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# POLISH-AMERICAN ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION

FOUNDED



IN 1934

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

**DATE:** Friday, September 21st, 2012

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

**PLACE:** Copernicus Center  
Kings Hall  
5216 W. Lawrence Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois

**SPEAKERS:** Witold Kluza  
Product/technical lead

**TOPIC:** Contemporary Architectural design

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**Mr. Witold Kluza** graduated from University of Illinois at Chicago in 2003 with B.S and M.S in Civil Engineering with the emphasis on Structural Engineering. Between 2002-2003 worked for LORIG Construction and was involved in the construction of bridges throughout Chicagoland area. Mr. Kluza joined the US Army Corps of Engineers in 2003 and currently, he is a product/technical lead for three projects with the total construction cost estimated over \$50 millions.

Between 2008-2010 worked for Europe District as a Contracting Officer's Representative in the field office in Hohenfels, Germany and managed 15 construction projects. The projects varied from simple erosion control structures to construction of the airfield to support unmanned aircrafts.

## Abstract for Presentation

U.S. Army base located in Hohenfels, Germany is one of the several European bases that provide military training for U.S. and allied troops. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) offices are located in Europe to help U.S Army and others to accomplish the mission. The presentation will cover unique military projects built in the areas restricted to the public on the army base. The USACE mission and type of projects will be presented in a brief summary. The presentation will also indicate Polish presence in Hohenfels (known as LECHOW - work camp for WWII prisoners), by showing cemetery with the monuments of the Polish Army prisoners from the WWII.

## Administration Updates



### CONGRATULATIONS !!!

On August 25th, 2012 during a meeting in the Polish Consulate in Chicago between Polish Government officials and Polonia, **Mr. Michael Niedzinski was decorated with “Krzyż Kawalerski Orderu Zasługi Rzeczypospolitej Polski”.**

Mr. Niedzinski was born in Poland and arrived in USA as a teenager. After receiving BS and MS from University of Illinois and MBA from Illinois Institute of Technology, he worked in the materials and aerospace industry for over

30 years. He has patents in the metal processing industry and published in technical journals. In 1996 he received a "Sustained Effort" award from NASA for his work on the External tank of the Space Shuttle during the early years of the construction of International Space Station. Award was presented by astronaut Mark Lee, pioneer of multiple Space Shuttle flights. During the past 15 years he held senior management positions with companies like Reynolds, Alcan, Pechiney, McCook Metals and more recently Constellium. Since 1977 Mr. Niedzinski has been an active member of the Polish-American Engineers Association (PAEA) in Chicago; since 1981 has been the president of this organization. Thanks to his initiative, numerous Ralph Modjewski scholarships were awarded to student engineers of Polish descent. One of the key objectives of the PAEA organization is promoting achievements of Polish engineers in the Unites States. In October 2006, thanks to the efforts of PAEA, two great Polish engineers, Rudolf Modrzejewski and Henry Magnuski were inducted into the Illinois Engineering Hall of Fame. In November 2007, Kazimierz Patelski, former director of space flight control, was also inducted into this Hall of Fame. (Based on the article in Dziennik Zwiazkowy.)

**Scholarship** committee completed their review of the credentials of eth eight candidates for the Ralph Modjeski 2012 Scholarships. Three individuals were selected:

- 1) **Tom Golak** Senior at Illinois Institute of Technology Biomedical Engineering
- 2) **Nicole Rusek** Senior at University of Wisconsin Madison Energy Engineering
- 3) **Daniel Milewski** Junior at Illinois Institute of Technology Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering

Scholarships will be awarded during the September meeting.

Congratulations to Messieurs’ Roman Korczak, Tad Hofkin, Miroslaw Noyszewski and Dr. Ron Wolosewicz for successful completion of their effort aimed at revising and stream lining our **Constitution and Bylaws**. Proposed draft was balloted and with overwhelming support was **adopted on July 1, 2012**.

Our newly **redesigned web page** was released in July. Thanks to experts from the [ASPAINC](#) we are utilizing current technologies and design guidelines now. We trust that you will find our page more intuitive and easier to use. In addition to new graphical presentation you will find redesigned management of news articles, references and archives. You will also note new calendar feature and different experience when viewing photos. Links were updated including information about professional certifications.

*I'd like to say Thank You to Mr. Rafal Kopacki, Mirek Niedzinski and Jacek Szostka for their creative brainstorming and valuable inputs, and to Mr. Palczewski (PAEA member) and his team at ASPAINC for making this happen. (rlk)*

## **American Railway Engineering and Maintenance-of-Way Association (AREMA)**



**The AREMA 2012 Annual Conference & Exposition** will be held at the Hilton Chicago in Chicago, IL September 16-19, 2012. This year's program will again provide an excellent opportunity for members of the railway industry to increase their railway knowledge and experience.

The Program Committee has assembled a great slate of 68 technical presentations. In addition to the technical presentations, there are also a number of seminars and technical committee meetings either in advance of or following the Conference.

The Exposition will officially begin on Sunday, September 16, at noon and will be open until Tuesday, September 18, until 4:00 p.m. This will be the largest AREMA Exposition to date with close to 300 exhibit booths representing various contractors, suppliers and consulting firms that will provide you the opportunity to see first-hand some of their products and services and to learn how they can benefit you and your company.

Please note that Professional Development Hours are earned for participating in the Conference, subject to the individual state board's final authority.

### **About AREMA.**

The American Railway Engineering and Maintenance-of-Way Association (AREMA) was formed on October 1, 1997, as the result of a merger of three engineering support associations, namely the American Railway Bridge and Building Association, the American Railway Engineering Association and the Roadmaster's and Maintenance of Way Association, along with functions of the Communications and Signals Division of the Association of American Railroads.

The rich history of the predecessor organizations, each having over 100 years of service to the rail industry, is the legacy of AREMA.

See <http://www.arena.org/> for more information.



**Picnic** was a resounding success. Over 90 members and guests participated. Weather was delightful while food and ambiance was well above average. We need to thank **Rene Pietrzyk** for the usual entertainment and keeping everyone in good mood and the entire organizing committee for a smooth and flawless event. Special thanks to **Stefan Kaszuba** our Grill Master Extraordinaire. Name tags suggested by Danuta Szymulanska were very helpful. We should use them during our meetings. Post picnic survey suggested by **Grazyna Czyszczonek** will provide guidance relative to future events. Many thanks to everyone who participated in the survey.

Three friends of PAEA: **Professor Wieslaw Binienda and Slawa and George Swiderski** (December 2011 presentation) will be **honored by Polish American Congress** on October 19th. Our organization is being asked to support this event. This date conflicts with our October meeting. We may have to consider moving our meeting to either October 12th or 26th.

**Chopin Theatre** is organizing a special event "Pirates of Penzaence" on November 30th. This will be an event dedicated to PAEA members and friends. More details will be forthcoming.

**P.A.E.A. MEMBERSHIP DUES.** If you are late with your dues please remember to send us your check. Dues are \$50 per year, senior citizens and students \$25 per year. Questions? 2012 membership cards will be provided to all those who paid their dues. You may send an email to: [paea.info@gmail.com](mailto:paea.info@gmail.com)

[www.polishengineers.org](http://www.polishengineers.org)