

# POLISH AMERICAN JOURNAL

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DEDICATED TO THE PROMOTION AND CONTINUANCE OF POLISH AMERICAN CULTURE

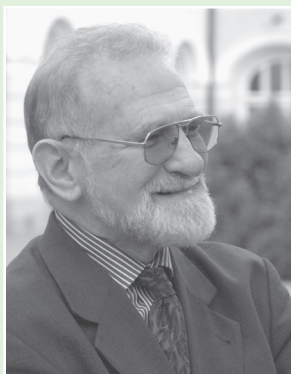
MARTHA STEWART VISITS POLAND • DIRTY POLITICS IN THE MOTOR CITY • SKALNY, PSFCU SCHOLARSHIPS  
A CALL TO IMPEACH SCHUMER • REMEMBERING THE SISTERS OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF NAZARETH  
POLAND THE BEAUTIFUL • POLISH KISSING, HUGGING AND HAND GESTURES • THE POLES AND THE POLES



Dancers Celebrate Sobotka—Page 9

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

## NEWSMARK



**GEREMEK KILLED IN ACCIDENT.** Bronislaw Geremek, 76, a key figure in the Solidarity trade union that helped topple communism, and went on to become Poland's foreign minister, was killed in a car accident July 13.

Geremek's car collided head-on with a van near the western Polish village of Miedzichowo, said a police spokeswoman.

The activist-turned-politician had been serving as a member of European Parliament since being elected in 2004. The soft-

spoken, urbane Geremek was highly respected in Poland as a scholar, statesman and key adviser in the Soviet bloc's first free trade union, Solidarity.

"Polish sciences and politics have lost a great man," Prime Minister Donald Tusk said in a statement.

European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso called Geremek "an exceptional European, a Pole with strong convictions."

**AMERICAN CIA AGENTS** told the *NEW YORK TIMES* that the most important CIA jails were located in Poland for about three years. The country was chosen as it had no cultural or religious links with Al Qaeda, which limited the risk of infiltration or attack from its supporters.

"What is even more important, Polish agents were willing to cooperate," said a CIA agent.

"This news does not surprise me, as this confirms what we were saying for a long time," said Tom Malinowski of Human Rights Watch.

He added that he did not understand why Polish authorities denied the truth, if it was going to be revealed sooner or later.

"Since President Bush admitted that such centers existed, there is no need to deny it. Until the authorities confirm it, we shall not know the truth," said the former head of the National Security Agency.

Poland's defense minister labeled the report as simple electioneering.

"I see it as an element of the election campaign in the United States," aimed at discrediting the Republican administration, Bogdan Klich told Poland's commercial Radio Zet.

The Polish minister was angered by a quote in the article attributed to former CIA official James L. Pavitt, described as an ex-director of the agency's clandestine service, which said "Poland is the 51st state" of the United States.

"It's unacceptable," Klich added. "The fact we're in tough negotiations with the Americans on the missile shield suggests we are an independent state," he said.

**KATYN INVESTIGATION RULING UPHELD.** A Russian court refused to consider a request for a criminal investigation into the execution of thousands of Polish army officers executed by the Soviet Union in a World War II massacre.

After blaming Nazi Germany for the Katyn massacre for decades, the Soviet Union admitted 18 years ago that its forces were responsible, but none of the culprits has ever been identified and investigations have been shelved.

The families of some of the victims are trying to use the Russian courts to force prosecutors to launch a new investigation into a massacre seen in Poland as a symbol of the repression the country suffered under Soviet domination.

In an earlier ruling, a court refused to hear the request. Lawyers for the relatives appealed but a higher court upheld the earlier ruling, said a lawyer for the relatives.

"The Moscow City Court left that decision unchanged," lawyer Anna Stavitskaya told Reuters. "We will apply now to the district military court ... We think there are all legal grounds to satisfy our request (for a new investigation). But it is hard to say what the court will decide."

Two days after the July 7 ruling, *RUSSIA TODAY* reported Poland's Institute of National Remembrance has lost the documents detailing the Katyn massacre. The papers were handed over to Warsaw by Moscow in early 1990s. The Itar-Tass news agency says the documents went missing two years ago, citing the head of the institute's research department, Dariusz Gabrel. It was then they were stored in the President's office, and it took some time to find out the documents were lost.

