



## Irene Jugan Heart & Soul Award

PNU CEO Martin Wachna announced via Facebook Live on Spojnia Sunday, September 25th the Fourth Annual Irene Jugan Heart and Soul Award winner... Christina Danielkiewicz!

Here is an excerpt from the nomination.

"Christina literally has the heart and soul of the PNU and PNCC always at the forefront.

She has been a life-long member of both and is a follower of Christ...there to lend a hand where needed, cares for others and supports as much as she can, all with her time, talent and treasury. As the "Interim" Branch Secretary for 293, she has immersed herself into the sales force and is a real go-getter with making sure those who may not be able to afford life insurance in the commercial world, is able to get it in our fraternal world. She is one of our best sales associates in District 6 since she started as "Interim" Branch Secretary. She supports just about every fundraiser there is, both in the PNU and PNCC...including promoting them through word of mouth and assisting in sales. She speaks her mind and pulls no punches and has the best interest of those at heart. Her love of God, Spojnia and everyone around her is well-known, even as she has immersed herself in parish life at her new parish home of St. Michael the Archangel in Cedar Lake, Indiana a couple of years ago."

On behalf of the Board of Directors and Membership of the Polish National Union of America, congratulations Christina on a job well done!



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**Dwumiesięcznik Organ Wychodzi bez  
przerwy od 125 lat**

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# Organizational Contact Information



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Gregory Senkevitch

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Mari Jane Stankowski, Secretary; Paul Gorgol, David Petrosky, Stacey Shrive &  
Michael Mietlicki

**Education & Youth Commission:** Mary Stankowski, Chair; Most Rev. Anthony A. Mikovsky; Martin Wachna, Jr.,  
Very Rev. Robert Nemkovich, Jr. & Carol Mikovsky

**Fraternal Activities Committee:** Michael Mietlicki, Chairman; Very Rev. Lucian Urbaniak, Debbie Bilinski,  
Henrietta Kleckner, George Urciuoli & Martin Wachna, Jr., Ex-officio

**Internal Audit Committee:** Very Rev. John Kowalczyk, Jr., Chairman; Henrietta Kleckner, Vice Chair &  
Marian Sleczkowski, Secretary

**Medical Director:** Dr. Samuel Alfano

|                            |    |                      |                    |              |                            |
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Sandy Reed, SCU Manager x308 Pricilla Hernandez, SCU Assist. Manager x 302

**SCU Management:** Jan Cwikla, President Jacek Grotnik, Vice President  
Joan Scheuneman, Secretary John C. Andrzejewski, Treasurer  
Katherine Gnat

## PNU District Meeting Schedules

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**District 1: Tuesday, December 6 @ 6:00 p.m. St. Stanislaus Cathedral, Scranton, PA**  
Contact District Director, Julie Andrzejewski for details.

**District 2: Monday, November 7 @ 7:30 p.m. Contact Director, Leslie Pietrowitz for details.**

**District 3: Monday, November 14 @ 7:00 p.m. Contact Director, MaryAnn Zarek for details.**

**District 5: Saturday, October 15 @ 1:00 p.m. PNU Social Club**  
Contact District Director, Melissa Snee for details.

**District 6: Tuesday, October 25 @ 6:30 p.m. central via Zoom**  
Contact District Director, Christine Wachna for details.

**District 7: Wednesday, December 7 @ 7:00 p.m. online.**  
Contact District Director, Suzanne Sniezek for details.

## 2022 Straz Article Submission Deadlines

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You are invited to submit articles and pictures regarding PNU events in a timely manner and relevant to the time period in which the Straz will be published. You are requested to send articles in Microsoft Word format and pictures in either jpeg or png format.

All submissions are to be sent via email to [executive02@pnu.org](mailto:executive02@pnu.org) by the deadline dates listed below. Thank you for your cooperation.

| <u>Issue Month</u> | <u>Submission Deadline</u> | <u>Issue Month</u> | <u>Submission Deadline</u> |
|--------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| December           | November 15                | April              | March 15                   |
| October            | September 15               | June               | May 15                     |
| February           | January 15                 | August             | July 15                    |

## Straz Mail Subscription Information

The Official Publication of the Polish National Union, The Straz, is published on a bi-monthly basis throughout the year. At least six issues are published and distributed via the website [www.pnu.org](http://www.pnu.org).

