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THE GUARD Straż

December 2020

Dwumiesięcznik
Organ Polsko
Narodowej Spojnia
Wychodzi bez
przerwy od 123 lat
www.pnu.org; info@pnu.org
570-344-1513 or 1-800-724-6352

Polish Christmas Traditions

Christmas Eve Supper, known as wigilia, is one of the most longstanding and widely cherished of Polish rituals. In the vast majority of homes, both among believers or non-believers, a formal meal is celebrated and served on the table which is covered with a white tablecloth. Hay is traditionally placed under the cloth covering the table and an extra empty place is set for an unexpected visitor. Custom dictates that there should be twelve dishes, just like the Twelve Apostles, and that the celebration should start when the first star appears. The most eagerly anticipated part of Christmas Eve, both for children and adults, is quite naturally the exchange of presents. There are many customs and institutions related to the entire Christmas period. They include caroling or carol singing, as well as the singing of melodious seasonal songs called pastoralki. Traditional Nativity plays are held and the art of building Christmas cribs continues to this day, especially in the South of Poland – the Krakow cribs are particularly famous. Maybe only the custom of Christmas fortune-telling, which in the past was considered as determining the course of events for the entire coming year, has not survived.

(Excerpt) 12 Things You Should Know About Christmas Traditions In Poland
<https://www.poland.travel/en>



WESOŁYCH ŚWIĄT (MERRY CHRISTMAS!)
LET'S BAKE!

Polish Gingerbread, or, 'Pierniki' is a staple Polish
Christmas tradition
These yummy treats can be traced back to the 13th
century!

Get the full recipe on p. 12

INSIDE THIS EDITION

*A Christmas Message
From The CEO*
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Promotion
Extended*
& More!



MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW
YEAR FROM THE PNU BOARD OF
DIRECTORS!

(From the left back row) Michael
Mietlicki, Very Rev. Robert Michael
Nemkovich, Jr., Prime Bishop Anthony
A. Mikovsky, and Gregory Senkevitch.
(From the left second row) PNU CFO
John C. Andrzejewski, PNU CEO Martin
H. Wachna, Jr., and Mari Jane
Stankowski, Director. (From the left
first row) PNU Vice President Kathryn
Nemkovich and Mary Stankowski

**PNU
HOME
OFFICE**

(800) 724-6352
www.pnu.org
Find us on
Facebook

**MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!**



PNU Executive Management

Martin Wachna, Jr.
Chief Executive Officer
executive01@pnu.org
John C. Andrzejewski
Chief Financial Officer
Kathryn Nemkovich
Vice President

Board of Directors

Prime Bishop Anthony A. Mikovsky
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Jan Cwikla, President
Jacek Grotnik, Vice President
Joan Scheuneman, Secretary
John C. Andrzejewski, III, Treasurer
John Ostroski

PNU/SCU Home Office Contact Info & Staff Directory

Call PNU or SCU Home Office at (800) 724-6352
Martin Wachna, CEO x310
John Andrzejewski, CFO/Secretary x310
Joan Schueneman, Executive Assistant x 310
Jessica Moser, Insurance Admin x305
Melissa Cohen, Insurance Claims, Marketing, & STRAZ Editor x303
straz@pnu.org ; www.thestraz.com
Polish National Union
1002 Pittston Ave
Scranton, PA 18505
www.pnu.org; info@pnu.org
Find Us On Facebook @ Polish National Union of America
Spojnia Credit Union
Karen Rieder, SCU Manager x308
Lynne Mellen, SCU Assistant Manager x302
Sandy Reed, MSR x306
www.spojniacreditunion.org; info@spojnia.org

District 1: Lackawanna County, PA

Julie Andrzejewski, District One Director
109 1st
Elmhurst Twp, PA 18444
(570) 842-1603
district1director@pnu.org

District 2: New York-New Jersey- Philadelphia

Leslie Pietrowitz, District Two Director
43 Raymond Street
Hasbrouck Heights, NJ 07604
(201) 393-0696
district2director@pnu.org

District 3: New England

Mary Ann Zarek, District Three Director
363 Lindsey Street
Attleboro, MA 02703
(774) 254-5844
district3director@pnu.org

District 4: Buffalo, NY

Beverly Basinski, District Four Director
4375 Homestead Lane
Clarence, NY 14031
(716) 759-1130
district4director@pnu.org

District 5: PA-Ohio

Melissa Snee, District Five Director
326 Oak Grove Court
Wexford, PA 15090
(724) 263-7272
district5director@pnu.org

District 6: Illinois - Minnesota - Florida

Christine A. Wachna, District Six Director
421 South Church Road
Bensenville, IL 60106
630-350-1787
district6director@pnu.org

District 7: Michigan

Suzanne Sniezek, District Seven Director
6147 Rockland Street
Dearborn Heights, MI 48127
(313) 720-4339
district7director@pnu.org

District 10 : Latham, NY

George Urciuoli, District Ten Director
5 Bramble Wood
Clifton Park, NY 12065
(914) 475- 3219
district10director@pnu.org

Death Report

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.
Donald Nieradka Alan Beasley Raymond Merrick
Marie Siara Viola Pensinger Charlene Louise Hoover
John Voytilla Arthur Chlebicki John Czechowski
Dorothy Markiewicz Marie Stroud David Fritz

Membership Report

October: The Home Office sold a \$5,000 annuity
November: Christina Danielkiewicz (District 6) sold \$30,000 of insurance and the PNU sold \$80,000 of insurance/annuities in total

A Christmas Message from the CEO

"For a child is born to us, a son is given to us; upon his shoulder dominion rests. They name him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace."