Gabrel had to explain the documents' embarrassing disappearance to the Polish Parliament.

## Tribute to Our Forefathers



**VICTORIA AND JOSEPH KMIEC** (above) and Stanley Smardz of Haverhill, Mass. were honored for their dedication to preserving Polish culture and heritage at "The Tribute to Our Forefathers," a charity event held at the Stopyra Post VFW—Lawrence to benefit the Poczetek Scholarship Fund. *Story on page 5.*

## Wałęsa: Hero, Informer or Victim of Circumstance?



A new book says Wałęsa (above) had been on the Communist payroll and had informed on his anti-communist coworkers at the Gdańsk shipyard.

by Robert Strybel  
*PAJ Warsaw Correspondent*

WARSAW—No stranger to controversy, Lech Wałęsa, the former shipyard electrician regarded by many as "the man who overthrew communism," is again at the center of a heated national debate. The allegation that he had been a communist secret police informer code-named Bolek in the 1970s has resurfaced time and again since 1992, when

See "Wałęsa ...," page 4

## St. Louis Archbishop Gets New Job in Rome

ST. LOUIS—Archbishop Raymond Burke has been appointed to lead the Vatican's supreme court, the Apostolic Signatura, the highest judicial authority of the Catholic Church. Burke is the first American to hold the position.

The new position means Burke will leave St. Louis after heading the archdiocese for more than four years marked by battles with St. Stanislaus Church.

Burke has held other positions on the Apostolic Signatura.

The College of Consultors—a seven-member board made up of archdiocesan priests—elected Bishop Robert Hermann to serve as the archdiocese's administrator until Pope Benedict names Burke's permanent successor.

Burke called the news of his departure "bittersweet."

Yet Burke's tenure in St. Louis has been marked by a number of controversies. The archbishop is considered one of the best canon lawyers in the world, and his governing style often betrayed both his legal acumen and his reliance on church law as a pastoral tool, said Tim Townsend of the St. Louis

See "Going to Rome," page 4

## "Spirit of Compassion" Exhibition Opens in Buffalo

*Herbert Hoover's Assistance to Poland Remembered*



Beneath Polish and American flags crossed over a photograph of Herbert Hoover, Polish orphans prepare to eat food provided by the American Relief Administration, which Hoover headed.

BUFFALO, N.Y.—"The Spirit of Compassion," a just-opened major exhibit at the Karpeles Manuscript Library Museum at 453 Porter Ave., illustrates Herbert Hoover's special relationship with the people of Poland.

Its primary focus is on the extraordinary humanitarian effort Hoover mounted to bring relief to the people of Poland in the wake of World War I. After more than a cen-

tury of occupation by its three autocratic neighbors and four years of having been a principal World War I battleground, the devastated country had just regained its independence.

The exhibit, originally curated by Dr. Zbigniew Stanczyk of the Hoover Institution at Stanford University, is open from 11.00 a.m. through 4.00 p.m. daily except on Mondays. It features many historic

See "Spirit of Compassion," page 4

## ALMANAC

## August • Sierpień

"Facing it, always facing it, that's the way to get through. Face it."  
—Joseph Conrad (1857-1924)

