

# GŁOS POLEK

POLISH WOMEN'S ALLIANCE OF AMERICA

SUMMER 2013 NO. 3 MMXIII



## POLAND'S NATIONAL PARKS



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

**GŁOS POLEK** Urzędowy Organ  
ZWIAZKU POLEK W AMERYCE  
Wychodzi cztery razy w roku

## THE POLISH WOMEN'S VOICE

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## On the Cover

Clockwise from top left: Slowiny  
National Park, Wigry National Park,  
Bieszczady National Park, Tatry  
National Park, Pieniny National Park,  
and Bialowieza National Park

*See article on page 28*

## NEXT DEADLINES FOR GŁOS POLEK

Fall 2013 issue:

Deadline for articles is October 1

Winter 2014 issue:

Deadline for articles is January 1

## HOLIDAY HOURS

PWA Offices will be closed  
on the following days:

Monday, September 2 - Labor Day

## You can also contact us by email 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  
email addresses or call our toll-free number at **888-522-1898**.

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*Patroness of  
Polish Women's  
Alliance  
of America*



*Our Lady of  
Częstochowa*



*The PWA emblem  
depicts two women,  
one in America and  
one in Poland, extending  
hands to one another  
in a gesture of  
friendship and  
solidarity*

***PWA Motto***

*"The ideals of a woman  
are the strength of  
a nation"*

***Polish Women's Alliance  
of America***

***A fraternal benefit society  
serving the Polish  
American community  
since 1898***

***www.pwaa.org***

***Dear Members and Friends,***

In May, we celebrated the 115th anniversary of Polish Women's Alliance of America ... it was gratifying to have so many members and friends join us at the Banquet, and we were very happy to also welcome our National Directors and District Presidents in Chicago. You will find photos from the Banquet on pages 4 - 6 in this issue of *Głos Polek*.

Special thanks to our Master of Ceremonies, Charlie Wojciechowski of NBC 5 News Chicago, to Bishop Andrew Wypych, to Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Sochacki, to the representatives of the Polish Consulate and many Polish American and other organizations, and to all the officers and staff who worked so hard on making the Banquet a success. Congratulations to the **Fraternalists of Distinction and Volunteer of the Year** honored at the Banquet, and to our two **Remkus-Sochacki Scholarship** recipients who were presented with their awards during the Banquet as well. The Fraternalists of Distinction are listed on page 7.

Now we look forward to our 116th year – and I hope that the energy and enthusiasm generated by our anniversary celebrations will extend into the coming year – and beyond. To start off the next year, we are happy to announce a new insurance plan and a new insurance promotion in this issue: the **Youth Investment Combo Plan** for children up to age 10 and our **Back-to-School Promotion** which offers attractive rates for life insurance policies of \$1000 or more for youth members up to age 20. Please see pages 14 - 16 for rates and more information.

**PWA Annuities** are back (see page 17) and the **Anniversary Maximizer Offer** (page 13) is ongoing – please watch for your Maximizer letters in the mail in the coming months. This is an excellent opportunity for you to increase your existing insurance coverage with PWA quickly and easily. We are always trying to come up with new and beneficial ways to help you with your financial planning and to attract new members. The **115th Anniversary Membership Contest** continues until December 31st and offers cash awards to Districts signing up the most new members during the year (see page 18). We look to all of you to do your part to ensure a strong future for the PWA.

In August, we celebrate the feast day of our Patroness, Our Lady of Czestochowa (August 26th). In addition to the observances held in Districts, Councils, and Groups, we will once again travel to the Shrine in Doylestown for our annual pilgrimage to honor Our Lady and to celebrate PWA Day on Sunday, August 25th. Please contact Vice President Sharon Zago if your District plans to send representation to this beautiful annual event.

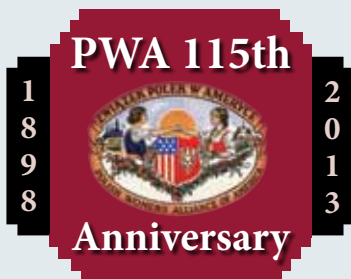
As summer draws to a close, I wish all of our members and their families relaxation and rest. Be sure to take some time out of your busy lives to enjoy special family moments and to make some summer memories. I also wish our students of all ages a happy back-to-school and much success in the coming school year.

***May Our Lady of Czestochowa keep you all in her care.***

Fraternally,

Delphine Huneycutt  
National President





## 115th ANNIVERSARY BANQUET

On Sunday, May 19, 2013, PWA officers, members, representatives of many Polish American and fraternal organizations, and guests and supporters of PWA, many of them from out of town, gathered together to celebrate the 115th Anniversary of Polish Women's Alliance of America at a Gala Banquet held at Cafe La Cave in Des Plaines, Illinois.

The event started with a cocktail hour in the sunny lobby where guests and old friends could catch up with each other, while the Carl Linden Strings provided background music. The Banquet opened with words of welcome from Banquet Chair Secretary-Treasurer Antoinette L. Trela, followed by a blessing given by Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Chicago Andrew Wypych. Then former National Treasurer Barbara Miller introduced the National Officers and Directors of PWA, as well as the District Presidents. President of District III Evelyn Lisek led the assembly in the singing of the Polish and American national anthems. Past National President Delphine Lytell said the invocation and Honorary President Helen V. Wojcik offered a toast. Then Master of Ceremonies Charlie Wojciechowski of NBC News Chicago took over the microphone and welcomed everyone, wishing them a pleasant afternoon.

After luncheon, National President Delphine Huneycutt delivered remarks and Mr. Wojciechowski announced the Fraternalists of Distinction from the 14 PWA Districts (see names on page 7). The Volunteer of the Year Award was also presented, and representatives of other Polish American and fraternal organizations were recognized. Robert Rusiecki, Deputy Consul General, delivered greetings and best wishes from the Consulate General of the Republic of Poland in Chicago. Then Vice President Sharon Zago read greetings received from those organizations that could not be in attendance. Finally, Mr. Thomas Sochacki presented the 2013 Remkus-Sochacki Academic Scholarships to two students, Joanna Hrabia of California and Jeffrey Zakrzewski of Connecticut. Camille Kopielski and Dr. Vivian Walkosz also participated in the presentation; they were the judges of the scholarship applications. Both Joanna and Jeffrey read the essays they had submitted along with their applications. Congratulations to both of our winners!

The festivities ended with two raffles – a Gift Basket Raffle and a 50-50 Cash Raffle, the proceeds of which will benefit the Polish Museum of America and the Anawim Shelter for the Poor, both of Chicago, as well as PWA youth activities. Guests were able to view some of the objects from the *Głos Polek* Centennial Exhibition that were displayed in the banquet hall, and that portrayed some of the most significant moments in the 115-year history of Polish Women's Alliance. Thank you to all who attended, sent greetings, or purchased ads in the Program Book. And thanks to the Anniversary Banquet Committee for their hard work in preparing this elegant event.



*In photo at left, District Presidents at the Banquet, in first row from left: Lidia Filus District I Illinois; Mary Ann Watterson District II Western Pennsylvania; Evelyn Lisek District III Indiana; Mary Ann Nowak District V Michigan; Diane Reeve District VI Wisconsin; and Josephine Kuklasinski District X New Jersey. Second row: Grazyna Buczek District VII Ohio; Alvira Balut District VIII Massachusetts; Sophie Marshall District IX Connecticut; Bernadette Vlock District XI Nebraska; Cheryl Hillard District XIV Eastern Pennsylvania, and Mary Anne Wilk District XIII California.*



# Anniversary Banquet



*Fraternalists of Distinction received their awards at the Anniversary Banquet. State Presidents accepted the awards for the Fraternalists from their Districts who were not present at the Banquet. The Fraternalists were selected based on nominations submitted by PWA members in each District. The Volunteer of the Year was selected by the National Board and this year's award was presented to Adeline Holda of Group 661, District I. Congratulations to all Honorees!*



*From left, Master of Ceremonies Charlie Wojciechowski of NBC News Chicago, Secretary-Treasurer Antoinette Trela, National President Delphine Huneycutt, Vice President Sharon Zago, and Deputy Consul General of the Republic of Poland in Chicago Robert Rusiecki.*



*National Officers at the Banquet, first row from left: National President Delphine Huneycutt; Honorary President Helen Wojcik; National Director Felicia Perlick; and Vice President Sharon Zago. Second row: National Directors Mary Derwinski and Czeslawa Kolak, and Secretary-Treasurer Antoinette Trela.*

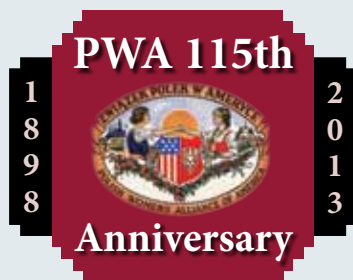


*From left: Secretary-Treasurer Antoinette Trela, Bishop Andrew Wypych, National President Delphine Huneycutt, and Vice President Sharon Zago.*



*The Volunteer of the Year, Adeline Holda of Group 661 District I Illinois, receives her Award from the National Officers at the 115th Anniversary Banquet.*

# Anniversary Banquet



Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Sochacki with the Remkus-Sochacki Scholarship recipients for 2013, Jeffrey Zakrzewski and Joanna Hrabia.



Representatives of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, from left: Dr. Fay Hlubocky, Sr. Branch 295 Auditor; Jarmila Hlubocky, Chicago District Financial Secretary; Sharon Zago, PWA Vice President; Delphine Huneycutt, PWA National President; Rosemary Mlinarich, Sr. Branch 258 Secretary-Treasurer; and Mary Therese Tylus, MA, Chicago District President of FCSLA.



We were honored to have so many representatives of Polish American and other fraternal organizations at the Anniversary Banquet. From left: Anna Sokolowski, PRCUA Vice President; Paul Odrobina, PNA Vice President; Mrs. Janice Odrobina; and Mary Sendra Anselmo, President of PAC Illinois Division.



Banquet guests had the opportunity to view selected objects from the Glos Polek Centennial Exhibition, "A Voice of Their Own." The front pages of the newspaper highlight important events from the past history of PWA.





## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FRATERNALISTS OF DISTINCTION HONORED AT THE ANNIVERSARY BANQUET

The following Fraternalists of Distinction were honored at the 115th Anniversary Banquet held on May 19, 2013. They were nominated by members in their Districts. We honor their dedication to PWA and their commitment to fraternalism, volunteerism, and doing all they can to help others.

***You do us proud!***



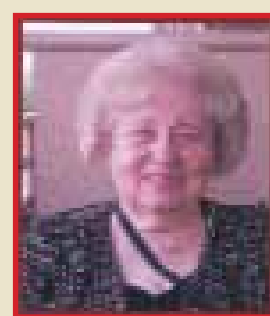
**District I**  
**Dorothy Polus**



**District II**  
**Mary Ann Watterson**



**District III**  
**Michaeline**  
**Omilianowski**



**District V**  
**Mary Ann Nowak**



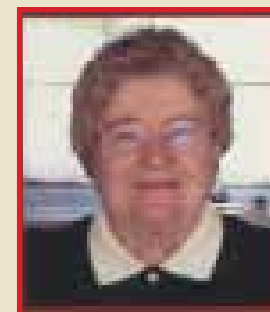
**District VI**  
**Penelope Manke**



**District VII**  
**Jadwiga Kopij**



**District VIII**  
**Jennie Starzyk**  
**Benton**



**District IX**  
**Mary Zielinski**



**District XI**  
**Bernyce Wagman**



**District XII**  
**Lucille Scrivani**



**District XIII**  
**Helen Simmons**



**District XIV**  
**Felicia Perlick**



**Volunteer of**  
**the Year Award**  
**Adeline Holda of Distr. I**

## District I Celebrates Świąconka



The annual District I "Świąconka" Easter Brunch was held at the House of the White Eagle in Niles, Illinois, on Saturday, April 6, 2013. District I President Lidia Filus welcomed the many guests who attend this event with their families each year to celebrate our beautiful Polish traditions. Two raffles were held -- one to benefit the PWA District I Scholarship Fund and one to support the Restoration of St. Stanislaus Kostka Church in Chicago. District I is looking to raise enough funds to purchase a commemorative pew in the restored church. National President Delphine Huneycutt, Vice President Sharon Zago, Secretary-Treasurer Antoinette Trela, National Directors Mary Derwinski, Dawn Muszynski Nelson, and Czeslawa Kolak, as well as Honorary President Helen V. Wojcik were in attendance. Cassandra Workman of Group 743, who recently received her PhD in Anthropology, addressed the guests and spoke about her work in Lesotho, Africa. She was planning to go back to Africa to continue her work and research this summer. Congratulations on your PhD, Cassandra, and please share your story and photos with us in a future issue of the newspaper. (Photo by A. Otap.)

