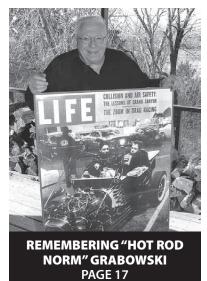
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Wesołego Alleluja! Happy Easter!

Newsmark

EXTRADITION REQUEST. Polish prosecutors are seeking the arrest of a 98-year-old Minnesota resident, who they believe served as a Nazi commander during World War II.

The Warsaw-based Institute of National Remembrance (IPN), a government-affiliated organization, which investigates crimes against Poles during and after the war, has identified "Michael K." a commander of a unit in the SS-led Ukrainian Self Defense Legion. Prosecutor Robert Janicki did not release the last name, in line with Poland's privacy laws, but the AP has identified the man as 98-year-old Michael Karkoc, from Minneapolis.

"All the pieces of evidence interwoven together allow us to say the person who lives in the U.S. is Michael K., who commanded the Ukrainian Self Defense Legion which carried out the pacification of Polish villages in the Lublin region," Janicki said.

The decision in Poland comes four years after the AP published a story establishing Karkoc commanded the unit. His family has repeatedly denied he was involved in any war crimes and his son questioned the validity of the evidence against him after Poland's announcement.

EU MAY REINSTATE VISAS FOR AMERICANS (NPR). Saying that the United States still requires citizens of five EU member nations to obtain an entry visa, the European Union's Parliament approved a measure calling for the EU Commission to urge full visa reciprocity — and reinstate visa requirements for Americans who want to visit Europe.

Washington currently requires citizens of Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Poland and Romania to obtain visas before visiting. The EU Parliament's move sets a two-month deadline for the EU Commission to act if the United States doesn't change its policy — but the Commission says it may not respond until this summer, according to Reuters.

If it is reintroduced, the visa requirement would be temporary, the EU says.

PENDERECKI DENIES ALLEGATIONS. Lawyers for the distinguished Polish composer Krzysztof Penderecki issued a statement in response to a website report that the musician had been "used operationally" on "frequent trips abroad" by the Communist state intelligence services. The website claimed to have obtained secret files to this effect.

Penderecki, in a statement to the Polish news agency, PAP, said he had no knowledge of any such documents.

The website, Niezalezna, wrote that a recently-discovered document signed by a high ranking intelligence officer during Poland's communist occupation implicated Penderecki.

Penderecki is one of Poland's most famous musical composers, and recently won a Grammy award. Other people who have been accused of being collaborators include former president Lech Wałęsa, who also denied he ever provided intelligence to the then-authorities.

DRONE PILOT DETAINED. A Latvian national was detained in Poland after flying a drone over the Belweder presidential residence in Warsaw, the Polish Government Protection Bureau (BOR). The unmanned aerial vehicle was spotted by the BOR employees at around midday. The staff started to look for a drone operator, eventually finding and detaining him in the nearby park.

"The operator turned out to be a Latvian citizen who was operating the drone remotely in the company of two women with Russian citizenship," the bureau said.

The bureau added that it was preparing a protocol to hand the Latvian over to the police. The Polish Internal Security Agency has also been informed of the incident.

The statement did not mention whether the two Russian nationals had also been detained.

Although Poland's president Andrzej Duda has an office at Belweder, the historic palace is usually used today for ceremonial occasions and for providing accommodations for visiting heads of state. Construction of the palace began in 1660.

Holy Saturday Food Blessing Defines the Faithful



ŚWIĘCENIE POKARMÓW – EASTER FOOD BLESSING. For Christians, Easter is the most important day of the year, and more so if you are of Polish ancestry. The joyous celebration of Christ's triumph over death defines Poles, whether they live in Warsaw or Washington.

Central to this observance is święconka, the Easter meal. Foods rich in symbolism are blessed on Holy Saturday, and consumed on Easter Sunday.

Above, Deacon Luke Piskuła of St. John Bosco in Pila, Poland, blesses baskets filled with the Easter fare: butter — most often in the shape in a lamb — representing Jesus, the Lamb of God; bread (Jesus, the Bread of Life); horseradish (the Passion of Christ); vinegar (the gall given to Christ at His crucifixion); eggs (Resurrection from the tomb); sausage, ham, and other pork products (the New Covenant); salt (physical life); cheese (moderation and patience); sweets (promise of eternal life); and a candle (Christ as the Light of the World). Many place a bottle of wine in their basket as a symbol of the blood of sacrifice spilled by Christ. The basket is covered in a white linen or lacework (purity), and is decorated with greenery (joy in Spring and rebirth).

Although Christian Poles have consecrated Easter food since the Eighth Century, the practice is much older. Jews who converted to Christianity were accustomed to eating roast lamb on Passover, and continued the tradition at Easter. Thus the lamb became the first food to be blessed. In time, little figures of a lamb made of butter, pastry, or sugar were substituted for the meat, and other items were added.

Hallowed food at Easter is a direct link to generations past, present, and future. It unites all in the name of the Resurrected Jesus.

Poland and Polonia's bestknown Easter custom

by Robert Strybel

he breaking and sharing of opłatek on Christmas Eve and the Holy Saturday food-blessing custom are Poland's and Polonia's two best-known holiday practices. Both are observed by some 95 percent of all families in Poland and a great many across Polish America. Over the generations they have grown into national heritage rituals. Since these are warm, symbolic and generally appealing customs, they have also caught on with many people of non-Polish ancestry who have been exposed to them.

In the Poland of yesteryear, priests would perform the blessing in the homes of leading parishioners where a special święconka table was set up. Peasant women would gather with their baskets outside where the priest would sprinkle them with holy water on the way out. In hamlets without their own church a priest would be driven in to perform the blessing beneath a crossroads cross or other wayside shrine.

See "Blessing ...," page 14

OUR POLISH EASTER / Staś Kmieć

Babka and the Butter Lamb

early every country celebrates Easter with some sort of large dinner, and Poland "Girl with Babka" is no exception. The nation's history may have been stormy, but the Poles have by Adam always taken their food seriously. Nothing pleases them more than to have it shared and appreciated. Polish hospitality is well known and has been celebrat-Setkowicz, from an Easter posted in classic poetry, folk sayings and folk song - "Happy the Squire when his guests are card published in many; on bended knee he begged them to have seconds." Świeconka (the Easter breakfast) consists of biały (white) barszcz soup, cold dishes, Kraków, 1936. smoked and roasted meats, hard boiled eggs, egg dishes of all kinds, horseradish, and cakes. These were the dishes, that were administered "without smoke" - which meant that they were prepared in advance, and on this hallowed day had only been heated.

It was not proper on the Resurrection celebration to kindle a fire, and even less to cook. As the coda to a large and festive meal – among the cakes was the most important – was the Easter *Babka*, bread-like and of unparalleled taste, which was baked in a scalloped form and was wonderfully light with a slightly sweet flavor. Equally famous and decorative was the *Mazurek* and *Sernik* cheese-cakes, formerly called *Przekładańce*.

Traditionally, Polish Catholics gave up dairy and eggs for Lent, but that didn't mean the cows and the chickens went on vacation. The eggs were elaborately decorated, and the *pisanki* were given to the local priests, placed at the graves of loved ones, and exchanged with friends and family. The milk was still churned into butter, and for the Easter feast, it was whimsically sculpted into a lamb, representing the Paschal lamb of Jesus Christ.

Most importantly, all the dishes had to be blessed. It was believed that, with blessed food, no harm would come to the family and guests. In the past, any food that was eaten during Easter was to be blessed in church – a custom still enacted in most of America's Polonia circles. Ironically in Poland today, mostly small baskets containing an egg, a piece of bread, salt, a figure of See "Babka and the Butter Lamb," page 15



EASTER MESSAGE

"Let us Rejoice and be Glad Therein"

by Rev. Joseph Szpilski

"Don't be alarmed," he said. "You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him.

-Mark 16:6

or those who believe in the Risen Savior, Easter Sunday is the high point of the year. The Resurrection of Christ Our Lord not only guarantees us immortal life, but it tells of a new life and a higher kind of life. By His resurrection, Christ gives us His own divine life. It is the beginning of the life we shall enjoy to its fullest extent in heaven. It is in truth the beginning of heaven on earth.

So the accent of the Christian message is always on Kostka Parish in Greenpoint, Brooklyn, New York.

life, not on sin, punishment and death. Of course, we have to remember the crucifix and its meaning, for we were redeemed as much by the Resurrection as by the cross. The Resurrection, then, means much more than a happy ending of the Crucifixion. It is the climax of the great drama of our Salvation, a climax, moreover, that continues in our time, having its life-giving effect now as it did on the first Easter Sunday.

May this thought bring you joy on Easter Day. May it inspire you to exclaim with the Psalmist: "This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad therein."

Rev. Szpilski, C.M., is former pastor of St. Stanislaus



Wesotego alleluja!

REGINA **WNUKOWSKI**

Philadelphia

Christ is Risen! He is truly Risen!

Chrystus zmartwychwstał! Prawdziwie zmartwychwstał! Christ is risen! He is truly risen!

Te share these words with our ancestors, and all who believe in the Resurrection. The joy they echo has been celebrated for by Poles and their descendents for for centuries.

We wish all our readers, their families, and their friends a most joyous Easter. May the Good Lord bless you and your family — and may your święconka be tasty! We consider you, our subscribers, members of our extended family. Your dedication to our heritage and traditions is proven by your willingness to subscribe to one of Polonia's last independent newspapers. Given today's economic climate, that says a lot.

Like family members, we may not always agree on all issues, but even our disagreements serve to make our family stronger.

Sadly, as generations pass, so do many of our customs. Too often, we willingly give up the practices which define us as Polish Americans. We abandon a hearty identity, only to foolishly begin searching for a new one. We at the Journal urge you not to surrender!

You are the children and grandchildren of great people, men and women who sacrificed much to better themselves and their families. Celebrate your heritage and all that is great about it. Easter is a perfect time to do so.

Resurrect the traditions which define us, both collectively and individually as Polish Americans. It has been said "God is in the details," and this is never more true than at Easter. Make time to prepare the foods your mother and grandmother made for the Easter basket. Then gather the family and take it for blessing on Holy Saturday. If it's still possible, celebrate

the Resurrection at the Church that holds so many memories for you. These traditions have lasted centuries because they were heartfelt. Do not be the one who forsakes them as little more than "an inconvenience."

You owe it to those who came before you as well as to those who will fol-

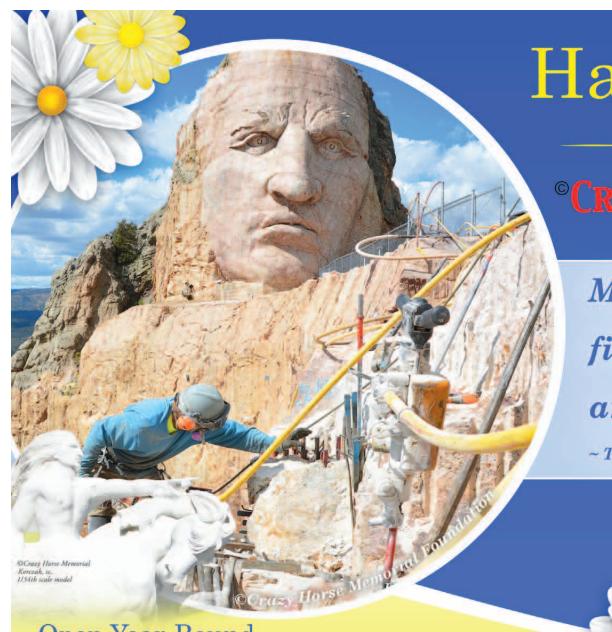
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The Legend of the Red Easter Egg

by Gretchen Filz

Mary Magdalene has a special place among Jesus' disciples.

It was St. Mary Magdalene's great love for Christ that kept her standing at the foot of the Cross, weeping and grief-stricken, until her Savior died. It was her heartbreaking pain of loss that drove her to his tomb at the first light of day in order to anoint his body.

As a reward for her great love and faithfulness, she is the privileged person to whom Jesus first appeared on Easter Sunday morning; she was the very first witness of the Resurrection.

It was Mary Magdalene, a woman, who went and told the twelve Apostles that Jesus had risen from the dead; for this she is called "Apostle to the Apostles."

After Jesus' Resurrection and Ascension, Mary Magdelene continued her mission as an evangelizer, contemplative, and mystic in the heart of the Church.

MARY MAGDALENE AND THE EASTER EGG. According to tradition, after Jesus' Ascension into heaven, the Magdalene—a wealthy woman of some importance boldly presented herself to the Emperor Tiberius Caesar in Rome to proclaim the resurrection of Jesus Christ, with an egg in hand to illustrate her message.

Holding the egg out to him, she exclaimed for the first time what is now the universal Easter proclama- arrived at the site of the Resurrection among Christians, "Christ is risen!"

The emperor, mocking her, said that Jesus had no more risen than

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the egg in her hand was red. Immediately, the egg turned red as a sign from God to illustrate the truth of her message. The Emperor then heeded her complaints about Pilate condemning an innocent man to death, and had Pilate removed from Jerusalem under imperial displea-

Why would Mary Magdalene bring an egg to talk about Jesus with the Roman Emperor?

RED EASTER EGGS. In another tradition, it is said that Mary Magdalene brought a basket of white boiled eggs with her on Easter morning to the tomb of Jesus—perhaps as a meal for herself and the others as they waited for someone to roll the stone away. When she tion, finding the stone already rolled away, she also found that the eggs in her basket had turned into bright shades of color.

Perhaps this is why she brought an egg to the Emperor; did she expect that Jesus would perform a similar miracle for her egg as he had done on that first Easter morning?

While we do not know if these stories are true with absolute certainty, we do know that the tradition of handing out red eggs at Easter is one that originated among Christians in Apostolic times. And we often find Mary Magdalene depicted in icons holding a red egg. Moreover, the story fits into the various cultural traditions already surrounding the symbol of the egg.

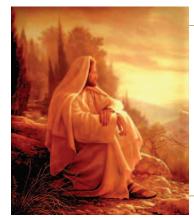
THE EASTER EGG TRADITION.

For many cultures, even before the time of Christianity, the egg was a symbol of creation, spring, and rebirth. After the resurrection of Christ, the egg took on a new meaning for Christians and became a symbol of new life breaking forth while leaving the empty tomb behind. Perhaps this became even more pronounced due the account of Mary Magdalene.

Eggs were what helped people to understand a new theological truth—the resurrection of the dead, and a new religion—Christianity built around the first Resurrection.

In this way a symbol of Christ's resurrection, the Easter egg then became a symbol for the rebirth of all mankind at the resurrection on the Last Day due to the merits of Jesus Christ. "Easter eggs" were shared with one another as a joyful symbol of Christian hope.

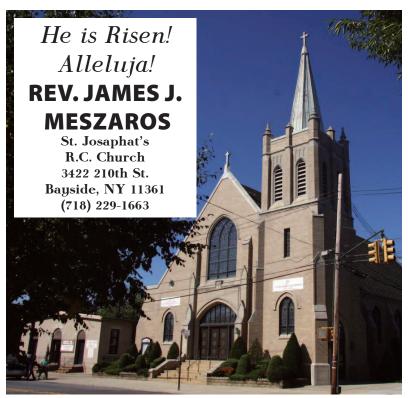
Special thanks to Rev. Canon Philip S. Majka, who brought this legend to our attention.

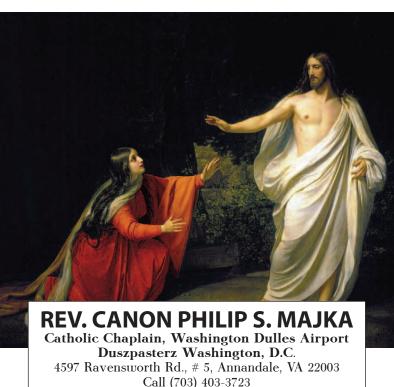


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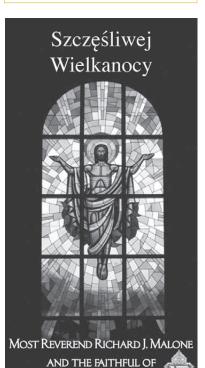
Christ is Risen! Chrystus Chrystus Zmartwychwstał! **REV. CANON JOHN E.** MIKALAJUNAS, M. DIV. Prawdziwie

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THE DIOCESE OF BUFFALO



Reinstituting Polishness to your Easter

by Robert Strybel

Here are some more customs associated with our Polish Paschal heritage. They may refresh your memory or expose you to things you may not be familiar with. Share them by print or social media in your PolAm club newsletter, parish bulletin or social-networking site.

continued from last month

HONOR GUARD. Honor guards watch over the Lord's Tomb on Good Friday and Holy Saturday. These are members of parish societies and often uniformed groups (veterans, scouts, fire-fighters, etc.).

FOOD BLESSING. The blessing of traditional Easter fare is the most popular typically Polish Easter custom. After the blessing on Holy Saturday, the faithful traditionally visit and pray at Christ's Tomb. (See this month's cover story for what to place in your basket and an English translation of the tradition prayer said at the blessing).

MASS OF RESURRECTION. The sunrise Mass on Easter morning begins with an outdoor Eucharistic procession that encircles the church three times. The beautiful old hymns, the church decked out in flowers and greenery, the blazing candles and uplifting sermon

spiritual enrichment.

COMMUNITY EASTER BRUNCH.

A community brunch after Easter Sunday Mass is recommended wherever the święcone home custom is no longer widely practiced.

DECORATE WITH TRADITIONAL POL-ISH EASTER PLANTS include pussy willows ("bazie" or "kotki"), boxwood ("bukszpan"), a small-leafed evergreen used for decorating Easter baskets, cranberry leaves (used for garlands rimming

all contribute to the congregation's the "święconka" table) and such springs flowers as daffodils, hyacinths, tulips and forsythia.

> **DYNGUS DAY.** Easter Monday celebrated as Dyngus Day, which features traditional Polish Easter food and drink, music, dancing and general merriment including the śmigus-dyngus drenching custom. These parties are gowing in popularity. (See page 24 for a listing of Dyngus Day events).

> > I Wash

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Happy Easter!

May your hearts know deep peace and unbounded joy this Easter season!

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"The Lord is Risen! Alleluia, Alleluia!" May the Risen Lord fill your hearts and lives with Faith, Hope and Love!



"Chrystus zmartwychwstał! Alleluja, Alleluja!" Niech zmartwychwstały Pan opromienia Was światłem wiary, nadziei i milości!

2017 EASTER SCHEDULE

APRIL 9: PASSION SUNDAY - Blessing of Palms at each Mass.

APRIL 13: HOLY THURSDAY - Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:00 PM.

APRIL 14: GOOD FRIDAY - Liturgy of the Passion and Death of the Lord at 3:00 PM. Stations of the Cross in English & Polish at 7:00 PM.

APRIL 15: HOLY SATURDAY - Easter Vigil Liturgy at 7:30 PM. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at the Tomb, Confession & Blessing of food all day. Divine Mercy Novena begins.

APRIL 16: EASTER SUNDAY - Resurrection Procession and Mass at 8:30 AM in Polish. 10:00 AM & 12:30 PM Mass in Polish. Masses in English at 11:00 AM, 2:30 and 5:00 PM.

APRIL 23: DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY - Celebration begins at 2:30 PM with Mass.

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The Polish Children's Heartline and the children in Poland who were given a new chance to live wish all of Polonia Wesołego Alleluja and a Blessed Easter

We thank all our caring members, volunteers and generous donors for their continued support — Doreen Patras Cramer President

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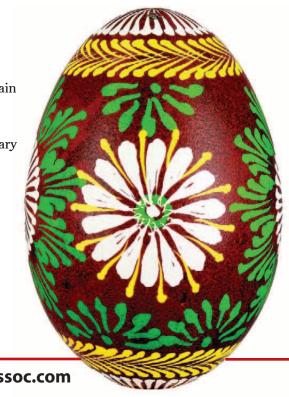
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Editor in Chief Mark A. Kohan editor@polamiournal.com

Associate Editors Benjamin Fiore, S.J., Mary E. Lanham, Michael Pietruszka, Stas Kmiec, Steve Litwin, Thomas Tarapacki

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IN THE NEWS

New Commission Aims to Keep Polish Culture Alive

An Example We All Should Follow

by Nicole DeFeudis

NORTHAMPTON, Mass. — After years of seeing Polish traditions local Polish organizations have high hopes for a new state commission whose mission is straightforward keep their peoples traditions and

history alive.

"The (Polish) traditions are not being preserved enough at the present time," said John Skibiski, 30year member of the Polish Heritage Committee in Northampton.

Enter the Special Commission to overlooked or forgotten, leaders of Preserve Polish Heritage in the Pioneer Valley, a new panel to which state Sen. Eric P. Lesser, D-Longmeadow, was recently appointed by Senate President Stanley Rosen-

The commission will consist of two senators, three members of the House and five members appointed by the governor.

Two of the House members will be of Polish heritage, while three of the governor appointments will be officers of the Polish heritage or genealogical organizations in Hampshire, Hampden or Franklin counties. The remaining two government appointments will come from nominees by the Polish Center for Learning and Discovery in Chicopee and from the Slavic, Eurasian and East European Studies Program at the University of Massachusetts 4

Together, the commission will focus on spreading the culture and history of the Polish community in the Pioneer Valley.

Northampton's Polish Heritage Committee meets once a month and plans events and activities such as the Pulaski Day Parade and Polish language instruction. The committee also sponsors public meetings to 9 teach people how to research their genealogy.

"There's a lot that hasn't been recognized yet in regards to the (Polish) immigrant experience in the Pioneer Valley," Skibiski said.

Similarly, the Polish Center of Discovery and Learning in Chicopee teaches Polish history and culture.

"This will help keep these people's stories alive, these skills 10 alive," said Ronald Lech, associate director and vice president of the board of directors.

"We tell Polish history and Polish culture and through that, we tell the history of the United States and immigration history and world history," Lech said.

According to Lech, visitors to the center can explore a full museum of artifacts and attend cultural classes and activities, such as Polish Easter egg-decorating.

The center has been at its current location on South Street for about 15 years, Lech said. It is housed in the building where the first five Polish immigrants to Chicopee spent their first night, he explained.

The story of Polish immigration to the Pioneer Valley is something that the state commission plans to highlight through its programs, according to Senator Lesser. "At a 16 time when there has been so much focus on immigration ... this is the chance to tell the story of immigrants who risked a lot," he said.

The commission will allow a 17 DYNGUS DAY hance to recognize the achievements of the Polish community in the Valley throughout history, Less-

"Sometimes elements of the Pol- 19 ish story in western Massachusetts have been overlooked and deserve 20 recognition — just as many groups deserve recognition," he said.

Speaking about Polish traditions, Skibiski said, "We want them there, we want them back and we have to cultivate it."

80

Happy Easter! Wesołego Alleluja!

WITUL FAMILY

Wheatfield, New York

 $\mathcal{C}\!\mathcal{S}$

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April W Kwiecień

Kwiecień, plecień, wciąż, przeplata, trochę, zimny, tochę, lata. April weaves a dappled pleat, a little cold, a little heat.

APRIL FOOL'S DAY

Prima Aprilis is marked in Poland by people playing pranks on one another.

- 2005. Death of Saint John Paul II, born Karol Wojtyla in Wadowice, Poland, 84.
- 1849. Death of Polish poet and dramatist Julius Slowacki, in
- 1794. Polish forces under Tadeusz Kosciuszko are victorious in the Battle of Raclawice.
- 1884. Birth of Polish ethnographer and anthropologist Bronislaw Malinowski (d. 1942). 1525. Signing of the Treaty of
- Kraków, officially ending the Polish-Teutonic War. 1943. Mass graves of Polish officers murdered by Soviets are discovered in Katyń Forest.

PALM SUNDAY

Niedziela Palmowa. This feastday, commemorating Jesus' triumphal ride into Jerusalem, marks the start of Holy Week (Wielki Tydzień) and palms are blessed at church on the occasion. In Poland, the "palms" are usually pussywillows intertwined with evergreens and various rod-type bouquets woven from dried herbs and wild-

- 1525. Prussian Homage, the formal investment of Albert of Prussia as duke of the Polish fief of Ducal Prussia.
- 2010. A plane carrying a contingent of Polish leaders, including President Lech Kaczynski, crashes out Smolensk, Russia.

HOLY THURSDAY Wielki Czwartek

1909. Birth of Stanislaw Ulan, Polish American mathematician who assisted in the development of the hydrogen bomb.

GOOD FRIDAY

Wielki Piątek 966. Baptism of Poland

HOLY SATURDAY

Wielka Sobota is associated by most Poles with the traditonal blessing of Easter food. After the blessing, it is customary to stop and say a prayer at the tableau of Christ's Tomb. New fire and fresh Holy Water are also blessed on this day.

EASTER SUNDAY

Wielkanoc, the most important celebration in the Catholic calendar, commemorates the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. 1935. Birth of **Bobby Vinton**.

