

Volume 138, Issue 10

August 2023



POLISH NATIONAL UNION OF AMERICA

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przerwy od 126 lat

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Kathryn Nemkovich, Mari Jane Stankowski, Mary Stankowski, Michael Mietlicki &
Gregory Senkevitch

Spojnia Inc. Directors: Most Rev. Anthony A. Mikovsky, Chairman; Martin Wachna, Jr., Vice Chair;
Mari Jane Stankowski, Secretary; Paul Gorgol, Andrew Humphreys, 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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	4	Buffalo, NY	Beverly Basinski	716-759-1130	district4director@pnu.org
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Sandy Reed, SCU Manager x308

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

PNU District & Branch Meeting Schedules

District 1: Contact District Director, Julie Andrzejewski for details.

District 2: Contact District Director, Leslie Pietrowitz for details.

District 3: Contact District Director, MaryAnn Zarek for details.

District 4: Contact District Director, Beverly Basinski for details.

District 5: Contact District Director, Melissa Snee for details.

District 6: Contact District Director, Christine Wachna for details.

District 7: Monday, October 16, 2023 7 p.m. via Zoom

Contact District Director, Suzanne Sniezek for details.

District 10: Contact District Director, George Urciuoli for details.

2023 Straz Article Submission Deadlines

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.

Information regarding the Board of Directors and subsequent PNU Committees will appear in the odd numbered months: January, March, May, July, September and November; unless information is deemed urgent and necessary for membership awareness.

Branch and District information will appear in the even numbered months: February, April, June, August, October and December.

All submissions are to be sent via email to executive02@pnu.org by the 15th of every month. Thank you for your cooperation.

Straz Publication Information

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Julie Andrzejewski - Director, District 1

**Polish National Union of America
District 1 Quarterly Meeting
June 1, 2023**

On June 1, 2023, District 1 held their quarterly meeting at the Frank Bednarz Library in the PNCC Center in Scranton, PA. After opening with a pizza and ice cream social, the meeting was called to order at 6:15 p.m. Director Andrzejewski welcomed everyone and then called upon Rev. Carmen Bolock for the invocation.

Secretary's Report: Attendance: Secretary Joan Scheuneman reported that there were 14 delegates representing 8 branches. Ms. Scheuneman then read the minutes from the previous meeting. Director Andrzejewski asked if there were any corrections or errors and there were none noted. A motion was made by Mari Jane Stankowski, second by Pat Bolock to accept the minutes as read. Director Andrzejewski called for a vote. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Patricia Bolock gave the financial report from March 15, 2023 to June 1, 2023. Director Andrzejewski asked if there were any corrections or errors and there were none noted. A motion was made by John Evanchyk, second by Mari Jane Stankowski to accept the treasurer's report. Director Andrzejewski called for a vote. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business: One Hot Meal – held on April 1, 2023 at St. Stanislaus PNCC. All who attended enjoyed themselves helping with the activity. Meals on Wheels – the event took place Saturday, May 13th in conjunction with the postal services' "Stamp out Hunger drive". Our volunteers helped to unpack and sort food collected from the drive. Family Day – Our trolley ride was attended by 9 adults and 1 child.

New Business: There were no reports from the branch secretaries in attendance. Director Andrzejewski opened the floor for discussion on activities that District 1 could become involved with. After discussion it was decided that our District would participate in the collection of hygiene items to distribute at a "one hot meal" event at St. Stanislaus. Mari Jane Stankowski made a motion seconded by Rev. Carmen Bolock to allot the district \$300 to purchase these items. We will assemble bags at the September meeting. Christmas party – It was decided that we will be tentatively holding our Christmas party/meeting at Holy Mother of Sorrows in Dupont on the 7th of December. We will contact Gary Kaspriskie to cater. The price will be determined at the next meeting after we find out what will happen after the merger.

Home Office Update: The merger is still progressing. The agreement will be presented at the June 5th Board meeting. Once it is approved it will be presented to the members. Voting materials will be sent to the delegates from the past convention by mail at the beginning of August. There is a 60 day comment period before the vote can be taken. The date of merger will be chosen. We will still exist as a separate district. This will either occur at the end of the 3rd quarter or the end of

District 1: NE Pennsylvania



the year. The SCU sponsors will be the PNCC and the PNA.

