

# POLISH AMERICAN JOURNAL

DEDICATED TO THE PROMOTION AND CONTINUANCE OF POLISH AMERICAN CULTURE

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## Dyngus Day Directory

EASTER MONDAY EVENTS  
IN BUFFALO, CLEVELAND,  
PHILADELPHIA, AND  
PHOENIX. PAGES 21 AND 22

PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID AT BOSTON, NEW YORK  
AND ADDITIONAL ENTRY OFFICES

SHARING OUR POLISH PASCHAL VOCABULARY • STATUE OF ST. JOHN PAUL II MUST MOVE • PULASKI DAY AT THE PMA  
MEET ROSIE FRANKOWSKI: PYEONGCHANG OLYMPIAN • LOVE TO SING? JOIN THE PSAA • STOCH BRINGS HOME MEDALS  
BIRTHPLACE OF THE MODERN AMERICAN DYNGUS DAY • CENSUS RECORDS: A SNAPSHOT OF THE PAST • THE PERFECT BAG

### Newsmark

**DUDA TO VISIT UN, AMERICAN POLONIA.** Andrzej Duda will attend the United Nations session in May. While in the United States, the Polish president plans to meet the Polish community “so as to underscore the diaspora’s links with their ancestral Poland and to emphasize its contribution to Poland’s independence,” said spokesman, Krzysztof Łapiński, referring to the independence gained after more than 120 years of foreign rule.

It is not known at this time whether or not President Duda will meet with President Trump during the visit.

**A BOOM IN INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS.** At a time when the international student fluctuation is unsteady and some of the top destination countries are suffering significant drops, Poland is becoming an attractive destination.

During 2016/17, 65,793 foreign students were enrolled in Poland universities, 8,674 or 13% more than the previous year. Since 2000/2001 the number of international students increased beyond all expectations, starting at 6,563 in 2000/2001 and reaching 65,793 in 2016/17.

Education experts think that Poland’s high attractiveness is related to the post-Brexit situation in international education. As of 2016/2017, the UK’s universities have witnessed significant drops in international student applications, because of political changes there. Now a huge portion of those students is looking at other options, with Poland being one of them.

**PIASA CALLS FOR PROPOSALS.** The Polish Institute of Arts & Sciences of America (PIASA) invites presentation proposals for its 76th Annual Conference to be held jointly with the Harriman Institute, Columbia University in New York City, June 8-9, 2018.

Proposals are solicited for complete sessions or individual papers in any of the disciplines in the liberal arts, sciences, or business/economics. Sessions including presenters from more than one nation are encouraged. Each session is scheduled for 90 minutes to accommodate three/four papers (20 minutes each). The conference language is English. Acceptable conference papers will be submitted for possible publication in *The Polish Review* subsequent to the conference.

To submit a paper or complete session, please send the name, e-mail address, institutional affiliation, a tentative paper title and brief abstract for all presenters to the chair of the program committee at [alicia.brzyska1@gmail.com](mailto:alicia.brzyska1@gmail.com). The deadline for proposals is April 15, 2018. All participants are expected to pay the conference registration fee.

**2018 PASHOF INDUCTEES.** Former All-Pro football guard Conrad Dobler, gold medal winning swimmer Rachel Komisarz-Baugh, former basketball player and current University of Utah coach Larry Krystkowiak, and national golf long drive champion Evan “Big Cat” Williams have been elected into the National Polish-American Sports Hall of Fame for 2018.

The 46th Annual Induction Banquet will be Thurs., June 21, 2018, at the American Polish Cultural Center in Troy, Michigan. Details about the inductees and the banquet will be in next month’s *Polish American Journal*.

**PROTECTING ANIMAL RIGHTS.** More stringent laws against animal abuse are favored by 84% of Poles. The country’s Parliament recently passed a bill on animal welfare. A new bill proposed by Poland’s ruling Law and Justice Party raises the maximum prison term for abusing and killing animals from two to three years, and raises to five years the maximum sentence for cruelty to animals. Also introduced is a life ban on keeping animals to those convicted of cruelty, a ban on chaining dogs, an outlawing of fur farms, and the use of animals in circuses.

A public opinion poll revealed that forty-nine percent of the respondents supported a ban on using animals in circuses, while thirty-nine percent opposed the ban, feeling that animals are treated well in circuses. Only eleven percent of respondents opposed all changes.



**DONOTBEAFRAID;  
YOU ARE SEEKING  
JESUS THE  
NAZARENE,  
WHO WAS CRUCIFIED;  
HE HAS  
RISEN;  
HE IS NOT HERE;  
BEHOLD THE PLACE  
WHERE HE WAS LAID.**

Mark 16:6

### Kaptur Becomes Longest-Serving Woman in House

WASHINGTON, D.C.— a reception hosted by House Lawmakers from both parties gathered March 14 to honor Democratic Rep. Marcy Kaptur of Ohio’s 9th District as she shattered the record for the longest-serving woman in the history of the House of Representatives.



“I’ve served with at least half of the women who have ever served,” Kaptur said at

See “Kaptur,” page 3

### Orchard Lake Schools to Honor Ambassador Wilczek

ORCHARD LAKE, Mich. award recognizes the recipient for fidelity in serving God, country, and the Orchard Lake Schools. This year, the Orchard Lake Schools announces Professor Piotr Wilczek, Ambassador of the Republic of Poland in the United States and the Commonwealth of the Bahamas, as the



See “Wilczek,” page 3

### Polish Children’s Heartline Aims to Top Last Year’s Donations

CLARK, N.J. — 2017 was a very exciting year for the Polish Children’s Heartline (PCH), starting off in January with a tremendous gift of \$65,000 from the estate of a former member in Florida. PCH also accepted a second donation in October of \$20,000 from the estate of another member in Queens, N.Y. Throughout the year, it has also received many donations both large and small.

“Each and every donation is appreciated and helps us purchase much needed equipment for our children in Poland,” said PCH President



Doctors and nurses at Suwalki, Poland’s Regional Hospital express their gratitude for donations used to help children with respiratory failure.

Doreen Patras Cramer. In January, PCH purchased three Philips Cardiac Monitors, for Dr. An-

See “PCH Sets Goal,” page 12

drzej Gryzb, head of pediatric surgery at The Regional Hospital in Suwalki at a cost of \$4,500.

“We also purchased 10 beds with mattresses for \$5,000, a double syringe pump for \$1,000, and an orthopedic drill for \$11,000 for this same hospital, for a total donation of \$21,500,” said Cramer. “Then in February, we purchased a Harmonic Generator for \$17,400 for Dr. Wojciech Debek, head of the Children’s Surgery Clinic at The University of Med-



## Almanac

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### April ❁ Kwiecień

*Ucz się ucz, bo nauka to do potęgi klucz.  
Keep learning because knowledge is the key to power.*

#### 1 **EASTER SUNDAY**

**Wielkanoc**, the most important celebration in the Catholic calendar, commemorates the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. 1938. Territorial changes of Polish Voivodeships

#### 2 **EASTER MONDAY / DYNGUS DAY**

**Lany Poniedziałek** is celebrated with an old folk custom called śmigus-dyngus in which boys try to catch girls off guard and drench them with water. Schools and workplaces have the day off in Poland. 2005. Death of **Saint John Paul II**, born Karol Wojtyła.

#### 3 1679. English astronomer, geophysicist, mathematician, meteorologist, and physicist **Edmund Halley** (Halley's Comet) met **Johannes Hevelius** (Jan Heveliusz) in Danzig. Hevelius was councillor and mayor of Danzig (Gdańsk), then part of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. As an astronomer, he gained a reputation as "the founder of lunar topography," and described ten new constellations, seven of which are still recognized by astronomers.

#### 4 1794. Polish forces under **Tadeusz Kosciuszko** are victorious in the battle of Raclawice.

#### 6 1939. Great Britain and Poland signed a military pact.

#### 7 1884. Birth of Polish ethnographer and anthropologist **Bronisław Malinowski** (d. 1942).

#### 1890. Birth of painter **Adam Styka** (d. Sept. 23, 1959).

#### 8 1858. Birth of panorama painter **Jan Styka** (d. April 11, 1925).

#### 1525. Signing of the **Treaty of Kraków**, officially ending the Polish-Teutonic War.

#### 9 1241. Death of **Henryk II the Pious** in the Battle of Liegnitz, a battle between the Mongol Empire and a defending force of Poles, Moravians, and Germans.

#### 11 2010. A plane carrying a contingent of Polish leaders, including President **Lech Kaczyński**, crashes out **Smolensk, Russia**.

#### 12 1943. The Nazi regime announces that the bodies of 4,150 Polish officers, bound and shot in the back of their heads, has been discovered in a mass grave in the **Katyn Forest, USSR**.

#### 13 1909. Birth of **Stanisław Ulam**, Polish American mathematician who assisted in the development of the hydrogen bomb.

#### 14 966. Baptism of Poland.

#### 16 1935. Birth of Polish American singer **Bobby Vinton**.

#### 18 1518, **Bona Sforza** (1494-1558) was crowned Queen of Poland and Grand Duchess of Lithuania in Wawel Cathedral, Krakow.

#### 19 1943. **Warsaw Ghetto Uprising** begins.

#### 20 1919. **Polish Army** captured Vilno (Vilnius), Lithuania from Soviet Army.

#### 23 **ST. ADALBERT**

#### 25 1333. **Casimir the Great** crowned King of Poland.

#### 26 1919. Death of **Norwid Cybulski** (v. Cybelski) (b. 1854), discoverer of adrenaline.

#### 28 1939. **Hitler** claims the German-Polish non-attack treaty to be still in effect.

#### 29 1863. Birth of **Maria Teresa Ledochowski**, foundress of the Sisters of St. Peter Claver, an order dedicated to missionary work in Africa.

#### 30 1309. Birth of **Kazimierz III**, King of Poland (1333-70).

This paper mailed on or before **March 27, 2018**. The May 2018 edition will be mailed on or before **May 1, 2018**

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*Wesołego Alleluja!*

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and God Bless the Polish American Journal

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## Easter Message

## Alleluja, Jesus is Alive!

by Fr. Leszek Smoliński

This joyous cry portends to the whole world the most important truth of Christianity: after suffering and death, after the pain and uncertainty of tomorrow, the Resurrection took place. With faith, today we are standing in front of an empty grave, from which a joyous message flows: He is not here because He has risen, as He announced. The center of our Easter joy is Christ, “the winner of death, hell and Satan.” From the tomb of Jesus, in whom the nobles of this world have closed Him, the Gospel of life, joy and hope is spreading throughout the world. The Resurrected shows that life on earth is a preparation for eternal happiness.

It is often the case that such an extraordinary and unique event as the Paschal Holidays leaves almost no trace in us. The Christmas mood goes out so fast. We repeat the usual words: “holy holidays and after holidays.” It is also puzzling that if the Church did not require confession, then probably many Catholics would not be refreshed. The only visible trace would be washed windows and washed curtains.

We need faith that Christ is resurrected. Faith, which is not based on statistical data, but on a

personal relationship with Jesus. By accepting Christ, we accept a new life, a life in which both passion and death can happen. And then the Resurrection, when Christ comes to the disciples, talks with them, eats and drinks them. He walks on the waves, disappears, and passes through the

We need faith that Christ is resurrected. Faith, which is not based on statistical data, but on a personal relationship with Jesus.

door. All this is so strange, it is hard to imagine how it was perceived by those who saw it. Some were scared, thinking they saw a ghost.

The sign of “new life” is an egg. In Christian symbolism, the egg was from the beginning associated with Easter, it referred to the fact of the Lord’s Resurrection. As a new hatchling hatches from under the eggshell, the resurrected Christ after three days victoriously emerges from the grave. In the past, the egg symbolized the Old and New Testaments, so the Old and New God’s Covenant with people. The shell of an egg, which is usually rejected after being broken as useless, meant the Old Testament, while the egg yolk — the nucleus of new life — depicted the New Covenant.

Many of us are familiar with the experience of people who, after a serious accident, have experienced recovery. Some say they feel as if they are born again, that they have received the gift of a new life from God. They received new hope. He saw the sign of Christian hope in the egg of St. Augustine, who wrote: “Hope, in my opinion can be compared to the egg. For hope has not reached its goal; likewise the egg is something, but it is not yet the chicken.”

Hope, according to the famous Catholic writer and bishop, causes us not to care for the present, but to expect future things.

Meeting with the risen Jesus transformed the disciples and whole generations of Christians into God’s witnesses. The mystery of the empty tomb seems to confirm that the love of Christ always brings victory over death, over selfishness, sin and all enslavements.

Alleluja, Jesus is alive!

*Fr. Leszek Smoliński is the author of many best-selling religious, prayer, and scientific publications. He emphasizes the faithful have the right to communicate everything that can bring them closer to God and deepen their faith.*

## Wilczek

continued from cover

71st Fidelitas Medal recipient in recognition of his scholarly achievements and support of the Orchard Lake Schools and Polonia in the United States. He will be recognized at the annual Ambassadors Ball, Sat., April 21, 2018 at the Townsend Hotel in Birmingham, Mich.

Wilczek was born on April 26, 1962 in Chorzów, Poland. He is recognized throughout the world as a prolific literary scholar, intellectual historian, writer and translator, and received the title of Professor of the Humanities from the President of the Republic of Poland.

Wilczek draws upon his scholarly experiences to demonstrate the value of his interdisciplinary approach to cultural diplomacy.

Wilczek joined Foreign Service in numerous capacities. As a member of the Warsaw-based non-partisan American Study Group at the Polish Institute of International Affairs, he helps bring experts, journalists and academic professionals together to collaborate on political

and cultural affairs within the United States as they affect Poland, Europe and the trans-Atlantic alliance. Prior to his appointment to Ambassador, he served as Poland’s representative (and President of the affiliate in Warsaw) of the New York-based Kosciuszko Foundation, a nonprofit that cultivates the educational, cultural, and artistic collaboration between the United States and Poland.

On October 21, 2016, Wilczek was nominated to serve as the Ambassador by the President of the Republic of Poland. Since arriving in Washington, D.C., he has shown a special interest in the well-being of the Orchard Lake Schools. “There is hardly a more important institution in Polonia than the Ss. Cyril & Methodius Seminary at Orchard Lake,” said Wilczek, upon welcoming Fr. Król as the new Chancellor. “Priests educated at Orchard Lake have contributed over the years to Polish-American communities throughout the United States, cultivating Polish language, customs, traditions and faith.”

## Kaptur

continued from cover

Nourse Rogers, a Republican from Massachusetts. Rogers served in the House for 35 years after succeeding her late husband, Rep. John J. Rogers.

In the bipartisan celebration, Pelosi called Kaptur an “icon,” a “trailblazer” and an “example to the rest of us.”

The California Democrat said, “Marcy is a constant, unwavering voice from America’s heartland.”

The daughter of a Polish-American working-class family in Toledo, Kaptur became the first member of her family to graduate high school and college.

Former Rep. Connie Morello, a

Maryland Republican, called Kaptur’s record a “landmark achievement” and spoke of the importance of the #MeToo movement and the push to put more women in top positions in boardrooms and organizations.

“For all of those women who are carrying America into the 21st century,” Kaptur said, “how wonderful it is to be on this journey.”

The packed reception was also attended by Democratic Whip Steny Hoyer of Maryland, Republican former Sen. Elizabeth Dole of North Carolina, former Secretary of Energy Ernest Moniz, and Polish Ambassador Piotr Wilczek.

— From CNN and Radio Poland reports

## Editor’s Desk

## Serdeczne Dziękuję

The Polish American Journal thanks its advertisers, sponsors, and donors, who made this Easter paper possible. As you know, we count on monies raised from this edition, as well as the Polish Heritage Month, and Christmas editions, to keep the paper going.

Because Easter is the first weekend of April this year, some of you may receive your copy after the Easter holiday. Easter does not end until Pentecost Sunday, which is fifty days after Easter Sunday (May 20 this year). In the spirit of our Polish ancestors, we urge you continue to celebration of Christ’s Resurrec-

tion and share the Good News of His teachings by sharing this edition of PAJ with family and friends. For new subscribers who are receiving the PAJ for the first time, please note the March edition was packed with Easter recipes and accounts of the Polish traditions. To ensure these customs are not lost, we have published them in our On-line Library at [www.polamjournal.com](http://www.polamjournal.com). Follow the links to from the main page to the On-line Library to the Holidays page.

Again, thank you, and *niech was Bóg błogosławi*. All the best for a most blessed Easter.

Alleluja! alleluja! Chrystus zmartwychwstał!  
May the Risen Christ renew our faith and  
fill our hearts with love for all mankind  
Happy Easter! Wesotego Alleluja!

## American Association of Friends of Kościuszko at West Point, Inc.

Frances X. Gates, Executive Vice-President

2018 is the 100th Anniversary of Poland’s Independence  
The Annual Kościuszko Conference and Commemoration  
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Happy Easter to All Polonia from the  
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Sunday, October 7th, 2018  
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Wishing all of Polonia  
a Happy Easter!  
Chrystus Zmartwychwstał

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# Sharing our Polish Paschal Vocabulary

by Robert Strybel

**Alleluja:** This is the Polish spelling of Alleluia, a term which in Hebrew means “praise Jehovah.” In Polish tradition it is closely associated with Easter, in fact it forms part of the traditional Easter greeting: “Wesołego Alleluja” (see below).

**baba, babka:** baba, tall, tapered, usually yeast-raised cake; a typical Easter treat.

**baranek:** Easter lamb; made of cake, butter, sugar, wood, fleece, plaster or plastic and placed in Easter basket and on the Easter table as the

main centerpiece, **bialy barszcz:** tart, white Easter soup containing eggs, sausage, etc.. typical of eastern Poland; similar to żurek (see last entry)

**Boży Grób, Grób Pański:** a table of Our Lord’s Tomb (Holy Sepulcher), usually set up at one of the church’s side altars, surrounded by flowers, ferns and candles and often watched over by rotating honor guards.

**bukszpan:** boxwood, a small-leaved evergreen used to make Easter palms, decorate Easter baskets and Easter platters and weave garlands strung round the edge of the święconka table

**chrzan:** horseradish, a pungent root symbolizing the bitter herbs of the Passover and the gall Jesus was given on the cross, is a typical condiment accompanying Easter foods.

**ćwikła:** beetroot and horseradish relish or salad, a typical Easter go-together with hard-cooked eggs, ham, sausage and other cold meats

## Kraszanki



## Życzenia Radosnych Świąt Wielkanocnych

### POLISH HERITAGE COMMITTEE NORTHAMPTON, MASSACHUSETTS 127 King St., Northampton, MA 01060

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

(sponsored by the Polish Heritage Committee)

- **September 23, 2018.** 2:00 p.m. St. Valentine’s PNC Church, Northampton. Polish American Concert of Polish and English Hymns, Folk, and Patriotic Songs
- **October 8, 2018.** 11:00 a.m. Pulaski Parade, Northampton, Massachusetts

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**dyngus:** an old rural custom of post-Easter house-to-house masquerading and trick-or-treating with revelers often pulling a rooster cart and drenching stingy householders; also see śmigus-dyngus.

**dzielenie się jajkiem:** The sharing of wedges of blessed hard-cooked eggs begins the family breakfast or brunch served after Easter morning Mass; this symbolically ends the 40-day Lenten fast (although some Poles start in on the treats right after the Holy Saturday food blessing).

**jajo, jajko:** The Polish word for egg, at Eastertime a prominent ritual artifact and food symbolizing new life; just as a chick pecks its way out its egg-shell confinement, so too Jesus broke out of His entombment when He rose from the dead.

**kielbasa:** sausage, a typical Polish Easter treat; both the biała (fresh) and wędzona (smoked) varieties are served hot and cold, boiled and baked, as well as in soups.

**kraszanki:** solid-colored Easter eggs; before the era of store-bought dyes, these were made by placing eggs in water in which onion skins, spinach, certain tree barks, beets, etc. had been boiled.

**kroszonki:** This is not only the dialectal Silesian (Śląsk) pronunciation of kraszanki, but refers to a specific technique in which

eggs dyed a solid dark color such as black, dark navy blue or dark violet, and designs are etched on with a sharp pointed instrument, exposing the lighter-colored undyed shell beneath.

**mazurek:** mazurka, flat Polish Easter cake with a variety of toppings, cut into squares for serving; similar to the American sheet-cake.

**Niedziela Palmowa = Palm Sunday;** the day “palmy” (see below) are blessed in church; formerly also known as Kwietna Niedziela (Floral Sunday) and Wierzbna Niedziela (Willow Sunday).

**oklejanki or nalepianki:** Easter eggs decorated by having various plants or colored paper glued on to form geometric or wycinanka-like designs.

**palma, palemka:** several pussy-willow twigs tied together with boxwood or cranberry leaves are the “palms” blessed in church on Palm Sunday.