## COUNCIL 40 MAY CROWNING



Marissa Durako was crowned Miss Polish Women's Alliance of America at the May Festival which was held in the King's College Chapel on Tuesday, May 14, 2013. Marissa was crowned by her grandmother, Florence Prociak, who is a lifelong member of the Polish Women's Alliance. Joanne Jones led the group in a prayer service during which Marissa crowned the Blessed Mother. A reception was held for members and guests of Polish Women's Alliance Council 40 following the ceremony. State President Cheryl Hillard and National Director Felicia Perlick were also in attendance.

Marissa is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Drew and Ann Marie Durako of Laflin, PA, and is a senior at Holy Redeemer High School. The photo above shows Melissa with her mother Ann Marie Durako and grandmother Florence Prociak – three generations of PWA in Group 362!

## DISTRICT IX HONORS MAY QUEEN



District IX Connecticut held an awards ceremony on June 23, 2013, to honor Council 8 May Queen Barbara Zielinski of Group 185 Wallingford, and to present awards to District IX Scholarship Recipients (see page 26). State President Sophie Marshall presented Barbara Zielinski with a pin and the honor of the May Queen designation. In photo, from left, Council 8 President Stephanie Marcaccio, May Queen Barbara Zielinski, and District IX President Sophie Marshall.

## DISTRICT VI PRESIDENT RECEIVES POLISH HERITAGE AWARD



Diane Reeve, State President of District VI Wisconsin, was presented with the prestigious Polish Heritage Award from the Pulaski Council of Wisconsin at a Polish Constitution Day event, which took place on May 5, 2013, at the Wisconsin Polish Center in Franklin, WI. Diane received recognition plaques from the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee and from the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors. She was also presented with a certificate from the U.S. House of Representatives from Wisconsin Congresswoman Gwen Moore; a letter from Tom Barrett the Mayor of Milwaukee; and a letter of regrets from the Archbishop of Milwaukee, Archbishop Listewski.

PWA Vice President Sharon Zago, National Director Mary Derwinski, and PWA member Gloria Waber were in attendance and presented Diane with a beautiful bouquet of flowers from PWA. Congratulations, Diane, on this honor, and thank you for all you do, for PWA and for Polonia in Wisconsin.



## 2013 ANNUAL CASH RAFFLE WINNERS

Congratulations to the following winners of the PWA Annual Cash Raffle.  
Winning tickets were drawn during the State Presidents' Conference held in Chicago on May 18, 2013.

Thank you for your continued support of our Raffle,  
the proceeds of which fund Komitet Oswiaty activities every year. **Bóg zapłać!**

Grand Prize \$2,000	Theresa Niebler, District 6, Council 1, Group 116
2nd Prize \$1,000	Susan McPartlin, District 1, Council 27, Group 693 (donated \$100 to Komitet Oswiaty)
3rd Prize \$500	Pam Lehman, Not a member
4th Prize \$250	Sean Connor, District 8, Council 28, Group 463
5th Prize \$250	Marie H. Gancarz, District 1, Council 27, Group 816
6th Prize \$100	Mary Piergies, District 1, Council 27, Group 693
7th Prize \$100	Barbara Limer, District 14, Council 44, Group 267
8th Prize \$100	Helen Szura, District 14, Council 40, Group 450
9th Prize \$100	Theresa Fic, District 1, Council 9, Group 126
10th Prize \$100	Andrea Torok, District 3, Council 21, Group 128
(Donated winnings to the PWA Charitable & Educational Foundation in memory of grandmother Joanna Zotkiewicz and mother Wanda Torok)	

KOMITET OSWIATY: SHARON ZAGO, VICE PRESIDENT AND CHAIRMAN

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: NATIONAL DIRECTORS FELICIA PERLICK, MARY DERWINSKI, DAWN NELSON, and CZESLAWA KOLAK

EX-OFFICIO: DELPHINE HUNEYCUTT, PRESIDENT

**We congratulate our winners and thank all of you for your support!**

### DISTRICT VI WELCOMES POLISH CONSUL

On Saturday, April 13, 2013, Paulina Kapuscinska, Consul General of the Republic of Poland in Chicago, attended the Polish American Congress meeting at the Wisconsin Polish Center, 6941 S. 68th St., Franklin, Wisconsin. Consul Kapuscinska talked about the work that the Polish Consulate does in Chicago, Illinois, and in the surrounding states, as well as about her recent trip to Poland. Everyone introduced themselves and the organization they represented. Consul Kapuscinska then answered questions from the audience. A reception with refreshments and a light brunch followed.

District VI President Diane Reeve represented the Polish Women's Alliance of America, along with John and Penny Manke of Council 1. We announced that PWA was celebrating its 115th Anniversary this year and we were happy to see that a representative from the Polish Consulate, Deputy Consul General of the Republic of Poland Robert Rusiecki, attended the 115th Anniversary Banquet in May. We wish Consul Kapuscinska success in her tenure as the Consul General of the Republic of Poland, representing Poland in the Midwest.

PWAA Council 1 Secretary  
Penny Manke

### BECOME A PWA MENTOR

If you would like to join our PWA Mentor Program, please send your name, address, phone number, and email address, along with your profession and your areas of interest and expertise to [pwaa@pwaa.org](mailto:pwaa@pwaa.org). A directory will be made available online for high school and college students seeking mentors.

### PWA BOOK & FILM CLUB FALL SESSION

The next meeting of the PWA Book & Film Club will take place on Thursday, October 3, 2013, at the PWA Home Office.

**The books we will be reading this session are as follows:**

1. *Young Girls of Wilko (Panny z Wilka)*, Jaroslaw Iwaszkiewicz
2. *Did the Children Cry?: Hitler's War Against Jewish and Polish Children 1939-1945*, Richard C. Lukas
3. *Ghetto Diary*, Janusz Korczak
4. *Maximilian Kolbe, Saint of Auschwitz*, Elaine Murray Stone
5. *Your Life is Worth Mine: How Polish Nuns Saved Hundreds of Jewish Children in German - Occupied Poland, 1939-1945*, Kurek Ewa
6. *The Birch Grove and Other Stories* (Central European Classics), Jaroslaw Iwaszkiewicz
7. *I Saw Poland Betrayed*, Arthur Bliss Lane
8. *Framing the Polish home: postwar cultural constructions of hearth, nation, and self*, Edited by Bożena Shallcross

**The films for the fall session include:**

1. *Young Girls of Wilko (Panny z Wilka)*, Andrzej Wajda, Poland, 1979
2. *Schindler's List*, Steven Spielberg, USA, 1997

To download a full Syllabus for the Fall Session, please go to [www.pwaa.org/events.html#pwabookfilm](http://www.pwaa.org/events.html#pwabookfilm). For more information, please call Vice President Sharon Zago at 888-522-1898. The moderator of the PWA Book & Film Club is Professor Ireneusz Raciborski. If you cannot join us for our weekly discussion meetings, you can still read along and let us know how you are enjoying the selections by sending email to [vpres@pwaa.org](mailto:vpres@pwaa.org).

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### **Wednesday, August 21**

District I Patron's Day Observance at St. Ferdinand Church, 5900 W. Barry Ave., Chicago, IL. Mass at 11 a.m. Lunch to follow in Social Hall. Donation is \$25 for adults and \$17 for children under 12. Raffle prizes welcome. Proceeds to benefit the District I Scholarship Fund. Reservation deadline is August 10th. Contact Council 27 President Bo Padowski at 847-420-4070 (after 5 p.m.) or 847-384-1220 (8 a.m. to 4 p.m.) or go to our website to download a reservation form.

### **Sunday, August 25**

PWA Day at the Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa in Doylestown, PA. Contact Vice President Sharon Zago for more information at 888-522-1898, ext 208.

### **Saturday, September 14**

Council 27 presents "A Night with the Polish Elvis," hosted by Group 211. Save the date and join us for a fun Dance Party, from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. at the PWA Social Hall. Donations are \$35 per person or \$65 per couple; includes hot buffet and refreshments. Contact Antoinette Trela at 847-323-1005 or Bo Padowski at 847-420-4070 (after 5 p.m.)

### **Tuesday, September 17**

Council 3 meeting at 12 noon at the Ford Community and Performing Arts Center, East Entrance (Senior Center entrance) 15801 Michigan Ave Dearborn, MI. For more information, please call Judy Szelc, President, at 313-843-6775.

### **Wednesday, September 18**

PWA, PNA, and PRCUA are sponsoring an outing to Blue Chip Casino, Michigan City, IN. The cost is \$26 and includes round trip bus fare, luncheon buffet, and a \$10 Players Card. Reservation deadline is August 19th. Go to [www.pwaa.org/events.html](http://www.pwaa.org/events.html) to download a reservation form, or please call Vice President Sharon Zago at 888-522-1898, ext 208, for more information.

### **Saturday, September 21**

District I State Seminar will be held at the House of the White Eagle in Niles, IL, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Lunch included. Cost \$25. Members and guests are welcome to come and learn more about the latest promotions and insurance plans of PWA. For reservations contact District I President Lidia Filus at 847-698-0250 or send email to [L-Filus@neiu.edu](mailto:L-Filus@neiu.edu).

### **Thursday, October 3**

PWA Book & Film Club starts fall session with a meeting at 3:30 p.m. at the PWA Home Office, 6643 N. Northwest Hwy, 2nd Fl, Chicago, IL. Members and guests are welcome to join us. Contact Vice President Sharon Zago at 847-384-1208 for more information.

### **Sunday, October 20**

District I and Group 821 invite all PWA members and friends to celebrate the 35th anniversary of the elevation of Pope John Paul II to the papacy. Join us for 10 a.m. Mass at St. Stanislaus Kostka Church, 1300 N. Noble Street, Chicago, IL. More information will be available at the District I Seminar, or contact District I President Lidia Filus at 847-698-0250

### **Saturday - Sunday, November 9 - 10**

Group 822 ArtPo Art Exhibit sponsored by Council 27, PWA Home Office, 6643 Northwest Hwy, Chicago, IL, Social Hall. Join us for two interesting days of looking at art, meeting the artists, socializing, and raising funds for Council 27 causes. Contact Council President Bo Padowski at 847-420-4070 (after 5pm) or 847-384-1220 (8am to 4pm).

### **Tuesday, November 19**

Council 3 meeting and election of officers at 12 noon at the Ford Community and Performing Arts Center, East Entrance (Senior Center entrance) 15801 Michigan Ave Dearborn, MI. For more information, please call Judy Szelc, President, at 313-843-6775.

### **Sunday, December 8**

Council 27 Christmas Party for Children up to age 10, at the PWA Social Hall, 6643 Northwest Hwy, Chicago, IL. Fun, games, pizza, visit from Santa. Register your children with Council President Bo Padowski at 847-420-4070 (after 5pm) or 847-384-1220 (8am to 4pm).

### **Saturday, December 14**

District I Christmas Luncheon, Oplatek, at the House of the White Eagle, 6839 N. Milwaukee Ave, Niles, IL. Entry at 11:30 a.m., luncheon at 12:30 p.m. Adults \$30; children under 12 \$15. Raffle prizes welcome. All proceeds will benefit the District I Scholarship Fund. Reservation deadline: December 7, 2013. Contact: Lidia Filus, District I President, 847-698-0250 or [L-Filus@neiu.edu](mailto:L-Filus@neiu.edu).

## **Group 821 Celebrates the Birthday of John Paul II**



In order to commemorate the birthday of Blessed John Paul II, PWA Group 821, in cooperation with the Northeastern Illinois University Department of World Languages and Literatures, organized a screening of the film "The Jeweller's Shop," based on the best-selling book written by John Paul II. He called the film "the best possible film based on my play." The screening took place on Friday, May 17, 2013 in the NEIU Language Lab. A discussion and question-and-answer session followed the screening. "Kremowki papieskie" (papal cream puffs) were served. The event was held one day before the birthday of John Paul II. The NEIU Department of World Languages and Literatures and PWA Group 821 sponsored the event.