Isaiah 9:6 (NAB)

As I reflect on this passage, it takes me back to a time in my life when I would be driving home from work, listening to my cassette with Handel's Messiah performed by the Mormon Tabernacle Choir blaring in my car as I sung this at the top of my lungs. While the Hallelujah Chorus is the most famous, this is my favorite. During this time of year we are watching and preparing for the arrival of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. While we are commemorating the birth of our Lord on December 25, we are also preparing for his second coming. This preparation then takes me into the next phase of the message of Christmas that is most important to me:

"And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

Luke 2:8-12 (NIV)

How terrifying it must have been for the shepherds minding their own business in the fields when the angel of the Lord appeared. How these lowly people, not great leaders, but everyday folks like you and me, were greeted by the angel and given great news of the Savior being born as foretold by Isaiah.

With all the things that have happened in 2020 with the pandemic, not seeing friends and family for months at a time, not being able to attend worship, it is comforting to know that this constant remains, that there is much hope. Many of us know of people that have suffered with Covid-19, some of us have had family and/or friends who lost their battle to the disease. So we as a family, a fraternal, must gather to help get them through this hard time and still be able to bring them the wonderful news of the birth of our Savior. That He is still our hope and salvation.

Especially now, during this time (of isolation/frustration/mourning, etc.) let us take an extra minute of time to smile, to give a greeting of the season, to help those less fortunate and to spread cheer, to do what we are called to do as Christians. We will get through this together as a member of the family of Christ.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and Management of the Polish National Union we wish you a Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year!

-Martin (Marty) Wachna, Jr.

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PNU Announces Direct Premium Payment Option

Recently the PNU established the ability to allow for premiums to be paid direct from a member's checking or savings account. This is more commonly referred to as a direct debit or ACH transaction.

Members who received their premium bills for the month of April were the first to be alerted to this new service. A form was included to complete in order to request automatic payment of premium. The ACH option eliminates the need to either mail or physically present a premium payment at the Home Office.

A copy of the Authorization Agreement for automatic payments is included below. Please feel free to print the form and send it in to the Home Office if you wish to participate in the automatic payment program.

John C. Andrzejewski
CFO/Secretary

Authorization Agreement for Automatic Payments

(Check applicable box)

Addition: New Participant _____

Change: Change in Bank and/or account number _____

Delete: Cancel Participation Date _____ Participant's Initials _____

Name _____

Bank Name _____

Bank Address _____

Bank's Routing and Transit # _____

Account # _____ Account Type: Checking ____ Savings

Frequency / Date of Payments: _____

Amount of transaction or method by which amount will be determined: _____

Telephone Number: _____ Email: _____

I hereby authorize Polish National Union of America, hereinafter called COMPANY, to initiate debit entries to my account at the Bank named above; and to initiate adjustments for any debit entries made in error to my account at the Bank named above, hereinafter called DEPOSITORY I acknowledge the origination of ACH transactions to my account indicated above must comply with the provisions of U.S. Law. This authority is to remain in full force and effect until COMPANY has received written notification from me of its termination in such time and in such manner as to afford COMPANY and DEPOSITORY a reasonable opportunity to act on it.

If the payment referenced above is returned unpaid by the receivers bank, a \$ 30.00 fee will be collected by means of an electronic fund transfer from the consumer's account specified in this authorization.

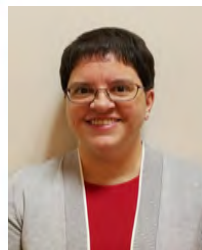
Signature _____ Date _____

Revocation of Authorization

Authorization to the PNU for automatic payments can be revoked by writing to Polish National Union of America 1002 Pittston Avenue, Scranton, PA 18505 or by submitting a letter of revocation through the PNU email system using the address info@pnu.org

Opt In

Members Can Opt-In For Email Alerts From The PNU! Visit www.pnu.org to opt-in today!



District One
Julie Andrzejewski
District One Director
 109 1st
 Elmhurst Twp, PA 18444
 (570) 842-1603
 district1director@pnu.org

Polish National Union of America

Branch Secretary Vacancies

District 1 and 8 have branch secretary vacancies in the following areas: Duryea, Plymouth, and Wilkes-Barre in PA. and Johnson City in NY. There are vacant branches in other locations in the surrounding Scranton area. If you or anyone you know are interested in becoming a branch secretary, please reach out to me at 570-842-1603, District1Director@pnu.org, or 109 1st, Elmhurst Twp., PA 18444. I look forward to hearing from you.

Julie Andrzejewski, District 1 Director.

Thankful

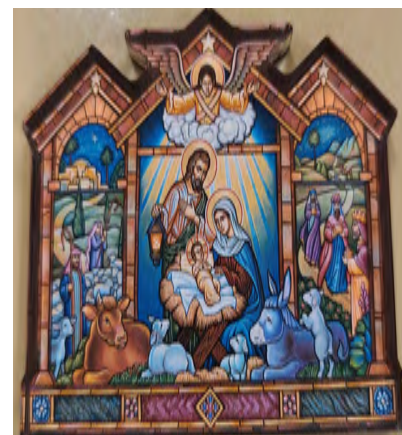
It is the Monday after Thanksgiving and I am sitting at my computer on a rainy day. I am thinking about how beautiful a day it is because my family and I are alive and safe... able to enjoy the day. I would like to express my sympathy to those who have lost a loved one this past year. I lost my mother two years ago and I believe she is watching over us. I lost my father over 35 years ago. I believe he had my back many times as I made it this far in my life. I am thankful for my husband, my daughter, and my extended family all who have taught me about forgiving, love, joy, and happiness. I am thankful for God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit from whom life was given to me. I wish you all a Joyous Christmas and a Blessed New Year.