Calendar of Events: Bowling Tournament – Dickson City June 2 & 3, 2023. St. Stanislaus – One Hot Meal, 1st Saturday of each month. July 1st celebration at Waymart. Men's retreat June 14-17 at the Retreat Center. Dupont, NUC Music Workshop 2nd week of August. Dozynki in September.

The next meeting will be held on Sept 14 @ 6:30 at Good Shepherd Parish in Plymouth. Father Senior Chromey had the closing prayer.

A motion to adjourn was made by Julie Orzell at 7:09 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Joan Scheuneman
Recording Secretary

District 3: New England



Mary Ann Zarek - Director, District 3



Altar Server Retreat 2023

Thank You PNU District 3 for Your Support of our Retreat Pizza and the New Bedford Whaling Museum





Beverly Basinski - Director, District 4

**Polish National Union of America
District 4 Quarterly Meeting
June 9, 2023**

The PNU District 4 meeting along with representatives from Branches 79 and 311 was held on Monday, June 19, 2023 at 2:00 pm in the Bishop Peplowski Center, Lancaster, N.Y. Ten members were in attendance: Beverly Basinski, Sharon Pawlowski, Christina Giczkowski, James Pawlowski, Robert Giczkowski, David Pecynski, Cindy Pecynski, Pat Curtis, Norman Glowka, and Nelson Koeppel.

District Director, Beverly Basinski, called the meeting to order.

Sharon Pawlowski, Secretary, read the minutes from January 29, 2023. MOTION to accept the minutes was made by Christina Giczkowski and seconded by James Pawlowski. Motion carried.

Beverly Basinski, Treasurer, gave the treasurers report. MOTION to accept treasurer's report was made by Norman Glowka and seconded by David Pecynski. Motion carried.

Father Gary Spencer's resignation from Secretary of Branch 27 was accepted by the PNU Board of Directors. The Branch will now be managed by the Home Office.

Old Business

Transformation and Merger

General points of interest: All terms and conditions remain the same. PNU will not lose anything.

Our board of directors were very pro-active and on April 3, 2023 they narrowed it down to three organizations. They found a fraternal (about 8,000 members) that was willing to accept our terms and conditions. The committee agreed to the PNA (Polish National Alliance). This is a very positive move. The PNA was the organization most closely aligned to that of the PNU and provided the members with the most positive benefits. The PNA is financially stable and is represented across the United States. The PNU will be a division of the PNA.

Comment: Young people are more interested in term insurance and not whole life insurance. This will be a new benefit offered.

As of Friday, June 16, 2023 the Merger Agreement Document was signed awaiting

Pennsylvania and Illinois approval. Question? Any opposition to this merger. Beverly responded, not likely. We, as district officers, would have to be licensed to sell policies.

Under PNA: the PNU Districts will keep all local bank accounts and continue fund raising. Focus on local fraternalism. Spojnia Credit Union staying intact. Education & Youth Commission Scholarships will stay. No social membership with PNA. Branch #s will be Lodge #s.

Delegates from the 31st General Convention in 2019 will have to approve the merger.

Beverly reminded members to check beneficiaries on all their policies before transformation.

District 4: Continue fraternal activities

1. Participation in HMRC Community Outreach events such as Family Fun Fest and Movie Night - Nelson will let Mission and Evangelism know that we would support them.

2. Holy Trinity Parish Planning: Third Thursday of the month offering Trinity Meals "Helping the community one meal at a time". (\$5. each meal). Our members could help serve or prepare food or make a monetary donation.

3. Ladies Guild - help with their outreach programs

Closing date for the merger is scheduled for September 30, 2023.

MOTION to adjourn at 2:45 pm was made by Norman Glowka and seconded by Christina Giczowski. Motion carried,

Respectively Submitted,

Sharon Pawlowski
Recording Secretary



Christine Wachna - Director, District 6

**Polish National Union of America
District 6 Quarterly Meeting
May 11, 2023**

The meeting was called to order by Director Christine Wachna at 6:32 p.m. The Invocation and prayer for deceased was pronounced by Rev. David Rowinski. Director Christine Wachna stated that the meeting will be an informational meeting with no official motions due to low attendance.