Annual subscriptions for a printed copy of The Straz are available for \$20.00 per year. You can contact the Home Office via:

**Phone:** 1-800-724-6352/570-344-1513

**Email:** [info@pnu.org](mailto:info@pnu.org)

**Mail:** PNU – 1002 Pittston Avenue – Scranton, PA 18505

**Required info for subscription mailing:**

Recipient Name, Address, City, State & ZIP





***Julie Andrzejewski - Director, District 1***

### DISTRICT 1 EVENTS

District 1 of the PNU held their annual family day event this year at Sky Zone trampoline park in Pittston, PA on Saturday, August 13, 2022. Toddlers through Seniors were in attendance. We enjoyed time together in the trampoline park followed by a pizza party complete with cupcakes. The children also received Sky Zone t-shirts and drawstring bags.



PNU CFO, John Andrzejewski, District 1 Director Julie Andrzejewski, and PNU Board Member and Chair of the Education and Youth Commission, Mary Ann Stankowski were at Holy Mother of Sorrows Parish Dozynki on Sunday, September 11, 2022. Free hand sanitizers compliments of the PNU were given away as well as a basket of items from the PNU and Spojnia Credit Union which was raffled off. Literature about both the PNU and Spojnia Credit Union was available. Many beautiful items from Poland were sold to raise funds for the stipend program. Thank you to Holy Mother of Sorrows Parish for allowing us to participate in their event.



*Leslie Pietrowitz, - Director, District 2*

**Polish National Union of America  
District 2 Quarterly Meeting  
March 31, 2022**



The quarterly meeting was called to order on March 31, 2022, at 7:30 PM via ZOOM.

Rev. Joseph Cyman led in opening prayer. In attendance were Leslie Pietrowitz, Edmund J. Kotula, Peggy Kotula, John Pietrowitz, Beverly Desbiens, Linda Zulkowski, Very Rev. Gregory Mludzik and Rev. Joseph Cyman.

**ELECTION OF DISTRICT 2 OFFICERS** Nominations for new committee members took place. Those named below accepted the nominations for the positions as listed. Leslie Pietrowitz then read the following ballot.

|  |   |
|--|---|
| District Director – Leslie Pietrowitz                      | Vice Director – Linda Zulkowski         |
| Treasurer – Margaret Kotula                                | Financial Secretary – Rev. Joseph Cyman |
| Recording Secretary – Beverly Desbiens                     |   |
| Spiritual Advisor - Rev. Gregory Mludzik/Rev. Joseph Cyman |   |

John Pietrowitz moved to cast the ballot as read, seconded by Edmund J. Kotula. All were in favor. Fr. Cyman administered the oath of office to the District 2 officers.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** Treasurer Report was presented by Peggy Kotula. Beverly Desbiens motioned to accept the Treasurer's report, seconded by John Pietrowitz. All in favor.

**OLD BUSINESS** We recapped the training session led by Edmund Kotula on August 9, 2021. Edmund reviewed various applications including insurance, annuity and social membership. Leslie helped those in attendance to navigate through the PNU site where the forms are located. We discussed ongoing sales promotions; need for additional branch secretaries and tools; possibly contacting independent agents to sell PNU products.

**Education and Youth** – Leslie Pietrowitz mentioned that Stipend applications are due to the Home Office by April 15. Anyone needing an application form can get in touch with Leslie.

**NEW BUSINESS** We discussed how to keep up to date with current editions of The Straz. Edmund Kotula suggested to subscribe for a printed copy, which is one way to support the PNU. Printed copies are available for a nominal fee to cover printing and postage. Although the information is available online, sometimes it is better to have a paper copy.

A discussion was held about the new promotion called Cast-A-Net. This program is designed to provide direct assistance to the Parishes of the Polish National Catholic Church. The Cast-A-Net program will pay each parish to their treasuries, for new policies written in 2022. For as little as 5 policies at \$5,000 each, your parish can earn a \$500 cash reward upon the premiums being paid for a year.

