I've ever had. I am motivated and inspired by this responsibility and would consider it a great honor to be chosen to continue this work.

I thank you for your time and consideration of my application for the office of National Director. My passion for the success and growth of the Polish Women's Alliance of America is deeply rooted in my love for my family and of my Polish heritage. I would consider it both an honor and a privilege to be able to continue to work toward the celebration and preservation of our Polish traditions and be able to promote our Polish culture and work to increase membership on the National level of this organization.

Serdecznie proszę o poparcie mojej kandydatury na urząd Dyrektorki Związku Polek w Ameryce.

Fraternally,

**Dawn Muszynski Nelson**

### GŁOS POLEK CONVENTION ISSUE

**Candidates for National Office are on pages 8 -12  
and on pages 25-29**

**SPECIAL PULL-OUT SECTION  
Amendments to the Constitution, pages 13-24**

**You can also download a copy of the Proposed  
Amendments from [www.pwaa.org](http://www.pwaa.org)**



# Candidates for National Office

## Candidate for the Office of National Director



**Marcia Mackiewicz  
Duffy**

Dear Committee Members  
and Delegates to the 36th  
National Convention:

I, Marcia Mackiewicz Duffy, hereby announce my candidacy for the office of National Director of the Polish Women's Alliance of America. It has been my privilege to serve as your National Director for the past 12 years and I would be honored to continue to play a role in the future direction of our organization.

In 1999, I enthusiastically first took up the challenge of service to our beloved organization. With this declaration of candidacy, I am expressing my deep conviction that there is still much work to be done and for this reason I am willing and able to offer my service.

The P.W.A of A. has always held a special place in my heart. I am a product of the Polish Women's Alliance of America when it was introduced to me at the onset of my life. Garland activities, participating in the Council 38 dance groups, attending the annual Mother's Day Mass, and being a Debutante were just a few of our traditions of Polish culture that I hold dear. Because of my family's involvement in this organization, I would not be the person I am today.

Because the role as a National Director has been important in my life, I believe we have an obligation to expand upon the mission of education and networking that will advance our organization and I personally intend to help and achieve that goal.

The P.W.A of A. has demonstrated its ability to adapt to a changing world while remaining ready to serve its members. Over the past 12 years as a National Director, I have fully appreciated the broad range of member perceptions and expectations for our association.

I fully understand the pressure of raising a family in these hard economic times. I raised four children, had a young daughter that unfortunately passed away, and am now happily seeing the fruition of my endeavors with two new grandsons.

I highly value being fiscally conservative, respecting our organization's culture and traditions, and thinking strategically about its future. I fully appreciate more than ever how we must seek out your views and opinions and make certain that they are reflected in our vision for the future.

It would be a privilege to continue to represent you as a P.W. A of A. National Director.

**Marcia Mackiewicz Duffy**

## Candidate for the Office of National Director



**Felicia S. Perlick**

Dear Delegates:

I, Felicia Pedick, respectfully place my name in nomination for the office of National Director. I have been a member of Group 105, Plymouth, Pennsylvania, since early childhood and became active in PWA activities in my teen years. I was a member of the District XIV youth group and eventually was named Youth Advisor. I attended a national

Youth Conference as a participant in the dance group, and then later as Youth Advisor. As Youth Advisor, I organized a local Youth Conference held at Wilkes University attended by youth members of District XIV. I then transitioned into Council 40 Treasurer until being elected to the office of Council President. In my group I served first as President and then as Financial Secretary, a position I still maintain.

In 1991, I was elected to the office of President of District XIV, a position I held for 12 years. In 2003, I ran for the office of National Director, a position I have held for the last eight years.

As National Director, I served on the following committees: Youth, Scholarship, Oswiaty, Membership and Development. As a member of the Youth Committee, I attended the last two Youth Conferences held in Philadelphia, developing a rapport with the staff of the Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa in Doylestown, Pennsylvania, thereby organizing the tours, hands-on crafts, and the Mass celebrated for our youth.

Locally, I was responsible for re-initiating Bal Polonaise held in District XIV. Due to its popularity at that time, we were able to have Bals in both Council 40 and 44 in alternate years. Because of my interest in Polish culture and the continuation of tradition, I became active in the Polish American Congress of Northeastern Pennsylvania where I previously served as vice president and am now serving as president.

I attended National Conventions since 1963 and was appointed to several committees. In 1999, I had the honor and privilege of serving as Convention Chairman.

I have always stressed membership as an important criteria to perpetuate this organization. My extended family is well represented among the membership, and have been supportive of the many activities of PWA. I have signed many new members, and have been fortunate to have been named May Queen, not only in a previous year, but this current year as well.

## Candidates for National Office

I am completing my second term as National Director where I have attended all meeting and participated in all programs. I feel I have been a valuable contributor of experience, information, and ideas to our organization. As National Director, I have had the privilege of representing PWA at the Pennsylvania Fraternal Alliance meetings.

Once again, I humbly ask that you consider my candidacy for National Director.