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

Rev. Rowinski stated that while reviewing the February 9, 2023 minutes he asked PNU CEO Martin Wachna to give an update on the PNU exiting the insurance business. PNU is in agreement to merge with Polish National Alliance (PNA). The merger should be completed in the third quarter of 2023. The 2019 Convention Delegates will vote on the merger. The members of the Union will have 60 days to file any objections. All PNU certificates of insurance will be held by the PNA and membership will be in the PNA. PNU will be a "division" of the PNA. Regulations have caused smaller fraternal to go out of business. All information on the merger can be found on the PNU website and Straż.

There was no Financial Report for the 1st quarter of 2023 given.

Old Business Fraternal Activities for District 6 –

Lenten Food Drive 2023 – The food drive took place February 22 thru March 26, 2023. The All Saints Cathedral Youth Group did a "Souper Bowl of Caring" food drive and monetary collection for a local food pantry in Leyden Township. FAC Funding was received. The amount was \$150.00.

Summer School Supply Drive – There was no report today. This will be done at a later time.

New Business

Remarks from **PNU CEO Martin H. Wachna, Jr.** – Mr. Wachna stated that the ballfield in Spojnia Park was sold. The closing took place in April, 2023. The net amount was \$47,000.00. The last parcel should be sold by end of June, 2023. Proceeds from this will go to what is owed to the Main Office. Any surplus proceeds will go to the District.

For the Good of the District – A reminder that the Western Diocese Youth Gathering will take place July 31 to August 3, 2023. It will be held at Walnut Ridge Retreat Center, Morgantown, IN. Very Rev. John Kowalczyk requested the District once again sponsor an event during the Youth Gathering, i.e., ice cream social or pizza party. This will be discussed by the District Officers at a later time.

Director Christine Wachna closed the meeting at 6:51 p.m. Closing prayer and benediction was pronounced by Rev. David Rowinski.

Respectfully submitted, Christina Danielkiewicz - Recording Secretary

Suzanne Snizek - Director, District 7



**Polish National Union of America
District 7 Quarterly Meeting
June 4, 2023**

Meeting held In person following Family Day Picnic at Holy Cross, PNCC, Hamtramck, MI. Director Suzanne Snizek greeted Dist. 7 and called the meeting to order at 4 pm. Very Rev. Jaroslaw Nowak led the opening prayer. In attendance were John & Suzanne Snizek, Very Rev. Jaroslaw & Jola Nowak, Larry & Kathy Chockley. Minutes from the March 7, 2023 meeting were sent earlier in an email to members. John Snizek made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. It was seconded by Jola Nowak and passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report – John Snizek gave the financial report.

Old Business – We had a short discussion about the upcoming merger of PNU. Today we held our Family Day Picnic and Raffle here at Holy Cross Parish. There were over 50 people at Holy Mass and over 60 people attended the picnic including 14 children. We sold 1186 raffle tickets. We received a few school supplies but we also collected \$35 in cash to buy more school supplies for Hamtramck Public Schools. We gave a gift of \$50 to Very Rev. Jaroslaw Nowak and Rev. Henry Galas in celebration of Clergy Appreciation Day. Larry Chockley made a motion to donate \$100 to Holy Cross Parish for hosting the picnic. It was seconded by John Snizek and passed unanimously.

New Business- the Western Diocese Youth Gathering is looking for financial support for the upcoming youth gathering. Larry Chockley made a motion to donate \$150 to the youth gathering. It was seconded by Jola Nowak and passed unanimously. It will be used to provide snacks and an activity.

We discussed the next event which will be the Christmas Bowling party on the first Sunday in December. More details will be discussed at the next meeting. The next meeting will be October 16, 2023 at 7pm on Zoom.

Upcoming Events

Our Savior, nothing to report.
All Saints, nothing to report.

Holy Cross, angel wings and kołaczki making on June 15. Soup kitchen on second Saturdays.