***Continued on page 9***



***Mary Ann Zarek - Director, District 3***

**Polish National Union of America  
District 3 Quarterly Meeting  
August 29, 2022**

PNU District 3 held a Zoom meeting on Monday, August 29, 2022. There were 9 people on the call. Fr. Sr. Rob Nemkovich opened the meeting with a prayer. Minutes from the previous meeting were emailed. Eric Nemkovich made a motion to accept, second by Thomas Zarek. The financial report was emailed to the group. Thomas Zarek made a motion to accept, second by Fr. Sr. Joe Krusinski.

MaryAnn Zarek gave the District Director's report. The Youth Retreat was held at Blessed Trinity August 22-24. Fr. Sr. Rob thanked District 3 for providing the funds to cover the ice cream social, pizza party and bowling activity. A thank you was sent to district director Maryann Zarek. District 3 will also cover the ice cream social and pizza party for the upcoming Winter Gathering that will be held in December at Blessed Trinity. Spojnia Sunday will be held in September. Maryann will send correspondence out to encourage parishes to participate. Karen Sobiechowski stated that Holy Trinity Cathedral will be hosting a brunch.

Fr. Krusinski thanked District 3 for the gift he received for his 60th Anniversary in the priesthood.

The Thanksgiving Raffle will be held again this year. Five members have donated \$25 towards the prize amounts. First prize is \$50 with 2nd and 3rd prizes at \$25 each. The pull date will be Sunday, November 20th. Fr. Sr. Rob will email the tickets to the group to distribute for sale.

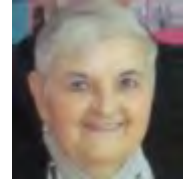
The next meeting will be Monday, November 14th at 7:00PM. Eric Nemkovich made a motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Brenda Richard. Fr. Sr. Joe offered the closing prayer. Meeting adjourned at 7:30PM.

Respectfully submitted

Brenda Richard  
Recording Secretary  
District 3, PNU



*Mary Ann Zarek - Director, District 3*



## DISTRICT 3 EVENT

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

This past Sunday as we began our Fall SOCL program our students followed up on their commitment made at the Diocesan Youth Retreat and began a Discipleship Drive for our local homeless. As I mentioned in my homily Sunday - there are at the present time 8 tent cities in Fall River with approximately 325 homeless brothers and sisters.

Well done our precious youth! Let us support this important discipleship drive in the name of Jesus. Sleeping bags, tarps, blankets, flashlights, batteries or cash most welcome.

Very Rev. Robert M. Nemkovich, Jr.  
Pastor - Blessed Trinity Parish  
Fall River, MA





***Melissa Snee - Director, District 5***

**Polish National Union of America  
District 5 Quarterly Meeting  
July 16, 2022**

Attendance – Fr Bruce Sleczkowski, Marian Sleczkowski, Henrietta Kleckner, Terry Kleckner, Paulette Beliunas, Maryann Kiska, Ted Gibala, Jan Gibala, Rosalie Clark, Fr Mark Swoger, Brent Adler, and Georgine Katocs.

Meeting opened at 1:04pm by Fr Bruce Sleczkowski due to the absence of Director Melissa Snee who had a family emergency. Fr Mark Swoger offered prayer.

**Minutes** – Marian Sleczkowski presented the minutes. Jan Gibala made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Paulette Beliunas. Motion passed.

**Financial Report** – Henrietta Kleckner presented the Financial Report for the quarter ending June 30, 2022. Maryann Kiska motioned to accept financial report, seconded by Rosalie Clark. Motion passed.

**Correspondence** – Thank you card from Prime Bishop Mikovsky.

**PNU Performance** – Fr Bruce Sleczkowski reviewed the PNU membership reports. Cast-a-net program ended June 30, 2022. No news as to how successful it was. Annuity interest rate increased to 3%.

PNU is looking to hire insurance agents to sell outside of the PNCC.

We need to start thinking about Spojnia Sunday. Every parish should have a PNU sponsored activity.

**New Business –**

**Fundraising** tickets – Finally tickets are in! First drawing is this evening, July 16, 2022.

**Convo 2022** – We donated \$300 sent to Fr Sr Kowalczyk to use where needed. It will be used towards the Ice Cream Social.

**Family Outing** – Wild Things baseball game and buffet, Sunday, August 21. Adults \$23, PNU children No Charge, non-PNU children \$10. Reservations are slow coming in – approximately 24 so far.

