



**Greetings from the Desk of  
the CEO**

Dear Members of the PNU,  
On October 1, 2019, the delegates of the 31<sup>st</sup> General Convention of the Polish National Union elected me as your new CEO. It is an honor and privilege to be entrusted with leading the PNU forward over the next four years.

There will be more exciting news, I am certain, as we begin to work with our CFO John Andrzejewski, Vice-President Kathryn Nemkovich and the new Board of Directors. My challenge to every one of our members is to introduce at least one new member into the PNU. This can be through a life insurance policy, an annuity or social membership. The PNU has many benefits for the members and we must commit to her growth. Please know that as your new CEO, I want to hear your ideas for the growth of our organization. All ideas are gladly welcomed.  
Fraternally,  
Martin Wachna  
CEO, PNU

I am humbled by the words of support that I have been receiving since the election concluded. The well wishes that have been received from the Members, the current Prime Bishop, as well as the retired Prime Bishops, and other leaders, give me the added energy to make everyone proud of this fine organization.

As was said in the time I had to address the Convention, I cannot do this by myself. It will take each of the members of the Board of Directors, District Directors, Branch Secretaries and Membership to help me build upon the foundation that our previous CEO +Irene Jugan began. *I hope that I can have half of the energy and tenacity that she had. While no one can fill her shoes* (because she had so many pairs) it is my promise that I will work as hard as she did during her tenure.

We need to get right to work with open lines of communication to our members. We will begin in short order the continuation of mail, email, and website communication with our members. My vision is to highlight the new and current products, new and current benefits, and our partnership with the Spojnia Credit Union. We will continue to digitize our website to provide a one-stop-shop for members. We will work with our vendors to be able to quickly and accurately quote an approximate cost of premiums for those interested.

Soon we will provide our Branch Secretaries improved tools and training in order to be more confident and move out of their comfort zone. This will enable them to add to the membership of the Union. The tools will not only be in-person seminars, but we will investigate on-line training and self-paced training as well.



**The First Annual Heart &  
Soul Award Recipient  
Announced**

The First Annual Heart & Soul Award in remembrance of the late PNU CEO Irene Jugan was awarded to Henrietta Kleckner and announced during the 31st PNU General Convention. Congratulations Henrietta!

**(Continued on p.14 )**

**INSIDE THIS EDITION**

**PNU ELECTS NEW CEO MARTIN WACHNA**

**CRUISE ELECTION AND PHOTOS**

**IRENE JUGAN HEART & SOUL AWARDED TO  
HENRIETTA KLECKNER**

**DISTRICT NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, & MORE!**

**Holiday Office Hours**

**PNU and Spojnia Credit Union offices will be closed on Monday November 11, 2019 in observance of Veteran's Day**

Due to positions still being appointed at the time of publication, the list of PNU committees and board members will be published in the December 2019 issue.

**Polish National Union Death Benefit Report**  
We express our sincere

condolences to the families of the deceased.

May perpetual light shine upon them. May they Rest in Peace.

Marian Kubik  
Edwin Kosik  
Melchoir Kulesa  
Helen Covak  
Irene Maj  
Lorraine Johnson  
Stanley Drapala  
Florence Zaganiaczyk  
Andrew Kostecki  
Nellie Fryc  
Helen Komski  
Thaddeus Sikorski  
Tarra Regina Swift  
Edward Lewandowski  
Pamela Cundro  
Marilyn Hietala  
Stanley Janus  
Joseph Gidzinski  
John Madison  
Zofia Sienicki  
Violetta Joachim  
Johanna Rodriguez  
Barbara Zara  
Susan Reeves  
Virginia Ryzewski

The STRAZ is  
mobile friendly and on a PDF format! For current and archived editions check out [www.thestraz.com](http://www.thestraz.com)

**October is Polish American Heritage Month!**

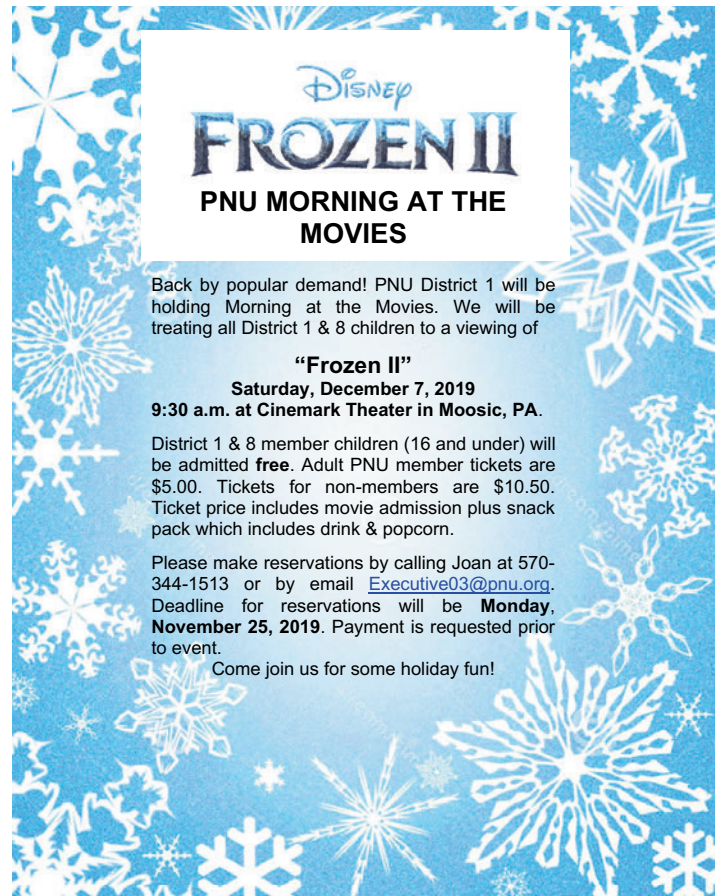
Throughout this edition you will find information on the rich Polish culture in celebration of Polish American Heritage Month. Have a tradition, recipe, story, or photos that you would like to share in celebration?

Send them to [straz@pnu.org](mailto:straz@pnu.org)

(Below is an excerpt from Michael Blichasz, President Polish American Cultural Center)

Visit <http://www.polishamericancenter.org/heritmo.htm> for his full Polish American Heritage Month Address.

".....I also want to thank the leaders of the national Polish American fraternal organizations who help encourage the celebration of Polish American Heritage Month among their members and supporters through their newspapers and group representatives. Compliments also to the organizations, churches, schools, libraries and individuals who continue to work on this effort for the purpose of preserving Polish history and culture for future generations. I want to also thank the Polish American press and radio for helping get the word out about Polish American Heritage Month to the general public."



**Disney FROZEN II**  
**PNU MORNING AT THE MOVIES**

Back by popular demand! PNU District 1 will be holding Morning at the Movies. We will be treating all District 1 & 8 children to a viewing of

**"Frozen II"**  
**Saturday, December 7, 2019**  
**9:30 a.m. at Cinemark Theater in Moosic, PA.**

District 1 & 8 member children (16 and under) will be admitted **free**. Adult PNU member tickets are \$5.00. Tickets for non-members are \$10.50. Ticket price includes movie admission plus snack pack which includes drink & popcorn.

Please make reservations by calling Joan at 570-344-1513 or by email [Executive03@pnu.org](mailto:Executive03@pnu.org). Deadline for reservations will be **Monday, November 25, 2019**. Payment is requested prior to event.

Come join us for some holiday fun!



**District 1 Christmas Party**

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2019  
LOWER LEVEL OF THE PNCC BUILDING  
\*1006 PITTSTON AVE, SCRANTON, PA

6 PM IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE QUARTERLY MEETING

The cost per person will be \$15.00.  
A buffet dinner will be provided.

Door Prize Raffle  
Games

Christmas Carol sing-a-long.

Please make your reservations by calling  
**570-344-1513**

**RSVP BY 12/5/2019**



**THINK LIFE INSURANCE ISN'T FOR YOU BECAUSE YOU ARE YOUNG?**

Think ahead  
Think smart

Think about a \$5,000 policy for a 20 year old costing a little over \$3.00 per month

Think about your future

**BECAUSE EVEN YOUNG PEOPLE GET OLD ONE DAY!**

To all the young people enjoying their youth we ask you to stop and think about the future. Think about how premiums for life insurance only increase with cost as the years pass by..and trust us: they go by quicker each year! Contact the PNU TODAY and learn how to secure your TOMORROW!