Lany Poniedziałek

1518. Bona Sforza (1494-1558) crowned Queen of Poland and Grand Duchess of Lithuania.

1794. Kosciusko's forces rout Russian troops out of Warsaw. 1919. Polish Army captured

- Vilno (Vilnius), Lithuania from Soviet Army.
- 1947. Birth of Massachusetts musician, vocalist, DJ, and IJ Billy Belina.
- 1333. Casimir the Great crowned King of Poland.
- 1941. No. 307 Polish Squadron of the Royal Air Force arrives in Exeter, England.
- 1863. Birth of Maria Teresa Ledochowski, foundress of the Sisters of St. Peter Claver.
- 1309. Birth of Kazimierz III, King of Poland (1333-70).

This paper mailed on or before March 30, 2017. The May 2017 edition will be mailed on or before April 28, 2017

Wyrobek Issues Convention Call

BUFFALO, N.Y. — In accor- are invited to attend as observers dance with the Constitution of the and to take part in as many activities Polish Singers Alliance of America (PSAA) President Mary Lou national Convention of the organization will take place May 26-28, 2017 in Philadelphia, Pa., at the Sheraton Society Hill Hotel.

Convention activities will consist of business sessions, competition, dinner dance, Mass, awards brunch, and concert. All choruses of the PSAA throughout the United and Canada. States and Canada are invited to participate. Non-member choruses org for information.

as possible.

Each member chorus is encour-Wyrobek announced the 51st Interaged to send its allotted number of delegates and to participate in the competition and concert.

The PSAA, founded in 1889, is the oldest Polish-American cultural organization It continues to build and strengthen its goal of preserving and propagating Polish culture through music and song in America

Visit http://polishsingersalliance.

Easter Greetings to All from **JUTRZENKA SINGING SOCIETY #226 - PSAA**

Female Chorus of South Brooklyn, New York

Yo are cordially invite you to come and sing with us! For information, call:

Frances X. Gates, Honorary President – (917) 913-313 Barbara R. Blyskal, President - (718) 720-6089 Izabella Kobus-Salkin, Choral Director – (917) 288-9261



THE DISTRICT 7 CHORUSES of the POLISH SINGERS ALLIANCE OF AMERICA

Wish all a Joyous Easter! Alleluja! Alleluja!

- CHOPIN #182 (Passaic, N.J.)
- **JUTRZENKA #226**
- (S. Brooklyn, N.Y.)
- OGINSKI #283 (Hempstead, N.Y.)
- POLONIA PADEREWSKI #287 & #311 (New Britain, Conn.)
- ARIA #303 (Wallington, N.J.)
- MARCELLA KOCHANSKA **SEMBRICH FEMALE CHORUS** #321 (Philadelphia)
- HEJNAL #323 (Greenpoint / Brooklyn, N.Y.)

Our singers are preparing to participate in **PSAA'S 51st INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION** May 25-28, 2017 in Philadelphia, Pa.

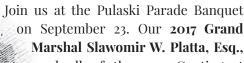


Visit: polishsingersalliance.org For information call (201) 681-7980 or (215) 627-1391 Yaga Chudy — President Janusz Sporek — District Choral Director

Happy Easter to All Polonia from the

ERAL PULASKI MEMORIAL PARADE COMMITTEE, INC.

You are cordially invited to march with us at the 80th Annual General Pulaski Memorial Parade on Sunday, October 1st, 2017



and all of the 2017 Contingent contingents marching up Fifth Avenue for the Celebration of Polonia and the Greatest Revolution War Hero, General Casimir Pulaski



starting at 12:30 p.m. Join us at the Pulaski Parade Banquet

> Marshals and the young ladies serving as Miss Polonia of their

www.pulaskiparade.org

"Sergio" Receives **Prestigious Award**



Sergiusz Zgrzebski

by Geraldine Balut Coleman

CHICAGO — On March 9, approximately 800 people attended the Better Business Bureau (BBB) of Chicago and Northern Illinois Annual Awards Dinner Meeting in the Grand Ballroom of the Marriott Chicago Downtown. This annual event celebrated accredited businesses that promote ethical business practices.

This year, the BBB presented its most prestigious award, the Diogenes Award, to Sergiusz "Sergio" **Zgrzebski**. This award is given to an individual in media who exemplifies extraordinary effort in educating and informing the public on consumer issues.

Zgrzebski is a TV/radio producer, reporter, and anchor for WPVN Polvision TV and WNVR, 1030 AM Polskie Radio Chicago. Additionally, he is a musician and an Illinois licensed real estate broker. He is a graduate of Columbia College's Television Department with concentrations in directing and documentary work, and a graduate of Melchior Wańkowicz College of Journalism in Warsaw, Poland. Also, he owns Sound & Media Productions, and, as a bass player, has traveled in both the United States and Europe for over 25 years performing jazz, reggae, soul, blues, and funk.

Sergio and his family are long time residents of the Village of Curie," a film about the pioneering Bensenville, Ill., where he is currently running for trustee.

Book on Modjeski Presented by Engineers



THE POLISH AMERICAN ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION invited the general public to its meeting on Feb. 17 at the Copernicus Center in Chicago. Jan Płachta, a retired structural engineer at U.S. Army Network Enterprise Technology Command, reviewed his recently-published Polish language book entitled "Artysta Betonu i Stali – Mosty Rudolfa Modrzejewskiego" about the great Polish American engineer and pre-eminent bridge designer, Ralph Modjeski. The book describes 40 existing bridges in North America designed by Modjeski that to this day remain as classic examples of exemplary models of bridge engineering. Pictured above is Modjeski's Blue Water Bridge, which connects Port Huron, Mich. to Sarnia, Ontario, Canada. (G.B.C.)

STAGE AND SCREEN / Staś Kmieć

Polish-born Helena Rubinstein comes to life on Broadway

I caught the new Broadway musical "War Paint" in early previews on Broadway. The show about two business titans — Helena Rubinstein and Elizabeth Arden and their infamous rivalry officially opens on April 8 at The Nederlander Theatre.

Born in the Kraków district of Kazimierz, Helene (Chaja) came from humble beginnings and with determination and character managed to forge a beauty and cosmetics empire. Two-time Tony Award winner Patti LuPone portrays the mogul to perfection in a powerhouse tour de force performance — not to be missed.

Prior to Broadway, "War Paint" had a sold-out run in Chicago in summer 2016, becoming the most successful show in Goodman Theatre history. The musical is dotted with Polish references, characters and words. I will be returning to see the show again after its opening.

Highly recommended. WarPaintMusical.com.

"MARIE CURIE" DEBUTS. "Marie chemist, physicist, researcher, twotime Nobel Prize winner (1905,



PATTI LUPONE, whose NY stage includes Shows for Days; Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown (Tony, Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle noms.); Gypsy (Tony, Drama Desk, OCC, Drama League awards); and Sweeny Todd (Tony, Drama Desk, OCC noms.) plays Helena Rubinstein.

a male-dominated world of French science, made its debut in Poland.

German production. Its French-Canadian director, Marie Noelle, tion since childhood. said it covers the life of Marie Sklodowska-Curie in her most turbulent years (1905-1911). She "wanted to show the human side of loving wife and a woman who fol- brychski. lowed her heart [and] how indepen-

1911), and her trials as a woman in dent she was in her work, in her way of thinking."

The director also disclosed that The film is a Polish, French, and she herself had considered the Polish-born scientist a personal inspira-

Sklodowska-Curie is played by Polish actress Karolina Gruszka. Well-known Polish actors included in the cast are: Iza Kuna, Jan Fry-Skłodowska-Curie: a tender mother, cz, Piotr Glowacki and Daniel Ol-

77TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE Sunday

Sponsored by The National Katyn Memorial Foundation, with The Embassy of the Republic of Poland 10:30 am Mass at Holy Rosary Church 408 S. Chester St., Baltimore, MD 21231

(off the 2100 block of Eastern Ave.)

Coffee/Pastry Reception Holy Rosary Church Undercrof

1:00 pm Ceremonies at the National Katyn Memorial Baltimore Harbor East at Katyn Circle 600 block of President St. (at Aliceanna St.)

"SHOULD I FORGET THEM, MAY GOD IN HEAVEN FORGET ME."

ADAM MICKIEWICZ

SCHOLARSHIPS

Pawelski Wins Paley Scholarship

HAMBURG, N.Y. - Hilbert College student Emily Pawelski of Lakeview, N.Y., has been selected to be one of ten recipients of a 2017

Independent Sector Student Community Service Award and a \$500 H.D. Paley Scholarship from the Commissionon Independent



Colleges and Universities (CICU).

This award honors outstanding Independent Sector TAP students for their leadership in community service throughout New York State. The award is highly competitive as there are more than 100 colleges and universities in New York's independent sector. Emily and the other recipients will be honored during the 2017 CICU Annual Meeting Reception on March 6 in Albany, N.Y.

Emily has served, for the past two summers, as a volunteer counselor at Camp Good Days & Special Times, an organization dedicated to improving the quality of life for children and families whose lives have been touched by cancer. Combined with her five years as a junior helper in her middle school and high school years, Emily has been assisting this organization for seven

Emily, a junior accounting major, has taken many leadership roles in campus clubs including holding the position of treasurer for both the Franciscan Spirit Club and EN-ACTUS. She currently holds a 3.98

Schmid Memorial **Scholarship Apps** Now Available

BUFFALO, N.Y. — The Jackie Schmid Memorial Scholarship Committee has announced the deadline for this year's scholarship applications is May 1, 2017.

The Scholarship Fund was established in 2013 to remember Jackie Schmid, a well-known and beloved community servant in Cheektowa-

"Jackie was the first person to lend a helping hand to anyone in need," said Scholarship Committee President Barbara Falcone. "We are so proud to carry on her memory by helping students in Cheektowaga through this scholarship."

Six scholarships of \$1500 each will be available this year. One student from each school district in Cheektowaga - John F. Kennedy (Cheektowaga-Sloan), Cheektowaga Central, Maryvale, Cleveland Hill, and Depew – will be chosen to receive an award, in addition to one student who attends a private or parochial school and resides in Cheektowaga. Eligible applicants must be high school seniors who live in the Town of Cheektowaga who demonstrate a record of community service, an academic average above an 85, and Polish heritage within three generations. Applicants are also required to submit an essay.

For more information and to view the scholarship application, please visit https://www.facebook. com/jackieschmidscholarship.

DEADLINE REMINDER. Deadline for the Polish American Journal Foundation's 2017 Scholarhip is April 30. See form on page 23 or visit www.polamjournal.com.

SUPPORT THE PAJ PRESS FUND

n 1978, a voluntary fund-raising campaign was launched by a group of loyal readers of the Polish American Journal entitled "We Love the PAJ Press Fund" in order to help cover rising postage, material and production costs.

Donations to the PAJ Press Fund are also used to support our reader services (postage, telephone, research, etc.), provide newsclippers with stamps and envelopes, and cover extraordinary expenses in producing the paper. The Polish American Journal is not a profit-making venture. Thanks to its dedicated staff, the PAJ is published as a "public service" for American Polonia.

Donations to the PAJ Press Fund will be acknowledged in the paper unless otherwise directed by the contributor.

A sincere "THANK YOU" for your donations to the PAJ PRESS FUND: Manya Berzenski, Tolland, Conn.; Ed Budzinski, Rogers, Minn.; Frank Gavel, Wilton, Conn.; Walter J. Kosik, Sr., Pelham, N.H.; Lorraine Krystof, Omaha, Neb.; Irene Krzywinski Lane, Burbank, Calif.; Christine Kwik, Elkins Park, Pa.; Frank Lapinski, Brockport, N.Y.; Stella Mlotek, Astoria, N.Y.; Dr. John Niziol, Clifton, N.J.; Maryann Ogonowski, Franklin, Maine; John B. Wlodkowski, Augusta, Maine; Regina Wnukowski, Philadelphia; and two Friends of the PAJ. Dziękujemy wam wszystkim! The PAJ thanks all who donated.

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I want to make sure the POLISH AMERICAN JOURNAL continues its service to American Polonia. Enclosed is my contribution of \$

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Holy Trinity Honors the Black Madonna

a church, the human eye is bound to astonished. The fact that a pair of

wander. Something is sure to capture your attention.

Inside Holy Trinity Church in Utica is a carved painting that meets that criteria.

The painting is of Our Lady of Częstochowa, also known as Black Madonna of Częstochowa, which is Jesus. The original paint- artwork ing is in Częstochowa, Poland. Poland, and dates back

as early as the 14th century. This sus' heads." year marks the 300th anniversary of the Coronation of Our Lady of Częstochowa, and this painting of the icon was made especially for it.

"The painting just pierces through you," said the Rev. John jubilee year. Mikalajunas, pastor of Holy Triniof art that is a true accomplishment. I was able to commission a couple from Poland to make this piece especially for the anniversary. They are true artists who put their all into creating majestic art."

created," he said. "The entire piece shared."

UTICA, N.Y. (Observer-Dis- is made of wood, including the borpatch) — The moment you walk into der. When I found that out, I was

hands can create and capture something so majestic from wood is remarkable. There is so much attention to detail and preciseness, as it is the size of the original icon that is Częstochowa, which is 4 feet high. Everyone who has seen it so far have a revered icon of the Vir- Rev. Mikalajunas been amazed by its beauty. gin Mary alongside baby commissioned The colors in the painting from stand out: especially the golden border and golden halos around Mary and Je-

The parish is holding a special prayer to Our Lady of Częstochowa and Jesus at every Sunday Mass beginning the first Sunday in Lent and will continue throughout the entire

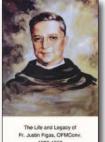
"I am so excited for everyone to ty Church. "It is a breathtaking work be able to see the carved painting in person," Mikalajunas said. "We plan on keeping the painting up for the remainder of the year. After every Mass, I will be inviting members of the parish to come up to the altar and see it up close. Something "It took over a year for this to be this miraculous should be seen and

Parish Honors Anti-Communist Polish "Doomed Soldiers"

munist Polish "Doomed Soldiers."

Lady Queen of Poland Parish honored Polish patriots who continued to fight for Polish freedom after the beginning of the Soviet occupation in 1944 with a standing-room-only Mass, which was sponsored by the

THE LIFE AND LEGACY of FR. JUSTIN FIGAS, OFM Conv.



originator of the "Fr. Justin Rosary Hour" \$9.00, 82pp., pb., B&W photos AVAILABLE IN ENGLISH OR POLISH PLEASE SPEC-**IFY WHEN ORDERING**

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Fr. Justin's weekly message of spiritual guidance, encouragement and hope was an influence on generations of Polish immigrants, their children, and grandchildren. His broadcasts, begun in 1931, continues today as the longest continually running religious radio program in the world.

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Polish Parish Honors Anti-Com- Polish American Congress Washington Metro Area Division, was WASHINGTON, D.C. — Our the first time that the parish has honored the "Doomed Soldiers," as these Polish anti-communist freedom fighters are known. Our Lady Queen of Poland pastor, Fr. Jerzy Frydrych. SChr., gave a stirsolemn Mass, on March 5. The ring sermon detailing the struggles of the "Doomed Soldiers" and their sacrifices to defend Poland and the Catholic faith. Over 150 members of Washington Area Polonia participated in the Mass, as did Second World War veterans, local PAC officials, Knights of Columbus, and the Polish Embassy's Deputy Chief of Mission Maciej Pisarski. The large participation by the youth of the parish in the Mass impressed a

> The "Doomed Soldiers" were universally hated by the Polish communist dictatorship and smeared relentlessly by communist propaganda up until the end of communism in 1989. In 2011, the Seim, Poland's parliament, established March 1 as a national day of remembrance for them. The last of these heroes, Józef Franczak ("Lalek") was murdered by communist security forces in the Lublin area in 1963.

number of participants.

RELIGION / Benjamin Fiore, S.J.

Protecting Clergy's Religious Liberty

The Catholic Conference of Ohio of then-communist Czechoslovakia twice on Sunday. Recognizing the threw its support behind a bill before the state legislature that would allow churches to protect pastors from participating in homosexual marriages and to allow churches to refuse to rent space for activities "that do not conform" to their 'sincerely held religious beliefs.' Carolyn Jurkowitz of Life Site News noted that every Roman Catholic bishop exercising jurisdiction in Ohio supports the bill. Mainline Protestant churches say the bill is "redundant and unnecessary" while the ACLU argues the working is too loose. Leaders of the LGBTQ group "Equity Ohio," staunchly opposed to the bill, admitted on NPR that their goal is to force churches to rent their facilities to homosexuals for receptions, weddings, dinners, and meetings.

POLISH LAY MISSIONARY SLAIN IN BOLIVIA. In an apparent robbery at a childcare center in the city of Cochabamba, Bolivia, a Polish lay missionary, Helena Kmieć, only two weeks in the country, was stabbed by intruders and died of her injuries. Fr. Adam Ziolkowski, director of the Salvator Missionary volunteer group for which she worked said that Helena "tried to defend herself and she was stabbed repeatedly." The center is run by Polish sisters. Fr. Ziolkowski said of Helena that she was a "kind person and very helpful: she never missed a chance to do something good for others."

ABUSE PLAN IN ALTOONA-JOHNSTOWN. Bishop Mark Bartchak joined U.S. Attorney Soo Song to announce "a collaborative framework to protect the children of the diocese from sexual abuse."

Bartchak's predecessors, James Hogan and Joseph Adamec, have been accused of acting too slowly to deal with cases of clerical abuse. Bishop Hogan is now dead and Bishop Adamec noted that he removed nine priests and ordered five others to undergo psychological counseling, with none of them reoffending.

Bishop Bartchak is not faulted in his handling of abuse situations and has worked with civil officials to prevent future abuse.

CZECH SALESIAN PRIEST AD-VANCESTOWARD SAINTHOOD. Fr. Titus Zeman was recognized by **Pope Francis** as a martyr. He

secretly shuttled Salesian priests out

to Italy in the 1950s when religious orders were banned and members were sent to concentration camps. Eventually arrested and jailed he 1969 with his health weakened by his imprisonment.

BISHOP KOPACZ OPPOSES STATE OF MISSISSIPPI. Bishop Joseph Kopacz of Jackson, Miss., opposes Mississippi State bill 2710 which would keep agencies, cities and college campuses from offering sanctuary to unauthorized immigrants. He noted that such measures would not keep communities safe and go against the Christian tenet of caring for those in need.

SURVEY ON SCHOOL VOUCH-ERS RAISES QUESTIONS. A

study of Milwaukee's catholic parishes with schools found that while voucher helped keep the schools open, contributions to general parish needs fell.

Milwaukee diocesan officials question the surveyor's conclusions. Jerry Topczewski chief of staff for Archbishop Jerome Listecki explained that the fall in church revenue could be attributed to fewer Catholics per capita and does not mean a decline in parish or religious activity. He also notes that many of the schools are in neighborhoods that are no longer predominantly Catholic.

Nonetheless, those non-Catholic families seek out a Catholic school for its quality and reputation. "The survey misses that schools are a ministry for us," he added.

SLOVAK CATHEDRAL WEL-**COMES MELKITES.** The Slovak Greek Catholic Church Foundation in Markham, north of Toronto, Ont., has received city permission to welcome Jesus the King Melkite Catholic Church to use its as yet unfinished worship space for Sunday liturgy.

As conceived by its founder, mining-magnate Stephen B. Roman, the cathedral was to be "a beacon for his fellow Slavs in central and Eastern Europe."

St. John Paul II blessed the cornerstone of the cathedral on his visit to Toronto in 1984 and he established the first Slovak Byzantine Catholic Eparchy in North America in 1980. Controversy after Mr. Roman's death led Eparch John Pazak to remove the Blessed Sacrament and altar stone and suspend use of it by any of his priests.

The Melkite community, in using the cathedral for their services ner at the Polish Nook restaurant.

change in focus, Helen Roman-Barber, daughter of the founder and head of the foundation, foresees completion of mosaic decoration was released in 1964 but died in and reopening of the cathedral in the spring as an ecumenical place of worship for all Catholic rites.

The Slovaks currently gather at the Cathedral of the Nativity of the Mother of God in downtown To-

KNIGHTS CALLED NOT PRO-LIFE BUT ANTI-CHOICE. A

Catholic newspaper, the Prairie Messenger, slammed the Knights of Columbus for being "anti-choice" rather than "pro-life."

The paper also charged Supreme Knight Carl Anderson for being influenced by Mother Teresa's "simplistic views" and for financing her beatification. Abbot Peter Nevecosky, the paper's editor and head of the Benedictine monastery in Muenster, Saskatchewan, accepted Yvonne Zarowny's article for the paper in which she identified the Knights as among the "power groups" that are "limiting 'pro-life' to 'anti-choice' legislation."

Nevecosky defended her article by explaining "I think she's trying to encourage the Knights of Columbus to take a broader view of their prolife stance than just anti-abortion."

State Deputy Knight Brian Schatz noted in response, "We're not being too simplistic when we're looking for legislation to protect

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO... Cleveland's St. Casimir Church celebrating the fifth year of the "Miracle of St. Casimir."

St. Casimir's Joseph Fecka**nin** says the celebration was to remember the decrees issued from Rome on the first week of March 2012 to reopen 11 closed Cleveland Catholic Churches in the Diocese of Cleveland, including St. Casimir's, founded in 1891. With the notice of closure by Bishop Richard Lennon on Nov 8, 2009, parishioners were organized by Dr. Michael Klymiuk to hold a prayer vigil on Sunday in front of the padlocked church. The vigils lasted for 139 weeks with similar vigils held at others of the closed parishes every Sunday. The Vatican responded favorably to the parishioners' petition and ordered that the closed churches be reopened.

St. Michael the Archangel PNCC Church celebrating 100 years of service to the faithful in Niagara Falls, N.Y. Bishop John meantime, experienced great growth Mack presided at the anniversary (many are Syrians) and have been Mass which was followed by a din-

MODLITWY

PUBLICATION OF PRAYERS. The Polish American Journal gladly accepts prayers ads for publication. They must be received by the 10th of each month, prior to the month of publication, and must be pre-paid at the cost of \$15.00 each, which can be paid by check or charge. If you have any questions regarding this policy, please call 1 (800) 422-1275 or (716) 312-8088.

PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN. (Never

Known To Fail). Oh, most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. Oh Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein you are my Mother. Oh Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart and succor me in my necessity (make request). There are none that can withstand your power. Oh Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (three times). Holy Mary, I place this cause in your hands (three times). Say this prayer for three consecutive days and then you must publish and it will be granted to you. Grateful thanks, A.D.

ST. JUDE NOVENA. May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world now and forever. Sacred $Heart\,of\,Jesus\,have\,mercy\,on\,us.\,St.\,Jude,worker$ of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, helper of the helpless, pray for us. Recite nine times a day. By

the 8th day, your prayer will be answered. It has never been known to fail. Publication must be promised. Thank you St. Jude and the Sacred Heart of Jesus. A.D.

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PRAYER TO SAINT PEREGRINE. O great St. Peregrine, you have been called "The Mighty," "The Wonder-Worker," because of the numerous miracles which you have obtained from God for those who have had recourse to you. For so many years you bore in your own flesh this cancerous disease that destroys the very fibre of our being, and who had recourse to the source of all grace when the power of man could do no more. You were favoured with the vision of Jesus coming down from His Cross to heal your affliction. Ask of God and Our Lady, the cure of the sick whom we entrust to you. Aided in this way by your $powerful\ intercession, we shall sing\ to\ God, now$ and for all eternity, a song of gratitude for His great goodness and mercy. Amen. M.K.J.

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AMERICAN POLONIA AT A GLANCE

MARYLAND

SILVER SPRING — Polonian men at Our Lady Queen of Poland Parish in this Washington, D.C. suburb established a Knights of Columbus Council with St. Maximilian Kolbe as its patron on February 5. The 21 members of the new council elected John Armstrong as their Grand Knight, and Jacek Marczyński as Deputy Grand Knight. Some sources have stated that the council, which is a Polish ethnic council, is the first Knights of Columbus council to take St. Maximilian as its patron. St. Maximilian is the second patron of the Polish parish in Silver Spring after Our Lady Queen of Poland.

MICHIGAN

HAMTRAMCK — The Piast Institute announces the establishment of the Polish Women's Hall of Fame on the occasion of International Women's Day, March 8, 2017. The virtual exhibit, hosted at www. FamousPolishWomen.com raises awareness of and honors women's lives and contributions to culture and history of Poland and the world. The project provides biographies, photographs, bibliographies, and articles on women in Poland and the

newly opened Polish Women's Hall of Fame, explained that the Hall of Fame will serve as a resource for the Polish community, for schools and universities, and especially for young Polish women-and for women everywhere. While individuals like Marie Skłodowska Curie are well-known, the overall story of the achievements and contributions of Polish women has long been overlooked. "We can never fully understand who we are until we join the stories of our mothers to those of our fathers," said Dr. Thaddeus

Radzilowski, president of the Piast Institute.