**pascha:** A rich Easter dessert made of curd cheese and containing raisins and other southern fruits, candied orange ring, nuts, etc.

**pisanki:** patterned Easter eggs made by applying designs with a special stylus or pin dipped in molten beeswax and then dyeing the eggs; to get multicolored eggs the procedure could be repeated a number of times.

**Rezurekcja:** Early morning Easter

Mass that begins at daybreak with a procession which thrice encircles the church.

**sernik:** Many people love cheesecakes all year round, but they are an especially common treat on the Polish Easter table.

**szynka:** Ham, a typical Easter treat; in Polish tradition nearly always served as a sliced, cold meat to be eaten with horseradish (ćwikła) and bread.

**święcone:** The hallowfare (Easter food), blessed in church on Holy Saturday and served on Easter morning to end the Lenten fast; the term applies both to the food and the meal which could be translated into English as Easter breakfast, brunch or lunch

**święconka:** in Poland – the wicker basket in which Easter food is blessed or the custom itself; in Polonia also an Easter party (dinner-dance) usually held during post-Easter week.

**Wielkanoc:** Easter; literally: the Great Night; sometimes also known as Wielka Niedziela (Great Sunday)

**Wielki Tydzień;** Holy Week (literally: Great Week); the term “Wielki” is used for all the days including Wielki Piątek (Good Friday). The feminine days of the week are Wielka Środa (Holy Wednesday) and Wielka Sobota (Holy Saturday).

## New Books

### A Celebration of Contemporary Polish Cuisine

#### WILD HONEY & RYE: MODERN POLISH RECIPES

by Ren Behan

Interlink Books, an imprint of Interlink Publishing Group, Inc. International Cooking • 7 1/2" x 9 2/3" • 208 pages • full-color photos ISBN 978-1-62371-998-2 • hardback • \$30.00 (in Canada, \$45.00)

Inspired by the food of her childhood and the new wave of flavors to be found in the fashionable eateries and farmer’s markets of modern Poland, Ren Behan invites us to discover the very best of the new food of Poland in her debut cookbook.

*Wild Honey & Rye* offers lighter, healthier, elegantly presented versions of traditional dishes, and fresh, seasonal fare. The book is divided into sections on breakfasts, salads, soups, light bites and street food, food for family and friends, sweet treats, and a section on fruit liqueurs and flavored vodkas. Behan includes enough classics, like sauerkraut-stuffed pierogi dumplings, to satisfy lovers of traditional Polish food, as well as a wealth of modern takes, such as dessert pierogi stuffed with strawberry, honey, and pistachios. As well as the simple, hearty cabbage and potato-based dishes for which Polish cuisine is best known, there is a variety of recipes featuring fresh produce and novel flavor combinations: sour cucumber soup; Polish plum butter; rainbow beet salad with buckwheat and roasted asparagus; ribs with honey and vodka, and much more. Here you will find an evocative and mouthwatering collection of recipes that celebrates the best of modern Polish cooking.

Ren Behan is an acclaimed food writer of Polish descent, who is inspired by both her heritage and the fast-changing food landscape in Poland. Her writing and recipes are an exciting fusion of traditional and modern Eastern European cuisine. An ex-lawyer who swapped the courtroom for the kitchen, Ren is now a mother of three and writes for

a number of prominent online publications such as JamieOliver.com, GreatBritishChefs.com, and her own highly popular blog RenBehan.com. Whenever time allows, Ren runs pop-up events that showcase the delicious flavors of Polish food.

### Shawver’s Henry a Finalist

VIRGINIA BEACH, Virg. – The debut nonfiction biography *Henry: A Polish Swimmer’s True Story of Friendship from Auschwitz to America* (Köehler Books, November 2017) by Katrina Shawver has been named a finalist or winner in the following literary award contests. Each contest received hundreds of entries:

- Reader Views Literary Awards: 2018 Finalist in Biography/Memoir, and nominated for Regional, Global and other Special

Awards;

- The Wishing Shelf Book Awards: 2017-2018 Finalist for Adult Non-Fiction; and;
- 2018 Feathered Quill Book Awards: Second Place/Silver award for Historical.

*Henry* offers a view of the Holocaust as seen through the eyes of a Polish Catholic political prisoner, and is told with a pragmatic gallows humor. This unique bridge to history includes more than 75 original photos and rare German documents. Both the book and Shawver are receiving high praise locally and nationally.

“Everyone who reads *Henry* becomes a witness,” said Jack Mayer, author of *Life in a Jar: The Irena Sendler Project* and *Before the Court of Heaven*.

*Henry* is available from the Polish American Journal Bookstore.

## DZIESIECIOLECIE POLSKI ODRODZONEJ

### KSIEGA PAMIATKOWA 1918-1928

COPYRIGHT 1929 CRACOV, POLAND. POLISH EDITED A POLISH HISTORY BOOK, 1918 TO 1928, 123 YEARS AFTER BEING OWNED BY RUSSIA, AUSTRIA AND GERMANY, 1209 PAGES {11"X15"} OF NEWS PAPER ARTICLES, PHOTOGRAPHS, ETC. OF A REVISED CIVILIZATION IN “BORN AGAIN” POLAND PLUS A 4-PAGE LETTER BY EDITOR PROFESOR JAN ROZWADOWSKI OF UNIVERSITY JAGIELLONSKIEGO.

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## Religion

## Statue of St. John Paul II Must Move



Poland's Prime Minister Beata Szydło offered to have the statue of **St. John Paul II** (above) in Ploërmel, France, brought to Poland to save it from "the dictates of political correctness" and "secularization of the state."

by Benjamin Fiore, S.J.

A court order in France upheld the application of the French 1905 secularism law prohibiting religious symbols on public property to the statue of St. John Paul II in the city of Ploërmel in Brittany. The statue, a gift of its Russian sculptor, had been erected in a public parking lot in 2006. Protests from secularists brought on the suit against the city. To resolve the dispute, the city sold the statue to the nearby Catholic Church in town and it will be moved to the church's property adjacent to a school.

Poland's Prime Minister **Beata Szydło**, who offered to have the statue brought to Poland to save it from "the dictates of political correctness" and "secularization of the state," decried the move noting that the former pope, "our great Pole, a great European, is a symbol of a Christian, united Europe." Religious censorship, she charged, was undermining the values of Europe, was a nuisance to Europeans, and was a dictatorship "alien to our culture, which leads to terrorizing Europeans in their everyday life" French conservative parties called the decision "madness" and "destructive to the country's history."

**SENATOR DURBIN COURTED / REBUKED BY CHURCH OFFICIALS.** Blase Cardinal Cupich, archbishop of the RC archdiocese of Chicago, circulated a video in which he appealed to Democratic Senator

Dick Durbin to protect the young students threatened with deportation once DACA (Pres. Obama's deferment of deportation action of people who entered the country illegally as minor children of undocumented parents) is repealed at the deadline set by president Trump. With this effort, Cardinal Cupich is in sync with the U.S. Catholic bishops who are taking Congress to task for not passing legislation that enables the "dreamers" to become "citizens and full contributing members of our society."

At the same time, **Bishop Thomas J. Paprocki** of the diocese of Springfield, Illinois and Senator Durbin's bishop, banned the senator from taking communion until he "repents" of his "sin" incurred by his adamant support of abortion legislation. Bishop Paprocki recalled that the senator "was once pro-life" but has since joined 14 Democratic Catholics who voted against the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act. Durbin himself said that while some Democrats may hold pro-life views on a "personal basis," they must back the party's pro-choice stance.

**LIPINSKI OPPOSED BY PRO-ABORTIONISTS.** One of the few remaining pro-life Democratic Congressmen, **Dan Lipinski** is facing strong opposition from the National Abortion Rights League (NARAL) and other national pro-choice organization and individuals who are supporting his pro-abortion opponent in the Democratic primary in Illinois. The Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee has yet to decide whether to endorse him or his pro-choice opponent Marie Newman although it appears to be leaning in her favor. Catholic Tom Perez, chairman of the Democratic National Committee dodged the question of whether there is room in the Democratic party for pro-life candidates, although he said in the past that the party should include only pro-choice members.

**BISHOPS SPEAK ON THE FATE OF UNIONS.** With the Supreme Court about to decide on the legality of making non-union members pay union dues to unions at their government workplace, many bishops have spoken against "right to work" agreements which would exempt workers from supporting unions. Mark Janus an Illinois state employee sued the municipal employees union (AFSCME) on the grounds that his forced dues

violate his free speech rights, especially when unions take positions in favor of candidates and legislation with which he does not agree. Pittsburgh's **Bishop David Zubik** opposes the suit and notes that unions help raise wages, bring family benefits, ensure worker safety, and help keep workers from being exploited, benefits which are given even to people who do not belong to unions. While the public support of unions by some bishops in the case was taken as a sign that all the bishops agreed with this, Springfield, Ill.'s **Bishop Thomas Paprocki** and other bishops who haven't spoken in favor of "right to work" legislation have refrained from expressing an opinion on the "mandatory dues" case and remains neutral.

**PRIEST "COMES OUT" AT MASS / ARCHBISHOP RESPONDS.** Fr. **Gregory Greiten** came out as gay during his sermon at St. Bernadette Parish in Milwaukee, Wisc., and received a standing ovation from the congregation in attendance at the Mass. His bishop, Archbishop Jerome Listocki, expressed his support of the priest "in his own personal journey and telling his story of coming to understand and live with his same-sex attraction." He went on to declare that Greiten's "own story reminds each of us of God's call to continue to grow in understanding and to live holy, chaste lives."

While the public declaration served as instructive for persons in the pews who struggle with the question of homosexuality, some note that the pulpit and the homily is neither the place nor the time for a priest to air facts about his personal situation since this detracts from the centrality of the gospel and the focus on the sacrifice of Jesus being offered on the altar.

**MARIANISTS PROMOTE THE CAUSE OF WYSZYNSKI.** Br. **Andrew Maczynski**, MIC, in Stockbridge, Mass., is the vice-postulator of the Marian Causes of Canonization and gathers information about graces received through the intercession of Servant of God Fr. **Casimir Wyszynski** who lived from 1700-1755. Testimonies of healings through his intercession have been received from Poland and Portugal. Prayer cards can be obtained by calling 1-800-462-7426 and reports of graces received can be sent to Br. Maczynski at [graces@marian.org](mailto:graces@marian.org).

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO ...**  
Our Lady of Poland RC Parish

in Southampton, N.Y. on its 100th year. The Polish population of the area at the turn of the century worked in the luxurious summer residences in the area as gardeners and caretakers to supplement their income as farmers, mechanics, carpenters, masons, painters, and small building contractors. Originally traveling to St. Isidore's Church in Riverhead for Mass and church services, the families in the area asked to establish a parish in Southampton and the first Mass was offered in Schwenk's Arcade while funds were collected to build a church. A temporary church was completed in 1918 and the pastor Fr. Alexander

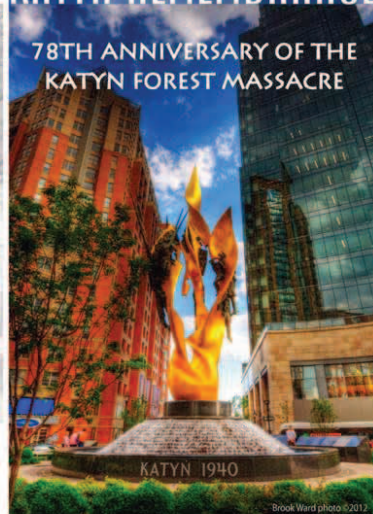
Ciżmowski offered the first Mass. In 1953, the 35th anniversary of the parish, a campaign to re-model the church started with a rededication of blessing taking place in 1956.

The current pastor is Rev. Canon Janusz Lipczyk, born in 1940 in Hrubieszów, Lublin Province, Poland. Ordained in 1967, he worked in the Lublin Archdiocese and then came to Canada where he ministered in Quebec City, Montreal, and Sherbrooke. In 1998 he came to the United States and served in Glen Head, N.Y., and other Polish parishes in the Rockville Center diocese. He has been pastor in Southampton since 2012.

## 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. Send to: Polish American Journal, P.O. Box 271, N. Boston, NY 14110.

**NOVENA TO THE HOLY SPIRIT.** On my knees before the great multitude of heavenly witnesses I offer myself, soul and body, to You, Eternal Spirit of God. I adore the brightness of Your purity, the unerring keenness of Your justice and the might of Your love. You are the Strength and Light of my soul. In You I live and move and am. I desire never to grieve You by unfaithfulness to grace and I pray with all my heart to be kept from the smallest sin against You. Mercifully guard my every thought and grant that I may always watch for Your light and listen to Your voice and follow Your gracious inspirations. I cling to You and give myself to You and ask You by Your compassion to watch over me in my weakness. Holding the pierced Feet of Jesus and looking at His Five Wounds and trusting in His Precious Blood and adoring his opened Side and stricken Heart, I implore You, Adorable Spirit, Helper of my infirmity, so to keep me in Your grace that I may never sin against You. Give me grace, O Holy Ghost, Spirit of the Father and the Son to say to You always and everywhere, "Speak, Lord, for Your servant heareth." Amen. J.K.

EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL  
KATYN REMEMBRANCE

Sunday  
April 29  
2018

Sponsored by The National Katyn Memorial Foundation, with The Embassy of the Republic of Poland  
[www.katynbaltimore.com](http://www.katynbaltimore.com)

10:30 am Mass at Holy Rosary Church  
408 S. Chester St., Baltimore, MD 21231  
(off the 2100 block of Eastern Ave.)

11:45 am Coffee/Pastry Reception  
Holy Rosary Church Undercroft

1:00 pm Ceremonies at the National Katyn Memorial  
Baltimore Harbor East at Katyn Circle  
600 block of President St. (at Aliceanna St.)  
Baltimore, MD 21202

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

Wesołego Alleluja! Happy Easter!

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## Books in Brief

## April is National Poetry Month

by Mary E. Lanham

It's April, and spring has sprung which means flowers are in bloom and the bees are buzzing. But April is not only the time for sneezing and sniffing from wayward pollen, it's also National Poetry Month. In honor of this special month, the first title I have reviewed in this issue is a poetry collection entitled *Oxygen* by Julia Fiedorczuk.

**OXYGEN**

by Julia Fiedorczuk  
Translated from the Polish by Bill Johnston  
Zephyr Press, 2017, 110 pgs.  
Zephyrpress.org

"It is literally fire that is dear to us. / At times you feel it on the soles of your feet. / It's a sign that everything was once divine ocean, / while the deep time of earth is expressed in such disquieting numbers / that

their discovery has changed the course of human thought."



a form of poetry that seeks to relate humans and nature. Fiedorczuk succeeds in this task using hard science. Astronomy, physics, microbiology, and chemistry are common themes in her work. She commingles the self with the nonhuman world with poems like "Orion's Shoulder," "Photosynthesis," and "Beetle."

In *Oxygen*, the original Polish language poem faces its English translation, inviting the reader to compare the two. Bill Johnston's

translations are faithful to the imagery and rhythm of Fiedorczuk's original compositions and are a boon to those who have yet to master the intricacies of the Polish language.

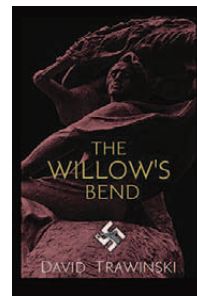
Julia Fiedorczuk was born in Warsaw, Poland. She has a Ph.D. in humanities and teaches English, theory of literature, and American literature at the University of Warsaw. She has published five books of poetry, three books of fiction, and three of ecocriticism. Her work has been translated into nineteen languages. She's received several Polish literary awards.

**THE WILLOW'S BEND**

by David Trawinski  
Outskirts Press, 2016, 198 pgs.  
Outskirtspress.com

Retired CIA operative Stanley Wisniewski is hired to solve the mysterious murder of Ted Barber, an aerospace executive. Barber worked

for a major defense contractor and the prime suspect will soon be named the organization's next CEO.



Stanley must fight against time to prove who actually is responsible for the perplexing death and the motivation behind the crime. Weaved into the strange case is an account of the extreme hardship that Stanley's father endured in a Nazi concentration camp. Because of that, Stanley's father makes him promise to always honor his Polish heritage. Stanley's love of Polish history and culture is profound and he is not afraid to dispel others' misconceptions of Polish historical figures and facts.

As the action intensifies, Stanley travels from Baltimore to D.C. to

California to London to Amsterdam and to Warsaw as he seeks not only to confront the murderer but also his own past.

David Trawinski worked in the aerospace industry for over 35 years. He has degrees in chemistry, computer engineering, and business administration. After retiring he switched his focus to writing. Originally from Maryland, he now lives in Georgia with his wife. *The Willow's Bend* is Trawinski's first fictional novel.

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**THE INVERTED MASK**  
The Inverted Mask is a bold new science fiction book by Polish American author Izzy Doroski. Mystery, Suspense, Action and Romance. The story involves an attractive Polish psychiatrist who always remembers her Polish heritage and a missing top physicist who disappeared from a National Laboratory. The Inverted Mask explores the realms of perception, consciousness, reality and good and evil. "The world that we see and feel is just an illusion and doesn't exist at all at least the way we think it does."

AVAILABLE ON amazon.com

[WWW.THEINVERTEDMASK.COM](http://WWW.THEINVERTEDMASK.COM)

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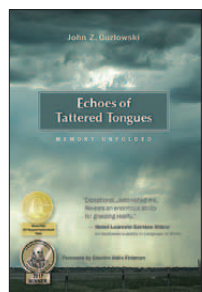
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**ECHOES OF TATTERED TONGUES**  
by John Guzowski  
\$21.95  
Item 2-667  
hc., 6.2 x 0.8 x 9.4 inches  
200 pp.  
Aquila Polonica / Language: English

Guzowski born in a German refugee camp after WWII, recounts the horrible atrocities enacted upon his parents during the war in these straightforward, gut-wrenching narrative lyric poems. These snapshots of Nazi German rule illustrate that hardship didn't end with German surrender; the aftershocks radiated through successive generations. "Guzowski's simple language highlights the violence without offering any comment or consolation." — Publishers Weekly.



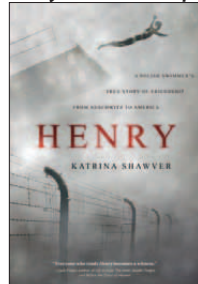
**303 SQUADRON**  
The Legendary Battle of Britain Fighter Squadron  
by Arkady Fiedler  
\$21.95  
Item 2-603  
pb. 6 x 9 inches  
368 pp.  
Aquila Polonica  
English. Includes nearly 200 black and white photos, maps and illustrations.

The summer of 1940 and the Battle of Britain—the darkest days of World

War II. France, Poland, Denmark, Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg and Norway had all been crushed by the powerful Nazi German war machine. Great Britain stood alone, fighting for its life.

Thrilling action story of the celebrated squadron of Polish fighter pilots whose superb daring and aerial combat skills helped save England during its most desperate hours. The 303 "Kościuszko" Squadron flew with the RAF, downing three times the average RAF score, while incurring only one-third the average casualties during the Battle of Britain. Underdog heroes who rose to defend against the deadliest German Luftwaffe attacks, the pilots of 303 Squadron were lionized by the British press, congratulated by the King and adored by the British public.

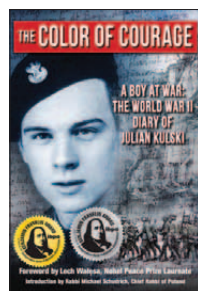
**HENRY. A Polish Swimmer's True Story of Friendship from Auschwitz to America**



by Katrina Shawver  
\$19.95  
Item 2-678  
Koehler Books, 2017  
pb., 6 x 0.7 x 9 inches  
324 pp.  
\$19.95

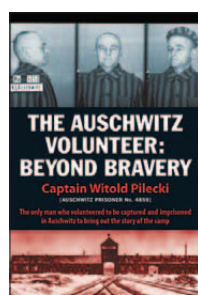
When Katrina Shawver met the eighty-five-year-old Henry Zguda, he possessed an exceptional memory, a surprising cache of original documents and photos, and a knack for meeting the right people at the right

time. He relates in his own voice a life as a champion swimmer, interrupted by three years imprisoned in Auschwitz and Buchenwald. Henry's path of resiliency and power of connection are as relevant today as they were in World War II.



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

"If there is going 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**  
by Witold Pilecki  
\$34.95  
Item 2-673  
Aquila Polonica  
Publ., 2014  
460 pp., pb. / 6x9 in.

In 1940, the Polish Underground wanted to

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."