Rate based on monthly rate plan for Life Paid Up At 85 insurance for a 20 yr old female

**Give The Gift That Will Pay Off When It Counts The Most**

Our 20 year Endowment Program offers your child or grandchild options during a turning point in their life

Proud parent or grandparent to a newborn? Think about purchasing a 20 Year Endowment for them this Christmas! When their policy matures in 20 Years it could give them the head-start they need in the "adult world!"

**Wow! Don't Miss SCU's Big Sale!**



Jan Cwikla, Spojnia Credit Union President, sporting his pirate outfit during the convention's "pirate party".

**Get The App!**

Spojnia Credit Union now has an app available for you to review and pay your bills online. The app is FREE and can be downloaded from the Apple Store or the Android Google Play Store.

**SAIL INTO SAVINGS!**

**.45 % APR Off Current Posted Rates**

**For All Vehicle & Home Equity Loans**

Valid Through November 30, 2019

**Call Spojnia Credit Union Today**

**800-724-6352**

Federally Insured By The NCUA





Polish National Union of America

District One  
Joan Scheuneman, District Director 1308 Pittston Ave.  
Scranton, PA, 18505



Polish National Union of America  
District 1 Quarterly Meeting September 5, 2019

District Director Joan Scheuneman called the third quarterly meeting to order at 6:35pm. The meeting was held at St. Adalbert's in Dickson City, PA. She then called upon Prime Bishop Mikovsky for the invocation.

Attendance Report: Secretary Julie Andrzejewski reported that there were 20 delegates representing 7 branches and 1 guest present.

Convention Update: Director Scheuneman called upon PNU CFO John C. Andrzejewski III for a convention discussion. He gave an overview of the convention and discussed the agenda, constitutional issues, reports to the convention, and the nomination and election process.

Secretary Report: Secretary Andrzejewski read the minutes from the previous meeting. Director Scheuneman asked if there were any corrections or errors and there were none noted. A motion was made by Mari Jane Stankowski, second by Rev. Carmen Bolock to accept the minutes as read. Director Scheuneman called for a vote. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Patricia Bolock gave the financial report from June 5, 2019 to September 5, 2019. Director Scheuneman asked if there were any corrections or errors and there were none noted. A motion was made by Branch Secretary Dorothy Andrzejewski, second by Sylvia Kowalski to accept the treasurer's report. Director Scheuneman called for a vote. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business: Dine to Donate: Julie Andrzejewski reported that Patty Evanchyk set up the dates at the Texas Roadhouse. We will be in Wilkes-Barre on September 16 and in Dickson City on September 19. The hours are 3-10pm and District 1 will receive 10% of the total food bill within two weeks of the event. Invitations as well as notices for the bulletins were sent out to local churches in District 1 & 8.

People will need to show the paper invitation or the invitation on their phone in order for District 1 to receive the 10%. Both events are on the PNU Facebook page.

Postcards were sent out. We will have a basket raffle at both locations. Julie Andrzejewski is gathering donations for the baskets. Education and Youth Raffle: Tickets are \$5.00 each or 3 tickets for \$10.00. First prize is \$400 cash, second prize is Amazon Echo, third prize is \$100 cash. Tickets were passed out to those in attendance to try to sell. Lion King: The Lion King movie event did not happen. Vice President Mari Jane Stankowski suggested that we plan for Frozen II which is to be released Thanksgiving Weekend. The first weekend in December was decided upon. Director Scheuneman will make arrangements with Cinemark in Moosic.

New Business: Spojnia Sunday: Is held on the fourth Sunday in September. This year it falls on September 22. Director Scheuneman asked the secretaries to try to have a remembrance of Irene Jugan. The Irene Jugan Heart and Soul Award: Nominations should be sent to PNU CFO John C Andrzejewski III by September 15. The winner will be announced at the 31st Convention. Christmas Party: After a discussion was held by those in attendance, it was decided that the Christmas party will be held in the Lower Level of the PNCC building tentatively on December 12 at 6 pm with Gary Kaspriskie catering. Reorganization Meeting: This to be determined as the district directors will be appointed after the 31st Convention.

Calendar of Events: St. Stanislaus: One Hot Meal is the first Saturday of every month, 9/14 – Chicken BBQ, 10/5- Diocesan retreat at the cathedral. Holy Mother of Sorrows: 9/7 – Flea market, 9/8 – Dozynki Polish Harvest Festival from 11am-7 pm. The next meeting will be held tentatively on December 12 at the Lower Level of the PNCC Building in Scranton at 6 pm.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mary Ann Stankowski. Meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie L. Andrzejewski

Secretary

<b>Name</b>	_____
<b>Address</b>	_____ _____
<b>Phone</b>	_____

**2019 Education and Youth Commission Raffle**  
*Proceeds to benefit our College Stipend Program*

**1<sup>st</sup> Prize – \$400 cash**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize – Amazon Echo**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize – \$100 cash**

**Drawing: Dec. 5, 2019 @ PNU Offices**

**Donation - \$5.00 each; 3 for \$10.00**

*Checks made payable to: Education and Youth Commission  
c/o PNU of America, 1006 Pittston Avenue, Scranton, PA 18505  
Lackawanna County Permit Number: 4426*



**Debbie Migliori of The Home Office sold \$5,000 in annuities for the month of August. A total of \$6,000 worth of annuities were sold in August.**





**Polish National Union of America**  
District One

Joan Scheuneman, District Director 1308 Pittston Ave.  
Scranton, PA, 18505



**District 1 and Education & Youth Represented PNU At Polish Themed Bonfire In Scranton, PA**



**District 1 Dine To Donate Was A Big Success!**



**District 1 Secretary Julie Andrzejewski, left, and Patricia Bollock, right, sold raffle tickets during a fundraiser for District 1 at Texas Roadhouse.**

Texas Roadhouse customers were in for more than the usual mouthwatering steaks last month. Baskets from generous area businesses and donors were raffled off to help raise money for District 1. Baskets featured generous gift certificates, yummy treats, lottery tickets, and so much more!

If you presented your Dine To Donate coupon at the Scranton and Wilkes-Barre Texas Roadhouse locations then 10% of the total bill was donated to District 1.



**(From Left) PNU CFO/Secretary John Andrzejewski, PNU Education & Youth Commission Chairman Mary Ann Stankowski, District 1 Secretary Julie Andrzejewski, and Lorraine Hill at the PNU cultural tent table during the Bonfire At The Iron Furnaces Event.**

**District 1 Celebrates Polish American History Month**

October is Polish American History Month and District 1 was proud to represent the PNU at The 9th Annual Bonfire At The Iron Furnaces in Scranton, PA on October 19th, 2019 . The Bonfire was Polish themed this year and the PNU was invited to display items from the Polish culture and educate guests on Polish history. PNU CFO John Andrzejewski spoke at the event and explained how Polish immigrants helped build this country.





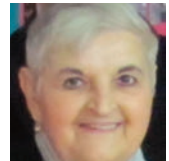
**Polish National Union of America**

District Two and Nine Edmund J. Kotula, District Director 51 Franklin Ave.  
Wallington, NJ Phone: (973) 773-4090



**Polish National Union of America**

District Three and Eleven  
Mary Ann Zarek, District Director 363 Lindsey St.  
Attleboro, MA 02703 Phone: 508-226-1615



**MINUTES OF THE DISTRICT # 2 QUARTERLY MEETING  
OF 29 JUNE 2019 HOLY CROSS PNCC  
WOODLAND PARK, NEW JERSEY**

Mr. Edmund Kotula, Director of District # 2 of the POLISH NATIONAL UNION (SPOJNIA) called the Quarterly Meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

Rev. Joseph R. Cyman, Pastor of Holy Cross PNCC, offered a prayer.

Mr. John Czop, Recording Secretary, read the Minutes of the 2 March 2019 District #2 Quarterly Meeting. The Minutes were accepted.

Mrs. Peggy Kotula, Treasurer, delivered her report. The Treasurer's report was accepted.

