POLISH-AMERICAN ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION

FOUNDED



In 1934

P.O. Box 241, Northbrook, IL 60065-241, USA • www.polishengineers.org

All members and friends of Polish-American Engineers Association are cordially invited to attend our meeting.

DATE: Friday, January 26th, 2018

TIME: Doors Open 7:30 p.m.; Business Meeting begins 8:00 p.m.

PLACE: ***** PLEASE NOTE OUR NEW LOCATION *****

Our Lady Mother of the Church

8747 W Lawrence Ave. Chicago, IL 60656

SPEAKER: Ms. Katarzyna Chelkowska-Risley

TOPIC: Overview of the Chicago District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers



Ms. Katarzyna Chelkowska-Risley

Ms. Katarzyna Chelkowska-Risley is the Deputy District Engineer and Deputy for Project Management in the Chicago District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The Chicago District is responsible for the planning, design, construction, operation and maintenance of water resources projects, emergency management activities, regulatory permitting, military and Interagency and International Services programs in the Chicago metropolitan area and Northwest Indiana.

Ms. Chelkowska-Risley has more than 25 years combined private sector and Department of Defense civilian experience. Prior to this position, Ms. Chelkowska-Risley served as the Environmental Program Manager for the Headquarter U. S. European Command in Stuttgart, Germany. In this position, Ms. Chelkowska-Risley provided oversight for environmental policies affecting over 30 bases and operations in Defense components in the European theater.

She also served as a key liaison instrumental in negotiating environmental bi-lateral agreements with new U.S. - partner nations. Previously, Ms. Chelkowska-Risley served on the Massachusetts Military Reservation program delivery team in the New England District and worked more than 10 years in the private sector as project manager and lead design engineer for companies in the New York and Boston metropolitan areas.

Ms. Chelkowska-Risley received her Master of Engineering in Civil Engineering from the Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken, NJ, and earned Master Business Administration from Bentley University, Waltham, MA. In addition, she also earned a Masters in Environmental Engineering from the Technical University of Gdansk, Poland.

Ms. Chelkowska-Risley is a registered licensed Professional Engineer in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and DoD Facilities Engineering Level II certified.

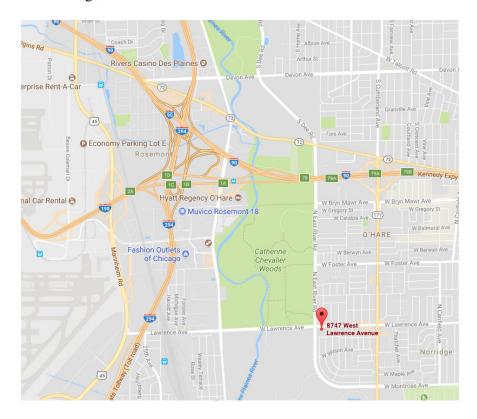
ABSTRACT

The presentation will provide an overview of the Chicago District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, including a brief history of major accomplishments within the area. The focus will include a summary of Civil Works missions of flood and coastal storm risk management, navigation and aquatic ecosystem restoration. Also an overview of some recently completed projects will be provided including the McCook Reservoir, which went online last month culminating nearly 50 years of planning, design and construction. The presentation will conclude with a District outlook, which includes an expansion of our mission into support for other federal agencies such as the Department of Veterans Affairs through the Interagency and International Support (IIS) Program.

PAEA Announcements

MEETING LOCATION

Our Lady Mother of the Church 8747 W Lawrence Ave. Chicago, IL 60656



The entrance closest to our room is at the back of the church (Green arrow)- the best parking location is off of Oakview Ave, behind the church (Red box):



2018 MEMBERSHIP DUES

There is no change is dues for 2018: \$70 per year, senior citizens and students \$35 per year.

We ask that everyone pay their dues as soon as possible; and thank those who have already paid. Membership Cards will be provided to all those who paid their dues.

Questions? You may inquire at the meeting or send an email to: <u>administration@polishengineers.org</u> You may send your dues directly to our Treasurer:

Mr. Marek Rozwadowski 5718 W. 84th Street Burbank, IL 60459

You may also pay your dues at our meetings, and receive your Membership Card immediately.

Dues are critical in supporting the work of the PAEA- thank you for your support.

PAEA Annual Gwiazdka / Christmas Party - Saturday, December 3rd

Saturday December 3rd, PAEA members, sympathizers, and guests enjoyed another wonderful time together at our annual Gwiazdka / Christmas Party. Again, Gala Banquets provided great food and service!