**TWO TRAINS FROM POLAND**  
by Dr. Krystyna M. Sklenarz  
\$19.95  
Item 2-604  
183 pp., pb.

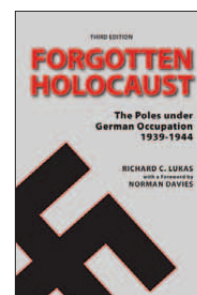
A midnight knock at her door changed everything for 6-year-old Krystyna Sklenarz. In the middle of the night, the KGB deported her family from Poland to Siberia. She experienced two years there, and faced starvation, typhus, an opium den, being torpedoed, and living through the Nazi Blitz in the London subway. Through it all, Krystyna refused to give up. This is her journey from Siberia to her entrance into medical school at only 17.



**Polish Women as Forced Laborers in Nazi Germany, 1939-1945**  
by Sophie Hodorowicz-Knab  
\$19.95  
Item 2-642  
pb. 304 pages  
6 x 9 inches

An unflinching, detailed portrait

of a forgotten group of Nazi survivors. Written by the daughter of Polish forced laborers, *Wearing the Letter P* gives a voice to women who were taken from their homes as young as 12 years old and subjected to slave labor conditions, starvation, sexual exploitation, and forced abortions and child separation — all while Nazi propaganda depicted them as well-cared-for volunteers. Knab provides an important contribution to World War II history, based on archival and family records, war crime trials, and victim accounts.



**FORGOTTEN HOLOCAUST: The Poles Under German Occupation, 1939-45. Third edition**  
\$19.95  
Item 2-647  
358 pp. pb.

*Forgotten Holocaust* has become a classic of World War II literature. As Norman Davies noted, "Dr. Richard Lukas has rendered a valuable service, by showing that no one can properly analyze the fate of one ethnic community in occupied Poland without referring to the fates of others. In this sense, *The Forgotten Holocaust* is a powerful corrective." The third edition includes a new preface by the author, a new foreword by Norman Davies, a short history of ZEGOTA, the underground government organization working to save the Jews, and an annotated listing of many Poles executed by the Germans for trying to shelter and save Jews.

**MORE BOOKS ON PAGES 7, 17, and 18 and on the web at [www.polamjournal.com](http://www.polamjournal.com)**







## Happenings: Chicago Style

## Illinois Celebrates Pulaski Day at the PMA

by Geraldine Balut Coleman

CHICAGO — In the State of Illinois since 1977 and each year thereafter, the first Monday in March is designated as **Casimir Pulaski Day**. Thus, on March 5, the State of Illinois paid tribute to the Polonian community by honoring Revolutionary War hero Casimir Pulaski, a hero of two nations, and the “Father of the American Cavalry.” Also, since 1987, the official State of Illinois celebration setting is The Polish Museum of America (PMA). This year, **Governor Bruce Rauner** officially opened the Pulaski Day celebration followed by welcoming remarks by **Malgorzata Kot**, managing director of the PMA, and the singing of the national anthems of Poland and the United States by **Mirosława Sojka-Topór** with piano accompaniment by **Marta Pasek**. The Most Rev. **Andrew Wypych**, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Chicago, gave the Invocation. The masters of ceremony, **Joseph A. Drobot Jr.**, president of the Polish Roman Catholic Union and Chair of the PMA, and **Richard Owsiany**, president of the PMA, added additional introductions.

As in the past, major civic and political leaders, representatives of the Polish government, and Chicago-area Polonian organizations attended this standing room only event. This year, **Piotr Janicki**, consul general of the Republic of Poland in Chicago, spoke briefly. Chicago **Mayor Rahm Emanuel** addressing the continual battle for visa-waiver for Poland, said, “You do not treat a first-class friend like a second-class citizen. Pulaski, an immigrant was one of America’s first dreamers. Chicago must be a place for all immigrants.” **Ariel Reboyras**, Chicago’s 30th Ward Alderman, a Hispanic American, gave his remarks in Polish to the delight of the audience. **Maria Pappas**, Cook County Treasurer, spoke of her 30-year friendship with the PMA, her emotional attachment to Chicago’s Polonia, and asked everyone to become a member of the PMA. Other state and city officials and leaders of Polonian organizations too numerous to mention spoke of Casimir Pulaski and the contributions of Poles



Singing “Sto lat” (l.to r.): Janicki, Kot, Pappas, Drobot, Owsiany, and Sojka-Tobór.



Ewa and Anna.

to Chicago.

The 90-minute program concluded with an official wreath laying ceremony at Stefan Batowski’s painting of *Pulaski at Savannah*, a Benediction by **Rev. Andrzej Totzke**, SChr, Pastor of Holy Trinity Polish Mission Church, and the singing of “God Bless America.”

A special *dziękuję bardzo* to Ms. Kot, the PMA Staff, and Mr. Owsiany for hosting a special and well-organized event.

Finally, the words of Brigadier

General Casimir Pulaski, “I came here where freedom is being defended, to serve it and live or die for it.”

**EASTERN EUROPEAN MUSIC SHINES.** On the weekend of February 11, the Chicago area was hit with 6–12 inches of snow. Some area streets became impassible. Having a concert on this weekend may have limited the number of serious music patrons leaving their homes to travel to St. John Brebeuf in suburban Niles, Illinois, to hear its “**Eastern Europe Shines**” concert. But they came and filled the church to hear the concert. The program consisted of five soloists who were accompanied by pianist and music director, **Marek Rachelski**. The program began with soprano **Megan Wilhelm** singing with perfect pitch an a cappella interpretation of Rachmaninoff’s *Vocalise*, Opus 34, No. 14, followed by Rachmaninoff’s *Vesenniye vody* (Spring Waters) from 12 Romances, Opus 14, No. 11. Tenor **J. Alfredo Jimenez-Jimenez** sang Dvorák’s *Vidino Divna Přesladvá* (from Dvorák’s opera *Rusalka*) with impressive artistic and theatrical passion. Baritone **Brandon Sokol** sang Czech composer Pavel Haas’s solemn *Čtyři písně na slova české poezie* (*Four Songs of Chinese Poetry*). Soprano **Ewa Kowcz Fair**, to the delight of a predominately Polish American audience, sang Szymanowski’s *Five Short Songs on Children’s Rhymes* from *Rymy Dzieciece*, Opus 49, and *Wsyscy Przyjechali* from *Piesini kurpiowska* – Kurpian Songs. Soprano **Anna Mazur Krawczyk** followed with her renditions of Jozef Swider’s *Miserere* and *Kto Szuka Cie* followed by and Chopin’s *Prez z moich oczu*, Opus 74, No. 6, Stanislaw Niewiadomski’s *Lata-*

*wica*, and Stanislaw Moniuszko’s *Piesn wieczorna* and *Dumka Jadwigii* from *Strasny Dwor* (*Haunted Manor*). The vocal portion of the concert ended with Ewa and Anna singing the ever-popular duet from *Strasny Dwor*.

The second portion of the concert consisted of **Jeff Yang**, accompanied by **Shirley Trissell** on piano, performing Modest Mussorgsky’s *Pictures at an Exhibition*. To the absolute amazement of the concertgoers, Yang played all 15 portions of the *Pictures* by alternating between the violin, viola, cello, and four varieties of recorders. In appreciation of this rare and creative feat, the performance ended with an almost five-minute standing ovation. Those attending the concert also had the opportunity to view artist John Gaudette’s original drawings illustrating each phase of *Pictures at an Exhibition* in the church lobby.

**BECZAŁA SOLOS IN CHICAGO.**

On February 25, the internationally acclaimed Polish tenor **Piotr Beczała** performed at Chicago’s Lyric Opera House. In previous seasons, Beczała successfully sang the title role in Charles Gounod’s *Faust*, followed by the role of Edgardo in Gaetano Donizetti’s *Lucia di Lammermoor*. His return to Chicago for this solo performance gave his devotees an opportunity to hear his elegant and impassioned voice accompanied only by piano. Solo performances in opera theaters are quite rare and considered a great honor for the singer. Beczała has performed in opera houses in Berlin, Vienna, Switzerland, and New York, so it was timely that the famed soloist appeared at the Lyric Opera House in Chicago. With only pianist Martin Katz on stage, Beczała sang songs of Italian composers



Piotr Beczała

Francesco Paolo Tosti, Ottorino Respighi, Ermano Wolf-Ferrari, and Stefano Donaudy, along with Polish composers. He also performed audience favorites, such as four songs of Stanislaw Moniuszko, which added



Sr. Marta Cichoń and Sr. Krystiana Pucik,

a lighter note, six songs of Karol Szymanowski, and seven songs of Mieczyslaw Karłowicz.

**POLISH PHYSICIANS PRESENT FASHION SHOW BENEFIT.**

The third annual fashion show, “Share the Love,” hosted by Chicago-area Polish physicians was held to support the not-for-profit, **Dom Samontej Matki**, Holy Family Home for Single Mothers, located next to St. Hyacinth Basilica on Chicago’s northwest side. It is operated and was founded in 2016 by **Sr. Marta Cichoń, MChR**. Over 300 guests gathered on February 9, at Victoria in the Park in Mt. Prospect for music and a fashion show. Guests had the pleasure of watching the dance performances of **Iwona and Erwin Rybczyński** and gave them thunderous applause. Following dinner, event chairpersons, **Sabina Danek** and **Pawel Kuliński**, began the much-anticipated fashion show. Various Chicago-area fashion designers and salons presented new ensembles of the season.

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Minnesota Voice

# Meet Rosie Frankowski: Pyeongchang Olympian

by Mark Dillon

MINNEAPOLIS — Childhood winters in Minneapolis started fourth generation Polish American Rosie Frankowski on a path to Pyeongchang to compete in one of the toughest of winter Olympic events — the 30-kilometer woman’s cross-country, a marathon on skis.

“Growing up, I loved playing in the snow even in the coldest of temperatures, and so when I started cross country skiing in high school, it was a very natural transition” says the 26-year-old, 112 lb., 5 foot 2 inch Frankowski.

Frankowski finished 21st in the 30k at her first Olympics, competing on Sunday, Feb. 25, the final day of the games in South Korea in the same event as U.S. gold medal-winning Olympian Jessie Diggins, who finished seventh. Poland’s Justyna Kowalczyk, from Limanowa, winner of the gold medal in the 30k in the 2010 Winter Olympics, finished 14th.

Simply competing in the games was thrilling for Frankowski, and it was a moment made even more magical because she did not learn she would be skiing until near the end of the two-week series of events.

“I was selected to compete two days before my event. I was super excited, but also quite nervous to race at that level of competition. I had only raced at Under 23 (years of age) World Championships (in 2014) before the Olympics, so I was nervous to be racing with the big guns,” Frankowski said.

“However, during the race and even warming up for it, all I could think about was how cool it was to be racing at the Olympics. So I spent my mental energy focusing on that and soaking in the entire experience. Skiing through the stadium and crossing that finishing line (in 1:31:11.4) was one of the highlights of my ski career.”



Frankowski now lives in Alaska and trained for the Olympics as part of Alaska Pacific University’s Elite Team in Anchorage, which sent 10 athletes to South Korea.

That career started a decade ago while attending Southwest High School in the Linden Hills neighborhood of Minneapolis, whose graduates include actor Peter Graves. She progressed to Junior Nationals competition in 2009 and 2010 at Northern Michigan University in Marquette, Michigan as a member of NMU’s NCAA Nordic Skiing and Cross Country Running teams.

Success didn’t come easy. She was cut from the NMU team after her freshman year and then underwent knee surgery after making the team. She convinced her college coach to give her a second chance.

Frankowski now lives in Alaska and trained for the Olympics as part of Alaska Pacific University’s Elite Team in Anchorage, which sent 10 athletes to South Korea. She says dedication to her professional journey made the seemingly impossible, possible.

“I believe that being a successful cross country skier comes down to a lot of really hard work. At the top level, we train between 800-1000 hours a year, skiing, running,

rollerskiing, strength training, etc. This doesn’t count the countless hours of physical therapy, stretching and body care to make sure you are healthy enough to train that much,” she says.

Reached via email in the Italian Alps in early March, Frankowski hasn’t slowed down since her Olympic debut.

“I am doing a lot of ski racing in Italy, France and Spain over the next three weekends; we have two or three races a weekend here through the OPA/Alpen Continental Cup circuit. I don’t think I will have the opportunity to do much sightseeing.”

The global traveler cherishes her Polish American heritage and has the Tatra Mountains on her to-ski list.

“My Dad’s parents are Polish and live in Milwaukee. Growing up, we always had kielbasa at Christmas and special occasions, and we always joke that “ski” is in our names. I hope to one day make it over to Poland,” Frankowski said. “My great-grandfather, Tomaz Frankowski, was born in Kaczko, Poland in 1877 and immigrated to the U.S. in 1902. And my great grandma on my Grandma’s side was born in Krakow, I believe.”

Summers on Minnesota’s North Shore in rural Lutsen with grandma and winters with her parents helped a young Frankowski build a love of Polish American culture and the outdoors. When not skiing, she says her hobbies are baking, playing ukulele, dancing, mushroom foraging and salmon fishing.

“I spent a lot of time playing in the woods and doing all the Minnesota cabin activities,” she says. However, winter has always been my favorite (and my family’s). My dad (an engineer at Minnesota-based Boston Scientific Corp.) in particular loves to snowshoe, ski, and just be outdoors even chopping wood and shoveling.”

Frankowski’s educational suc-



cess and ambition parallel her athletic achievements.

“Currently I have two master’s degrees, one in public administration from Northern Michigan University, and a M.B.A. from Alaska Pacific University. I work as a program manager for Anchorage Downtown Partnership, Ltd., a non-profit working to revitalize down-

town Anchorage. I also adjunct teach at Alaska Pacific University in the Liberal Studies department.”

The Anchorage development group has a page on its website with the headline “Go, Rosie, Go!” Frankowski adds: “I try to balance my full-time athletic career with other ventures, and after skiing, I hope to find a position that inspires the same sort of passion in me as ski racing.”

PHOTO: NORDIC FOCUS/TOKO.US

PHOTO: NORDIC FOCUS/TOKO.US

## Playing on the Edge

TORONTO — Steve Sladkowski is the lead guitarist of PUP, a Canadian punk rock band formed in 2013, originally under the name Topanga. PUP’s self-titled debut album was released in 2013. Its second album, *The Dream Is Over*, was released in 2016. The band plays over 200 shows per year.

Sladkowski credits guitar legend Eric Clapton for inspiring him to play the instrument.

PUP plays “a lot of odd time signatures,” said Sladkowski. “We’re not interested in being safe. I think that sort of allows me to kind of expand that part of my identity as a guitar player and use all those influences. It kind of works in the band.”

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As a national newspaper serving Polish immigrants and their descendents since 1911, the Polish American Journal has a unique perspective on the shortfalls — primarily funding — that have prevented many great projects from getting off the ground. We also have grown increasingly frustrated to see students — future leaders, who are passionate about Polonia — seek other areas of study because they could not secure something as simple as airfare to study in Poland or abroad. Likewise, we see so many talented academicians, scholars, artists, 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 time to start helping our own.

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## Polonia of the Eastern Great Lakes

# WNY to Celebrate Polish Centennial

by Michael Pietruszka

BUFFALO, N.Y. —Polonia in Western New York will mark the 100th anniversary of Polish independence with two gala events this year.

The first gala banquet will be sponsored by the General Pulaski Association of WNY and take place at Samuel's Grand Manor in Williamsville on July 21. Association President Brian Rusk confirmed that guests of honor will include Secretary of State of the Republic of Poland, Anna Maria Anders; two-time Emmy Award winning actress Loretta Swit; three-time Emmy award winning journalist Rita Cosby; and Coleen Paderewski, relative of the first Prime Minister of Poland Ignacy Paderewski. Swit will receive the Polish American Icon Award at the event. After the gala, all are welcome to head to Niagara Falls to view Niagara Falls illuminated white and red in honor of Poland's Independence. Approximately a dozen buildings in the City of Buffalo will also be lit white and red in honor of Poland. The day after the gala, the 80th Annual General Pulaski Association Parade will take place through the Town of Cheektowaga. For more information, please visit [www.100thanniversaryofpolandsindependencegalajuly21st.eventbee.com](http://www.100thanniversaryofpolandsindependencegalajuly21st.eventbee.com).

The second event will be a "Grand Gala and Ball Polonaise" hosted by the WNY Division of the Polish American Congress at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Downtown Buffalo on October 27th. Division President James Lawicki selected Polish culinary expert Chef Marcin Budynek to develop the menu and oversee the preparation and presentation of the dinner. Additional information can be found at [www.facebook.com/events/1585489054849478/](http://www.facebook.com/events/1585489054849478/).

**KRUPNIK DAY.** March 3rd became "Krupnik Day" in Buffalo. The Polish Villa II restaurant celebrated the Polish honey liquor at its "Fifth Annual Krupnik Fest," featuring music by Rare Vintage, for the benefit of the **St. Casimir Parish Restoration Fund** that afternoon.

Later that day, the **Buffalo Distilling Company** released its unique Buffalo-made "One Foot Cock Krupnik" at a polka party featuring Special Delivery at its Larkinville neighborhood cocktail bar. The entire batch of the new spirit sold out by the end of the evening.

**POLONIA TIDBITS.** Buffalo chef **Mike Andrzejewski**, the owner of the SeaBar and Cantina Loco restaurants, defeated celebrity chef Bobby Flay in cooking *loco moco* during a recent episode of the Food Network's "Beat Bobby Flay" ... The WNY Division of the **Polish American Congress** has launched its new website at [pacwny.org](http://pacwny.org) ... **Morluski's Italian and Polish Cuisine**, a new farm-to-table restaurant, has recently opened in Attica ... As of March 1st, the **Polish Union of America** closed its offices in West Seneca and transferred operations to the home of President James Jozwiak. The new mailing address is P.O. Box 115, Springville, NY 14141-0115 ... Every Thursday Night is **Polish Night** at the Fireside Inn in East Concord ... Despite a record breaking snowfall, the **General Pulaski Association** held its Annual Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Pulaski statue in Downtown Buffalo on March 2nd. The ceremony was followed by the group's Installation Banquet at the Protocol Restaurant in Cheektowaga. Dignitaries attending included NYS Lt. Governor Kathy Hochul, NYS Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli, Erie County Comptroller Stefan Mychalijiw, Erie County Legislator Barbara Miller Williams, Erie County District Attorney John Flynn, and WGRZ-TV meteorologist Kevin O'Connell. Shannon O'Rowe was awarded the Dr. Hrach L. Karamanoukian Scholarship that evening.

On March 3rd, the Potts Banquet Hall in Cheektowaga hosted its 5th Annual **Spring Fling** featuring The Knewz; and the **Polky Village Band** brought their energetic Polish folk music to the Parkdale Library in Toronto ... The Polish Canadian Salon of Poetry, Music and Theatre from Toronto staged productions of **Dr. Kazimierz Braun's** play "Tamar L.," starring Maria Nowotarska and Agata Pilitowska, in Fort Lauderdale, Florida on March 3rd and Lake Worth, Florida on the 4th ... The WNY Division of the Polish American Congress put together a day of meetings for **Polish Consul General Maciej Golubiewski** with New York State Lt. Governor Kathy Hochul and various state legislators to discuss political issues affecting Poland and Americans of Polish descent in Albany on March 6th ... On March 9th, the Polish rock group **Perfect** performed at the Meeting House in Oakville, Ontario ... St. Casimir Parish in Buffalo's Kaiser-

town neighborhood held a **Palm Weaving Seminar** under the tutelage of Rev. Czeslaw Krysa on the 10th ... Also on the 10th, Internationally acclaimed pianist **Jan Lisiecki** performed a solo recital of the works of Chopin, Schumann, Ravel and Rachmaninov at the historic 1792 St. Mark's Anglican Church in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario as part of the Bravo Niagara Festival of the Arts.

On March 11th and 13th, "Raise the Roof," a documentary film about the centerpiece exhibit at Warsaw's **Polin Museum**, was screened at the Dipson Theatre in Amherst as part of the Buffalo International Jewish Film Festival ... The WNY Division of the **Polish American Congress** held its election meeting at the Millennium Hotel in Cheektowaga on March 14th ... The **Permanent Chair of Polish Culture** at Canisius College sponsored a concert entitled "Make A Joyful Noise" at St. Michael's Church in Downtown Buffalo on the 14th. Sopranos Emily Helenbrook, and Haley Brunstad, and pianists Dominik Wrona and Ivan Docenko performed the works of Chopin, Paderewski, and others during this benefit for Polish Singers Alliance of America's Scholarship Fund ... The **Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra** toured Poland giving six concerts in four Polish cities from March 15th through the 22nd.

**Thomas Zawadzki** addressed the Polish Arts Club of Buffalo on the "Polish Architect of the Broad-



W.H. Zawadzki

way Fillmore Polonia District: Wladyslaw H. Zawadzki" at the group's March 21st meeting at the Harlem Road Community Center in Amherst ... The **Professional and Business Women** of Polonia heard Rev. Ryszard Biernat speak on beekeeping at their March 22nd meeting at the Italian Village Restaurant in Depew.