## *Welcome to Our New Members!*

**A warm welcome is extended to these new members (April 1 – June 30, 2013).  
We are so glad you have joined us!**

<b>Gr. No.</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Introduced by</b>	<b>City/State</b>
0009	Sophie F Kornacki	Home Office	Stonington, CT
0132	Layla R Wojno	MaryAnn Michalak	New Lenox, IL
0132	Anna E Light	MaryAnn Michalak	Foxboro, MA
0185	Cecilia T Holuba	Sophie M Marshall	Wallingford, CT
0221	Ava M Marquis	Mary A Watterson	Moon Township, PA
0226	Jayden Skalski	James A Skalski	Wixom, MI
0226	Richard A J Skalski	James A Skalski	Wixom, MI
0226	Jeffrey S Palicz	James A Skalski	Dearborn Heights, MI
0280	Kevin M Kaniewski	Mary H Palka	New Britain, CT
0287	Kenneth J Uminski	Elaine H Uminski	Revere, MA
0305	Hadley M Martin	Julie A DeBuysser	South Bend, IN
0305	Margaret L Flora	Home Office	South Bend, IN
0306	Lilliana R Delo	Debra S Bzdziak	Midlothian, VA
0309	Molly C Boufford	Antoinette M Lelek	Northville, MI
0356	Karson Kava	Margurite A Thiltges	Omaha, NE
0366	Nicole N Bencie	Sharon A Bencie	Sarasota, FL
0408	Fletcher K Litera	Marcia G Litera	Cazenovia, NY
0408	Joseph Litera	Marcia G Litera	Cazenovia, NY
0499	Sonora E Zawacki	Helen Kapinos	San Luis Obispo, CA
0530	Isabelle S Henry	Louise Stryjewski-Henry	Shavertown, PA
0530	Gabrielle W Henry	Louise Stryjewski-Henry	Shavertown, PA
0642	Sydney Decker	Nellie C Manarchuck	Scranton, PA
0642	Riley Bittenbender	Nellie C Manarchuck	Scranton, PA
0661	Anthony Kowal	Mary T Kowal	Park Ridge, IL
0782	Sergio Manelli	Social Member	Elizabeth, NJ
0782	Elaine Januszewski	Social Member	Elizabeth, NJ
0805	Isla J Holewinski	Helen C Potrzuski	Dundalk, MD
0805	Marysia S Ziemiński	Shirley A Kalinowski	Owings Mills, MD

### **Council 27 Mother's Day Celebration**

Members of Groups in Council 27 met on Friday, May 10, 2013, at Antoinette Trela's house in Mount Prospect, IL, to celebrate Mother's Day. Refreshments were served, and over food and drink those present shared incredible stories and touching memories of their mothers. It was an emotional and memorable evening. We thank Antoinette for her hospitality and for opening her home to us, and we thank the delegates who attended for sharing their amazing mothers with us. Our mothers do live on in us and they would have been very proud of the women that their daughters have become!



## SEEKING NEW JOB OPPORTUNITIES? BECOME A PWA SALES REP!

- ◆ Are you ready to make a difference in your life and that of others, control your time and earnings, and be your own boss?
- ◆ Are you currently available to work, a stay-at-home mom with extra time, or retired but looking to supplement your current income?
- ◆ Are you a licensed insurance agent looking to close more sales?

### NEW AGENTS?

**We can help you get started quickly!**

### EXPERIENCED AGENTS?

**We have unique plans to make you successful!**

Polish Women's Alliance of America is looking for self-motivated sales representatives in the states of CA, CT, D.C., FL, IL, IN, MD, MA, MI, NE, NJ, OH, PA, and WI.

We are looking for independent licensed agents or individuals who are interested in becoming licensed agents in the states in which they live. Contact us today to begin selling the right products at the right time!

Call toll-free at **888-522-1898** ext 228 and ask for Bo, or send email to **padowski@pwaa.org** or return the coupon below to receive your information packet.



**Please send me information on becoming a PWA sales rep.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Return to:

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

*If you are a licensed agent,  
please include a copy of your latest license.*

## REQUEST FOR INFORMATION OR APPLICATION

To request a quote and/or application  
please call the Home Office at  
**888-522-1898**, send email to **padowski@pwaa.org**  
or fill in the coupon below and send to:

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

### INFORMATION ABOUT YOU:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

PWA Group No. \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ **REQUEST FOR A QUOTE**

### INFORMATION ABOUT PROPOSED INSURED:

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Sex: ☐ Male ☐ Female

Smoker: ☐ Yes ☐ No

### PLAN/S YOU ARE INTERESTED IN (please mark):

#### ◆ LIFE INSURANCE

Requested Face Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ Single Payment Whole Life
- ☐ 10 Year Payment Whole Life
- ☐ Ordinary Life

#### ◆ ANNUITY

- ☐ Flexible Premium Deferred
- ☐ Traditional IRA
- ☐ Roth IRA

☐ **REQUEST FOR AN APPLICATION**

☐ Life Insurance application      How many? \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Annuity application      How many? \_\_\_\_\_



## 115TH ANNIVERSARY MAXIMIZER OFFER

Watch for your  
Maximizer letters coming in the mail!

**This is a chance to easily and quickly increase  
your insurance coverage with PWA.**

Beginning in the month of April, members between the ages of 1 and 75 who have **PAID-UP** Insurance Certificates that were originally issued in the month of June, were offered the opportunity to **INCREASE THEIR CURRENT FACE VALUE, WITH NO MEDICAL EXAM** or lengthy application required. Each month thereafter, paid-up members will receive this Special Offer approximately 60 days prior to the original date of issue (anniversary date) of their certificates and will have a limited time in which to respond.

You may choose from these four options:

**OPTION A \$115 • OPTION B \$230 • OPTION C \$345 • OPTION D \$460**

**THIS IS A ONE-TIME PAYMENT**

The additional premium of \$115, \$230, \$345, or \$460 will be applied as a net single premium to purchase additional paid-up insurance. The new Face Amount for each option will be shown in your letter.

If you would like more details or need assistance, either before or after receiving your Maximizer Offer letter, please call or email the Secretary-Treasurer at

**1-888-522-1898 ext. 206** or at

**[secretarytreasurer@pwaa.org](mailto:secretarytreasurer@pwaa.org)** or contact

Bo Padowski at ext. 228 or send mail to **[padowski@pwaa.org](mailto:padowski@pwaa.org)**

**Don't miss this unique opportunity!  
ACT QUICKLY since you will have a limited time  
in which to respond.**



## **PWA YOUTH INVESTMENT COMBO PLAN**

### **A COMBINATION OF A WHOLE LIFE INSURANCE CERTIFICATE WITH AN ANNUITY RIDER**

The **Life Insurance** is a single-premium whole life policy, which provides **guaranteed protection** over an entire lifetime. The Whole Life policy accumulates **cash value** on a tax-deferred basis that can be used in a difficult financial situation in the form of a loan.

The **Annuity Rider** is similar to a savings accounts with interest compounded annually. The annuity value builds to one-half of the face value of the life insurance at attained age 18 at an 1.5% annual rate of interest, if all premiums are paid as due and no withdrawals are taken. The Annuity Rider matures on the anniversary of the certificate's issue date, in the year of the child's 18th birthday. If you choose the \$5,000 benefit today, at age 18 your child will receive a check for **\$2,500** plus a paid-up permanent life insurance policy with a **\$5,000** face value. This is a great way to provide a double benefit for your child or young family member.



#### **ISSUE AGES**

From 16 days old to 10 years (nearest birthday)

#### **FACE AMOUNTS**

Minimum Issue **\$1,000**

Maximum Issue **\$25,000**



#### **TO APPLY**

Simply fill out an application and mail it with your applicable premium payment to:

**POLISH WOMEN'S ALLIANCE OF AMERICA**  
**6643 N NORTHWEST HWY, 2ND FL**  
**CHICAGO, IL 60631**

#### **TO REQUEST AN APPLICATION**

Call our Home Office at **1-888-522-1898**; send email to **padowski@pwaa.org** ;

or download from our website at **www.pwaa.org**

(Go to FORMS Life Insurance Applications than choose the state in which you live.)

If you apply by **October 31, 2013**, during our Back to School Promotion, your child will receive a beautiful set of six booklets from the PWA Polish Heritage Series.

These booklets alone make a special gift!





## Back to School Promotion

Runs from August 1 to October 31, 2013

For children from newborn to age 20

When it comes to children and finances, what is every parent's goal? It is to raise young adults who can become financially independent by helping them to get a higher education. However, college costs in America have gone through the roof, rising much faster than the costs of housing or health care. According to the US Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics (Research Date 10/05/2012), the average annual cost of college tuition continues to rise at a rate of 4.5 % a year at private and 8.3 % at public universities. To help you start building a secure future for your child, we're announcing our Back to School Promotion. If you apply for one of the qualified plans, your child will not only get a good financial start but will automatically become a PWA member and may be eligible for many benefits offered to our members including scholarships.

Current scholarship opportunities:

College Undergraduate, High School Academic and Sports, College Junior/Senior Academic, Remkus-Sochacki Academic Achievement, and our Jagiellonian University Summer Program.

Among the current rules for most of our scholarship programs is the requirement that the applicant be a member of PWA for at least five years and have a minimum \$3,000 of whole life insurance coverage with our organization. Scholarships are not guaranteed and are subject to changes authorized by the PWA Scholarship Committee.

### Does your child currently have a PWA Whole Life Policy with at least \$3,000 face amount?

If the answer is NO ... DON'T WORRY! Beginning on August 1st and running through the end of October 2013, you can apply for a Single Payment, 10 Year Payment Whole Life Policy, or a new Youth Investment Combo Plan for that special child in your life.

In the spirit of promoting educational and cultural excellence, during this promotion each newly-insured child will receive a beautiful set of six booklets from our **PWA POLISH HERITAGE SERIES**.

### RULES

#### ISSUE AGES

From 16 days to age 20 for our SINGLE PAYMENT and 10 YEAR PAYMENT WHOLE LIFE PLANS and from 16 days to age 10 for our new YOUTH INVESTMENT COMBO PLAN

#### FACE AMOUNT

Minimum issue \$1,000 - Maximum issue \$25,000

#### TO APPLY

Simply fill out an application and mail it with the applicable premium to:

Polish Women's Alliance of America

6643 N Northwest Hwy 2nd FL

Chicago, IL 60631-1360

**No later than October 31, 2013!**

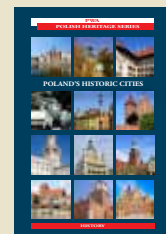
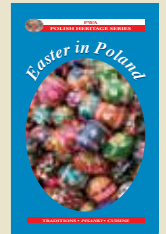


For application, rates, and more information please call: 1-888-522-1898, visit our website at [www.pwaa.org](http://www.pwaa.org) or send email to [padowski@pwaa.org](mailto:padowski@pwaa.org)

### **DON'T WAIT - ACT NOW!**

The best reason to act now is because the younger the child, the greater your savings per \$1,000 of benefits.

**See sample rates on page 16**





## Sample Rates for Youth Investment Combo Plan and Back to School Promotion

### FOR MALES (age to the nearest birthday)

	SINGLE PAYMENT	(One Time Payment)	10-YEAR PAYMENT	(Annual Payment)	YOUTH INVEST- MENT	(One Time Payment)
AGE	\$3,000 Insurance	\$5,000 Insurance	\$3,000 Insurance	\$5,000 Insurance	\$3,000 Insurance	\$5,000 Insurance
0	320.34	493.98	55.77	73.95	1,467.72	2,406.20
1	324.75	501.25	56.58	74.30	1,489.32	2,443.20
2	331.08	512.88	57.48	75.80	1,513.74	2,483.90
3	339.57	525.95	58.47	77.45	1,539.36	2,525.60
4	348.54	540.98	59.52	79.20	1,566.38	2,570.50
5	357.87	558.45	60.63	81.05	1,593.98	2,616.50
6	367.53	572.55	61.80	83.00	1,622.18	2,663.50
7	377.55	589.25	63.97	84.95	1,650.96	2,711.60
8	387.98	606.58	64.23	87.05	1,680.39	2,760.65
9	398.78	624.58	65.52	89.30	1,710.68	2,811.00
10	409.92	643.28	66.87	91.45	1,741.58	2,863.50
11	421.44	662.48	68.25	93.75	N/A	N/A
12	433.38	682.38	69.89	96.15	N/A	N/A
13	445.71	702.85	71.16	98.60	N/A	N/A
14	458.37	723.95	73.63	101.05	N/A	N/A
15	471.24	745.48	74.13	103.55	N/A	N/A
16	483.87	768.45	75.66	106.10	N/A	N/A
17	495.87	786.45	77.19	108.65	N/A	N/A
18	507.48	805.88	78.75	111.25	N/A	N/A
19	518.82	824.78	80.34	113.90	N/A	N/A
20	530.28	843.88	81.82	116.70	N/A	N/A



**YOUTH COMBO  
INVESTMENT PLAN**  
*Details on page 14*

**BACK TO SCHOOL  
PROMOTION**  
*Details on page 15*

### FOR FEMALES (age to the nearest birthday)

	SINGLE PAYMENT	(One Time Payment)	10-YEAR PAYMENT	(Annual Payment)	YOUTH INVEST- MENT	(One Time Payment)
AGE	\$3,000 Insurance	\$5,000 Insurance	\$3,000 Insurance	\$5,000 Insurance	\$3,000 Insurance	\$5,000 Insurance
0	282.54	430.98	51.89	66.15	1,429.92	2,343.20
1	288.39	440.65	52.41	67.35	1,452.96	2,381.60
2	294.99	451.65	53.22	68.70	1,477.05	2,421.75
3	302.18	463.58	54.56	70.10	1,501.89	2,463.15
4	309.93	476.55	54.96	71.60	1,527.69	2,506.15
5	317.94	489.98	55.89	73.15	1,553.97	2,549.95
6	326.43	504.05	56.85	74.75	1,581.08	2,595.80
7	335.13	518.55	57.87	76.45	1,608.54	2,640.90
8	344.07	533.45	58.89	78.15	1,636.56	2,687.60
9	353.34	548.98	59.97	79.95	1,665.24	2,735.40
10	362.88	564.88	61.11	81.85	1,694.46	2,784.10
11	372.84	581.48	63.25	83.75	N/A	N/A
12	383.07	598.45	63.45	85.75	N/A	N/A
13	393.68	616.18	64.88	87.90	N/A	N/A
14	404.55	634.25	65.97	89.95	N/A	N/A
15	415.65	652.75	67.26	92.10	N/A	N/A
16	426.81	670.35	68.61	94.35	N/A	N/A
17	437.18	688.58	70.02	96.70	N/A	N/A
18	448.14	706.98	71.46	99.10	N/A	N/A
19	459.83	726.05	73.96	101.60	N/A	N/A
20	471.33	745.55	74.52	104.20	N/A	N/A

With the **SINGLE PAYMENT** plan, you pay one premium and the policy is paid-up and in force for the entire lifetime of the insured.