**Education and Youth Fundraiser** – Please promote in the parishes. Drawing will be December 6, 2022. We took a picture of our group with Henrietta Kleckner presenting a check from the Fraternal Activities Committee to Fr Bruce Sleczkowski for our district's fraternal activity – Roll Away The Stone of Hunger. Thank you, Fraternal Activity Committee, in supporting our endeavors.



## District 5: PA & OH



***Melissa Snee - Director, District 5***



### **Next Meeting:**

Next meeting will be Saturday, October 15, 2022. It will be an in-person meeting hosted by Branch 116 at the PNU Social club at 1:00pm.

Jan Gibala made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Rosalie Clark.

With no further business, Fr Bruce thanked Holy Trinity for hosting and providing refreshment, closed the meeting and offered the closing prayer.

Meeting closed at 2:30pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Marian E. Sleczkowski, Recording Secretary

## District 2: NY, NJ, Philadelphia



***Leslie Pietrowitz- Director, District 2***

### ***Minutes continued from Page 5***



Covid-19 has devastated all Churches all over the world, not only those of the PNCC. This program is being used to assist all our parishes that may just need a little lift. Leslie also mentioned that she would include this in the parish bulletins through June 30.

The PNU and District 2 are in need of financial secretaries in all districts. Several parishes are closing and it is becoming challenging to have representation at the parish level.

Education and Youth – We discussed previous fundraisers from the Education & Youth Commission to help boost the funds for the Stipends and other youth activities. Our district always participated. Nothing has been done since the start of the COVID lockdowns.

We scheduled dates for quarterly meetings. Dates can be adjusted if needed. Meetings for 2022 are as follows: Monday, May 2, Monday, August 1 and Monday, November 7. Meeting times will be 7:30 PM unless otherwise noted. Meetings will either be held in person or via ZOOM depending upon availability.

Edmund Kotula motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 PM seconded by Peggy Kotula. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,  
Beverly Desbiens, Recording Secretary



*Christine Wachna - Director, District 6*

**Polish National Union of America  
District 6 Quarterly Meeting  
August 18, 2022**

The meeting was called to order by Director Christine Wachna at 6:09 p.m. The Invocation was pronounced by Very Rev. John P. Kowalczyk.

Director Christine Wachna called the Roll: **Present:** Director Christine Wachna; Very Rev. John P. Kowalczyk; Catherine Kowalczyk; Christina Danielkiewicz; Judith Palacios; Teri Heath; Robert Maycan; Dian Maycan. **Absent:** Rt. Rev. Jarosław Rafalko; Rev. David Rowinski; Walter Cegelka. Guest at meeting was Martin H. Wachna, PNU CEO.

The **Agenda** was accepted as presented upon motion made by Very Rev. John P. Kowalczyk and seconded by Teri Heath. Motion carried. The **Minutes** from the May 12, 2022 meeting were accepted as presented upon motion made by Catherine Kowalczyk and seconded by Robert Maycan. Motion carried.

The **Financial Report** for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022 was given by Catherine Kowalczyk. Upon motion made by Robert Maycan, and seconded by Dian Maycan, the financial report was accepted, subject to audit. Motion carried.

### **Old Business**

**2022 Sales Goals (Review)** A minimum of \$125k in sales which is 25 members at \$5k. The Annuity goal is \$20k. The Social Membership goal is 10 members at \$30 totaling \$300. Director Christine Wachna announced that as of July 31, 2022 there was \$20k of insurance and \$30k Annuity sold in District Six.

Director Christine Wachna reported that following a visit to St. Peter & Paul Parish in South Milwaukee, Wisconsin netted one Social membership. Also four (4) Social memberships were recently signed from St. Michael the Archangel Parish.

### **New Business**

**Branch Secretary Reports: Br. 37 – Robert Maycan:** Robert reported that there is nothing going on now.

**Branch Br. 295 – Catherine Kowalczyk:** Cathy reported that there is nothing now. She is working on the 5 for 125 Program. Also working on selling Annuities; the rate is 3%.

**Br. 293 – Christina Danielkiewicz:** Christina reported that she signed a juvenile member. This member was part of the Cast A Net Contest program for the benefit of St. Michael the Archangel Parish.