**Felicia S. Perlick**

### Candidate for the Office of National Director



**Mary L. Derwinski**

Dear Members,

My name is Mary Derwinski and I would like to ask for your vote for Director. I have been a member of the PWA since I was a child, and it has been a large presence throughout my life. I benefited from dancing lessons for 12 years that were sponsored by the PWA. Some of my fondest childhood memories are of performing in the beautifully made traditional costumes. My children were able

to attend the Polish School when they were young and to learn the art of wycinanki. My daughter was able to attend the Youth Conference in 2010. My family has benefited from the passing on of traditions from my Grandmother, Mother, and the PWA. The PWA has enriched my life, as it has my Mother's and Grandmother's before me.

I am running for Director because I believe that you must give back to the organizations that enrich your life. The tradition of recognizing the value of women's lives (by being willing to insure them), the tradition of women helping other women through the fraternity of the PWA, and the tradition of passing on the beautiful culture of the Polish people are all dear to my heart. I want to support this institution and help make these ideals available to others.

I am a graduate of the University of Chicago with a science degree. I have worked in banks and have been bonded. I have prepared and presented studies and contracts to chief financial officers, chief executive officers, M.D.s, and Ph.D.s. I currently am primarily a wife and mother to two teenage daughters.

I have served as an officer of my group, and am now President of Group 480. I have attended the conventions in 2003 and 2007. I am also familiar with the internal workings of the PWA because Mrs. Sikora appointed me to the audit committee in 2006/2007. Our committee met for many months as we examined every aspect of the organization.

I bring to the table a commitment to listen to my PWA sisters, to thoughtfully and respectfully weigh matters brought before me, and to always act in the best interests of the PWA. I hope that you entrust me with the opportunity to serve the PWA with earnest dedication.

Thank you for considering me for the office of Director.

Sincerely,

**Mary L. Derwinski**

### Candidate for the Office of National Director



**Czeslawa K. Kolak**

*Człowiek jest wielki nie przez to, co ma, nie przez to, kim jest, lecz przez to, czym dzieli się z innymi.*

*A person is not great based on what he has, or who he is, but by what he/she shares with others.*

– Blessed Pope John Paul II

These words of the Blessed John Paul II have been close to my heart and accompanied me from childhood to the present days of my life. That is why, with these words, I would like to declare my candidacy for the position of PWAA National Director.

I came to Chicago from Poland in 1973. Since then I have been serving the Polish community and at the same time promoting, continuously, Polish language and culture. I have taught Polish in Polish Saturday Schools, Junior Colleges, Universities, and American High Schools. I pioneered a Polish bilingual programs in Chicago High Schools and worked as a bilingual coordinator at Foreman High School for fifteen years. I introduced Polish as a world language to Chicago Public Schools.

I have been an advocate of multicultural education and an active supporter of bilingual students, parents, and teachers. I served two terms on the Illinois Bilingual Education Council and was a team member of the Teacher Education Program Approval Section of the Illinois State Board of Education. I have introduced and taught a course on Polish Women at Northeastern Illinois University. Presently, I introduced a course on Polish Culture and Civilization which has already been approved and I will teach it in the Spring of 2012.

I have been actively affiliated with several Polish organizations, including the Council of Educators in Polonia, Polish Women's Alliance, and the Kosciuszko Foundation.

I joined the Polish Women's Alliance of America in 2000.

## Candidates for National Office/Milestones

Together with Dr. Lidia Filus we founded St. Queen Jadwiga Millennium Group 821. I became the first president of the group and I continue to serve as the president. That same year the Polish Saturday School was founded. I was a founding member and the first director of the school. I worked tirelessly and voluntarily for one year to help organize the school. In 2007 I became Council 27 president, a position I hold till now.

I was a recipient of numerous awards for excellence in teaching and community involvement. Let me list a few: the 2010 International Peace Prize for practicing peace in thought, action, and example locally and globally; the 2009 Medal for Service to Church and Nation from the Polish Primate Cardinal Jozef Glemp, the 2006 Educator of the Year from the Council of Educators in Polonia, the 2006 Certificate of Appreciation from Maria Skłodowska-Curie PWAA Polish Saturday School, and Recognition for Exceptional Contributions to the City of Chicago from Mayor Daley. I also received the Chicago Public Schools Parent Award (2000 and 1999), Bilingual Lead Teacher Award (1999), The Commission of National Education Medal from the National Ministry of Education in Poland (1998), a Gold Medal from the Polish American Congress and Polish Alma Mater Abroad in London (1989), and the Outstanding Teacher of Polish Award from the Bureau of Foreign Languages from the Chicago Board of Education (1989). I was included in Who's Who in Polish America and in Who's Who Among America's Teachers. I was twice Queen of May and twice Swita in PWAA.

I graduated from the Academy of Education in Krakow with a degree in Polish philology. In Chicago, I obtained two master degrees, one in Slavic Languages and Education from the University of Illinois at Chicago and another in School Administration and Supervision from Roosevelt University. I am a Ph.D. candidate in Polish Literature at the University of Chicago. My dissertation deals with the issues of Polish women at the end of 19th century in Orzeszkowa's literary works.

My whole life has been dedicated to serving the Polish community and devoted to women's issues. In order to serve better and help those in need, I continue to study to gain more skills to be able to share my knowledge, abilities, and talents to fulfill the words of the Blessed John Paul II:

*A person is not great based on what he has, or who he is, but by what he/she shares with others.*

With this approach to serving PWAA, I'm sure I will not disappoint you if you elect me.