With the **10-YEAR PAYMENT** plan, premiums are payable for a period of 10 years. After 10 years the policy is paid-up and in force for the entire lifetime of the insured.

The **YOUTH INVESTMENT COMBO PLAN** (Single Payment Whole Life (SPWL) plus Annuity Rider Policy). The annuity builds to one half of the face value of the life insurance at attained age 18 if all premiums are paid and there are no withdrawals.

For details and rates for different face amounts and for applications please call 888-522-1898 or send email to: [padowski@pwaa.org](mailto:padowski@pwaa.org).

\* Age 0 - 16 days old to 6 months

## **NEW PWA ANNUITY PRODUCTS**

### **Traditional IRA – Roth IRA – Deferred Annuities**

Today, traditional pensions, as we know them, are becoming extinct and future Social Security payments may not be enough for most people to ensure a comfortable retirement. Retirees will have to become more reliant on their own savings and investments. This is why Polish Women's Alliance of America is introducing these new Annuity Products to our members and friends.

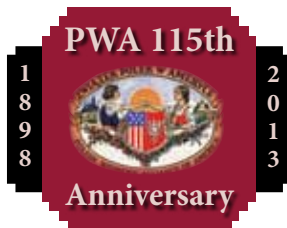
#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Interest rates will be adjusted annually on January 1st and will be based on current market conditions.
- The current annual interest rate is **1.75%** and will be in effect until December 31, 2013.
- The minimum guaranteed interest rate will be not less than 1%.
- To open a PWA Annuity, a minimum initial deposit of \$500 is required. Additional deposits of \$100 or more may be made at any time. However, total additional deposits in any certificate year may not exceed \$5000, excluding the opening deposit.
- Early withdrawal charges will be a percentage of the amount withdrawn as follows: in year one – 7%, year two – 6%, year three – 5%, year four – 4%, year five – 3%, and no withdrawal charges thereafter.
- You may withdraw up to 10% of your account value each year, starting in the second year, with no early withdrawal charges.
- Available up to **age 80**.
- Amounts withdrawn before age 59 ½ may be subject to a 10% federal early-withdrawal tax penalty.

This information is not intended as legal or tax advice. Consult your tax and/or legal advisor regarding federal or state laws before making any financial decisions.  
Interest rates subject to change.

For more information or to request an application, please call **1-888-522-1898**, send email to [padowski@pwaa.org](mailto:padowski@pwaa.org), or visit our website at [www.pwaa.org](http://www.pwaa.org).





## Celebrating Our 115th Anniversary

**Polish Women's Alliance of America Announces an Anniversary Year Membership Contest for**

**ALL PWA DISTRICTS**

**Starts January 1, 2013 – Ends December 31, 2013**

In 2013 Polish Women's Alliance of America marks 115 years since the founding of the national organization. We are proud to carry out our work in this century with the same passion and commitment shown by our founders. Our credibility and teamwork are the foundation of our organization. We continue to have significant success in our efforts to protect our members' financial future while inspiring members of all ages to preserve their Polish heritage by encouraging the study and use of Polish language and by cultivating knowledge of Polish history and literature in our youth.

**The TOP three PWA Districts with the most submitted applications will be awarded as follows:**

**One District First Place Award – \$1000** for a minimum of 100 submitted life insurance applications, with a minimum total of \$300,000 face amounts;

**One District Second Place Award – \$750** for a minimum of 70 life insurance applications with a minimum total of \$210,000 face amounts;

**One District Third Place Award – \$500** for a minimum 50 life insurance applications with a minimum total of \$150,000 face amounts.

**\$250 Awards** will be presented to all other Districts submitting at least 30 life insurance applications with a minimum total of \$90,000 in face amounts.

### **General Terms of Contest**

- Only whole life insurance policies qualify (annuities do not count).
- Minimum Face Amount of each certificate is \$3,000.
- Issue Ages – newborn to age 85 (nearest birthday).
- Each submitted application has to be approved and a certificate must be issued and accepted.
- Applications sent directly to the Home Office will be added to each District's total production. If the Group Number is unknown, the address of the insured will be used to determine the Group Number and District Number.
- If there is a witness signature, he/she will receive credit for the May Queen and Swita Contest.
- In the event of a tie, the District obtaining the higher total face value of new applications will be declared the winner.
- In the event of a tie in both the number of applications and face amounts, the District with the higher premium amount will be declared the winner.
- In the unlikely event of a tie in all three categories (number of applications, face amounts, and premiums) the winning District will be chosen in a drawing. The non-victorious District can qualify for the next-level-down award.
- A District can be awarded only once.
- Awarded funds to be used for the District's Youth Activities and/or Scholarship Fund.
- Winners will be announced in the first issue of *Głos Polek* in 2014.

**For additional sets of Rates, Applications and/or more Details, call the Home Office at 1-888-522-1898 ext 228 or send an e-mail to: [Padowski@pwaa.org](mailto:Padowski@pwaa.org)**



## Sure You're Getting The Best Discount On Your Prescription Medications? Read On!

Everyone across the country has been affected by the rising costs of healthcare. Fortunately there is a FREE resource available that will save your entire family up to 75% on the cost of your prescriptions.

The RxCut® Pharmacy Savings Card is FREE with NO enrollment, activation or expiration. There are over 54,000 participating pharmacies across the US and Puerto Rico.

It is simple and easy to use. Simply cut out the card below and keep it in your purse or wallet for easy access. As this benefit is Free for Members and Friends alike, for additional cards, please call our Office toll free at 1-888-522-1898 or go to [www.rxcut.com/PWA](http://www.rxcut.com/PWA) and print your FREE card today! The RxCut® Pharmacy Savings Card guarantees that you will receive the lowest possible price at the pharmacy whether it's your insurance copay, the pharmacy cash price or the RxCut® Plus discounted rate!

- Card is Absolutely FREE
- Accepted at 54,000 Pharmacies – all major chains
- No enrollment or activation
- Card is active and never expires

Make sure you are following these three easy steps to ensure that you are receiving the best possible price at the pharmacy when purchasing your prescription drugs:

1. Visit [www.rxcut.com/PWA](http://www.rxcut.com/PWA) and click "Find The Lowest Price" to price your medication over the internet
2. Call our Customer Service Line 1-800-808-1213 and have them find the lowest price at the pharmacy
3. Present your card at the pharmacy with your prescription



 <a href="http://www.rxcut.com/PWA">www.rxcut.com/PWA</a>		<a href="http://www.rxcut.com/PWA">www.rxcut.com/PWA</a>	
<b>PHARMACY SAVINGS CARD</b>			
<b>THIS CARD IS ACTIVE</b> Member ID: <b>RXC93YEPJ</b> RxGroup: <b>RXC802</b> RxBIN: <b>013824</b> RxPCN: <b>RXCUT</b> <b>FAMILY COVERAGE</b>			
<b>Helpdesk: 1-800-808-1213</b>		Start saving immediately by submitting this card to the pharmacy with your prescription. This program can help those with or without insurance save on prescription medications. <b>Let us help you save even more by finding the lowest priced pharmacy for you!</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visit the web site above and use the pharmacy price search to find the lowest priced option for your medications; or</li> <li>• Call our help desk at 1-800-808-1213 anytime for over the phone assistance finding the lowest priced option or;</li> <li>• Visit your local supermarket pharmacy and present this card with your prescription.</li> </ul> This card is reusable and never expires. Cardholders have saved as much as 75% with this program. <b>BE SURE TO SHARE THESE VALUABLE SAVINGS WITH FRIENDS AND FAMILY!</b> For more information, pharmacies, price quotes, <b>FREE</b> cards, or pet medications visit our website above or call 1-800-808-1213. <b>THIS IS NOT INSURANCE-VOID WHERE PROHIBITED BY LAW</b> <small>The program administrator may obtain fees from pharmacies based on your purchases in order to support this program. If you are a Texas resident please visit the above website, before using this card, to review the legal disclaimers.</small>	

When savings are generated, RxCut® collects an administrative fee from that savings in order to support this program.

Free For All, Inc® • (800)809-0072 • [www.rxcut.com](http://www.rxcut.com) • [marketing@ffaemail.com](mailto:marketing@ffaemail.com) • 921 Pleasant Valley Avenue, Suite 100 • Mt. Laurel, NJ • 08054

Rxc802Flyer040413

## Gift Card Program



# Polish Women's Alliance Gift Card Program



**Use PWA Gift Cards to Help Raise Funds for PWA!**



It's never too early to start thinking about your Special Occasion and Holiday shopping lists. Gift Cards make the perfect gift and everyone knows that the best gifts come in small packages! And you will support PWA's fraternal and charitable activities with every Gift Card that you purchase.



You can order your Gift Cards either by using the Order Form on page 21 and mailing it to PWA with your check, or you can order online. Many additional Retailer Gift Cards and denominations are available for purchase through PWA. For a complete list or to order online, go to our website, click on the Gift Card Program link on the Home Page, and order your Gift Cards online.



Be sure to use PWA's enrollment code 4ABBLL873219L.

**Website: [www.pwaa.org](http://www.pwaa.org)**

**Questions: Call 888-522-1898 ext 206**



### ORDERING INFORMATION

**PWA Account # 4ABBLL873219L**

Number of Gift Cards ordered \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to:

**Polish Women's Alliance of America**

Mail check and order form to:

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

Gift Cards will be mailed once a month on or around the 22nd of each month. Allow 5 business days for your order and check to arrive at PWA on or before the 15th of each month. You can also go to [www.pwaa.org](http://www.pwaa.org) to order Gift Cards online or to download more Order Forms.

### MAILING INFORMATION

Please send my Gift Cards to:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Return this coupon with the Order Form on page 21**



## Gift Card Program

**GIFT CARD ORDER FORM – POLISH WOMEN’S ALLIANCE OF AMERICA**

**Use PWA Account # 4ABBLL873219L**

**Thank you for ordering your Gift Cards through our PWA fundraising program. Your purchase assists with the funding of many of our fraternal programs and activities for all age groups. Your Order Coordinator is Antoinette L. Trela.**

