

All members, families and friends of **Polish-American Engineers Association** are cordially invited to attend our meeting. A business meeting will precede the technical presentation. Coffee and pastries will be served during the intermission.

DATE: **Friday, March 19, 2010**

TIME: **7:30 p.m.**

PLACE: **Polish National Alliance**  
*Museum Hall; Lower Level*  
6100 North Cicero Ave.  
Chicago, Illinois

PLEASE TAKE NOTE OF THE NEW MEETING LOCATION.

*Parking access information:* <http://polishengineers.org/data/news/368.pdf>

PLEASE REMEMBER OUR WEB-PAGE ADDRESS: [www.polishengineers.org](http://www.polishengineers.org)

SPEAKER: **Mr. Rick Harnish**  
Executive Director  
Midwest High Speed Rail Association

TOPIC: **High Speed Rail**

**Rick Harnish** is an executive director of the Midwest High Speed Rail Association, which he helped found in 1991. The Chicago-based 501(c) 3 non-profit group advocates for world-class 220-mph high-speed trains linking major Midwestern cities, and fast, frequent and dependable trains of at least 90-mph on other routes to form a true modern regional and national railroad network. The MHSRA counts 1,500 individual and organizational members. Harnish's quotes and opinion pieces frequently appear in national, Midwest and Illinois media, and he regularly speaks around the country on high-speed rail and railroad infrastructure issues.

In 2006, the Midwest High Speed Rail Association was a moving force behind Illinois General Assembly's doubling of state funding for passenger trains from \$12.1 million to \$24.7 million. This funded service expansion between Chicago and Springfield, Galesburg, Quincy, Champaign, Carbondale and St. Louis, and secured continued funding for Chicago-Milwaukee service. The MHSRA is an active member of "fourbillion.com," a coalition of advocacy organizations working to secure a \$4 billion appropriation in 2010 for high-speed rail in the U.S. The effort began after the US House of Representatives passed a bill that included \$4 billion for high-speed rail. The Senate cut the allocation down to \$1.2 billion in their version. The two bills will now move to a conference committee.

The Midwest High Speed Rail Association has proposed a 220-mph high-speed rail link that would cut the trip from Chicago to St. Louis to 1 hour and 52 minutes, and also serve O'Hare International Airport as well as key Illinois business, university and government centers in Kankakee, Champaign, Decatur, Springfield and Edwardsville.

MHSRA views the Chicago-St. Louis link as the first of a regional 220-mph high speed rail network that would link Chicago, St. Louis, the Twin Cities, Milwaukee, Detroit, Indianapolis, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus and Pittsburgh, putting more than 25 million people within a three-hour train ride of Chicago.

Harnish graduated from Elmhurst College in 1986 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in transportation management. Prior to his current position as executive director of the Midwest High Speed Rail Association, Harnish was a logistics manager at American President Lines and JB Hunt and managed industrial real estate on Chicago's west side.



**Special Invitation** for Polish engineers and technicians who recently came to Chicago.



**Frank Piasecki Historical Marker** will be dedicated in Philadelphia on Saturday, April 17, 2010 at 4:00 pm. A banquet at the Philopatrian Literary Society Stotesbury Mansion on 1923 Walnut Street will follow the on-street ceremonies, \$60 dollars per person. 5:30 pm - cocktail hour - dinner 6:30 pm

Frank N. Piasecki was a true American success. The son of Polish immigrants, educated at Overbrook High School in Philadelphia, later University of Pennsylvania and the Guggenheim School of Aeronautics of New York University (BS in Aeronautical Engineering). With an engineering team composed of his friends he designed and built the world's second practical helicopter in 1943. He performed the test flight himself as pilot and also became the first helicopter pilot licensed by the FAA. He is ranked as an equal among the top American helicopter developers. These are: Igor Sikorsky of Stratford, CT who made the first one in 1941; Arthur Young who built helicopters at Bell Aircraft and Stanley Hiller, Jr.