**Czesława K. Kolak**

### MEMBER MILESTONES

#### Frances Chwalek Michigan Gr. 226

Frances Chwalek, a member of Group 226 for over 55 years, turned 90 years young on January 14, 2011, surrounded by family and friends. She is the proud Mother of three sons, Grandmother of eight, and Great-Grandmother of 17. Frances fondly recalls all of the special "mystery" outings and social events that had been organized by the officers of Group 226 throughout the years. She also served in several different capacities as a group officer and was a Delegate to the National Convention. Photo shows Frances with her birthday basket of goodies. Sto Lat, Frances!



#### Maria Lorys - Chicago Gr. 693

Maria Lorys, who served for 31 years as the Polish editor of *Głos Polek* and held many offices in both Group 693 and Council 27, celebrated her 95th birthday in February of this year. Mrs. Lorys now lives in Poland but a party was held for her during a recent visit in Chicago hosted by her son Jan Lorys, daughter-in-law Carleen Lorys, and daughter Ewa Regulski. Many friends attended the event, wishing Mrs. Lorys continued health and happiness. Mrs. Lorys recently published the first volume of her memoirs and is currently working on the second volume. Serdeczne Sto Lat!

#### Victoria Kicielinski - Cleveland Gr. 665

Victoria Kicielinski, a PWA member since childhood, turned 94 years young on April 1, 2011. She sent us a poem she had written for her Mother, when she was only 18 years old. Many happy memories, Victoria, and many happy returns! Sto Lat!

#### *Droga Mamo*

Kiedy mamó byłam mała, Tyś mnie mamó kołysała  
A gdy kiedy choworowałam, Tyś mnie mamó pielęgnowała.  
Tyś wiele nocy nie spała, gdyś się mną opiekowała.  
Tyś mamó, jak mój Anioł Stróż czuwała nademną wciąż.  
Więc serdecznie Ci dziękuję, całym sercem Cię miłuję  
I najdroższe co posiadam, u Twych stóp dzisiaj składam.  
Za to, żeś tak o mnie dbała i z dzieciństwa wychowała,  
Jak najdłużej mamó żyj, o radości śnij.

Może się odezwą głosy, że już w wieku masz siwe włosy  
Dla mnie jesteś ta sama, całym sercem ukochana mama.  
Słodka, dobra, sercu miła, i życzę Ci, byś jak najdłużej żyła  
W szczęściu i radosnym śnie, bo Twa córka kocha Cię.



## In Memoriam



*We note with sadness the passing of the following PWA members.  
For March, April, and May*



Gr. No.	Member	City/State
0006	Marianna W Moskal	Harwood Hts, IL
0031	Edith Mazurek	New Iberia, LA
0031	Lorraine M Ciechanowski	Lansing, IL
0037	Alice Bugaski	Dyer, IN
0043	Dorothy Decker	Dekalb, IL
0047	Esther L Menick	Henderson, NV
0065	Patricia A Hartley	Gainesville, FL
0065	Florence Zack	Louisville, KY
0070	Ellen M Schroeder	East Peoria, IL
0070	Frances Celebucki	Flossmoor, IL
0073	Anna T Szymaniak	Rhineland, WI
0078	Rose A Spiglanin	Kenosha, WI
0078	Loretta Glander	Racine, WI
0083	Florence S Korpalski	Chicago, IL
0084	Emilia Kowalczyk	Streamwood, IL
0088	Mercedes H Spotts	Cleveland, OH
0105	Elizabeth Karwacki	Willow Grove, PA
0105	Bertha D Sheerin	Allentown, PA
0112	Terri A Dold	Cape Coral, FL
0118	Alexsandra Dankowski	Chicago, IL
0127	Irene McGary	Bellingham, WA
0132	Joseph M Dziegłowicz	East Chicago, IN
0132	Bernice Tokarz	Grovertown, IN
0132	Andrea M Jakubowicz	Demotte, IN
0137	Estelle J Sprengel	Niles, IL
0137	Helen T Pokrzywa	Chicago, IL
0137	Florence Ryzanca	Palos Park, IL
0137	Jean Sieradzki	Chicago, IL
0137	Cecelia M Borkowski	Moorestville, NC
0141	Helena Czelusniak	Holyoke, MA
0149	Ewelina Nahurska	North Oaks, MN
0175	Rose Rosnes	La Salle, IL
0175	Emily Poremski	Trevor, WI
0177	Ruth M Shoff	Allison Park, PA
0185	Laura M Raczka	Middletown, CT
0185	Michael T Pienkosz	Meroch, CT
0185	Raymond J Cichon	South Meriden, CT
0188	Helen J Ostrowski	Evanston, IL
0189	Marie Keller	Dousman, WI
0196	Stella A Reagan	Chesterfield, MA
0224	Emily Selewitz	Pittsburgh, PA
0248	Teresa Staskiewicz	Grayson, GA
0254	Patricia Kowalski	Buffalo, NY
0267	Shirley A Tible	Dupont, PA
0275	Mary M Tworek	Omaha, NE
0275	Bernice Szurpicki	Omaha, NE
0287	Stanley J Sowa	Holyoke, MA
0288	Arlene M Hess	Muncy, PA
0303	Josephine M Henkel	Allison Park, PA
0305	Stanislawa Milanowycz	Jersey City, NJ