Resurrection, free soup on last Saturdays with donations going to New Beginning's Mercy House in Ida, MI.

John Snizek made a motion to adjourn at 4:45pm. It was seconded by Larry Chockley. Very Rev. Jaroslaw Nowak led the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Kathy Chockley, Recording Secretary

District 7: MI Family Day Picnic



Suzanne Sniezek - Director, District 7

Polish National Union-District 7 held their Family Day Picnic and Raffle today at Holy Cross Parish, PNCC, in Hamtramck, MI. The day started with Holy Mass concelebrated by Very Rev. Jaroslaw Nowak and Rev. Henryk Galas. Then we had a delicious buffet lunch. We surprised our clergy with gifts for clergy appreciation day. District 7 asked our guests to donate school supplies for Hamtramck Public schools. All the kids in attendance played relay races, games and attacked a pinata for the candy inside. Some guests played a few games of corn hole too. The day ended with prizes for the kids and the big raffle. Thanks to everyone who came out, and to everyone who bought raffle ticket to support the picnic. ~ Submitted by Kathy Chockley



Membership: Death Report June 2023



Julius Bernhagen
Joan Bourgieos
Elizabeth Charney
Ann Czop
Jean Ann Fisher

Michael Gull
Danielle Kopcza
Darlene Koulavas
Anthony Kuzniewski
Robert Potrzeba

Adele Sabach
J. Brian Samsell
Robert Sarnowski
Dolores Urban
Ronald Yankoski

Membership: Death Report July 2023



Carl Lupi Jr.

William Nelson

Helen Spinicci

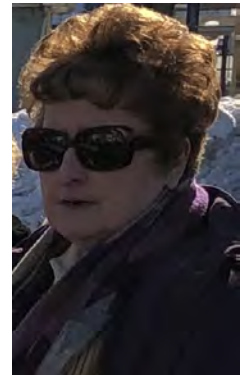
Laura Topolsky

Membership: Obituaries



Elaine M. Kubik

It is with great sadness that Holy Trinity Parish, Woodlawn, NY, and PNU District 4 announce the unexpected death of Elaine Kubik, age 62, on June 29, 2023. Elaine was the daughter of the late Very Rev. Matthew Kubik and Marian Kubik. She was the organist at Holy Trinity and substitute organist at Holy Mother of the Rosary Cathedral. Elaine was a member of PNU Branch 27. Mass of Christian burial was held Monday, July 10 at Holy Trinity, Woodlawn, NY. Principal celebrant was Reverend Nadeem Yaqoob assisted by Reverend Corey Foegen. She will be greatly missed.





Right Reverend Jaroslaw Rafalko

Bishop Ordinary of the Western Diocese, Polish National Catholic Church, Pastor of All Saints Cathedral Polish National Catholic Church. Beloved husband of 33 years to Leslie 'Wieslawa'; cherished son of the late Wanda and Jan Rafalko; loving brother of Elzbieta (Jozef) Wasilewski and the late Janina (Stanislaw) Serwin; dearest uncle of Anna (Dominik) Dym, Artur (Cortney Johnson), Piotr (Wioletta) Gryko, Michal (Iwona) Gryko and Grzegorz (Beata) Gryko; great-uncle of Aleksander Dym, Damian Johnson Wasilewski and Piotr Gryko; dear son-in-law of Eugenia and the late Stefan Czaban; loved brother-in-law of Barbara Czaban and Alicja (Mikolaj) Gryko. Jaroslaw was ordained to priesthood, June 8, 1980 in Bialystok, Poland. Appointed Pastor of Holy Trinity Parish PNCC in Kewanee, IL in 1990. Appointed Administrative Senior of the Northcentral Seniorate of Western Diocese PNCC in August of 2016.