**Br. 362 – Judith Palacios:** Judith reported that there was one policy sold for \$5000.

### *Christine Wachna - Director, District 6*



**Cast A Net Program:** CEO Martin Wachna reported that District 6 and St. Michael the Archangel Parish was the only District that sold within the Program. Also District 1 participated.

**“5 for 125” and Annuity Rate 3% -** CEO Martin Wachna gave information on these two programs. This program was designed to help all members. Effective date is August 1, 2022. The program is a 5 Pay Life Policy for either \$5k or \$10k. The program is Open Enrollment for ages 25-80 with no medical. The challenge is that all Districts must sell five policies in this program.

CEO Wachna also reported that the mortgage rates were raised based on the federal rates.

**For the Good of the District** – Very Rev. John Kowalczyk thanked the District for their donation to Convo 2022. The funds were used to purchase lunch and bottled water at the Water Park outing. District 5 funded the ice cream social and District 7 assisted with the gazebo (shaded area) at the Water Park.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, upon motion made by Robert Maycan and seconded by Teri Heath, the meeting was adjourned at 6:37 p.m. Motion carried. Our next webinar/teleconference meeting is Thursday, October 13, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. CST.

Closing prayer and benediction along with prayers for Walter Cegelka was pronounced by Very Rev. John P. Kowalczyk.

Respectfully submitted,

Christina M. Danielkiewicz  
Recording Secretary



***Christine Wachna - Director, District 6***

## **Cast-A-Net**

On Sunday, September 18, 2022, CEO Martin Wachna attended Holy Mass at St. Michael the Archangel Parish in Cedar Lake, Indiana. Prior to the start of the liturgy Very Rev. John P. Kowalczyk, Jr. informed the congregation that there would be a special presentation made to the parish.

At that time CEO Wachna asked for the Chairman Christopher Plewniak and Vice-Chairman Jill Sarbenoff of St. Michaels Parish Committee to come forward. CEO Wachna then told those gathered that he was there to present the donation associated the Cast-A-Net promotion run by the PNU for the first half of 2022.

CEO Wachna explained that St. Michael the Archangel Parish was the only one in the PNCC that attained the necessary point to be awarded the donation. It is through the dedicated work of District Director Christine Wachna, Branch Secretaries Catherine Kowalczyk (295), Christina Danielkiewicz (293) that this goal was made to assist the parish.

At the conclusion of the remarks a check was presented to the representatives of the committee along with Very Rev. Kowalczyk on behalf of the Board of Directors and Management of the Polish National Union of America. Thanks to the PNU Board of Directors for offering this contest to assist the parishes of the Polish National Catholic Church!





***Christine Wachna - Director, District 6***



**SPOJNIA SUNDAY: September 25, 2022**  
**BRANCH 37 - CHICAGO, IL**

On Sunday, September 25, 2022, the Polish National Catholic Church celebrated Spójnia Sunday. Masses were to be celebrated for the intention of Spójnia. At All Saints Cathedral in Chicago, the 9:00 a.m. Mass was celebrated by Rev. David Rowinski, Assistant Pastor for the intention of the Polish National Union of America and all her Executive Officers, Board of Directors, all holding offices within the organization and all her members, both present and deceased.

Following Mass, a presentation was given by Christina Danielkiewicz. Christina was introduced by Robert Maycan, President of Br. 37, which branch is located at All Saints Cathedral. Christina extended greetings on behalf of Christine A. Wachna, Director of District 6 and stated she was speaking in her capacity as District 6 Recording Secretary.

Christina informed all regarding the program in place at present. It is \$5k or \$10k for 125. The 125 being the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Polish National Catholic Church. Both the \$5k and \$10k are 5 Pay Life Policies and available through December 31, 2022. She explained that this is an Open Enrollment which means that all applications will be accepted regardless. No medical will be required.

Christina advised all to review their insurance in force, stating this is a great opportunity to add insurance coverage. In the alternative, if you have no life insurance in force, again, a great opportunity to get life insurance during this Open Enrollment period.

Christina closed her remarks by stating that if anyone is interested in this program, they can contact Robert Maycan at All Saints Cathedral and Br. 37; District Director Christine Wachna or Christina Danielkiewicz.