Gr. No.	Member	City/State
0305	Joan M Stanfield	Lakeville, IN
0305	Helen Maslowski	South Bend, IN
0306	Eileen F DeCroo	Natrona Hts, PA
0314	Helen M Nastal	Bradenton, FL
0317	Genevieve Wickles	Hatfield, MA
0318	Julia T Borzymowski	Detroit, MI
0318	Theresa Kluisza	Newark, OH
0339	Antonina Klos	Saint Peters, MO
0341	Laura J Marshall	Pittsburgh, PA
0348	Helen Marchick	Shenandoah, PA
0366	Gloria A Licheniak	Flossmoor, IL
0379	Janina Wrzosek	Buffalo, NY
0379	Stella Platek	Buffalo, NY
0388	Helen M Marcin	Chicago, IL
0408	Stanislawa Knazur	Hammond, IN
0409	Bernice Wierzbicka	Omaha, NE
0419	Helen B Klimeczko	Buffalo, NY
0419	Julia Witek	Inglewood, CA
0419	Arlene Hamann	Buffalo, NY
0419	Bronislawa Ksiazek	Orchard Park, NY
0419	Michal L Kwiatkowski	Buffalo, NY
0422	Wladyslawa Cwieka	Chicopee, MA
0423	Genevieve Wisniewska	Des Plaines, IL
0423	Anna M Plens	Lake Zurich, IL
0427	Janina Algar	Tunkhannock, PA
0427	Gertrude Sobol	Scranton, PA
0427	Jean Smerdon	Taylor, PA
0427	Debra L Gardocki	Atco, NJ
0427	Melanie R Gatto	Old Forge, PA
0429	Bernice Glowacki	Apache Junction, AZ
0439	Irena Baker	Trenton, MI
0440	Stella Antolec	Spring Lake, MI
0450	Seraphine M Yurek	Wyoming, PA
0451	Andrea M Smith	Dearborn, MI
0451	Josephine T Jakubiec	Carleton, MI
0464	Florence Kajpust	South Bend, IN
0469	Genevieve Kozlowski	Erie, PA
0474	Violet Curtner	Tucson, AZ
0475	Louise G Kowalski	New Kensington, PA
0477	Darlene K McKinney	Freeport, PA
0480	Albina Singleton	Whiting, IN
0481	Lottie S Miarka	Ann Arbor, MI
0481	Veronica Grzelak	Cambridge, OH
0481	Lucille M Staszak	Barrington, IL
0488	Vera Biernacki	Fraser, MI
0488	Alice Wark	Grosse Pte Woods, MI
0488	Laura Pachla	St Clr Shores, MI
0500	Mary J Buika	Newington, CT
0500	Ida S Orr	West Springfield, MA
0500	Elaine G Masterson	Somers, CT

## In Memoriam

***We note with sadness the passing of the  
following PWA members.  
For March, April, and May (cont'd)***

Gr. No.	Member	City/State
0500	Viola P Kwiat	Agawam, MA
0509	Robert W Wilcox	Avoca, PA
0530	Matilda E Cionzynski	Plymouth, PA
0553	Helen Chalastra	Hartford, CT
0555	Stella Novicki	Oil City, PA
0568	Martha M Mach	Baltimore, MD
0568	Alice R Biernat	Baltimore, MD
0568	Mary E Eybs	Baltimore, MD
0579	Jeanette Bidrowski	Omaha, NE
0594	Bernice Tatko	Beaver Falls, PA
0602	Jeanette Stryjewski	Edison, NJ
0642	Barbara Mindas	Carbondale, PA
0642	Mary Vitovsky	Carbondale, PA
0658	Sophia H Phillips	Northville, MI
0661	Genevieve Szymczak	Chicago, IL
0661	Agnieszka Kreczmer	Chicago, IL
0680	Frances R Sundy	Erie, PA
0737	Regina Krukowski	Palm Bay, FL
0737	Anna Kurowski	Franklin Lakes, NJ
0754	Mary Wernecke	Marietta, OH
0754	Theresa Nocjar	Lorain, OH
0758	Helena V Pacholski	Baltimore, MD
0763	Geraldine J Burkowski	Baltimore, MD
0763	Irene I Mc Cann	Baltimore, MD
0769	Barbara M Sokol	Brownstown, MI
0769	Helen A Nauszelska	Sterling Hts, MI
0776	Victoria Mularski	Adams, MA
0782	Stella Faszczewski	Maspeth, NY
0782	Helen Kaminski	Toms River, NJ
0786	Victoria T Jozwiak	Mentor, OH
0809	Irene Ziemba	Hinckley, OH
0814	Helen B Sikora	Sepulveda, CA
0814	Theresa Lance	Pittsburgh, PA
0815	Patricia A Pruzin	Merrillville, IN
0815	Frances Cunningham	Griffith, IN

## Privacy Commitment To Our Members

The Polish Women's Alliance of America values your business and we appreciate the trust you've placed in us. That's why we're serious about keeping your personal information private. Protecting the privacy of your personal, financial, and medical information has always been and will continue to be a matter of top priority for us.