The **Msgr. Adamski Polish Saturday School** hosted its Annual Swieconka at Our Lady of Cze-stochowa Parish in Cheektowaga on the 25th ... Also on the 25th, the Buffalo Irish Center held the 21st Annual **Tri-Ethnic Celebration** featuring music by the Buffalo Touch, Penny Whiskey, and the Formula Band ... Professors Randall Stone and Matthew Lenoe of the University of Rochester, Lisa Jake-lski of the Eastman School of Music, and Annamaria Orla-Bukowska of the Jagiellonian University presented "**Revisiting the Cold War: History, Politics and Culture**" in the University of Rochester's Sloan Auditorium as part of the Skalny Lecture and Artist Series on March 28th ... The **Flying Bison Brewery** hosted its "Pils, Pierogi & Polka" event featuring Those Idiots, March 31 ... Churches across WNY, CNY and Southern Ontario were filled with the Faithful visiting seven churches on Holy Thursday and getting their Easter baskets blessed on Holy Saturday.

**UPCOMING.** The **Polish Arts Club of Buffalo** will be accepting applications for its 2018 visual or performing arts scholarship until April 2nd ... Polish rock legends **Czerwone Gitary** will perform at the John Paul II Polish Cultural Centre in Mississauga, Ontario on the 13th

... On April 14th, the Polish Canadian Salon of Poetry, Music and Theatre will present **Zbigniew Herbert's** "Piekno i Dobro" at the Maja Prentice Theatre in Mississauga.

The WNY Division of the Polish American Congress will host its **Traditional Swieconka** in the St. Stanislaus Social Center in Buffalo's Historic Polonia District on April 22nd.

The **Permanent Chair of Polish Culture** at Canisius College will offer a Mass of Remembrance on the 10th anniversary of the death of Irena Krzyzanowska Sendler at St. Michael's Church on May 12th. The Mass will be followed by a viewing of Mary Skinner's film, "In the Name of Their Mothers."

On May 13th, the **Skalny Lecture and Artist Series** at the University of Rochester will present "The Best of Polish Piano Music" featuring Katryzna Musial in Hatch Hall at the Eastman School of Music in Downtown Rochester.

**Andrzej Wajda's** film, "Pan Tadeusz: The Last Foray in Lithuania," will be shown at the Dryden Theatre in Downtown Rochester on June 2nd as part of the Skalny Lecture and Artist Spring Series.

On October 27th and 28th, **Piotr Sulkowski** will conduct the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra's "Tribute to Poland" including Nowowiejski's "Praretorian March" from "Quo Vadis"; Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 3, "Polish"; and Paderewski's *Piano Concerto* featuring soloist Lukasz Krupinski in Kleinhan's Music Hall.

**Tom Dudzick's** new play, "Christmas Over the Tavern," a musical featuring the Pazinski family, will be included in MusicalFare's 2018-19 season.

❖ ❖ ❖  
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 6th for the May issue) to [pietruszka@verizon.net](mailto:pietruszka@verizon.net).

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**Academia**

**Alliance Alumni Foundation Scholarship Winner Announced**

CAMBRIDGE SPRINGS, Pa. – The Alliance College Alumni Association, thru the arm of its 501(c)(3) Foundation (ACAAF), announced the selection of Daniel S. Matejczyk as the winner of its annual \$1,500.00 scholarship.



Matejczyk

A sophomore attending The Ohio State University, Matejczyk is pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree majoring in finance with a minor in psychology. He transferred from Xavier University after his freshman year and maintained a 3.3 GPA.

During his freshman year at Xavier University, Matejczyk interned for the athletic department within the finance office, concentrating on the business aspect for both the men's and women's basketball programs. After transferring to Ohio State, he accepted a student manager position working directly with the coaching staff of the baseball program; responsible for many facets of the day-to-day operations.

A native of Akron, Ohio, Matejczyk continues to be an active volunteer at various local non-profit and charitable organizations including Sacred Heart Parish Food Bank, Knights of Columbus, the CYO, Youth Baseball and the LeBron James Foundation working in the special needs and children at-risk programs.

Post-graduation, Matejczyk plans to pursue a career within the financial industry and continue his education to earn an MBA.

Matejczyk is the son of Glenna Roberts and David Matejczyk, ACAA Class of 1980, and grandson of respected longtime Alliance College Professor Blair Matejczyk.

For further information contact Richard Day, ACAA President, at (330) 858-3712 or email rjd44282@hotmail.com.

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**KF SCHOLARSHIPS AND STUDY IN POLAND PROGRAMS.** The Kosciuszko Foundation in New York City, and its Chapters in Chicago, New England, Ohio, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Texas, Washington, D.C., and Western New York, are currently accepting applications for the following scholarships: the Tomaszewicz-Florio Scholarship, the Frances E. Wyszynski Scholarship, and the Wisconsin Study in Poland Scholarship. Scholarships support Polish language and culture classes at the Jagiellonian University in Krakow – programs begin on July 4th and July 25th.

The scholarship deadline is April 17, 2018.

The scholarships are open to Americans of Polish descent and U.S. legal residents of Polish descent who will be high school graduates and will be 18 by the first day of their chosen program. Undergraduate freshmen, sophomores, juniors and seniors are eligible and may apply. (The Wisconsin Study in Poland Scholarship is also open to graduate level candidates.) A minimum GPA of 3.0 is required for all scholarship programs. Candidates must submit an application, financial information form, two letters of recommendation, transcripts and an essay/personal statement discussing why they wish to attend the program. Scholarships are awarded on a competitive basis.

Programs include Polish language classes in the morning, culture and history classes in the afternoon, and workshops and cultural events in the evening. Programs include local sightseeing on weekends. Students are responsible for registration fees, single room fees, airfare and out-of-pocket expenses.

For additional details regarding eligibility, how to apply for a scholarship, and course descriptions please see www.thekf.org/kf/programs/study/

**VOC CALL FOR INTERNS.** The Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation (VOC) is welcoming applications for its Summer 2018 internship positions starting June 4.

VOC is seeking undergraduate and graduate students who possess a commitment to educating people about the history of communism and the dangers of collectivism.

The internship is based in Washington, and offers a variety of roles including Government Relations, Research, Development, and much more.

For more information visit victimscommunism.org/mission/internships/; 300 New Jersey Ave., NW # 900, Washington, DC 20001; (202) 629-9500.

**American Council**  
**for Polish Culture**  
**Wishes Polonia A Happy Easter!**  
**Wesołego Alleluja!**

*This year our Annual Convention will take place August 8 - 12, 2018, in Minneapolis MN.*

**JOIN US**  
Individual membership is only \$10/year.  
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Wesołego Alleluja!  
Happy Easter  
**VIRGINIA LUTY**

Wesołego Alleluja!  
to all my Family and Friends  
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Wesołego Alleluja!  
Happy Easter  
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Od naszego domu  
do twojego dom  
From our house to  
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**Easter Greetings from THE CLEVELAND SOCIETY OF POLES**

To promote and Preserve the Language, Culture and Traditions of Poland and to Serve our Society, our Greater-Cleveland community, and the Polish-American community.

Activities include general membership dinner meetings from September to June, speakers, and the Polish Polish Heritage Banquet

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**Chrystus  
Zmartwychwstał!  
He is Risen!**

A blessed and joyous  
Easter to All

**JANE SHUBACK  
AND FAMILY**



**Wesołych Świąt Wielkanocnych!  
REGINA WNUKOWSKI**

Philadelphia

**PCH Sets Goal**

continued from cover

cine in Bialystok.”

The Harmonic Generator is a special scalpel that cauterizes as it cuts, which reduces blood loss.

“We have been so happy to have been able to help these two hospitals in the poorer northeastern region of Poland,” said Cramer.

And since good news travels fast, PCH was contacted by Dr. Sylvia Korzynska, head of the pediatric department at The City Specialist Hospital in Ostroleka with a request for a Precision Flow Vapotherm and patient masks. “We were happy to be able to honor their request with the \$20,000 purchase of this equipment which delivers heated and humidified respiratory gases with a high and controlled flow, which is a guarantee of effective oxygen therapy.” Donations in total for 2017 were

nearly \$60,000.

Most recently, PCH received a request from a small hospital in Goldap, which is also in the very northeastern part of Poland. It hopes to be able to help that infirmary in the near future.

Since its inception, The Polish Children’s Heartline has donated over \$20 million dollars’ worth of medical equipment, saving thousands of Polish children’s lives. Annual fundraisers include a Luncheon with entertainment and raffles, and an Annual Champagne Gala at the Polish Consulate in Manhattan.



To help the PCH reach its goals of helping more children in 2018, send your tax-deductible donation to: Polish Children’s Heartline, 177 Broadway, Clark, NJ 07066; or call (732) 680-0680; or write childshart@aol.com.

**Polish National Alliance**

wishes you

*Happy Easter*



www.PNA-ZNP.com  
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*Happy 95th Easter,  
Mamusia Eleanor!  
Easter Blessings with Love  
Hug Your Bunny!*



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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*

**POLISH CHILDREN’S HEARTLINE**

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and all of Polonia  
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## American Polonia at a Glance

### FLORIDA

CAPE CANAVERAL — **Tomasz Czajka**, a Polish flight software engineer at SpaceX since 2014, has carved out a highly prestigious career for himself.

Most recently, he served as an engineer for the SpaceX Falcon Heavy rocket, which lifted off from the Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, Feb. 6, 2018.

Czajka specializes in creating control systems, playing a part in one of the most stunning moments of 2018 so far.

The Polish IT Society congratulated Czajka on his achievements, honoring him as the, “best ambassador of Polish computer science in the world,” said *Business Insider Poland*.

### NEW JERSEY

CAMDEN — Sat., April 14. Book lecture on **Blessed Jerzy Popieluszko** by the author Judith Kelly, St. Joseph Church, 1010 Liberty St. 2:00 p.m., followed by light refreshments. At 4:00 p.m. a Healing Mass will be celebrated with the veneration of the first class relic of St. John Paul II. Info call (856) 963-1285.

CAMDEN — Sun., April 15. Annual **Swieconka Luncheon**, St. Joseph Church, 1010 Liberty St. (Upper Parish Hall). 11:30 a.m. Info call Diana (856) 858-0983.

### PENNSYLVANIA

PITTSBURGH — The **Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF)** — the Olympics, World Cup and the World Series of science competition — is coming to Pittsburgh May 13-18 2018. Held annually in May, ISEF brings together more than 1,700 students from 78 nations to compete for over \$4 million in scholarships, tuition grants, internships, scientific field trips and the grand prize: a trip to

attend the Nobel Prize Ceremonies in Stockholm, Sweden.

More than 500 volunteers across a spectrum of activities are needed during the week in a range of shifts. Approximately 200 interpreters are needed to work with the students on both conversational and scientifically-informative conversational technical levels. Greatest demand is for the languages of Spanish, Russian and Mandarin, but many other languages are needed as well, including Polish.

For more information and to register, visit <https://student.societyforscience.org/volunteers>.

Please send any questions to [efvolunteer@societyforscience.org](mailto:efvolunteer@societyforscience.org).

PHILADELPHIA — Sun., April 15. **Polski Uniwersytet Ludowy Lecture**, in the Polish language. Associated Polish Home, 9150 Academy Rd. 3:00 p.m. Speaker Dr. Kasia Szuberska Weitz, DMD will discuss “Dentistry and your Health.” For info, call (215) 624-9954. All are invited to attend. Free.

LANSDALE — Sat., April 21. Annual **International Spring Festival**, North Penn High School, Valley Forge Road & Sumneytown Pike. 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Food vendors, international displays, live entertainment, activities for children and much more. For info, call Lansdale Public Library (215) 855-3228. Free admission.

WYOMISSING — April 22. Berks County Polish American Board of Education **Scholarship Banquet**, Crown Plaza Hotel, 1741 Papermill Rd. 5:00 p.m. Music. For info/reservations call Helen Nowotarski (610) 777-4598.

PHILADELPHIA — Sat., April 28. **Oldies Dance Party**, St. John Cantius Auditorium, 4435 Almond St., Bridesburg. 7:00-11:00 p.m. For info, call the rectory (215) 535-6667.

## Love to Sing? Join the PSAA

NEW YORK, N.Y. — Member choruses of the **Polish Singers Alliance of America** are searching for singers — sopranos, mezzos, altos, tenors, baritones, and basses — willing to share their talents and help them foster Polish Culture through song. If you have sung in a church choir or school chorus, you can recall the good times and joy you’ve brought to others by presenting a concert pleasing to the ear.

There are female, male, and mixed choruses eagerly waiting for you in PSAA’s District 7 in New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and Pennsylvania:

### FEMALE CHORUSES

- Jutrzenka #226 of South Brooklyn, N.Y. meet Mondays from 5:00-7:15 p.m. Call Barbara R. Blyskal at (718) 720-6089;
- Polonia-Paderewski #311 of New Britain, Conn. Call Teresa Ziemak (860) 515-4806;
- Marcella Kochanska-Sembrich #321 of Philadelphia. Call Deborah Majka at (215) 627-1393.

### MALE CHORUSES

- Chopin Singing Society #182 of Passaic, N.J. Call Austin Sroka (973) 641-9174;
- M.K. Oginski, #283 of Hempstead, N.Y. Call Jacek Borkowski (516) 205-5378.

### MIXED CHORUSES

- Hejnal #323 of Greenpoint, Brooklyn, N.Y. Call Miroslaw Kostro (917) 602-6194;
- Polonia-Paderewski #287 of New Britain, Conn. Call Bozena Madej (860) 675-1761;
- Aria #303 of Wallington, N.J. Call Ewan Karcz (973) 980-

9326.



Songsters interested in choruses in Chicago, Detroit, Buffalo, Edmonton, or Hamilton should call Mary Lou Wyrobek, national president of the central administration of the PSAA at (716) 875-7513.

## Chicago Polonians You Should Know

### Violinist and Orchestra Leader, Anthony Kawalkowski

by Geraldine Balut Coleman

The fifth individual in my series “Chicago Polonians You Should Know” is renowned Chicago violinist and orchestra leader, **Anthony “Tony” Kawalkowski**. He has spent most of his professional life devoted to showcasing his versatile musical talents and that of his orchestra within the Polish American community.

Kawalkowski was born in Chicago on April 13, 1957, the son of Elvera Ambrozewski Kawalkowski and the late Artur Kawalkowski. He is a third generation Polish American with one grandparent, John Kawalkowski, immigrating to the United States from Warsaw in 1902. His other grandparents were born in Chicago. He graduated from Taft High School on Chicago’s Northwest Side and from the American Conservatory of Music (ACM), where he was awarded a bachelor’s degree in music performance.

Kawalkowski likes to tell the story of how he begged his father to teach him the Polish language. But his father, Artur, felt that learning the Polish language was not necessary in America. Although he regrets not learning the Polish language at an early age, he is gratified that his wife, Bozena, a native of Chłebowo, Poland, is slowly and patiently teaching it to him.

As far back as Kawalkowski can remember, he always had an interest in playing the violin. In 1966, he received his first formal violin lesson from his Uncle Anton, a professional violinist, and orchestra leader. Later, Kawalkowski continued his studies with Herb Miska, concertmaster of the Wayne King Orchestra and with George Perlman at the ACM.

When Kawalkowski began his violin studies, he felt as if he was walking in his uncle Anton’s footsteps. When his uncle passed away, Kawalkowski was encouraged to start his own orchestra. Using Anton’s music library, organizing and writing arrangements, and graduating from the ACM in 1979, he organized a trio and began to perform at the former Red Star Inn, a famous

restaurant on Chicago’s northwest side. In the following months his trio expanded into an orchestra. In 1982, he and his orchestra began, for the first time, to play at the White and Red Ball of the Legion of Young Polish Women, and the Anthony Kawalkowski Orchestra has played for the Legion ever since.

Kawalkowski still has his first half-size violin and his first full-size violin. Professionally, he plays on his uncle’s violin, custom made in 1952 by the distinguished violinmaker, Franz Finberg. It is a copy of the precious Camilli (Italian) violin, but some say it sounds better than the original.

Kawalkowski’s violin skills and his orchestra repertoire are what attract patrons to his event performances. From Glen Miller to the Beatles, from Massenet’s *Thais* to Sinatra, from the *Beer Barrel Polka* to Strauss waltzes, his musical renditions have been danced to, his orchestral music and violin solos have been lauded, and his sing-alongs with orchestra vocalists have been heard in many different venues across the country. His performances vary from violin solos, to violin and piano duos, to trios and string quartets to the elegant sound of a 42-piece orchestra. His audiences have included international and national leaders, such as Pope John Paul II, Joseph Cardinal Bernadine, Francis Cardinal George, and Lech Kaczynski, as well as members of the entertainment world, including Michel LeGrand, Henry Mancini, Arnold Palmer, and Arnold Schwarzenegger. Kawalkowski and his musicians have played at corporation events, formal balls, concerts, and on Chicago radio and television programs. For many years, Kawalkowski entertained at one of Chicago’s foremost hotels, The



Palmer House. Through his production company, From The Heart Musical Productions, Inc., he has recorded two albums, *Playing from the Heart* and *Timeless Romance*. Since 2013, Kawalkowski’s AKO Christmas Show, “The Love and Peace of Christmas” has attracted large festive crowds to the Copernicus Center in Chicago.

Kawalkowski’s extensive repertoire is filled with the music most appreciated by devotees. He acknowledges that his favorite events to perform with his 42-piece orchestra are the White and Red Ball, American Friends of Austria Ball, The Polish Museum of America Summer Gala, *Bal Maskowy* (The Masked Ball of The Syrena Polish Folk Dance Ensemble in Milwaukee), and the Chicago Society’s Inaugural Ball.

Kawalkowski’s motto, “let’s have fun,” is evident in everything he and his orchestra plays. As he says, “Music comes from my heart. When I close my eyes and play, I am in another world. I always look forward to filling everyone’s heart with the joy of music.”

**DONATIONS TO PAJF ARE DEDUCTIBLE.** With tax season upon us, we ask our readers to consider a donation to the Polish American Journal Foundation for 2018’s returns. The PAJF is a 503c non-profit organization, the funds of which are used for the promotion of Polish American culture. Learn more by turning to page 9 in this month’s edition.



**THE KOSCIUSZKO FOUNDATION**  
THE AMERICAN CENTER OF POLISH CULTURE

Wishing you  
peace, love, and happiness  
at **Easter**  
and always.



The Kosciuszko Foundation awards up to \$1 million annually in fellowships and grants to graduate students, scholars, scientists, professionals, and artists and promotes Poland in America through organizing various events showing Polish history, culture, and art.

More information:  
[www.thekf.org](http://www.thekf.org) or (212) 734-2130  
The Kosciuszko Foundation, Inc. | 15 East 65th Street | New York, NY 10065



## Sports

## Stoch, Polish Jumpers Bring Home Olympic Medals

by Tom Tarapacki

**Kamil Stoch** and the Polish ski jumpers brought a pair of Olympic medals back to Poland, one gold and one bronze. Stoch, one of the sport's best-ever and a huge celebrity in his homeland, received a hero's welcome when he returned to his homeland.

Four years ago at Sochi, Poland had its best winter

games ever, winning six medals, including four gold. However, before the 2018 Winter Olympics, Polish Sports and Tourism Minister Witold Bańka cautioned that it was realistic to expect Poland to bring home two to three medals. He added that the best hope for medals was in ski jumping. When the games ended Poland had two medals, both in ski jumping.

However, things didn't look well at the start of the Olympics, even though Stoch was coming off a spectacular performance at the prestigious Four Hills Tournament. At that event he became just the second jumper to win all four competitions. In the first ski jumping event at the Olympics, Stoch failed to medal in the normal hill competition in PyeongChang, finishing fourth. Teammate **Stefan Hula** was fifth.

Perhaps some Polish hopes for medals were high because it was returning two other athletes who had won individual gold for Poland in 2014: **Justyna Kowalczyk** in cross country skiing, and **Zbigniew Bródka** in speed skating. However, both athletes are now in their 30s and fell short of medals. Kowalczyk, who has won five Olympic medals and eight world championships, had captured the 10 km classical race in 2014 despite a broken foot; this year the 35-year-old finished a distant 22nd. Bródka, a 33-year-old firefighter from Łowicz, finished 12th when he attempted to defend his Olympic gold in the men's 1,500 meters.

The Polish athletes competed hard in disciplines from luge to snowboarding, but failed to medal. The Polish people began getting nervous; it was a week into the Olympics and Poland had won no medals.

Finally on Saturday February 17, Stoch won the first medal in 2018 for Poland. He captured gold in the large hill event, becoming the first man to repeat since 1988. Stoch narrowly defeated 22-year-old German Andreas Wellinger, who had won gold on the normal hill. The following Monday, the Polish ski jumping squad led by Stoch won Poland's first-ever team ski jumping medal, a bronze. Other team members were Hula, **Maciej Kot**, and **Dawid Kubacki**.