Nominations from the general public are accepted in six categories: Science and Education, Arts and Humanities, Religion, Public Life and Service, Philanthropy, and Sports. Final selections for Hall of Fame inductees will be made by a distinguished international panel. For more information, please visit the website at: www.FamousPolish-Women.com or call Ashley Fallon at the Piast Institute at (313) 733-4535

NEW YORK

BUFFALO — Ars Nova Musicians Chamber Orchestra, in its 43rd season of performing, will present a concert featuring classical music set in the splendor of historic St. John Kanty Roman Catholic Church. Marylouise Nana, founder, music director and conductor, will lead the orchestra on Sunday, April 30 at 3:00 p.m. The talented Emily Tworek Helenbrook, soprano soloist, will also perform.

Tickets for the concert are \$12; advance purchase is recommended for preferred seating and can be purchased by calling (716) 893-0412 between 9:00-noon, Mon.-Fri.

St. John Kanty Church opened Ashley Fallon, the director of the for worship in 1892 and is located on Broadway between Brownell and Swinburne Streets. It is handicap accessible with off-street park-

> HAMBURG —Hilbert College held a commemorative ceremony in honor the legacy of the Franciscan Sisters of St. Joseph (FSSJ), the college's founding congregation, on March 16.

Most Reverend Edward M. Grosz, Auxiliary Bishop of Buffalo, was in attendance and offered the open- tact jeanjoka@gmail.com, or call ing prayer for the ceremony.

The ceremony consisted of a be served.

short program, including the unveiling of the FSSJ Legacy Wall, which will honor the nearly 100 members of the FSSJ who have served at Hilbert College over its 60-year history.

The Franciscan Sisters of St. Joseph were founded by Sister Mary Colette (nee Agnes Victoria Hilbert) of Cieszyn, the territory of Austrian Poland. In 1889, Sister Colette and four Sisters of St. Charles Borromeo were sent to educate the children in the United States. In 1897, Sister Colette and four American novices adopted the Rule of the Third Order Regular of St. Francis as their way of life in God's service. In 1928, Sister Mary Colette became the first general minister of the newly-established Congregation of the Franciscan Sisters of St. Joseph (FSSJ). Because of the Congregation's growth and the number of women applying to this new way of life, the Sisters moved from Buffalo, to the convent in Hamburg. The order founded Hilbert College in 1957.

PENNSYLVANIA

PHILADELPHIA — On Sun., April 2, 2017, at 2:30 p.m., the **Pol**ish Heritage Society of Philadelphia will host its general meeting/ election at the Associated Polish Home, Vistula Lounge, Northeast Philadelphia, 9150 Academy Road, Philadelphia. Donna K. Danielewski, past President of the Polish Heritage Society of Philadelphia, and author of Journey: A Memoir, will be guest speaker and will give a brief synopsis of her and her family's journey through war-torn Europe, and across the Atlantic Ocean to their final destination, the U.S.A. Copies of the book will be for sale.

If you plan to attend, please con-(215) 483-0193.Refreshments will

Kościuszko Chair Professor **Explains U.S. Policy Toward Russia**

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Noted Polonian professor Marek Chodakiewicz (right) examined U.S. policy toward Russia under President Trump at a lecture, March 9. Chodakiewicz noted that following the resignation of Gen. Michael Flynn as National Security Advisor it was unclear what course the Trump Administration would take. Contrary to the conventional wisdom, Chodakiewicz explained that Gen. Flynn had wanted to strength NATO's eastern flank, tie down Russia in the Middle East, and pivot to counter Chinese aggression. Pointing to recent U.S. statements in the United Nations, and President Trump' letter to the President of Estonia, Chodakiewicz argued that the new Administration continued to support Ukraine and to reject the Russian annexation of the Crimean Peninsula.

The approximately 50 attendees at the lecture included officials from



the Department of Defense, State Department, and intelligence ser-

Professor Chodakiewicz holds the Kościuszko Chair of Polish Studies at the Institute of World Politics, an elite private national security graduate school in Washington.

Milewski, Michnik, to Speak at PNH

HARTFORD, Conn. — The Pol- Conn., and a member of the adviso-Oak Ave., info@polishhomect.org) has announced the members of its 2017-18 Board. Representing elected corporate members and members from founding organizations are: Steve Jaronczyk; John Majdan; Mark Bruks; Rob Kwasnicki; Frank Carmon; Janusz Kocur; Paulina Burek-Fedigan; Jadwiga Borkowski; Michael Gwara; Bruno Prusaczyk; and Janusz Klin.

NEW BRITAIN — The S. A. Blejwas Endowed Chair in Polish Studies announces The Milewski Lecture by Mark Milewski entitled "Mount Everest and the Golden Age of Polish Mountaineering," Thurs., April 6, 2017 at 7:00 p.m., Vance Academic Center, Room 105, Central Connecticut State University, 1615 Stanley St., New Britain.

Milewski summited 29,029 ft. Mount Everest on May 20, 2016. He will share the story of his climb but also place Mount Everest into the context of the Golden Age of Polish Himalayan Climbing of the 1980s and 1990s.

In the last two decades of the twentieth century, Poles dominated the 8000-meter peaks located there with numerous winter and first ascents. Climbers such as Jerzy Kukuczka, Wanda Rutkiewicz, Krzysztof Wielicki, and many others, were respected internationally and celebrated within Poland for their feats.

Milewski is assistant professor of Business Administration at Tunxis Community College in Farmington,

ish National Home (60 Charter rv board to the Polish Studies Program at Central Connecticut State University.

The Blejwas Endowed Chair in Polish Studies also announces The Nowakowski Conversation, with guest speak Adam Michnik, Tues., April 11, at 7:00 p.m. in Founders Hall, Davidson Hall Building of

Michnik is a Polish historian, essayist, former dissident, public intellectual, and the editor-in-chief of the Polish newspaper Gazeta Wyborcza. In 1968 he was expelled from Warsaw University and later arrested and sentenced. In the 1970s Michnik became one of the leaders of the Committee of the Defense of Workers and continued his opposition activities in the Solidarity trade union. In 1981, after imposition of martial law, he was arrested and iailed.

He played a crucial role during the 1989 Polish Round Table Talks, which led to the collapse of communism in Poland.

He served one term in Polish Parliament and later withdrew from active politics, but has "maintained an influential voice through journalism."

The lecture will be in Polish. with a translator. It is free and the public is cordially invited.

For further information about either event, contact Polish Studies at (860) 832-3010 or jacquesm@ ccsu.edu. Public parking available in campus garages.

Polish Arts Festival Details Announced

by Jim Herr

CHEEKTOWAGA, N.Y. – The Cheektowaga Chamber of Commerce will partner to organize and run the 39th Annual Cheektowaga July 13-Sun., July 16, 2017. Polish American Arts Festival in Town Park.

"We are thrilled to have the opportunity to partner with the Town of Cheektowaga to facilitate the 2017 Polish Festival," said Cheektowaga Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Kristina Groff. "A strong part of the mission of our Cheektowaga Chamber of Commerce is to promote the community and the businesses within it. This partnership provides an opportunity

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to do just that, and we encourage our members and the business com-Town of Cheektowaga and the munity to consider getting involved as we celebrate the Polish heritage."

Bands scheduled to perform are as follows in order of appearance: Cheektowaga Community Symphony Orchestra; Special Delivery (Buffalo, N.Y.); The Touch (Buffalo); Rare Vintage (Buffalo); Villa Maria Chorale (Cheektowaga - featured during the Polish Mass ceremony); Lenny Gomulka & Chicago Push Orchestra (Ludlow, Mass); The Boys (Baltimore); Polish Heri-year.

tage Dancers of WNY (Buffalo); and The Beat (Randolph, N.J.).

The General Pulaski Association will hold its annual parade down The event will take place Thurs., Harlem Road to Town Park, July 16.

> All proceeds from the event will benefit the Chamber's charitable works and the Cheektowaga Senior Center Foundation and Cheektowaga Youth Foundation.

> The Town's partnership with a non-profit falls in line with Supervisor Diane Benczkowski's goal to find alternative ways to create a sustainable method to fund the many festivals held in Cheektowaga each

An Exclusive Sunday at the Museum

A Grand Premiere of Two Polish Folk Art Exhibits

HARTFORD, Conn.—The Polish Cultural Club of Greater Hartford, Inc. will sponsor a premiere and reception celebrating two new Polish folk art exhibits at the Polish Center of Discovery and Learning at Elms College, 33 South Street, Chicopee, Mass. Both collections were donated by New Britain, Connecticut residents: Krystyna Słowikowska Farley and the estate of Bernard Pajewski. In addition, Staś Radosz, executive director of the Polish Center, will be presented with the Polish Cultural Club's "Distinguished Service Award."

This event will be held on Sun., April 30, 2017 beginning at 1:00 p.m. and is open to the general public. A fee of \$15.00 includes admission to the Museum, an exclusive

viewing of the two new exhibits, a will discuss specifics of the costume for generations. Marek Czarnecki, lecture by Staś Radosz, commentary of Marek Czarnecki, internationally renowned iconographer and d'oeuvres, and dessert reception. The Center is handicapped accessible and is about a thirty minute drive from Hartford.

The first exhibit showcases 32 original costumes representing various regions of Poland. They are the gift of Krystyna Słowikowska Farley, who will be the guest of honor at this affair. Born in Poland and experiencing life-altering events during World War II, recorded in a book called "Far From Home," Farley has devoted her life to the furtherance of Polish history, culture, and arts in the United States for the past sixty years. She was head of a Polish dance group for many years and, today, at age 91, is known for her passion, wit, and elegance. Radosz

exhibit with lectures scheduled for 1:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.

The second exhibit is a recent Polish historian, and a wine, hors acquisition from the estate of Bernard Pajewski, who passed away this past January at age 87. A very private person, Pajewski amassed the largest collection of Polish folk art in the United States inside his modest Cape Cod house. Three trucks were required to transport the collection to the Polish Center of Discovery and Learning. He owned about 25 szopki (castle-like nativity scenes) — some 7' tall with moving mechanisms and electric lights, some prize winners from the annual szopka competition in Kraków. Over 200 carved wood folk sculptures, kilim tapestries, icons, maps, and books, among other items, are also included in the acquisition. Thanks to Pajewski, these treasures will be preserved and displayed

who knew Pajewski personally, will share comments on the szopki, as well as on some of the special folk art objects.

Guests will be able to view the entire Museum, comprising of three floors of exhibits, and enjoy a reception at which Farley and Radosz will be present.

The museum is normally closed on Sundays, however, it will be open for this private showing to guests who have made reservations in advance. Please send checks for \$15.00 per person, made payable to Polish Cultural Club of Greater Hartford, Inc., to Nancy O. Yiznitsky, 87 Montclair Drive, East Hartford, CT 06118. For further details, please call Yiznitsky at (860) 568-2044 or Anna-Mae Maglaty at (860) 521-7621. You may also visit the Club's website: www.polishculturalclub.org.

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WEARING THE LETTER "P" Polish Women as Forced Laborers in

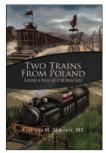
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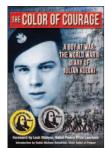
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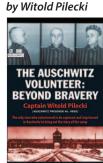
her entrance into medical school at *Holocaust* is a powerful corrective." only 17.



THE COLOR OF COURAGE by Julian E. Kulski \$19.95 Item 2-674 Aquila Polonica Publ., 2012 496 pp., 6" x 9", pb. "If there is go-

ing to be a war, I do not want to miss it." So wrote Julian Kulski a few days before the outbreak of World War II, in this remarkable diary of a boy at war from ages 10 to 16. Kulski wages his own private war against the Germans with small acts of sabotage. At age 12, Kulski is recruited into the clandestine Underground Army by his Scoutmaster and begins training in military tactics and weapons handling. At age 13, he meets with leaders of the Jewish Resistance. Arrested by the Gestapo at 14, he is rescued and at 15 fights in the Warsaw Uprising of 1944.

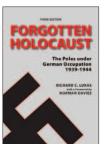
THE AUSCHWITZ VOLUNTEER



Translated by Jarek Garlinski \$34.95 Item 2-673 Aquila Polonica Publ., 2014 460 pp., 6" x 9", pb.

In 1940, the Polish Underaround wanted to know what

was happening inside the recently opened Auschwitz concentration camp. Polish army officer Witold Pilecki volunteered to be arrested by the Germans and report from inside the camp. His intelligence reports, smuggled out in 1941, were among the first eyewitness accounts of Auschwitz atrocities. Pilecki's story was suppressed for half a century after his 1948 arrest by the Polish Communist regime as a "Western spy."



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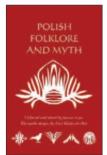
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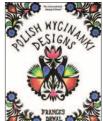
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POLISH FOLKLORE AND MYTH by Joanne Asala \$12.95 Item 2-679 6x9 in

118 pp., pb. This book of engaging folk stories includes such tales as "The

Violin," "The Headache Cure," "Midsummer's Eve.""The Flower Oueen's Daughter," "The Legend of the North Wind," "The Flaming Castle," "The Village Dance," and "The Unfinished Tune." The stories were collected by Joanne Asala, with wycinanki (paper-cutting) illustrations by Polish-American artist Alice Wadowski-Bak.



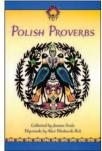
POLISH WYCINANKI DESIGNS by Frances Drwal *\$7.95* Item 2-680 8.5x11in., 48 pp.,

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beautiful designs by cutting paper into intricate shapes-called wycinanki-has been one of the national pastimes.

In this book, wycinanki is discussed and illustrated with patterns. The designs in this book can be used in many different ways, from applique to wallpaper.



POLISH PROVERBS by Joanne Asala \$14.95 Item 2-681 6x9 in., 64 pp., Poles are gre-

garious, cheerful,

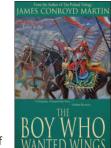
hard-working, and earnestqualities reflected in their proverbs, collected here by author Joanne Asala. Some examples: "Love enters a man through his eyes

and a woman through her ears." "Without work, there is no bread." "Do not push the river; it will flow on its own accord." The back and front covers fea-

ture stunning illustrations of paper cuts by the late Polish folk artist Alice Wadowsky-Bak, with more of her work throughout the book.

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by James

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HAPPENINGS: CHICAGO STYLE / Geraldine Balut Coleman

Consulate and Chicago Philharmonic Society Announce Polish Music Festival



Janicki, Speck, Milanovich, and CPO String Quartet,



Consul General Janicki

CHICAGO — On February 21, ฐ the Consulate General of the Republic of Poland and the Chicago Philharmonic Society (CPS) invited media representatives to a press conference to announce a Polish 5 music and culture festival and a new exchange program.

Donna Milanovich, executive director of the Chicago Philharmonic Society, and Piotr Janicki, Polish consul general, announced that musical cooperation between CPS and Poland was being made possible through a \$50,000 MacArthur Foundation grant to the Chicago Philharmonic Society. The grant money will be earmarked for artistic exchange between the CPS and Poland, and will establish direct cooperation between Polish composers and the CPS.

In December 2016, the MacArthur Foundation announced that the Chicago Philharmonic Society had been awarded this grant to fund an exchange of shared works from living Chicago composers, to connect with Polish musicians and students, and to deepen the knowledge of Polish music and culture, culminating with a three-day concert program on November 9-11, 2018, in conjunction with the 100th anniversary of Poland's regained independence.

The three-day Polish Music Festival in Chicago will feature a Polish conductor and Polish vocalists and instrumental soloists who will ioin the Chicago Philharmonic Orchestra (CPO) to perform orchestral and chamber music concerts of Polish composers. It will include music ranging from traditional classical, jazz, film scores, and newer works by living composers.

the Chicago Philharmonic Society, come available.



Auguścik and Jagodziński

cago Philharmonic musicians will travel to Poland in the spring of 2018 to work with and learn from Polish musicians. They will lead master classes and workshops for music students and perform concerts of new music by composers from Chicago.

During the press conference, guests were entertained by the CPO String Quartet, with violinist Renee-Paule Gauthier, violinist Michele Lekas, cellist Mark Lekas, and violist Benton Wedge playing George Gershwin's Lullaby and Fryderyk Chopin's Prelude, Opus 28, No. 4.

Poland's Consulate General in Chicago is partnering with the Chicago Philharmonic Society to present the festival. New Yorker Richard Guerin, an advocate for Polish music, will coordinate the festival activities between the CPS and partner organizations in Poland.

Scott Speck, artistic director of val will be forthcoming as they be-

stated that he and a group of Chi- CHOPIN CELEBRATED. On the occasion of Fryderyk Chopin's 200th birthday, the "Chopin In The City" festival, Feb. 22-March 1, curated by the Sounds & Notes Foundation, gave Chopin enthusiasts an opportunity to hear various interpretations of works of the great Polish composer and pianist. The festival began on Feb. 22 with an opening reception at the Consulate General of the Republic of Poland with Grażyna Auguścik, jazz vocalist, and Andrzej Jagodziński, pianist, setting the tone. This itinerant festival continued with events at the PianoForte Foundation, the Constellation Chicago, WTTW/ WFMT, Green Mill Jazz Club, Chicago Poetry Foundation, Chopin Polish Language School, and The Polish Museum of America (PMA), then closing at Loyola University Chicago.

The February 25th event at the More details regarding this festi- PMA featured the film "Chopin - the Space Concert" presenting breathtaking imagery of Earth co-

ordinated with Chopin's music. It featured Astronaut George Zamka, USMC, as he brought Chopin's music aboard the space shuttle Endeavour during his tour of duty aboard the International Space Station. The film earned "Best Film" at the 2012 Angel Awards at the Monaco International Film Festival. In the film, Chopin's music was played by pianist Karol Radziwonowicz, violinist Wojciech Proniewicz, and the Sinfonia Viva Orchestra.

After the screening of the film, musical entertainment was provided by TeeJayMac, featuring pianist **Tad** Janik, vocalist Pamela Fernandez, and percussionist Wo Romanowski. This event was held to assist in the development of the Chopin Garden in Chicago's Grant Park.

On February 28, the PMA presented, as part of the "Chopin in the City" festival, the biographical film "In Search of Chopin" (2014) by Phil Grabsky, a British documentary filmmaker. After the film, Andrzej Jagodziński played some of Chopin's works, and attendees participated in a discussion of the composer's works and life led by film critic, Zbigniew Banas.

The final festival event, "Chopin World Sounds," was held March 1 at Loyola University Chicago with performances by Grażyna Auguścik, Andrzej Jagodziński, pipaist Yang Wei, guitarist Gabriel Datcu, saxophonist Jim Gailloreto, pianist Ani Gogova, bassist Matt Ulery, cellist Ian Maksin, the Quo Vadis Clarinets, and multi-instrumental musician Ronnie Malley.

CASIMIR PULASKI HONORED.

Annually, since 1977, the first Monday in March has been designated as Casimir Pulaski Day. On this day, the State of Illinois pays tribute to the Polonian community by honoring Pulaski, a hero of two nations, "Father of the American Cavalry," and a Revolutionary War hero. Since 1987, the official State celebration setting is The Polish Museum of America (PMA). This year, the Pulaski Day celebration began with welcoming remarks by Malgorzata Kot, managing director of the PMA, followed by the singing of the national anthems of Poland and the United States by Mirosława Sojka-Topór with piano accompaniment by Marta Pasek.

As in the past, Illinois, Chicago, and Cook County officials, dignitaries and members of Polish American organizations, and the general public, filled the PMA's Sabina P. drink are enjoyed before the restric-Logisz Great Hall to capacity. Piotr tions of Lent begin. Janicki Consul General of the Republic of Poland in Chicago, gave a clear message to the U.S. government concerning the visa-waiver of Poles visiting the United States and described the European Union's consideration of visas for all U.S. citizens wishing to visit European Union countries. U.S. Senator Richard J. Durbin, Illinois Governor Bruce Rauner, U.S. Congressional representatives Michael Quiglev and Janice Schakowsky, along with other state and city officials and leaders of Polonian organizations also addressed the assembled crowd.

On Nov. 6, 2009, President Obama signed a joint resolution of the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives making Casimir Pulaski an honorary citizen of the United States. He is one of only seven persons to receive this honor, even though he had to wait over 200



Jan and Basia Płachta

SOCIETY CHICAGO **BRATES ŚLEDŹ.** Over 60 guests enjoyed the Chicago Society (CS), PNA Lodge1450, annual Śledź Dinner and Pageant, held Feb. 28 at LaVilla Restaurant. Greeting the guests were Mark Orwat, chair of this event, and Steve Rakowski, Chicago Society's president. Charles Komosa, co-chair, announced all the special guests and elected officials in attendance, along with a few candidates slated for the April 4 elections throughout the metro-Chicago area.

The culmination of the program was a revised and colorful Mardi Gras-style Śledź pageant narrated by Komosa. The pageant included the Angel, Robert Groszek, the Devil, Mark Orwat, Father Time, Romuald "Ro" Matuszczak, and six śledź pallbearers: Ronald "Topper" Topczewski, Steve Rakowski, Harold Brown, Anthony Kawalkowski, Robert "Rocky" Nowaczyk, and Charles "Chuck" Cwiakala carrying the śledź helium balloon. Crowned king and queen of the pageant were Jan and Basia Plachta. This year's "St. Joseph," who will serve as chaplain at the CS meetings and at special occasions, is Ted Makarewicz.

The celebration of Śledź is the Chicago Society's version of Christian and Polish traditions that dates back centuries. Poles have always taken religion and the season of Lent seriously. With equal dedication, they have indulged themselves in the happy time of Karnawał (Carnival) commencing with the feast of St. Sylvester (December 31) and ending on Ash Wednesday. The merriment picks up momentum from Shrove Thursday (Tłusty Czwartek) until midnight on Shrove Tuesday. For the week before Ash Wednesday, meats, sweets, and

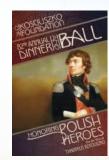
According to folklore, Carnival revelers dress as beggars, gypsies, and animals, while musicians play. Those costumed participants and musicians join in a procession led by a dziadek (old man), who carries a hobo stick with a fish attached to its end. Historically, the procession would travel from house to house, receiving gifts of food and drink along the way. In Poland, kulig, or the carnival ride, was a procession of colorfully decorated sleighs. Prior to midnight on Shrove Tuesday, a platter of śledź would remain. In certain parts of Poland, fried cakes, such as racuchy (funnel cakes) or paczki would be served.

The Chicago Society thanked William Wojcik, manager of Laramie Bakery, for the pączki; DJ Rick "Elvis" Cada, who, in full Elvis garb, performed songs of the "King of Rock 'n Roll"; and Beata Orwat of Dahlia Blooms Floral Shop for providing Mardi Gras beads.



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POLONIA OF THE EASTERN GREAT LAKES / Michael Pietruszka

Skalny Center Holds Series of Presentations

in Cheektowaga, March 3rd. The

MC was WIVB-TV news anchor

Nalina Shapiro; Cheektowaga Paul

sembly Member Monica Wallace

and Buffalo City Court Judge Amy

Martoche ... Elizabeth Kubiniec of

Buffalo and Anna Gullo of Fredo-

nia received the Manus Christi

Award from Buffalo Bishop Rich-

ard Malone at the diocese's recent

Youth Convention ... Pisanki Mak-

ing Classes were held at the offices

of the Am-Pol Eagle, March 4, 14,

Chair of the Buffalo Philharmonic

Orchestra Board of Directors ...

International Women's Day was

marked by celebrations in Bramp-

ton and Mississauga, Ontario ... On

the 9th, Maureen Gleason presented

at the monthly meeting of the Pol-

ish Genealogical Society of NYS in

the Villa Maria College cafeteria in

Cheektowaga ... Thomas Zawadz-

ki gave a presentation entitled "Ju-

March 15th meeting of the Polish

Arts Club of Buffalo, and the **Polish**

Students' Association at the Uni-

versity of Toronto screened "Planeta

Singli," a Polish comedy film with

English subtitles ... On March 17th,

retired NYS Appellate Division

Justice Ann Mikoll was honored at

the Buffalo History Museum as one

of the "Giants of Buffalo: Women

of the Law" ... The legendary Pol-

John Paul II Polish Cultural Centre

in Mississauga, March 19th ... On

March 21st, the Niagara Polish

Cultural and Historical Society

and the History Department of Ni-

agara University presented Dr. An-

drew Wise on the topic "Preserving

Jewish Cultural Heritage in Prze-

mysl, Poland" at Niagara Univer-

sitv in Lewiston ... Michelle Kisluk

of the Polish Heritage Dancers of

WNY held polka dancing classes in

anticipation of Dyngus Day at Our

Orchard Park, March 21st and 28th.