When you applied for life insurance or an annuity, you provided us with employment and medical information and authorized us to obtain further information concerning your health history, mode of living, and other personal characteristics. Based on this authorization, only the minimum amount of information necessary to underwrite your application has been collected.

We do not, and we will not, provide any personal information about you to any third party, except as permitted or required by law or as you may authorize. There are no affiliated financial institutions or third-party non-affiliates, which have access to your non-public information, except pursuant to your express written authorization. We never sell lists of the names and addresses of our members to any vendors of goods or services.

Employee access to your personal, non-public information is authorized for business purposes only. It's based on an employee's need to know such information to provide services to you, or to conduct PWAA business. Employees who have access to customer information are required to protect it and keep it confidential.

We are, and will continue to be, vigilant in the safeguarding of your personal, financial, and medical information. It is our sincere desire to maintain complete, accurate, and up-to-date records. You may contact PWA at our toll-free number 1-888-522-1898 to access, as provided by law, information included in your file or you can write Polish Women's Alliance at the address on page 2. We will promptly correct any error in our information. To protect your privacy, you will need to identify yourself by providing us with your name, date of birth, and social security number.

Our policy of protecting the security of non-public information also extends to former members who no longer have any coverage with us.

POLISH WOMEN'S ALLIANCE OF AMERICA

Form GLBAD-01/11



### **Remembering Mary Dybowski - Group 341**

Pittsburgh, PA—It is with great sadness that Officers and Members of Group 341, Krakowianki, announce the passing of Past President Mary Dybowski on

December 26, 2010, at the age of 100. She always had kind words for everyone, even when things were difficult for her, and she was an excellent and inspir-

ing Group President for many years. My first remembrance of her was when I was 10 years old. She had us helping her in the kitchen at parties; she would invite me to her home; and once she even showed me how to poach an egg at 6 a.m. She was head cook at Islay's and I often went there to help out. She told me I was like a daughter to her, and it is in that spirit that I would like to pay tribute to her. She was a wonderful woman and she will be missed! May she rest in peace.

—Vicki Niemiec  
Group341



### MIX 'N' MATCH CONTEST No. 7 Category: National Convention

Match each English word with the correct Polish translation and submit your answers postmarked no later than September 30, 2011

- |                |                   |
|----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Convention  | A. Wniosek        |
| 2. Chairperson | B. Wybory         |
| 3. Delegate    | C. Obrady         |
| 4. Sessions    | D. Głos           |
| 5. Report      | E. Kandydatka     |
| 6. Amendment   | F. Przewodnicząca |
| 7. Motion      | G. Poprawka       |
| 8. Candidate   | H. Sejm           |
| 9. Election    | I. Delegatka      |
| 10. Vote       | J. Sprawozdanie   |

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](mailto:vpres@pwaa.org) or by regular mail to: Polish Women's Alliance – Contests, 6643 N. Northwest Highway, 2nd Floor, Chicago, IL 60631.

#### Winners of Mix 'n' Match Contest No. 5

Congratulations to the three lucky winners of the Months/Miesiąc Contest.

Nicolas Sell	District I	Council 9	Gr. 89
Antoinette Ciucki	District III	Council 21	Gr. 132
Samantha Gorczyca	District VII	Council 7	Gr. 809

#### Correct answers:

1. January - F. Styczeń; 2. February - D. Luty; 3. March - I. Marzec; 4. April - H. Kwiecień; 5. May - K. Maj; 6. June - A. Czerwiec; 7. July - J. Lipiec; 8. August - L. Sierpień; 9. September - C. Wrzesień; 10. October - E. Październik; 11. November - B. Listopad; 12. December - G. Grudzień.

**Winners of the EASTER COLORING CONTEST and scores and winners of the YOUTH BOWLING TOURNAMENT will be posted online at [www.pwwa.org](http://www.pwwa.org)**

### “MY BEST MEMORIES OF THE SUMMER OF 2011” ESSAY CONTEST

1. Open to PWA members of all ages. There are two categories: Juvenile to age 16, and Adult from age 17.
2. Essay to be at least 50 words (photographs of event optional).
3. Please include name, PWA Group number, address, phone number, and email address. Also include category: Juvenile or Adult.
4. Entries become the property of PWA.
5. Deadline postmark October 31, 2011.
6. Prizes: First Prize – \$100; Second Prize – \$75; Third Prize – \$50; Honorable Mention – Two prizes of \$25 each. Prizes will be awarded in each category.

Mail entries to: Polish Women's Alliance – Contests  
6643 N. Northwest Highway, 2nd Floor  
Chicago, IL 60631. Or e-mail to: [vpres@pwaa.org](mailto:vpres@pwaa.org).  
Questions: Call VP Sharon Zago  
at 888-522-1898, ext 208

## Youth Cultural Program in Poland Summer 2011

**The following PWA members are taking part in this year's Summer Cultural Program in Poland. The dates of the Program are from June 19 to July 2. We wish them safe travels and unforgettable experiences as they explore Poland. Photos in the next issue of *Głos Polek*.**

Ashley Arnold	Gr 786 MI
Andrew Bolek	Gr 616 MI
Anita Dzik	Gr 821 IL
Joseph Dzik	Gr 821 IL
Matthew Guirey	Gr 786 MI
Alexandra Siwulec	Gr 677 NJ
Nicholas Tovar	Gr 211 GA

*Bon Voyage!      Szczęśliwej Podróży!*



## **PWA Announces 2012 Jagiellonian University Summer Program Scholarship**

**Application Period  
July 1 to August 31, 2011**

Komitet Oswiaty (PWA Education Committee) is happy to announce the Jagiellonian University Summer Program Scholarship. The scholarship is for PWA members ages 18 or over who fulfill the requirements and send in their applications and essays postmarked on or before August 31, 2011. The scholarship includes tuition, room and board, and round-trip airfare for one scholarship recipient to attend a four-week program at the Jagiellonian University in Krakow, Poland, in the summer of 2012.