In addition to raising our Christmas spirits, including a visit from Santa); we raised over \$2200 for our Ralph Modjeski Scholarship Fund!

The event's success was only possible thanks to efforts and contributions from many people- for this we are very grateful. Thanks to Malgorzata Grochal and the entire PAEA Administration for organizing; to Rene Pietrzak for being our MC; to Marek Rozwadowski for being our Santa; to all who brought sweets for our Sweet Table; and to all who helped set up.

Big thanks to Ewa Mroczek for once again initiating, and to Collins Engineers for their repeat \$500 donation!

And big thanks to Danuta Szymulanski and Wieslawa Dziedzic-Misiewicz for donating their artwork for our very successful Silent Auction! We raised \$680 from this activity!

Thanks also to Migala Communications (WCEV radio) and the Polish Museum of America, for helping get the word out about our event.

Finally, thank you to all who attended (69 adults & 11 children attended)- you not only helped us raise money, but you shared bread with us, and warmed our hearts during this holiday season.







Great Sadness - Loss of Our Brother Jacek Szostka



It is with great, great sadness that we inform that our brother Jacek Szostka passed away 18 January, 2018. Arrangements have not yet been made, and will be communicated once available.

Jacek was a member of the PAEA since 2007, and a great supporter. He served as Recording Secretary for two terms, and was always pushed us to move into the 21st century, with many ideas such as to record & make available through our website video of our Speakers; and even to host Speakers remotely via web conferences.

Jacek graduated in 1998 from the Warsaw University of Technology with a Master's Degree in Mechanical Engineering, with a focus on Aerospace. He held many Design Engineering positions, and was constantly working to add to his skill set. Most recently, he was focused on Finite Element Analysis.

Jacek was an avid model airplane builder and pilot; and more recently took great joy in flying his professional-grade drone (thanks to which we have some great views from our 2017 Picnic), which combined his passions of flying, photography & videography. He volunteered for years for the Art for Heart event (supporting the Polish Museum of America & the Gift from the Heart Foundation), among others. But his greatest love was his family- he was a dedicated husband to Kasia & father to Nel.

As we hurt we recall a happier time with Jacek, Kasia & Nel at our Gwiazdka last December (see the photo above). He will be greatly missed by all- may God keep him close, and may his Soul rest in Peace.

Reminder- Job Postings

The Administration is working to facilitate our mission of mutual support by offering to post job openings on our website, Facebook, and LinkedIn pages (as desired). Please send all job postings to: contact@polishengineers.org. Thank you!

Reminder- Polish American Engineers Association on LinkedIn!

We would like to remind our Members & Supporters that the PAEA is on LinkedIn:

www.linkedin.com/groups/12032140

Check out our Group, become a member, and post interesting and relevant content. The more active we are, and the more interesting information we post, the more likely we are to attract others to our Group, in addition of course to the benefits of inter-Group communication.

Reminder- the Polish American Engineers Association on Facebook

We would also like to remind our Members & Supporters that the PAEA is on Facebook:

https://www.facebook.com/Polish-American-Engineers-Association-PAEA-1153830014674800/

Please check it out, and help us keep it active by 'like'-ing and posting interesting material.

Special Interest

Michal Rejner Exibit @ Gallery Blanc –through 23 February

All PAEA Members & sympathizers are warmly invited to the exhibit of one of our talented young Poles (though not in Engineering!), Michal Rejner, entitled "Series 1." The exhibit is up through 23 February at Gallery Blanc (4445 S. Martin Luther King Dr., Chicago, IL). For more information about this truly remarkable young man's story, please see the Dziennik Zwiazkowy article below (in Polish):

http://dziennikzwiazkowy.com/polonia/374836/

Or check out his personal web page:

http://www.rejner.com/

Polish Museum of America Looking for Consultants for Great Hall Renovation Project

The Polish Museum of America would like to reach out to the PAEA Membership & sympathizers to ask for (pro bono) help with exploration, analysis and documentation of an ambitious project to re-organize, modernize, & prepare our jewel of Polonia for the next 80 years! The PMA is in the beginning planning stages of a renovation of the Sabina P. Logisz Great Hall, including the main hall, stage area, bathrooms, and other spaces on the floor.

Help is urgently needed in planning the space, creating accurate drawings, structural analysis to evaluate current & future proposals, etc. If interested in supporting this critical and major initiative, please contact Mrs. Victoria Granacki (Granacki @aol.com; 773.472.1371).

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