- Julie Andrzejewski

Education & Youth's Flash Sale Fundraiser

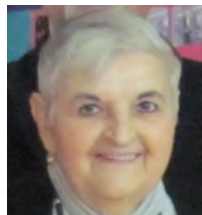
If you blinked, you missed the surprise flash fundraiser sale to raise money for The Education & Youth Commission. Education & Youth Commission Chairwoman, Mary Ann Stankowski (pictured below) dropped off the beautiful nativity scene magnets at the Home Office to sell for just \$10.00 each. Within an hour almost half of them sold. The magnets were a huge success! They sold from both in person sales and from buyers hundreds of miles away thanks to the PNU Facebook page. Within 24 hours every single magnet sold to benefit a great cause!

Prime Bishop tried to order more of these gorgeous magnets but they are unfortunately sold out for the time being. Keep your eyes peeled for more fundraiser opportunities to benefit The Education & Youth Commission!





Polish National Union of America



District Three
Mary Ann Zarek
 District Three Director
 363 Lindsay St.
 Attleboro, MA 02703
 (774) 254-5844
district3director@pnu.org

District 3 of the PNU held a meeting via Zoom on December 1, 2020. It was reported that the annual Thanksgiving raffle was very successful enabling the district to once again sponsor activities at the Winter Youth Gathering to be held at Blessed Trinity parish in Fall River, MA later this month. It was reported that two new policies were sold. The work of the PNU continues to be a focus during this trying time with the District Director Maryann Zarek continuing to work on updating the list of policy holders. District 3 also sent Christmas Greetings to Straz wishing all a Blessed and Peaceful holiday season.

-Mary Ann Zarek, District 3 District Director

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

I hope you are well and had a blessed Thanksgiving. We certainly did here where after the 11 turkeys went into the oven and Holy Mass, Covid and Pouring Rain did not put a damper on our annual Thanksgiving Day Community Turkey Dinner. This year the hall looked like TSA airport lines but all went smoothly as 120 Turkey Dinners were served to those who needed them in our community. With the left overs meals were delivered to some homeless on the street (thanks Peyton), to two FRFD firehouses and our FRPD Police Station. Kathy and I cannot thank all who helped us enough. God bless you for your generosity, time and support. It was nice to have Mayor Coogan again come by to support our community efforts. On this Thanksgiving at Holy Cross we remembered and prayed for the families that received our Thanksgiving Baskets - thank you Brenda for making this special delivery to Tolman High School.

-Fr. Sr. Rob Nemkovich, Jr.

Prep for our Thanksgiving Day Community Turkey Dinner - 11/25/2020



Thanksgiving Day Community Turkey Dinner - 11/26/2020 - Over 120 meals served



Thank you to all who supported our PNU District 3 Raffle
We wish you all a Blessed and Happy Thanksgiving!

District 3 will be providing pizza and ice cream Sundays to all attending the Eastern Diocese Winter Youth Gathering and Lock in on December 28 & 29, 2020. God bless you all!

We hope that in the future more parishes in District 3 will support this effort as it does benefit our fraternal efforts and diocesan youth program.

PNU DISTRICT 3 THANKSGIVING RAFFLE 2020

4 Parishes Participated

Manchester, NH - 175
 Fall River - 135
 Central Falls - 95
 Westfield - 30

w/ 3 other individuals participating = 50

Donations To Offset Prizes = \$100

Bishop Paul & Karen Sobiechowski - 25
 Fr. Sr. Rob & Kathy Nemkovich - 25
 Brenda Richard - 25
 Mike & Maryann Zarek - 25

Donation To District 3: Fr. Sr. Joe & Lorraine Krusienski- 50

Winners

1st Prize: \$50 Janice (Central Falls, RI)
 2nd Prize: \$25 Carolyn (Manchester, NH)
 3rd Prize \$25 Mary (Fall River, MA)



District Four
Beverly Basinski
District Four Director
4375 Homestead Ln
Clarance, NY 14031
(716) 759-1130

district4director@pnu.org

Polish National Union of America

DISTRICT 4 NEWS – DECEMBER 2020 STRAZ

As this year fades into history, we look back and are thankful for all the Blessings we have received. Even though it may not be obvious, many good things have happened this year. We are more mindful of our actions and how what we do affects others. We are more appreciative of what we have: friends, family, food and shelter, clothing, medical facilities and treatment, freedom of speech, freedom of religion, the right to vote, etc. And lest we not forget the dedication of the First Responders, medical staff, essential workers and educators. We all have had to sacrifice and learn to adjust to a "different" way of doing things. Living through a global pandemic is quite the challenge. This is only temporary or is it? We will survive and together we will come through this and be the stronger for it. Perhaps a new normalcy is what we need. In the meantime, wear a mask, wash your hands, and social distance for the good of all. Stay Safe and Healthy!

COMINGS & GOINGS in District 4: It is with heartfelt gratitude that I announce the retirement of Branch 79 Secretary, Viola Przybylski, effective December 1, 2020. Viola is a life-long member of Holy Mother of the Rosary Cathedral in Lancaster, NY. She has been a pillar of the PNU for 60+ years serving as Branch Secretary, District Treasurer and member of many Committees over the years. She has been a mentor and role model. Viola has seen many PNU policy and procedural revisions during her tenure and has always acclimated herself to accepting change. Quite a virtue when you remember how "it used to be". Thank you Viola for all you have done for the PNU, District 4, and your Branch. You will be missed.