All Kosciuszko Foundation Jagiellonian Summer Program Rules, Regulations, and Requirements associated with this Program apply to this award. Learn more at [www.thekf.org/programs/summer/study/krakow](http://www.thekf.org/programs/summer/study/krakow)

To download an application form and detailed requirements, please go to [www.pwaa.org/scholarships.htm](http://www.pwaa.org/scholarships.htm)



## **PWA Scholarship Recipients for 2011-12**

In the next issue of *Głos Polek*, we will publish the names and photographs of all scholarship recipients for 2011-12. They will include the recipients of the Regular PWA College Undergraduate Scholarships, the Special PWA Academic College Scholarships, as well as the High School Academic Awards and High School Sports Awards. Also listed will be the recipients of the Remkus-Sochacki Scholarships funded by the PWA Charitable and Educational Foundation.

**We wish all PWA scholars and students  
a happy summer and a great start to the  
new school year!**

## **International Year of Chemistry 2011 and Year of Marie Sklodowska-Curie**



The United Nations has proclaimed 2011 as the International Year of Chemistry under the leadership of the UN Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC). The

International Year of Chemistry commemorates the centenaries of the founding of IUPAC and the awarding of the 1911 Nobel Prize in Chemistry to Marie Skłodowska-Curie, the first woman to receive the award.

The proclamation by the United Nations of the International Year of Chemistry "Chemistry—our life, our future," focuses on the "achievements of chemistry and its contributions to the well-being of humankind." It aims to raise awareness of chemistry among the general public and to attract young people into the field, as well as to highlight the role of chemistry in solving global problems.

The year 2011 has also been declared the Year of Marie Skłodowska-Curie by Poland and France. As one of the most famous female scientists to date, Skłodowska-Curie is an icon in the scientific world and has inspired many tributes and recognitions. She was the first woman to win a Nobel prize, the first person to win two Nobel Prizes, and she remains the only woman to have received two. She was honored with the 1903 Nobel Prize in Physics (a joint award with her husband Pierre Curie and Henri Becquerel) and the 1911 Nobel Prize in Chemistry, which she received for her own work on radioactivity and the discovery of the elements radium and polonium.

Marie Skłodowska-Curie was born in Poland in 1867 and later lived and worked in France, where she died in 1934 from overexposure to radiation. She was in close contact with the PWA and visited the headquarters in Chicago during her travels to the U.S. PWA members supported her research and named her an Honorary Member of the organization. She remains a strong inspiration for future generations of how science can help mankind.



## 190 Rocznica Urodzin Norwida – Ostatniego Wielkiego Poety Romantycznego

Cyprian Kamil Norwid (1821-1883) uważany jest za jednego z najbardziej oryginalnych i wszechstronnych pisarzy polskich, którego twórczość cechuje wyrafinowany artyzm i filozoficzna głębia, należał do drugiego pokolenia romantyków, debiutujących około 1840 r. Rzeźbiarz i malarz, znawca muzyki, tłumacz Dantego, Szekspira i Byrona, dysponujący rozległą wiedzą z zakresu historii kultury, uprawiał obok poezji publicystykę polityczną i społeczną, eseistykę filozoficzną, krytykę literacką i artystyczną. Jego twórczość przypada na lata schyłku romantyzmu i rozkwitu pozytywizmu. Jako romantyk doceniał historyczną rolę romantycznej poezji, ale równocześnie zarzucał jej koncentrowanie uwagi na narodzie i gloryfikacji jego męczeństwa kosztem uwagi poświęconej codziennej rzeczywistości, człowiekowi i jego ogólnoludzkim powinnościom.

Do jego najślawniejszych i największych utworów literackich należą: „Promethidion”, „Bema pamięci żałobny rapsod”, „Fortepian Chopina”, „Do Obywatela Johna Brown”, „Czarne Kwiaty” i „Białe Kwiaty”.

W wędrówkach życia dzielił tułaczy los innych wielkich polskich artystów. Od czasu kiedy opuścił Warszawę w r. 1842 podróżował po Niemczech południowych i Włoszech, gdzie studiował malarstwo i rzeźbę. Przebywał w Rzymie, Berlinie, Brukseli, potem znowu w Rzymie, a w roku 1849 przeniósł się do Paryża, gdzie zaprzyjaźnił się ze Słowackim, Chopinem i Mickiewiczem. W 1852 r. wyjechał do Nowego Yorku, ale były to lata nieszczęśliwe, cierpiał nędzę i osamotnienie i po trzech latach wrócił do Paryża, gdzie pozostał już do śmierci. Pod koniec życia znalazł schronienie w zakładzie Św. Kazimierza, przytułku dla polskich weteranów, i tam w roku 1883 zmarł. Pochowano go w zbiorowej mogile na cmentarzu w Montmorency. W 180 rocznicę urodzin poety sprowadzono urnę z ziemią



z jego grobu na Wawel i umieszczono ją w Krypcie Wieszczów, obok Mickiewicza i Słowackiego. Urnę poświęcił Jan Paweł II a Dzwon Zygmunta obwieścił początek uroczystości.