March 22nd meeting of the Profes-

sional and Business Women of Polo-

nia on Buffalo's Central Terminal at

the Potts Banquet Facility in Cheek-

towaga ... On March 24th, Maria

Nowotarska appeared in the Salon

Marty Biniasz addressed the

Skalny Center for Polish and Central European Studies at the University of Rochester, the Consulate General of the Republic of Piotrowski installed the officers; Poland in New York and the Pol- and the guest speakers included ish Heritage Society of Rochester author Andrew Nagorski, NYS Asjoined together to bring a fascinating exhibit to the Flower City. The grand opening of the exhibition "The Good Samaritans from Markowa," honoring the memory of the eight members of the Ulma family executed by the Nazis for sheltering Jews during World War II, took place, March 23 in the University of Rochester's Morey Hall.

The event started with a panel and 18 ... John Zak was named discussion which included participation by Hon. Maciej Golubiewski, Consul General of the Republic of Poland in New York; Bonnie Abrams, Director of the Center for Holocaust Awareness and Information; Aaron Hughes, Professor of a "Family History Show and Tell" Religion; Philip S. Bernstein Professor and Chair of Jewish Studies; and Randall Stone, Director of the Skalny Center and Professor of Political Science.

The exhibition ran from March lian Stanczak: Artist of Light" at the 24-26 in the Rettner Hall for Media Arts and Innovation on the university's River Campus.

Dr. Piotr Marecki, Assistant Professor at the Department of Contemporary Culture in the Institute of Culture at the Jagiellonian University in Kraków, and Skalny Visiting Professor, will present "10 Things You Did Not Know about Polish Electronic, Experimental and Otherwise Unconventional Literature" in ish band, Kombii, performed at the Sloan Hall on the university's River Campus on April 5th.

Pianist Jolanta Ziemska and guitarist Maciej Ziemski will perform "Duo Klavitarre" featuring the music of Chopin and others in Taylor Hall at the Hochstein School of Music and Dance in Downtown Rochester on April 22nd.

A "Tribute to Andrzej Zulawski," one of Poland's great cinematic writers and directors, featuring screenings on three of his films, will take place in the Dryden Theatre in Lady of the Sacred Heart Church in Rochester on May 2nd ("Possession"), May 18th ("On the Silver Globe"), and May 26th ("Cosmos").

POLONIA TIDBITS. On March 1st, the University of Toronto Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures presented "The Case of Polish: Politeness and its Role in of Poetry, Music and Theatre's pro-Higher Language Competence" in duction of Helena — The Thing Alumni Hall ... The General Pulas- about Modrzejewski" at the Prenki Association held its Installation tice Theatre in Mississauga ... The

> 80 Wesołego Alleluja!

POLISH AMERICAN CITIZENS CLUB Camden County, N.J.

80 Wesołego Alleluja!

> **WALLY PIATEK**

Berlin, New Jersey

Happy Easter Wesołego Alleluja

DAVID FRANCZYK

Commom Council Buffalo, New York

ROCHESTER, N.Y. — The Banquet at the Millennium Hotel 20th Annual St. Patrick-St. Joseph-Dyngus Day Tri-Ethnic Celebration featuring music by the Formula Band, Penny Whiskey, and Special Delivery took place at the Buffalo Irish Center, March 26th ... Also on the 26th, "Irena's Vow," a dramatic reading of the play about the heroic efforts of Irena Gut Opdyke during World War II was staged in the Marie Maday Theatre at Canisius College in Buffalo ... On March 31, Stanislaw Soyka performed a Lenten concert tribute to Saint John Paul II at The John Paul II Polish Cultural Centre in Mississauga.

> **UPCOMING.** An "Evening with John Paul II" will take place on April 1st at the Polish Canadian Legion Branch 315 Hall in Hamilton, Ontario ... Also on the 1st, Rev. Czeslaw Krysa will lead a "Egg Writing Retreat and Palm Weaving" at the St. Casimir Social Hall in Buffalo's Kaisertown neighborhood ... The WNY Chapter of the Kosciuszko Foundation will be accepting applications for its **Summer** Study in Poland scholarships until April 17th ... The **Permanent Chair** of Polish Culture at Canisius College will present "The Good Sa-

Family Exhibit," documenting the efforts of the Ulma family in saving Jews during World War II, at the Canisius College Library Walkway from April 18th through the 30th ... The Niagara Branch of the Cana- II will be screened at the Canisius dian Polish Congress and the Polish American Congress of WNY, Inc. are co-sponsoring a Jubilee Banquet celebrating the 150th Anniversary of Canada and the 100th Anniversary of the Opening of the Polish **Army Training Camp (Camp Kos**ciuszko) at Niagara-on-the-Lake, at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 418 Hall in St. Catharines, Ontario on April 22nd. The Toronto Sinfonietta under the direction of Maestro Mathew Jaskiewicz, and the Novi singers will provide entertainment before the dinner. Polish American Congress of Western New York, Inc. President James L. Ławicki II was named MC.

The Polish American Congress of WNY, Inc. will host its "Swieconka and Awards Dinner" at Kotecki's Grandview Grove in West Seneca on April 23rd. The group's honorees this year are the Cichocki Family, Alina Kisluk, the Podhale Youth Association and Brian Rusk.

maritans of Markowa: The Ulma The Bronislaw Durewicz Award will be presented to the Polish Heritage Dancers of WNY. ... On April 30th, the documentary film, "Joseph's World," about the Ulma Family in Poland during World War College Student Center.

The Buffalo Bisons Baseball team will honor Rev. Daniel Palys as its "Polish American of the Year," and Ed Reska with its Polish Community Leadership Award at its "Polish Festival Night" at Coca Cola Field in Downtown Buffalo on August 15th. The Bisons will play the Indianapolis Indians and group tickets are available from Mark Gordon at (716) 846-2018 ... The Niagara Historical Society Museum in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario will present an exhibit "Camp Kosciuszko: The Polish Army at Niagara Camp, 1917-1919" from November 1, 2017 through November 15, 2018.



If you have an item for this column, please send the information by the 6th day of the month preceding publication month (i.e. April 6 for the May issue) to pietruszka@veri-

SPOTLIGHT ON LONG ISLAND / Barbara Szylowski

Welcome Spring and Happy Easter!

Martynka Wawrzyniak is creating in collaboration with residents of Greenpoint, Brooklyn, N.Y.

In the form of a ceramic sphere atop a native meadow in McGolrick Park, the piece aims to bridge divides between the neighborhood's disparate subcultures by serving as a collective portrait of the community through embodying residents' personal homelands and migration sto-

Greenpoint, once a Polish American stronghold, is experiencing a demographic transformation as gentrification pushes out many longtime residents. "With the rising displacement and relocation of peoples across the world, Ziemia is responding to the need for collective reflection in communities on migration as not merely a global phenomenon, but as a local, micro experience that unites us all," said Wawrzyniak.

Community members from various backgrounds, cultures and socio-economic classes are invited to select and provide soil samples from specific, personally meanbehind or that embody their iden- erarchy of officials and bureaucracy. tity. These sites can be in Brooklyn, another U.S. city, or foreign CONFERENCE ON KOSCIUSZ-

the geographic coordinates.

The collected soil will be used

to create the glaze for the ceramic sphere, which will be fired out of local Greenpoint clay. "In using soil — universally symbolic for one's roots and identity —

as the medium, Ziemia gestures to the primal connection to Earth that underlies each individual's migratory experience," said Wawrzyniak. The public art piece will become

a central location for events to encourage cross-cultural exchanges and provoke dialog about immigration and the human relationship with the natural world.

Incidentally, ziemia is a historical unit of administration in Poland, and the term is not capitalized (ziemia chełmińska, not Ziemia Chełmińska). The term ziemia appeared for the first time in medieval Poland (12th-13th centuries), after the fragmentation of Poland. It referred to a former princedom or duchy, which was unified with the Polish Kingdom, and lost its politiingful locations that they have left cal sovereignty, but retained its hi-

country. Wawrzyniak records each KO. The American Association of participant's explanation of the sig- the Friends of Kosciuszko at West nificance of their chosen location, Point will hold its annual Confer-

Ziemia is a public-art project which will later be exhibited along- ence on April 28-29. This year it will side an interactive map made from be a historical event as UNESCO has declared the year 2017 to be the "Year of Kosciuszko" worldwide. The Conference will be held at the United States West Point Academy, West Point New York. Additional information www.kosciuszkoatwestpoint.org.

> **EASTER EGG FUN.** A European tradition enjoyed in Poland for centuries is egg tapping. Each player takes a hardboiled egg in his right hand and tries to tap the other player's egg in such a way that his egg will not be broken. The winner, whose egg is not broken, tries his luck again with another player and continues until each one has had a chance at the egg. The one whose egg is unbroken at the end of the game is the winner.

> > 80

Wesołego Alleluja!

GENERAL PULASKI ASSOCIATION

Buffalo, New York

 ω

Wishing All a Happy Easter

Congressman

BRIAN HIGGINS

26th-New York



POLISH CHEF / Robert Strybel

More than One Way to Enjoy Easter Eggs

Here are some traditional Polish Easter eff treats worth considering for your annual family Święcone (Easter brunch) or your club or parish Dyngus Day or Święconka:

SHARING BLESSED EGGS (dzielenie się jajkiem). Cut shelled, blessed eggs into wedge-shaped quarters and sprinkle with blessed salt & pepper. After grace, eggs are shared by all to signify the end of the Lenten fast with the symbol of New Life. Participants may be standing or seated and a plate containing the egg wedges may be past around the table or (more elegantly) it may be offered by the host to each family member. When all have their eggs impaled on their forks a general wish of "Wesołego Alleluja" goes up and all consume their eggs. Now Easter breakfast may begin.

HARD-BOILED EGGS (jaja na twardo). Place room-temp eggs in pot and fill with cold water to cover by at least 1." Add a T or so salt. Gradually bring water to boil and immediately reduce heat to a gentle simmer. Cook 10 min, then cool immediately in cold running water. When ready to shell, strike each cold or room temp hard-cooked egg against sharp edge of table or counter lengthwise, and shell should come off easily in large pieces. bowls providing horseradish, ćwikła or sauces (see below) on the side.

EGGS IN SAUCE (jaja w sosie). rated-edge knife. With An easy but delicious way to create swift cut- ting motion your own sauces is to start by forkblending ½ c mayonnaise with ½ c sour cream (or plain unsweetened yogurt), then proceed as follows:

• Easter sauce (sos to święconego): stir into basic sauce ½ c chopped

chives, green onions, radishes through to cutting-board. shell and horseradish;

- Horseradish sauce (sos chrzanowy). to 1 c basic sauce stir in 1 heaping T prepared horseradish;
- Caper sauce (sos kaparowy): Stir in 1 T caper liquid into basic sauce, add 1-2 heaping T capers and stir to distribute evenly. Note: The above sauces are also good with pâté, aspic dishes, roasts and other cold meats.

RED PICKLED EGGS (jaja marynowane na czerwono): Place peeled, hard-cooked eggs in a single layer in pan and drench with pickled beet-liquid to cover. (See beetroot & horseradish recipe below). Cover with plate to keep eggs submerged at least 1 hr. Remover eggs from bath and drain on paper towel. Serve just as they are as an alternative to the shelled, white hard-cooked eggs and intersperse them amongst the white eggs on a single platter for variety. On a large platter, the red eggs may be used to form a cross surrounded by the white eggs.

HOT STUFFED EGGS (IN SHELLS) (jaja faszerowane w skorupkach). Cook hard-boiled eggs allowing 1-2 per guest. Start with 8-10 cold, hard-cooked eggs. Serve plain whole eggs in serving Hold each egg firmly against cutting-board and tap it lengthwise with a sharp, thin-bladed, non-ser-

and dill pickle, 1 chopped hard- all. With small spoon gently scoop cooked egg and 1 t prepared out yolk and white and side aside, taking care not to break the shell. Carefully remove and discard and loose, jagged shell fragments that adhere to eggs or rim of shells. Set shells aside. Simmer 2 finely minced onions in 2 T butter until tender and golden. Grind or chop eggs fine and combine with onion. Add 1-2 heaping T finely chopped fresh dill, 1 heaping T finely chopped chives and salt & pepper to taste. Mix ingredients well. (Optional: Work 1 T sour cream into mixture.) Fill shells with mixture pressing it down very gently so as not the damage them. Sprinkle tops generously with bread crumbs, pressing them in gently. To serve, fry stuffed eggs, open-side down in 2 T butter or margarine until a golden-brown crust forms on the bottom and top of shells are hot to the touch. Serve immediately.

Other Świeconka **Favorites**

EASTER RYEMEAL SOUP (żurek wielkanocny). In pot combine 2 c diced smoked kielbasa, ham and/or roast pork, 6 c water, 1 heaping T quick-cooking rolled oats, 1 quartered onion and several peppercorns. Simmer on low under cover 20 min. Stir in 2-3 c liquid ryemeal sour (If liquid ryemeal sour is not available, add 1 c water mixed with 2 T vinegar. It is commonly sold in Polish delis or in the

as

lon

imports aisle "żur"). Also add 1/4 of a mushroom bouilcube. Bring to boil, absolute "must" to accompany trareduce heat and



EASTER SALAD (sałatka wielkanocna): Combine 2-3 c cold, cooked, diced potatoes, 1 can drained peas & carrots, 2 cans drained navy beans (or pea-beans), 4 diced dill pickles, 1 bunch chopped green onions, 1 bunch diced radishes, 2-3 peeled, cored, diced apples and 2-5 diced hard-cooked eggs. Toss ingredients gently, season with salt & pepper, garnish and lace with just enough basic mayonnaise-sour cream sauce (jaja w sosie, left) to coat ingredients. Garnish with chopped parsley. Note: Feel free to juggle quantities according to preference. Other possible ingredients include: capers, chopped celery, bell pepper, diced beets, a firm diced pear, or even small cubes of ham.

from heat. In small mixing bowl, fork-blend or whisk 1 heaping T ham. flour with 3/4 c sour cream (or plain unsweetened yogurt) until smooth. Add 1 c hot stock 1 T at a time to sour-cream mixture, fork-blending or whisking constantly, then stir mixture into pot. Return to heat and simmer 2-3 min just below boiling point. Serve over hard-cooked eggs and sliced cooked sausage. Cubed farmer cheese, dry rye-bread cubes and horseradish may also be added according to individual preference.

BEETROOT & HORSERADISH (ćwikła z chrzanem). Drain a 12 oz can pickled beets (reserving liquid). Grate or chop fine and mix with 1-2 heaping T prepared horseradish. Optional: sprinkle with a pinch or 2 ground caraway. This relish as an

boil and simmer 5 min. Remove tangy, zingy accompaniment to cold roast meats (pork, turkey, veal) and

> **COLD-MEAT PLATTER** (półmisek zimnych mięs). On lettuce-lined oval or rectangular serving platters artistically arrange any of the following sliced cold meats (homemade or store bought): boiled ham, baked ham, smoked pork loin (Canadian bacon,) kabanosy (thin dry sausage), myśliwska, (hunter's sausage), krakowska (Kraków sausage), smoked kiełbasa, baked fresh kiełbasa, cold sliced roasts (pork loin, veal, beef, turkey), boiled slab bacon, boiled beef tongue and/or smoked turkey breast. Decorate platters with parsley sprigs, radish roses, pickled mushrooms and/or spiced plums. An Easter egg may be placed in a bed of greenery at one end of the platter.



Pins Badge on Son



DAVID ZAPOROWSKI (right), a New York State Parole Officer, had the honor of pinning his son, Luke Zaporowski, with his badge following Luke's completion of training at the Monroe County Public Safety Training Facility, Rochester, N.Y. The younger Zaporowski is now a County Sheriff Road Patrol Deputy, and will be work with a Field Training Deputy before officially graduating in August.

Polish Heritage Club **Issues Parade Invites**

NORTHAMPTON, Mass. The Polish Heritage Club of Northampton invites all Polish and Polish American organizations to participate in its 2017 Pulaski Day Parade, to be held Oct. 9 this year. The day begins with a Memorial Mass at a local church at 10:00 a.m., followed by a parade starting at 11:00 a.m., which proceeds through downtown Northampton culminating at Pulaski Park. The program at the Park commemorates the late General Casimir Pulaski, Father of the American Cavalry.

Past parades have included Polish groups in costume, marching bands, Daughters and Sons of the American Revolution, area veterans' organizations, drum corps, local legislators, and dignitaries.

For information, contact Angie Fydenkevez at (413) 530-0145, angelafydo@gmail.com; Mary Ellen Englaish at (413) 586-4827, missmarymae@aol.com; or Jerry Budgar at (413) 584-2964, gbudgar@

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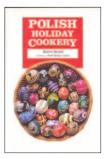
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POLISH HOLIDAY COOKERY \$16.95 by Robert Strybel Item 2-644 248 pp., pb., Hippocrene Bks.

day Cookery acquaints readers with traditional

Polish foods associated with various occasions and furnishes countless cooking tips and serving suggestions. This "instruction manual for the culturally aware Polish American" offers more than 400 recipes, along with a lexicon of basic foods and culinary concepts, ingredients and procedures, and sample menus. The clearly-written recipes facilitate the preparation of the dishes and their incorporation in the Polish American mainstream culture.

Polish Holiday Cookery covers holidays such as Christmas and Easter, as well as celebrations yearround. Ideas for banquets, picnics, dinners, and family favorites abound throughout, ensuring that cooks have a selection of dishes for any occasion.



AUTHENTIC POLISH COOKING by Marianna Dworak \$15.99 Item 2-677

7.5x7.5 in., 176

Polish cuisine is hearty and filling, nd though some may think the Polis far from the truth. With its rich soups, innumerable salads and side dishes,

ful and delectable desserts, and yes, brown Easter eggs. meat and potato fare, this cuisine consists of a wide variety of dishes incorporating a broad selection of cultural and regional influences that will have you licking your lips.

Organized by course, this cookbook features more than one hundred recipes, including beet soup, cucumber salad, potato pancakes, Hunter's Stew, pork and rice stuffed cabbage leaves, traditional "babka" cake, and of course, pierogi! Numerous recipes for veal, chicken, kielbasa sausage, pork, and beef dishes make this a great and thorough cookbook that is a fantastic addition to any kitchen.

With easy-to-follow instructions for simple as well as more intricate dishes, a section on traditional holiday meals, estimated cooking times, and suggestions for healthy ingredient substitutions, this cookbook will teach anyone how to cook delicious Polish food. For those wishing to re-create their grandmother's favorite recipe, or those wanting to experience a new cuisine, Authentic Polish Cooking will bring a bit of Eastern Europe to your home.

PLEASING POLISH RECIPES by Jacek and Malgorzata Nowakowski



Item 2-678 5-1/2 x 3-1/2 inches 160 pp., spiral bound

This cookbook features a great variety of flavorful regional foods, such as hot beer, vegetable soup, leek salad, graham bread, Polish hunter's stew, stuffed baked turkey notato pancakes ish diet is all meat and potatoes, that dill pickles, nut roll, gingerbread, and royal mazurkas.

Readers also will find a table grace tasty fish and vegetarian meals, color- and information on dyeing traditional



PIEROGI LOVE New Takes on an Old World Comfort Food By Casey Barber \$19.95 Item 2-675 Hc; 128 pp.

8.3 x 8.1 inches Full color photographs

This tasty tribute to the pierogi takes a familiar wrapping and stuffs it with a host of unconventional, innovative, and decidedly non-traditional fillings. With 60 sweet and savory recipes that include everything from the classic Polish cheese and potato offerings to American-inspired Reuben pierog and fried apple pierogi to worldly fillings like falafel and Nutella, there's a pierog for every party and every palate! Each recipe comes with a charming story from Barber's extensive explorations in pierogi flavors. Casey Barber is a freelance food writer, photographer, and editor of the critically acclaimed website Good. Food. Stories.



POLISH CLASSIC RECIPES \$16.95 by Laura and Peter Zeranski Item 2-656

2011, 96 pp., h.c., index, 100 color photographs by Matthew Aron Roth

Designed for the modern kitchen yet retaining traditional roots, each heritage recipe in Polish Classic Recipes has been tested to perfection. Accompanied by notes on Polish holiday customs, history, and menu pairing suggestions, these dishes offer a flavorful

Red with white towel (cloth may vary).

sample of the Polish dining experience, as passed down from generation to generation.



POLISH COUNTRY KITCHEN сооквоок by Sophie Knab \$19.95 Item 2-632 337 pp., sc; top-From selling author Sophie Hodoro-

wicz Knab comes an expanded edition to a best-selling book that combines recipes for favorite Polish foods with the history and cultural traditions that created them. Arranged according to the cycle of sea-

Polish countryside through the year. The Polish Country Kitchen Cookbook gives its readers priceless historical information such as the type of utensils used in Poland at the turn of the century, the meaning behind the Pascal butter lamb, and many other insightful answers to common questions asked by descendants of Polish

sons, this cookbook explores life in the

The over 100 easy-to-follow recipes are all adapted for the modern North American kitchen. Lovely illustrations and pearls of practical wisdom ("Household Hints") from the old Polish kitchen marvelously complement this book.



immigrants.

POLISH CLASSIC \$16.95 By Laura and Peter Zeranski Item 2-654

good-natured Polish expression of greeting and expression of good will can be heard when friends, neighbors, and fam-

ily meet. From

"How have you been" and "How's everything?" to "How do you do?" a lot of questions are packed into these three little words.

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POLISH ROOTS



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Holy Saturday Food Blessing Defines the Faithful

continued from cover

usually taken to church for the blessing, but the actual scenario may vary. Long tables may be set up inside or outside of churches priests come out every 15-20 minutes to perform the ritual. In some churches the baskets are brought up to the communion rail or placed in the aisle next to the pews or kept in the pews, but its cloth covering is always removed for the blessing.

How to prepare your Easter basket for the Holy Saturday blessing

What goes into the święconka?

When preparing your Easter basket for the Holy Saturday food blessing, it is first lined with a linen or lace napkin whose ends should extend beyond the basket's rim, so the Easter food can be covered while the basket is being carried to and from church. The napkin symbolizes the shroud in which Jesus' body was wrapped. Into the napkinlined basket are placed:

EGGS, COLORED OR PLAIN (jaja, pisanki). Plain or colored hard-cooked eggs of one type or another are an absolute "must." The egg symbolizes new life, and the way a chick pecks its way out of the shell is a metaphor for Christ emerging form His tomb to bring us the promise of eternal life.

BREAD (chleb). This is "our daily bread," "the staff of life" and "the bread of life', a metaphor for the redemptive grace Christ has upon

Nowadays, Easter baskets are bread, whose tops are marked with a cross, are specially baked to fit Easter baskets, but a slice of rye bread is also OK.

(depending on the weather), and MEAT & SAUSAGE (mieso, wedliny). A piece of kiełbasa, a slice of ham or roast meat are usually included. All meats are symbolic of the Paschal lamb or Christ resurrected, His victory over death and His promise of eternal life.

> HORSERADISH (chrzan). Both plain, grated, prepared horseradish as well the well-known beet-horseradish relish known as ćwikła symbolize one of the bitter herbs of the Passover which foretold the suffering of Christ on the Cross. It is also symbolic of life in which one must accept the bitter with the sweet.

> VINEGAR (ocet). A small cruet of vinegar symbolizes the sour wine (our English word "vinegar" comes from the French "vin aigre" = sour wine) which Jesus was given on a sponge to drink while hanging on the cross.

> **SALT** (sól). Salt in a salt-cellar, saltshaker or a small paper cone containing a symbolic portion (1 t or so) retards spoilage, improves the taste of food and symbolizes that which preserves us from corruption and adds zest to daily life.

> PEPPER (pieprz). Pepper in a pepper pot, pepper-shaker or a small paper cone containing a symbolic portion (1 t or so) is another seasoning that adds zest and preserves food. Like horseradish, it was one of the bitter herbs of the Passover.

mankind. Small round loaves of EASTER CAKES (babka, mazurek, placek, chałka, sernik). Babka (a whole small babka or just a slice) together with servings of other traditional Easter cakes are among the typical contents of the traditional Polish Easter basket. Following the 40-day period of Lenten self-denial and mortification, cakes and confections symbolizing the sweetness of eternal life can now be freely enjoyed in celebration Christ's Resur-

> WINE AND OTHER SPIRITS (wino i inne trunki). Some but not all Poles include a small decanter or cruet of wine or other spirits in their Easter basket. Its judicious use was sanctioned by Jesus at the Wedding Feast at Cana, and wine was raised to the altar at the Last Supper where Christ originated the Eucharistic sacrifice of the Mass.

> EASTER LAMB (baranek wielkanocny). Although this is the prime Easter symbol, it is added to the basket last so it can guard over the remaining ingredients and be clearly visible during the blessing. The lamb is usually made of butter or sugar (rock candy), but can also be of dough, wood, plaster, fleece or even plastic. It wields a usually red banner of Resurrection emblazoned with a gold cross.

> BOX TWIGS (bukszpan). Boxwood, an evergreen shrub with tiny green leaves, is used to decorate Easter baskets. Cranberry leaves are used for the same purpose. Some add a few pussywillow twigs. The main thing is to add a bit of decorative plantlife. The baskets should be uncovered for the blessing.