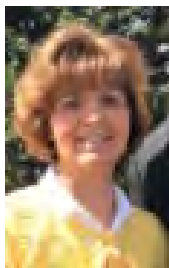
Christina thanked all present for their attention.



**Left: Robert R. Maycan,  
Branch 37 President**

**Right: Christina M. Danielkiewicz,  
District 6 Recording Secretary**





***Suzanne Snizek - Director, District 7***

**Polish National Union of America  
District 7 Quarterly Meeting  
September 7, 2022 - Via Zoom 7 p.m.**

Director Suzanne Snizek greeted Dist. 7 and called the meeting to order. Very Rev. Jaroslaw Nowak led the opening prayer. In attendance were John & Suzanne Snizek, Very Rev. Jaroslaw & Jola Nowak, Donna Collyer, Larry & Kathy Chockley. Minutes from the June 12, 2022 meeting were sent earlier in an email to members. Larry Chockley made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. It was seconded by John Snizek and passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report – John Snizek reported. Larry Chockley made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. It was seconded by Jola Nowak and passed unanimously.

Old Business – The family day picnic made \$418 excluding the cost of the raffle license and ticket printing. Beverages were donated by All Saints YMS of R. The next picnic should be at Holy Cross parish in Hamtramck on June 4, 2023. Their parish committee will be asked about hosting. After a short discussion about organizing the next Christmas Bowling Party, Larry Chockley made a motion to hold the party at 5-Star Lanes in Sterling Hts on Sunday, Dec 4, 2022. It was seconded by Kathy Chockley and passed unanimously. Check in will be at 4 pm. Bowling will start at 4:30pm. The party includes 2 hours of bowling, 1 pizza, 2 pitchers of pop, and shoe rental per lane of up to 6 bowlers. The first 2 lanes are \$150, additional lanes are \$75 each. A 15% service charge/gratuity will be added to the bill per 5-Star Lanes. Five Star Lanes is located at 2666 Metro Parkway, Sterling Hts, MI, 48310. Children will be free and adults and non-bowlers will be \$5.00. We will have a 50/50 raffle to support the PNU Youth & Education Fund. Kathy Chockley will put the deposit down for the party and make the goodie bags for the kids. The full page Dist. 7 ad for Holy Cross Parish's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary book was sent it by John Snizek.

New Business- There is a new promotion from the home office. It is a "5 for 125", 5 pay life policy, for new \$5000 or \$10,000 policies, no application refused, for ages 25-80. The PNU Youth & Education Commission is holding a special raffle fundraiser. Tickets are printed in the Straz and can be reproduced, filled out and sent into home office with payment. We will encourage our parishioners to purchase tickets. Our next meeting will be at 5-Star lanes after the bowling party or if cancelled it will be online on Dec. 5 at 7 pm.

**Continued on Page 16**

***George Urcioli - Director, District 10***

**Polish National Union of America  
District 10 Meeting  
June 30, 2021**



Attendees: Fr. Sr. Marion Pociecha, Rev. Mark Gnidzinski, Rev. James Konicki, Richard Mossey, George Urcioli, Regina Pollack

District 10 Director George Urcioli opened the meeting at 7pm and Fr. Sr. Pociecha offered the invocation. George noted that Marty Wachna was invited to attend the zoom meeting. The purpose of the meeting:

- Review the value the PNU has and continues to have for the church
- Determine each parish's potential market and desire for the PNU products and services
- Determine the desire to re-establish branches within District 10

George reported that his efforts to promote PNU and its products and services have not produced the results and asked the group for suggestions. The discussion centered around engaging the parishioners and, in particular, the youth of the Mohawk Valley Seniorate. There are 6 youth who will be attending KURS this year. A suggestion was made that District 10 help subsidize their cost. However, the home parishes are covering the cost of their participation and the group felt that the funds could be better used for another youth event. Ideas included Seniorate youth outings at a water park in Old Forge or Great Escape, hiking, picnic, and volleyball. Concerns about weather, scheduling, and COVID steered the group away from these activities at this time.