Acting Financial Secretary Rev. Joseph R. Cyman delivered his report, which was accepted.

Director Kotula reminded us that the 2019 Spojnia Convention at Sea will take place from 29 September to 6 October 2019. The host of this year's Convention is Spojnia District # 6 based in Chicago. District #6 is preparing an ad booklet for the Convention. District # 2 contributed an ad to commemorate BISHOP FRANCIS HODUR DAY at Ellis Island. This event commemorated the centennial of Prime Bishop Francis Hodur's arrival in the United States aboard the S.S. Sorrento. This history making Spojnia event marked the first commemoration of an individual, rather than an ethnic group or organization, at Ellis Island. Mrs. Ann K. Czop, long serving Secretary of Spojnia Branch # 5, the Tadeusz Kosciuszko Society, proposed the plan for Bishop Francis Hodur Day and moved the project from idea to action.

Director Kotula reported that Spojnia CFO/ Secretary Mr. John Andrzejewski III soon will announce the agenda for the 2019 Spojnia Convention at Sea. To date, none declared their candidacy for election to Spojnia offices. Spojnia BY-LAWS permit the nomination of candidates for office from the floor of the Convention. At 3:45 p.m. Ms. Linda Zulkowski moved to adjourn the meeting and her motion was voted-up without opposition.

A social hour followed the meeting during which Director Kotula asked Mr. John Czop to describe the 12 June 2019 Reception for Polish Americans at the White House.

Minutes above prepared by John Czop

**Polish National Union of America**  
**1002 Pittston Ave, Scranton, PA 18505**  
**Fraternal Insurance**

For more information contact your  
branch secretary or Call the Home Office:  
**570-344-1513 • 1-800-724-6352**

**www.pnu.org**

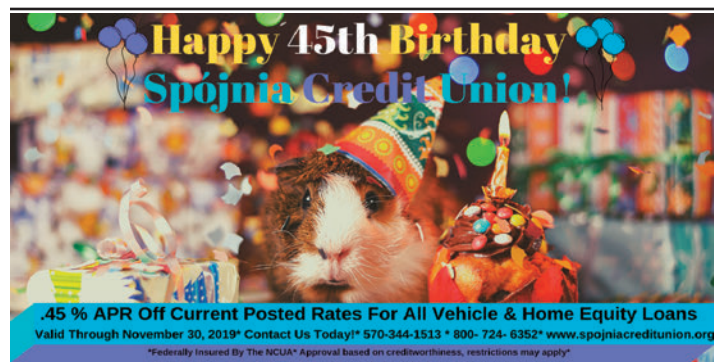
**PNU District 3 Meeting September 9, 2019**

PNU District 3 held a teleconference on September 9, 2019. Bishop Paul opened the meeting with a prayer. Minutes from the previous meeting were emailed to members. Fr. Sr. Rob Nemkovich made a motion to accept, second by Michael Zarek. Fr. Sr. Rob Nemkovich presented the financial report. Michael Zarek made a motion to accept, second by Phil Kaczorowski. Maryann Zarek gave the Director Report. Spojnia Sunday will be Sunday, September 22, 2019. This year it will be in honor of Irene Jugan who passed away in May. Maryann asked that parishes have a coffee hour after Mass.

The Thanksgiving raffle will be held again this year with the drawing being held on November 24th. Thank you to Brenda Richard, Maryann and Michael Zarek, Phil Kaczorowski and Fr. Sr. Rob and Kathy Nemkovich for their donations.

District 3 will provide a pizza party and an ice cream social for the Winter Gathering to be held at Blessed Trinity in December. Maryann thanked Fr. Sr. Rob for all his help with the District 3 programs for the youth. The next teleconference will be held on Monday, November 4, 2019 at 7:00 PM.

Fr. Sr. Rob made a motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Nancy Reilly. Fr. Sr. Rob offered a closing prayer.



**Happy 45th Birthday SCU! (October 18th 2019)**  
**Happy ICU Day! (October 17th 2019)**

International Credit Union (ICU) Day® celebrates the spirit of the global credit union movement. The day is recognized to reflect upon the credit union movement's history, promote its achievements, recognize the hard work and share member experiences. International Credit Union (ICU) Day® has been celebrated on the third Thursday of October since 1948. Source: <https://www.awarenessdays.com>



Polish National Union of America

District Four  
Beverly Basinski, District Director  
4375 Homestead Ln  
Clarence, NY 14031



Next meeting will be on Sunday, November 10, 2019 at 9:30 am to talk about what transpired at the PNU convention. This is also the same day as our Thanksgiving Raffle.

Bishop Mack closed the meeting with a prayer in memory of Fr. Sr. Kraus and Irene Jugan.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:20 am was made by Frances Swendra, seconded by Elizabeth Swendra and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted.

Sharon Pawlowski

Recording Secretary

## POLISH NATIONAL UNION OF AMERICA

### DISTRICT 4 MEETING

SPOJNIA SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2019

The PNU district 4 pre-convention and quarterly meeting was held on Spojnia Sunday, September 22, 2019 at 9:30 am in the Bishop Peplowski Center, Lancaster, N.Y. Ten members were in attendance.

District Director, Beverly Basinski, called the meeting to order and Bishop John Mack gave the invocation.

Minutes from March 23, 2019 meeting were not available. Viola Przybylski, treasurer, gave the treasurer's report. Motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by James Pawlowski, seconded by Helen Bett and all in favor.

Old Business: Beverly Basinski told delegates to read all the paper work that was sent out before the convention so everyone is prepared for the meetings at sea.

Ticket sales are going good for the raffle on Nov. 10, 2019 to benefit Trinity Food Pantry, Lancaster, NY.

Family Day, Sunday, June 23, 2019 at Lancaster Opera House to see "Sister Act" was very well attended. District 4 thanks everyone who supported this event.

Beverly reminded members about the Annuity Anniversary Offer that ends September 30, 2019. Tell your family and friends.

New Business: A phone conference was held with John An-drzejewski and all the delegates from Lancaster, NY on Monday, September 16, 2019 at 7:00 PM about the cruise details, the new state regulations in Pa. and other important points that will be discussed at the upcoming PNU convention at sea.

Reminder to purchase the subscription to Straz or get it online.

Beverly received a letter from the Education & Youth Commission – the sale of tickets and proceeds are to benefit our youth College Stipend Program. Please support this fund raiser.



### Attendees enjoy coffee hour hosted by District 4

District 4 held a pre-convention meeting and hosted Coffee Hour at the Bp Peplowski Parish Center, Lancaster, NY, on Spojnia Sunday, September 22. Members and delegates were briefed on the upcoming PNU convention. The next Quarterly meeting and District 4 Thanksgiving raffle will be held at 9:30 am Sunday, November 10, 2019, at the Bp Peplowski Parish Center, Lancaster, NY.





**Polish National Union of America**  
District Five and District Twelve  
Melissa Snee, District Director 326 Oak Grove Ct.



**Take Me Out to the Ball Game**

This year the PNU District 5 Family & Friends Picnic was held July 7th at the Washington Wild Things Faith Night at the Washington ballpark. District 5 Director Melissa Snee welcomed all in attendance in the spirit of fraternalism. Fr. Bruce Sleczkowski offered grace before the delicious picnic buffet followed by the ball game. Special thanks to Henrietta Kleckner for her coordination of the picnic.



**Attendees had a great time at the District 5 Family Night Washington Wild Things Faith Night**



**District 5 Director, Melissa Snee, waived the pom-poms made famous by the late Irene Jugan as Henrietta Kleckner was contacted by phone with the great news of receiving the Irene Jugan Heart & Soul Award.**



**Polish National Union of America**  
District Six



Christine A. Wachna, District Director 421 South Church Road  
Bensenville, IL 60106 Phone: 630-350-1787 E-mail: [pnuofadist6@att.net](mailto:pnuofadist6@att.net)

**PNU District Six Meeting Schedule**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Quarterly Teleconference Meeting - Thursday, September 5, 2019 @ 6:30 p.m. central**

Call-in information will be sent to all regular participants no later than the week prior to the meeting.