### *Moja piosnka II* (Cyprian Kamil Norwid)

Do kraju tego, gdzie kruszynę chleba  
Podnoszą z ziemi przez uszanowanie  
Dla darów Nieba...  
Tęskno mi, Panie...

Do kraju tego, gdzie winą jest duża  
Popsować gniazdo na gruszy bocianie,  
Bo wszystkim służyć...  
Tęskno mi, Panie...

Do kraju tego, gdzie pierwsze ukłony  
Są, jak odwieczne Chrystusa wyznanie,  
„Bądź pochwalony!”  
Tęskno mi, Panie...

### *My Song II* (Cyprian Kamil Norwid)

For that land where a scrap of bread is picked up  
From the ground out of reverence  
For Heaven's gifts...  
I am homesick, Lord!...

For the land where it's a great travesty  
To harm a stork's nest in a pear tree,  
For storks serve us all...  
I am homesick, Lord!...

For the land where we greet each other  
In the ancient Christian custom:  
“May Christ's name be praised!”  
I am homesick, Lord!...

Zdjęcie: *Fragment symbolicznego grobowca  
Cypriana Kamila Norwida w Krypcie Wieszczów  
na Wawelu, autorstwa Czesława Dźwigaja.*

## Alchemia – sztuka fascynująca (cont.)

Najślawniejszym polskim alchemikiem był Michał Sędziwój - filozof i dyplomata, którego hermetyczne pisma ponoć czytał Isaac Newton. Sędziwój wierzył w możliwość odkrycia „kamienia filozoficznego” i jak każdy alchemik usiłował transmutacji metali nieszlachetnych w złoto, ale eksperymenty czysto chemiczne, bez użycia magii, zdawały się dominować w jego pracy i przynosiły rezultaty naukowe. Uważa się, że Sędziwój, na 176 lat przed Prestley'em odkrył tlen i jego życiodajną funkcję. Prażąc saletrę potasową otrzymał szczególny gaz (tlen), który nie był zwyczajnym powietrzem, i który to nazwał „duchem świata”, „ukrytym w powietrzu pokarmem życia”.

Alchemicy w swoich eksperymentach stworzyli i opisałili wiele prawdziwych reakcji chemicznych i odkrywali nowe pierwiastki i substancje. Pierwsi opisali kwas siarkowy i metodę otrzymywania kwasu azotowego (Geber, XVI w.), kwasu solnego, „wody królewskiej”, chlorku cyny, siarczanu amonu, odkryli własności fosforu, arsenu, amoniaku i wielu soli.

I chociaż dopiero w XVIII wieku alchemicy doszli do wniosku, że zmiany w materii mają tylko materialne, racjonalnie dające się tłumaczyć przyczyny i że magia nie ma z tym nic wspólnego, ich eksperymenty ugotowały drogę nowoczesnym doświadczeniom chemicznym.

# Alchemia – sztuka fascynująca

W ostatnim numerze „Głosu Polek” wspomnieliśmy o Międzynarodowym Roku Chemii a także o Marii Skłodowskiej-Curie i jej wkładzie w tę dziedzinę nauki. W bieżącym numerze chcieliśmy się podzielić historią i ciekawostkami związanymi z alchemią – sztuką tajemną, pseudonauką odkrywającą tajemnice natury i będącą prekursorem nowoczesnej chemii, farmakologii i metalurgii.

Alchemia pojawiła się w czasach starożytnych w Mezopotamii, Chinach, Indiach, Egipcie i Grecji. We wczesnym średniowieczu rozwijała się w Bizancjum i stamtąd została przyjęta przez najeźdźców muzułmańskich. Zachodnia Europa dopiero w czasie wypraw krzyżowych zapoznała się z koncepcjami alchemicznymi.

Ideałem alchemików było dążenie do doskonałości i wiara, że otaczający świat i człowiek mogą być pozbawione wszelkich defektów, „zanieczyszczeń” i zła. W związku z tym koncentrowali się głównie na poszukiwaniu eliksiru życia, panaceum – leku na wszystkie możliwe choroby i „kamienia filozoficznego”, substancji, przy pomocy której mogliby przemieniać metale w ten najczystszy i najdoskonalszy, tzn. złoto. Wśród innych celów było „stworzenie” homunculusa – żywej istoty lub człowieka, i opracowanie metody paligenezy, czyli zregenerowanie żywych organizmów z popiołu. Alchemicy próbowali znaleźć „klucz” do „boskich sekretnych procesów”, które ich zdaniem były niezbędne do stworzenia świata i ciągle jeszcze zachodziły w przyrodzie, chcieli zrozumieć je i imitować. Ponieważ ich prawdziwe rozumienie budowy materii było bardzo ograniczone, ich eksperymentom towarzyszyła magia, metafizyka, religia i spiritualizm.