Elected Bishop of the Western Diocese PNCC October 25, 2019. Consecration as Bishop at St. Stanislaus Bishop and Martyr Cathedral, Scranton, Pennsylvania on Sept. 14, 2020 and Installed as Bishop at All Saints Cathedral Parish in Chicago, IL on October 3, 2020. Lying in State, Sunday, July 23, 2023 from 3 to 7 p.m., Monday, July 24th from 2 to 8 p.m. with Holy Vespers celebrated at 7 p.m. and Tuesday, July 25th from 9 a.m. until time of Mass, 10:30 a.m., at All Saints Cathedral PNCC 9201 W. Higgins Ave., Chicago, IL 60631. Interment Private. In lieu of flowers, donations will be used to benefit a future scholarship in the Bishop's name or a donation to the Youth Fund of the Polish National Catholic Church would be appreciated.

To watch the video of the funeral Mass <https://www.memorialsive.com/services.php?id=rafalko>

REPRINTED WITH PERMISSION from Reverend Jason Soltysiak.

From Fr. Jason- Pastor of St. Mary's in Parma, OH on the passing of Rt. Rev Jerry Rafalko:

I write with such shock at the loss of Bishop Jerry Rafalko. Though I have only been a priest for 16 years, I have had 5 diocesan bishops – too many. And our Western Diocese has had a difficult string of luck that we will have a 6th Diocesan Bishop in this quarter century alone, with our Prime Bishop having, for a third time, to take on a role he would have never hoped to take on.

Bishop Jerry was such a humble man. I will never forget some of his first words as diocesan bishop were that he was not supposed to be in that spot; that his predecessor, +Bishop Stanley Bilinski, should have enjoyed many more years as the Bishop-Ordinary. He said it many times after that as well.

The first time I met him was an intimate setting- he was Father Jerry, and his wife Leslie and he were in Scranton, PA for a Special Synod. The evening before, he stopped by the Cathedral and I gave him and his wife the "long tour" and recommended a restaurant to get dinner. He reminded me often of that tour and the bite to eat afterward!

One of the roles of Bishop is to pastor the diocesan priests. He made sure to develop a full relationship with all of us, whether we were from somewhere nearby in Chicago or in the farthest reaches of the diocese: Minnesota, Missouri, and Ohio. His ministry to us at St. Mary's began a few months before he was elected and after the death of Bishop Bilinski. With a full travel schedule, Prime Bishop asked Father Senior Jerry to come to St. Mary's one Sunday to confirm two young ladies from our parish, Marzena and Kyrsten. He did so, and stayed for hours afterward meeting with parishioners.

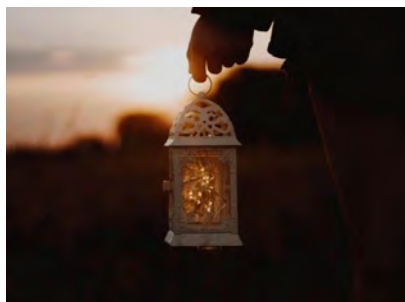
As Bishop, he confirmed Makenzie and Damion when he was here for the National Golf Tournament in early September 2022. Just a few weeks earlier, he was in town for the Diocesan Choir Concert, having a blast with our parishioners and those from across the diocese. How proud he was to use the crozier that belonged to +Bp. Jan Dawidziuk as an homage to the history of this parish and this diocese that day. He remarked what a blessing it was to have the children of 8 PNCC priests in attendance the next day after church, giving them all a bit of time to talk about "their dads."

But the memory that will endure in my heart forever about Bishop Jerry was from 2 years ago, almost to the day. Natalie and I lost our son, Jason Jr. just 3 days after we were confident enough to tell parishioners we were pregnant again. He checked in on us every day for a week, even coming to see us in Ohio and buying Brady a toy to play with. Every single time I saw or spoke to him since, he made sure to check in on how Natalie was doing. We are forever...forever... grateful for his personal ministry to us at such a difficult time.

My prayers have been with Bishop's wife Leslie since his death. I am so proud of the priests of the diocese who have been with her until her family could travel in to be with her. I was always proud that he was my bishop and bishop of our diocese. He told me he was looking forward to being in Ohio for the 2023 YMSofR Golf Tournament, if his health cooperated.