Name	Customer #
Check #	Order Date

Product	QTY	Total	Product	QTY	Total	Product	QTY	Total
Ace Hardware \$25.00	\$		Home Depot \$100.00			Rumblin' \$ 900.00		\$
Altoona \$25.00	\$		Home Depot \$25.00		\$	Rumblin's \$25.00		\$
Amazon.com \$25.00	\$		HomeGoods \$25.00		\$	Rice Lumber \$25.00		\$
AMEC Theaters \$25.00	\$		Thomson \$15.00		\$	Regal Entertainment Group \$25.00		\$
Applebee's \$25.00	\$		J. Crew \$25.00		\$	Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory www.rmcf.com		\$
Babies-R-Us \$20.00	\$		J. Jill \$25.00		\$	Ross Dress for Less \$25.00		\$
Bahama Breeze \$25.00	\$		McPerry \$25.00		\$	Ruby Tuesday \$25.00		\$
Baja Fresh \$25.00	\$		Mexico-Chica \$100.00		\$	Ruby's Chris Creek House \$50.00		\$
Banana Republic \$25.00	\$		Mexico-Chica \$25.00		\$	Sallyway \$100.00		\$
Best Buy Shops \$25.00	\$		Mity Lubz \$30.00		\$	Sallyway \$25.00		\$
Best Baby & Beyond www.bb.com	\$		Mr-Arm Fabrica \$25.00		\$	Sally Beauty Supply \$25.00		\$
Bergner's \$25.00	\$		Nomad \$25.00		\$	Queen's Club \$100.00		\$
Best Buy \$25.00	\$		Nobis \$25.00		\$	Queen's Club \$25.00		\$
Birmingham's \$25.00	\$		Laudy's Jeweled \$25.00		\$	Rephora \$20.00		\$
Boston Place \$25.00	\$		Laudie's Enl \$25.00		\$	Queen's Crave House \$25.00		\$
Buck of Beppo \$25.00	\$		Leflore Eateries Yee Restaurants \$25.00		\$	Quark Authority \$ 800.00		\$
Cabela's \$25.00	\$		Liberal \$25.00		\$	Quark Authority \$25.00		\$
Canyon Pike South \$25.00	\$		Locust Chapter \$25.00		\$	Quiplex \$25.00		\$
Cathleen's Place \$25.00	\$		Loat & Taylor \$25.00		\$	Quinticks \$10.00		\$
Chili's Grill & Bar \$25.00	\$		Los Melon's Pizzeria \$10.00		\$	Quinticks \$25.00		\$
Chipotle Mexican Grill www.cmg.com	\$		Louche \$100.00		\$	Quincy \$10.00		\$
Chips Jumper \$25.00	\$		Mazzoni Grill \$25.00		\$	T.J. Maxx \$ 800.00		\$
Chick's \$10.00	\$		Macy's \$100.00		\$	T.J. Maxx \$25.00		\$
Chickadee Store \$25.00	\$		Macy's \$25.00		\$	Race Bell \$10.00		\$
Coke and Barrel \$25.00	\$		Maggiore's Little Italy \$25.00		\$	Rafale \$25.00		\$
Cole Funch (Not OH) www.cfc.com	\$		Machuca \$25.00		\$	Target \$25.00		\$
CVE Pharmacy \$25.00	\$		Mejor (not AK and HI) \$100.00		\$	TGI Friday's \$25.00		\$
Darden Restaurants www.drdn.com	\$		Mic's Microhouse \$25.00		\$	Rays-R-Lite \$20.00		\$
Dave & Buster's \$25.00	\$		Micromix \$ 800.00		\$	ULTA \$25.00		\$
Dick's Sporting Goods www.ds.com	\$		Micromix \$25.00		\$	Mons \$25.00		\$
Dillon's \$25.00	\$		Michards \$25.00		\$	Waldgreen \$25.00		\$
Dominick's \$ 800.00	\$		Michigan Mascot \$50.00		\$	Wal-Mart \$25.00		\$
Dominick's \$25.00	\$		Office Depot \$25.00		\$	Whole Foods Market \$ 800.00		\$
Dominik's Place \$10.00	\$		Office Max \$25.00		\$	Whole Foods Market \$25.00		\$
Decadence \$25.00	\$		Old Country Buffet \$25.00		\$	Whitite \$25.00		\$
DEMI Designer Shoe www.demi.com	\$		Old Navy \$25.00		\$	Williams-Sonoma \$100.00		\$
DeMott Daniels \$10.00	\$		Olgate Kitchen \$20.00		\$	Williams-Sonoma \$25.00		\$
EB Games \$25.00	\$		Oliver Garden \$25.00		\$	Yard House Restaurants \$25.00		\$
Express \$25.00	\$		Omnia \$25.00		\$	Zappos.com \$25.00		\$
Fish Locker \$25.00	\$		P.F. Chang's China Bistro \$25.00		\$			
FamousBap \$25.00	\$		Pancake Bread \$25.00		\$			
Famous Mountain \$25.00	\$		Peddyman \$25.00		\$			
Fay \$25.00	\$		Pallery Bone \$100.00		\$			
FF&M Marketplace \$25.00	\$		Pallery Bone \$25.00		\$			
Food Rack Cafe \$25.00	\$		Refined Cafe \$25.00		\$			

Participating retailers and products are subject to change

\*\*Limited time bonus offer. Participating retailers and products are subject to change without notice.

Participating retailers and products are subject to change

**\*\*Limited time bonus offer. Participating retailers and products are subject to change without notice.**

Make checks payable to: **Polish Women's Alliance of America**

## SENATOR B. MIKULSKI ANNOUNCES SENATE-PASSED IMMIGRATION REFORM BILL THAT INCLUDES VISA WAIVER FOR POLAND

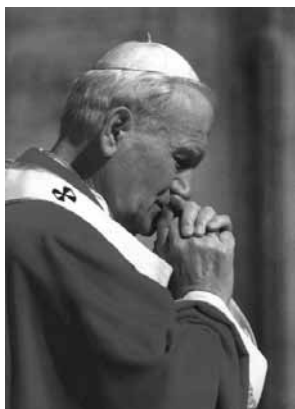


WASHINGTON, DC – U.S. Senator Barbara A. Mikulski (D-Md), Co-Chair of the Senate Caucus on Poland and a lifelong PWA member, recently announced the Senate-passed Border Security, Economic Opportunity, and Immigration Modernization Act – an immigration reform bill – that includes her legislation to admit Poland into the Visa Waiver Program (VWP).

Senator Mikulski's bipartisan provision, which was originally introduced with Senator Mark Kirk (R-Ill.), the Visa Waiver Program Enhanced Security and Reform Act, encourages travel and tourism to the United States which creates and sustains jobs. At the same time, the provision updates the VWP framework to reflect improved capabilities to track travelers entering the United States and improves annual reporting to increase oversight and transparency.

Senator Mikulski has long been an advocate for enhancing the VWP to include Poland. President Obama publicly endorsed the expansion of the VWP in an effort to strengthen America's tourism economy by creating and sustaining jobs, and he reaffirmed his support during a recent trip to Poland. The bill has the support of the US Travel Association, the US Chamber of Commerce, the American Hotel and Lodging Association, and the National Retail Federation.

Currently, citizens of 37 nations around the world are eligible to participate in the VWP, which allows foreign visitors to travel to the United States for up to 90 days without a visa. Outdated requirements exclude Poland, a strong democratic ally, from the VWP, despite allowing U.S. tourists to travel to Poland visa-free since 1991. Poland is one of only three nations in the European Union not included in the visa waiver program.



## SAINTHOOD FOR POPE JOHN PAUL II

VATICAN CITY — Pope Francis cleared Pope John Paul II for sainthood recently, a little more than eight years after his death and faster than any other person in the modern era. The Vatican said the healing of a Costa Rican woman has been approved as a miracle, one of the steps necessary for sainthood. Pope Benedict XVI had cleared the way for the lightning-fast process

during his papacy when he dispensed with the five-year waiting period after someone's death before the beatification process can begin. The development sets up a remarkable dual canonization of Pope John Paul II, along with Pope John XXIII, who served as pope from 1958 to 1963.

Pope Francis pushed aside the rules requiring at least two confirmed miracles to make John XXIII a saint, something the pope is allowed to do if he believes the figure deserves to be made a saint based on his own merit, according to Vatican spokesman Federico Lombardi. The two pontiffs, John Paul II and John XXIII, will be officially named saints "within a year," Lombardi added. Until now, the fastest person to be named a saint in the modern era was Opus Dei founder Josemaria Escriva de Balaguer, whom John Paul II declared a saint in 2002, after the Spaniard died in 1975.

## POLISH TENNIS PLAYERS DOMINATE AT WIMBLEDON



Last year, Agnieszka Radwanska made news at Wimbledon by becoming the first Polish tennis player to play in a Grand Slam final since 1939. She lost to Serena Williams, but history was made, and Poland's tennis players received world-wide recognition. This year, young tennis players from Poland once again made history, leading some to call this year's contest a "red and white Wimbledon."

Radwanska advanced to the semi-final, losing to Sabine Lisiecki (a German national of Polish descent). And Jerzy Janowicz and



Lukasz Kubot of Poland went head-to-head in the men's quarter-finals – the first time in a Grand Slam event in Poland's history. Janowicz won that match-up, but then he lost to Britain's Andy Murray in the semi-final and Murray went on to win the Wimbledon crown. But this was the first time that

Poland had two players in the Wimbledon semi-finals: Agnieszka Radwanska and Jerzy Janowicz (see photos).

Players with Polish backgrounds have been climbing the ranks for a few years now, building their reputations and those of the nations they represent. Caroline Wozniacki of Denmark, Wimbledon finalist Sabine Lisiecki of Germany, Lisiecki's fellow German Angelina Kerber, and Canadian Aleksandra Wozniak, all have Polish parents or grandparents and speak fluent Polish. On the men's side, Switzerland's Stanislas Wawrinka has Polish ancestry, and last year's junior Wimbledon and US Open champion, Filip Peliwo is the only Canadian-born sibling in his Polish family.

Congratulations to these young Polish tennis players who brought red and white to the Wimbledon center court this year. Hopefully, Poland will once again have a good showing in next year's tournament and will prevail all the way to the finals! We will be cheering them on!



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



*(Deaths between April and June, 2013)*

<b>Gr. No.</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>City/State</b>
0001	Virginia Occhipinti	Melrose Park, IL
0022	Barbara Poremba	Chicago, IL
0022	Evelyn H Puzan	Yardley, PA
0031	Helena P Kurnik	Glen Ellyn, IL
0035	Lucille La Pointe	Oak Forest, IL
0037	Brian A Kingsbury	Valparaiso, IN
0047	Helen B Edwards	Sarasota, FL
0055	Juliana A Workman	Willoughby, OH
0065	Ruth Kopetski	Nashville, TN
0070	Florieann Clement	Chicago Hts, IL
0073	La Verne H McElligott	Chicago, IL
0077	Genowefa Bogusz	Hammond, IN
0077	Laurie Dillon	Pensacola, FL
0077	Martha Urbanek	Highland, IN
0077	Catherine Jachim	Woodstock, GA
0078	Maryanna Kosobucka	Milwaukee, WI
0105	Dorothy M Wydra	Parkville, MD
0105	Theresa C Asman	Annapolis, MD
0112	Genevieve Wesolowski	Calumet City, IL
0116	Alice A Baranowski	South Milwaukee, WI
0126	Helen B Gleason	Mount Prospect, IL
0128	Marcella R Koller	Calumet City, IL
0132	Maria Gladysz	Philadelphia, PA
0132	Evelyn A Saczawa	Fishers, IN
0132	Frances M Jackovich	Rio Rancho, NM
0132	Lorraine Svitko	Portage, IN
0137	Virginia P Wrobel	Chicago, IL
0138	Helen Pierce	Bartlett, TN
0141	Mildred V Twarog	Holyoke, MA
0141	Amy Filip-Roy	Springfield Hamden, MA
0147	Apolonia Dabrowski	West Hartford, CT
0149	Phyllis Wasacz	Chicago, IL
0165	Maryanne Sosnowski	Deltona, FL
0170	Frances F Sywak	Dearborn Hts, MI
0170	Hazel T Szwapa	Spartanburg, SC
0177	Audrey M Keally	North Fort Myers, FL
0177	Margaret W Kielur	Pittsburgh, PA
0177	Carol Wanner	Pittsburgh, PA
0181	Frances Samolitis	Oglesby, IL
0185	Marion M Morris	Goshen, CT
0189	Eugenia Malek	Milwaukee, WI
0211	Genevieve Siemianowski	Chicago, IL
0214	Laura Szumigalska	Pittsburgh, PA

<b>Gr. No.</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>City/State</b>
0221	Donna Hurst	Pittsburgh, PA
0248	Sabina Dzimiera	Belle Vernon, PA
0271	Izabela Mazur	East McKeesport, PA
0275	Marcella C Baughman	Bellevue, NE
0280	Wanda T Glemboski	Colchester, CT
0280	Mary T Chiz	Niantic, CT
0288	Sophia E Marchetti	Eldersburg, MD
0288	Irene Morenko	Dallas, PA
0294	Helen E Lewandowski	Syracuse, NY
0305	Larry J Janowiak	South Bend, IN
0305	Gertrude T Grall	Columbia City, IN
0314	Helen L Potoczny	New Castle, PA
0317	Stanislawa Bardon	Chicopee, MA
0318	Helen Reiman	Plymouth, MI
0341	Valentina Sniadach	South Park, PA
0341	Angela Wisniewski	Pittsburgh, PA
0341	Robert L Kinzler	Pittsburgh, PA
0348	Marie Hovick	Montoursville, PA
0348	Josephine A Grzynski	Ashley, PA
0379	Mary T Kaminski	Pittsford, NY
0379	Cecylia Malachowski	Buffalo, NY
0419	Jane Bochen	Pittsford, NY
0419	Rose Grucza	Mooreville, NC
0419	Alfreda Kulinski	Buffalo, NY
0419	Julia Forsys	Elma, NY
0419	Melania Urbanski	Lancaster, NY
0419	Alma H Kedzierska	Elma, NY
0422	Mary Mizejewski	Chicopee, MA
0427	Anne Cwynar	Orlando, FL
0427	Stella Pelsynski	Apalachin, NY
0427	Catherine Victor	Old Forge, PA
0427	Rose M Cirard	Bristol, PA
0430	Elizabeth A Wikar	Dyer, IN
0434	Anna Stubbs	Warrior Run, PA
0439	Stella Herman	Defiance, OH
0440	Marilyn Cascio	Huntley, IL
0450	Charlotte M Dennis	Wilmington, DE
0451	Czeslawa Gugala	Dearborn Hts, MI
0469	Helen M Lawrence	Erie, PA
0469	Helen J Zebrowski	Erie, PA
0469	Marie Smock	Brookfield, OH
0469	Julia A Sartori	Salamanca, NY
0469	Irena A Yesko	Erie, PA