George suggested that perhaps we can include the Seniorate youth in the Central Diocese Synod on November 12, 2021. All agreed that this was a good approach. Fr. Sr. Pochiecha will discuss this with Prime Bp. Anthony. We will determine a winter activity at the Synod. and Fr. Jim will canvass the Seniorate participants who attend KURS for ideas that would interest them and will report back. George will work with Fr. Sr. and Marty Wachna to determine an appropriate way of promoting the PNU during the Synod.

Fr. Jim reported that he would like to re-establish Branch 140 in the Schenectady parish, which also includes members of the former Amsterdam (Br. 168) parish. George will contact the PNU to find out exactly what is necessary to accomplish this.

There being no further business, Fr. Mark offered benediction and the meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Regina Pollack

District 10 Recording Secretary



***Suzanne Snizek - Director, District 7***

***Continued from page 14***

### Upcoming Events

Holy Cross, Hamtramck will be celebrating their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary on Sept 25, 2022. They will have drive- thru Polish dinners on October 15 and Nov. 19, a Halloween party after Mass on Oct. 30, and Pot Luck Thanksgiving dinner after Mass on Nov. 13, 2022.

Our Savior, Dearborn Hts will have a drive- thru dinner and angel wing sale on Nov. 12 from 3-5pm, and pierogi sale on Nov. 28, 2022.

All Saints, Sterling Hts is collecting school supplies. They will have blessing of animals on Oct. 8 at noon.

Resurrection, Temperance will have a drive-thru Polish dinner on Sept 8, from 4:40pm - 6pm. They have free soup and cookie on the last Saturday of the month with proceeds going to charity. The Seniorate meeting will be Oct. 1 from 10-2pm. A PNU representative is welcome to attend.

The General Synod will be Oct. 19-21, 2022 in Scranton, PA. Celebration of the PNCC 125 year anniversary will be Oct. 22 & 23 there also.

John Snizek made a motion to close the meeting at 7:33pm. It was seconded by Larry Chockley. Very Rev. Jaroslaw Nowak led the closing prayer.

Submitted by,

Kathy Chockley  
Recording Secretary

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## Membership: Death Report August 2022

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|                       |                      |                          |
|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Frank Prince          | James Wager          | Clara Zakrzewski         |
| Bernard S Golubiewski | Bernard Swierczynski | Sophie Kapish            |
| Catherine Janocha     | Arthur Ostrowski     | Chester Warzala          |
| Michael Scungio       | George N. Kopchinsky | Very Rev. Fryderyk Banas |
| John Gnidzinski       | Joe Dippre           | Felix Pyzowski           |
|                       |                      | Rose Gaba                |



## Membership: +Walter J. Cegelka

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Walter J. Cegelka 87, of Scranton, P.A., passed away on September 13th, 2022 in Plantation, Florida.

Walter was an active member of St. Joseph Polish National Catholic Church where he served in the capacity of Director, Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary over many years of service to the church. He also served as Branch (362) Secretary for the Polish National Union of America. He served his country as Chairman of the US Army Grassroot Advisory Board for Broward County for about ten years from its inception. His service earned him recognition and awards.



After graduating from Syracuse University, where he earned his master's and doctoral degrees, he started a long career in the field of education. He was a retired professor of Special Education in the College of Leadership Studies at St. Thomas University in Miami Gardens, Florida.

Walter also taught and /or administered educational programs at the State University of New York, the University of Northern Colorado, the University of Kansas, the University of Missouri, Nova Southeastern University (NSU), and Florida National College (FNC). His administrative appointments included: Assistant Director of Undergraduate Education at NSU, Campus Dean at FNC, and Department Chair at St. Thomas University.

He authored two books and numerous articles on educating exceptional children. He also directed or codirected federal and state research and training projects designed to improve the education of exceptional individuals. Walter served as Education Chairman for the National Association for Retarded Children (now ARC), and was a member of the Board of Directors and Associate Editor for the Council for Exceptional Children, and served as Consultant to the President's Committee on Mental Retardation. He was a presenter at international, national, state, and local professional conferences.

Walter is preceded in death by his parents Walter and Anna Cegelka and his younger sister Alice Cegelka.