I miss him dearly already, and I know a number of people from our parish developed relationships with him from these visits, as well as national or diocesan events, or through his online presence. It was our parishioner, Mike Wisniewski, who asked Bishop on a call with our entire parish committee many months back why he stopped posting daily prayers on Facebook. When I spoke to him the next day, he said he couldn't believe people actually missed those! And from that day forward, he posted a daily prayer on Facebook, building quite the following of people who looked forward to being "recentered online".

Eternal rest grant unto him, o Lord, and may perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace.





Loretta (Wladyslawa) Mikovsky

Loretta (Wladyslawa) Mikovsky entered into the rest of the Lord on August 2, 2023 at Allied Services Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Scranton, PA. Born July 26, 1933 in Trenton, NJ, she was the daughter of the late Joseph and Mary (Dombrowski) Ewaskiewicz. She was the widow of the late Anthony J. Mikovsky who passed in 2011. They were married for 48 years. She resided in Hamilton, NJ until recently moving to Scranton, PA in May to be closer to her son.

Loretta attended Trenton schools and was a school teacher in the Trenton School District for many years after receiving her Bachelor's and Master's Degrees from Trenton State College, now the College of New Jersey. After her retirement she continued to work as a substitute teacher in Hamilton Township, NJ.

Loretta was a faithful member of the Polish National Catholic Church of Our Saviour in Lawrenceville, NJ, where she served for many years on the Parish Committee and the Women's Society for the Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament. At the parish she worked at the many church breakfasts and events and always made sure that the church building was immaculately clean.

Loretta enjoyed events with family, especially the summer picnics held on her property. She also loved to read and make crafts, usually given to the family with their Christmas presents.

Loretta is survived by a son, Most Rev. Anthony Mikovsky, Prime Bishop of the Polish National Catholic Church and his wife, Carol. She is also survived by a sister-in-law, Laura Ewaskiewicz; a sister-in-law, June Didun; and many nieces and nephews, along with their children. In particular, Chris Ewaskiewicz and Loretta Cramer were her caregivers in Hamilton, NJ.

Loretta was preceded in death by her siblings, Amelia Dzisinta, Helen Murl, Floryan Ewaskiewicz, Arthur Ewaskiewicz, Boleslaw Ewaskiewicz, and Wanda Ewaskiewicz.

Visitation for family and friends will be held on Sunday, August 13, 2023, from 2:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. at the Saul Colonial Home, 3795 Nottingham Way, Hamilton Square, NJ.

A Funeral Mass will be celebrated by her son at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, August 14, 2023, at the P.N.C. Church of Our Saviour, 2300 Princeton Pike, Lawrenceville, NJ 08648.

Entombment will follow at the Princeton Memorial Park Mausoleum in Robbinsville, NJ.

Board of Directors: Report of Actions



Report of Actions Taken by the Board of Directors of the PNU during a regular board meeting held June 5, 2023

OPENING

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Polish National Union of America was held on June 5, 2023 via Zoom video conference. The meeting was opened by CEO Wachna. All board members were present. All members of the Internal Audit Committee were present.

Minutes

The minutes for the regular board meeting held March 23, 2023 were distributed prior to the meeting. CEO Wachna asked for corrections or additions. None were noted. **A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as presented. The motion passed.**

STANDARD REPORTS

Standard reports for Spójnia Inc., monthly membership and the First Quarter Statement were given during this portion of the board meeting. Each report was considered separately with respect to any discussion and questions. Membership Reports and the First Quarter Statement were distributed to the PNU Board of Directors prior to the meeting. Discussion and questions followed.

At the conclusion of the discussion regarding the First Quarter Statement CEO Wachna called for a motion to receive the standard reports. **A motion was made and seconded to receive the standard reports. The motion passed.**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

CEO Wachna did not submit a written report regarding the activities of the CEO prior to the board meeting. A verbal report was given which highlighted work done as the CEO since the last meeting. CEO Wachna also reported on the activity in the mortgage department and activity related to the ongoing merger discussion.

Spojnia Park

CEO Wachna reported that the final piece of the property referred to as Spojnia Park has been sold. A timeline for closing and fund distribution was given.

At the conclusion of the report a motion was made and seconded to receive the report of the CEO. The motion passed.