With his two Olympic medals, Stoch solidified his status as one of the sport's all-time greats. In Sochi, he swept both individual events, winning gold on the large hill and normal hill, and "Stochomania" took hold in Poland. He was named that country's sports personality of the year in 2014 and 2017.

While some were disappointed with Poland's medal total, Polish Olympic President Andrzej Krasnicki put it this way: "Personally, I think that the minimum [requirement] has been met." He added: "The competitors did not cause our

country to be compromised, they did not compromise themselves. I know that they gave it their all, and the fact that we expected more is an



Stoch

other matter."

**OLYMPIC NOTES.** **Zbigniew Bródka** carried the Polish flag in the opening ceremony, and bobsledder **Mateusz Luty** did the honors at the closing ... Hockey player **Matthias Plachta** of the silver medal winning German team is the son of a former star Polish hockey player and coach **Jacek Plachta** ... German figure skater **Nicole Schott**, who finished 18th, is the daughter of a former competitive hockey player from Poland ... on his 32-birthday Polish-born **Wojtek Wolski**, a former NHLer now in Russia's KHL, helped Canada win a silver medal in hockey ... Polish skaters **Natalia Kaliszek** and **Maksym Spodyriev** finished 14th in Ice Dancing. Maksym was born in and competed for Ukraine before coming to Poland in 2014 and getting Polish citizenship ... U.S. short-track speed skater **J.R. Celski** was unable to add to his three Olympic medals won at previous Olympics. The "old man" on the team at age 27, he's of Polish and Filipino ancestry and is known for his unique chest tattoo of a Polish eagle inside a Filipino sun ... Poland had its largest delegation with 62 athletes, and competed in sports ranging from luge to snowboarding ... Polish President Andrzej Duda and his wife, Agata Kornhauser Duda, met Polish athletes at the Olympic village and attended the ski jumping competition.



Zapolski

**ZAPOLSKI STANDS OUT.** Although the Czech Republic hockey team eliminated the United States from the Olympics in the quarterfinals, little-known U.S. goaltender **Ryan Zapolski** turned in a strong effort. Zapolski is a native of Erie, Pa., who didn't play goalie until he was 12. He walked on at Mercyhurst College in Erie, and wasn't drafted by the NHL. In fact, he never played a North American professional game above the ECHL. However, he went on to star in Russia's Kontinental Hockey League (KHL) with the Helsinki team Jokerit. He's a KHL All-Star, but hardly known in the United States — until now. Even though he's now 31, Zapolski hopes that the NHL will be interested

when his contract in Finland expires after the 2019-20 season.

Another Team USA member was defenseman **James Wisniewski**, a native of Canton, Mich. "Wiz" played for several NHL teams before joining the German team Kassel Huskies in the KHL. Wisniewski played a role in changing an Olympic tradition. His 62-year-old father got very sick at the tournament, and was eventually diagnosed with the very contagious norovirus. As a result Wisniewski was told to avoid contact with his dad. All the players were also told that, instead of the traditional post-game handshakes, they should bump fists instead.

**IMMIGRANTS: WE GET THE JOB DONE.** American figure skating coach **Tom Zakrajsek** said that he shared a lot with many members of the 2018 U.S. Olympic figure skating team because of their immigrant roots. Of the 14 members of the team six are of recent Asian descent. Zakrajsek saw much in common with his own Polish and Slovenian ancestors. "We were taught to appreciate our grandparents' struggles to come over to the country and make a new life from the time I was a little kid," Zakrajsek recalled. "Both of my grandmothers and my mother and father gave us the history, that Eastern European work ethic: 'Make something of yourself! If you have a dream, work at it!' So when I see that in skaters, I think about it. And I think a lot of that is the story of our country, right?"

The 54-year-old native of Garfield Heights, Ohio was a competitive senior skater on the national level before he started coaching in 1990. He was the primary coach for many top skaters, including Agnes Zawadzki, 2010 World Junior silver medalist, and Brandon Mroz, 2009 U.S. national silver medalist. He currently coaches at the Broadmoor Skating Club in Colorado Springs.

**MORE GAMES.** Right after the Olympics about 550 athletes of Polish heritage came to Krynica from 24 countries for the 13th Winter Polonia Games. The games were first held in 1934 but were suspended until 1997.

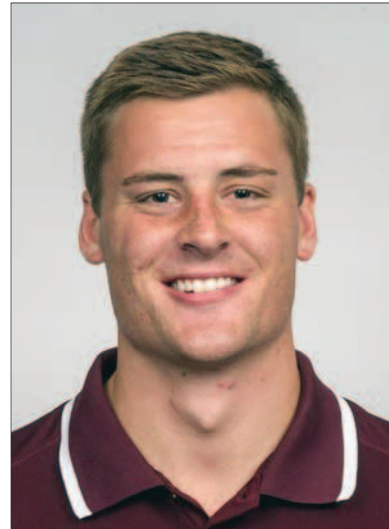
Sports included alpine and cross-country skiing, short track and long track speed skating and Nordic walking. The largest contingent came from Lithuania, with 50 athletes. Other nations well-represented were Belarus, the Czech Republic, Canada and the United States.

**KEEP JUMPING.** After the Olympics Kamil Stoch won a ski jumping World Cup competition in Lahti, Finland, his 27th individual world cup victory. Teammate **Dawid Kubacki** came just short of third place.

Poland finished second in the team competition at tournament, behind Germany. Stoch did the longest jump of the day and won an unofficial individual classification.

**RISING STOCK.** A remarkable performance in the NFL combine has raised the draft stock of **Mike Gesicki**. He measured 6' 5 1/2", weighed 252 pounds, ran a 4.54 in the 40-yard dash, did 22 reps in the bench press and had a 41 1/2-inch vertical and a 10' 9" broad jump.

Gesicki set records at Penn State for receptions by a tight end. Previously, at Southern Regional High School in New Jersey, the all-around athlete set school records in basketball scoring, football catches and receiving yards as well as volleyball blocks. He was offered scholarships to play Division I basketball and even one to play volleyball at Penn State. Gesicki is relatively new to the tight end position, having begun his football career as a quarterback, but it seems that he has all the tools to make it big in the NFL. He's now projected as a second round pick in the upcoming draft.



Tripucka

Also doing well was 6'3", 220-lb. punter **Shane Tripucka**. Punters don't get drafted often, but the Texas A&M product has a good shot at making an NFL roster. If that name sounds familiar, his father, Chris, played football at Boston College; his uncle, Kelly, played basketball at Notre Dame and for 10 seasons in the NBA; and, his grandfather, Frank, played quarterback at Notre Dame and for 15 seasons in the AFL and NFL.

**PERKOSKI'S NOTEBOOK.** Poland's **Szymon Sajnok** won the men's omnium at the Track Cycling World Championships in the Netherlands ... Poland's **Adam Kszczot** won the world's indoor 800-m title at the World Indoor Athletics Championships ... the Polish men's 4x400-m relay team set a new world record with their gold medal-win-



Gesicki

ning time of 3:01.77 at the World Indoor Games. The squad of **Karol Zalewski**, **Rafal Omelko**, **Lukasz Krawczuk**, and **Jakub Krzewina** finished ahead of the U.S. team ... Polish-born freshman **Maciej Danilewski** earned St. Bonaventure Male Athlete of the Week honors for setting a personal best time in his recent 200-backstroke win at Cornell, clocking in at 1:51.38 ... Shippensburg (Pa.) U. head football coach **Mark "Mac" Maciejewski** was named the AFCA D-II Region 1 Coach of the Year for the second time ... The **Polish Roman Catholic Union of America** is offering a free 2018 calendar prepared in cooperation with the **National Polish American Sports Hall of Fame**. The calendar is packed with information and full-color photos of greats like Stan Musial and Janet Lynn. Quantities are limited, so if you want one contact the PRCUA marketing department at (773) 782-2630 or marketing@prcu.org.

## THEY SAID IT

"Take a moment, ask yourself, 'How can I make a difference? No matter how big, no matter how small, how can I make a difference?' And when you have your answer, go out and do it."

— **J.J. Watt**, on being presented the NFL's Walter Payton Man of the Year Award.



"It's been that was my whole life, my whole career. Nobody knows who I am wherever I go."

— **USA Olympic team goalie Ryan Zapolski**, who was relatively unknown until the 2018 Olympics.



"We were invaded during the Second World War, we were invaded by the Germans, obviously a lot of people died. The most important thing, they were not Polish death camps, they were German Nazi death camps in Poland. They were not made by Poland, a lot of people make the mistake saying that there were Polish death camps. We did not create freaking camps to kill people, Germans did that, so that is very important."

— **Polish-born NBA star Marcin Gortat**, talking about misperceptions regarding Poland.





## Polonia Places

## Birthplace of the Modern American Dyngus Day



by Gregory L. Witul

**THE CHOPIN'S CLUBHOUSE****18 Kosciuszko Street****Buffalo, N.Y.****Status: Closed**

The Lenten season is almost over and soon cauldrons of sausage will be boiling, colored eggs cracked

open, butter lambs beheaded only to be smeared over rye bread, and cousins goading each other to eat ever bigger spoonfuls of horseradish. As afternoon fades into evening, the Sunday best will be traded for red and white t-shirts emblazoned with the slogans, "Made in America with Polish Parts," "Na Zdrowie," and "Polish Princess," and hundreds

of Polish Americans will head out in search of polka music and krupnik. While the idea of Dyngus Day as a 24-hour Polish party, highlighted by Polka and Polish music with flowing beer, krupnik, and vodka, is now almost ubiquitous across the United States, this style of celebration can be traced to a single society and a single place, the Chopin Singing Society's Clubhouse in Buffalo, N.Y.

The Chopin Singing Society was formed in March of 1899 when a band of singers from St. Adalbert's Basilica in Buffalo's Polish east side decided to form a secular group. When it came time to select a patron, they chose Poland's greatest composer Fryderyk Chopin.

After joining the Polish Singers Alliance of America, the Chopins competed and won in a number of national singing competitions. By 1908 they established their offices on Broadway and as the society grew it could be found singing at more and more concerts, anniversaries, and events in Western New York.

In 1925 the society hired Buffalo artist Joseph Mazur to render a large bronze bust of their patron, which they then donated to the City of Buffalo in an event that drew 20,000 at-



The late Ted Mikoll, and wife, Justice Ann Mikoll (ret.)

tendees. The society remained stable during the Great Depression and the Second World War and in 1947 purchased a building at 18 Kosciuszko Street to serve as their clubhouse.

When Ted and Ann Mikoll joined the society in the late 1950s, membership had dwindled to less than 30 member singers. The energetic young couple knew that with a little effort and with the help from some their friends, they could revive the once-great group. Tapping into their network of friends, family, and colleagues, the Mikolls enticed them to join by holding lavish party and fun events. On April 3, 1961

Chopin's hosted their first Dyngus Day celebration, with a memorable party with copious amounts of food and drink. Soon the membership tripled, then doubled, then almost tripled again — by 1964 there were over 500 members with 160 singers!

Over the next 30 years the Chopin Singing Society released two albums, toured around the world, and even performed for Pope Saint John Paul the Great, but every year they made sure to be back in time for their ever popular Dyngus Day party.

In 1994 the Society left their Kosciuszko address and moved their clubhouse to the Buffalo suburbs. While the Polish neighborhood they once called home has seen better days, the Chopin Singing Society is still going strong, celebrating their 58th Dyngus Day this year at Cheektowaga's Millennium Hotel.

## The Pondering Pole

## ... But Words Will Never Hurt Me

by Ed Poniewaz

I think the world has too many laws.

I would prefer people act responsibly, be engaged socially, and treat their fellow citizens according to the Golden Rule. We would have far fewer laws and rules if the world abided by these principles.

Poland has new law making it a crime to "falsely accuse the Polish nation of crimes committed by Nazi Germany." Unfortunately, the legislation is causing angst in parts of the world, primarily in the United States and Israel.

From a Yahoo article written by Vanessa Gera of the Associated Press, here is a quick recap of the reason for the law and the opposition to it:

*For years Polish officials have struggled to fight phrases like "Polish death camps" that are sometimes used abroad to refer to Auschwitz and other death camps that Nazi Germany built and operated on occupied Polish territory during World War II*

*Some Poles fear that as the war grows more distant, new generations will mistakenly believe that Poles were the perpetrators of the Holocaust.*

*The law, however, has sparked a crisis with Israel, where Holocaust survivors and officials fear its true aim is to repress research and debate about Poles who killed Jews during World War II.*

These are the two sides of the issue. The question is how a Pole — of any religion, ethnicity, residence, and who identifies with the Polish nation, and is positive about the Polish nation — responds when charged with complicity, either privately or publically. Since the world at large has been made aware of the Holocaust, this has been hanging over our head.

On almost all levels, the overwhelming evidence is that the Polish behavior and effort in World War

II is very admirable. I would therefore, recommend you respond, act, and proceed in life as it concerns that part of our history in a guilt-free and positive way. It is as simple as that.

Feeling that way and being able to support it is another thing. To help you organize your thoughts and fend off unpleasant charges and feelings (while at the same time remaining comfortable in your own Polish skin), you can categorize the war in three ways: scope, scale, and language.

**Scope.** The fighting and oppression in the East was horrendous, and Poland was squarely in the middle besides being actively engaged on five fronts for six years. Poland fought in the East, in the West, in North Africa, she fought in the key Battle for Britain, and Polish mathematicians contributed to the development of Enigma, the communication code-breaking system used in the defeat of the German U-Boat presence in the North Atlantic. You could also make the case that Poland's underground army, the largest in Europe during the war, was the sixth front. The Poles fought.

**Scale.** If Hitler was evil personified, then at least another ten European nations allied to him were reluctant to confront him, and therefore are just a guilty in prolonging the war, and are equally responsible for the Holocaust. Because of Poland's willingness to stand up to Hitler, the country was virtually destroyed, the population was decimated, and the spirit of the nation was crushed from unspeakable oppression and tyranny. No other nation in the European theatre experienced the threat of extinction and felt the sense of abandonment as the Poles. Despite the incredible pressure placed on the leaders and the populace caused by the extraordinary degree of death and destruction, Poland has the most Righteous Gentiles awards given by the State of Israel.

**Language.** At the core of the controversy is the popular use of the word "complicit" in describing the Polish nation. Saying Poland was complicit in the Holocaust is false and slanderous. There were collaborators and perpetrators in every European country during the war, and they acted out of fear, personal gain, revenge, animus, or hatred. If someone wants to research and document the collaborators and perpetrators, go ahead. But the one and only true perpetrator of the Holocaust is Germany.

In the documentary film, *The Lords of Humanity* about the life of Jan Karski, the World War II spy and courier points out the Polish educated and upper classes were willing to help the Jewish people, but the peasantry was reluctant to get involved. There is a good reason for this: the poor were at the bottom of the barrel, and it was evident that their survival was as perilous as any of the other German-defined undesirables or sub-humans.

Contrast this to the years leading up to the United States Civil War. Irish Catholics living in the North, according to the well-known economist Thomas Sowell, had a lower standard of living than slaves in the South. They did much — if not most — of the fighting for the North in the war. During the New York City Draft Riots, they not only went after educated and upper class people who bought out of serving, they also murdered and injured scores of blacks. Many blacks were hung from the lamp posts and then set afire. Irish Catholics were at the bottom of the social ladder, but were taking out their frustrations on the people they were being commissioned to help. It made no sense to lash out and blame those they perceived as being responsible for their plight. It is not a good thing, but it is human nature.

As stated, I am not big on laws but often a law is a way to force the issue. It is probably good or necessary when patience has run out or benign coercion doesn't seem to

be working. That is the case in the "Polish death camp" law, and over time the need to defend it specifically will become secondary. More so, as always, we will be forced to defend our dignity and legacy. The law is new, but the reality is not.

**POLISH OR NOT?** I am not sure if this is a good "Polish or not?" but the late Douglas "Doug" Kenney, one of the co-founders of the *National Lampoon* magazine had a Polish mother, Estelle "Stephanie" Karch, the daughter of Anthony Karczewski and Victoria Lesniak. A graduate of Harvard and editor of the *National Lampoon*, Kenney was a writer for comedy blockbuster films *Animal House* and *Caddyshack*. *National Lampoon* is a national icon, but I shudder to think of how much of the humor was directed at Doug's mother's ancestors.

**Viva Bianca.** No, she is not Hispanic. She is an Australian actress, who is the "daughter of Lee and Cezary Skubiszewski. Viva's father is a Poland-born film and television composer. Viva's brother is producer and composer Jan Skubiszewski."

You might have seen her in the Starz series *Spartacus: Blood and Sand* and *Spartacus: Vengeance*. She has had a lot of work, and I think we will see more of her in the future on the big and small screens.



**Viva Bianca**, the daughter of Cezary Skubiszewski, a Poland-born Australian film and television composer. Her brother Jan Skubiszewski is a producer and composer.

If you have a thought about this month's topic, a question, or an interesting fact to share, contact me at: Edward Poniewaz, 6432 Marmaduke Ave., 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 open an email if I do not recognize the subject or the sender.

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## Resistance

## Stalin Gets His Way

by Regina Szamborska-McIntyre

*Resistance is a story about the conditions, which led to the Warsaw Uprising during World War II, and how the courageous and tenacious people of Poland fought the Nazi 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 to remain neutral and uninvolved.*

**CHAPTER XXV.** The leader of the most powerful nation in the world, arrived in a wheelchair to attend the conference after having traveled seven thousand miles to get there. It was to be Roosevelt's first meeting with the Bolshevik leader of the Soviet Union, Joseph Stalin. He was ill-prepared to deal with the strong willed dynamism of a man who was so determined to dominate and suppress the natural order of things. Stalin would trample over anything that got in his way.

Churchill was the leader of an empire. He had dealt with many would be conquerors. He had already formed a definite opinion of the rough little peasant with an engaging manner.

The Tehran Conference, code name, Eureka, opened with a dinner on the evening of November 29, 1943.

Stalin had his agenda well planned. He came to the table with considerable credit at his disposal. The Soviet Army was aggressively driving the Germans out of Russia. In spite of his reputation as a brutal killer, he had a natural charm and wit that he could display in diplomatic situations.

During the negotiations, Stalin played his trump card, "bargain and manipulate." He already had his bargaining chip, the Soviet victory of the Battle of Kursk. That and Stalingrad were sure to garner the

results he had in mind.

Stalin's part of the deal was a commitment to the alliance; the Red Army would launch an offensive attack against the retreating German forces transferring from the Eastern to the Western Front. This battle would coincide with the Western Allies long planned for invasion of France. Operation Overlord, the establishment of a second front, was scheduled for May of 1944.

Britain and the United States were romancing Turkey to enter the war against the Nazis. Their production of chrome was vital to the manufacture of the strong steel needed to build the heavy armor tanks of the Wehrmacht. To shore up any reservations the Turks might have, Stalin volunteered Soviet forces to declare war on Bulgaria, should they decide to turn against Turkey.

In spite of his reputation as a brutal killer, Stalin had a natural charm and wit that he could display in diplomatic situations.

Negotiations require compromises. Roosevelt and Churchill were urged by Stalin to recognize the communist government of Marshall Tito of Yugoslavia as an ally. As a consequence, Yugoslavia would receive supplies and equipment via airdrops from Britain and the United States.

Stalin then brought out the big guns. The Curzon Line. The Western Allies agreed to a shift of the border between Poland and Russia. Stalin accepted Churchill's proposal of compromise. For the loss of Poland's marshlands and the city of Lwow in the east to Russia, territory to the west belonging to Germany, would be offered to Poland as compensation. Stalin's mission was accomplished. He held the territory and the political future of Poland in his hip pocket.

News of the Tehran Conference leaked to the exiled government in London. Although the information was second-hand at best, Com-

mander in Chief General Sosnkowski had his own interpretation of the results. His analytical mind explored the big picture. He was aware of Mikolajczyk's meeting with Anthony Eden, Britain's Foreign Secretary. The fact that the premier had requested Eden's aid in promoting a diplomatic alliance with the Soviets, convinced Sosnkowski that Mikolajczyk and his staff were eager to make concessions to the British in order to maintain the support of the Western Allies.

The commander was also apprised of the Allies acceptance of Yugoslavia as an ally. Britain and America were sending arms and ammunitions via parachute drops to aid them in their battle against the Germans.

Chief Delegate Jankowski was in London and Sosnkowski sought him out. "Does it surprise you that the allied air-drops have been discontinued?"

Jankowski wasn't surprised; he was devastated. "We have been told that technical difficulties involved in the flights are the reason for the end of their support."