**4<sup>th</sup> Quarterly Meeting & District Officer Elections – Saturday, October 19, 2019 @ 12 Noon central**

All Saints Cathedral Parish located at 9201 W. Higgins Road in Chicago, IL

Contact Christine Wachna, Director of District Six for details – 630-350-1787 or [pnuofadist6@att.net](mailto:pnuofadist6@att.net).

The Pre-convention Committee from District Six met on Saturday, August 3, 2019 to work on the virtual scrapbook.

Thanks to everyone who sent in their pictures and ads to support this endeavor. We appreciate your generosity!

Christine Wachna, Chairman  
Pre-convention Committee



**Congratulations to Marty Wachna on his election of CEO of the PNU from Branch 37 and District 6! @ All Saints Cathedral - Polish National Catholic Church**



**Keeping refreshed while on board the 31st PNU General Convention Cruise. Marty Wachna, left, is our newly elected PNU CEO!**





**PNU District Six**

**Family Night**

Chicago Wolves

Hockey Game

Saturday

February 15, 2020 @ 7 p.m.



Come join us for an action-packed hockey game with the Chicago Wolves verses the Grand Rapids Griffins!

**Only 60 Tickets Available . . . Center Ice Section...  
Order Your Tickets Today!**

Fill out the order form and submit with payment to:

Christine Wachna, Director of PNU District Six  
421 South Church Road, Bensenville IL 60106  
630-350-1787 pnuofadist6@att.net

**Game Ticket Pricing 60 Tickets Available**

**Adult** (17 & up) ..... **\$30 each**

**Youth PNU Member** (16 & under) ... **Free**

**Youth Non-member** (16 & under) ... **\$30 each**



Parking fee is \$15 per car at the All State Arena.  
Even though there will not be a dinner held this year, you may still park at  
All Saints Cathedral located at 9201 W. Higgins Road and  
carpool to the All State Arena.

**Family Night Schedule**

6:00 p.m. All State Arena Doors Open

7:00 p.m. Chicago Wolves vs. Grand Rapids Griffins

**Ticket Order Form**

Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Adult \$30 each \$ Amount \_\_\_\_\_ QTY \_\_\_\_\_

Youth Non-member \$30 each \$ Amount \_\_\_\_\_ Qty \_\_\_\_\_

Youth PNU Member (Free) Qty \_\_\_\_\_

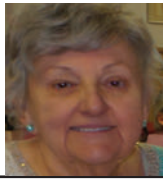
Total Tickets Ordered \_\_\_\_\_ Total \$ Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

List Names of Youth pnu members \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: PNU District 6  
Please send order and payment to: Christine Wachna  
421 S. Church Road, Bensenville, IL 60106  
\*\* ACCEPTED FORM OF PAYMENT: CHECK OR CASH \*\*  
Payment must be received at time of order.  
Order & Payment due no later than January 15, 2020  
Contact Christine Wachna for details 630-350-1787 or email pnuofadist6@att.net



## District 7 Family Day Picnic & Raffle Was A Great Success!



District Seven  
Stephanie Marsh, District Director 2582 Belle View  
Shelby Twp, MI 48316  
(586) 731- 6937

### Spojnia Sunday

Dist. 7 at Holy Cross Parish in Hamtramck, MI, celebrated Spojnia Sunday on September 22, by sponsoring coffee hour after 9 am Holy Mass. Pastor Very Rev. Jaroslaw Nowak offered grace before everyone enjoyed a buffet of muffins and donuts. Dist. 7 Director Stephanie Marsh talked to the group about the benefits and products of PNU insurance. Recording Secretary Kathy Chockley gave a testimonial about a 20 year endowment she purchased for her godson. It had recently matured and now he has a nice some of money for his future. Everyone filled out information slips about their insurance interest in the PNU. All the slips were put in a barrel. One lucky winner received a dinner ticket to the next Polish dinner fundraiser at Holy Cross Parish on October 5th. Congratulations to parishioner Marie Kolcz on winning the free dinner. Thank you to everyone who participated in our Spojnia Sunday event.

Submitted by Kathy Chockley



District 7 Director Stephanie Marsh and Recording Secretary Kathy Chockley had a table display outlining PNU products and membership benefits during a coffee hour on Spojnia Sunday (September 22, 2019) following Holy Mass.

### PNU-District 7 Meeting Jan. 6, 2019

5-Star Lanes, Sterling Hts. Michigan  
Dist. 7 Director Stephanie Marsh greeted District 7 and called the meeting to order at 6:07 pm.

Very Rev. Jaroslaw Nowak led the opening prayer. In attendance were Very Rev. Jaroslaw & Jola Nowak, Stephanie Marsh, John & Suzanne Sniezek, Larry & Kathy Chockley.

Recording Secretary Kathy Chockley read the minutes of the Dec. 9, 2018 meeting. Suzanne Sniezek made a motion to accept the minutes. It was seconded by Fr. Sr. Nowak and passed unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report** – Suzanne Sniezek reported on the Spojnia Credit Union account. The bowling party cost us \$549.00

**Old Business** - After a short discussion about the Family Day Picnic we will change the Red Lobster gift card to the Darden/ Olive Garden gift card. We are working on getting the raffle license and raffle tickets. We will also discuss music for the picnic at the next meeting.

**New Business** – We held a discussion about delegates to the upcoming convention. We need to get clarification from the home office about how many delegates we actually get. We will also find out if Branch 243 is included in District 7. We will elect delegates at the next District 7 meeting.

The next meeting will be held on Sunday, March 3, 2019 following bowling league at 5-Star lanes. We will have an alternate meeting in case of snow on March 17, 2019 at 5-Star Lanes following bowling league.

John Sniezek made a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Larry Chockley and passed unanimously at 7 pm.

Very Rev. Nowak led the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Chockley Recording Sec.

**A grand total of \$109,666 worth of annuities were sold for the month of September during our 111th Anniversary Annuity promotion. Great job everyone!**

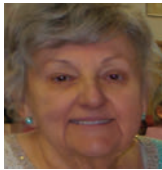
**Sandy Reed (Home Office) sold \$23,111 worth of annuities, Beverly Basinski (District 4) sold \$10,000 worth of annuities, Walter Cegelka (District 6) sold \$22,222 worth of annuities, and Henrietta Kleckner (district 5) sold \$12,000 worth of annuities.**





**Polish National Union of America**  
District Seven

Stephanie Marsh, District Director 2582 Belle View  
Shelby Twp, MI 48316  
(586) 731- 6937



### **PNU Dist. 7 Meeting June 23, 2019**

Resurrection Parish PNCC, Temperance, MI, 4:30 pm

Director Stephanie Marsh opened the meeting and greeted District 7.

Very Rev. Jaroslaw Nowak led the opening prayer.

In attendance were Stephanie Marsh, Kathy Chockley, Very Rev. & Jola Nowak, Fr. Michal Gitner, Donna Collyer, John & Suzanne Sniezek, guest Chris Cremean, absent Rev. John Cramer and Larry Chockley.

Kathy Chockley read the minutes of the March 3 meeting. Suzanne Sniezek made a motion to accept the minutes as read. It was seconded by John Sniezek and passed unanimously.

**Treasurers' Report** – Suzanne reported on the balance in the credit union. Per an email conversation we agreed to send a donation of \$150 to the Youth & Education Fund in memory of Irene Jugan who passed away on May 30, 2019. Kathy and Larry hand delivered it to the home office in Scranton on the way to the bowling tournament. Fr. Sr. Nowak made a motion to accept the treasurers' report. It was seconded by Donna Collyer and passed unanimously.

**Old Business** – We just had the Family Day Picnic & Raffle held here at Resurrection Parish. The raffle earned \$943 and there was \$120 in donations for the food for a total income of \$1063. We gave Resurrection \$50 for the use of their hall. Resurrection will give us a bill for the food they provided at the picnic. The top raffle ticket sellers were Kathy Chockley with \$300, Stephanie Marsh with 235, All Saints with \$140, Resurrection with \$102, and Our Savior with \$113.

**New Business** – All delegates to the convention received cabin and flight assignments. Fr. Sr. Nowak made a motion to give \$100 for a one page ad in the convention program book. It was seconded by Suzanne Sniezek and passed unanimously. It will have pictures of Dist.7 from the picnic and Christmas bowling party.