CONGRATULATIONS & THANKS Viola for your DECADES of dedication and loyalty to the PNU.

Sharon Pawlowski has been appointed Interim Branch 79 Secretary until such time as the District/Branch has a meeting to elect Viola's replacement. Anyone interested in being considered to fill this vacancy should let me know. In the meantime if any Branch 79 member needs assistance, you may contact either Sharon or District 4 Director. Thank You Sharon for stepping up to help out

District 4 extends CHRISTMAS GREETINGS and BLESSINGS FOR THE NEW YEAR to all our fellow PNU members, friends, and family. May you have a wonderful Christmas Season.

Kick Off 2021 Right!

If 2020 taught us just one thing I think we can all agree that it taught us how truly unpredictable life can be. It didn't matter if you are young, old, a Hollywood star, middle class, or poor -- everything changed overnight! The vaccines are rolling out as we speak and everyone has a list of things they are excited to do again. Travel is one of the biggest activities so many of us miss the most. The PNU is excited to announce that we are partnering up with The Cruise People to make PNU membership even sweeter with The PNU Travel Club. Keep your eyes open for more information and announcements to come as we look to 2021 for adventures to start again.

Thinking about possible New Year's Resolutions? Think about planning for the future with us! Nobody is too young to have an insurance policy. Planning ahead creates more time and opportunity to live life to the fullest in 2021!





Polish National Union of America



District Five
Melissa Snee
 District Four Director
 326 Oak Grove Court
 Wexford, PA 15090
 (724) 263-7272
district5director@pnu.org

PNU District 5 Quarterly Meeting – October 18, 2020 – Zoom/Teleconference

Attendance – Fr Bruce Sleczkowski, Marian Sleczkowski, Henrietta Kleckner, Terry Kleckner, Melissa Snee, MaryAnn Kiska, Paulette Beliunas, Georgine Katocs, Michael Wisniewski, Barbara Wisniewski, Janis Gibala and Ted Gibala, Rosalie Clark, and Brent Adler. Special Guest John Andrzejewski. Meeting opened at 7:01pm by Melissa Snee. Fr Bruce Sleczkowski offered prayer. John Andrzejewski ran a training session on the Annuity Program for approximately 40 minutes with a question and answer session. Thank you John for all your input.

Minutes – Marian Sleczkowski read the minutes for the April 19th meeting. There were no changes/corrections. Ted Gibala made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Mike Wisniewski. Motion passed.

Financial Report – Henrietta Kleckner presented the Financial Report for the quarter ending Sept 31, 2020. Paulette Beliunas motioned to accept financial report, seconded by MaryAnn Kiska. Motion passed.

Correspondence – No correspondence.

Old Business –

PNU Performance – Melissa Snee reported that the District 5 last quarter performance 1 sales by Henrietta Kleckner. The PNU as a whole is struggling with sales vs. maturities/death benefits/surrenders due to Covid-19 and lack of interaction with potential members. John A. encouraged us to go after younger members.

Facebook page – 71 members to date. Ads from the home office are being posted regularly. Marketing materials – flyers for the Annuity promotion have been distributed and hopefully being discussed at the branches and districts.

Spojnia Sunday – Hand sanitizers and brochures were passed out at many parishes, activities were limited due to COVID-19 and this keeping most people away from church.

New Business –

Irene Jugan 2nd Annual Heart & Soul Award recipient was announced on Spojnia Sunday – Christine Wachna – Congratulations, God Bless you, and keep up the good work! David Bober, Branch Secretary, for Canonsburg, passed away. New Branch Secretary is Patty Grohol.

Education and Youth Commission is still asking for donations as the drawing will not be done this year due to the lack of contact with people due to Covid-19.

Spojnia Credit Union – new rate schedules have been sent out. 3rd quarter promotions include special rates on Home Equity and Auto Loans. Home Equity special rate of .5% off if SCU is listed as the first position on the lien.

Brent Adler asked about license renewals. John A. stated that renewal forms should be received, when you receive it, please call John Andrzejewski.

Charitable donation of \$100 from District 5 was discussed. Suggestions were Samaritan's Purse, Make-a-wish, fund for Fr Donelli's nephew, Tommy, with cancer. Terry Kleckner made a motion to donate to the fund for Tommy, seconded by Ted Gibala, motion passed.

Mailing for PNU dues has been sent out. Please send in to home office. Brent Adler asked a question about insurance application – "Are you a member of the PNU?" The application is actually a membership ap, therefore, it does not matter if the question is answered yes or no.

Quote program has been corrected and sent out.

Straz – John A asked for articles from Spojnia Sunday to be sent as soon as possible.

Next Meeting:

Sunday January 17, 2021 7:00 pm, a ZOOM meeting/teleconference will take place.

Fr Bruce Sleczkowski made a motion to close meeting, seconded by Paulette Beliunas, motion passed.