- 2 1899. Birth, in Warsaw, of Apollonia Chalupiec, silent screen star later known as **Pola Negri**. (d. 1987).  
1899. Birth of poet and novelist **Stanislaw Balinski**.
- 3 1941. Birthday of **Martha (Kostyra) Stewart**.  
1997. **Phil Niekro** inducted into Baseball Hall of Fame.  
1747. Founding of the **first public library** in Europe in Warsaw.  
1924. Death of Jozef Conrad Korzeniowski (**Joseph Conrad**), 66, British and Polish author.
- 5 1772. The **First Partition** of Poland by Prussia, Russia and Austria.
- 6 **FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION**
- 7 1944. Poles play import role in **Battle of Falaise**.
- 10 1881. Birth of **Leon Krzycki**, leader of early labor movements in the United States.
- 11 1882. Birth of **Wladyslaw Anders**, General of the Polish Army during World War II. He was commander of the Polish Forces in the Soviet Union and commanded the Second Corps in Italy. His greatest achievement was the successful leadership of the Polish forces that took Monte Cassino, Italy.
- 12 1866. Birth of **Gabriel Sovulew-ski**, who helped develop Yosemite National Park, where he is buried.
- 13 1838. Birth of **Fr. Dominic Kolasinski**, who builder of Polish churches in Detroit.
- 14 **ST. MAXIMILIAN KOLBE**
- 15 **ASSUMPTION**, also known as Matki Boskiej Zielnej, Feast of the Lady of the Herbs. This day is marked in Poland by a massive pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa. *Do Maryi Wniebowstapienia, miej w stodole polowę mienia.*  
*On the Ascension of Mary have in your barn half of your property (harvest).*
- 17 **ST. HYACINTH**  
1882. Birth of motion picture producer and pioneer **Samuel Goldwyn**, in Warsaw, Poland.
- 19 1587. **Zygmunt Waza** elected King of Poland.
- 20 1940. **Polish pilots** fight in the Battle of Britain.  
1847. Birth of **Boleslaw Prus** (Glowacki), journalist and novelist, who fought in Poland's 1863 Uprising.  
1980. **Czeslaw Milosz** receives Nobel Prize for Literature.  
1907. Birth of **Henry Archacki**, founder of the Polish American Historical Association.
- 22 1584. Death of Humanist poet Jan Kochanowski.
- 25 1905. Birth of **Sister Faustyna Kowalski**, Saint of Divine Mercy Canonized April 30, 2000.  
1919. Birth of **Matt Louis Urban** (d. 1995), in Buffalo, N.Y., the most decorated combat soldier of World War II. He was awarded a total of 29 decorations, virtually every combat medal possible, including seven Purple Hearts and the Congressional Medal of Honor.
- 26 **OUR LADY OF CZESTOCHOWA**
- 27 1764. **Stanislaus Augustus Poniatowski** named King of Poland.
- 30 1259. **Blessed Bronislawa**.
- 31 1980. Polish trade union **Solidarity**, led by electrician **Lech Walesa** and others, is founded in Baltic sea port of Gdansk, Poland.

This paper was mailed on or before **August 2, 2008**.  
The September edition of the paper will be mailed on or before **August 30, 2008**.

## JUST BETWEEN US / Mark Kohan

## With Sikorski at the Helm, Poland Matures

While the jury is still out on whether or not a U.S. missile base in Poland would be good for either country, one thing is for sure: Poland is maturing as a player in world politics.

The United States wants to place a defense base on Polish soil, saying the missiles will protect NATO allies from potential attacks from enemy states such as Iran, an Islamic nation under diplomatic pressure to end its nuclear program.

Poland, while eager to strengthen its ties with Washington, agrees, but not at the first offer thrown on the table.

Details of Poland's terms have not been made public. However, it is no secret that Poland is demanding billions of dollars worth of U.S. military aid, in part to deter a possible strike from Russia. Poland is well-aware Russia does not want a U.S. missile base near its border. Russia's neighbors know that, should Moscow become aggressive, they will be the first ones to bear the

wrath.

The Bush Administration, for all purposes, has taken advantage of Poland's willingness to associate itself with the United States. By global economic standards, it gave virtually nothing in return. Poland became one of Washington's pre-eminent allies in Iraq War, yet its citizens were denied visa waivers. Bush stonewalled the visa situation every time he was asked about it. This became embarrassing to Polish officials, who put its military on the line to help the United States but was not granted the same courtesies given to other countries, who told Bush to go fly a kite. The icing on the cake was the CIA's placement of terrorist detainee camps on Polish soil. Both countries officially deny the prisons ever existed, even though CIA agents told THE NEW YORK TIMES they did.

Poles are learning to play the game. This is due largely to Washington-savvy Polish Foreign Minister Radek Sikorski, who, unlike his

predecessors, is following a policy of *quid pro quo*. In short: if the United States wants Poland to stick its neck out, it better be prepared to pay for it.

## If the United States wants Poland to stick its neck out, it better be prepared to pay for it.

Talks are not yet over, but—at the time this is being written—are on hold. Sikorski made an eleventh hour visit to Washington to meet with U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice just before she departed for Prague to sign a missile system accord with the Czechs. Rice hoped to tell her travel team to plan a stop in Warsaw, but Sikorski, it appears, held his ground.