The cabin fee for the convention cruise is \$817. The home office is paying for \$717 of it and delegates are required to pay the other \$100. Fr. Sr. Nowak made a motion that Dist. 7 will cover the \$100 for the delegates to the convention. It was seconded by Jola Nowak and passed unanimously. It was reimbursed to delegates tonight.

(Continued on p. 17)

### **PNU-District 7 Meeting, March 3, 2019**

5-Star Lanes, Sterling Hts. MI

Director Stephanie Marsh greeted District 7 and called the meeting to order at 7 pm

Very Rev. Jaroslaw Nowak led the opening prayer and grace for dinner.

In attendance were Stephanie Marsh, Very Rev. Jaroslaw, Jola Nowak, John & Suzanne Sniezek, Larry & Kathy Chockley, Donna Collyer, absent Rev. John Cramer. Recording Secretary- Kathy Chockley read the minutes of the Jan.6, 2019 meeting. Larry Chockley made a motion to accept the minutes as read. It was seconded by John Sniezek and passed unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report-** Suzanne Sniezek paid for the Easter ad in the Straz. She reported on the balance in the Spojnia Credit Union. Fr. Sr. Nowak made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. It was seconded by Larry Chockley and passed unanimously.

**Old Business** - We discussed details about the upcoming Family Day Picnic to be held June 23 at Resurrection Parish. Mass will be at either 12:30 or 1 pm. We will see what works best for clergy. Resurrection can pay for Jay to play for the Mass. Jakub Nowak will be asked to bring music for dancing. Resurrection will have one contact person for the picnic set up and supplies.

Raffle tickets were distributed, Stephanie Marsh tickets #1-300, Kathy Chockley tickets 301-600, John & Suzanne Sniezek tickets 601-900. Resurrection tickets 901-1200, All Saints tickets 1201-1500.

**New Business** – Larry made a motion to send John Sniezek, Sue Sniezek, and Kathy Chockley as delegates to the convention. It was seconded by Fr. Sr. Nowak and passed unanimously. Donna Collyer will go from Br. 243. Stephanie Marsh will go as District Director. District 7 will reimburse Holy Cross Parish for the raffle license application, \$15, and raffle ticket printing, \$89.75.

Larry Chockley made a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by John Sniezek.

Fr. Sr. Nowak led the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Kathy Chockley  
Recording Secretary

**Every Member**  
~  
**Get A Member**





Polish National Union of America

District Ten  
George Urciuoli, District Director 5 Bramble Wood  
Clifton Park, NY 12065  
(914) 475- 3219



### District 10, Branch 126 Celebrate Spojnia Sunday



Spojnia Sunday was celebrated in a very special way at the Blessed Virgin Mary of Czestochowa Parish, Latham NY. Rev. Mark A. Gnidzinski spoke of the origin of the fraternal organization and how essential its support has been to the PNCC and to him, personally. At Coffee Hour following Holy Mass, District 10 Director George Urciuoli hosted an information table and together with Fr. Mark and Branch 126 Secretary, Thomas Zembrzuski, presented a \$500 Fundraiser Challenge check to PolishFest

treasurer, Richard Radzyminski. Tom Zembrzuski, whose 93<sup>rd</sup> birthday also fell on Spojnia Sunday this year, represents the PNU at the parish's annual PolishFest by sharing information about its products and services to all who stop by his booth throughout the 3-day festival.



District 10 Director, George Urciuoli, far left, Fr. Mark, far right, and Branch 126 Secretary, Thomas Zembrzuski, presented a \$500 Fundraiser Challenge check from the PNU to PolishFest treasurer, Richard Radzyminski. Tom Zembrzuski, whose 93<sup>rd</sup> birthday also fell on Spojnia Sunday this year, represented the PNU at the parish's annual PolishFest.

## PARISH FUNDRAISER CHALLENGE PROGRAM

PNU WILL MATCH FUNDS RAISED UP TO \$500 BY THE PNCC AT CHARITABLE EVENTS!

### Get Your Parish Involved Today!

- Event must be sponsored by a PNC parish with a specific project named to benefit
- Participating PNU branch/branches must have adopted the event at a meeting as a participatory project
- Event must include volunteer participation by members of one or more PNU branches
- An article with at least 1 photo must be submitted to The STRAZ within 2 weeks of the event
- Time must be allowed at event to allow a PNU representative to discuss the opportunities of membership in the Society.
- Funds will be available annually on a first come, first served basis and limited to one event per parish per year

**Thank You To Our Members For Your Generosity!**  
Your Voluntary \$12.00 Dues Contribution Is Very Appreciated!

The Funds Are Used For Community Events, Education & Youth College Stipend Programs, & So Much More!

We welcome your generous voluntary dues contribution to be mailed to us at  
1002 Pittston Avenue  
Scranton, PA 18505



Take a moment to update your life insurance policy.

Families grow and change each year so be sure to check who your primary and contingent beneficiaries are.

Contact Us Today  
1 800-724-6352  
info@pnu.org  
www.pnu.org  
"Like" us on Facebook  
1002 Pittston Avenue  
Scranton, PA 18505





**Polish National Union of America**

District Ten  
George Urciuoli, District Director 5 Bramble Wood  
Clifton Park, NY 12065  
(914) 475- 3219



**District 10 PNU Meeting February 16, 2019**

BVMC Parish, Latham, NY

District 1- Director George Urciuoli called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM. In attendance were: Fr. Sr. Marian Pochiecha (by conference call), Rev. Mark Gnidzinski, Rev. Jim Konicki, George Urciuoli, Thomas Zembrzusi Sr (Br. 126 Sec), Richard Mossey, and Regina Pollack. Fr. Sr. Marian offered the Invocation. George thanked everyone in attendance and reviewed the purpose of the meeting.

**Election of Convention Delegates-** the notice of today's meeting was published in Straz, in accordance with the PNU Constitution.

A) Convention Dates: September 29-October 6 aboard the Royal Caribbean.

B) District 10 is allowed 2 delegates, in addition to the District Director (who attends automatically)

C) Fr. Jim nominated Regina Pollack, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dick Mossey. Regina accepted the nomination and was elected unanimously.

D) There were no other nominations; George said we have time to talk to our members before the deadline for delegate elections (June 1). Copies of the Feb 2019 Special Edition of the STRAZ were distributed and will be sent to the Mohawk Valley Seniorate clergy. The Special Edition STRAZ details the responsibilities of being a delegate, qualifications, ad delegate reimbursement rules. George stated that we can convene again for this purpose at the April 6 Seniorate Lenten Retreat, which will be held at the BVMC Parish in Latham.

**Reviving inactive Branches within District 10**

George shared the membership lists with those in attendance. Fr. Jim is attempting to reactivate Branch 140 at the Holy Name of Jesus Parish in Schenectady. Fr. Jim is also reviewing Branch 168, many of whom belonged to the now-closed Amsterdam parish. Fr. Sr. Pochiecha was also very interested in obtaining the list for Rome and Syracuse.

George said he will send each seniorate pastor a copy of their list to review and this can serve as a starting point. It was noted the lists may contain individuals who have died, moved, are no longer parishioners, or simply unknown. We will ask each pastor to try to identify as many as possible on their lists, which may entail working with the elders of the parish who have the history. George also suggested we conduct a brief survey of our parish's age demographics so we can determine how to target the various PNU products to the different demographics we have. He will develop a brief survey so that we can outline a plan for discussion when we meet together at the April 6 Lenten Retreat.

**PolsihFest 2019:** Planning is underway and Branch 126 will again provide an information table during the 3-day event. Discussion centered around how to better promote the PNU and its products to the 6,000 people who attend the festival. The Kidz' Zone will be managed by Alyssa DePaula (HNofJ), with all proceeds committed for the benefit of the Seniorate Youth. We will ask our youth to assist managing the area.

**Summary :** George will send Seniorate clergy a letter including minutes of today's meeting, the list of PNU members from their inactive branches, the February 2019 Special Edition of the STRAZ, and a demographic survey. Fr. Senior Pochiecha will include the PNU on the agenda for the Seniorate Meeting that will follow the Lenten Retreat.