Melissa Snee closed the meeting at 8:30pm. Fr. Bruce Sleczkowski offered closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Marian E. Sleczkowski
 Recording Secretary



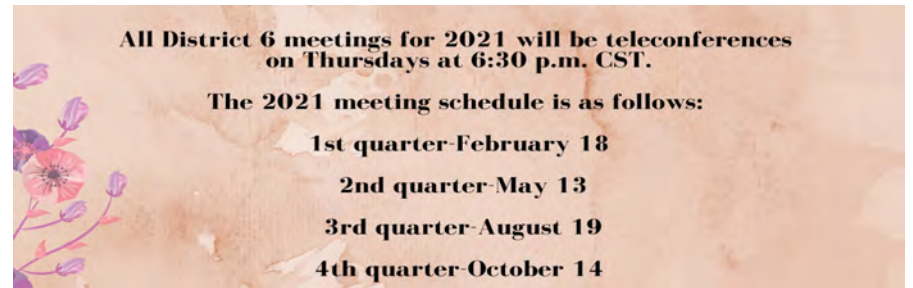
(Excerpt) Polish Christmas Wafer: A Flavorless Tradition That's Oh So Sweet By Sarah Zielinski

Nothing says "I love you," at least in my Polish-American family, quite like the sharing of a thin, flat, tasteless wafer called an oplatek at Christmas. We're not alone. Before sitting down to Christmas Eve dinner, many families with roots in Poland and other Eastern European countries will take part in this tradition, which has roots dating back hundreds of years. "For us, Polish Americans, the oplatek, that wafer, is Christmas Eve," says Sophie Hodorowicz Knab, author of the book Polish Customs, Traditions and Folklore. "It defines people's heritage."

Christmas Eve marks the end of Advent. Traditionally, that meant the last day of fasting, so in mostly Catholic Poland, the dinner was typically meatless. The menu might have included items such as pea soup, boiled potatoes, fried fish and stewed fruits, Knab notes in The Polish Country Kitchen Cookbook.



District Six
Christine Wachna
District Six Director
421 South Church Road
Bensenville, IL 60106
(630) 350-1787
district6director@pnu.org



I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their well wishes following the awarding of the Irene Jagan Heart and Soul Award. Friends from near and far have reached out to me whether through email, texting, a phone call or even Facebook. Thanks to Henrietta Kleckner for the nomination, I truly appreciate what she did by considering me worthy of this honor. It is so wonderful that through technology being many hundreds of miles apart, we can continue our relationships and have them not seem so far away. This has been a very humbling experience and I pray that I not only can have Irene smiling down on me from heaven, but that she is also watching over all of us. Let all of us make a concerted effort to either continue to promote or begin to promote the PNU and the benefits we have to offer, not only to those within the PNCC but our neighbors, friends and family that are not affiliated with the church.

-Christine Wachna, Director – District Six

Polish National Union of America District Six Teleconference Thursday, October 15, 2020, 6:30 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Director Christine Wachna at 6:32 p.m. The Invocation was pronounced by Very Rev. John P. Kowalczyk, Jr., Vice Director. District Director Christine Wachna called the Roll: Present: Christine Wachna; Very Rev. John P. Kowalczyk, Jr.; Catherine Kowalczyk; Christina Danielkiewicz; Teri Heath; Robert Maycan; Dian Maycan; Rev. David Rowinski. Guests at meeting were Rt. Rev. Jarosław Rafalko; Martin H. Wachna, Jr., PNU CEO. Absent: Judith Palacios; Walter Cegelka; June Wyant.

The Agenda and minutes from the August 27, 2020 meeting were sent out by Director Christine Wachna. Upon motion made by Robert Maycan and seconded by Christina Danielkiewicz, the Proposed Agenda was accepted. Motion carried. The minutes from the August 27, 2020 meeting were accepted as presented upon motion made by Teri Heath and seconded by Catherine Kowalczyk. Motion carried.

Correspondence: There was correspondence regarding branch mergers and it will be presented as part of New Business.

The Financial Report was given by Catherine Kowalczyk. Upon motion made by Dian Maycan and seconded by Teri Heath, the financial report was accepted, subject to audit. Motion carried.

Old Business Christine Wachna reported that as part of Spójnia Sunday – September 27, 2020- all parishes were presented with a basket of promotional items at the Diocesan Synod. Director Christine Wachna prepared these baskets that included pamphlets, a PowerPoint presentation and hand sanitizer (provided by the Home Office). These were given to all pastors at the Diocesan Synod. Some pastors were asked to deliver to those in their area not present at the Synod and the rest were placed in the mail. To clarify, these baskets were given to those within the District 6 boundary. Also included was a PowerPoint "Got A Bucket List?" The PowerPoint is a different way to present the types of policies available, information on the Credit Union and how to prepare for final expenses. Also, all pastors were requested to celebrate a Mass on that day for the intention of Spójnia.

CEO Martin Wachna reported that the 2nd Annual Irene Jagan Award was presented to Christine Wachna. It was a live broadcast on FaceBook. As to FaceBook, District 6 has 110 likes.

New Business: Branch Secretary Reports: Br. 295 – Catherine Kowalczyk: Cathy reported that there is one prospect when he "arrives" in November, 2020.

Br. 37 – Rev. David Rowinski reported that he has not been able to do anything yet. He is looking into licensing. Christina Danielkiewicz is working on 2 prospective members.

At the September Board meeting there was a proposal presented to merge branches within the District. The reason for this is so that there will be more membership in a branch and it will also allow for more delegate representation at the Quadrennial Conventions.

Both Catherine Kowalczyk (Br. 295) and Walter Cegelka (Br. 362) will be receiving new member rosters.

CEO Martin Wachna, Jr. reported that all premium rates will be going up effective January 1, 2021. Any applications for membership received after January 1, 2021 will be at the higher premium rates.

A Travel Club is being created through The Cruise People. District Directors will be getting information in December, 2020.

Straż Christmas ads are now \$35.00. District 6 will submit its ad as in past years.

