

**Przedobozowe spotkanie  
Druh Ryszard**

Środek tygodnia nie jest najlepszym czasem na organizowanie spotkań czy też zebrań. Zmęczenie po dniu pracy, oczekujący następny - odstrasza. Czasem jednak trzeba. We wtorek 9 czerwca 2009 roku, w kalifornijskiej miejscowości Concord, Ania i Zbyszek Pisańscy, Kasia Młynarska, Iwona i Ryszard Urbaniak, Patryk Grobelny, Adam Warda, Arur Wilczkowiak oraz biorący udział telefonicznie z Los Angeles i Phoenix: Renia Skwarużyńska, Małgosia Krupczyńska oraz Jacek Joniec, ustalali szczegóły mającego odbyć się pod koniec miesiąca, dorocznego harcerskiego obozu. Tegoroczna Akcja Letnia będzie pod hasłem przygotowań do przyszłorocznego Złotu Światowego wieńczącego stulecie Związku Harcerstwa Polskiego.

Kadrę na nasz wyjazd mamy super, dzieci – chyba ze względów ekonomicznych, mniej niż za zwyczaj; zapal wszyscy mają jednak ogromny, a plany na spędzenie wspólnego tygodnia, wspaniałe.

Gdy ustaliliśmy już większość szczegółów oraz termin kolejnego, ostatecznego już przedobozowego spotkania, nie wiem nawet w którym momencie, ale zebranie zamieniło się po raz już kolejny w serdeczne spotkanie starych przyjaciół. Tylko mój biorący czasem udział w harcerskich eskapadach, pies – Maks, nie bardzo wiedząc co się dzieje, czemu słycać gromkie śmiechy, włączał się czasem do dyskusji swym psim szczekaniem.

W tym momencie serdeczności, nie pierwszy już raz przypomniało mi się dlaczego uwielbiam harcerstwo. Bez tego śmiechu, bez przyjaźni, nie miałoby ono żadnego sensu. Niezrozumiałe są dla mnie, czasem sztywne struktury, bołą niepotrzebne zakazy ( jak chociażby ten na zorganizowanie kursu podhacmistrzowskiego), ale wiem, że wychowujemy tutaj wspaniałą młodzież, że mamy oddaną całym sercem kadrę instruktorską i to dodaje mi sił do dalszej pracy. Czerpię je również z tego, iż zdaję sobie sprawę, że takich jak my tutaj, jest wielu porozrzucanych po całej Ameryce, po całym świecie. Wspaniali ludzie, oddani pracy wychowawczej polskiej młodzieży.

CZUWAJ!

**29th Annual Polish  
American Day**

On Sunday August 20, the Polish National Alliance-Orange County Lodge #3193, an ethnic fraternal organization will be hosting their 29th Annual Polish American Day at The Pope John Paul II Polish Center - 3999 Rose Drive in Yorba Linda. (NOTE: NEW LOCATION - one block south of Imperial Highway).

The Festivities will begin with a Holy (Polish language) Mass at 10:30AM, followed by dancing to the music of "Roger and the Villagers" polka band from 1:00pm until 5:00p.m. Gates to the dance hall will open at 12:30.

Entertainment will be provided by the Polanie Polish Folk Dance Ensemble and Polonez Dancers who will perform various folk dances from regions of Poland.

Various Booths including Kozłowski Farms from Sonoma County and POLAM Federal Credit Union will be featured. Authentic polish food with be available prepared by Teresa Turek Catering throughout the day.

Donation to the Festival is \$7.00 for adults, senior's \$6.00 children-5 to 12-\$3.00, under 5 free with adult admission. This event is one of the biggest gatherings of Polish Americans in the West. Come meet your friends and make some new ones. Additional Information – Tony Nowak 951 808-9580, Deloria Schaffer 562-943-8904, Eugenia Carter 951-277-4294, Mary Liss 818-790-7018, or Patty Kobzi 714-998-8222.

[www.pna-znp.org/content/events/events.htm](http://www.pna-znp.org/content/events/events.htm) □

**Saint John's Eve  
Polish style**

By: *Rob Strybel*

**Bonfires and candle-lit wreaths**

Known in Polish as Noc Świętojańska (pronounced: NUTS shfyen-taw-YINE-skah), St. John's Eve (the evening of June 23rd) is a young people's fest going back to pagan times. Celebrating the Summer Solstice, that advent of the longest day and shortest night of the year, it has traditionally centered on mating rituals or, as we would say today, boy-meets-girl motifs.

Since the dawn of history, the ancestors of today's Poles would build ritual bonfires on hilltops, in forest clearings and open fields as well as along river banks. This originally pagan custom was eventually Christianized and merged with the Feast of St John the Baptist. Girls dressed in loose-fitting white gowns, tied at the waist with mugwort (Artemis vulgaris) roping, would sing and dance in a circle around the fire, while the boys would try to impress them with macho they were by jumping over the roaring blaze without singing their bare feet.