Later, he designed the first tandem twin-rotor helicopter which could lift substantial loads and in 1947 started the Piasecki Helicopter Corporation to manufacture this helicopter. In 1955 he sold his interest in the corporation and founded Piasecki Aviation continuing research and innovation in vertical flight. He developed other vertical flight concepts including the "flying jeep" (a two-man flying transport vehicle for the U.S. Army) and the "Heli-stat" (an airship-helicopter hybrid for making heavy aerial lifts).

For his accomplishments he received recognition and many awards from various engineering associations, institutions, and countries including the United States and Poland. His life is an example and inspiration to all those who wish to achieve according to their potential. For him, the sky was the only limit. His contributions to aviation technology had an effect of national and international proportions.



**PLEASE HELP KEEP THE POLISH MUSEUM OF AMERICA OPEN.** The Polish Museum of America is facing a very serious financial issue. The Polish Roman Catholic

Union of America, which founded the Polish Museum of America (PMA) in 1935 and which still houses the PMA within its building, has suspended its yearly \$100,000 subsidy to the PMA. The oldest ethnic museum in America, The Polish Museum of America is dedicated to preserving the Polish American past for future generations. Not only does the Museum exhibit artifacts, but it also sponsors workshops and programs to preserve Polish folk arts, customs, and traditions among all generations. This year, the Museum is celebrating 75 years of service to the community. Please show your pride by joining as a supporting member. Do not delay your membership! Become a member today! Membership Application for the Polish Museum of America

Please check the appropriate box:

- Regular (\$25/yr)
- Patron (\$50/yr)
- Family (\$65/yr)
- Benefactor (\$100/yr)
- Institutional (\$250/yr)
- Life (\$2,500/Life individual or couple)
- Life Heritage Membership (\$10,000/Life individual or couple)

First & Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Tel. \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Included: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to: Polish Museum of America and mail to: PMA Membership, The Polish Museum of America, 984 North Milwaukee Avenue, Chicago Illinois 60642-4101. (773) 384-3352 (773) 384-3352 . (773) 384-3799 Fax  
Donations to the PMA are tax deductible. We sincerely thank you for your generosity.  
<http://www.PolishMuseumofAmerica.org>

**PAEA became an Institutional Member on March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010 with a donation of \$250.**



### **SCHOLARSHIPS:**

#### **SOCIETY OF AMERICAN MILITARY ENGINEERS – S.A.M.E. Chicago Post**

2010 Scholarship Program Summary: **J. Nelson Hinde Memorial Scholarship**: - \$2,000 one-time award - Open to students enrolled at an expanded Chicago area college/university. Reserve Officer Training Corps (R.O.T.C.), participation in school and community activities. Demonstrated leadership.

#### **Environmental and Allied Science Scholarship:**

- \$2,000 one-time award. Open to undergraduates in appropriate fields of study at an expanded Chicago area college/university. Accomplishments in chosen field of study. Participation in school and community activities. Demonstrated leadership.

2010 Time Table:

May 3 - application deadline  
May 10 - applications reviewed by scholarship committee  
May 19 - recommendations presented to Post officers and directors  
May 21 - winners and other applicants notified  
September 15 - scholarships presented

**For information regarding these programs**, please contact:  
Tom Sydelko, 630-252-3309, [tsydelko@anl.gov](mailto:tsydelko@anl.gov)



After almost one year we were able to secure 25 members and their families needed to form a **Lodge within Polish National Alliance**. We will be joining as one of the first professional organizations;



**PAEA 2010 Membership Dues.** Our new Fiscal Year begins in January. Please plan to pay your 2010 dues this month. If you can not attend this meeting please mail your membership fee to our Treasurer (check payable to PAEA):

Mr. Rich Kaczmarek  
1725 South Crescent  
Park Ridge Illinois

Dues are \$50 per year; senior citizens and students \$25 per year.  
Questions? Please send an email to: [paea.info@gmail.com](mailto:paea.info@gmail.com)