For the Good of the District - Very Rev. Kowalczyk extended congratulations Rt. Rev. Jarosław Rafalko on his Consecration. District 6 was well represented at the Consecration and Installation as the 9th Ordinary of the Western Diocese. Bishop Rafalko extended his thanks for attendance at Consecration and thanked both the PNU and District 6 for the gifts.

It was proposed that all meetings for 2021 be teleconferences on Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. CST. The 2021 meeting schedule is as follows: 1st quarter-February 18; 2nd quarter-May 13; 3rd quarter-August 19; 4th quarter-October 14. This was put in motion form by Very Rev. John P. Kowalczyk, Jr. and seconded by Robert Maycan. Motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, upon motion made by Robert Maycan and seconded by Catherine Kowalczyk, the meeting was adjourned at 7:07 p.m. Motion carried.

Rev. David Rowinski pronounced the benediction.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Christina M. Danielkiewicz
 Christina M. Danielkiewicz
 Recording Secretary



Polish National Union of America



District Ten
George Urciuoli, District 10 Director
 5 Bramble Wood
 Clifton Park, NY 12065
 (914) 475-3219
 district10director@pnu.org

Remembering Thomas Joseph Zembrzuski



Thomas Joseph (aka Tom, Joe, Babe) Zembrzuski, Sr., former District 10 Directory and Branch 126 Secretary peacefully departed on June 23, 2020, at age 93, surrounded by his loving family at home. Born in Albany, he was the son of the late Antoni and Władysława (Szypulska) Zembrzuski. Thomas was a lifetime member of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Czestochowa National Catholic Church where he served many years as parish Financial Secretary and member of the Choir Lutnia and YMSofR. He served as a District Director and Branch Secretary of the Polish National Union (Spojnia). He was instrumental in implementing the Building Fund project to relocate his beloved church from downtown Albany to its current Latham location and faithfully manned the PNU booth at the parish's annual 3-day PolishFest for nearly two decades. He made sure each new addition to the Zembrzuski family tree became a member of the PNU and was very proud of his 100% PNU family. After being discharged from the Army in 1946, Thomas married the love of his life. Together, he and Stella raised their children on the Zembrzuski Brothers' family farm on Wolf Road from 1947 - 1969. He earned an Associate's Degree from Albany Business College while working for Bortell Construction and built his dream house. He then went to work for NYS Department of Tax and Finance for 20 years. After retirement he and Stella worked several seasons at Ben's Greenhouse in Clifton Park. Thomas lived his faith and inspired all who knew him with his gentle, humble, quiet wisdom. He loved his church, farming, Polish heritage, reading and playing Scrabble. He also loved travel, with memorable trips to Mexico, Houston, Hawaii, Spojnia cruises and Poland with his treasured family.

He was the beloved husband of the late Stella Peplowski Zembrzuski for 67 years; cherished Daddy of Thomas J. Zembrzuski Jr (Deborah Best), Regina Pollack (George Urciuoli), Theresa Barnes, and Anntonette Zembrzuski Alberti; dearest Dziadzi of Andrea, Matthew, Elise, Amanda, Andrew, Deanna, Katherine, and Grace; brother of the late siblings Julia, Frank, Pauline, Leona, Theodore, Bernard, Victoria and Anna. He is survived by 11 great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

Private funeral services and internment with Honor Guard at Albany Rural Cemetery were held on June 26, 2020. Post COVID-19, a memorial service will be held to celebrate Thomas' life. Those wishing to remember Thomas may send a contribution to Blessed Virgin Many of Czestochowa Church, 250 Old Maxwell Road, Latham, NY 12110.

Remembering Former Board Member Stanley Kiska



STANLEY "HUFF" "STUSH" KISKA

May 12, 1931 - November 25, 2020

Passed away and entered into the peace of Christ on Wednesday, November 25, 2020, after a long battle with dementia. He was born in Carnegie, PA, on May 12, 1931, to Michael and Sophie (Biskup) Kiszka. To help support his family, he began working at O. Hommel company even before graduating from Scott High School. Stanley served in the US Army in Europe during the Korean conflict and married his dear wife, Mary Ann (Hanych) in 1959. Over the years, they enjoyed bowling in various leagues, traveling to all 50 states and abroad on their own and with their group of friends, cheering for the Steelers and spending time with family, often going the extra mile to do so. Stanley had a sharp mind and quick wit and earned the nickname of "Trivia King". He was outgoing, made friends easily and never met a stranger. He was an active member of the Men's Club and of the Parish committee at All Saints

for many years, including several terms as chairman. Stanley was also active in the Polish National Union of America, serving as secretary of the local branch and on its National Fraternal Activities Committee and Board of Directors. Stanley was on the PNU Board from 1991-2003 and was part of the Executive Management during several of those years.

Surviving family members include his wife of 61 years, Mary Ann; daughter, Karen (Rt. Reverend Paul) Sobiechowski; son, Stan, Jr. (Dr. Deanna); pap-pap of Luke, Evan and Lauren; brother of Edward Kiska and Sister Teresa Antonelli; many cousins, nieces, nephews and godchildren. He was preceded by his parents and by his siblings, George, Irene, Mike, Chester and Paul. Stanley will be remembered for his warm smile and favorite sayings, "Candy Garten" "Nice Driveway" and "Wszystkiego Najlepszego". Stush's family would like to extend their sincere thanks and gratitude to the staff at Victoria Manor and to Leslie and Teri of Bridges Hospice for all their great care and compassion.