"Stalin has informed Churchill and Roosevelt that the Home Army is collaborating with the Nazis. He also accused the underground military of murdering Polish communist partisans."

"Surely the allies can't accept this as truth!"

"No matter. I have spoken to a British officer who told me the Yugoslavs were actively involved in offensive battle against the Nazis, while the Home Army was merely defensive in its activities."

Sosnkowski lit a cigarette with the left-over butt of the one he had just smoked.

"It seems there are no technical difficulties involved with flights over the mountains of Yugoslavia." He drew long and hard on the cigarette.

#### Next month: The conclusion

*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."*

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## History

## Sergei Sazonov: The Godfather of Post-World War II Polish Borders

by Jan P. Muczyk

Sergei D. Sazonov was born of lesser noble background on August 10, 1860 in Ryazan, Russia. He was the brother-in-law of Russian Prime Minister Pyotr Stolypin who was instrumental in advancing Sazonov's career. Sazonov served in the London and Washington embassies, and the diplomatic mission to the Vatican of which he became the chief in March 1906. On June 26, 1909 he was recalled to St. Petersburg and appointed assistant foreign minister to Tsar Nicholas II. In no time at all Sazonov replaced Alexander Izvol'skiy as foreign minister and followed a policy orchestrated by Stolypin.

In 1914, Sazonov published his

(also known as the Polish-Ukrainian War), which Poland won. The victory secured for Poland large swaths of land now part of Ukraine, Byelorussia, and Lithuania. This stuck in Stalin's craw for quite some time. While he conceded that Russia participated in dismembering Poland in 1939, he was unwilling to compensate Poland with the land annexed to the Soviet Union in 1939. However, he was glad to compensate Poland with German territory, since he understood that Poland was the corridor for attacks on Russia from the west and, therefore, needed to be both strong and in the Russian sphere of influence to prevent a repeat.

**CHURCHILL WAS PREPARED** to be more generous with Polish borders between Poland and Ukraine, but Stalin opposed Churchill's plan. After the battle of Kursk (July 5-August 23, 1943) the fate of Germany was sealed, and Stalin held all the high cards. As it turns out, the Post-World War II Polish borders correspond closely with Polish borders in the second half of the tenth century. Most historians agree that these borders make much sense with respect to equity as well as defense. They follow the Baltic coast on the north, mountains on the southwest, south and southeast and major rivers elsewhere.

President Harry Truman, who succeeded Franklin Delano Roosevelt, had doubts whether or not Poland could digest so much German goose. After all, Poland acquired Silesia, Pomerania, and East Prussia. But the German population either fled these territories or was expelled. The Germans were replaced by Poles from the area annexed to the Soviet Union. Those factors were largely responsible for the success of the resettlement scheme. Of course, the Jewish population was either slaughtered during the holocaust or emigrated after World War II. Today, perhaps for the first time in its long history, for better or worse, Poland has a homogeneous population. Furthermore, membership in NATO and the EU guarantees its security and economic prosperity.

And what of Sazonov? After he opposed the Bolshevik revolution, he emigrated to Nice, France and wrote his memoirs until his death December 25, 1927.



**Sazonov.** His plans for a unified and independent Poland within Russia's reach impressed Stalin, who persuaded Roosevelt and Churchill to accept those borders at the Yalta and Potsdam Conferences.

vision of the borders of Eastern Europe in which he advocated for a unified and independent Poland; in the Russian orbit, of course. His position on Poland proved unpopular in Russia, and, as a result, Tsar Nicholas II lost confidence in his foreign minister, and relieved him of his duties. It just so happens that Joseph Stalin was impressed with Sazonov's vision, and with uncanny attention to detail, persuaded Roosevelt and Churchill to accept those borders at the Yalta and Potsdam Conferences.

Stalin's motives need elaboration. He was a commissar during the Russo-Polish War of 1919-1920

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Polish Chef

# What to Do with All Those Leftover Hard-Boiled Eggs

Recipes from the American Egg Board

## MIXED GREENS SALAD WITH EGGS

- 1 pkg. (5 oz.) baby lettuce mix
- 4 plum tomatoes, sliced
- 4 hard-boiled eggs, quartered lengthwise
- 1/2 cup part-skim shredded mozzarella cheese

DIVIDE lettuce evenly among 4 serving plates. TOP each with 1 sliced tomato and 4 egg wedges. SPRINKLE each with 2 tablespoons cheese.

**Tips:** Serve this simple green salad with boiled eggs as a side, lunch, or dinner entrée.

Very fresh eggs can be difficult to peel. To ensure easily peeled eggs, buy and refrigerate them a week to 10 days in advance of cooking. This brief “breather” allows the eggs time to take in air, which helps separate the membranes from the shell. Hard-boiled eggs are easiest to peel right after cooling. Cooling causes the egg to contract slightly in the shell.

## BUFFALO EGG SALAD CELERY STICKS

- 8 hard-boiled eggs, peeled and coarsely chopped

- 3 tbsp. regular or light mayonaise
- 2 tbsp. chopped fresh chives, divided
- 1 tbsp. lemon juice
- 1 tbsp. Buffalo-Style hot sauce, such as Frank’s Red Hot Buffalo Wings Sauce
- 3/4 tsp. paprika, divided
- 1/4 tsp. each salt and pepper
- 3 stalks celery, cut into 4-inch pieces

COMBINE eggs, mayonnaise, 1 tbsp. chives, lemon juice, hot sauce, 1/2 tsp. paprika, salt and pepper. SPOON into celery pieces.

SPRINKLE remaining paprika and chives over top.

**Tip:** For a blue cheese dip flavor, crumble blue cheese over top.

## CLASSIC EGG SALAD

- 6 hard-boiled eggs, sliced
- 1/4 cup mayonnaise
- 2 tsp. fresh lemon juice
- 1 tbsp. minced onion
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 1/4 tsp. pepper
- 1/2 cup finely chopped celery
- Lettuce leaves

RESERVE and refrigerate 4 center egg slices for garnish, if desired. CHOP remaining eggs.

MIX mayonnaise, lemon juice, onion, salt and pepper in medium bowl. ADD chopped eggs and cel-

ery; mix well. REFRIGERATE, covered, to blend flavors.

SERVE on lettuce leaves, garnished with reserved egg slices.

**Tip:** This recipe for egg salad can be layered with crunchy lettuce on whole wheat toast for a simple sandwich, or stuffed into cherry tomatoes for an impressive appetizer. Our simple and easy egg salad recipe is a good choice for a satisfying meal!

## CLASSIC DEVILED EGGS

Makes 12 egg halves

- 6 eggs
- 1/4 cup mayonnaise
- 2 tsp. Dijon mustard
- 1/4 tsp. kosher salt
- 1/8 tsp. white pepper

Put the eggs in a pan and cover with 1 inch of cold water. Cover the pan, bring to a boil, remove the pan from the heat and let the eggs rest, still covered, for 11 minutes. Immediately pour off the hot water and fill the pan with cold water. As the water warms, dump and refill with cold water until the eggs are cool.

Crack the eggs all over and gently pry off the shells; rinse off any clinging bits. Slice the eggs in half lengthwise. If you’re going to present the eggs on a platter, slice off a tiny bit of the underside to create a flat spot so the eggs sit still, but

take care not to cut a hole through the white.

For bacon-stuffed eggs: Stir 2/3 cup crumbled cooked bacon, 3 tablespoons pickle relish and 1/4 cup chopped fresh chives into yolk mixture.

For shrimp-stuffed eggs: Stir 3/4 pound cooked, peeled and chopped shrimp, 2 tablespoons prepared horseradish and six green onions, minced, into yolk mixture.

## PICKLED EGGS

- 1 jar (16 oz.) beets
- 1-3/4 cups distilled white vinegar
- 1 cup sugar
- 1-1/2 Tbsp. whole allspice
- 1 stick cinnamon, halved
- 8 Hard-boiled eggs, peeled

DRAIN beets, reserving juice. Set beets aside for another use. COMBINE beet juice, vinegar, sugar and spices in medium saucepan. Bring to a boil; STIR until sugar is dissolved. REDUCE heat and simmer 5 minutes.

ARRANGE eggs in 1-quart heat-proof glass jar with tight fitting lid. POUR hot marinade over eggs. Cover tightly. Allow to cool to room temperature 1 hour. Refrigerate to blend flavors, at least several hours or up to one week.

**Easy 12-Minute Method for Hard-Boiled Eggs:** Place eggs in a

saucepan large enough to hold them in a single layer. Add cold water to cover the eggs by 1 inch. Heat over high heat just to boiling. Remove from the burner. Cover pan. Let eggs stand in hot water for about 12 minutes for large eggs (9 minutes for medium eggs; 15 minutes for extra large eggs). Drain. Shock the eggs in a bowl of ice water to cool them immediately. Hard-boiled eggs are easiest to peel right after cooling.

**Tips:** Pickle hard-boiled eggs in a brilliant beet juice for a colorful appetizer or snack for holidays and entertaining.

Very fresh eggs can be difficult to peel. To ensure easily peeled eggs, buy and refrigerate them a week to 10 days in advance of cooking. This brief “breather” allows the eggs time to take in air, which helps separate the membranes from the shell.

Hard-boiled eggs are easiest to peel right after cooling. Cooling causes the egg to contract slightly in the shell.

To peel a hard-boiled egg: Gently tap egg on countertop until shell is finely crackled all over. Roll egg between hands to loosen shell. Starting peeling at large end, holding egg under cold running water to help ease the shell off.

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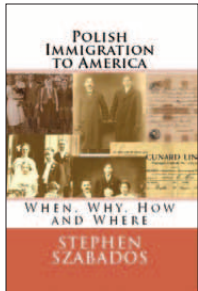
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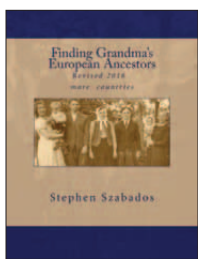
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When did your Polish ancestors immigrate, where did they leave, why did they leave, how did they get here? This book discusses the history of Poland and gives some insights to possible answers to these about your ancestors' immigration. All three Polish 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.

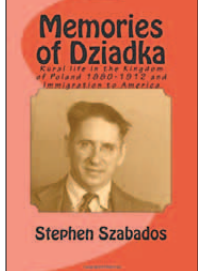


**FINDING GRANDMA'S EUROPEAN ANCESTORS**  
by Stephen Szabados  
Item 2-653  
\$19.95  
210 pp., pb.

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 traditions 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 Success  
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

## Census Records: A Snapshot of the Past

by Stephen M. Szabados

Jump start your family history research by mining the information found in the census records. Go beyond the names and dates. Census records include many more pieces of family history. Record the address listed for your ancestor, their occupation, where were they born, where they were naturalized, when they arrived, if they owned their residence, and could they read and write. These records contain information that describes your family members on a specific day and gives you a fantastic snapshot that is not available in your scrapbooks or in oral histories.

The U.S. Federal Census was mandated in 1787 by the Constitution to count the U.S. population to determine representation in the U.S. House of Representatives. The first U.S. Census was recorded in 1790 and, has been done every ten years thereafter.

The first census records were very basic and listed the name of the head of the household and a count of the number of people in the household. However, for each new census, officials began adding questions that would provide them with demographic information to help them plan schools, other local facilities, and laws. The answers to these questions are a treasure trove of information about your family that will give many new insights into your ancestors.

Generally, start with the 1940 census or the latest before your ancestor's death and work backward in time. Use all of the information on census records to maximize your research results. Also, be persistent and find all possible census records for your ancestors because each one should give you additional information. Look for patterns in the information. Ask why they moved. What were they doing? Recording all of the information will start to show patterns and relationships and your

family history will start to appear and write itself.

Use both Federal and State census records because states and territories also conducted censuses. Some state census records were merely head counts but some had very useful genealogical information. Unfortunately, most of 1890 U.S. Census records were destroyed in a 1921 fire.

Federal census records can be found on a number of online databases and the most used are Ancestry.com, Familysearch.org and HeritageQuest. Ancestry.com requires a subscription or access to a library that has Ancestry Library Edition. HeritageQuest is owned by Ancestry.com and can be accessed in the online databases at most libraries. HeritageQuest is important because libraries allow it to be accessed from home where as Ancestry Library Edition can be accessed only at the library. Familysearch.org is a free website that has all of the U.S. census records indexed but to view many of the years, Familysearch.org directs you to their partner "Ancestry.com." All three sources are important depending what is available from your local library.

Genealogy is defined as the study of family history but it should be more than a collection of names and dates. Your ancestors were living human beings who interacted with the people around them. All of these facts and events are related and are pieces of a jig-saw puzzle. The complete story is difficult to uncover. We may never get to the end of the book. Do not give up. Always ask questions. Be patient and keep putting the puzzle together. The story will slowly be revealed.

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."

**DISCOVER THE MEANING OF YOUR POLISH NAME.** A custom-researched analysis of the meaning and origin of a Polish surname will make an unusual and memorable gift for a loved one (or yourself). It will explain the name's meaning, how it originated, how many people share it, where they are from and whether a noble coat of arms accompanies it. If one is found, its image and the story behind it will be provided. If interested, airmail a \$19 personal or bank (cashier's) check or money order (adding \$13 for each additional surname you wish to have researched) to Polonia's long-standing Warsaw correspondent and name researcher: Robert Strybel, ul. Kaniowska 24, 01-529 Warsaw, Poland.

You will also be able to check your family records in Poland, track down ancestral homesteads and graves or possibly even turn up long-lost relatives thanks to a helpful genealogical contact sheet included.

## Szuch Retires as Polish Genealogical Society of Greater Cleveland's President



CLEVELAND —After 25 years as the President of the PGSGC, **John F. Szuch** (left) as stepped down from the group's presidency. John was elected president for the group's second year, and has held that title until January 1, 2018. After 25 years in office, he felt it was time to get someone else in the office, with fresh ideas and energy.

Selected replace John was **Ron Kraine** (right), who has been the organization's vice president for a number of years. Szuch said he is confident Kraine will do an excellent job as president, now that he is the organization's president emeritus.

## Growing Up Polish American

### The Perfect Bag

by Mary J. Hoferek and Susan C. Wilson

Her eyes sparkled as she told me about "the plan."

Her brother was an air force officer and saw that war was coming to Poland. The siblings worked together to send one brother to America. He made enough money to bring the next one. As they made more money, they sent for the next one. Over and over, they pooled their earnings until all eight siblings were together in the United States. Only my grandmother's parents and baby sister remained. At the age of 14, my grandmother had sailed from Poland to the safety of Newark, New Jersey. She escaped Poland's future of the almost complete destruction of Warsaw, the murder of millions of Polish citizens, and terror of concentration camps. She married and reared four daughters, including my mother.

We lived two blocks from my grandmother, so the role she played in my life was immediate and fresh. One happy job for me was helping my mother and grandmother exchange food. As the courier, my mother often sent me to visit carrying some sweet corn or other farmer's market produce. For my return home, my hands were filled with my grandmother's freshly-baked coffee cake, still warm and fragrant. The exchanges occurred several times each month and I looked forward to each trip with joy and expectation.

When my grandmother was preparing her treats, which were placed

on a special dish for transport, she would find a paper bag that fit perfectly over the item. She would go into her walk-in pantry and emerge with a bag which she would then try to place the treat in. Often the bag was too small. Often it was too large. Undaunted, she would fold up the ill-sized bag and return to her pantry to exchange the old bag for a new bag. One at a time, each bag was retrieved from the pantry and carefully evaluated. The bag needed to fit perfectly – not too small and not too big – before my grandmother was satisfied. When the perfect bag was found, I was given the delicious morsels and dutifully carried them to my mother.

Many years later, I was visiting relatives who lived in Old Town Warsaw, Poland. They had survived years of wars and repression. The city was being slowly, painstakingly restored to its pre-war elegance. I found a lovely painting by a local artist and purchased it. The vendor wrapped the picture in newspaper and took out some string to secure the picture for transport. The first piece of string was too short and was put back on the line. The next piece had a large piece left over and was put back. The next string fit, but not quite. Several strings were tried and rejected. Finally, a string was chosen because it was a perfect fit. The painting, finally wrapped and secured, was given to me. As the vendor worked, I remembered my grandmother's efforts for a perfect bag and was sure she smiled from the heavens above.

## Polish To Be Offered As Student Language Proficiency Option

EUGENE, Ore. — As the number of states and school districts offering "Seal of Bilingualism" programs is increasing rapidly across the country, students studying Polish will for the first time will be able to demonstrate their proficiency in the language based on a new test established by Avant Assessment.

Avant Assessment, a language proficiency testing company, will now offer a Polish language assessment option for local schools. The test will be offered for the first time in Michigan schools this spring. Up until now, there has been no way for

Polish Americans or other students to demonstrate their proficiency in the Polish language.

There are approximately 10 million Polish Americans in the United States, and at least 30,000 students estimated to be studying the Polish language, with Michigan, Illinois, and New York counting the largest populations.

The Polish Mission of the Orchard Lake Schools in Michigan has been working with Avant Assessment to implement the Polish language proficiency assessment for the first time in the country.

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## Madejski Appointed President of the Medical Society of New York

BUFFALO, N.Y. — General Physician, P.C. announced the appointment of **Dr. Thomas J. Madejski** to the office of President of the Medical Society of the State of New York (MSSNY).

He was appointed at the 212th House of Delegates meeting, March 24, 2018.

As president, Dr. Madejski will oversee all the public health and legislative activities of the state's principal professional organization for physicians, and will work to protect and defend the rights of all patients in New York State.

"Dr. Madejski has been a tireless supporter of MSSNY's legislative priorities and has been a champion of both physicians' and patients' rights during challenging times," said Dr. Paul Hamlin, Chairman of MSSNY's board of trustees. "We look forward to his leadership as he takes office as president of MSSNY."

Dr. Madejski is a graduate of SUNY Buffalo School of Pharmacy and The School of Medicine, SUNY Health Science Center in Syracuse, NY. He is board-certified in internal



Madejski

medicine, geriatrics, and hospice palliative care.

In addition to his internal medicine practice with General Physician, P.C., Dr. Madejski is president of the medical staff at Medina Memorial Hospital, as well as medical director of the Orleans County Nursing Home, Absolut Care of Gasport, and Hospice of Orleans County.

## Krasinski Recalls Role as Extemporaneous Hero



Krasinski

BOSTON — Actor **John Krasinski** has played a number of heroic types, from a Benghazi security officer in *13 Hours* to the iconic Jack Ryan in the upcoming Amazon series. But it turns out he was drawing from personal experience.

In an interview with *Playboy*, the actor, now 38, revealed he once saved a woman's life while swimming in Costa Rica as a teenager.

When he was 17, he spent a few months living in Costa Rica to teach English at a local high school.

He told the magazine that he went to a beach called Manuel Antonio, which had a rough riptide. That's when he sprang into action to save people who were swimming near him:

"While I was swimming there — this is a story I've never told anybody — this Costa Rican girl and an American guy were swimming right next to me and we were knee-deep. I went underwater for a second, and when I came back up he was screaming at the top of his lungs. Literally in three seconds the girl had been swept 150 yards out."

Krasinski relied on the swimming lessons he got from his mother, who was a lifeguard. "There was no one to help me," he said. "I just went out and tried to save her." As he swam out, he got into a crosscurrent with her, but got her back to within 20 yards of the shore, where surfers came out to help.

The actor says the moment was transformative for him.

"Granted, not everybody needs to have life-or-death experiences, but that changed my entire life. All of a sudden I grew up," he said. "Whereas college should have been my defining moment, Costa Rica was. It just ripped all the protective layers apart and allowed me to get hurt."

## Ojczyzna Polish Dancers Can Sing, Too



**OJCZYŻNA POLISH DANCERS SING KOŁĘDY.** The Ojczyzna Dancers are shown after performing Polish Christmas Carols in their secondary role as an adjunct choir at Holy Rosary Church on January 28, 2018. Artistic Director and Choreographer Malgorzata Bondyra is shown in the first row cradling her violin.

BALTIMORE, Md. — During the 2017 Christmas Season, the Ojczyzna Polish Dancers of Baltimore performed concerts of Polish Christmas carols, or koledy, for audiences throughout the Baltimore/Washington D.C. region. Among these performances were larger concerts at Our Lady Queen of Poland in Silver Spring, and at Holy Rosary Church and Polish National Alliance Council 21, both in Baltimore. Artistic Director Malgorzata Bondyra created an incredible compilation of koledy for the group, which was customized for each performance and included old songs such as "Cicha Noc" and new songs such as "Pastorałka od Serca do Ucha."

Bondyra noted that, among the things to appreciate most about this year's performances, was that the majority of the group does not speak Polish, and that the group had

to spend a great deal of time practicing so that these members could flawlessly sing. For those who have ever tried to speak Polish, it should be clear what an amazing accomplishment this was for Ojczyzna and its members.