Holy Saturday Food Blessing Prayer



REV. MAREK SOBCZAK, pastor of St. Stanislaus Kostka in Greenpoint, blesses baskets on Holy Saturday last year.

by Robert Strybel

As many old Polonian neighborhoods gradually began disintegratung, many traditions fell by the wayside. People attached to their heritage often asked the pastor of an ethncially mixed parish about the Holy Saturday food blessing – with mixed results. Some priests, eager to oblige, may not be familar with the Polish blessing.

the English language:

HOLY SATURDAY FOOD-BLESS-ING PRAYER. Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to let us in faith experience your presence amongst us during the festive repast on the day of Your victory, so that we might rejoice at taking part in Your life and resurrection.

Living Bread, who came down from heaven and in Holy Communion gives life to the world, bless this bread and all holiday baked

goods in memory of the bread with which You fed the people devoutly listening to You in the desert and in memory of the holiday dishes You consumed with the Apostles during the Last Supper.

Lamb of God, who has conquered evil and cleansed the world of sin, bless these meats, sausages and other food of which we shall partake in memory of the Paschal Here is the prayer, translated into Lamb. Bless also this salt that it may preserve us from corruption.

> Lord Jesus Christ, our life and Resurrection, bless these eggs, the sign of new life, so that when we share them with our loved ones, we might also mutually share the joy that You too are in our midst. May we all attain Your eternal feast there, where you live and reign for ever and ever. Amen.

> The priest now sprinkles the food with holy water, while the faithful make the Sign of the Cross as their baskets get blessed.

Wesotego Alleluja



Holy Saturday basket blessing at Our Lady of Help of Christians in Porąbka Uszewska, Poland. Loniowa@diecezja.tarnow.pl

DEBBIE'S PHOTOS OF POLAND

www.polishfamily.com

Babka and the Butter Lamb

continued from cover

horseradish and sausage are brought to church.

of the modestly sumptuous Easter (lace), table not only encouraged the apet- waniliowe (vanilla), tite, but gladdened the heart.

It was prepared in several other ed on it." a lamb, and sometimes a piece of varieties and forms: petynetowe (also known as muślinowe - muslin), parzone (scalded/steamed). After weeks of fasting, the sight *lokciowe* (ulna-elbow), *koronkowe* szafranowe (saffron), piaskowe (sand), chlebowe (bread), żółtkowe



IELKANOCNA BABKA (Easter Babka). In recent years there has been an increased popularity in homebaked bread. What better than to come home to than the comforting aroma that was once associated with an idvllic childhood. The bread that stands cooling is real – it has a beautiful golden crust, an even crumb, and delicious flavor. It looks and tastes as if aching effort went into its making.

The people of Poland, whose food was tied to religious feasts and fasts, as well as the vissitudes of the harvest and the time of year, distinguish between plain and luxury food – and one way of doing this was to contrast the standard daily bread with grand cakes and yeastleavened breads. These traditionally required time, loving supervision and a carefully controlled woodfired oven.

Endless hours of care were lavished on the creating of the Wiel- with linen cloth, the formula of bak-

WESOŁEGO ALLELUJA!

kanocna Babka - a symbol of excellence and abundance, sweetness of life and pleasure.

No word in the Polish language has as diverse meanings diverse as "baba." The shapeless stone statue "babami" of pagan times were found in the famous residence of the Kalinowski and Potocki fami-

ly depicted women in the standing position, with hands on stomach or holding an object, similar to a time measuring hourglass. The word means "grandmother" – and the cake might have been named as such because it is made with gentleness and loving care. The loaf when baked in a bundt pan resembles a grandmother's wide, fluted skirt.

But "baba," with its diminutive form "babka," is a cake – made from flour dough, baked symbolically during the "blessing" of Easter. It can be dressed with saffron to give it a yellow glow and shaped as a Turkish turban by baking it in molds - clay or copper, saucepans or paper forms. The latter tend to reach a height of two feet, and are called Podolskie (Podolian). According to Zygmunt Gloger in Rok Polski w życiu, tradyci i pieśni (1900) – the gentry baked in oiled terra-cotta pots, from which to remove the babka, you needed to break it.

(yolk), ponczowe (punched), migdałowe (almond), rodzynkowe (raisin), piankowe (foam), puchowe (down), Warszawskie, Krakowskie, Ukraińskie, Wołyńskie (Volhynian), and prawdziwie Polskie (truly Polish). For Easter is was once called Kołacz or Korowaj, and later Babka Wielkanocna

Baking Easter Babka was always a great event. At the very beginning of Holy Week prepartions began. The process was completely absorbing to housewives, and men were forbidden to enter the kitchen workplace. Babka was baked by proven and complicated recipes that incorporated egg yolks based on the dozens that were whipped with sugar, quarts of fresh butter, the whitest wheat flour sifted through the finest sieve (sometimes brewed with milk), saffron soaked in alcohol (added for yellowness), the best yeast, aromatic roots and dried fruit, especially raisins and almonds, lemon rind and orange peel. Covered

> er's yeast, warm milk, mixed with flour and sugar and a pinch of salt was a solution that stood to rise — and rise it did.

When put in oven, extreme care was taken so that the delicate babka's rise did not fall and deflate. Time stood still. No doors slamming, no loud conversations, and it

lies in Tulczyn, along with Eastern was forbidden to open windows and He then opened a fashionable pastry borderlands. These antiquities most- doors because the fire of the oven would be eschewed by the drafts resulting in a raw spot in the dough - undermining all efforts. No one was allowed in the kitchen. For two hours, all walked on tiptoe, spoke in whisper or were silent. The hostess also made every effort to ensure that the babka did not rise excessively or become too brown and appear burnt. Beautifully overgrown without losing its shape, the Easter Babka can reach a height of 24 inches.

When removed from the oven, precautions were taken to keep the babka delicate - the mold was put aside on a soft feather pillow or down quilt and the form was frequently turned to all sides. A failed babka was a disaster - a culinary embarrassment and a potential risk to the good name of the woman. Jarosław Iwaszkiewicz wrote: "Unforgettable was the sight when a bunch of women with serious faces swayed those babkas in a ritual way - as if the fate of the world depend-

Fluffy and light, a babka success was a testament to the craftsmanship of the hostess. No wonder, that the secrets of the methods and recipes were kept under "lock and key" and mostly committed to memory.

The "Warsaw" and "truly Polish" babki were considered topnotch cakes and a real decoration of Easter tables. Some recipes called for 24-60 egg yolks. Popular were the recipes for Lithuanian, Wielkopolska and Warsaw babka. The first recommended to take dozens of yolks, 2 cups flour and then it was called zółtkowa or 5 cups of yolks for 1 ½ cups of flour and it was a baba koronkowa. Wielkopolska, known as Łokciowa Wielkanocna recommended a liter of yolks with 2 cups of flour. Warsaw required 2 quarts of yolks to a quart of flour. All recipes were equally stout and very yolk wasteful.

Recipes were perfected and held in memory, handwritten, or passed down in the oral tradition. This recipe found in Kucharz Wielkopolski (1881) by Marja Ślężańska was vague indeed, and lacked the specificity by the standards of modern cookbooks:

BABA ŁOKCIOWA WIELKANOCNA

I liter of egg yolks beaten for half an hour, then sift in 1/2 liter of dry flour, 1/4 liter of sugar, 1.4 liter of thick yeast, beat again for a half hour; form on a smeared parchment paper, once the height of the arc sets, pour the mass in the form and put on the warm stove until it rises up to two fingers below the mold; whereupon insert it in a hot oven for three quarters, but very carefully, so as not to disturb; release the oven heat at the top and cover babka with paper. After baking, remove it from the oven and carefully put the form on a pillow; When cool, remove from the mold, but also carefully, because the dough is very light and delicate.

Some say babka was first baked in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth in the late seventeenth century. In the early 18th century, the exiled Polish king Stanisław August Poniatowski and his pastry chef, Nicolas Stohrer, created a babka almost like the one we know today.

In French cuisine, it is appropriated to the King's daughter, Queen Marie Leszczyńska, wife of Louis XV. Marie married the King in 1725. At the time, the court in Versailles was the center of all that was fashionable in the world. Stanisław followed Marie to Versailles and, of course, took the babka to France. shop in 1730. It became popular in European countries, and particularly in France. Because of its shape, it is said the King named it after after the heroic Ali Baba character from *The Thousand and One Nights* book of Arabian folk tales. The French babka underwent various modifications, but its foundation remains yeast dough.

Leszczyńska was the catalyst for the babka's culinary journey to Italy. Maria Carolina was the sister of Marie Antoinette (the ill-fated Queen of France) and the goddaughter of King Louis XV of France and his queen, Marie. Married to King Ferdinand IV, Maria Carolina became interested in rejuvenating court life, making Naples (the capital of the kingdom) a centre of the arts and one of the most sumptuous and rich courts in Europe. In the late 1700s, she asked her sister, Marie Antoinette, to send trained, professional, French chefs and babka was introduced.

BABKA RECIPES

Wielkanocna Babka Easter Babka

- 1/2 cup (1 stick) softened unsalted butter
- 1/2 cup granulated sugar
- 5-15 egg yolks (large eggs
- at room temperature)* 1 active compressed yeast
- age dry active yeast 1/4 cup very warm water

cake (preferred) or 1 pack-

- · Grated zest of 1 lemon
- 1/2 tsp ground cinnamon
- 1 tsp salt
- · 1 cup milk scalded and cooled to lukewarm
- ~ 4 cups sifted all-purpose flour (unbleached brand recommended)
- 1 cup golden raisins (soak in water or rum to plump)
- 1/4 cup sliced blanched almonds (optional)

the amount of eggs used will alter the golden color, texture and fluffiness of the Babka

Cream butter & sugar in large bowl. Beat 4-14 egg yolks until thick & lemon-colored. Stir into creamed mix. Soften/dissolve yeast in 1/4 cup water. Add to mix with the lemon zest. Beat in salt, cinnamon, and vanilla. Add milk and flour to make a soft dough. Stir in raisins. Knead in bowl until dough no longer sticks to the hands. Cover & let rise till double (2 hours). Butter a bundt pan (~3 quart) and shape dough to fit. Put in pan, cover and let rise again till double (about 1 1/2 hours). Beat remaining egg yolk slightly with 2 Tbsp water. Brush on raised dough and sprinkle with almonds.

Bake in preheated 350° oven for about 30-50 minutes, until golden, or until hollow sounding when tapped on top.

Cool on a rack or on goosedown pillows. Leave plain or dust with confectioner's sugar or drizzle with a flat icing.

Hints: Don't add more flour. That's what keeps this cross between a cake and a bread light. Use slightly dampened hands to deal with the sticky dough when transferring it from the bowl to the pans, etc. It will never become completely "unsticky."

Bread Machine Easter Babka

Steep 1/4 cup vodka, 1/2 tsp saffron threads and 1 tbsp grated orange zest together for 30 minutes.

Beat 1/2 cup butter (softened), 6 tbsp sugar together until pale and creamy

Put the saffron mixture in the bread machine pan and add 3 large eggs and 2 tbsp water

Add 3 1/2 cups unbleached white bread flour, 1/2 tsp salt Make indentation in flour and add 2 tsp Rapid-Rise instant dry yeast. Set bread machine on dough

setting; press "Start" Mix for 5 minutes, then add the

creamed butter and sugar mixture. When the machine beeps or 5 minutes before the end of knead-

ing cycle, add 1/2 cups raisins Lightly oil a brioche pan.

When bread is finished kneading, remove from bread machine pan and place dough on floured surface. Punch the dough down gently, and shape it into a plump

Place the dough in the oiled pan, cover with lightly oiled plastic wrap; and set aside in warm place for about 2 hours, or until it has risen almost to the top of the

Preheat oven to 400 degrees F. Bake for 20 minutes, then reduce the oven temperature to 375 degrees F and continue to bake for 15 - 20 minutes more, until golden.

Turn the Babka out onto a wire rack to cool. Meanwhile ...



lcing

Combine 1 cup confectioner's sugar and 1 tbsp lemon juice and 1 tbsp hot water or 2 tbsp milk

a combination of milk and rum or apple juice – mix well

Drizzle the icing over the completely cool Babka

Sprinkle with blanched almond slivers or slices and orange zest or candied orange rind to decorate.

ARANEK WIELKANOCNY with a gold cross (although other ered with snow-white tablecloth, the angusek (from the Latin angus) an intricately made lamb bearing the resurrection banner reigns as the centerpiece. The Easter Lamb represents Christ Resurrected and is thus the typical Polish Easter symbol. The lamb adorns greeting cards, and is blessed in Easter baskets.

The custom of setting the table with a lamb holding a red flag was introduced in the sixteenth century by Pope Urban V in the 16th century. In the seventeenth century. angusek was described to be found to every Polish home during the Easter observance. It was made of wax, baked bread, cake dough, sugar, marzipan, clay, plaster, wood, blown glass, or butter. On the royal tables agnusek was made of gold, silver, porcelain, and was adorned with precious stones.

It later became known as Baranek Wielkanocny and wields a red "Alleluia" banner emblazoned

(The Butter Lamb). On the colors are also encountered) and a Swięconka Easter table cov- red ribbon representing the Blood of Christ.

> The earliest lambs were artfully made of butter. Shaped by hand, they were created in many shapes and sizes. To make them in a wooden or clay mold – one would press butter, clamp shut, and then submerge in iced or deep-well water to

The butter lamb is a nod to both Easter symbolism — Jesus often is referred to as the "Lamb of God" and to the tradition of Catholics abstaining from butter during Lent, the 40 days of atonement for sins that Christians mark before Easter.

Lambs were later made from metal cast molds of cake, gingerbread or sugar in patisserie and bakery shops.

MAKING YOUR OWN BARANEK.

Plastic lamb molds to make your own butter lamb are available in two sizes at the PAJ gift store

continued on next page

Butter Lamb: the Artistic May want to Sculpt their Own Lamb

page 15 (www.polamjournal.com/ Bookstore/Easter/easter.html). Simply coat the brand

mold with vegetable oil (spray works best), press in softened butter, clamp halves together, and place til hardened.

If you have an artistic and adventurous flair, you can make a butter lamb form with a couple of sticks of chilled butter, a knife, and a potato ricer. Start by slicing off the end of a stick of butter slightly larger than a square; that's the head. Place it atop one end of the remaining stick, perpendicular to the stick. From another stick, slice off a chunk about the size of the top of your thumb and stick it to the front of the head; shape it into the form of a muzzle. Form little triangles for ears and place on either side of the head.

Scoop more butter into a potato ricer, and squeeze out about a quarter to a half an inch of butter threads. Scrape the butter from the ricer with a knife and dab on the sculpture. Repeat until the entire body is covered except for the face. For eyes, insert two cloves, or peppercorns, and place on a bed of curly parsley.

THAT'S A LOTTA BUTTA! - THE MALCZEWSKI BUTTER LAMB.

Today, various creameries mass produce butter lambs by machine.



in refrigerator un- You can make a butter lamb form with a couple of sticks of chilled butter, a knife, and a potato ricer.

> Large boxes of bulk butter are dumped into a vat and whipped before using machines to form the butter into lamb shapes. The butter lambs then are packaged in plastic forms that come down conveyors before they are boxed, frozen and

shipped to grocers. The butter lamb is a particular tradition in Buffalo, New York's Broadway Market, where its annual introduction has become a symbol of spring. It takes about 20 tons of butter every Easter season to make about 100,000 Malczewski Easter butter lambs in five different sizes.

The company Camellia Meats

were first created by Dorothy "Ma" Malczewski. She started making butter lambs in the kitchen of her East Side home in the early 1960s, after she was inspired by a wooden es – to six ounces – to a 10-ounce lamb-shaped butter mold her father lamb. Eventually, there were seven brought home from Poland.

alczewski would eventually sell her butter lambs in seven sizes from her chicken stand in the Broadway Market, introducing them to generations more lambs. of families as an Easter-time tradition. "Nobody decorated the butter time Buffalo tradition at local food lamb like my mother," said Jim Malczewski. "The red ribbon started it. We used to make the Alleluia flags by hand with red tape and hand-cut toothpicks. I'm talking thousands of toothpicks."

Mrs. Malczewski did not invent the lamb figurines, but she was responsible for popularizing them. 'Another company, Buffalo Butter, was making butter lambs at the time," she said in a 2006 interview. "The Buffalo Butter lambs were nice, but they were small. I thought, this gives me an idea to make some more attractive lambs. I thought there must be a different way to make prettier ones, not only for our Polish people, but to let all of us enjoy a lamb on the table Easter."

Dorothy Malczewski

turning

point for

of "curls" – a pastry bag filled with whipped butter was used to adorn the lamb. The business kept growing, and lambs grew from four ouncdifferent sizes, including a threepound butter lamb for banquets. The increasing demand through the 1970s pushed Mrs. Malczewski to purchase a house on Gibson Street across from the market to churn out

Buying a butter lamb is a longstores, major grocery chains and the Broadway Market during Easter season. Camellia Meats kept

now produces the butter lambs that the butter lambs was the addition the name Ma Malczewski's Easter Stand as their primary location for selling the butter lambs. Visitors can take their photo with butter lamb cutout and post it on social media. A tradition kept alive turned into an empire, and each year a Malczewski butter lamb float graces the Dyngus Day Parade.

The Baranek Wielkanocny remain popular because they are nostalgic for many people. Arguments will persist over cutting the butter head off, and the lambs will continue to be an important part of our Polish American Easter tradition and something to look forward to each year.



Wesołego Alleluja! Happy Easter to All!

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Division of the Polish National Alliance

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LOWELL POLISH CULTURAL COMMITTEE

Lowell, Massachusetts

Washington Celebrates Polish Heritage as Gortat Leads the Way



The NBA Washington Wizards held Polish Heritage Night recently, thanks in large part to the efforts of their Polish-born center Marcin **Gortat**. It was the sixth such event he helped organize. The event included a tribute to Polish Underground fighter Julian E. Kulski and a performance by Polish cheerleaders. Polish President Andrzej Duda sent a video message saying, "This is a fantastic initiative and I support it with all my heart."

His father, Janusz Gortat, was a military officer, so Marcin usually honors soldiers at the event. In addition. Janusz was a bronze medalist light-heavyweight boxer at the 1972 and 1976 Olympic Games. He actually lost to Leon Spinks in 1976, though he beat the future heavyweight champion at the world championships a year later. It also should be noted that Marcin's mother, Alicja, was a volleyball player for the Polish national team.

Marcin tells the story of how he came home years ago and showed his father a tattoo of him on his left pectoral muscle, with '72 and '76 inked alongside the portrait. Janusz's response to the tribute was: "Have you lost your mind?"

Before the game, the Polish Embassy in D.C. hosted a lecture which included introductory remarks from Polish Ambassador Piotr Wilczek, and a conversation between Gortat, UFC Champion Joanna Jędrzejczyk, Polish actress Alicja Bachleda-Curuś and Polish American CNN anchor Wolf Blitzer.

The Wizards beat the New Orleans Pelicans, and Gortat had 12 points and 17 rebounds in a Wizard victory. At age 32, the "Polish Machine" is on his way to a fifth straight season of averaging at least 11 points and 8 rebounds.

Grabowski is fondly remembered Girl Happy, Towering Inferno, Son as one of the greats of hot rodding, but he was a real "Renaissance Frankie Avalon "beach blanket" Man" who acted in over 45 films and TV and was a wood sculptor who was among the first to carve voodoo-head shifter knobs.

Norm was born in 1933 in Maplewood, N.J, the third and youngest child of Polish immigrants Anthony



Grabowski (above) in 2008, and (left) with one of his vintage Hot Rod Model Ts.

and Mania Grabowski. Despite his stocky physique he suffered from severe asthma, so the Grabowski family moved to Southern California for the warm, dry air. Hot rods were becoming very big at the time, as old, classic American cars with large engines were being modified for linear speed. Norm started building custom vehicles even before he was old enough to drive.

Grabowski went on to become one of the giants of Hot Rodding. He built his most popular car in the early 1950s using a shortened 1922 Ford Model T touring and shortened Model A pickup bed, creating the first T-bucket. The Cadillac-powered car, then known as the Lightnin' Bug, appeared on the cover of Hot Rod. He got even more exposure when Life magazine ran a photo of Grabowski sitting in the hot rod in 1957. Grabowski was then able to obtain numerous TV and movie appearances for both himself and the Lightnin' Bug, which became better known as the "Kookie Kar" after its use in the TV show 77 Sunset Strip.

Over the years Grabowski HOT ROD NORM. Norm showed up in films like Roustabout, of Flubber, Hooper, and several movies. He also appeared in various TV shows like the Beverly Hillbil-

> Norm retired from acting after appearing in Cannonball Run in 1981, but continued his wood carving business. Known for his humor

also had a night club act that performed in Branson MO and else-

DEADSPIN. Julian "Julie" Wera (Werra) had a very good baseball career, and had the distinction of being a member of the 1927 Yankees, considered by many the greatest team of all time. However, today he's probably best remembered for a bizarre incident that happened after his playing days ended.

Julie's parents, John and Anna (Dzieminka) Wera, were born and

and sense of mischief, "El Polacko" read that Julie Wera had committed Iwona, was a top volleyball player, suicide. The report said that Wera killed himself with an overdose of where. Grabowski died in 2012 at sleeping pills after an argument with his estranged wife. As it turned out, it was not Wera, but an imposter. A man posing as Wera had been hired as business manager of the Oroville CA Red Sox in 1947. He didn't look like the real Wera, but claimed that he was badly disfigured during the war and had undergone plastic surgery. The imposter was so good that he convinced two men who had actually played with the real major leaguer. However, after the suicide story broke reporters found out that married in Poland before coming to the real Julie Wera was happily

and his sister, Milena, also played international volleyball.

SANDY SOCCER. Poland is looking forward to taking part in the upcoming Beach Soccer World Cup for the first time in 11 years. One of Poland's top players, Boguslaw Saganowski, said that there are only about a thousand people playing it in Poland, but that could change with success in the World Cup. That'll be tough, since Poland will be competing in the Bahamas in a group with two of the sport's top teams, Brazil

Saganowski added: "In my opinion, it's harder to play on sand than on grass, for example. Beach soccer is more dynamic, we play barefoot and the surface is uneven. We also often play in very high temperatures." Boguslaw was asked if fellow Pole Robert Lewandowski, one of the world's best strikers on grass, could excel in beach soccer. "Yes," he said with a smile, "but only after a few training sessions."

PERKOSKI'S NOTEBOOK. Po-

land's Konrad Bukowiecki won gold and broke Poland's record in the shot-put competition at the Indoor European Championships in Belgrade ... Poland won 12 medals, seven gold, including Adam Kszczot (800 meter event) Sylwester Bednarek (men's high jump), Marcin Lewandowski (1,500-m run), and Piotr Lisek (men's pole vault) ... The Polish ski jumping team of Piotr Żyła, Dawid Kubacki, Maciej Kot and Kamil Stoch took home gold in the team event at the 2017 World Ski Championships ... 37-year-old Artur Boruc announced his retirement as a goalkeeper for the Polish National Team ... The Chicago Bears are looking for continued progress from former fourth-round pick Nick Kwiatkoski, who recorded 43 tackles, one sack and five tackles-for-loss while starting the final six games of his rookie season ... Cubs' Matt Sczcur is performing well this spring as the outfielder as he hopes to earn a reserve spot. If Chicago tries to send him down, he will have to pass



the United States in 1893 and set- married and very alive, working tling in the Polish East End of Winona, Minn.. Julie was born in 1902, one of 11 children the couple had. Rather than go to high school, he went to work as a meat cutter, while playing amateur baseball at a very high level. In 1924 he joined a semipro team before being signed by the minor league St. Paul Saints.

The New York Yankees bought his contract in 1926 and the 25-yearold became the only rookie to make it on the roster of the 1927 Yankees (which also included catcher **John**ny Grabowski). Wera mostly pinch hit, appearing in 38 games with a .238 batting average with three RBI. He was injured late in the season in a home-plate collision, and was on the bench when the Yankees swept Pittsburgh in the World Series. Still, he earned the same World Series purse as Ruth, Gehrig and the rest of the Yankees: \$5,700. It was more than double Wera's salary for that

The 5'7" righty ended up back in the minors for the next 10 seasons, mostly playing third base, and only returning to the majors for five games with the Yankees in 1929. He played a total of 43 games for the Yankees in his two-year career, finishing his career with a batting average of .278 and one HR. After the 1937 season Wera left organized baseball and returned to Minnesota.

In 1948 fans were shocked to

as a butcher in Rochester, Minn. It wasn't until 1975 that the real Julie Wera died, of a heart attack. In 1983 Wera was inducted into Winona's Polish Hall of Fame posthumously.