Stanley was laid to rest with Full Military Honors in the National Cemetery of the Alleghenies. Donations may be made to the All Saints P.N.C. Church Building Fund, 500 Fifth St., Carnegie, PA 15106.

May Eternal Peace and Perpetual Light be our esteemed member's just reward in heaven.

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Home Equity Loan Rates

\$100 Application Fee—No Closing Costs!

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| 5 Years | 3.49% APR |
| 7 Years | 3.625% APR |
| 10 Years | 3.625% APR |
| 15 Years | 3.75%* APR |

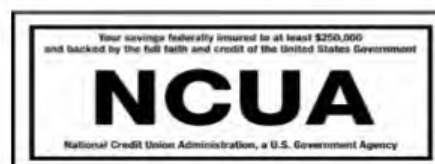
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Not Available in Texas or California



Polish Gingerbread Cookies Recipe (From Cover)

Ingredients

For the Cookies:

2 large eggs
1 cup sugar
1 teaspoon cinnamon
1 teaspoon ginger
1/2 teaspoon cloves
2 teaspoon baking soda (dissolved in 3 tablespoons water)
1 cup honey

3 cups all-purpose flour

For the Chocolate Glaze (Optional): 4 ounces semisweet chocolate (chopped)
4 ounces butter
1 tablespoon water

By Barbara Rolek <https://www.thespruceeats.com/polish-gingerbread-cookies-pierniczki-recipe-1136960>

Step 1 Gather the ingredients.

Step 2 In a large bowl, beat the eggs with sugar until light and lemon colored

Step 3 Add the spices, baking soda-water mixture, and honey. Mix well

Step 4 Add flour gradually and mix until a soft dough forms. Shape into a ball, wrap in plastic, and let it rest for 30 minutes

Step 5 Preheat oven to 440 F. On parchment paper cut to fit your baking pans, roll the dough to 1/4 - inch thickness

Step 6 Cut into your desired shape. Lift the parchment paper by opposite corners and place on the banking pans.

Step 7 Bake for ten minutes or until lightly brown around the edges. Let cool completely. Ice or glaze right before serving



CW2 Steven Wisniewski, wife Astrid, and son , Lucas.
Photo taken October 1, 2019 the day of deployment to Afghanistan. 100% PNU family. Currently stationed in Fort Drum, NY. Four combat tours to the Middle East , two tours in Germany, one tour at Fort Bliss, TX. AH-64D Apache attack helicopter pilot.

"Thank you, Steven, for your 14 years of dedicated service to our country". Love, Mom and Dad.

NATIONAL PEARL HARBOR REMEMBRANCE DAY

DECEMBER 7, 2020

REMEMBER AND
HONOR THE 2,403
AMERICANS WHO
WERE KILLED IN THE
JAPANESE SURPRISE
ATTACK ON PEARL
HARBOR IN HAWAII
ON DECEMBER 7,
1941, WHICH LED
TO THE UNITED
STATES DECLARING
WAR ON JAPAN
THE NEXT DAY AND
THUS ENTERING
WORLD WAR II



OUR SAVIOUR'S PARISH

WOONSOCKET, RI
REV. HENRYK WOS, PASTOR

CHANCERY OF THE EASTERN DIOCESE

RT. REV. PAUL SOBIECHOWSKI
MANCHESTER, NH

May peace, joy and love be your gifts to
share this Christmas!

Holy Cross Parish

Very Rev. Fryderyk Banas, Pastor and faithful

61 Maple St.
Ware, MA 01082-1345

BŁOGOSŁAWIONE I RADOŚCIOWE BOŻE NARODZENIE DLA WSZYSTKICH

A Blessed & Joyous Christmas To All!

ST. MARY'S REV. JASON H. SOLTYSIAK

PARMA, OH


BLESSINGS OF PEACE, LOVE, AND JOY TO ALL!

ALL SAINTS

STERLING HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN

PASTOR FR. MICHAL GITNER

AND THE WORD BECAME FLESH, AND DWELT AMONG US; AND WE SAW HIS GLORY,
GLORY AS OF THE ONLY SON FROM THE FATHER, FULL OF GRACE AND TRUTH.
(JOHN 1:14 NASB)

 Find us on
Facebook

Bishop Paul and Karen Sobiechowski

122 WALNUT ST
MANCHESTER, NH 03104

Christ Is Born - Share The Good News!

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DUPONT, PA

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Parishioners, Board of Directors, Organizations
Very Rev. Charles Zawistowski, Pastor

www.stmarypncc.org

CLERGY CIRCLE OF THE WESTERN DIOCESE

Wishing All A Blessed Christmas Season!

Bishop Jaroslaw Rafalko
Priests and Deacons

HOLY CROSS PARISH - VERY REV JAROSLAW NOWAK

HAMTRAMCK, MI

MAY BABY JESUS BLESS YOU ABUNDANTLY!