## We note with sadness the passing of the following PWA members (continued)

Gr. No.	Member	City/State
0469	Sophie Kuklinska	Erie, PA
0474	Clara Litwinski	Shelby Twp, MI
0474	Bernadine Yespak	Uniontown, PA
0475	Antoinette Kochanski	New Kensington, PA
0477	Sophie Rozewicz	Saugus, CA
0480	Anna M Lyson	Homer Glen, IL
0488	Margaret M Ryan	Center Line, MI
0514	Harriet N Gillis	McKinney, TX
0555	Stephanie Campbell	Oil City, PA
0568	Benjamin B Maszczenski	Rosedale, MD
0568	Mark D Sokolik	New York, NY
0579	Nora A Kosalka	Bellevue, NE
0579	Lorraine Sapikoski	Omaha, NE
0583	Geraldine R Guzdial	Bay City, MI
0585	Ella L Smosarski	Clinton Twp, MI
0585	Helen Iwanicki	Detroit, MI
0591	Dolores Jaworowska	Jersey City, NJ
0591	Aurelia Long	Lighthouse Point, FL
0616	Geraldine Wojciechowski	Newtown, CT
0637	Clara Choinski	New Britain, CT
0642	Walter Maksymiuk	Simpson, PA
0658	Regina Genievich	Throop, PA
0661	Lawrence M Chorostecki	Roselle, IL
0663	Helena Zysk	Utica, NY
0693	Irene A Wnek	Sherwood, WI
0702	Antoinette Zakoscielny	Baltimore, MD
0721	Veronica J Brent	Newfoundland, NJ
0729	Jean A Duryea	Jersey City, NJ
0732	Viola Kabara	Brighton, MI
0737	Cynthia Judowski	Bayonne, NJ
0737	Lucy P Russotto	Charleston, SC
0737	Mildred C Waleski	Wood Ridge, NJ
0737	Eugene R Komar	Middletown, NJ
0743	Clara Koral	Arlington Hts, IL
0749	Veronica Tybik	Highland, IN
0749	Anna Gregorczyk	Highland, IN
0752	Helen Zbydniewski	Los Angeles, CA
0782	Elizabeth Ferraro	South Hackensack, NJ
0782	Eileen Fennell	Clifton, NJ
0786	Lawrence M Merchel	Dearborn, MI
0793	Cecylia Widmaier	Vero Beach, FL
0812	Julia F Wacht	Sanborn, NY
0814	June Smolarski	Thousand Oaks, CA
0814	Irene Danis	Tarzana, CA
0819	Lois A Coughlin	Ocean View, NJ
0819	Lidia Jaremek	Chicago, IL

### Genevieve Chojnacki Group 786



Genevieve (Arnold) Chojnacki died in Surprise, Arizona, on February 4, 2013. She was born in Detroit in 1916, and is survived by her daughter, Sheryl (Douglas) Arnold Pelle and grandson Scott (Dee Dee). She was preceded in death by her husband Adam in 1997, and by her daughter Cynthia Arnold Dunham in 2006. She was an active member of VFW Post 4404 in Hamtramck, the Blue and Gold Star Mothers, and PWA Group 786 and Council 20. We extend sincere condolences to her family and friends. *May she rest in peace.*

### PWA Easter Coloring Contest Winners & 2013 Polonia Youth Bowling Tournament Winners

Go to our website at [www.pwaa.org](http://www.pwaa.org)  
to see lists of winners  
and participants

### District I Appeal for the Restoration of St. Stanislaus Kostka Church

District I gratefully acknowledges all contributions received to date in response to the St. Stan's Appeal towards the purchase of a District I pew in the restored church. In order to reach our goal of \$3,600, we still need to raise the remaining amount of \$505. Please help – there is still time to contribute! Send checks, payable to PWA District I, to District President Lidia Filus, 325 Chester Street, Park Ridge, IL 60068.

### BACK TO SCHOOL INSURANCE PROMOTION August 1 - October 31, 2013

See Details on page 15  
See Sample Rates on page 16

## MIX 'N' MATCH CONTEST NO. 15

### In the Forest – W lesie

Match each English word with the correct Polish translation and submit your answers no later than **September 30, 2013**.

- |                 |              |
|-----------------|--------------|
| 1. tree         | A. igły      |
| 2. leaf         | B. grzyb     |
| 3. branch       | C. wiewiórka |
| 4. fern         | D. drzewo    |
| 5. pine cone    | E. liść      |
| 6. pine needles | F. ptak      |
| 7. mushroom     | G. gałąź     |
| 8. bird         | H. paproć    |
| 9. owl          | I. szyszka   |
| 10. squirrel    | J. sowa      |

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 (postmark September 30, 2013) to:

Polish Women's Alliance - Contests  
6643 N. Northwest Highway, 2nd Floor, Chicago, IL 60631

**Good Luck!**

## WINNERS OF MIX 'N' MATCH CONTEST NO. 13

Congratulations to the three lucky winners of the **"In a Restaurant - W restauracji"** Contest!

Olivia Kania	District 1 Council 9 Group 819
Katrina Odrobina	District 5 Council 3 Group 451
Sarah Algar	District 14 Council 44 Group 427

**Correct answers:** 1. Menu - I. Jadłospis; 2. Waiter - D. Kelner; 3. Chef - H. Kucharz; 4. Meal - J. Posiłek; 5. Course - E. Danie; 6. Appetizer - C. Pierwsze danie; 7. Main course - G. Danie główne; 8. Dessert - F. Deser; 9. Bill - A. Rachunek; 10. Tip - A. Napiwek

## Jagiellonian University Summer 2014 Program Scholarships

Application Period: July 1 to August 15, 2013

You can download the application requirements and application from [pwaa.org](http://pwaa.org). The Jagiellonian scholarships include tuition, room and board, and round-trip airfare for TWO scholarship recipients to attend a four-week program at the Jagiellonian University in Kraków, Poland, in the summer of 2014. 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). Deadline is August 15, 2013.

## \$\$\$ DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS \$\$\$

Please support our Scholarship Programs by donating to Dollars for Scholars! Let's all join together to help our young members fulfill their dreams and achieve their goals. Now, more than ever, a good education is essential to a successful and meaningful life. Now, more than ever, a college education is out of financial reach for many families without the help of scholarships and loans.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Gr. No. \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Amount \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to Polish Women's Alliance

Memo: Dollars for Scholars

Mail check to: **Office of the President**

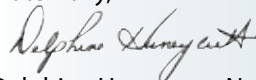
**Polish Women's Alliance of America**

**6643 N. Northwest Hwy. 2nd Floor**

**Chicago, IL 60631-1360**

Thank you to the District Presidents for a generous donation of \$250 presented during the State Presidents Conference held in Chicago on July 18, 2013.

Fraternally,



Delphine Huneycutt, National President

## "MY BEST MEMORIES OF THE SUMMER OF 2013" 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, 2013**.
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.
7. 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.



## PARTICIPANTS IN THE 2013 SUMMER CULTURAL PROGRAM IN POLAND



On Tuesday, May 7, 2013, the Officers of the Polish Women's Alliance held a drawing and chose the names of five young PWA members who will participate in the Youth Trip to Poland this summer. A total of 15 entries were received and the following young PWA members are the lucky winners:

Emily Hogan Gr. 786, District 5 Michigan, Council 20  
 Aliza Jones-Kaniewski Gr. 128, District 3 Indiana, Council 21  
 Megan Robson Gr. 31, District 1 Illinois, Council 19  
 Kelsi Wawrzynkiewicz Gr. 409, District 11 Nebraska, Council 25  
 Haylee Wawrzynkiewicz Gr. 409, District 11 Nebraska, Council 25

*We wish each of our travelers a safe and enriching journey and we look forward to great stories and photos upon their return.*

## DISTRICT IX CONNECTICUT HONORS SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



PWA Scholarship Recipients from District IX were honored at an Awards Ceremony held on June 23, 2013. In photo, State President Sophie Marshall and Council 8 President Stephanie Marcaccio with the 2013-2014 recipients. This year, PWA scholarships were awarded to Anna Zielinski, Michele Berry, Kristen Zakrzewski, Emily Czerniewski, Sarah Nadeau, Alexander Zakrzewski, and Chris Chorzepa. Congratulations and best wishes to our young scholars!

## DOZIN WITH DINOS



Chicago, IL--The sixth annual Dozin' with Dinos at the Field Museum, organized by the four Polish Fraternals, was once again well supported by our members and their families. The participants enjoyed an evening of workshops, scientific illustrations, bedtime stories by Sue the Dinosaur, as well as some museum exploring on their own. The Dinosauria team was also present, showing real dinosaur bones and presenting a slide show to the participants. Snacks were served in the evening followed by breakfast in the morning. The program was well-planned and everything was covered in this popular fundraiser for the Field Museum. A good time was had by all!

## GROUP 185 BOWLING TOURNAMENT



Youth members of Group 185, District IX Connecticut, participated in this year's Four Fraternals Polonia Youth Bowling Tournament. Congratulations to all of our young bowlers in District IX. In photo, District President Sophie Marshall poses with the young Connecticut bowlers.





## Grandma reads, Grandma teaches ... Babcia czyta, babcia uczy ...

Grandmothers are very special people in our lives. They tell us stories, give us hugs and cookies, they read to us, and teach us how to pray and laugh and be kind. And they are the ones who keep the history of our families and of our heritage alive for future generations. Below, a poem in Polish and in English and the story of the Smok Wawelski that many of us learned from our Grandmas, our Busias, our Babcias ...

### In the Fall

Maria Konopnicka

In the fall, in the fall  
Orchards start to blush,  
As red apples peek out  
From all the greenery.

Bright red apples  
And golden pears  
Shine like stars  
Among the leaves.

— I'll go to the orchard  
And bow to the apple  
tree,  
Maybe an apple will fall  
Into my cap for me!



— I'll go to the pear tree  
And hold out my apron,  
Maybe it will catch  
A lovely pear for me!

In the fall, in the fall  
Orchards start to blush,  
As red apples peek out  
From all the greenery.

*Translated by: E.R. Lisiewski*

### Jesienią

Maria Konopnicka

Jesienią, jesienią  
Sady się rumienia;  
Czerwone jabłuszka  
Pomiędzy zielenią.

Czerwone jabłuszka,  
Złociste gruszcзки  
Świecą się jak gwiazdy  
Pomiędzy listeczek.

— Pójdę ja się, pójdę  
Pokłonić jabłoni,  
Może mi jabłuszko  
W czapczkę uroni!



— Pójdę ja do gruszy,  
Nastawię fartuszek,  
Może w niego spadnie  
Jaka śliczna gruszka!

Jesienią, jesienią  
Sady się rumienia;  
Czerwone jabłuszka  
Pomiędzy zielenią.

## POLISH LEGENDS

### Smok Wawelski – The Dragon of Wawel Hill

One of the most popular Polish legends, beloved by young and old alike, is the story of Smok Wawelski, the Dragon of Wawel Hill. The legend is about the founding of the city of Krakow, the first capital city of Poland, and about the bravery of a young and humble man.

A long, long time ago, King Krak and his beautiful daughter Wanda lived in Wawel castle on a hill near the Wisla (Vistula) River. In a cave beneath the castle lived a ferocious dragon. Every day the dragon terrorized the people in the town that was forming around the castle. He would kill and eat sheep, goats, cows, and even the residents of the town, but he especially liked to target young girls. King Krak was desperate to free his kingdom from the terror of the dragon, so he promised to give his daughter's hand in marriage and half of his kingdom to the man who would slay the dragon. Knights from all over Poland came to fight the dragon, but none of them was successful. Only their bones would be found in front of the entrance to the cave.

One day, a humble shoemaker's apprentice named Dratewka appeared at the castle and offered to fight the dragon. The king did not want his daughter to marry a humble apprentice but he finally agreed to let him try. Not having a sword or armor, Dratewka had to come up with another plan, using only his wits. He killed a sheep and stuffed it with sulphur and placed it in front of the dragon's cave. As expected, the dragon came out and quickly devoured the sheep, only to feel a terrible burning inside. He rushed down to the river and started drinking. The dragon drank and drank and could not stop, until he swelled up and burst into a million pieces. There was great rejoicing in the kingdom and Dratewka wed Wanda. He later ruled the kingdom with a benevolent hand and was much loved by his subjects who were very grateful to their enterprising and brave king who had saved their lives. And the town around the castle prospered and grew and was called Krakow, where the legend of Dratewka and the dragon lives on till this day.



