

Looking through the Window...

by Resident Vice President Anna Sokolowski



Dear Readers,

I hope you had an enjoyable summer. While we do not want to wish the good weather to go away, the calendar tells us that the opening of school is near. It is time now for families to take that annual shopping excursion to buy new clothes, new shoes, and new school supplies. At the PRCUA Language and Dance Schools, we are lucky to have great teachers, choreographers and dance instructors who, with great pleasure, will be welcoming new and returning students for the 2010-11 school year! They have put lots of time and energy getting ready for the new school year, which should be a joyful time, filled with renewal and hope. The greatest resource a successful school has is its people. All of our schools need support - it is essential to who we are and what we hope to accomplish. I do hope that members will be more involved in our schools and that our schools will welcome their involvement. Together we can make a difference in the life of a student. As always, we will be happy to share news about your school events. We wish you all a wonderful school year and we welcome students to an exciting new school year!

This summer, the Fraternal Department was busy with Junior bowling and Polish American Night at the Cellular Field, Chicago (see August Narod Polski).



Res. V.P. Anna Sokolowski (center) with Golf Tournament Committee

Later in July, we attended the PRCUA 58th Golf Tournament in Muskegon, MI. (See article on page 10) hosted by St. Michael Society #78, which was marking its 100th Anniversary. Once again, golfers reignited old friendships and acquired new friends while playing on the very beautiful golf course. We were blessed with wonderful summer weather as our golfers teed off to two shotgun starts (AM and PM). Friday's hospitality room at the hotel and later in the evening at the Society Hall was packed with golfers and their families. The plentiful food was delicious, as was the hot dog lunch on Saturday. Saturday evening the award ceremony and reception was held at the Society Hall with a delicious homemade dinner - there was plenty of food and it was finger-licking good! We all had ample time to enjoy the company of members and friends, to dance and have a drink or two. Present at this Tournament were PRCUA Officers and Board Member: President Wallace Ozog, Resident Vice President Anna Sokolowski, Vice President Robert Bielenda, Secretary-Treasurer Joyce Szarowicz and Dist. #2 National Director William Nowakowski. We would like to thank Frank Swiatek, David Chandonnet, their committee and everyone involved in this tournament for going the extra mile to make everyone feel welcome. Many thanks to the hosting St. Michael Society #78 for their hard work in preparation for this tournament. The committee and staff were enthusiastic and professional and worked hard to make sure the tournament ran smoothly. We hope every golfer had a great time! We look forward to having you join us again next year in La Porte, IN.

After the Golf Tournament we were busy with preparation for the 60th PRCUA Quadrennial Convention, held from August 8 to 11. (See article on pg. 1 and on the website.)

I want to thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve you for the past eight years and re-electing me for the next four years. My gratitude is extended to all who showed confidence in me, endorsed me, generously volunteered their time and all who voted for me. I am so deeply grateful to all of you who stood by my side, not only during this campaign, but also during my past terms in office. I am especially grateful to my husband Mark, my daughters Basia and Alicia, to many old and dear friends who stood by my side through many ups and downs. My special THANK YOU goes to my secretary, Mary Jane Robles and to the PRCUA employees who, without me asking, were constantly by my side and asking what they could do. I have been so fortunate to have many supporters and I am ever so grateful for the love and encouragement they have given me. With your continued support, I plan to work very hard every day, as I did in the past, to help this organization move forward. Our work is just beginning and I look forward to hearing from you and working with you over the next four years. Thank you so much from the bottom of my heart!

All the candidates running for various offices were winners because they are all dedicated members of our organization. While the outcome for some was disappointing, we should understand that some of the challenges were just too difficult to overcome. We do hope and urge all of you to continue to support and serve our fraternal. With your help and earnest efforts, we will make compromises, bridge our differences, and help restore our prosperity for a better future for the PRCUA. Now is the time to come together, put our differences aside and work to put this fraternal on the right track. God Bless all of you and our organization.

Very Special THANK YOU to the PRCUA Dance groups - "Wesoly Lud", "Polonia" and dancers from District #10 representing "Zakopane", "Zajaczek", "Halka", "Mala Polska" and "Opole" who performed beautifully at the Opening Reception at the PMA, the Convention

Banquet and the Fraternal Luncheon and who took part in the Masses. All the dancers did an outstanding job - we are so proud of you!

Dear Readers, my husband Mark and I would like to share with you the happiness of the birth of our second grandchild - Annika Elise Ackerman, who was born on July 27, 2010 to the proud parents Basia and Sean Ackerman. Children are the purest form of blessing, but grandchildren are double that. You will never come down from that cloud. We would like to express our gratitude for all of your wonderful and sincere good wishes. Thank you for all the cards, e-mails and many gifts to our granddaughter Annika. We appreciate your thoughtfulness and are lucky to have so many wonderful friends.



Annika Elise Ackerman

Speaking of the babies, congratulations are also in order to for grandparents PRCUA District #8 National Director Krystyna and Tadeusz Lech, Vickie and Jan Kroplewski and PRCUA Philadelphia office manager Sharon Quinn and her husband Ed, who also became grandparents recently. Congratulations and we hope that your grandchildren will bring you joy and brighten your life for many years to come!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Let's all sing loudly "Happy Birthday" and "Sto Lat" to all who are celebrating their birthdays in September, especially to the PRCUA President Wallace Ozog, who will be leaving office on September 13 - Happy Retirement, too; PRCUA National Chaplain Rev. Walter Ptak; my efficient secretary Mary Jane Robles; Philadelphia office employee Elaine Burkhardt; PMA operations manager Richard Kujawa; Jolanta Tatara, Director of John Paul II Polish Language School; Chicago Archdiocese Polish Youth Director Jacek Chaba; very hard working and talented artistic choreographer Misia Jaminski; and also Bernice Adamkiewicz, and Ralph Raczynski. Happy Name Day to my Mother-in-law, Rena Sokolowska. We wish you all many happy and healthy years to come.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO Frieda and Kaz Zabek, Irene and Ralph Raczynski, Elaine and Ronald Burkhardt and to all the loving couples who are celebrating their wedding anniversaries in September - may your love last forever!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to all who are celebrating their birthdays in October: PRCUA and PMA employees and volunteers: Mariola Wysocka, Accounting; Judy Hoffman, Membership; Helena Gliniczak, Maintenance; Leonard Kurdek, PMA staff; Joan Sylak, PRCUA National Director District #5. Also Sto Lat to Janusz Frankowicz, VP of the M. Konopnicka Adult Culture Group; Henryka Jablonska, Past Principal of Maria Konopnicka Polish Language School; Jolanta Wisnicki, John Paul II Polish Language School Treasurer; Richard Ciesla, husband of the PMA President Maria Ciesla; Martha Kwiatt, Past PRCUA National Director District #8; and PRCUA Insurance Supervisor Ted Klamerus.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY to outgoing PRCUA Secretary-Treasurer Josephine Szarowicz and her husband, Wally! We wish you many more happy years to share, with special memories to cherish all your life. Happy retirement!

CONDOLENCES - Deepest Condolences are extended to the Polish National Alliance (PNA) for the recent passing of Bozena M. Sztukowski, a longtime PNA employee and Executive Assistant to PNA President Frank Spula. Our hearts and prayers are with her family and the PNA family as they deal with the loss of this truly remarkable lady. She will be missed by all who knew her. May she rest in eternal peace.

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Until next time, let me know what's going on in your world. Write to: fraternal.department@prcua.org or call 1-800-772-8632 or send letters to 984 N. Milwaukee Ave, Chicago, IL 60642-4101