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Rev. Andrzej Tenus
St. Casimirs Parish
Lowell, MA

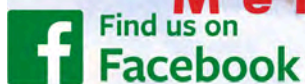
Co-chairmen: Robert Hunt & Robert Quirbach

Recording Secretary: Janice Klimczak

Financial Secretary: Linda Hedrick

Treasurer: Shirley Garvey

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

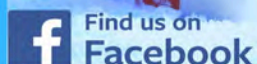


www.stcasimirspncc.com



Holy Cross Church
Merry Christmas
&

A Blessed Safe New Year 2021
holycrosssite.org



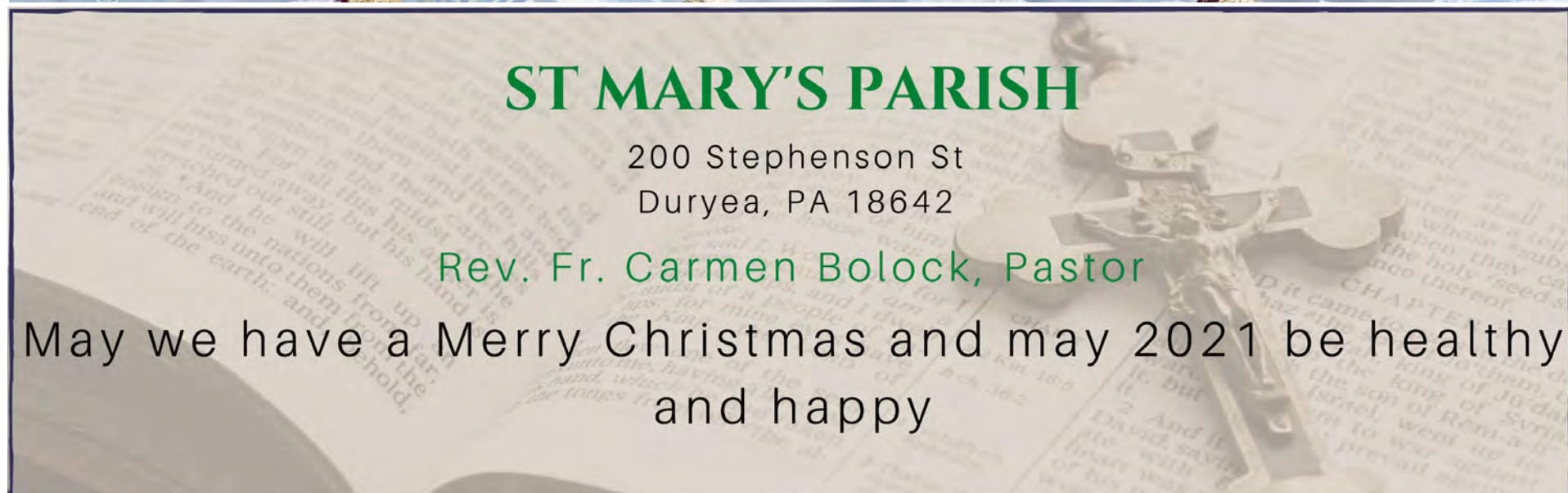
HOLY TRINITY CATHEDRAL**BISHOP PAUL SOBIECHOWSKI - PASTOR****RAYMOND J. PIECZARKA - CHAIR****STEFAN SWIADAS - VICE CHAIR****FRANCES DOBOSZ - TREASURER****JO-ANN O'CONNELL - RECORDING SECRETARY****NANCY REILLY - FINANCIAL SECRETARY**

MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A HAPPY HEALTHY NEW
YEAR 2021

FROM PRIME BISHOP EMERITUS ROBERT AND FLORENCE NEMKOVICH
 CAPE CORAL, FLORIDA

All Saints Cathedral Parish

CHICAGO, IL**O COME, LET US ADORE HIM!****ASCPNCC.ORG****CATHEDRAL PARISH OF SAINT STANISLAUS, BISHOP & MARTYR****539 E. LOCUST ST SCRANTON, PA 18505****BISHOP BERNARD NOWICKI****ASSISTANT PASTOR REV. JANUSZ LUCARZ****FRED AEBLI, CHAIRMAN****VICE CHAIRS, EDWARD BOREK AND MARIA HUGHES****RECORDING SECRETARY JUNE SARNOWSKI****TREASURER PETER ARVONIO III****STSTANISLAUSPNCC.ORG**



PNU District 1 of Northeast PA

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!

Most Rev. Emeritus John F. Swantek, Chaplain

Julie Andrzejewski, Director

Joan Scheuneman, Vice Director

Jessica Moser, Secretary

Patricia Bolock, Treasurer

Wishing you a Blessed Christmas
and Happy and Healthy New Year 2021!

District 3- PNU New England

Director - Maryann Zarek

Vice Director - Michael Zarek

Recording Secretary - Janice Dzialo

Treasurer- Eric Nemkovich

Auditor- Thomas Zarek

Trustee- Brenda Richard

Chaplain - Fr. Sr. Rob Nemkovich



District 4

& BRANCH SECRETARIES

Wishing All A Blessed
and Healthy
Christmas Season



PNU OF A DISTRICT 6

Florida, Illinois, Minnesota, Wisconsin
Right Reverend Jarosław Rafalko, Spiritual Counselor
Christine A. Wachna, District Director
Very Reverend John P. Kowalczyk, Jr., Vice Director
Christina M. Danielkiewicz, Recording Secretary
Catherine T. Kowalczyk, Treasurer
Trustees and Auditors

Active Branch Secretaries
Walter Cegielka-Br. 362 - Plantation, Florida
Reverend David Rowinski- Br. 37 - Chicago, Illinois
Catherine Kowalczyk - Br. 295 - Cedar Lake, Indiana

Merry Christmas and Happy & Healthy New Year!

DISTRICT 7

DIRECTOR- SUZANNE SNIEZEK

**BLESSINGS TO ALL DURING THIS
CHRISTMAS SEASON!**

Wishing you a very

MERRY CHRISTMAS

DISTRICT 10

LATHAM, NY

George Urciuoli, Director

Regina Pollock, Recording Secy

Blessed Virgin Mary of Czestochowa

Rev. Mark Gnidzinski

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Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!**

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