## National Parks of Poland (Part 1)

National Parks are large areas of land set aside for conservation purposes and endowed with unique resources of natural beauty, educational value, social and cultural importance, and unusual landscapes. Their primary purpose is environmental preservation and they are used for ecological research as well as education of the public; many of them have nature trails open to tourists and nature lovers. Poland has 23 National Parks covering an area of 316,748 hectares (783,00 acres) which is about 1% of the area of Poland. The smallest is Ojców National Park - 2,146 hectares (5,300 acres); the largest is Białowieża National Park - 58,223 hectares (143,870 acres).

### Białowieża National Park - Land of Bisons, Violets, and Petrified Trees

Białowieża National Park lies in eastern Poland, on the Belarus border, in the Podlasie province. It is located in the center of the Białowieża Forest, an ancient woodland; the Polish-Belarus border runs right through it. It is the oldest and largest National Park in Poland and one of the first National Parks in Europe. It is known for its preservation of the oldest primeval forest in Europe and for the world's largest population of bison living freely in nature.

The fauna in the Park is very rich and varied. A large number of animals live here, from single-cell protozoans to worms, spiders, and other insects; from fish, amphibia, reptiles, to birds and mammals. To date, 12,000 species of animals have been identified in the Białowieża Forest. It is estimated that this constitutes only 50% of the species living here, so the total number may be closer to 25,000. (In all of Poland there are between 35 and 40 thousand species of animals.) The symbol of the Park is the bison (żubr), the largest land animal in Europe, with 750 bison living in the Park (440 on the Polish side). The flora includes 1000 species of plants, among them rare composites, grasses, cruciferae, orchids, wild roses, and violets. Ancient oak trees in the forest can be as tall as 160 feet and many of them are named. "Dąb Bartny" is one of the most famous oak trees, considered to be 400 - 600 years old, and 143 feet tall.

The oldest part of the Białowieża National Park is a Biosphere Reserve located in the center of the forest and devoted to total conservation of both plants and animals, as well as of the soil and water in the reserve. All natural processes are allowed to take place without human interference. Here one can see the entire life cycle of a tree -- from seedling to petrification. Trees are not cut down or moved; they live through all of the biological cycles unimpeded, until their demise. In the process they provide sustenance to many other organisms: bacteria, mushrooms, rodents, birds, and various species of beetles and woodpeckers that feed on dead trees and logs. One of the most famous petrified trees is the huge "Jagiello's Oak," under which it is believed that the King of Poland once pitched his royal tent.

The entrance to the Reserve is a gate made of oak constructed in 1930 and designed by architect H. Jasinski from Krakow. The

(cont. on page 30)

## Parki Narodowe w Polsce (Część 1)

Parki narodowe są to obszary wyróżniające się szczególnymi wartościami przyrodniczymi, naukowymi, społecznymi, kulturowymi i walorami krajobrazowymi. Najważniejszym celem ich istnienia i działania jest ochrona przyrody. W parkach prowadzone są liczne naukowe programy badawcze. Parki odgrywają także istotną rolę w edukacji ekologicznej społeczeństwa. Wiele z nich posiada specjalnie przygotowane szlaki turystyczne, schroniska, ośrodki dydaktyczne oraz muzea przyrodnicze dostępne dla turystów i miłośników przyrody. Dotychczas w Polsce utworzono 23 parki narodowe, które zajmują powierzchnię 316 748 ha, co stanowi ok. 1% powierzchni kraju. Najmniejszy jest Ojcowski Park Narodowy - 2146 ha, zaś największy Biebrzański Park Narodowy - 59 223 ha.

### Białowiecki Park Narodowy - kraina żubrów, fiołków i butwiejących drzew



Białowiecki Park Narodowy leży w wschodniej części Polski, w centralnej części Puszczy Białowieżskiej w województwie podlaskim, przy granicy z Białorusią. Jest to najstarszy park narodowy w Polsce i jeden z pierwszych w Europie. Znany między innymi z ochrony najlepiej zachowanego fragmentu Puszczy Białowieżskiej, ostatniego w Europie fragmentu lasu pierwotnego, oraz liczącej kilkaset sztuk, największej na świecie wolnożyjącej populacji żubra.

Fauna parku jest bardzo bogata i zróżnicowana. Żyje tu olbrzymia liczba gatunków zwierząt: od pierwotniaków, mięczaków, dżdżownic, pająków, owadów, aż po kręgowce: ryby, płazy, gady, ptaki i ssaki. Dotychczas stwierdzono w Puszczy obecność ponad 12 tysięcy gatunków zwierząt. Szacuje się, że puszczańska fauna jest rozpoznana w około 50%, a więc rzeczywista liczba gatunków zamieszkujących ten masowy leśny może liczyć około 25 tysięcy; (w całej Polsce jest ich około 35-40 tysięcy). Symbolem parku jest żubr, gdyż właśnie w tym parku ocalono to zwierzę od zagłady. Obecnie w Białowieżskiej Puszczy żyje około 750 żubrów (z czego około 440 po stronie polskiej). Flora parku liczy 1000 gatunków roślin. Spośród szczególnie rzadkich roślin należy pełnik europejski, kosaciec syberyjski, arnika górską i fiołek bagienny. Jednym z najstarszych i najbardziej okazałych drzew w Puszczy jest "Dąb Bartny", którego wysokość wynosi 43 m, a którego wiek szacuje się na 400-600 lat.

Najstarszą częścią parku jest tzw. Obszar Ochrony Ścisłej, położony w centralnej części Puszczy Białowieżskiej. Jego funkcją jest ochrona wszystkich elementów przyrodniczych, a więc: gleb, wód, roślin, zwierząt, a także naturalnego przebiegu procesów przyrodniczych. Tutaj możemy zobaczyć cały cykl życiowy drzewa - od siewki po spróchniałe starszyny. Drzew tu się nie wycina i dożywają one swojej biologicznej śmierci, obumierają i butwieją, dając w ten sposób szansę na życie wielu innym organizmom: bakteriom, grzybom, gryzoniom, ptakom, rzadkim chrząszczom (próchnojadom) czy dzięciolom żerującym głównie na martwych pniach. Sławnym rozkładającym się pniem jest potężny dąb zwany "Dębem Jagiełły", przewrócony przed wiatr w 1974 r. Legenda głosi, że pod nim, jako młodym drzewem, Jagiełło rozbił swój królewski namiot.

(ciąg dalszy na str. 30)

Late summer brings a bounty of fresh fruits and vegetables to our tables, among them juicy apples, golden pears, and sweet, ripe plums that are perfect for eating fresh as well as for baking. The first recipe is for a classic Polish plum cake. The second recipe looks ahead to fall with a hearty Polish potato soup with bacon.

Późne lato dostarcza na nasze stoły wiele świeżych jarzyn i owoców - soczystych jabłek, złotych gruszek, słodkich i dojrzałych śliwek, smacznych na surowo i w wypiekach. Nasz pierwszy przepis to klasyczne polskie ciasto ze śliwkami, natomiast drugi przepis to już bardziej jesienna polska "kartoflanka" z boczkiem.

## Polish Plum Cake

### Ingredients:

- 1 cup flour
- 1 tablespoon baking powder
- pinch of salt
- 1/2 packet vanilla sugar
- 1/2 cup plus 1 tablespoon sugar
- 1 stick unsalted butter
- 2 large eggs
- 12 "prune" plums, pitted and halved
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon



### Preparation:

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. In a large bowl mix the dry ingredients together: flour, baking powder, vanilla sugar, and salt. In two other bowls, beat the eggs until fluffy, then cream together the butter with the sugar. Quickly add the eggs and butter-sugar mixture to the dry ingredients and combine well. Place batter in a buttered 9-inch springform pan. Place plum halves on the dough, cut-side up. Sprinkle with lemon juice, 1 tablespoon of sugar, and cinnamon. Bake until golden for 45 to 50 minutes.

## Ciasto ze śliwkami

### Składniki:

- 1 cup mąki
- 1 łyżeczka proszku do pieczenia
- odrobina soli
- pół torebki cukru waniliowego
- 1/2 cup cukru
- 1 "stick" niesolonego masła
- 2 duże jajka
- 24 połówki śliwek
- 2 łyżeczki soku z cytryny
- 1 łyżeczka cynamonu

### Przygotowanie:

Nagrząć piekarnik do 350 stopni F. Zmieszać mąkę z proszkiem do pieczenia, cukrem waniliowym i odrobiną soli, ubić jajka, utrzeć dobrze cukier i rozmiękczone masło i dodać do masy maślanej suche składniki i jajka, szybko wszystko zmiksować albo poprostu zmieszać. Ciasto wyłożyć do nienatłuszczonej formy (9-inch springform pan). Na cieście ułożyć połówki śliwek, przekrojonych częścią do góry, skropić sokiem z cytryny, posypać cukrem (1 łyżka) i cynamonem. Piec na złoty kolor 45 do 50 minut.

## Polish Potato Soup

### Ingredients:

- 8 large potatoes
- 2 large onions
- 2 parsley roots
- 3 medium carrots
- 1 large chunk celery root
- 1 leek trimmed
- 1/2 lb smoked bacon
- 1 bunch parsley
- 2 cloves garlic
- salt, pepper, marjoram to taste



### Preparation:

Place trimmed and coarsely chopped celery root and leek in large soup pot. Peel carrots and parsley roots and grate on large holes of grater; add to pot. Cover vegetables with water and cook over medium heat. Peel potatoes and dice one half of them into small cubes and one half into larger cubes. Add the finely-diced potatoes to pot; cover the other potato cubes with cold water in a bowl. Add salt to the soup pot. Cook until small-diced potatoes are completely soft. In a saucepan fry finely-diced bacon until browned; add to soup. Cook finely-diced onions in the bacon fat until golden-brown; add to soup. At this point, add the large cubes of potatoes and their water to the soup along with two minced cloves of garlic. Cook until large cubes of potatoes are soft; season with salt, pepper, and a pinch of marjoram. Remove from heat and garnish with chopped parsley before serving.

## Kartoflanka na jesień

### Składniki:

- 8 ziemniaków
- 2 duże cebule
- 2 średnie pietruszki
- 3 średnie marchewki
- kawałek korzenia selera, i por
- 20 dag wędzonego boczku
- natka pietruszki i 2 ząbki czosnku
- sól, pieprz, majeranek

### Przygotowanie:

Do garnka włożyć por i seler. Marchew i pietruszkę oczyścić, obrać i zetrzeć na dużych oczkach tarki. Dodać do garnka. Zalać wodą i zacząć gotować. Ziemniaki obrać, umyć. Połowę pokroić w drobną kostkę, a drugą połowę w kostkę normalnej wielkości. Drobną kostkę pokrojone ziemniaki dodać do garnka. Resztę zalać zimną wodą i odstawić. Zupę doprawić solą. Gotować do chwili całkowitego rozgotowania się drobno pokrojonych ziemniaków. Jeśli są miękkie, ale nie rozpadają się, rozgnieść tłuczkiem do ziemniaków. Boczek pokroić w kostkę, zrumienić na patelni. Skwarki dodać do zupy. Cebulę pokroić w drobną kostkę i przesmażyć na patelni, na pozostałym tłuszczu, do wyraźnego zrumienienia, dodać do zupy. Pozostałą połowę ziemniaków pokrojonych w większą kostkę, dodać do wywaru razem z wodą. Do zupy dodać przeciśnięty przez praskę czosnek. Gotować do miękkości ziemniaków, doprawić solą, pieprzem i odrobiną majeranku. Po zdjęciu z ognia dodać posiekaną natkę pietruszki.

**Bon Appetit!**

**Smacznego!**





Franciszek  
Kostrzewski  
(1826-1911)  
*Grzybobranie*  
ilustracja do  
III księgi "Pana  
Tadeusza"

## Mushroom Picking An Old Polish Tradition

Mushroom picking is a national pastime in Poland. Below, a fragment taken from the great epic poem "Pan Tadeusz" by Adam Mickiewicz (published in 1834) that describes this centuries-old tradition. It lists the many varieties of mushrooms and their properties and is just one of many scenes depicted in "Pan Tadeusz" that beautifully describe both nature and the customs of the aristocracy in 19th-century Poland.

From Book 3: "Flirtation"

*While boys picked the infamous Fox-maiden,  
Sung about by Lithuanian grooms,  
Symbols of maidenhood, for worms will not slip in,  
And insects will not land upon them.  
And girls picked the slender Pinelover, which the tale  
Refers to as the Mushroom Colonel, as well as the stem  
Of the Orange Agaric, which is not as tall  
And less praised, yet sought by everyone  
For its fine taste, fresh or salt-cured, in fall  
Or winter. But Wojski on his own picked toadstools.*

...