NEW DEAL. Poland's Robert Lewandowski recently signed a new contract to remain with the Bundaslegia club Bayern Munich until 2021. He joined the team in 2014, and has led Bayern to league titles in 2015 and 2016, which he hopes to do again this year.

The 28-year-old is considered one of the best strikers in the world. He comes from an athletic family. His father, Krzystof, was Polish judo champion and played soccer in the second division, his mother, through waivers.

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POLISH CHILDREN'S HEARTLINE (a non-profit corporation, State of New Jersey) begins its 32nd year of helping children. An all volunteer non-profit organization receiving generous donations from Polonia and American supporters makes it possible for over 2000 Polish children to be treated annually by cardiac surgeons and physicians in hospitals in Poland. As requested, equipment critical to pediatric care is provided to six hospitals in Zabrze, Katowice, Lodz, Suwalki, Bialystok and Grajewo. Contributions may be made in memory of and/or honor of family and friends. Each donation is tax exempt and acknowledged. We thank you for your support and ask for your continued support for much help is still needed. "If we don't help our Polish children, who will?" — Doreen Patras Cramer, President

For information call (732) 680-0680 or write POLISH CHILDREN'S HEARTLINE, INC., 177 BROADWAY, CLARK, NJ 07066. e-mail: childshart@aol.com website: PolishChildrensHeartline.org

RESISTANCE / Regina Szamborska-McIntyre

Interviewing A Courier

conditions, which led to the Warsaw bald. He had the physique of an people of Poland fought the Nazi rack. occupation, only to be decimated by the political vagaries of war.

Three main characters drive the story: Zygmunt Kaminski, publisher of an underground newspaper; Marek Gudzinski, aka Dysthmus, delivery man of contraband items to underground units; and Michal Bednarek, attorney at law, who tries near the kitchen. They settled in to remain neutral and uninvolved.

CHAPTER XIII. Kaminski dropped by Michal's office with a copy of the latest issue of Poland's Journal.

"I have to run. My real mission was to prepare you for your meeting with Zamski, tomorrow morning at eight o'clock at the Napoleon Café."

"Zygmunt! What will I say? How shall I know him?"

"He's tall, well-built and bald. Just take a legal pad along and conduct a deposition."

Bednarek's stress revealed itself in the iron grip he held on his brief case as he turned the corner of Warecki Street to approach the café. He noticed a tall man emerging from a dark green German Opel Kapitan. The man wore a stylish felt hat, which hid the one distinguishing feature given to him by Zygmunt.

Once inside the cafe, he kept his eye on the door as he hovered by question walked through the door-

Resistance is a story about the way and removed his hat. He was ers that day, by the Russians." Uprising during World War II, and athlete, and he was extremely well number of those interred?" how the courageous and tenacious dressed. He walked toward the coat

> Michal smiled a greeting and extended his hand. "Guten Morgen, Herr Schtingle, I am Michal Bednarek, representing your firm in the legal issue involving funding.'

> "Guten Morgen." He reported in a clear baritone voice.

Michal led the way to a table with coffee and Michal pulled out the elite; the public officials, medihis legal pad and pen, ready to take his deposition.

"What can you tell me to clarify the report?"

"I can vouch for its accuracy," he lowered his voice to an audible whisper, "I could be lying in that gravesite.'

Michal caught his breath as he pretended to be writing down the experiences in this tragedy."

Zamski continued, maintaining a low tone, "I was an NCO in the Polish Army at the time of the invasion. We were fighting on the western border when the Soviet Army converged with the German Army in September of thirty-nine. The officer in charge of our company recognized; we were about to be caught in a vice. He commanded us to retreat to the outskirts of the town. Once we had caught our bearings, we joined other retreating soldiers who fled to the forest. Many of those bodies lythe coat rack. Presently, the man in ing in the graves of Katyn were my colleagues who were taken prison-

"Is there any information of the

"The mass murders were conducted by the NKVD, under direct orders from the bureau's chief, Lavrenti Beria, with Stalin's full approval. I have conferred with the Polish Secretary of the International Red Cross. The total estimate is twenty-two thousand souls; eightthousand Polish Officers, six-thousand Police Officers, and the other eight-thousand were members of cal personnel, educators, and scientists."

Michal had scribbled down the figures and assigned a monetary value to them in keeping with his fictitious legal case. He had a hard time looking up from his pad to meet Zamski's eyes.

"I am so sorry for your personal

"It has provided me with a fearless approach to carry out my mission. I thank God for my life and my ability to participate."

They finished their coffee, Zam-



The state archive shows a March 1940 letter to Stalin from his secret police chief Beria ordering the killings (BBC).

ski picked up the check and palmed a slip of paper into Michal's hand as they said goodbye.

Michal was aware of a struggle within himself as he tried to separate pride from a new feeling of commitment. He waited until he was out on the street, a good distance from the cafe, before he glanced at the slip of paper in his hand. It was a note containing instructions on how to contact the courier via the underground radio waves.

Two magnetic shields were temporarily affixed to the front doors

of a dark green Opel Kapitan, each bearing the Nazi swastika. Attached to the antennae flew a small flag, also sporting a swastika. The car approached the Central Station in Warsaw and the driver, dressed in the uniform of a German Sergeant, hopped out of the car and ceremoniously opened the door for his passenger, a Wehrmacht General, carrying an attaché case. The high ranking officer returned the sergeant's salute with a click of his heels. He turned to make his way to the station just as a fashionably dressed young woman walked in front of him. He smiled broadly and tipped his cap, exposing his bald head. The General continued on his way to the station master's window to pick up his first class ticket to Poznan.

> continued next month * * *

Regina Szamborska-McIntyre is a retired Speech Pathologist who currently facilitates memoir workshops at her local library. She is the author of two books of historic fiction, "An Altar of Sod" and "Yesterday's Pupils.

SYBIRACY / Stefania Borstowa

October Revolution Celebration – Fall 1942

ria during World War II) is written by Stefania Borstowa. Borstowa, her children and Marysia, a home servant, were deported from Lvov to Krutoyarka, a small village in Kazakstan. Soon after the Soviet Union invasion, her husband was sent to the labor camp in Eastern Siberia and died of dysentery, but she did not know about it until after World War II.

PART XXII. At the end of September, we had frost on and off again. One especially beautiful and sunny Sunday morning, after our prayers and breakfast, we began arguing who Psotka, our dog, loves the most. By the way, a name Psotka means "little prank." I suggested that we could do an experiment. We walked with the dog to the end of the village we will walked in four different directions, about ten steps. After that we will call Psotka. We thought that, she would run to a person she loves

We did so. Poor Psotka was so confused she did not know who to choose. Finally she sat in the middle and started desperately yowling. She did not want to show a preference to one person. She loved us all the same. We returned home quite celebrated in the village with the satisfied and reconciled.

The October Revolution day, November 7*, was coming. One night Psotka woke us up by loud barking and scratching the door. Marysia dressed quickly and said to me: "please, dress up, probably somebody is trying to steal our pig," Ziutka, that was outside. I went to the hallway, while Marysia and Psotka were already outside. I saw a silhouette of a scared thief trying to run off through the fence gate. I jumped from the front stairs to grab

"Sibracy" (Poles exiled to Sibe- her back. We were surprised who the next day the salary in food supthe thief was. It was a kolkhoz's (farm co-op) manager, a woman, who used to work as a pigpen fore-

> Since we worried that somebody would steal our piglet sooner or later, so we asked a German to do a killing. We hung Ziutka at the attics, later the children could eat some meat for the whole winter, while I and Marysia had some pork for Sunday. So, this was the end of our love for the piglet.

At the end of the summer I also became a kolkhoz cook. I had to cook a soup for about thirty to forty people. It was usually just water and grits, sometimes a fish soup or so called *lapsza*, a soup made of flour mixed with water with some noodles. The amount of soup was that were earlier used for petroleum, and also four buckets of unflavored vodka. From time to time the store was given some rations of sugar and candies for the families of soldiers. These were miniscule amounts, but Marysia was able to bring something for our children from each new supply.

The feast of the Revolution was general drunkenness. There were not any quarrels, nor brawls. Drunk folks were everywhere outdoors, on the snowed village roads, people were playing accordion, singing and dancing. In the evening there was a mobile cinema, academy, speeches and also an award ceremony for these nominated to do good job in the kolkhoz. I also belonged to the ones awarded for hard work in the kolkhoz. But in the envelope, which was given to me, there was only twenty rubles instead of forty. On ply was distributed for our work in the kolkhoz from April until the November 1942. I received fifty kilo of wheat and rye, as well as ten kilo of millet, and 1 meter of dung for fuel, full of ash, grass seeds and some awful stuff. We cooked lepyoshki (bread) on this dung, and although they were bitter and black, it was good that we could have them as a basic food supply.

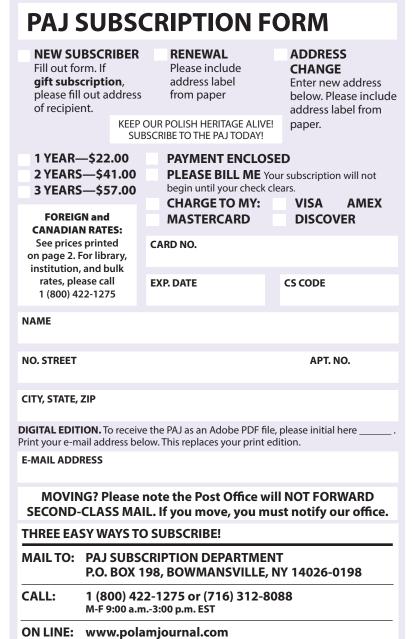
Our Kazakh hostess began to tell us that she would like her daughter, Antonina, to come back and live with her. Antonina was staying with her mother-in-law. It was an uncomfortable situation, especially since her husband was taken to the military and she had no news about his wellbeing.

The winter came, it was not as calculated so tightly, that we were cold as a previous one, still quite where the roads split in four direc- all still hungry after the meal. For exhausting. As usual, the Christmas tions. Psotka would have to stay in October Revolution feast, Marysia Eve was celebrated in our house the middle of the crossroad, while brought vodka to the village store, with other Poles. But the number of some of the vodka was in barrels Polish families in our village was getting smaller. During Christmas Eve, we realized that we looked like the local population. We were dressed in rags, often mended rags, our hands were never completely washed and hair never completely combed. During these two years we did not see good soap. The toothbrushes we brought with us were already destroyed, and combs broken. Still we had enough strength and courage to pray and sing Christmas

> * October Revolution, called the Bolshevik Revolution, took place on 25 October, according to the Julian calendar, which is 7 November, 1917, according to current calendar.



continued next month Reprinted courtesy of Jaga's Polish Culture Website at: www.pol-



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JOURNEYS / David Motak

Co to był za Ślub! (What a Wedding!)

Jagiellonka was betrothed to young Duke George the Rich of Bavaria. Although originally a political alliance, legend has it that the marriage of the two young people grew into a true love match between the beautiful Polish Princess and the dashing young Duke. The marriage itself was an effort by the Holy Roman Empire create a strong alliance with the powerful Kingdom of Poland in order to help halt the expansion of the Ottomans into southeastern Europe following their capture of Con-



Actors portraying Princess Jadwiga and Duke George.

stantinople in 1453.

Chroniclers tell us that Princess Jadwiga's wedding was one of the most significant events of the late Middle Ages. The mere fact that over 10,000 dignitaries from all over Europe swelled the guest list to over 10,000 people indicates the prestige which Poland enjoyed at the time. Records indicate that, at the Royal Wedding banquet alone, guests were served over 300 bulls, nearly 3,000 sheep, 500 calves and over 40,000 chickens. Although we do not know the amount of breads, pastries, side dishes and beverages that were served to the guests, suffice it to say that the Bavarian royal kitchens were certainly a busy place.

The townspeople of Landshut have meticulously saved detailed records from this memorable wedding event and — every four years — they reenact the Royal Wedding complete with Medieval banquets, jousts, tournaments, concerts and other activities culminating in the Grand Procession welcoming the Polish Princess. The Landshut Royal Wedding has grown to become one of the most splendid historic reenactment events in the world and one of the most authentic. Participants must be residents of Landshut and the handsomest young man and the most beautiful young lady are chosen to play the leading roles.

In 2013, I led an excursion to this event which included several members of the Polish American community. While it took the Polish Princess and her wedding retinue over two months to travel from Kraków to Bavaria, it took us just a drive of several hours (with a stopover in Prague.) The Royal Wedding was truly awesome. We and our guests were dazzled by the splendor and pageantry that the townspeople of Landshut devote to this lavish production. Over 3,500 participants in authentic medieval attire are involved. This is not the typical "Ren-Fair" event that we are used to in the United States, with fanciful fairies and elves cavorting with "historic" characters dressed in outfits of questionable authenticity, but an elaborate, highly researched and carefully

of actual events. Our experience in 2013 was so popular that several of our past attendees have asked us to as it is now the fourth year in the "Royal Wedding Cycle."

As I began planning for this year's excursion and in preparation for this particular column, I have been thinking of what types of dishes were actually served at this grand wedding feast. In particular, what types of foods were familiar to Princess Jadwiga and her contemporaries in Poland? Poland at the time was a country with vast forests abounding with wild game. Polish historical sources inform us that the Polish Royal Court was greatly regarded for its opulence and grandeur, even well before the time of Princess Jadwiga and lavish meals served on gold and silver plates became the hallmark of the Polish nobility. Bison, wild boar, pheasant, partridge, venison and other game were plentiful and joined domestic meats on the Polish table. Polish breads also became legendary and are still highly regarded today.

OLD WORLD FLAVOR. As Poland was centrally located on the main trading routes the medieval Polish cook employed a large amount of spices and seasonings. With the price of spices, black pepper and nutmeg being much lower than the rest of Europe, spicy sauces became popular among Polish cooks. In fact, in order to demonstrate their wealth, it was common practice for the Polish aristocracy to incorporate an excessive amount of seasonings and spices into their dishes. Many Polish game dishes were seasoned with juniper berries which were said to have medicinal properties. Juniper (jałowiec) was felt indispensable for venison and combines well with black pepper, marjoram and

Some of our more common modern food items were unknown to Princess Jadwiga and her contemporaries. This included items that originated in the New World and were not introduced into Polish cuisine until well after the discovery of America in 1492. And the list is a long one: potatoes, tomatoes, pep-

In 1475, Polish Princess Jadwiga crafted production based on records pers, squashes, corn, beans, as well as various grains including barley and rice. Many common vegetables did not reach Poland until the arhost another excursion this summer rival of Italian Queen Bona in 1518 who brought her culinary staff and kitchen gardens with her from Italy. Even today, some vegetables are referred to in Polish as włoszczyzna, a word derived from Włochy, the Polish name for Italy. Despite their name "turkeys" were also not on the Polish table until much later, and the fowl's Polish name indyk is quite misleading as it came from neither Turkey nor India, but rather from North America and did not reach the Polish table until the mid-1500s.

Carefully examining the ingredients of typically "traditional" Polish dishes helps to indicate when they originated, with the champion being the traditional Polish stew, bigos. This Polish national dish is often called "hunter's stew" as original recipes called for the use of game meats. Old bigos recipes also do not include the use of potatoes or tomatoes which indicates its venerable origin as one of the oldest of Polish dishes originating well before the discovery of America. Certainly this dish that was quite familiar to Princess Jadwiga.

One of the main grain staples of the old Polish diet was kasza (kasha, buckwheat groats), which, despite the introduction of rice and various noodle dishes over the years, still remains extremely popular in Polish cooking. The popularity of kasha goes back to pagan times when gifts of honey, cheese and kasha were offered to the goddess of birth to ensure a long and successful life for a newborn child. The Poles' fondness for kasha and their innate desire for independence is reflected in the old Polish proverb which notes that "a Pole will not allow anyone to blow on his kasha."

Princess Jadwiga and the old Polish aristocracy were certainly fond of game, but these types of meats are no something that are easily available for the modern cook. There are recipes, however, that help the modern cook to replicate the taste of these medieval dishes by using more modern types of meat. * * *

Dave Motak is an experienced



The town of Landshut comes alive with pagentry for the re-enactment of Princess Jadwiga Jagiellonka and Duke George's wedding.

travel guide, and co-owner of J&D seating at the Grand Procession

The tour will feature reserved www.janddtours.net.

Tours of Pittsburgh, which special- welcoming Princess Jadwiga in izes in tours to Poland. This year, Landshut, as well as some other the agency is sponsoring a trip to related Royal Wedding events. It the Royal Wedding, and will in- is scheduled for June 29-July 12, clude visits to Munich, Prague, 2017. For information, call Dave Bolesławiec, Wrocław, and Kraków. Motak at (412) 835-0539 or visit





THE PONDERING POLE / Ed Poniewaz

Make It Better

Clean it, design it, create it, improve Present him/her now to God, Most High. it, and then step back and see if you have to start over, or tweak it. Have you made something better?

Back a long time ago when I was a young man and totally addicted to discovering, learning, and understanding my Polish essence, I did a number of oral histories. It was a great experience and I recommend it, especially for babyboomers, whose second generation parents and relatives are on the road to their eternal rewards.

We are all familiar with songs played at Polish funerals, from "Serdeczna Matko," to "Witaj Krolowo," but as Polish-language funerals slowly fade away, our traditional music is being replaced with English-language hymns.

It wasn't too long ago — at one of the many funerals I seem to be attending now in my old age — I realized the popular "Song of Farewell" —based on the familiar melodies of "Old Hundredth" ("Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"), "O Salutaris" ("O Saving Victim"), and "Tallis' Canon" ("All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night") - had become the standard recessional hymn of the Catholic funeral rite.

The translation and words, copyright 1981, belong to Dennis C. Smolarski, **S.J.** This song is beautiful and it gets to me. The words fit perfectly with the music, and are so suitable and appropriate as the congregation's symbolic final appeal on behalf of their loved one for acceptance and entry into paradise. Here are the Smolarski lyrics:

Come to his/her aid, O saints of God; Come meet him/her, angels of the Lord. (Refrain)

Receive his/her soul, O holy ones;

May Christ who called you, take you home, And angels lead you to Abraham.

Give him/her eternal rest, O Lord. May light unending shine on him/her.

I know that my Redeemer lives, The last day I shall rise again.

The revision is powerful stuff and just another accomplishment for the amazing Fr. Smolarski. He is currently a professor of Mathematics and Computer Science at Santa Clara University in California, has a doctorate in Computer Science from the University of Illinois at Champaign/Urbana. He has written many books on mathematics, computer science, and Catholic theology. He also has the faculties to celebrate the Eucharist in the Byzantine rite (Melkite [Lebanese], Ruthenian, Ukrainian, Russian).

Fr. Smolarski is originally a South Chicago guy and the grandson of Polish immigrants. You can read more about him on the Santa Clara University website (https://www.scu.edu/) and you can buy his books on Amazon. I am eager to buy and read his books. Can't wait.

MAD MEN MEETS NASA. The Academy Awards was entertaining as always but extra exciting this year for sure. Besides Moonlight (and almost La La *Land*) winning for best picture, many of the critics thought Hidden Figures was a contender for the Oscar in that category. Hidden Figures is about three African American women (Katherine Johnson, Mary Jackson, and Dorothy Vaughan) open an email if I do not recognize the who helped "calculate the flight trajec- subject or the sender.

tories for NASA's Project Mercury and other missions." The story centers on the challenge they faced not only as women, but also as Black women in a biased and unequal United States in the early 1960s. Think of Mad Men meets NASA.

One of the positive characters in the movie is Karl Zielinski who mentors Mary Jackson. Karl is based on the real NASA aeronautics engineer Kazimierz "Kaz" Czarnecki. Kaz started with NASA in 1939 and remained until his retirement in 1979 as a Senior Aeronautical Research Engineer. "He published many papers together with Mary W. Jackson serving as her long-time mentor. In 1979, Jackson organized his retirement party." My impression is Kaz Czarnecki was trying to make NASA, and the world a better place.

HAPPY EASTER! Wesołego Alleluja to you Pondering Poles out there. Use the words to the "Song of Farewell" as a Lenten meditation to consider the presence of the Cross and Resurrection in your own lives. We will beseech God on your behalf upon your death, but I wouldn't wait until then to acknowledge your shortcomings and resolve to make things better. To make things better hopefully, that is why we are here.

If you have a thought about this month's topic, have a question, or have interesting facts to share, contact me at: Edward Poniewaz, 6432 Marmaduke Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63139; email alinabrig@yahoo.com.

* * *

N.B. If you send email, reference the Polish American Journal or the Pondering Pole in the subject line. I will not

FDNY Pulaski Association **Helps Smile Foundation**



Firefighter Mark Dziemian, president of the FDNY Pulaski Association, with the Przedworski family, one of the many beneficiaries of donations like this one made by the Association to the Children's Smile Foundation.

NEW YORK — Firefighter Mark Dziemian (Engine Co. 2017) president of the Pulaski Association of the Fire Department of the City of New York ("FDNY Pulaski Association") presented a \$1.500 check to Mariusz J. Sniarowski, president of the Children's Smile Foundation on Feb. 23, 2017. The Pulaski Association raised this money at its 57th Annual Scholarship Dinner Dance, Feb. 18, 2017. Firefighter Dziemian also met with the Przedworski family, who have benefited from the Foundation's generosity.

The Children's Smile Foundation is a Polish American not-for-profit organization whose mission is to provide assistance to disadvantaged children and help them grow into well-adjusted young adults. Founded in 1998 and based in Maspeth, the Foundation has provided grants to organizations and individuals in need of financial support to meet the needs of orphans and children with life-threatening medical condi-

For information on the FDNY Pulaski Association, contact FF Mark Dziemian at (347) 865-2374 or President@FDNY-

For information on the Children's Smile Foundation, call (718) 894-6443 or write to Info@ChildrensSmileFoundation.



BOOKS IN BRIEF / Mary Lanham

Perseverance Pays Off in Searching for Family Roots

JOURNEY INTO POLAND

My Roots in Grandfather's Village By Janet Hudon Hartman CreateSpace, 2015, 267 pps.

In Journey into Poland: My Roots in Grandfather's Village, Janet Hudon Hartman describes the processes involved in researching her family history and the barriers she encountered. The road to finding her roots was hindered by family secrets and uncooperative relatives. Hudon Hartman was able to overcome this with perseverance, Internet sleuthing, and repeated trips to

Hudon Hartman's desire to explore her family's past was spurred after her first visit to Poland in the 1970s. The resemblance of the people she saw in the streets of Warsaw to her relatives awakened the

need uncover her family's history. crisscrossed She interviewed family members, searched databases, networked online, scoured census records, and consumed books, all looking for the connection to her past.

When Hudon Hartman tried to get access to her mother's parents' house and family papers after they died, she was blocked by her uncle. Peter had become the de facto head of the house, despite the fact the house was left to all five of her great-grandparents' children.

"If there were valuable possessions, keepsakes or important documents, it would be Peter who would stand guard at the door and no one had the stomach to challenge his offensive manner to intrude their parents' domain."

Despite this, Hudon Hartman

America in her search. spent time in the genealogy room at the Polish Museum of America in Chicago, toured Ellis Island and

took advantage of all it offered and overtook the National Archives in Woburn in her mission. With this new knowledge she was ready for another expedition abroad.

While on her second trip to Poland in 2001, the World Trade Center was leveled. Earlier she had visited a museum in the Old Town and viewed footage of the destruction that Warsaw had suffered in World

War II. Sixty years later, the same destruction was thrust upon her own country, in a city only three hours away from where she lived. Afterwards in Krakow, she visited the American Consulate in attempt to get more information and experienced firsthand the love and support Poland extended after the attack.

"The American Consulate in Krakow was closed. Many notes were left by the Poles at the door; hundreds of candles and flowers filled the sidewalk in the next few days. People came and had their moment of silence. A young couple brought their child to place a rose among the rest of this outpouring of love and support in reaction to the 9/11 tragedy.'

Hudon Hardman visited Poland several more times trying to find

documentation of her grandparents and their children that were born there. Finally, after years of searching, she made her way to a rural church that she was told may hold the records. The parish priest was able to locate birth records and marriage announcements. At last, she had found her grandfather's village.

Journey into Poland: My Roots in Grandfather's Village by Janet Hudon Hartman is available on Amazon.com.

About the author. Janet Hudon Hartman currently lives in Pawtuxet Village in Warwick, Rhode Island. She has written two books about Pawtuxet titled, Second Nature: Blooming in Pawtuxet Village and The Cranston Side: Pawtuxet Village National Historic District.

POLONIA PLACES GREGORY L. WITUL

Saint **Stanislaus** R.C. Church

118 North Market Street Summit Hill, Pa. Status: Lost

Across the country Polish Americans are preparing for Easter. They are decorating their pisanki, making horseradish, and ordering kielbasa to be blessed in their Easter baskets. Church addresses are being plugged in to phones for Holy Thursday and reservations are being made to make sure they will get a fish fry on Good Friday. Just as many will be heading to bed early on Holy Saturday so they will be able to get up for the sunrise Mass on Easter Sunday. Sadly some of these traditions are evaporating in Summit Hill since the borough lost its Polish parish St. Stanislaus in 2008.