**District 10 Director George Urciuoli at the "pirate party" during the 31st PNU General Convention Cruise.**



**Contact your Branch**

**Secretary or our Home Office at 800-724-6352 and learn how we can help you secure your family for whatever tomorrow brings!**

**Already have a policy with us? You may want to update your policy or look into extra coverage to keep up with the increasing cost of living.**

**Find the Polish National Union on Facebook!**

**Visit us on the web at [www.pnu.org](http://www.pnu.org)**

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

**Email the STRAZ Editor [straz@pnu.org](mailto:straz@pnu.org)**

## First Annual Irene Jugan Heart and Soul Award Recipient Awarded



The late PNU CEO Irene Jugan made these pom-poms famous as she rallied with enthusiasm for the PNU's growth and success. This is one of our countless memories of Irene's passion for the PNU.



Henrietta Kleckner received the First Annual Irene Jugan Award. Pictured above is Henrietta with the famous pom-poms coined by the late PNU CEO Irene Jugan.



(From Left) Melissa Snee, District 5 & 12 Director, Very Reverend Robert Nemkovich, Jr., and Kathryn Nemkovich, newly elected PNU Vice President, called Henrietta Kleckner during the 31st General Convention to inform her she was the recipient of the 1st Annual Irene Jugan Heart & Soul Award.

### Heart & Soul Award Recipient Announced

This year, in conjunction with the traditional Spójnia Sunday observance on September 22, commemorating the historic association of the PNU and Polish National Catholic Church, the Polish National Union organized a month-long "Heart & Soul" Remembrance in loving memory of PNU CEO, Irene Jugan. The first annual PNU Irene Jugan Heart & Soul Award was presented to an individual who demonstrates the attributes of CEO Jugan, most notably her great love, enthusiasm, passion and devotion to the Polish National Union and the Polish National Catholic Church.

Heart-warming photos of the late Irene Jugan filled the PNU Facebook page during the month of September with PNU members recounting the profound impact the late Irene Jugan had on their lives.



### From Henrietta Kleckner

My sincere and humble "THANK YOU" to the PNU Board of Directors for the most meaningful honor of my life: The Irene Jugan Heart and Soul Award. Let us all be cheerleaders for the PNU, educating and promoting our products and benefits. Rest in peace Irene. You are forever in our hearts.

During the 31st General Convention Cruise (September 29th - October 6th, 2019) The PNU Board of Directors announced that Henrietta Kleckner was the recipient of this inaugural award. Although Henrietta was unable to join the convention this year, a phone call was made to inform Henrietta of the great news. The phone was held to the microphone inside the conference room for all delegates to hear Henrietta's reaction. Eyes watered, cheers and laughs filled the room, and Irene's famous pom-poms waived through the air as Henrietta cried for joy at the announcement of her award. The PNU and PNCC will always keep Irene's spirit and dedication alive through this remembrance program to be awarded annually. On behalf of everyone from the PNU and PNCC: Congratulations Henrietta!



**Report of Actions Taken by the Board of Directors of the PNU during a regular board meeting held September 12, 2019**

OPENING

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Polish National Union of America was held on September 12, 2019 via teleconference. The meeting was opened by CEO Maycan. Seven Board members were present and 2 were absent. A member of the Internal Audit Committee was also present.

Minutes

The minutes for the regular board meeting held June 6, 2019 and minutes for special meetings held on July 1, 2019 and July 18, 2019 were distributed prior to the meeting. CEO Maycan asked for corrections or additions. There were no corrections or additions made.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes from the regular meeting held June 6, 2019; the special meeting held July 1, 2019 and the special meeting held on July 18, 2019 as presented. The motion passed.

STANDARD REPORTS

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

During the Spójnia Inc report proposed changes to the Spójnia Inc. Articles of Incorporation were reviewed with the board. The board engaged in discussion noting that there were two changes proposed.

At the conclusion of the report regarding Spójnia Inc. a motion was made and seconded to accept the report. The motion passed.

After review and discussion regarding the Membership Report and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter financial statement a motion was made and seconded to accept the standard reports. The motion passed.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORTMortgage Department

The board was updated with regard to activity in the mortgage department. No action was required.

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

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORTExonerations

One exoneration was brought before the board for consideration. The certificate meets the requirements established by the board for exoneration. They include being at least 80 years old, in force for at least twenty years and having paid more in premium than the face amount of the insurance coverage. A motion was made and seconded to accept the exoneration. The motion passed.

Correspondence

CFO Andrzejewski noted that four thank you notes were received.

Personnel

CFO Andrzejewski updated the board with respect to the personnel.

Penetration Testing

The results of the test were received in the office and transmitted to the IT vender.

State Meeting

CFO Andrzejewski reported regarding the results of a periodic meeting with the State of PA Insurance Department.

Promo Programs

The board was brought up to date regarding progress on the promotional programs. The two programs discussed were the annuity anniversary rate program and the Cheers to 111 Years insurance offer. The Promotions topic was the last item under the CFO's Report. A motion was made and seconded to accept the report. The motion passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Investment Committee

Chairman Maycan indicated that the committee did not meet prior to the board meeting; however recommended that the board keep mortgage and annuity rates the same as set for the third quarter ending September 30, 2019 for the fourth quarter ending December 31, 2019 with the exception of the 111<sup>th</sup> anniversary promo rate. That rate would be temporarily set [3.25% for one year for deposits of \$1,000 to \$11,110 and a rate of 4.36% for one year for deposits of \$11,111 or more] as previously discussed. After a brief discussion a motion was made and seconded to approve the recommendation. The motion passed.

The rates are as follows:

The annuity rate for all new issues and annuities issued after 12/31/2012 will be set at 2.5%. The annuity rate for issues prior to 1/01/2013 will be set at 3%. The residential loan rates would be set at 5% for twenty years, 4.75% for fifteen years and 4.5% for ten years.

The Commercial loan rates would be set at 5.5% for twenty years, 5.25% for fifteen years, and 5.0% for ten years.

Anniversary special rate of 3.25% for one year for deposits of \$1,000 to \$11,110 and a rate of 4.36% for one year for deposits of \$11,111 or more on new annuity accounts opened on or before September 30, 2019.

Spójnia Credit Union

A verbal report was given by CFO Andrzejewski. Highlights of the credit union financials and promotional activity were reviewed with the board.

Fraternal Activities Committee

The board noted that a financial statement was distributed prior to the meeting. There was no discussion.

Education and Youth Commission

A written report and financial statement were submitted to the board prior to the meeting. The report included a summary of the work of the commission. There was no discussion.

**Report of Actions Taken by the Board of Directors of the PNU during a regular board meeting held September 12, 2019 Continued**

Internal Audit Committee

CEO Andrzejewski noted that the Internal Audit Committee report was received subsequent to the June meeting. The report was distributed to the board prior to the meeting and contained one recommendation.

The recommendation is as follows from the report: "The IAC continues to encourage all District Directors and their Officers to submit meeting notices, meeting minutes, articles, photos, etc."

The recommendation was briefly discussed. A motion was made and seconded to accept the recommendation. The motion passed unanimously.

A second report from the IAC was submitted to the board. The report is the Act 154 report. The board noted that there were no discrepancies found according to the report.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the Act 154 report. The motion passed.

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

District Reports

The Board noted that reports were received from Districts 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 and 10. A report was not received from District 4 and 7. District 8 currently has no District Director in place.

The Board engaged in discussion regarding the reports. At the conclusion of the discussion a motion was made and seconded to accept the reports of the District Directors. The motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

Spójnia Park

CFO Andrzejewski reported on activity associated with the sale of the property. No action resulted.

Convention

Delegate Count

CFO Andrzejewski reported the count of delegates registered to attend the 31<sup>st</sup> General Convention.

Credentials Committee

The board noted that due to an oversight the Credentials Committee was not approved at the June 6, 2019 meeting. The committee was approved subsequent to the meeting via email. A motion was made and seconded to ratify the action of the board and accept the committee as named. The motion Passed.

Convention Committees

The board engaged in preliminary discussion regarding the potential appointees to positions and committees of the convention. A sheet listing previous appointments and suggested appointments was distributed to the board. The document included suggestions for filling the vacated positions.

At the conclusion of the discussion a motion was made and seconded to recommend the convention committees be filled as presented to the board. The motion passed.