*Like table settings laid-out in rows  
On fine green linen: Leaf Mushrooms,  
Red, gold and mauve, like goblets  
Filled with different colored wine;  
Kozlaks, bulging like upturned cups;  
Funnels, slender as champagne flutes;  
Whities, round and flat like china cups filled  
With milk; or Puffballs, with black dust inside them,  
Like pepper in a shaker. There were others too,  
Whose names are only known to hares  
Or wolves or pagan sorcerers --  
Endless numbers of them.*

Translated by Leonard Kress



## Grzybobranie – rodzimy obyczaj

Jednym z bardziej znanych opisów natury, a także szlacheckiego obyczaju, w "Panu Tadeuszu" Adama Mickiewicza jest opis grzybobrania w trzeciej księdze zatytułowanej "Umizgi".

Fragment:

*Grzybów było w bród: chłopcy biorą krasnolice,  
Tyle w pieśniach litewskich sławione lisice,  
Co są godłem panieństwa, bo czerw ich nie zjada,  
I dziwna; żaden owad na nich nie usiada.  
Panienki za wysmukłym gonią borowikiem,  
Którego pieśń nazywa grzybów półkownikiem.  
Wszyscy dybią na rydza; ten wzrostem skromniejszy  
I mniej sławny w piosenkach, za to najsmaczniejszy,  
Czy świeży, czy solony, czy jesiennej pory,  
Czy zimą. Ale Wojski zbierał muchomory.*

...

*Na zielonym obrusie łąk jako szeregi  
Naczyni stołowych sterczą: tu z krągłymi brzegi  
Surojadki srebrzyste, żółte i czerwone,  
Niby czareczki różnem winem napełnione;  
Kozłak, jak przewrócone kubka dno wypukłe,  
Lejki, jako szampańskie kieliszki wysmukłe,  
Bielak i krągłe, białe, szerokie i płaskie,  
Jakby mlekiem nalane filiżanki saskie,  
I kulista, czarniawym pyłkiem napełniona  
Pu rchawka, jak pieprzniczka - zaś innych imiona  
Znane tylko w zajęczym lub wilczym języku,  
Od ludzi nie ochrzczone; a jest ich bez liku.*

## Białowieża National Park - Land of Bisons, Violets, and Petrified Trees

Continued from page 28

gate is a symbol of the passage from civilization to primeval nature. In 1977, the Białowieża National Park was declared a World Biosphere Reserve and added to UNESCO's list of World Heritage Sites, the only National Park in Poland to be so designated.

In the next issue: Tatra National Park

## Białowiecki Park Narodowy - kraina żubrów, fiołków i butwiejących drzew (ciąg dalszy)

Symbolicznymi „drzwiami” do Ooś jest stara dębowa brama z 1930 r., według projektu inż. arch. H. Jasieńskiego z Krakowa. Stała się ona symbolem przejścia ze świata cywilizacji do świata nienaruszonej przyrody.

W 1977 r. Białowiecki Park Narodowy uzyskał status Światowego Rezerwatu Biosfery, a w 1979 r., jako jedyny obiekt przyrodniczy w Polsce, wpisany został na listę Światowego Dziedzictwa Ludzkości – UNESCO.

W następnym numerze: Tatrzański Park Narodowy

## Żwirko i Wigura - "Orły Polskie"

(Franciszek Żwirko 16 IX 1895 - 11 IX 1932 • Stanisław Wigura 9 IV 1903 - 11 IX 1932)

28 sierpnia w kraju obchodzone jest Święto Lotnictwa Polskiego. Data ta upamiętnia zwycięstwo pilota Franciszka Żwirki i inżyniera Stanisława Wigury w III Międzynarodowych Zawodach Samolotów Turystycznych Challenge w 1932 r. w Berlinie. Zawody te cieszyły się niezwykłym prestiżem w Europie przełomu lat dwudziestych i trzydziestych XX wieku. Dla krajów uczestniczących w rywalizacji były okazją do zademonstrowania możliwości przemysłu lotniczego, myśli technicznej i kunsztu pilotów. Zwycięstwo polskiej załogi uznano za ogromny sukces polskich skrzydeł. Dla współczesnych było dowodem wielkiego lotniczego potencjału młodego państwa polskiego. Zwycięstwo dawało Polsce prawo do organizacji kolejnego Challenge, w 1934 roku.

Na starcie berlińskiego turnieju stanęło 41 samolotów, zawody ukończyły 24 maszyny. Na berlińskim lotnisku Tempelhof stutysięczny tłum oczekiwał zwycięstwa którejś z 16 załóg niemieckich. Nasi zachodni sąsiedzi mieli wówczas świetnych pilotów, na czele z dwukrotnym zwycięzcą turnieju Fritzem Morzikiem i zdobywcą pucharu Hindenburga w 1929 r. Wolfem Hirthem.

Na mecie w Berlinie rywali pokonał jednak porucznik Żwirko z towarzyszącym mu inżynierem Wigurą. 37-letni Żwirko pilotował, a o sześć lat młodszy Wigura był mechanikiem pokładowym. Ich lekki, pokryty płótnem RWD-6 zaprojektowano i wyprodukowano w kraju, a Wigura był jednym z trzech konstruktorów (od niego pochodzi środkowe "W" w nazwie maszyny).

A oto jak opisuje moment zwycięstwa inny bardzo sławny pilot i autor popularnych powieści o tematyce lotniczej – Janusz Meissner:

"Prędeż, prędeż. RWD-6 kładzie się na burtę, choć drążek sterowy skręca lotki w przeciwną stronę. Ale oto już widać Berlin. Jeszcze 2-3 minuty. Z wściekłym rykiem silnika wpada polski samolot na metę. Idzie wzdłuż strzelając na szybko domkniętym gazie, dotyka podwoziem lotniska, hamuje pęd w umyślnie podciągniętym odskoku i gładko siada przy sterowej chorągiewce.

- Polacy? - płynie szmer w tłumach.

- Polacy! - uderzają radością serca naszych.

Zrywają się brawa. Wtem ląduje Poss, a po nim Morzik.

Komisja sędziów oblicza wyniki.

- Żwirko na RWD-6 - 461 punktów. Pierwsze miejsce.

- Poss na Klemmie - 458 punktów. Drugie miejsce.

- I nagle uderza melodia polskiego hymnu:

- Jeszcze Polska nie zginęła!

- Obnażają się głowy. Salutują pruscy oficerowie."

W Warszawie na powrót polskiej załogi czekało ponad 100 tys. ludzi, a cały kraj entuzjastycznie manifestował radość i dumę z "orłów polskich". Żwirko i Wigura stali się bohaterami narodowymi i idolami tamtych dni.



Jeszcze w Berlinie, Żwirko i Wigura obiecali czeskim pilotom, że we wrześniu przylecą do Pragi na święto lotnictwa. W niedzielę, 11 września 1932 r. wystartowali z Krakowa w kierunku Brna. Avionetka minęła Cieszyn, wleciała nad Czechosłowację i tam zaskoczyła ich gwałtowna burza. Lotnicy zdecydowali zawrócić do Polski, kiedy nad wzgórzem Kościelec w Cierlicku koło Cieszyna gwałtowny wiatr, przypominający trąbę powietrzną, uderzył w maszynę i urwał skrzydło. Samolot pozbawiony sterowności ściął kilka drzew i roztrzaskał się o ziemię. Piloci nie mieli żadnych szans na ratunek.

Ich śmierć wstrząsnęła całą Polską. Po nabożeństwie żałobnym w kościele na Kościelcu w Cierlicku trumny przewieziono do Czeskiego Cieszyna, gdzie uformowano kondukt żałobny, w którym kroczyli najbliżsi lotników, konsul RP, delegacje czeskosłowackich władz samorządowych i wojskowych, aeroklubów, organizacji polskich na Zaolziu, żołnierze kompanii honorowej wojska czeskosłowackiego i inni.

Bohaterów żegnały na ulicach miasta niezliczone tłumy. We wtorek pociąg specjalny z ich zwłokami wyruszył do Warszawy.

Pogrzeb Żwirki i Wigury, z udziałem marszałka Józefa Piłsudskiego, prezydenta Ignacego Mościckiego, setek delegacji lotników i tysięcy warszawiaków, rozpoczął się rankiem 16 września w kościele św. Krzyża. W pogrzebie uczestniczyło około trzysta tysięcy rodaków. Zwłoki lotników spoczęły w Alei Zasłużonych na Cmentarzu Powązkowskim. W miejscu katastrofy zaś znajdują się ich symboliczne groby - brzozy krzyż ze śmigłem, głaz z nazwiskami oraz datą tragedii i brama z napisem: „Żwirki i Wigury start do wieczności”

Fot. 1 – Samolot Żwirki i Wigury

Fot. 2 – od lewej, Franciszek Żwirko i Stanisław Wigura

Imr



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## Obrona Westerplatte

"Kiedy się wypełniły dni  
i przyszło zginąć latem,  
prosto do nieba czwórkami szli  
żołnierze z Westerplatte."

*Konstanty Ildefons Gałczyński, "Pieśń o  
żołnierzach z Westerplatte"*

Jednym z uprawnień polskich w Wolnym Mieście Gdańsku było posiadanie na terenie portu składnicy amunicji. Jesienią 1925 roku Polacy przejęli do własnego użytku przeznaczony na składnicę teren na półwyspie Westerplatte. 18 stycznia 1926 roku służbę wartowniczą rozpoczął tu liczący

88 żołnierzy oddział Wojska Polskiego. Wobec zaostrzenia się stosunków polsko-niemieckich, latem 1939 roku Polska potajemnie wzmocniła liczebność załogi Westerplatte do 182 żołnierzy. Ponadto placówka została wyposażona w broń ciężką: 41 karabinów maszynowych, 4 moździerze, 2 działa przeciwpancerne i 1 działko piechoty. Komendantem Wojskowej Składnicy był major Henryk Sucharski, zaś jego zastępcą kapitan Franciszek Dąbrowski.

W ramach niemieckich przygotowań do wojny z Polską, 25 sierpnia 1939 roku do Gdańska przyplłynął pod pretekstem wizyty kurtuazyjnej pancernik "Schleswig-Holstein". Na pokładzie okrętu skrycie przetransportowano oddział piechoty morskiej, która miała uczestniczyć w ataku na Westerplatte. Zadaniem załogi Westerplatte było utrzymanie placówki przez 6 do 12 godzin, do czasu przyścia na odsiecz oddziałów Armii "Pomorze".

Pierwszego września 1939 roku o godz. 4:45 "Schleswig-Holstein" rozpoczął ostrzeliwanie Westerplatte i do szturmów ruszyły oddziały niemieckie. Pomimo przewagi ogniowej atakujących wojsk, obrońcom udało się odeprzeć ten atak, jak również 3 następne w tym samym dniu.

Drugiego września Niemcy zgromadzili do ataku znacznie większe siły: pułk SS-Heimwehr Danzig, artylerię i lotnictwo bombowe. Tego dnia Niemcy przeprowadzili 3 ataki, w tym 2 próby przeprowadzenia się przez kanał portowy. Wszystkie zostały odparte, jednak w wyniku bombardowania załoga Westerplatte straciła wszystkie działa.

Przez kolejne trzy dni (od 3 do 5 września) Niemcy nie dokonywali frontalnych ataków na Westerplatte, polegając głównie na bombardowaniu artyleryjskim i lotniczym. 4 września teren półwyspu został ostrzelany przez 2 niemieckie torpedowce, a w nocy z 4 na 5 września hitlerowcy podjęli (nieudaną) próbę zajęcia jednej z wartowni.

Szóstego września Niemcy przypuścili następny silny atak. Po intensywnym ostrzale artyleryjskim, w kierunku pozycji polskich zepchnięto wypełnione benzyną cysterny kolejowe, które płonąc i wybuchając miały spowodować poważne straty wśród obrońców, a także zniszczenia polskich umocnień od strony lądu. Wprawdzie Polacy musieli się wycofać na pozycje położone bardziej w głębi półwyspu, jednak atak niemieckiej piechoty i tym razem się nie powiódł.

Siódmego września w godzinach porannych rozpoczęło się kolejne bombardowanie niemieckie, po którym nastąpił szturm piechoty. Pomimo iż polskie umocnienia na Westerplatte były już wówczas całkowicie zrujnowane, również i ten atak udało się odeprzeć.

Pomimo skutecznego odparcia natarcia niemieckiego sytuacja obrońców była już wówczas krytyczna. Zapasy amunicji i żywności były na wyczerpaniu, a środki medyczne w całości zużyte. W tej sytuacji major Henryk Sucharski podjął decyzję o kapitulacji. O godzinie 10:15, siódmego września 1939 roku, bohaterska obrona Westerplatte dobiegła końca.

Niemcy okupili Westerplatte ciężkimi stratami. Bezpośrednio do walk z polską placówką liczącą niespełna 200 ludzi hitlerowcy skierowali około 3,4 tysiąca żołnierzy uzbrojonych w 65 dział. Straty niemieckie wyniosły około 400 zabitych i 700 rannych. Polskie straty - 16 poległych i 50 rannych. Obrońcy Westerplatte mieli wytrwać 12 godzin, utrzymali się aż 7 dni, budując wokół siebie mit nieustępliwości i bohaterstwa polskiego żołnierza.