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT

Exonerations

There were three exonerations to consider. All certificates to be considered met the qualifications for exoneration in that the member is over 80 years old and has paid more in premium than the face amount of the insurance coverage.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the exonerations. The motion passed.

Correspondence

CFO Andrzejewski reported that there were three thank you letters received associated with donations made in remembrance of members who had passed away.

Branch Affairs

There was nothing to consider.

Annual Statement Related Items

CFO Andrzejewski reported that the annual audit report was received from Kohanski and Company along with the SAS 114 c and SAS 115 required correspondence. The documents were distributed to the Board and reviewed by the Board Liaison Committee prior to the meeting. CFO Andrzejewski reported that there were no internal control deficiencies noted and no differences in the balances reported as a part of the financial statements with the audit report.

Personnel

CFO Andrzejewski reported regarding staff changes and ongoing efforts to hire staff for the credit union. He further reported that the remaining staff had begun transition to a staff position with the credit union.

CEO Wachna reported that the severance agreements with the remaining employees have been agreed upon and executed as of the current Board meeting.

There were no more topics for discussion under the CFO's Report.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the report. The motion passed.

MERGER AGREEMENT DISCUSSION

The Board engaged in discussion regarding the proposed merger agreement which was distributed to the Board prior to the meeting. The agreement will be the foundation for the merger of the Polish National Union of America to be merged into the Polish National Alliance of the United States of North America. The discussion concluded with the following motion. **A motion was made and seconded to approve of the merger agreement between the Polish National Union of America and the Polish National Alliance of the United States of North America as presented to the Board and as recommended for approval by the Merger Committee; and to authorize the executive officers to execute the agreement once approved by the Polish National Alliance. The motion passed with a unanimous roll call vote.**

Merger Timeline

The next item discussed in association with the merger was the timeline and next steps. CEO Wachna reported that a special edition of the Straz was ready to be printed and distributed. It

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was noted that there is a 60 day comment period after which the delegates from the 31st General Convention would be contacted with voting materials. The target merger date is set for September 30, 2023.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Investment Committee

CEO Wachna reported that the Investment Committee did not meet since the last Board meeting. There was no recommendation for a change in the mortgage or annuity rates.

Fraternal Activities Committee

Chairman Michael Mietlicki was called upon to report on the Fraternal Activities Committee. He indicated a report and recent financials were distributed to the Board. A synopsis of meetings and fraternal funds distributed was given.

Education and Youth Commission

Chair Mary Ann Stankowski was called upon for a report from the Commission. She reported regarding the activity of the commission. The highlight of the report was the distribution of college stipends. She announced that 32 stipends were distributed. At the conclusion of the report CEO Wachna announced that a PNU member applied for and received a large scholarship from the PAC Charitable Foundation.

Board Liaison Committee

Chairman Gregory Senkevitch was called on to report regarding the committee activities. He reported that minutes of the committee activity were distributed to the Board. The committee met with Kelly Lindsey from Kohanski and Company to review the audit findings for year-end 2022. There were no exceptions noted as a result of the audit.

Spojnja Credit Union

CEO Wachna reported that he had met with President Cwikla about the merger activity and about preparations for the end result of the merger. The main focus of change is to modify the Articles of Incorporation of the SCU to include the new sponsor groups. CFO Andrzejewski reported on the financial condition of the SCU.

The report on the credit union was the last item under committee reports. A motion was made and seconded to accept the committee reports as presented. The motion passed.

District Business

The Board reviewed the reports received from the districts. CEO Wachna asked the Board to note the community service projects listed in the reports from the Districts. Minutes were also received from various district meetings.

At the conclusion of the review of the reports a motion was made and seconded to receive the district reports submitted. The motion passed.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

CLOSING

There was no additional business brought for discussion.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned by CEO Wachna following a closing prayer.

This concludes the Report of Actions Taken at a regular meeting held June 5, 2023. As submitted the report is represented to be as accurate as possible regarding the content and matters discussed and the disposition of matters presented to the Board.

