



The Forum

of the Chicago Society, Lodge 1450 PNA
Our Second Century of Brotherhood and Service

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FEBRUARY MEETING SPEAKER (H₂O)

Brother **Charles Komosa** has arranged for **Ms. Mariyana Spyropoulos**, President of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago, to be our featured speaker at the February General meeting. She was appointed to her post in 2009 and was elected in 2010. She was elected as Chairman of Finance in January, 2013, and Board President in January, 2015. President Spyropoulos serves as Chairman of three committees: Judiciary, Real Estate Development, and Pension, Human Resources and Civil Service. She also serves as a Trustee on the Pension Board. In January, 2011, the Board of Commissioners appointed her to the Public Building Commission.



President Spyropoulos received her law degree from The John Marshall Law School and her MBA from Loyola University Chicago. She also completed graduate work in American government at Georgetown University, Washington, D.C. With her attorney experience, she brings a unique legal and business perspective combined with environmental activism. She has spoken to many community groups on environmental and water issues.

She is an attorney with the Law Offices of Mariyana Spyropoulos & Associates. Prior to opening her own law office, President Spyropoulos worked as an Assistant Cook County State's Attorney and then as a Hearing Officer for the State of Illinois. Before law school, she lived in London, England, where she worked at Nomura Research Institute. Her work focused on privatization efforts in Eastern European countries.

The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago covers 883 square miles and provides wholesale wastewater treatment for over five million residents in Cook County, Illinois. The District operates seven wastewater treatment plants which treat one billion gallons per day. The District also provides regional storm water services. To understand the challenges involved in managing storm water and wastewater for five million Cook County residents, it is important to have an understanding of how the combined sewer system works. The entire Chicago land region developed on a flat marshland. In the past, water could gradually soak into the ground in open areas that are now covered with driveways, streets, parking lots, and buildings. Today, an estimated 42% of Cook County is impervious surface, so water cannot be absorbed. With more frequent 100 year storms happening, flooding is a major issue throughout Chicago land. Ms. Spyropoulos will give a PowerPoint presentation to help us better understand how the combined sewer system operates and discuss the work the District has underway to help reduce basement backups.

The February general meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 18, 2015 at the White Eagle. The dinner menu for the evening includes Cream of Chicken soup, Pepper Steak and Roast Chicken, Mostaccioli, a garden variety of vegetables and *kolaczki* for dessert. The social hour begins at 6:00 p.m. and dinner is at 7:00 p.m. Please call Brother **Ro Matuszczak** at (847) 635-0883 or send e-mail to meeting@chicagosocietypna.org for reservations.