Vice President Stankowski took note of the recommended appointments as she will be making the announcement at the convention.

Agenda

CFO Andrzejewski noted that the agenda as published in the constitution and bylaws was distributed to the delegates as the initial agenda.

Delegate Meetings

CFO Andrzejewski noted that a delegate meeting schedule was distributed to the board. Meetings have been scheduled with all of the districts.

During the segment about the delegate meetings the board engaged in discussion regarding the appointment of the District Directors should the constitutional changes be approved. No action resulted from the discussion.

At the conclusion of the discussion about the convention a motion was made and seconded to accept the convention report. The motion passed.

Spójnia Sunday 2019

Director Kathy Nemkovich reported on progress regarding the Spójnia Sunday programs initiated for 2019.

The first is the Irene Jugan "Heart and Soul" award. She reported that 3 nominations were received as of the board meeting. More are expected prior to the deadline of September 15, 2019. The winner will be announced at the convention.

The second program is the remembrance program using Facebook. Director Nemkovich reported that members and participants are being encouraged to submit pictures to the home office with a write-up of a fond memory of Irene Jugan. As of the meeting several pictures and memories have been posted.

Director Nemkovich noted that information about both programs was published in the Starz and distributed in the packet of information sent to the Clergy of the PNCC. The clergy were asked to remember Irene with special intentions at mass during Spójnia Sunday.

Officer Salary Recommendation

The board engaged in discussion regarding salary to be offered as compensation to the part time CEO. This discussion also involved a salary recommendation for the position of the CFO/Secretary.

At the conclusion of the discussion a motion was made and seconded to recommend a salary for the CEO and for the CFO/Secretary to the convention for consideration and approval. The motion passed with two abstentions.

Agent

CFO Andrzejewski informed the board that he was contacted by a licensed agent interested in selling for the PNU. However no further information was received for consideration.

PNU T Shirts

District 6 of the PNU organized a fundraiser for the benefit of the Education and Youth Commission. The fundraiser revolves around the sale of PNU logo shirts. No action was taken regarding this discussion.

**(Continued on p.17)**



**Report of Actions Taken by the Board of Directors of  
the PNU during a regular board meeting  
(Continued From p. 16)**

Meeting Date

The remaining 2019 meeting dates were noted as follows: December 5, 2019 – In Person

CLOSING

There was no additional business brought for discussion. The meeting was adjourned by CEO Maycan upon the conclusion of the closing prayer.

This concludes the Report of Actions Taken at a regular meeting held September 12, 2019. As submitted the report is represented to be as accurate as possible with regard to the content and matters discussed and the disposition of matters presented to the Board.

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

**(PNU Dist. 7 Meeting June 23, 2019 Continued From p. 11)**

Fr. Michal Gitner offered All Saints to host the next family day picnic in 2020. Dates to be discussed at the next meeting.

**Upcoming events**

Resurrection Parish – Souper Saturdays soup fundraiser last Saturday of the month fundraiser for “Food for Thought” to help homeless. Monthly dinners  
Our Savior – No new events.

Holy Cross – Soup kitchen 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturdays, youth gathering, summer youth camp, Labor Day Parade.

All Saints – 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration on June 30<sup>th</sup> including installation of Rev. Gitner as new pastor.

John Sniezek made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Fr. Sr. Nowak.

Fr. Michal Gitner led the closing prayer at 5pm.

The next meeting will be October 27, 2019 at 5-Star Lanes, Sterling Hts, at 6 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathy Chockley Recording Sec.

**Congratulations To PNU Elected Positions During The  
31st General Convention**

CEO Martin Wachna, Jr.  
Vice President Kathryn Nemkovich  
C.F.O John Andrzejewski III

Directors

Most Rev. Anthony Mikovsky  
Mari Jane Stankowski  
Mary Ann Stankowski  
Very Rev. Robert Nemkovich, Jr.  
Michael Mietlicki  
Gregory Senkevitch

Internal Audit Committee

Chairman Rev. John Kowalczyk, Jr.  
Secretary Marian Sleczkowski  
Henrietta Kleckner



**Newly elected PNU CEO, Martin Wachna, speaks at The  
PNU 31st General Convention.**

**The PNU congratulates all candidates, elected  
executive officers, directors, and committee members.  
Thank you to all of the delegates for your participation  
and dedication!**



**Officers Being Sworn In After Elections During The 31st PNU General Convention**





# 31ST PNU GENERAL CONVENTION

## September 29th - October 6th 2019

Aboard Allure Of The Seas

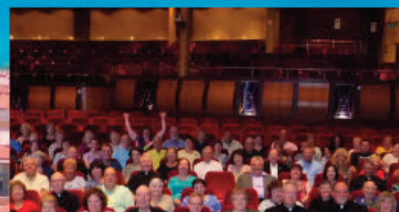
San Juan, PR

St Maarten

Labadee, Haiti







**The best way to have a convention? On a cruise!**







The STRAZ works to promote the PNCC, parishes, our members, and the Polish culture. With the rising cost of publication we are asking for your contributions in the form of Christmas wishes this season. We are thrilled with the huge response to our voluntary dues program to help fund programs such as our stipend program, and we appreciate all contributions made in the form of Christmas greetings as well! Please be sure to fill out the order form in neat and clear print and send them in before November 25th, 2019. Please contact Melissa Cohen at the Home Office with any questions! (800) 724-6352 or email [straz@pnu.org](mailto:straz@pnu.org)

**SEND YOUR CHRISTMAS GREETINGS THROUGH THE STRAZ!**

Christmas Greetings are \$25.00

Due no later than November 25th, 2019

Complete the order form and make checks payable to The Polish National Union of America  
1002 Pittston Ave  
Scranton, PA 18505



**CHRISTMAS GREETINGS ORDER FORM**

Parish or Organization

---

Address

---

Chairman

---

Vice Chairman

---

Recording Secretary

---

Financial Secretary

---

Treasurer

---

Facebook Page? Circle Yes or No

Name of Website If Applicable

Return order form no later than November 25th, 2019



## OCTOBER IS POLISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH!



### Big Accomplishments From Polish Americans

Stephanie Kwolek developed Kevlar. Albert Abraham Michelson was the first American to receive the Nobel Prize in the sciences for his work on measuring the speed of light. Curtis Sliwa founded the Guardian Angels. Ruth Handler co-founded the Mattel toy company and created the Barbie doll. Source: **8 Things You Need to Know About Polish Americans** By Matt Soniak

Polish immigrants were considered well-suited for manual labor, and were often recruited for work in coal mines and the steel industry. Because of that, the largest Polish American populations can still be found in states that were industrial centers in the 20th century, like Pennsylvania, New York, Illinois, Ohio and Michigan. The largest Polish American population can be found in Chicago, which with 185,000 Polish speakers calls itself the largest Polish city outside of Poland. The cities and towns of Pennsylvania's Luzerne and Lackawanna Counties, including Wilkes-Barre (my home sweet home), Scranton, Hazleton, Pittston and Nanticoke, are also home to large Polish populations because of the area's once-large coal deposits.

Source: **8 Things You Need to Know About Polish Americans** By Matt Soniak

### Excerpt from Michael Blichas's Polish American Cultural Month Address (Michael is the President of Polish American Cultural Center)

Polish Americans Celebrate During October Since 1608, when the first Polish settlers arrived at Jamestown, VA, Polish people have been an important part of America's history and culture. In 2019, Polish Americans will mark the 38th Anniversary of the founding of Polish American Heritage Month, an event, which began in Philadelphia, PA, and became a national celebration of Polish history, culture and pride. During 2019, Poles will mark the 411th Anniversary of the First Polish Settlers who were among the first skilled workers in America. On July 30, 1619, the Polish settlers accomplished another noteworthy achievement by staging the first labor strike in America. We, therefore, will also Salute All American Workers and urge people to purchase the products and services offered by American workers. Polish Americans will also mark the 240th Anniversary of the death of General Casimir Pulaski, Father of the American Cavalry and the International Year of Kosciuszko, Hero of Poland and America. For information about these historic events and Polish and Polish American history, visit the Museum's Internet site at: [PolishAmericanCenter.com](http://PolishAmericanCenter.com).

The culture of Poland developed as a result of its geography and connections to other countries, and it's rich thousand-year history.