And just as amazing, this was with the Ojczyzna Dancers performing in their adjunct role as a choir.

The main focus of Ojczyzna is performing folk dances from the various regions of Poland. The troupe employs a huge wardrobe of authentic costumes from Poland in their performances. Bondyra is a quite proficient and a very talented dancer in her own right. In 2017, after a long and close association with the group, she became both Ojczyzna's artistic director and choreographer after attending an intense summer program at the prestigious Polonijne Studium Choreograficzne

at the University of Rzeszów in Poland. Bondyra will continue to be enrolled in the master's of Polish folk dance and choreography curriculum as she works toward earning her formal certification. Ojczyzna will continue to benefit from her efforts and be able to grow their expert repertoire, in which they already pride themselves.

It is wonderful to see that such a love of Polish culture still exists and that there are those who are willing to do whatever it takes to be able to share and promote this culture with pride and joy. Photos and videos of some of these performances can be found on the group's Facebook page, at Facebook.com/OjczyznaDancers. Stay tuned for much more from Ojczyzna in the coming months and years as they continue to perform throughout the mid-Atlantic region.

### Spotlight on Long Island

## Museum Scholarships Now Available

by Barbara Szydłowski

Applications for the annual Polish American Museum Founders Scholarship of \$500 are available upon request. The student must be a

graduating high school senior entering college in the fall of 2018, and of Polish heritage residing in Nassau or Suffolk County. Deadline for application is May 31, 2018. For additional information, call (516)

883-6542.


The museum will be participating in the World Fest being held at the Port Washington Public Library, April 15, displaying artifacts from Poland, plus some historical photos and history of Poland. Admission is free.

In addition to Poland, World Fest — held in conjunction with the "Landmark on Main Street" program and with generous support from the Friends of the Library — will highlight more than 40 countries, including Ireland, China, Russia, and Japan. The festival shares the culture, foods, crafts, games, stories, and customs of Port Washington residents.

**DID YOU KNOW?** Early Christians adopted the egg, which represented the renewal of life, as a symbol of Christ's resurrection from the grave.

People around the world celebrate Easter with eggs. Eastern Europeans may exchange eggs bearing the letters "XB" for "Christ is Risen."

A legend from Poland recounts how the Virgin Mary herself painted boiled eggs in bright colors to please the infant Jesus.



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## Polish American Historical Association

The Polish American Historical Association was established in December 1942 as a special commission of the The Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences in America to collect, compile and publish information about Polish Americans. In October 1944, it was reorganized as a national American society to promote study and research in the history and social background of Americans of Polish descent. The Association, which was incorporated under the laws of Illinois in 1972, strives to assist and cooperate with all individuals and organizations interested in Polish American life and history. Contributions in support of the work of the Association are tax-exempt.

*Regular one-year membership to the Association is \$40.00. (\$25.00 for students) made payable to the Polish American Historical Association.*

**Polish American Historical Association  
Central Connecticut State University  
1615 Stanley Street, New Britain, CT 06505  
www.polishamericanstudies.org**

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## Dance Time

### Good Times at the Hard Times

by Jennifer Pijanowski

BUFFALO, N.Y. — Stacks of coupons were collected as polka fans headed to redeem their discount admission for the Annual Hard Times Dance with **Buffalo Concertina All Stars**. This yearly event draws a hearty crowd who excitedly partake in an afternoon of great music, discounted drinks, and the cheapest meal they've had in years. After some time dancing to the excellent sounds of the All Stars, the line grew in anticipation of Potts' baloney and onion sandwiches which are bargain-priced for this thrifty day at \$1.00.

The Hard Times dance is one that many polka fans look forward to attending each year.

If you are up for an adventure and guaranteed delightful day trip, the Buffalo Concertina All Stars are coordinating a bus trip to TAPS Polish Summer Picnic on June 16, 2018. The excursion is only \$70/per person and includes motor coach transportation, \$25 casino voucher for Hard Rock Casino in Cleveland, admission to the picnic featuring Buffalo Concertina All Stars alongside **The Beat**, \$10 voucher for food or beverages, as well as snacks and beverages on the bus. Passenger pickups will be in Buffalo, N.Y. and Erie, Pa. for this adventure. Contact Bob at (716) 992-9569 for more in-



Tommy, Johnny, and Sonny Wanderlich. Brothers appreciate all who supported memorial dance for their mother, Veronica.

Throughout the evening, band mates and guests, including **John Gora**, took turns performing and speaking about Mrs. Wanderlich. They provided sentimental and comical memories which resonated with each of us there to remember this special woman. Of course, the highlight of the evening was when all three talented Wanderlich brothers joined one another on the stage to perform. There were many tears and smiles, with everyone confident that mom was smiling from up above. Through the generous donations of

lo's Hydraulics neighborhood to get their first sip of this new krupnik. Shot glasses filled with this delicious honey liquor were clanging as folks danced in any small space they could find to the energetic sound of the band.

Special Delivery played notable polka favorites and everyone was getting into the spirit with Dyngus Day right around the corner. An unexpected superhero, Po'lska Dandalorian, even attended this event providing some fun photo ops for krupnik fans. Dressed head-to-toe

another polka dance was being held at Potts Banquet Hall. **The Knewz** once again took the stage for the 5th Annual Spring Fling benefitting WNY Heroes, Inc. Even with a large crowd supporting Special Delivery up the road at the krupnik event, Potts was packed for this wonderful fundraiser. Jimmy Weber made the trip to join the band, and the Knewz got the crowd going, playing all of their biggest hits. By popular demand, Andy even belted out a few

songs from their latest Christmas CD. This group of guys truly enjoys performing together and it is evident as you watch them laugh, smile, and joke with one another between songs. The group sounded phenomenal showcasing their unique arrangements and vocal talents. The Knewz continues to hold on to the younger audience that polka music is in such desperate need of capturing. I never tire of watching this next generation of fans

as they dance along and sing every single lyric along with the band. I am looking forward to kicking off my Dyngus adventures by attending The Knewz alongside Lenny Gomulka on Easter Sunday at Potts Banquet Hall; it is going to be an unforgettable occasion.

**JUST DESERTS.** If you are visiting or living in the Phoenix area, you will have an opportunity to see **Lenny Gomulka & Chicago Push** there, April 21 and 22. Spring Time in the Desert will kick off Friday night April 20th with a Meet & Greet at the Pulaski Club featuring DJ, Nickel City Dave. The weekend warmup begins at 6:00 and will be free admission. On Saturday, you can put on your dancing shoes and head back to the Pulaski Club to shimmy to the music of Lenny beginning at 6:00 p.m. After hav-

ing a few hours of rest, you can reconvene on Sunday from 2:00-6:00 p.m. This is an event that you will not want to miss if you are in the area. Not only is it great music but the warm-heartedness of the members is unsurpassed. Admission is \$12.00 each day while kids ages 16 and under are free. Don't forget that the fantastic bartenders will be there serving your favorite beverages and the kitchen will be cooking up Polish delicacies. Contact Dave nick-



Diane Kurdziel and Felicia DeKarski.

elcity\_dave@yahoo.com for more information.

**SPRING IN YOUR STEP.** The Cleveland Polka Association will be celebrating the newfound sunny weather with its Spring Dance. Music will be provided by **Gerry Kaminski's Polka Network** from Grand Rapids, Mich. The dance will be held on April 22, 2018 at the Holy Spirit Party Center, 5500 W 54th St Parma, Ohio from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. Donation is \$13.00 and children 18 and under will be admitted free. This is a beautiful hall that showcases the band on a high stage and provides a beautiful wooden dance floor. The staff of Holy Spirit and members of the Cleveland Polka Association are kind, gracious and remarkably hospitable. For table reservations or more information, contact Sylvia or Paul (216) 228-1134.



Hannah Bojczuk, her aunt Cindy Zelasko, and Cindy's daughter Sara Zelasko.



Kayla Rosinski, Jen Sikorski, Alicia Iwanczuk, and Chris Sikorski.

formation.

**A CELEBRATION OF LIFE** for **Veronica Wanderlich** brought in many friends and family who were looking forward to paying tribute and saying goodbye. A Catholic Mass celebrated the beginning of her spiritual life in heaven while giving those gathered time to reflect on memories made while she was here on earth. This memorial was held in conjunction with a musical affair later that evening. Admission fees for the celebratory dance benefitted hospice in memory of Mrs. Wanderlich. Band members of the Knewz took the stage and the crowd buzzed with excitement anticipating Tommy Wanderlich rejoining the band after his hiatus when relocating to Arizona. It was sensational to see his smiling face up there on the stage with his bandmates after his absence. Tom didn't miss a beat, playing every note with the same enthusiasm he's always shown.

admissions, door prizes, and 50/50s, \$2,600.00 was raised and donated to hospice in Veronica's name. I know she would have approved of this star-studded night remembering her love of polka music.

No one wanted the evening to end as fans cheered to have Tommy sing one more song to close out the night. Many stood in front of the stage enjoying his effortless talent and obvious joy in joining his bandmates for this special evening.

**I'LL DRINK TO THAT.** March 3rd was Krupnik Day in Buffalo as Buffalo Distilling Company in the Larkville District launched the first commercially produced Krupnik made in Buffalo and Western New York. The launch party was amped up by enlisting **Special Delivery** to provide the atmosphere and music for this event. Hundreds of people packed into this small space in a recently renovated building in Buffa-

in red and white, creator Jill Olsen, will be out in full force for Dyngus Day with pussy willow branches in hand.

Preorders for the krupnik were a must as the distillery sold out of their inaugural bottles within an hour of opening. If you are lucky enough to find this desired cordial, try a shot of One Foot Cock Krupnik. It is a very mild and not as sweet version of the original Polish krupnik we have all been drinking for years. Congratulations to Buffalo Distillery on its success and for making polkas a part of their celebration.

You can stop and visit its tasting room at 860 Seneca St. in Buffalo, Thursday through Saturday. Check out their website [www.bflodistilling.com](http://www.bflodistilling.com) and let them know they you would like to see polka bands there more often!

**SPRING FLING THING.** As luck would have it, just a few miles away,



Denise Finan, Jimmy Weber, Chris Tanski, and Ed Gawron.



# Details Announced for Cleveland's Dyngus Day Celebration

www.theclevescene.com

CLEVELAND — Now in its eighth year, Cleveland's Dyngus Day celebration continues to get bigger and better each year. This year's event, which takes place from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. on Monday, April 2, at locations throughout Ohio City, Tremont and the Detroit Shoreway, promises to be another wildly good time.

"From a Polish Legion of American Veterans Post to St. John Cantius, a Catholic church named for a Polish priest and established in the 1880s by immigrants who lived here and worked in the booming nearby steel mills, there is a real Polish American history in this community," explains Terry Zacharyj, commander, FD Roosevelt Post 58-Polish Legion Of American Veterans.

As part of the day-long celebration, Detroit Avenue will

be closed from West 57th St. to West 59th St. as Dyngus Day will expand into what organizers say is its "largest footprint to date."

As always, Dyngus Day will feature Kishka's Beer Heaven Festival Grounds in the Detroit Shoreway neighborhood.

Opening ceremonies take place at 10:00 a.m., and the Miss Dyngus Day Pageant will begin at 4:30 p.m. at the main festival grounds. After the crowning of Miss Dyngus 2018, the Accordion Parade will follow at 6:00 p.m.

Over in Tremont, many restaurants and bars will participate in the festivities.

The polka act Visinata will perform at the South Side; the award-winning Patty C & the Guys will play at FD Roosevelt Post 58; and resident squeezebox celebrity Stan Mejac will set up shop at Prosperity Social Club. Hi and Dry Bowling & Beer will offer an evening bowling tournament and polka

karaoke with DJ Kenny.

Sokolowski's University Inn will feature a special all-Polish menu that includes fresh and smoked kielbasa, while Tremont Tap House will offer a Bigos Hunter's Stew and apple and prune pierogi with fig brown butter cream sauce. Prosperity Social Club will have an ethnic platter that includes Old World favorites including cabbage roll, cabbage and noodles, potato pierogi, potato pancake, and kielbasa.

Lolly the Trolley will shuttle participants throughout all neighborhoods, and Cleveland Brew Bus will run continuously from noon to 8 p.m. and stop at seven Tremont venues (Hi and Dry Bowling & Beer, FD Roosevelt Veterans Post 58, Prosperity Social Club, the South Side and Sokolowski's University Inn, Tremont Tap House and the Ukrainian Museum Archives).

## Polka Jammer Network Annual Fundraiser Set

SOUTH DEERFIELD, Mass. — The Polka Jammer Network will hold its annual Jammerthon on April 6, 7, and 8, 2018.

The Jammerthon is a once a year opportunity for its listeners to help financially support the efforts of the Polka Jammer Network. The funds raised help defray the costs of doing live remote broadcasts throughout the year, as well as pay our streaming and royalty fees. It is what keeps the network streaming high quality polka music everyday throughout the year.

Thousands of listeners throughout the world access the Polka Jammer Network, logging in nearly a million listening hours per year. We are the world leader in Polka music entertainment, with an audience comprised of listeners from over 35

countries, the majority of which are from the US and Canada. You may pledge online at <http://polkajammernetwork.org> during Jammerthon weekend.

The Polka Jammer Network is a 501 (3) c not for profit site dedicated to the promotion and preservation of polka music.

### The Main Squeeze Hosts 1040-EZ Dance

FRIDLEY, Minn. — Sun., April 15. Join The Main Squeeze for their first annual 1040-EZ Dance, marking Tax Day 2018. Fridley American Legion, 7365 Central Ave, NE, Fridley. Music from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Admission is \$8, kids under 12 free. For location directions, call the Legion at (763) 784-9824.

## Polka Calendar

Compiled by John Ziobrowski

To list your event, please send date, band, location, times, and contact number to: [ziobrowskijohn@gmail.com](mailto:ziobrowskijohn@gmail.com)

### APRIL 1

- Polka All Stars. Pulaski Club. Holiday Fl. 2:30-5:30. (727) 934-0900
- Jeannie Music. PASC. Hudson Fl. 2-5. (727) 868-9763
- The Boys. Salvatore's Italian Garden. Depew NY. (716) 777-2544
- Lenny Gomulka/The Knewz. Potts Banquet Hall. Cheektowaga NY. 5-11. (716) 675-6588
- Tony Blazonczyk. Polonia Banquets. Chicago Il. 2:30-5:30. (773) 523-7080

### APRIL 2

- Special Delivery Band. Polish Falcons. Depew NY. 2-6. (716) 684-2373
- Special Delivery Band/The Knewz. Leonard Post. Cheektowaga NY. 7-?? (716) 684-4371
- Joe Stanky. VFW. Dupont Pa. 2-5. (570) 472-1152
- Jimmy K. The Jukebox. Cleveland Oh. 1:30-3:45. (216) 206-7699
- Jimmy K. Sokolowski's University Inn. Cleveland Oh. 5-9. (216) 771-9236
- Dennis Polisky. Van Dyck Lounge. Schenectady NY. (518) 348-7999
- Nicklecity Express. Pulaski Club. Phownix Az. 6-9. (602) 275-9329
- NuSoundz. Polish Club. St. Petersburg Fl. 5-9. (727) 894-9908
- Florida Honky Band. Nickle City Grill. St. Petersburg Fl. 1-9. (727) 549-9464
- Northern Sounds. Brentwood Square. The Villages Fl. 5-9. (352) 753-2270
- John Gora. Millennium Hotel. Cheektowaga NY. (716) 681-2400
- The Boys. Salvatore's Italian Garden. Depew NY. (716) 684-2544
- Lenny Gomulka. Terminal 495. Buffalo NY. 3-9. (716) 810-3210
- Stephanie/Mon Valley Push. St. Stans. Buffalo NY. 3-10, (716) 854-5510
- Tony Blazonczyk. Crumstown Con-

versation Club. North Liberty In. 5-9. (574) 233-1130

- New Direction Band. Polish Villa. Cheektowaga NY. 9:30AM-1:30. (716) 822-4908
- New Direction Band. Elks. Lancaster NY. 3-6. (716) 681-8337
- New Direction Band. American Legion. Lackawanna NY. 8-11. (716) 826-3733

### APRIL 7

- The Boys/Polka Country Musicians. Independence Fire Hall. Great Meadow NJ. 5-12 (908) 209-9843

### APRIL 8

- Special Delivery. Clinton Bar & Grill, West Seneca, NY. 5-8.
- PA Villagers. VFW. Dupont Pa. 2-5. (570) 472-1152
- The Boys. PACC. Ludlow Ma. 2-6. (413) 583-6385
- Melotones. Polish Club. Belleview Fl. 2-5. (352) 854-6193
- Polka Classics. Pulaski Club. Daytona Beach Fl. 2-5. (386) 259-7059
- Jeannie Music. PASC. Hudson Fl. 2-5. (727) 868-9763

### APRIL 14

- John Gora. Slovenian Hall. Yukon Pa. 6-10. (724) 722-9700
- DynaBrass. Ukranian Church Hall. Reading Pa. 6-10. (610) 376-0586

### APRIL 15

- John Gora. Elks. Brick NJ. 2-6. (732) 920-0750
- Joe Stanky. Sacred Heart Ctr. Cornwall Pa. 2-6. (917) 273-1574
- DynaBrass. PACC. Ludlow Ma. 2-6. (413) 583-6385
- Northern Lites/Joe Oberaitis. Pulaski Club. Daytona Beach Fl. 2-5. (386) 259-7059
- Jeannie Music. PASC. Hudson Fl. 2-5. (727) 868-9763
- Florida Honky Band. Polish Club. St. Petersburg Fl. 3-6. (727) 894-9908
- John Stevens. VFW. Dupont Pa. 2-5. (570) 472-1152

### APRIL 18

- John Gora. Polish Falcons. Depew NY. 8-10:30. (716) 684-2373

### APRIL 20-22

- The Boys/Jimmy Sturr/Joe Stanky/Polka Method/John Salov. Villa Roma. Callcoon NY. 6-10. (800) 724-

## USPA Reveals Nominees

INDEPENDENCE, Ohio — The United States Polka Association announced its nominees for the 2017 Polka Music Awards. The awards will be presented May 26, 2018 at the annual Convention & Festival, to be held at the Holiday Inn Independence in Cleveland.

The awards nominees are as follows:

**BAND:** The Project, Polka Country Musicians, and Dynabross.

**MALE VOCALIST:** Wally Dom-

browski (PCM); Andy Bojczuk (The Knewz); Lenny Gomulka (Chicago Push).

**FEMALE VOCALIST:** Laura Mateja (IPA Tribute Band); Stacey Morris (Nutones); Mollie Busta-Lange (Squeezebox).

**RECORDING:** 1st and Ten (The Project); Dance All Night (Dynabross); Holidayz (The Knewz).

**SONG:** "Yermazah/Hold Me Tight" (The Project); "That's Christmas To Me" (The Knewz); "Dance

All Night" (Dynabross).

**POLKA VIDEO:** No submissions this year.

**IJ/DJ:** Kenny Olowin, Todd Zaganiacz ("That 70's Show" & "Totally 80's"); Mark and Cherie Trzepacz ("TGIFriday Show").

**NEW HORIZON:** Jonathan Fomenko from Amherst, N.Y.

**LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD:** *Living Category* – Randy Koslosky; *Deceased* – John Libera

### The Boys and PCM to Perform

GREAT MEADOWS, N.J. — The Boys and Polka Country Musicians will share the stage, Sat., April 7 at the Independence Fire Hall, 24 Cemetery Rd. (Route 80, exit 19). 5:00 p.m.-midnight. For details, call Michael at (908) 209-9843.

## Pennsylvania Polka

PHILADELPHIA — Mon., April 2. Dyngus Day Festivities at the Polish Eagles Sports Club, 3157 E. Thompson Street, Port Richmond section (enter through parking lot on Clementine Street), 3:00-8:00 p.m. Entertainment by the Polish American String Band, Special K Polka Band, and DJ Wes. Children's activities, cash bar and food by Donna's Bar and the Dinner House. A portion of the proceeds will benefit Polish American Social Services. For info call Sandra Tomaszewski (215) 779-8781.

DILLSBURG — Sat., April 7. Capitol City Polka Dancers Association Polka Dance, Monaghan Fire

Hall, 245 West Siddonsbury Rd. 5:00 p.m. Music by The Swingmasters Band. Call Merry Kurtz (717) 774-6404.

CORNWALL — Sun., April 15. Polka Dance. Sacred Heart Parish Center, 2596 Cornwall Rd. (Cornwall Rd & 419). Music by Joe Stanky & the Cadets Band. 2:00-6:00 p.m. For info/tickets call Joe Yaklowich (717) 566-5704.

READING — Sat., April 14. "Swing Into Spring Polka Dance" (In memory of Irene Shubeck). Nativity BVM Church Hall, 211 Grace St. 5:00-10:00 p.m. Music by Dyna Brass Band. No BYOB or BYOF. Info call Cindy (610) 914-5785.