Each girl would also weave a herb and floral wreath (wianek), place a lighted candle in it and, at dusk, float it on a lake or pond or down a river or stream. Boys would push off in boats or simply wade in after them. The boy who retrieved a wreath would be its maker's date for the evening or possibly longer. Boys and girls would also wander off into the forest together in search of the magic fern which bloomed on only that one night a year. According to legend, whoever found one would be assured of health, happiness and true love. The young people might also take a midnight dip in the nearby lake or river.

The wianki (wreath-floating) tradition has been practiced over the years across Polish America. The Polonia of Chicago and Milwaukee have Lake Michigan, and

other Great Lakes have served Polish communities elsewhere. Polonia's Orchard Lake Schools have re-enacted the custom at their lakeside campus, and Pol-Ams in nearby Detroit once did so at Belle Isle Park. In the nation's capital, local Polonian groups have floated St John's Eve wreaths in the reflecting pool of the Washington Monument. The custom has also spread to Florida and California.

Maybe this is the year for your gang to consider such an event which for most will probably be new and different. A park, meadow, clearing or other outdoor site where an open fire can be built is the ideal venue, especially if there's a body of water nearby. The bonfire could also serve to roast kielbasa or wieners on sticks. Scrubbed but unpeeled potatoes could be baked in the hot ashes. For variety, the recorded music to dance to and have fun by could range from

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**Pope John Paul II  
Polish Center**

3999 Rose Drive,  
Yorba Linda, CA 92886

**Mass Schedule:**

**Saturday 4:00 PM ENG**  
**Sunday 7:00 AM Tridentine**  
**9:00 AM ENG 10:30 AM POL**  
**Tuesday - Friday 8:30AM ENG.**  
**First Friday of the month**  
**8:30 AM Eng 7:30 PM. POL**  
**First Saturday of month**  
**8:30 a.m. ENG**

Director: Rev. Henry Noga, SVD

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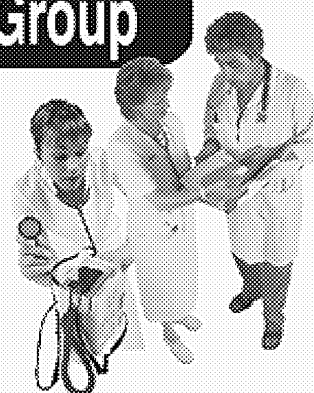
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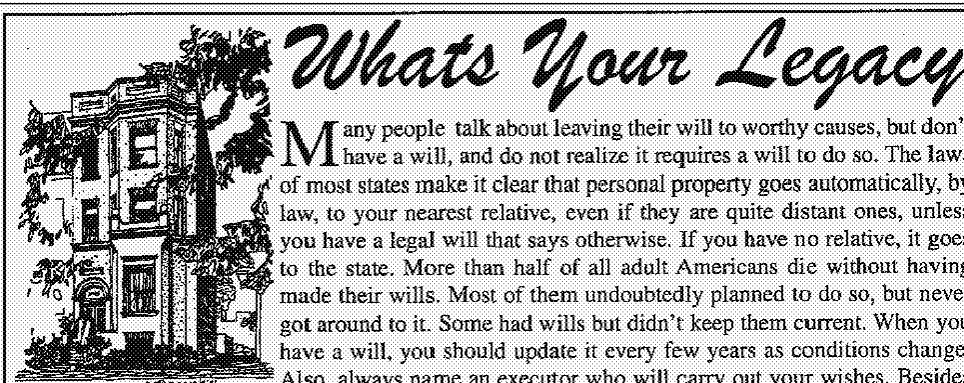
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polskiej organizacji**



*Whats Your Legacy*

Many people talk about leaving their will to worthy causes, but don't have a will, and do not realize it requires a will to do so. The laws of most states make it clear that personal property goes automatically, by law, to your nearest relative, even if they are quite distant ones, unless you have a legal will that says otherwise. If you have no relative, it goes to the state. More than half of all adult Americans die without having made their wills. Most of them undoubtedly planned to do so, but never got around to it. Some had wills but didn't keep them current. When you have a will, you should update it every few years as conditions change. Also, always name an executor who will carry out your wishes. Besides money, non-cash possessions can also be used as contributions and various donation plans can be carried out. Be a philanthropist: leave your stocks, bonds, real estate, art, valuable collection or insurance to continue the Polish - American traditions. Your will is the most important way of giving. When you're gone, it is a legacy that is not forgotten. In your will, you can specify what you would like your donation to be used for. For help in making your will, contact a competent lawyer. **The American Center of Polish Culture, Inc. is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization that needs your help and legacy.**

**The American Center of Polish Culture, Inc.**  
**2025 "O" Street, NW • Washington, DC 20036**

**Tel: 202-785-2320 • Fax: 202-785-2159 • [www.polishcenterdc.org](http://www.polishcenterdc.org)**

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