Respectfully submitted,
John C. Andrzejewski, III
CFO/Secretary



Polish National Union of America
Leading families in the right direction



PNA & PNU Merger Agreement



On June 15, 2023, CEO of the Polish National Alliance Frank Spula and CEO of the Polish National Union of America Martin Wachna signed an agreement to enter a merger between the PNA and PNU. Both CEOs met at the Polish National Alliance for the signing. The documents were signed and attested by National Secretary Alicja Kuklińska and National Treasurer Steve Tokarski.

Delegates of the 49th Quadrennial Convention will deliberate on the approval of this merger. If the merger is accepted by the delegates, the PNA will look forward to welcoming PNU members with open arms.



49TH PNA QUADRENNIAL CONVENTION

Tentative Agenda

Tuesday, August 29, 2023

11:00 PM – 3:00 PM Registration

3:00 – 7:00 PM Opening Session

Welcome Remarks

Announcement of the Convention Officers

Oath of Office

Report of the Credentials Committee

Roll Call of the PNA Officers

Recess & Immediate Departure
to the PNA Headquarters (Bus)

7:30 – 10:00 PM Welcome Reception (PNA Office) &
Return to the Hotel (Bus)

Wednesday, August 30, 2023

8:00 – 10:00 AM Reports

10:00 – 10:30 AM Coffee Break

10:30 – 12:00 PM Continuation of Sessions

12:00 – 1:30 PM Lunch Break

1:30 – 3:30 PM Continuation of Sessions

3:30 – 4:00 PM Coffee Break

4:00 – 7:00 PM Continuation of Sessions

Presentation of Candidates

Elections

Resolutions

Election Results

Recess

8:00 – 10:30 PM Dinner Reception (at the Hyatt Regency)

Thursday, August 31, 2023

8:00 – 12:00 PM Continuation of Sessions

New Business

Installation of Officers

Adjournment

12:00 – 1:00 PM Lunch

Agenda is subject to change.



From the PNA Publication Zgoda - June Special Edition



Polish National Union of America

June 19, 2023

49th Quadrennial Convention
Polish National Alliance
Mr. Frank Spula, CEO

Dear CEO Spula and Delegates,

On behalf of the Board of Directors and Members of the Polish National Union of America, I, as the CEO of the Polish National Union, extend greetings to the 49th Quadrennial Convention of the Polish National Alliance. The membership of the PNU hope that your deliberations and actions prove to be fruitful for the advancement of the PNA. During these meetings, we also hope that you, as the delegates to the convention, approve the merger of our two organizations.

The Polish National Catholic Church organized in 1897 in Scranton, Pennsylvania when a group of Poles determined that they wanted and need to set the direction of their church. A young priest named Francis Hodur led this group of people looking for religious freedom and ownership. During these tumultuous times, many of the Polish Fraternal Organizations would not support the members of the fledgling church or its members. The Polish National Alliance in the Scranton Area was the only fraternal organization that would insure and support these people struggling to establish their church. The PNA not only supported the people of the PNCC but the PNCC itself. The PNA in the Scranton area purchased necessary items a Catholic Church needed, such as a monstrance for the Cathedral.

In 1908, Prime Bishop Francis Hodur organized the PNU to continue the direct assistance to the members of the PNCC and her parishes. While the PNU was organized by the PNCC, the PNU continued to work closely with the PNA in fostering benefits for members of Polonia. Fast forward to the 1990s, the PNU and the PNA in Chicago became good and close friends again. At that time, President Moskal and the President of the PNU began to discuss the possibility of the PNU and the PNA merge to solidify both organizations and to continue to promote fraternalism.

In 2022, the PNU reached out to several organizations to discuss the merger of our organization. During these discussions, it was determined that the very best organization to merge with was our friends at the Polish National Alliance. The two organizations' mission are still closely aligned as it was back in 1897. While the Board of Directors of the PNU did have to look at all possibilities for its members, the PNA was chosen unanimously.

As you deliberate during this convention, it is our hope that the question for approval of merger between our organizations is approved. We look forward to becoming a part of the PNA family and know we will work hard for the betterment of Polonia and all ethnicities.

Fraternally,
Martin H. Wachna, Jr. CEO
and the Board of Directors of
The Polish National Union of America