Suggesting an impasse, Rice told reporters "We are at a place where these negotiations need to come to a conclusion." She said there was little point in going to Warsaw un-

less the Poles were ready to move ahead.

While in Washington, Sikorski held talks with presidential hopeful John McCain, and called them "so cordial and precise that it surprised us."

He added that Barack Obama's skepticism about the shield is "widely known."

McCain's opinion strengthens the Polish stance in negotiations, Sikorski said, and serves as an important point in talks.

"It shows the possible future president and one of the main strategists of that country thinks Polish demands are sensible," he said

Even if McCain wins, Sikorski knows any deal reached with the Bush administration could be abandoned by the next administration. Still, he remains cautiously optimistic.

"There is a political risk involved," he said following his meeting with Rice, "which is part of our calculations."

## ANTI-DEFAMATION

## Dirty Politics in the Motor City

Members of the Polish community in Southeast Michigan are outraged by ethnic insults and age discrimination made against Wayne County Treasurer Raymond Wojtowicz by one of his opponents.

In an e-mail distribution to hundreds of people, Lily Cavanagh—on behalf of the campaign of her husband Phillip Cavanagh for County Treasurer—offers reasons as to why citizens should support her husband for Treasurer by using age discrimination and ethnic bigotry as examples.

"The reader is told that Mr. Wojtowicz should be voted out of office because he is old enough to be eligible for Social Security," said Thaddeus Radzilowski, Ph.D, president of The Piast Institute, which demanded Cavanaugh apologize to Detroit's Polonia.

"The e-mail states that Mr. Cavanaugh is also the superior candidate because he has a name that voters can spell and pronounce. This is an offensive, bigoted attack on Mr. Wojtowicz as a respected citizen of Polish descent and everyone of any ethnic origin should be outraged," said Radzilowski

Cavanagh issued a press release in response to the complaint, but it

was less than sincere.

"The few words in your long reply that might be construed as an apology ('If members of the Piast Institute, or anyone else was offended by the commnet (sic)...then I apologize.') were grudging and perfunctory. It is the Polish American community not the Piast Institute that deserves an apology. Moreover, your communication was full of errors and misspellings, itself a mark of disrespect. In short, your reply was without honor or graciousness," said Radzilowski in an open letter to Cavanaugh. "Most of your response was thus irrelevant to our real concern."

There are 168,000 citizens of Polish ancestry in Wayne County. It is the third largest ethnic/ancestry group in the county. The Piast Institute is asking for an inquiry by the Board of Elections. It also asks for an investigation of the legality of electioneering to county employees during working hours on their official computers.

"Mrs. Cavanagh, on behalf of her husband, has put forth the notion that citizens of Polish origin are disqualified from holding office because we have 'foreign' names or ones that may be difficult to pronounce

or spell," said Radzilowski. "Perhaps the Cavanaghs need a history lesson; this country is comprised of Americans who came to this land from all over the world seeking a better life. All names of Americans are 'American' names. The e-mail is un-American and bigoted. This message, heard only a few generations ago in Wayne County from the Ku Klux Klan, has resurfaced again in an ugly way by a man seeking high public office."

Members of the Polish community want to remind our fellow citizens that it is hardly fitting that a person like Mr. Cavanagh, who is seeking a major public office that serves all of the people of Wayne County, should engage in such blatantly discriminatory campaigning and brazenly imply that a significant percentage of the people of Wayne County because of their origin are second-class citizens, unworthy of public office.

"This attempt to appeal to ugly un-American prejudice is unacceptable."

Radzilowski has called on Cavanaugh to make a sincere public apology and "promise not to dishonor our public discourse with such bigotry in the future."

## Kozlowski is Miss Mississippi



## POLISH-LATINA WINS THE MAGNOLIA STATE.

Christine Kozlowski's goal in the Miss Mississippi pageant was to make the top 10. To her surprise, the 19-year-old daughter of Brian and Norma Kozlowski of D'Iberville, Miss. became the youngest winner of the pageant this century, and is on her way to prepare for the Miss America Pageant.