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# Dyngus Day Directory

Easter Sunday, Easter Monday, and postliminary merrymaking in and Around Western New York

## Dyngus Day Buffalo Kick-Off Events EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 1, 2018

TIME	VENUE	ADDRESS	COST	ENTERTAINMENT & EVENTS
6p	PVT. Leonard Post VFW	2450 Walden Ave. Cheektowaga	\$10	<b>LIVE POLKA MUSIC:</b> Buffalo Touch and Almost Dyngus Day Players featuring Jackie Libera and the Piatkowski Brothers
6p	Salvatore's Italian Gardens	5461 Transit Road, Depew	\$10	<b>LIVE POLKA MUSIC:</b> The Boys From Baltimore and Dynabrass
6p	Potts Banquets	41 South Rossler Ave, Kaisertown	FREE	<b>LIVE POLKA MUSIC:</b> The Knewz and Lenny Gomulka & Chicago Push
8:30p	Millennium Hotel	2040 Walden Ave, Cheektowaga	FREE	<b>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT:</b> Robin Pegg in Twigs Lounge

## DYNGUS DAY, APRIL 2, 2018

TIME	VENUE	ADDRESS	COST	ENTERTAINMENT & EVENTS
8a	Anchor Bar	2437 William Street, Cheektowaga	FREE (\$10/\$2 with pass after 4p)	<b>LIVE POLKA MUSIC:</b> Phocus. Polish food and drink. (Music at 4:00)
9:30a	Polish Villa 2	1085 Harlem Road, Cheektowaga	\$10/\$2 with pass	<b>LIVE POLKA MUSIC:</b> The New Direction Band (9:30a-1:30p) Breakfast Buffet (9:30a-12 Noon).
11a	Nowak's Tavern	1458 Lovejoy Street, Sloan	FREE	<b>LIVE POLKA MUSIC:</b> Donny Krew (2-6p) Polish Kitchen (11a-9p)
11a	Millennium Hotel	2040 Walden Ave, Cheektowaga	\$10	Chopin Singing Society, (Swieconka Buffet \$15, NOON)
11:30a	Corpus Christi Church	199 Clark Street, Historic Polonia District	FREE	Dyngus Day Catholic Mass
NOON	Clinton Bar & Grill	2460 Clinton Street Cheektowaga	\$10/\$2 with pass	<b>LIVE POLKA MUSIC:</b> Dyngus Day All-Star Jam Band (Noon); Kielbasa Kings (7p)
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 District	FREE	Buffalo's Best Kielbasa Contest. Tastings will be offered (3 for \$2) (Noon-2:30p)
NOON	Porky's Lounge	2028 Clinton Street; Kaisertown	FREE	Authentic Polish food/ Polka Sound System
NOON	The Happy Swallow	349 Sycamore, Outer Polonia District	FREE	Polka sound system, Authentic 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.
12:30 p	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	<b>LIVE POLKA MUSIC:</b> Dyngus Day Jam Band featuring Jackie Libera, Frankie Liszka, Matt Lewandowski, David Walter, Eric Bakowski, and Chris Bukowski (until 4:30p)
1p	Polish Cadets	927 Grant Street, Black Rock	\$10/\$2 with pass	<b>LIVE MUSIC:</b> Tom Mroczka & the Music Box (4p) Polish Kitchen 1p.
1p	Anchor Inn	2437 William Street, Cheektowaga	\$10/\$2 with pass	<b>LIVE POLKA MUSIC:</b> Phocus (1-4p); Polish food and spirits
1p	The Broadway Market	999 Broadway, Historic Polonia District	FREE	<b>LIVE POLKA MUSIC:</b> Melody Lane (1-4p). Polish Beer Bar (1p-7p.)
1p	St. Gabriel's Church	5271 Clinton Street, Elma	\$10/\$2 with pass	<b>LIVE POLKA MUSIC:</b> 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. Depew	\$10/\$2 with pass	<b>LIVE POLKA MUSIC:</b> Special Delivery (2p-6p)
2p	Potts Banquets	41 South Rossler Ave, Kaisertown	\$10/\$2 with pass	<b>LIVE POLKA MUSIC:</b> John Stevens Doubleshot and Buffalo Concertina All Stars; Polish buffet, Polish bar with specials.

2p	Nowak's Tavern	1458 Lovejoy Street, Sloan	\$10/\$2 with pass	<b>LIVE POLKA MUSIC:</b> Donny Krew
2p	Polish Villa 2	1085 Harlem Road Cheektowaga	\$10/\$2 with pass	<b>LIVE POLKA MUSIC:</b> The Buffalo Touch (2-6p) Polish Buffet
2p	Pussy Willow Park Party Tent	Memorial Drive, Historic Polonia District	\$10/\$2 with pass	<b>LIVE POLKA MUSIC:</b> Box On (2p); Brave Combo (7:30p) Dyngus Day Merchandise. Redeem Wegmans Pussy Willow passes here. Food Truck Alley, Beer Tent.
2p	Lancaster Elks Club (Babcia's Dyngus Party)	33 Legion Pkwy, Lancaster	\$15 (Day pass), \$7 (after 7p.) \$2 with pass.	<b>LIVE POLKA MUSIC:</b> New Direction (3-6p), DJ John Piniewski (6-10p) Polish Buffet w/day pass
3p	St. Gabriel's Church	5271 Clinton Street, Elma	\$10/\$2 with pass	<b>LIVE POLKA MUSIC:</b> Tony's Polka Band and Polka Method (3-9p)
3p	St. Casimir Parish Center	1833 Clinton Street, Kaisertown	\$10/\$2 with pass	<b>LIVE POLKA MUSIC:</b> Buffalo Good Times; Polish Food Platters
3p	Ray's Lounge & Catering	2070 Clinton Street, Kaisertown	\$10/\$2 with pass	<b>LIVE MUSIC:</b> Mid Life Crisis 6p. Polish Kitchen (3-6p) Buffet (6-10p)
3p	Adam Mickiewicz Library	612 Fillmore Ave, Historic Polonia District	\$10	Complimentary Polish buffet, Polish beers and spirits. Live broadcast of WXRL's Drivetime Polkas at 5pm.
3p	West End Inn	340 Union Street, Hamburg	FREE	<b>LIVE POLKA MUSIC:</b> Tony Krew & Co (5p); Polish food, beer.
3p	Buffalo Central Terminal	495 Paderewski Drive, Historic Polonia District	\$15	<b>LIVE POLKA MUSIC: Lenny Gomulka &amp; Chicago Push,</b> Those Idiots. NOTE: <b>NO OTHER VENUE PASSES TO BE HONORED</b>
3p	St. Stanislaus B&M Church	Fillmore @ Peckham Sts, Historic Polonia, Buffalo	\$10/\$2 with pass; \$3 Children under 3.	<b>LIVE POLKA MUSIC:</b> Mon Valley Push and Stephanie & Her Honky Band (5p until 11pm)
4p	Town Shanty	2400 Clinton Street; Cheektowaga	FREE	Polish Dinner Buffet, \$10.99
4p	Polish Cadets	927 Grant Street, Black Rock	\$10/\$2 with pass	<b>LIVE POLKA MUSIC:</b> Tom Mroczka & the Music Box Band; Polish food
4:30p	PVT. Leonard Post VFW	2450 Walden Ave. Cheektowaga	\$10/\$2 with pass	<b>LIVE POLKA MUSIC:</b> The Knewz and Special Delivery
5p	13 <sup>th</sup> Annual Dyngus Day Buffalo Parade	Historic Polonia District	FREE	Over 120 floats and participants. Begins at Corpus Christi Church, Route along Broadway, Fillmore, Peckham and Memorial Drive
5p	Polish Falcons Nest 6 (Broadway)	3171 Broadway (near Union)	\$5	<b>LIVE POLKA MUSIC:</b> The Twy-Lytes (5:30) Home of the Krupnik Klub.
5p	Msgr. Nash Council 3875 Knights of Columbus	261 S. Legion Drive South Buffalo	\$10.00	<b>LIVE POLKA MUSIC:</b> The Pyramid Band; Food, Polish food
5p	Stockman's Tavern	9870 Transit Road, Amherst	FREE	Polish buffet, Polish beer
5p	VFW Post 898	2909 South Park, Lackawanna	\$25	<b>LIVE POLKA MUSIC:</b> TBA; Beer, pop, food
5p	Corpus Christi Social & Athletic Club	169 Sears Street, Historic Polonia District	\$10/\$2 with pass	<b>LIVE POLKA MUSIC:</b> TBA
6p	Salvatore's Italian Gardens	5461 Transit Road, Depew	\$10	<b>LIVE POLKA MUSIC:</b> The Boys from Baltimore and Polka Country Musicians. County Music: Dark Horse Run; Rock Music: Flipside
6p	Polish Falcon (Depew)	4456 Columbia Ave., Depew	\$10/\$2 with pass	<b>LIVE POLKA MUSIC:</b> Phocus
6p	Adam Mickiewicz Library	612 Fillmore Ave, Historic Polonia District	\$10	<b>LIVE POLKA MUSIC:</b> Hocus Polkas (6p-9p)
6p	Millennium Hotel	2040 Walden Ave, Cheektowaga	\$10	<b>LIVE POLKA MUSIC:</b> John Gora & Gorale; Stacy Morris and the NuTones.
6p	IV Stallions	2912 William Street, Cheektowaga	FREE	<b>LIVE POLKA MUSIC:</b> DynaBrass
7p	DBGB	253 Allen Street, Allentown, Buffalo	FREE	<b>LIVE POLKA MUSIC:</b> Happy Davis & the Polka Chips. Polish food and beer, DJ music
7p	Gypsy Parlor	376 Grant Street, Buffalo	FREE	Polish food and beer, DJ music
7:30p	Polish Villa 2	1085 Harlem Road, Cheektowaga	\$10/\$2 with pass	<b>LIVE POLKA MUSIC:</b> Piatkowski Brothers
7:30p	Pussy Willow Park Party Tent	Memorial Drive, Polonia District	\$10/\$2 with pass	<b>LIVE POLKA MUSIC:</b> Brave Combo from Texas
8p	Glab Post	Abbott Rd., Lackawanna	\$5.00	<b>LIVE POLKA MUSIC:</b> New Direction

## POST -DYNGUS DAY EVENT

DATE	TIME	VENUE	COST	ENTERTAINMENT & EVENTS
Sat, April 7	5p	St. Gregory The Great Amherst	\$25	<b>LIVE POLKA MUSIC:</b> Buffalo Touch
Sun., April 8	5p	Clinton Bar & Grill Cheektowaga	FREE	<b>LIVE POLKA MUSIC:</b> Special Delivery (5-8p)

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### April Polka Birthdays

Birthdays courtesy of John Nalevanko, host of Li'l John's Polka Show, WAVL Radio 910 AM and 98.7 FM, Saturday 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Live streaming at www.PA\_Talk.com. For information, write to: 121 Seminole Dr., Greensburg, PA 15601; (724) 834-7871; johnnalevanon@aol.com.

3	Chester Kowalczyk	1929	8-14-2012	Musician / Vocalist (Naturals)	Chicago
3	Rich Tomkowicz	1951		Musician / Vocalist	Pennsylvania
4	Paul Leonard	1942		Musician (Trumpet) Corsairs	Pennsylvania
4	Bob Kopanic	1943	11-17-16	Musician / Vocalist (Trumpet)	Pennsylvania
4	Mary Lou Czerniak	1951		Musician / Vocalist	Minnesota
4	Jackie (Kowalewski)	1963	10-12-96	Polka DJ. (Li'l John & Jackie)	Pennsylvania
	Nalevanko	1963	10-12-96	Polka DJ. (Li'l John & Jackie)	Pennsylvania
5	Charlie Hyatt			Musician / Vocalist	Connecticut
8	Al Dreas	1932		Bandleader / Vocalist	Connecticut
11	Johnny Dyno Dynowski	1932	2007	Bandleader / Musician / Vocalist	Connecticut
13	D.J. Wolfie	1945		Polka DJ.	New Jersey
13	Chester Jonczak	1956		Musician / Vocalist	Pennsylvania
14	Jack Zolnierowski	1958		Musician (Drummer)	Florida
14	Larry Trojak	1952		Musician / Vocalist (Original Dynatones)	Minnesota
16	Bobby Vinton	1935		The Polish Prince (Cannonsburg, Pa.)	Florida
17	Steve Meisner			Bandleader / Musician / Vocalist	Wisconsin
18	Jackie Libera	1955		Musician / Vocalist / I.J./ Maestro's Men	Massachusetts
20	Johnny Libera	1919	8-27-2008	Vocalist / Composer / D.J. / Promoter	Massachusetts
20	Walter Ostanek	1935		Bandleader / Musician / D.J.	Canada
20	Bill Czupta	1939	10-18-91	Musician / Vocalist / Composer / D.J.	Massachusetts
20	Darius Figiel	1967		Bandleader / Musician / Vocalist	New York
20	Cherie Trepacz			Polka I.J. Polka Jammer	New York
22	Billy Belina	1947		Musician / Vocalist / I.J. D.J.	Massachusetts
24	Johnny Simms	1918	6-5-82	Musician / Vocalist / D.J. / Promoter	Pennsylvania
	Seremet				
25	Johnny Hyzny	1930	2008	Musician / Vocalist / D.J. / Promoter	Chicago
25	Milton Brzozowski			Polka DJ.	Maryland
26	Walter Dana	1902	2-4-2000	Founder of Dana Records	New York
26	Syl Rutkowski	1934		Bandleader / Musician	Pennsylvania
27	George Almasi	1934	4-10-17	Former Polka DJ	Pennsylvania
29	Jan Cyman	1951	1-29-12	Bandleader / Musician / Vocalist	Florida
30	Chris Gawlak	1960		Musician / Vocalist	Buffalo, N.Y.
30	Maryann Raczkowski	1973		I. J. Polka Jammer	Wisconsin

## TKO Polka Band featuring Eddie Biegaj on vocals



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- Slovenia** - Ptuj, Ljubljana
- Austria** - Salzburg
- Bavaria in Germany** - Berchtesgaden, Oberammergau, Füssen, Rothenburg, Wurzburg, Bamberg, Nuremberg, Munich

Guest Musician - ? (announced soon)

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Extensions to other cities or a river or ocean cruise can also be arranged. Call or email for a details

Contact - Helga Leonard at "A Dream Trip 4 U"  
(724) 234-2033 helga@adreamtrip4u.com

Bookings **MUST** be made with "A Dream Trip 4 U" to be part of our group and attend polka activities

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June 1-3, 2018

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# Legion Hosts its 79th Red and White Ball



**POLISH PULCHRITUDE.** Standing (l.to r.): Katherine Koprowski, Gabriela Lukanus, 2017 Queen Lianne Wisneski, Katarzyna Baranek; Sitting (l.to r.): Francesca Rogozinski, Nicolette Tukiendorf, and Elizabeth Tancula.

by Geraldine Balut Coleman

CHICAGO — Over 400 guests in evening gowns and tuxedos filled the Grand Ballroom of the Hilton Chicago for one of the oldest and most prestigious formal charitable events in Chicago Polonia. The 79th annual White and Red Ball, *Bal Amarantowy*, and the presentation of debutantes, was hosted by the Legion of Young Polish Women (LYPW), March 3. This year, six debutantes were presented: Queen Nicolette Tukiendorf, First Runner-up Francesca Rogowski, and Second Runner-up Elizabeth Tancula, along with Katherine Koprowski, Gabriela Lukanus, and Katarzyna Baranek. Through the efforts of present and past debu-

tantes, their families and friends, the LYPW has been able to provide over 75 years of uninterrupted philanthropy.

The evening began with welcoming remarks by LYPW President **Barbara I. Ciepiela**, followed by **Kasia Napierala**, past debutante, singing the national anthems of Poland and the United States. The Most Reverend **Andrew P. Wypych**, Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago, gave an invocation. After dinner, **Cherilyn Smoron Denisiuk**, past debutante, introduced 12 Legion members and their partners dancing the traditional *Polonez*. **Kathy Lesny Evans**, chair of the 79th Ball, also a past debutante, introduced this year's master of ceremonies, **Hubert Cioromski**, a Chicago busi-

nessman and philanthropist, who has been a strong supporter of the LYPW. His mother, Grazyna, was an active Legion member as well as its president and Ball Chair. Hubert's wife, Lori, is also a member and a former Ball Chair.

Cioromski presented the 2018 debutantes to guests prior to the formal waltz with their fathers and escorts. Following the crowning of the queen, and runner-up announcements 12 past-debutantes and their partners performed the very lively *Bialy Mazur*.

The event's choreographer was **Richard Owsiany**, and the **Anthony Kawalkowski Orchestra** provided the evening's dance music. Proceeds from the Ball will be allocated to various charities.

*Wesołych Świąt Wielkanocnych!*  
*Happy Easter to All, from ...*



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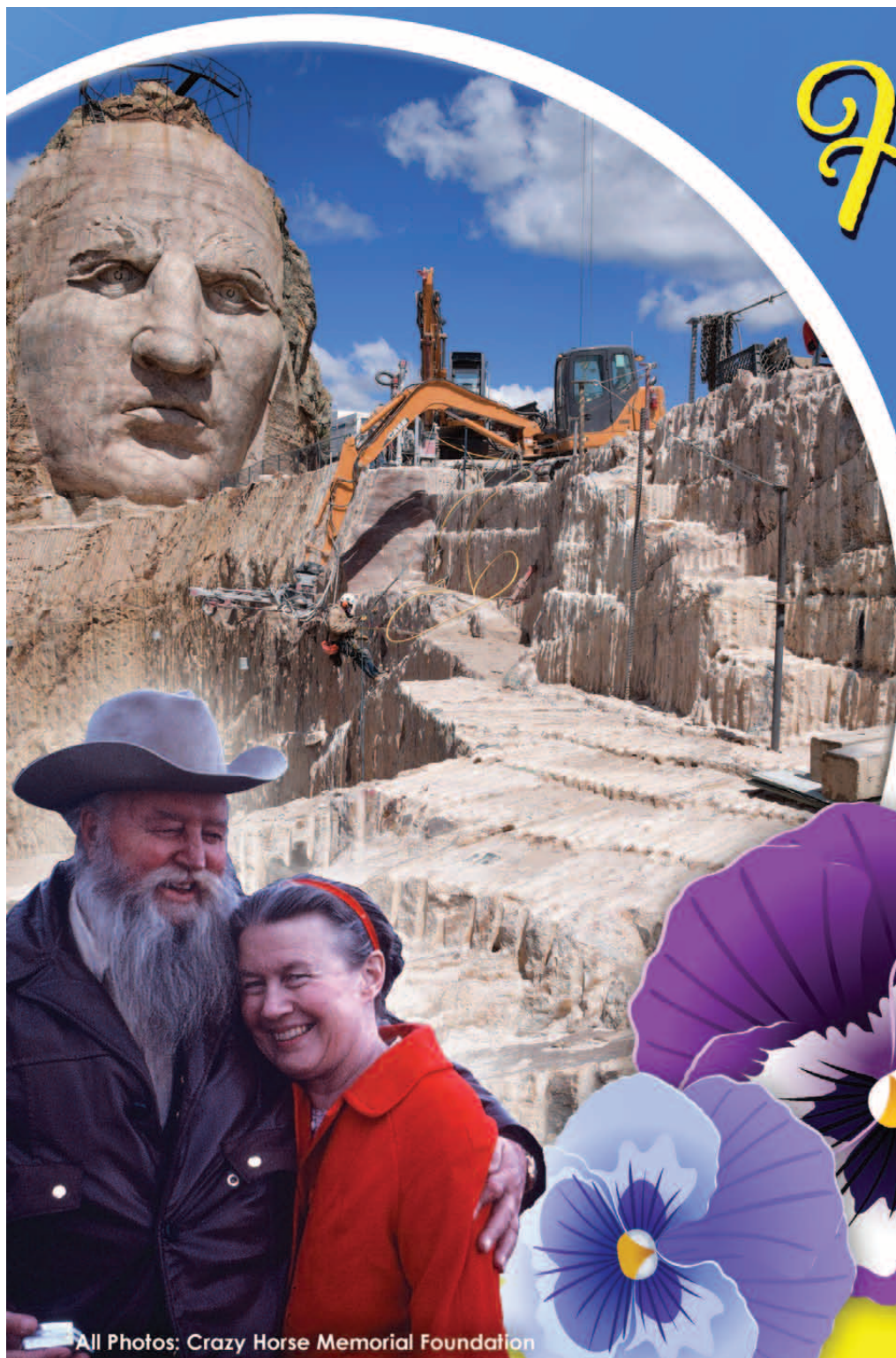
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*Wesołego Alleluja!*



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*Happy Easter*

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