<https://www.tripsavvy.com/polish-culture-1501992>



Poland's folk costumes (stroje ludowe) are colorfully decorated and represent different regions of Poland. Men's and women's folk costumes are most often seen during holidays, weddings and festivals when dancers entertain audiences with traditional performances. Source <https://www.tripsavvy.com/polish-culture-1501992>



## Sports & Food

SPORTS AND  
FOOD GO OH SO  
AMAZING  
TOGETHER!

HERE IS A LOOK  
AT THE PAIR IN

Polish  
Culture

Show us your Polish Pride! Send in your photos, words of pride, recipes, traditions, or a recap of how you celebrated Polish American Heritage Month to [straz@pnu.org](mailto:straz@pnu.org) by 11/30/2019!

**The National Polish-American Sports Hall of Fame (NPASHF) was founded in 1973 to honor and recognize outstanding American athletes, both amateur and professional, of Polish descent. This virtual version of the Hall features the history of their accomplishments.**

**Inducted June 20, 2019**

Allison "AJ" Mleczek played college hockey at Harvard, leading the Crimson to the NCAA title in 1999. In her senior season as captain, she scored 37 goals, 77 assists, and 114 points in only 34 games, the most prolific scoring season in women's college ice hockey history. Named to the

All-American team, Mleczek won the Patty Kazmaier Award, given to the women's top college hockey player.

She competed at two Olympics leading her team to the gold medal in 1998 and the silver medal in 2002.

**Source:** <https://www.polishsportshof.com/>

**(Excerpt of) Top 10 Professional Athletes of Polish Descent By: Bobby Lubaszewski**  
**(Source: [www.somuchsports.com](http://www.somuchsports.com))**

**Wayne Gretzky** transcends hockey. He is a living legend. Like Michael Jordan for basketball or Babe Ruth for baseball, his place in history is unquestioned.

The Great One held, or shared, 61 different NHL records upon his retirement in 1999. Some of the more impressive achievements include: Most goals in a season (92), most assists in a season (163), most points in a season (215), most career regular season goals (894), assists (1,962), and hat tricks (50). Gretzky's goal scoring was (and is) the thing of legend.

Gretzky was inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame in 1999 as a player.

### Dan Marino

Not only was he one of the most prolific passers in the history of the NFL, he is also Polish. This nine-time Pro Bowl selection held 30 NFL records when he retired in 1999 – including most career touchdowns, career yards passing, single season yards passing, single season touchdown passes. Though several of his records have been broken, his place in history remains firmly intact. Marino is considered, by many, to be the greatest quarterback to ever play in the NFL. He was elected to the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 2005.

If only he had won a Super Bowl...

### Paçzki Recipe

In Poland, they are eaten especially on Fat Thursday (the last Thursday before Lent). Many Polish Americans celebrate Paçzki Day on Fat Tuesday (the day before Ash Wednesday). Traditionally, the reason for making paçzki was to use up all the lard, sugar, eggs and fruit in the house, which are forbidden during Lent.

#### Ingredients

12 egg yolks  
1 teaspoon salt  
2 packages dry yeast  
1/3 cup butter or margarine  
½ cup sugar  
1 cup of whipping cream  
3 tablespoons of rum  
3 cups flour  
1 cup prune butter (or fruit jam)  
Frying oil  
3 tablespoons powdered sugar

#### Directions

Beat 12 egg yolks with 1 teaspoon of salt at high speed until mixture is thick and piles softly (about 7 min). Separately, add 2 pkg active dry yeast to a bowl containing 1/4 cup warm water to soften.

Cream 1/3 cup of room-temp butter or margarine, gradually adding 1/2 cup of sugar, until fluffy. Stir 1 cup of flour into yeast mixture.

Add 3 tablespoons of rum and 1/2 cup pre-scalded whipping cream, then beat in another 1 cup of flour and stir in another 1/2 cup of whipping cream.

Beat in another cup flour and the yolk mixture, beating about 2 min. Gradually beat in 1-1/2 cup flour and continue beating until air blisters appear in dough.

Cover dough with plastic wrap and place in a warm place to rise. When doubled in bulk, punch down, cover again and when it rises again, punch it down.

Roll dough out on floured board 3/4" thick. Cut into 3" rounds.

Place a spoonful of very thick jam (powidła, rose-hip jam) at center of half the rounds.

Brush edges of rounds with water and top with remaining rounds. Pinch edges together to seal and shape snowball-fashion into balls.

Cover paçzki and keep in warm place until doubled in bulk (about 20 min).

Fry paçzki in hot (365°F) oil to a nice golden brown on both sides.

Transfer to absorbent paper and let cool.

#### Serving Suggestions

Sprinkle with powdered sugar. Serve as a snack or dessert and enjoy. <http://polishplate.com>







The Affair at Little Egg Harbor occurred in Little Egg Harbor Township, NJ on October 15, 1778 and is also known as the Massacre at Little Egg Harbor. On October 6, 1778, British forces made an attack on the village of Chestnut Neck, located about five miles southwest of here. Afterwards, the British ships involved in the attack remained in the waters of Little Egg Harbor, waiting for weather conditions to allow them to sail safely back to British-occupied New York City. (See the Port Republic page for details of the Battle of Chestnut Neck.)

A group of American soldiers under the command of General Casimir Pulaski had been sent to defend Chestnut Neck, but they did not arrive in the area until October 8, two days after the Battle of Chestnut Neck. They encamped in Little Egg Harbor Township, where they could keep an eye on the British ships still in the waters nearby. One group of fifty of Pulaski's soldiers made their camp near where the monument now stands, on what was known as Ridgeway Farm. Pulaski made his headquarters about a half mile to the west, on what was known as Willets Farm. Other groups of his soldiers were encamped nearby.

On October 13, the British in the harbor received information of the camp position and troop strength of Pulaski's forces, and they decided to make a sneak attack. Two hundred and fifty British soldiers under the command of Captain Patrick Ferguson came ashore at the southern tip of Little Egg Harbor Township late on the evening of October 14. The area where they came ashore is known as Osborn Island, because it was owned by a Quaker family named the Osborns. Ferguson and his men forced a member of the family, 29-year-old Thomas Osborn, to act as a guide to lead them to Pulaski's forces. They traveled through the dark along a road called Island Road (present day Radio Road). Early on the morning of October 15, Ferguson's men made a surprise attack on the group of about fifty of Pulaski's troops encamped on Ridgeway Farm near here. They killed or wounded most of them, and took only about five prisoners.

When Pulaski heard the sound of gunfire, he rushed to the scene with his cavalry. However, the British had attacked and left so quickly that Pulaski's men arrived after the British were already gone.

Pulaski's troops attempted to go after Ferguson's troops but were unable to catch them. Ferguson's men had removed the planks from a bridge on Island Road, leaving Pulaski's troops unable to cross. Ferguson's troops made it back to the British ships in the waters outside Little Egg Harbor. The ships remained there for another week, because weather conditions prevented them from leaving sooner. Eventually, they were able to leave on October 22, when they sailed back to New York City.

Casimir Pulaski and Patrick Ferguson after the Affair at Little Egg Harbor. In the two years following the Affair at Little Egg Harbor, Casimir Pulaski and Patrick Ferguson both lost their lives in Revolutionary War battles. By coincidence, each was killed in a battle which took place in the South, and they died in the two following Octobers - Pulaski in October 1779, and Ferguson in October 1780.



Article and Photo Source: Al Frazza [https://www.revolutionarywarnewjersey.com/new\\_jersey\\_revolutionary\\_war\\_sites/towns/little\\_egg\\_harbor\\_nj\\_revolutionary\\_war\\_sites.htm](https://www.revolutionarywarnewjersey.com/new_jersey_revolutionary_war_sites/towns/little_egg_harbor_nj_revolutionary_war_sites.htm)



**General Casimir Pulaski was born on March 6, 1745, in Warsaw, Poland. In 1777 he came to America to fight on the American side in the Revolutionary War. He commanded a group of cavalry which was formed in 1778 [5] known as Pulaski's Legion, and he is remembered as the "Father of American Cavalry." He died on October 11, 1779 from wounds suffered at the Battle of Savannah, Georgia.**

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