Poles began moving into the area known as Panther Valley in Carbon County as early as the 1880s finding work in the coal mines. Catholics who settled Summit Hill a generation earlier started St. Joseph's Church which the Poles first attended. When St. Michael's Slovak church was established in Lansford in 1891, the Poles of Summit Hill began to attend the parish. Finally in 1905, the Poles of Lansford and Summit Hill banded together and opened their own parish, SS. Peter and Paul's in Lansford.

For almost 20 years the Poles of Summit Hill trekked down and up the side of a mountain to attend SS. Peter and Paul's, through wet winters and sweltering summers. During the same time the Polonia of the hilltop community was growing. In 1923 three men, Messrs Cebulewski, Kielbasa and Krol approached Cardinal Dougherty about starting a Polish parish in Summit Hill. After consulting with the local clergy, the prelate approved and on March 12, 1924 Father Michael Wyborski formally established St. Stanislaus parish in Summit Hill.

Things moved swiftly for the new parish. In the first year Father Wyborski purchased land on Market Street and received a commitment of a day's wages per month from many of the parish families. With this the parish received a loan and by the end of 1925 built a parish campus that included a church, school, auditorium, rectory, and convent. The fast expansion would

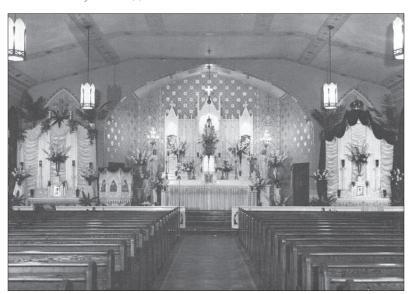
come to haunt the parish with the Great Depression, but under the financial management of Father Lawniczak, and his refusal to take a salary, the church never missed a payment, and weathered the economic storm.

Like Polish parishes across the United States, over 200 men and

The 1960s and '70s saw the decline of the coal region accelerate, and in 1971 the parish school closed. Despite the population loss that continued in Summit Hill, St. Stanislaus hung on, celebrating anniversaries and keeping up the church well into the new millen-

In 2008 St. Stanislaus was con-

solidated with St. Joseph's in Sum-

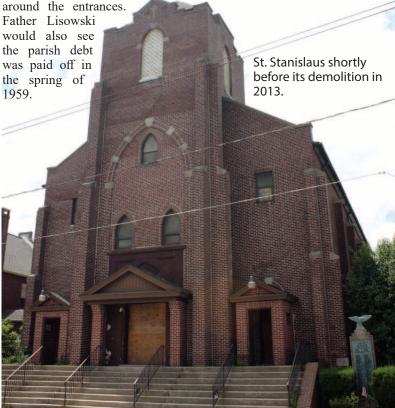


Easter at St. Stanislaus in 1953.

women of St. Stanislaus joined the armed forces during the Second World War. Those who stayed home donated time and money to Rada Polonii Amerykanskiej and the Catholic League. During this time a fire broke out that destroyed much of the main altar.

It would be under the pastorship of Reverend Lisowski that the parish would be updated, refurbished and redecorated, including the removal of the steeple and the

mit Hill and the church was shuttered. There was an attempt to sell the building but no purchaser came forward. When Superstorm Sandy hit the region in 2012, it did significant damage to the church structure and it was decided to raze St. Stanislaus. In September of 2013 the church was demolished. The parish is now part of St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church of the Panther Valaddition of storm shelters St. Stanislaus shortly



GROWING UP POLISH AMERICAN / Barbara Betlejewski

"Tease-Proofing" Myself

PART IV. In 1992, a Harvard study found that most Americans perceived Polish-Americans as "simple, uncultured, and unintelligent." A University of Chicago study the same year revealed the American public ranked Polish-Americans as the lowest of all white ethnic groups. Often the mere mention of my Polish last name would bring out titters, smirks, and eye-rolling from strangers and acquaintances alike. My cousins, who were only half-Polish and without a Polish last name, always pretended not to know me at school. Of course, I would probably have done the same if our positions were reversed. They could not risk jeopardizing their own precarious social position by befriending a social outcast who was "dumb" like

In adolescence, everyone is terrified of peer group censure. Many others hid their Polish background if they could. A lady I've known my entire life, who had married into an "American" last name, recently revealed she was Polish. Amazing! I would never have guessed. After all these years, she apparently felt safe enough to "come out of the closet."

But as a child, I had nowhere to hide. I always felt self-conscious. I always felt embarrassed and vulnerable. I wanted to escape it all. What I didn't know then, but know all too well now, is the world is full of bullies because it's full of traumatized children. They are found at school, at work ... everywhere. They prey on people who are too timid to fight back. They especially prey on girls who are taught to be "nice" girls fearful.

learned tease-proofing. Tease-proof-

think of me, not reacting to the teasing with fear, and responding with a comeback, often a one-liner. There is no single best way to respond to bullying and sometimes one has to use trial-and-error. To carry out antibullying tactics, I needed to realize that what others think of me is none of my business. I simply try to do the next right thing, and as long as I continue to do that, I ignore others' opinion of me. It means abandoning the desperate need for friends and instead developing my own persona. It means surviving with a lessthan-supportive (or even no) family at all. I needed to teach myself selfconfidence. If met with rejection (which is what occurred in my case), I needed to reach in for help, to realize that I could survive on my own, without any friends, family, or outside help if need be. The only person I will never leave or lose is me, as long as I stay connected to some spiritual force. (A good book on this is John Bradshaw's "Homecoming: Reclaiming and Championing Your Inner Child"). Without a spiritual connection, I realized I may even lose myself—via addictions or dysfunctions. I didn't learn all of this until long after high school.

continued next month.



Barbara Betlejewska left her childhood farm area in Ohio at age 18, and lived in many places throughout the United States and abroad for nearly 30 years. Her grandparents, who had emigrated from the partitioned areas of Pogroomed to be victims. That was the land in the 1910s, purchased the kind of girl I was. Nice, timid, and farm during the Great Depression to grow food to feed their family. Looking back, I should have Barbara gained enough emotional healing to come full cycle and reing involves not caring what others turn to the family farm 15 years ago.

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POLISH IMMIGRATION TO AMERICA by Stephen Szabados Item 2-271 \$17.99

When did your Polish ancestors immigrate, where did they leave,

why did they leave, how did they get here? This book discusses the history of Poland and gives some insights to possible answers to these about your ancestors' immigration. All three Polish partitions are covered and the material will hopefully clear up your confusion why your Polish ancestors listed that they were born in other countries on early U.S. documents. Brief histories of most of the ports that were used by Polish immigrants for departure and arrival; life in steerage; and the process of examination to gain admittance.



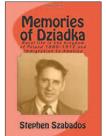
FINDING GRANDMA'S EUROPEAN ANCESTORS by Stephen Szabados Item 2-653

\$19.95 210 pp., pb. This is a "must have" book for the family historian

who wants to identify their European heritage. The author draws from his research experiences to describe how to find the resources available; first to find out where your ancestors were born in Europe, and then find the records. This revised edition covers genealogical research for most European countries and includes detailed practical steps that will help you find the success and the records that you need. The author uses his experiences to give tips on what to avoid and what works; how to find and use critical records; and how to use translating guides to decipher the foreign-language records. This book gives you the tools to find your European family.

MEMORIES OF DZIADKA

Rural life in the Kingdom of Poland 1880-1912 and Immigration to America / by Stephen Szabados



\$14.95 Item 2-670 pb. 134 pp.

This book is about the life of a Polish immigrant, from his birth in the Russian partition of Poland: the customs and tra-

ditions he grew up with; his decision to leave his family and the land of his birth; the trek across Poland to the port of Bremerhaven; his voyage across the North Atlantic Ocean; arrival in America; and his life in America. Through the story of one man, you will learn and understand the hardships of a typical Polish immigrant in the early 1900s.

POLISH GENEALOGY:

Four Easy Steps to Sucess by Stephen Szabados \$19.95 / Item 2-668 164 pp., pb.



This book is designed to give the researcher the tools needed to research their Polish ancestors and find possible answers to the origins of their Polish heritage.

The book outlines a simple process that will identify where your ancestors were born and where to find their Polish records. Traditional sources are covered but it also discusses many new sources for Polish records that have been implemented by genealogy societies in Poland. The book covers the most up-to-date collection of sources for Polish genealogy.

GENEALOGY / Stephen M. Szabados

Polish Research: Four Steps to Success

about Polish genealogy research, I think I should review the four-step process I use in my Polish research. Also, now is an exciting time in Polish genealogy because of the efforts in Poland to make available online as many documents as possible.

The first two steps in my research process involve finding where the Polish immigrants left.

THE FIRST STEP requires the collection of town names from various documents that may indicate where our ancestors left. The names we find may refer to the general area, a nearby large city, the village of birth or the location of the church. The best document to use, if available, is a copy of birth or baptismal record from Poland. Family stories are also a great source but be careful because the spelling of the town may be phonetic or it may refer to a general area. Other useful records such as marriage license applications, church marriage records, naturalization petitions, passenger lists, and social security applications will also list great clues for where our ancestors left. Death certificates and obituaries may also have clues but are usually less accurate because a third party who may not know the correct birthplace gave the information. However, collect as many

After five years of writing to you place names as possible even if bases on Jewishen.org. Other useful some seem dubious. We need to use more than one place name because multiple locations in Poland may have the same town name and a second or third name from your list will be needed to confirm which location

> MY SECOND STEP uses the list of place names found and considers the history of border changes to find the correct location of our ancestor's birthplace using gazetteers and maps. Envision a map of the area around the birthplace of your ancestor. Each clue that you find is a piece of the jigsaw puzzle that has a portion of this map on it. Once you fit all of the clues together, the picture on the jigsaw puzzle comes together, and you will be able to recognize the location of the area and where to look for your ancestors.

STEP THREE in my process involves finding a source for the birth and marriage records for the location you have identified. Search the records from this location for the birth or marriage for an ancestor, and if you find them, you have confirmation you are looking in the right location. My first efforts usually use online databases at Familysearh.org and Genealodzy.pl (metryki and geneteka). I have also used the data-

websites are at http://pgsa.org/2014polish-parish-records/ which was compiled by PGSA and includes a large list of additional Polish websites from regional areas. If I do not find the records in online databases, I check the catalog on Familyserch. org for films that cover the records from the location. I have also hired local Polish researchers when I cannot find the records online or in LDS films. PGSA.org has a list of Polish researchers.

STEP FOUR involves translating the records I find. Translating the records is important because the records include information that will help find more records, add family history facts, and confirms the record refers to my ancestor. The

level of difficulty in translating the records depends on the format, understanding the Polish alphabet, and recognizing the hand-written letters in old German script. Work to develop tools and skills to overcome these challenges.

I have found success using this process many times in my research, and it is getting easier each day because of the efforts of the many genealogists in Poland. If you focus on the details you find, be patient and thorough, you should also find suc-



Stephen M. Szabados is a prominent genealogist, and the author of four books, "Finding Grandma's European Ancestors," "Find Your Family History," "Polish Genealogy," and "Memories of Dziadka."

GENEALOGY NOTEBOOK

My Heritage Launches **Photo Discoveries**

MyHeritage, the leading international family history and DNA company, announced the launch of Photo Discoveries, an innovative feature which transforms family trees by automatically adding matching historical photos. A Photo Discovery provides users with a set of photographs of ancestors and relatives they may have never seen before, originating in family trees contributed by others. Users can add the photographs to the matching profiles in their family tree, with a single click.

Layered on top of MyHeritage's highly accurate Smart Matching technology (which locates matching profiles in other family trees), and Instant Discoveries (which enable users to add entire branches to their family tree in just a few clicks), Photo Discoveries identifies the profiles that have no photographs in the user's family tree and provides photographs of these individuals from matching profiles on other family trees.

Family History Library's **Newest Attraction**

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah — The Family History Library has initiated its newest attraction, a 10,139 square foot interactive "discovery experience." Located on the main floor of the library downtown, it offers something for guests of all ages. The innovative technology visiting FAQs first might save you and inviting activities are designed having to send that e-mail. to introduce guests to the many fun facets of personal and family discovery. Officially opened on February 8, admission is free to the public. The facility has over 100 custom iPads, 44 touch-screen monitors, and 42 computers with research and discovery experience capability. Six recording studios create free, high definition audio and video records that will preserve treasured family memories for future generations.

To read more go to: http://media.

familysearch.org/family-historylibrary-unveils-salt-lake-citys-newest-attraction/

The Power of Volunteerism

The L'viv Jewish vital records transcription project was completed. Over a period of nine years, a total of 40 volunteers from seven different countries transcribed 149,957 records. The information covers births, 1805-1872; deaths, 1805-1880; and marriages, 1801-1866. Portions are already on the All Galicia Database (AGD) at http:// search.geshergalicia.org/. The final update will be added to the AGD in about six months. Images of the original records can be found on the various FamilySearch microfilms cited as sources for each record found in the AGD.

Help Finding Your Ancestors

CHICAGO — Members of the Polish Genealogical Society of America (PGSA) are available on Wednesdays from 10 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. at the PMA library, 984 N. Milwaukee Ave., to help with your research challenges. If you are unable to stop by, you can e-mail an inquiry to PGSAmerica@pgsa.org or go to our website www.PGSA.org, click on "How To . . . " in the sidebar, and access "Frequently Asked Questions," where you will find answers to often-asked questions. In fact,

DO YOU HAVE AN OLD PHOTO

you would like to share with our readers? Send photos to: "In Times Past," Polish American Journal, P.O. Box 271, N. Boston, NY 14110. Please provide a brief description. Digital copies — jpg or tif, 300 dpi at 100% reproduction size (approx. 4 inch width) — with descriptions may be e-mailed to editor@polamjournal.com. All photos will be



Polish Genealogical Society of America www.PGSA.org — PGSAmerica@pgsa.org

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Notaries were obligated to record last testaments, inheritances, cessions, deeds, land sales, premarital contracts, etc. These valuable data are not found in parish or civil registers. Similarly, Cadaster maps can add locality details. Each resource helps to illuminate the real, personal life of your ancestors.

Webinar will originate from Poland Tadeusz Pilat

> Specialist in 16th-19th century books, documents & libraries

OBITUARIES

Industrialist Theodore J. "Poppee" Orlowski

away on January 21, 2017. Born in Chicago on August 20, 1934, Orlowski attended St. Fidelis Grammar School and Chicago's Crane Technical High School. At a very young age, his brother, Dan, mentored Ted in repairing motors. Through hard work, perseverance, and optimism, Orlowski built Arlington Metals, a leading metal processing and sales company serving customers nationwide.

From his humble roots and big family living in Chicago's Humboldt Park neighborhood, he met and later married Virginia in 1955. After spending years working for tor. others, in 1971 he started his own

CHICAGO — Industrialist The- business, cutting steel for others. He odore J. "Poppee" Orlowski passed did everything, from installing, operating, and maintaining the equipment to marketing, selling, and collecting from customers. Originally, he called his business, Orlowski & Associates, but later changed his company name to Arlington Pro-

> In 1987, he opened an additional facility in Sawyer, Mich.; today Arlington Metals employs over 125 people, and continues to be a family business.

> In addition to his wife, Virginia, Orlowski is survived by his children Tim, Sharon, and Kimberly, four grandchildren, and one brother, Vic-

> > — G.B.C.

Ralph Lysyk, Veteran, former Councilman

CLEVELAND — Ralph Lysyk was a World War II U.S. Army veteran having served in Okinawa. He graduated from Case Institute of Technology as a Mechanical Engineer. A long-time parishioner of St. Columbkille Church,

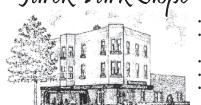
Lysyk was a member of the Holy Name Society and the church choir. He served as a councilman for the Number 30.



Lysyk was a founding member of the Polish Genealogical Society of Greater Cleveland, and served as the group's vice president.

He is sur-City of Seven Hills and the Polish vived by his wife of 64 years, Jean Legion of American Veterans Post (nee Koniewski), children, grandchildren, a brother, and sister.

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Szuch Elected PGSGC President for the 25th Time



CLEVELAND — Upon being re-elected as the president of the Polish Genealogical Society of Greater Cleveland, John Szuch announced to the group that 2017 will be his 25th and final year as president of the group. When Eddie Mendyka, founder and first-year president of the PGSGC, decided not to run for re-election, he nominated Szuch to replace him and the rest — as they say — is history.

is right to look forward to someone com or Kraine at ronkraine@aol. new at the helm for 2018.

Also elected for 2017 were: Ron

Kraine (v.p.); Ben Kman (treas.); and Lucia Dominak (sec.), who replaces long-time secretary Sonia Chapnick.

The PGSGC meets throughout the year except in July and August. Meetings start at 7:30 p.m. and are held at St. Mary's PNC Church, at the corner of Wexford Ave., and Broadview Rd. in Parma,

For more information, visit www. rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ohpgsgc/, Szuch has decided that the time or email Szuch at pulaskipro@aol. com.

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the Polish American Journal to study in Poland or abroad. recent donation). All members

The PAJF is a non-profit Likewise, we see so many talented reserve the right to abstain from academicians, scholars, artists, being a voting member. folk groups — the list goes on whose special projects or areas of study have been dropped for lack of funds. In many cases, state or federal arts or cultural funding is available, but these groups cannot afford processing fees to meet application requirements. It is

MEMBERSHIP. Donations are ac-As a national newspaper cepted in any amount. All donaserving Polish immigrants and tions will be acknowledged and their descendents since 1911, may be used as charitable contributions on your tax return. As has a unique perspective on the a member, you can suggest any shortfalls — primarily funding worthwhile cause: a donation to that have prevented many a local Polish American museum; great projects from getting off veteran's group; scholarship fund; the ground. We also have grown dance group, etc. Our board reincreasingly frustrated to see views these suggestions and crestudents — future leaders, who ates a ballot of the most-requestare passionate about Polonia ed causes/recipients, which will seek other areas of study then be voted on by current membecause they could not secure bers. (Membership is yearly, startsomething as simple as airfare ing with the date of your most

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Dyngus Day Doings in Western New York 2017

EAS	TED CHNDAV	ADDII 16 201	7	
	TER SUNDAY,			ENTERTAINMENT & EVENTS
TIME 6p	PVT. Leonard Post VFW	ADDRESS 2450 Walden Ave. Cheektowaga	\$10	LIVE POLKA MUSIC: Buffalo Concertina All Stars and the
6р	Salvatore's Italian Gardens	5461 Transit Road, Depew	\$10	Buffalo Touch LIVE POLKA MUSIC: The Boys From Baltimore & Polka Country
	Gurdons	- Борон		Musicians
DYN	GUS DAY, APR	RIL 17, 2017		
TIME	VENUE	ADDRESS	COST	ENTERTAINMENT & EVENTS
8a	Anchor Bar	2437 William Street, Cheektowaga	FREE (\$10/\$2 with pass after 1p)	Polish food and drink.
10a	Polish Villa 2	1085 Harlem Road, Cheektowaga	\$10/\$2 with pass	LIVE POLKA MUSIC: The New Direction Band (10a-2p) Breakfast Buffet (10a-12 Noon).Blood Mary Brunch.
11a	Nowak's Tavern	1458 Lovejoy Street,	\$10/\$2	LIVE POLKA MUSIC: Donny Krew
11:30a	St. Gabriel's Church	Sloan 5271 Clinton Street,	with pass FREE	(2-6p) Polish Kitchen (11a-9p) LIVE POLKA MUSIC: Dyngus Day
11:30a	Corpus Christi	Elma 199 Clark Street,	FREE	Polka Mass featuring Rare Vintage Dyngus Day Catholic Mass
	Church	Historic Polonia District		, ,
NOON	Millennium Hotel	2040 Walden Ave, Cheektowaga	\$10	Chopin Singing Society, White Eagle Dances, (Swieconka buffet an additional \$15)
NOON	R Bar & Grill	2139 Broadway, Sloan	FREE	Authentic Polish food/ Polka Sound System. Kenny Krew Show (Noon)
NOON	R&L Lounge	23 Mills Street; Historic Polonia District	FREE	Authentic Polish food/ Polka Sound System – Lottie's Famous Polish Kitchen
NOON	The Broadway Market	999 Broadway, Historic Polonia	FREE	Buffalo's Best Kielbasa Contest. Tastings will be offered (3 for \$2)
NOON	Porky's Lounge	District 2028 Clinton Street;	FREE	(Noon-2:30p) Authentic Polish food/ Polka
NOON	The Happy Swallow	Kaisertown 349 Sycamore,	FREE	Sound System Polka sound system, Authentic
NOON		Outer Polonia District		Polish lunch and dinners. Live music at 7:30p
NOON	Arty's Grill	508 Peckham St, Historic Polonia District	FREE	Authentic Polish food/ Polka Sound System
NOON	G&T Inn	58 Memorial Drive, Historic Polonia District	FREE	Polka Sound System
NOON	Dick's Eastside Inn	221 Lombard St, Historic Polonia District	FREE	Polka Sound System
NOON	Talty's Tavern	2056 South Park, South Buffalo	FREE	Polish menu items, Polish beer and spirits.
12:30p	Corpus Christi Church	199 Clark Street, Historic Polonia District	FREE	Guided tours of historic church.
12:30p	Clinton Bar & Grill	2460 Clinton St, West Seneca	\$3	LIVE POLKA MUSIC: Dyngus Day Jam Band featuring Jackie Libera , Frankie Liszka, Matt Lewandowski, David Walter, Eric Bakowski, & Chris Bukowski (until 4:30p)
1p	Polish Cadets	927 Grant Street,	\$10/\$2	LIVE MUSIC: Tom Mroczka & the
1p	Anchor Inn	Black Rock 2437 William Street, Cheektowaga	with pass \$10/\$2 with pass	Music Box (4p) Polish Kitchen 1p. LIVE POLKA MUSIC: Phocus (1-4p); LIVE MUSIC: 5 Wild (7p) Polish
1p	The Broadway Market	999 Broadway, Historic Polonia	FREE	food & spirits LIVE POLKA MUSIC: The Knewz (1-4p). Polish Beer Bar (1p-7p.)
1p	St. Gabriel's Church	District 5271 Clinton Street, Elma	\$10/\$2 with pass	LIVE POLKA MUSIC: Rare Vintage (1p-3p)
1p	Corpus Christi Social & Athletic Club	169 Sears Street, Historic Polonia District	FREE	Pre Dyngus Day Parade Party. Polish food, Polish Beer, wine, sound system with DJRed.
1p	Polish Falcons	445 Columbia Ave.	\$10/\$2	LIVE POLKA MUSIC: Special
1p	The Cove	Depew 4701 Transit Road, Depew	\$10/\$2 with pass	Delivery (2p-6p) LIVE MUSIC: Sophistacats (3p), Quality Sound (7p) Polish food and
2p	Potts Banquets	41 South Rossler Ave, Kaisertown	\$10/\$2 with pass	drink specials LIVE POLKA MUSIC: John Stevens Doubleshot (3p-8p); Polish buffet,
2p	Nowak's Tavern	1458 Lovejoy Street,	\$10/\$2	Polish bar with specials. LIVE POLKA MUSIC: Donny Krew
2p	Polish Villa 2	Sloan 1085 Harlem Road Cheektowaga	\$10/\$2 with pass	LIVE POLKA MUSIC: The Buffalo Touch (2-6p) Lunch & Dinner Buffet (Noon)