Szesnaste i siedemnaste stulecie to czasy wielkich alchemików europejskich. Ale też wcześniej, bo jeszcze w średniowieczu, znanymi postaciami, związanymi aktywnie z alchemią byli franciszkanin Roger Bacon oraz dominikanin Albert Wielki - jeden z nauczycieli św. Tomasza z Akwinu, również poważającego ową dziedzinę. Na tematy alchemiczne pisał Giordano Bruno, i można dopatrzeć się wpływów i zainteresowania tą wiedzą



u takich wielkich filozofów i naukowców jak Franciszek Bacon i Isaac Newton.

Ale największym chyba autorytetem w dziedzinie spraw tajemnych cieszył się Paracelsus (1493-1541), profesor Uniwersytetu Bazylejskiego, lekarz i przyrodnik, zwany ojcem medycyny nowożytnej. Paracelsus uważał, że lekarz, jeśli ma odpowiednio

wykonywać swą pracę, oprócz łaski boskiej potrzebuje znajomości i biegłości w czterech dyscyplinach: filozofii, astronomii, alchemii i rzetelności. Jego wizyta w Polsce w 1520 r. miała duże znaczenie dla rozwoju polskiej alchemii i medycyny, a Kraków stał się ważnym ośrodkiem paracelsyzmu.

Do Polski wiedzę alchemiczną i praktykę przynieśli zakonnicy. Pierwsze udokumentowane doniesienia o paraniu się alchemią na terenie Polski pochodzą z XV w. Interesowali się alchemią nasi królowie (Zygmunt II August, Stefan Batory i Zygmunt III Waza) i magnateria sponsorując badania i utrzymując na swoich dworach alchemików jako doradców i lekarzy i potencjalnych „twórców” złota. „Kamienia filozoficznego” szukali wszyscy; i tak wielki pożar w klasztorze Dominikanów w Krakowie w 1462 r. wybuchł podobno właśnie podczas doświadczeń alchemicznych prowadzonych przez zakonników, a pożar zamku na Wawelu w 1595 r. także spowodowany był nieostrożnością podczas prac alchemicznych dokonywanych w obecności króla Zygmunta III.

Kraków był stolicą polskiej alchemii, i chociaż nie wykładano jej oficjalnie w Akademii, to zjeżdżali się tu europejscy alchemicy, między innymi wspomniany już Paracelsus, rozślawiony przez Goethe’go Johann Faust i angielski astrolog, matematyk i doradca królowej Elżbiety I - John Dee.

*Ciąg dalszy na stronie 34*

Ilustracja: *Alchemik Sędziwój i Zygmunt III – obraz Jana Matejki z 1867, przedstawiający scenę przemiany srebrnej monety w złoto przez alchemika Michała Sędziwoja w jednej z wawelskich komnat.*





**POLISH WOMEN'S  
ALLIANCE OF AMERICA**

6643 N. Northwest Hwy., 2nd Fl.  
Chicago, Illinois, 60631  
[www.pwaa.org](http://www.pwaa.org)

## *Morze, nasze morze. . .*

“Morze, nasze morze wiernie ciebie będziem strzec...”  
tą pieśnią rozbrzmiewały przez wiele lat pociągi kolonijne wiozące dzieci z całego kraju na wakacje nad Bałtykiem. Ta popularna piosenka to hymn Marynarki Wojennej, stworzony przez kpt. Adama Kowalskiego na przełomie lat 20. i 30. XX wieku. Jego powstanie związane było z budową polskiej floty wojennej oraz miasta Gdyni - największego portu wojennego.

W tym roku pieśń tę Orkiestra Reprezentacyjna Marynarki Wojennej wykonywała podczas wielu oficjalnych uroczystości oraz na koncertach i pokazach musztry paradnej, które miały miejsce w czasie Europejskich Dni Morza w maju i corocznie tradycyjnie obchodzonych Dni Morza i Święta Marynarki Wojennej w czerwcu.

Od 19 do 22 maja Gdańsk był morską stolicą Europy. Europejski Dzień Morza obchodzony jest 20 maja. Został on ustanowiony w 2008 roku przez Komisję

Europejską, Parlament Europejski i Radę UE. Pierwsze obchody odbyły się w Brukseli, w 2009 roku gospodarzem imprezy były Włochy, a rok później Hiszpania.

Tegoroczne Europejskie Dni Morza w Gdańsku zainaugurowała Europejska Konferencja Morska. W spotkaniu wzięli udział przedstawiciele organizacji związanych z gospodarką morską i rybołówstwem z niemal wszystkich krajów UE, a także spoza niej.

Nasze polskie Dni Morza (albo Święto Morza), obchodzone w czerwcu, zapoczątkowane zostały w 1932 r. w Gdyni. Początkowo miało to być uroczyste święcenie łodzi i kutrów rybackich, w dzień patrona rybaków Św. Piotra (29 czerwca) ale wkrótce inicjatywa ta przerodziła się w obchodzone dorocznie ogólnopolskie uroczystości poświęcone morzu w celu podkreślenia nierozwalnej więzi narodu z morzem.