Walter is survived by his daughter Kimberly Ogden, his son in law Greg; His son Walter W. Cegelka, his daughter in law Michelle; grandsons David Ogden, Matthew Ogden, Brennan Cegelka and Blake Cegelka; his godsons Spencer Goldson and Parker Goldson. He is also survived by special cousin Janice Chernesky, and close friends Janet Goldson, Angela Rodriguez and Judith Palacios.

The family of (Walter J. Cegelka) wishes to extend our sincere thanks to: Fay Honeghan – Private Aide, Jackie Gordon – Private Aide, Father Krzysztof 'Chris' Mendelewski – St. Joseph Polish National Catholic Church, Pastor Tom Hunter – Plantation Baptist Church, Bishop Paul Sobiechowski – Holy Trinity Cathedral, Gail Petiti - Neighbor, Larry Hunter - Neighbor

A visitation for Walter was held Saturday, September 24, 2022 from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 5401 SW 64th Ave, Davie, FL 33314 followed by a funeral service from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM. A committal service was held at Forest Lawn Memorial Gardens, 2401 Davie Road, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33317, Saturday, September 24, 2022 from 12:30 PM to 1:00 PM.

Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at [www.forestlawnsouth.com](http://www.forestlawnsouth.com) for the Cegelka family.

## New Member Benefit Announcement

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### The John & Dorothy Markiewicz Scholarship

The Board of Directors of the Polish National Union in conjunction with the Education & Youth Commission are excited to announce a new member benefit that will begin for the 2022-2023 academic year. The family of John & Dorothy Markiewicz have decided to provide a living legacy of their parents. This legacy will come in the form of a \$1000.00 annual scholarship to members of the Polish National Union Youth which are attending higher education.

This scholarship will be open to all undergraduate and graduate students along with those attending vocational or specialty schools. The preferred area of study is that of healthcare, nursing or other healthcare related fields. This scholarship is open to all to apply. The details of this scholarship will be explained in the December Straz.

A background image for a retirement advertisement showing a hand watering a small green seedling in a mound of brown soil. The scene is set against a soft, out-of-focus green background.

**Plant Your Retirement  
Plans with the PNU**

**DON'T MISS OUR ANNUITIES  
3.0% INTEREST GUARANTEED FOR 1 YEAR**

**CALL THE POLISH NATIONAL UNION, YOUR DISTRICT DIRECTOR, OR  
BRANCH SECRETARY TODAY!**

**PNU.ORG; (800) 724-6352; INFO@PNU.ORG**



**Christmas Greetings are  
\$35 and will be published  
in the December edition  
of the Straz.**

The STRAZ works to promote the PNU, PNCC, the PNU Districts, the Branches and our Parishes. With rising publication costs we are asking for your contribution in the form of a Christmas greeting! Please fill out the form clearly and return by November 15, 2022 to:

**Polish National Union 1002 Pittston Avenue, Scranton, PA 18505**

**Please return order forms no later than November 15, 2022**

### *Christmas Greetings Order Form*

Greetings are \$35.00 each – Please make checks payable to the  
Polish National Union of America

Parish/Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Chaplain/Pastor \_\_\_\_\_

Chairman \_\_\_\_\_

Vice-Chairman \_\_\_\_\_

Recording Secretary \_\_\_\_\_

Treasurer \_\_\_\_\_

Facebook page? Yes ☐ No ☐

Website \_\_\_\_\_



## Happy 125th Anniversary!

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### Polish National Catholic Church



**The PNU congratulates the  
PNCC  
in celebrating 125 Years  
Spreading the "Good News"**

**The Board of Directors, Management,  
and Members of the  
Polish National Union of America  
extend best wishes to the  
Polish National Catholic Church  
on the observance of the 125th  
Anniversary on October 22, 2022.**

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### Polish National Catholic Church



**The PNU congratulates the  
PNCC  
in celebrating 125 Years  
Spreading the "Good News"**

**The PNU is offering for a limited time  
the "5 for 125" years policy.**

**This 5 pay life policy is for \$5,000 &  
\$10,000  
policies only.**

**Open Enrollment Program!  
No Application will be refused!!!  
Eligible applicants are between 25-80  
years of age.  
Paid in full after five years.**

**Contact the PNU Home Office, your Branch Secretary or District Director  
today for details! Forms are available at [www.pnu.org/index\\_11.htm](http://www.pnu.org/index_11.htm)**