2p	Pussy Willow Park	Memorial Drive,	\$10/\$2	LIVE MUSIC: Quality Sound (3p);
	Party Tent	Historic Polonia District	with pass	Brave Combo (7:30p) Dyngus Day Merchandise. Redeem Wegmans Pussy Willow passes here. Food
				Truck Alley, Beer Tent. NEW: Dyngus Dysco Krupnik Lounge
2p	Lancaster Elks Club	33 Legion Pkwy,	\$15 (Day	LIVE POLKA MUSIC: 2:30p DJ John
	(Babcia's Dyngus	Lancaster	pass), \$7	Piniewski, 6-9p Fritz's Polka Band
	Party)		(after 7p.)	Karaoke/music, activities for
			\$2 with pass.	family. 3-6p, Polish Buffet (fee).
3р	St. Gabriel's Church	5271 Clinton Street,	\$10/\$2	LIVE POLKA MUSIC: Tony's Polka
		Elma	with pass	Band& New Direction Band (3-10p)
3p	Ray's Lounge &	2070 Clinton Street,	\$10/\$2	LIVE MUSIC: Mid Life Crisis 6p.
	Catering	Kaisertown	with pass	Polish Kitchen (3-6p) Buffet (6- 10p)
3р	Adam Mickiewicz	612 Fillmore Ave,	\$10	Complimentary Polish buffet,
	Library	Historic Polonia		Polish beers and spirits. Live
		District		broadcast of WXRL's Drivetime Polkas at 5pm.
4p	St. Stanislaus B&M	Fillmore @ Peckham	\$10/\$2	LIVE POLKA MUSIC: Mon Valley
-	Church	Sts, Historic Polonia,	with pass	Push & Stephanie & Her Honky
		Buffalo		Band (5p until 11pm)
4p	Polish Cadets	927 Grant Street,	\$10/\$2	LIVE POLKA MUSIC: Tom Mroczka
4:30p	PVT. Leonard Post	Black Rock 2450 Walden Ave.	with pass \$10/\$2	& the Music Box Band; Polish food LIVE POLKA MUSIC: The Knewz &
4.50p	VFW	Cheektowaga	with pass	Polka Country Musicians
5p	11 th Annual	Historic Polonia	FREE	Over 120 floats and participants.
	Dyngus Day Buffalo	District		Begins at Corpus Christi Church,
	Parade			Route along Broadway, Fillmore,
_		0.7.0	4-	Peckham & Memorial Drive
5p	Polish Falcons Nest 6 (Broadway)	3171 Broadway (near Union)	\$5	LIVE POLKA MUSIC: The Twy-Lyte (5:30-?) Home of the Krupnik Klub
5p	Stockman's Tavern	9870 Transit Road, Amherst	FREE	Polish buffet, Polish beer
5p	Buffalo Central	495 Paderewski	\$15	LIVE POLKA MUSIC: Those Idiots
	Terminal	Drive, Historic Polonia District		NOTE: NO OTHER VENUE PASSES TO BE HONORED
6р	St. Casimir Parish	1833 Clinton Street;	\$10/\$2	LIVE MUSIC: Buffalo Good Times
	Center	Kaisertown	with pass	with special appearance by
6p	The Happy Swallow	349 Sycamore	FREE	Accordion Bill. LIVE POLKA MUSIC: Melody Lane (6:30p-10:30p)
6р	Corpus Christi	169 Sears Street,	\$10/\$2	LIVE POLKA MUSIC: Al Kania's
96	Social & Athletic	Historic Polonia District	with pass	Polka Smile Eastern Style Band (6:30p-10:30p)
6р	Lancaster Elks Club	33 Legion Parkway, Lancaster	\$10	LIVE POLKA MUSIC: Mon Valley Push 6-10p)
6р	Salvatore's Italian	5461 Transit Road,	\$10	LIVE POLKA MUSIC: The Boys from
	Gardens	Depew		Baltimore & the Beat County Music: West of the
6	D-11-1-5-1	4456.6.1.1.1.1	440 /45	Mark & Wide Right
6р	Polish Falcon (Depew)	4456 Columbia Ave., Depew	\$10/\$2 with pass	LIVE POLKA MUSIC: Phocus
6p	Adam Mickiewicz	612 Fillmore Ave,	\$10	LIVE POLKA MUSIC: Hocus Polkas
~~	Library	Historic Polonia District	7.0	(6p-9p)
6р	Millennium Hotel	2040 Walden Ave, Cheektowaga	\$10	LIVE POLKA MUSIC: John Gora & Heroes featuring Eddie Biegaj
7p	IV Stallions	2912 William Street, Cheektowaga	FREE	LIVE POLKA MUSIC: Special Delivery Band (until 11p)
7p	DBGB	253 Allen Street, Allentown, Buffalo	FREE	the Polka Chips. Polish food &
7p	Gypsy Parlor	376 Grant Street, Buffalo	FREE	Polish food & beer, DJ music
7:30p	Polish Villa 2	1085 Harlem Road,	\$10/\$2	LIVE POLKA MUSIC: Piatkowski
		Cheektowaga	with pass	Brothers
8p	Pussy Willow Park	Memorial Drive,	\$10/\$2	LIVE POLKA MUSIC: Brave Combo
	Party Tent	Historic Polonia District	with pass	from Texas (FIRST TIME IN BUFFALO FOR DYNGUS DAY)
		41 South Rossler	\$10/\$2	LIVE POLKA MUSIC: Buffalo
8p	Potts Banquets			



Sunday, April 22nd

| St. Mary of the Lake Church | TBA | LIVE POLKA MUSIC: Special Delivery

Wesołego Alleluja! Happy Easter! Mokrego Dyngusa!

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TOLEDO POLONIA / Margaret Zotkiewicz-Dramczyk

Polski Chix Make Debut Ohio Appearance in Toledo



Wesołego Alleluja! Happy Easter!

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TOLEDO, Ohio — It's official: they're new, they're fabulous, and they were here! "They" are the Polski Chix of Michigan, an all-girl band made up of amazing talent.

Who are the Polski Chix? They are a seven-piece band comprised of Pam Nowak Zelasko on lead accordion and bass, Jenna Zelasko on trumpet, Anne Nowak Wirgau on tenor sax, Rhonda Lackowski on

Rosinski on clarinet, saxophone, Polski Chix with open arms. bass, and vocals. Hailing from the Grand Rapids area, the Polski Chix began practicing in early 2016 and played their first public job in August 2016.

After some discussion about what to name the band, a "Name the Band" contest was held online, and "The Polski Chix" were born.

Dawn and her band were excited second accordion, Debra Watkoski to be making their Ohio debut for the Bizon on drums, Emily Bizon on first TAPs dance of 2017, on March vocals, and leader Dawn Watkowski 12. Toledo polka fans embraced the the fun back in polka music!"

How long has it been since we've seen an all-girl band make such waves? Too long! As the saying goes, the wait is over; hopefully, we have the pleasure of hearing the Polski Chix for years to come.

The Chix' FaceBook tagline says "We play your favorite oldies but goodies with a twist of charm!" Well said, and it couldn't be more

As Dawn noted "We love putting



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Pussywillows, Dyngus, a bit of Country and a

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ROCK & ROLL WITH - WIDE RIGHT

Sunday, April 16, 2017

Pre-Dyngus Day Party \$10 PERSON

6:00 p.m. Doors Open

7:00 p.m. Music all night 'till 1 a.m.

7:30 p.m. The ORIGINAL

"Blessing of the Instruments" Ceremony

Followed by the

"Harmony Polish Folk Ensemble"

Continuous Polka Music By:

The Boys From Baltimore (MD) The Polka Country Musicians (CT)

Monday, April 17, 2017

Ш

Dyngus Day Celebration \$10 PERSON

4:00 p.m. Doors Open

5:00 p.m. Polish Kitchen Open

6:00 p.m. Continuous Polka Music - 12:30 a.m. AND FOR THE GENERATIONS

The Boys From Baltimore (MD) Mike Costa and the BEAT (NJ)

Special Guest Appearance By Doctor John Valby

Dance Performance By

The Polish Heritage Dancers

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DANCE TIME / Jen Pijanowski

A Step Back in Time

BUFFALO, N.Y. — After visiting my family for the weekend, my husband and I decided to take a few hour detour through Pennsylvania and see Lenny Gomulka & the Chicago Push. I haven't been to this venue or area to attend a dance for quite some time, so it was wonderful to get an opportunity to catch up with some old friends. Many were people that we had not seen since we were married 13 years ago.

The Yukon Slovenian Hall is a step back in time, granting the classic spot for a Sunday afternoon polka dance. The anticipation built as we pulled into the parking lot and could hear the sounds of the Chicago Push billowing out of the hall. Upon entering, we could instantly see that the dance was packed to full capacity. It was standing room only with a completely overflowing dance floor. We stopped to pay admission and we were thrilled to see a familiar face collecting funds. Unfortunately, I cannot recall her name but anyone who has ever attended Seven Springs will know who I am speaking about. None other than the

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APRIL 16, 2017

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CONCERTINA ALLSTARS

Doors open at 6:00 p.m.

Music 7:00 p.m.-midnight

Admission: \$10.00 per person (non-refundable)

APRIL 17, 2<u>01</u>7

Featuring

THE KNEW and

POLKA COUNTRY

MUSICIANS

Doors open at 4:30 p.m.

Music 5:00 p.m.-midnight

Admission: \$10.00 per person (non-refundable)

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Dale Wojdyla and Andy Makarewicz at the Buffalo IPA Benefit

famous washboard playing polka fan that provides everyone with entertainment as she plays alongside the bandstand at Seven Springs.

I was stopped by many folks who informed us that they keep tabs on all of the Buffalo bands by watching Polka Buzz online and enjoy each episode.

Lenny, of course, sounded terrific and the band provided a solid beat showcasing his vocal talents. You always know that polka lovers will get exactly what they love when



Craig and dad, Mike Nowakowski of Sunshine Records

seeing Chicago Push. This dynamic group of musicians' commitment to the music is apparent with every note played. Not only are these men a class act on the stage but off it as well. I noticed each band member making their rounds and chatting with fans that had come to see them. This humility is just another reason that Lenny and the Chicago Push will continue to be one of my favorite polka bands. A detour ten hours out of the way would be worthwhile to watch and hear this band.



Zak Piatkowski at Frank Zeczak with New Direction at the IPA Fest.

DON'T GIVE ME THAT BALO-**NEY!** If you've ever discussed food with a person hailing from Buffalo, there's no doubt that they would argue that Buffalo has the best. From chicken wings to pizza to beef-onweck, Buffalonians are proud of the cuisine they will argue is a part of Western New York history and tra-

That being said, it's no joke that the Buffalo Concertina Band February dance, nicknamed "the baloney dance," was a huge success.

Hundreds of polka lovers took full advantage of the \$5.00-withcoupon admission to the event, popular since it was sponsored by Corpus Christi Church Athletic League as the "Hard Times Dance." Not only did those in attendance get an absolute bargain on admission, the savings continued with \$1.00 baloney sandwiches and draft beer. Concertina All Stars gave fans plenty of reasons to dance off those extra calories playing a variety of polkas, obereks, and a few waltzes. The band will be celebrating 20 years of playing this October and they are still drawing crowds each time they perform. The band is embarking on a seven-day Carnival Cruise to the Bahamas this month sailing out of Baltimore, on April 2. They are being joined by Polka Hall of Famer Ray Jay, as well as the Polka Dreams All Star Band featuring Jimmy Weber, Mike Matousek, Dave Morris, Rich Zebrowski, Stacey Morris, and Joe Dipyatic.

DYNGUS FEVER GROWING.

Although many cities will be celebrating with pussy willows and squirt guns, the largest Dyngus Day festival outside of Poland will be held in Buffalo, N.Y. Western New York will attract tens of thousands in celebration of the end of the Lent. With pussy willows and loaded squirt guns at the ready, polka music will be at the forefront of the festivities. Over thirty venues will be providing some form of polka music on April 17th to participate in this vast show of Polish pride. The Beat, The Boys, John Gora, Eddie Biegaj, Polka Country Musicians, John Stevens & Doubleshot, Mon Valley Push, Piatkowski Brothers, Tony's Polka Band, along with all of our local Buffalo bands are among those performing at this year's Dyngus revelry.

This event is like none other you've ever attended. Venue listings of events can be seen in the calendar of events. Don't miss the opportunity to be a part of this historic and traditional affair. You can also visit the PAJ's website for up-to-date information.

UPCOMING EVENTS. If you are looking for a spring getaway, there are a few polka weekends being offered in April. The Villa Roma Polka Weekend will be held from April 21-23 in Callicoon, N.Y. This all-inclusive weekend boasts luxurious accommodations, music, and plenty of activities. Nestled in the Catskill Mountains, Roma Villa provides a sensational backdrop to a weekend filled with your favorite

Music will be provided by Jimmy Sturr, Mollie B, Eddie Forman Orchestra, Jack Tady & the Tady Bears, Joe Stanky & the Cadets, and the Rich Bobinski Orchestra. The price includes two nights lodging, six delicious meals, and dancing throughout the weekend. A welcome party including a four-hour open bar with a hot/cold smorgasbord kicks off the three day event. Costume party, late night pizza party, Polish dinner, a nite club show, as well as a Sunday polka Mass are just a few of the activities that will transport you through this spectacular weekend.

Villa Roma offers an indoor pool with Jacuzzi and saunas, state of the art salon and spa, as well as an offtrack betting parlor to try your luck.

You can call (800) 724-0727 to find out more and make reservations.

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USPA Announces Nominees

PARMA, Ohio A record number of ballots for the 2016 United States Polka Association (USPA) Music Awards were returned and the votes have been tallied.

The top choices in each category are listed below.

Winners will be announced at the organization's Sat. May 27, 2017.

• Favorite Band: The Boys; PCM; Lenny Gomulka & Chicago Push.

• Male Vocalist: Andy Bojczuk; Wally Dombrowski; Lenny Gomulka; Frank Liszka.

• Female Vocalist: Emily Bizon; Laura Mateja; Stacey Morris.

· Polka Video: Box On for "Holly Jolly Christmas"; "As Long As I'm Livin" by The Youth Recording Workshop.

• Recording: Decade Two by Dennis Polisky & The Maestro's Men; The Party Starts Here by PCM; Where The Boys Are by The Boys.

• Favorite Song" "And the Road Begins" by The Dynabrass, "As Long As I'm

· Livin" by The Youth Recording Workshop, "Mary Jane" by The



Awards Banquet, New Horizon winner Zach Piatkowski (left), and father, IPA Hall-of-Famer Al Piatkowski.

Boys, "Party For Two" by PCM.

• IJ/DJ: Eddie Biegaj; Kenny Olowin; Todd Zaganiacz.

Additionally, the USPA will present its New Horizon award to saxophone player and vocalist Zachary Piatkowski from Canastota, N.Y. Its Lifetime Achievement Awards will be given to DJ Michael Dziedzic (Deceased category) from Utica, N.Y., and Mark Janson (Living category) from Michigan.

Visit www.uspapolka.com for more info.

LAPSUS CALAMI. The Buffalo Concertina All-Stars were not listed in last month's article announcing the lineup for this year's Polka Fireworks festival. The band will perform on July 1.

Polka with Peppermint at Avon Oaks Ballroom

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio - Peppermint Studios has announced it will sponsor a series of dances at spacious Avon Oaks, 1401 N State St. (Rt. 422), in Girard.

On Sat., July 1, from 7:00 -11:00 p.m., Michigan's Box On will combines their youthful enthusiasm with a strong polka heritage to produce a danceable and entertaining show. Local favorite, the Grammy nominated Del Sinchak Band will be sharing the stage with Box On.

On Sat., Aug. 5, from 2:00-6:00 p.m., Mollie B & Squeezebox will make a rare area appearance, and will alternate with Del Sinchak and his band.

Because seating is limited, advance tickets will be available beginning July 1. \$12 advance; \$15 at

On Sun., Oct. 15, from 3:00-7:00 p.m., an Octoberfest will feature Canada's John Gora & Gorale with The Del Sinchak Band.

"Give Thanks for Polkas and Turkeys" is the name of the Sun., Nov. 5 dance, to be held from 3:00-7:00 p.m., with the award winning Frank Stanger Orchestra and The Del Sinchak Band

For information on any of these events, contact Peppermint Records, 803 E. Indianola Ave., Youngstown, OH 44502; (330) 783-2222; www. peppermintrecords.com.

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EASTER SUNDAY WITH D.J. ROB. D.J. Rob — Robin Pegg and Geri Chadwick — will provide entertainment in Twigs Lounge at the Millenium Hotel on Easter Sunday, starting at 7:00 p.m. D.J. Rob has a full selection of polkas, obereks, and waltzes, from Adamczyk to Zima.

POLKA CALENDAR / John Ziobrowski

To list your event, please send • PA Express. American Legion. date, band, location, times, and contact number to:

jziobrowskijohn@gmail.com

- Special Delivery. Let's Polka TV Show. Vestal, N.Y. (607) 729-0100.
- · Lenny Gomulka. Ukrainian Club. Cohoes, N.Y. 6-10. (518) 233-9265
- Mon Valley Push. American Legion. Fredericktown, Pa. 7-11. (724) 377-2645

APRIL 2

- Special Delivery. Clinton Bar and Grill. West Seneca, N.Y. 4:30-7:30 (716) 768-3246
- Lenny Gomulka, PACC, South Deerfield, Mass. (413) 665-8735
- John Stevens. VFW. Dupont, Pa. 2-6 (570) 654-5504
- · Melotones. Pulaski Club. Daytona Beach, Fla. 2-5. (386) 258-7059
- Generations. Pulaski Club. Holiday, Fla. 2:30-5:30. (727) 934-0900 Polka All Stars. Polish Club.
- St. Petersburgh, Fla. 3-6. (727) 894-9908
- Jeanne Music. PASC. Hudson, Fla. 2-5. (727) 868-9763

APRIL 6

Special Delivery. Broadway Market. Buffalo, N.Y. 2-5 (716) 893-0705

APRIL 8

- Special Delivery. Broadway Market. Buffalo, N.Y. 12-3 (716) 893-0705
- Jimmy Sturr. Monaghan Fire Hall. Dillsburg, Pa. 4-8 (717) 697-8012
- Walt Groller. Liederkrantz APRIL 21-23 Club. Lancaster, Pa. 7:30-10:30. (717) 898-8451

APRIL 9

- PA Villagers. VFW. Dupont, Pa. 2-6 (570) 654-5504
- Dennis Polisky. PACC. Lud-
- low, Mass. 2-6 (413) 567-1961 Polka Country Musicians. K of C. Saratoga Springs, N.Y. 1-5. (518) 584-8547

- Rossiter, Pa. 2-6 (814) 938-
- New Direction. Broadway Market. Buffalo, N.Y. 12-3 (716) 893-0705
- Melotones. Polish Club. Belleview, Fla. 2-5. (352) 245-9378
- Polka Classics. Pulaski Club. Daytona Beach, Fla. 2-5. (386) 258-7059 B-Sharps. Pulaski Club. Holi-
- day, Fla. 2:30-5:30. (727) 934-Sounds of The South. Polish Club. St. Petersburg, Fla. 3-6.
- (727) 894-9908 Jeannie Music. PASC. Hudson, Fla. 2-5. (727) 868-9763

APRIL 13

Special Delivery. Broadway Market. Buffalo, N.Y. 3-6 (716) 893-0705

APRIL 15

New Direction. Broadway Market. Buffalo, N.Y. 12-3. (716) 893-0705

EASTER / DYNGUS DAY

 For a listing of events in Buffalo and Western New York on Easter Sunday and Dyngus Day, please see page 24.

APRIL 17

- Nu Soundz. Polish Club. St. Petersburg, Fla. (727) 894-
- Northern Soundz. Brownwood Square. The Villages, Fla. 5-9. (352) 753-6655

John Gora. Polish Falcons. • Depew, N.Y. 7-10:30 (716) 822-4908

Joe Stanky, Eddie Forman, RBO, Jimmy Sturr, Molly B, Jack Tady. Villa Roma. Callicoon, NY (570) 655-0760

APRIL 22

- Special Delivery. St. Mary of the Lake Polish Night, Hamburg, N.Y. 7-11. (716) 627-3123
- Gomulka. Father Lenny

Smith Center. Broadalbin, N.Y. (518) -573-7339

APRIL 23

- Dennis Polisky. Elks. Brick NJ. 2-6 (732) 901-9977
- Eddie Forman. PACC. Ludlow, Mass. 2-6. (413) 567-1961
- Joe Stanky. Sacred Heart Ctr. Cornwall, Pa. 2-6 (717) 273-
- Northern Lite. Pulaski Club. Daytona Beach, Fla. 2-5. (386) 259-7059 Nu Soundz. Pulaski Club.
- Holiday Fl. 2:30-5:30. (727) 934-0900 Fla. Honky Polka Band. Polish
- Club. St. Petersburg, Fla. 3-6. (727) 894-9908 Jeannie Music. PASC. Hud-
- son, Fla. 2-5. (727) 868-9763

APRIL 26

Special Delivery. Leonard Post. Cheektowaga, 7:30-10. (716) 684-4371

APRIL 29

- Dennis Polisky. Italian Center. Poughkeepsie, N.Y. 7-11.
- Mike Surratt. Liedeerkranz. Lancaster, Pa. 7-11. (717) 898-8451
- John Gora. Quality Inn. New Kensington, Pa. evening. (724) 335-9171

APRIL 30

- Dennis Polisky. Broad St. New Britain. Ct. TBA
- John Gora. Slovenian Hall. Yukon, Pa. 2-6. (724) 722-9700
- DynaBrass. PACC. Ludlow, Mass. 2-6. (413) 567-1961
- Joe Stanky. VFW. Dupont, Pa. 2-6 (570) 654-5504 Polka All Stars. Pulaski Club.
- 258-7059 Generations. Pulaski Club. Holiday, Fla. 2:30-5:30. (727) 934-0900

Daytona Beach, Fla. 2-5 (386)

- Nu Soundz. Polish Club. St. Petersburg, Fla. 3-6. (727) 894-9908
- Jeanne Music. PASC. Hudson, Fla. 2-5. (727) 868-9763



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Easter Gift Set



Easter Set, Featuring a Polish Holiday Book, a Bunny Candle, a Bunny Button and two packs of Egg Sleeves TThis Polish Easter gift set is a terrific value and a great way to prepare for your Easter Celebration. A \$28.00 value pack now for only \$22.95! Catch this limited time offer while supplies last.

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Each Lamb is hand made from natural products by artisans in Poland



Sitting Easter Lamb Measures 3.25"H #VA013 - \$9.95



Standing Easter Lamb Measures 4"H #VA006 - \$9.95

-Easter Eggs

Mother Mary with Jesus Wooden Egg on the Stand Exquisitely handcrafted wooded egg with image of the Mother Mary, holding the Baby Jesus. On the other side of the egg is image of the crucified Jesus with two angels praying on their knees. The whole egg is beautifully adorned with vibrant handpainted patterns. Available in variety of colors, please allow us to make selection for you. The egg comes with a wooden stand.

Egg is 3.5" tall. Made in Poland #550154 - \$29.95 each



Pressed Amber Egg This chicken-sized egg is made of amber chunks and amber dust, melted down and then combined with plastic. A beautiful decoration for your Holiday setup. Measures 2.25" H x 1.75" D. #AMB045 - \$29.95

Brass Egg Stand Measures 0.5" H x 1.5" D. #435994 - \$6.95



Vividly Painted Wooden Egg, Set of 2 Handcrafted wooden eggs with strikingly beautiful hand paintings ornamenting the egg. No two are exactly alike. 2.25" H x 1.75" D. #250402 - \$12.95



Natural Wood Unfinished Egg, Set of 2 Decorate your own Easter Decorations with these smoothly sanded chicken sized eggs! Crafted in Poland. A great and fun way to get menmorable keepsakes from your children every Easter. #250409 - \$6.95



Rooster Wycinanki Design, Real Egg

These real eggs are decorated in a rooster wycinanki theme by an artist who uses traditional Polish paper-cutting techniques and motifs utilizing vibrantly colored paper. Made in Poland.

#250408 - chicken - \$16.95





Small Painted Wooden Eggs, Set of 3 Hand painted so no two are exactly alike. 1.25" H x 0.8" D #250406 - \$12.95

-Easter Butter Molds -

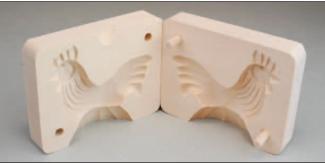


Easter Chick Wooden Butter Mold A cute Spring chick sprouts from this hand-crafted mold. Makes a nice companion piece to the Easter Rooster Butter Mold. Measures 3.75"W x 2.75"H x 2"D.

#KOR103 - \$29.95



Folding Easter Square Wooden Butter Mold Each pyramidal block features an Easter lamb, a fish, a pussy willow and an egg engraved in the mold, representing an Easter themed relief when butter mold is completed. Measures 2.7" L x 2.7" W x 2.8" H #KOR102 - \$49.95



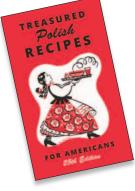
Easter Rooster Wooden Butter Mold This hand-carved mold forms butter into an adorable rooster. Makes a nice companion piece to the Easter Chick Butter Mold. Measures 4.0" W x 3.0" H x 2.7" D.

#KOR116 - \$29.95

Easter Music on CD —

Droga Krzyzowa - The Way of the Cross on ĆD In chapter 16 of Mark's Gospel, the disciples are thunderstruck by the discovery of the empty tomb and the angel's message that Christ had risen.. For those disciples, Jesus' resurrection primarily meant that, for the Church, the way of the cross had only just begun. 16 songs. 58 minutes. #AB003 - \$19.95

Cook Books



Treasured Polish Recipes for Americans, Now in its 25th Edition Edited by Marie Sokolowski and Irene Jasinski Illustrated by Stanley Legun 475 Recipes. Hard Cover. 5.5" x 8.7", 172 pages. English Language Version

Printed in Poland.

#BK2364 - \$19.95

Over 175 traditional and unique Polish recipes inside, including those created by author Ania Zaremba and her family. Contains full color photographs and an easy to use index. Soft Cover. 6.5" x 9.25", 224 pages.

Polish Culinary Delights

English Language Version Printed in Poland.

#BK2572 - \$24.95