She said she is proud of her Hispanic and Polish roots.

"It's part of my heritage," she said. "It's part of me."

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## ACPC Affiliate Produces Poles at Jamestown Bookmarks

by Jo Louise Winters

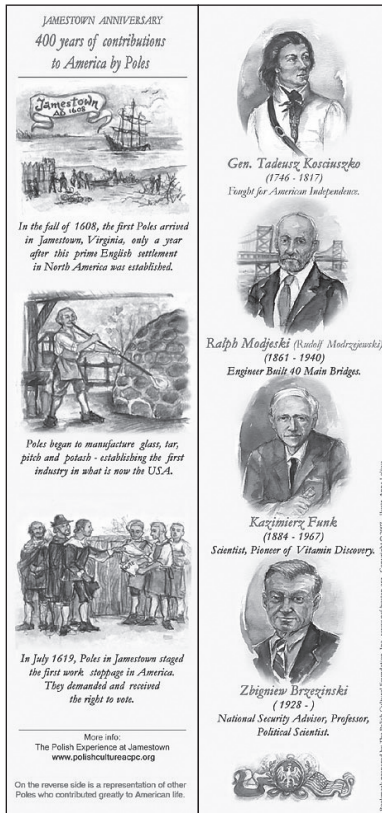
At the suggestion of the American Council for Polish Culture (ACPC), Dr. Andrzej Pronczuk, president of the Polish Cultural Foundation, Inc. of Boston, an affiliate of the ACPC, has designed and produced bookmarks in Polish and English commemorating the 400th Anniversary of the first Poles arriving in America at the Jamestown Settlement in Virginia. Under Dr. Pronczuk's leadership the Foundation has been highly successful in producing and distributing thousands of bookmarks relating to Poland and Polish people over the past 15 years.

These plasticized colorful bookmarks present not only basic information about the arrival and activities of the first Poles at Jamestown, but also stress the facts that Poles have provided significant contributions to America for 400 years. Now as Polonians throughout the United States are preparing local events to celebrate this 400th anniversary and/or joining the ACPC at its 60th Annual Convention (Aug. 6-10) in Williamsburg, Virg. or the Polish American Congress at Jamestown (Commemoration on Oct. 1) these bookmarks are especially relevant.

The bookmarks are an attractive and durable tool that can be used to

promote the Jamestown anniversary and the contributions of Poles to America. Since knowledge about the Polish contributions to American life among Americans and even among Polonians is limited, it is important that all Polonia organizations and individuals join in the efforts to share that knowledge. It is hoped that you will see that distributing this bookmark among your members, friends and schoolchildren can be a useful and far-reaching effort towards achieving that goal. These markers are available in either Polish or English language.

While costs for most products in the United States have been rising steeply, Dr. Pronczuk has managed judiciously to cut in half the cost of producing these wonderful bookmarks, which teachers and schoolchildren in particular find fascinating. To cover the costs of production and further increase distribution, the Polish Cultural Foundation offers these bookmarks at twenty-five cents each. It is even happy to provide "bonus" bookmarks (10% extra) for orders of 100 or more. Please add \$5 for postage, indicate Polish (limited supply remaining!) or English version, and make your check payable to the Polish Cultural Foundation, Inc. with the notation



### The face and reverse sides of the English-language Jamestown bookmark.

"Jamestown Bookmark" and mail to: Dr. Andrzej Pronczuk, President, Polish Cultural Foundation, Inc., 15 Marshall Rd., Milton, MA 02186.

If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Pronczuk (after 6:00 p.m.) at (617) 696-9009 or e-mail [andrzejpronczuk@aol.com](mailto:andrzejpronczuk@aol.com).

## Works to Help Prevent Substance Abuse

Miss Poland International 2008, Anita Brzeski, a dual U.S.-Poland citizen and a double-major in college, is using her position to educate young people about the risks and consequences of drug abuse.

Brzeski is majoring in psychology and communication at the University of Colorado at Boulder. She is using the knowledge from both of her majors to teach young people about the health and social impact of substance abuse. Her goal is to help young people make healthy and constructive life choices by providing them with the best available, science-based information on this critically important issue.

Brzeski also has a special insight into this issue due to some personal experiences she and her parents have had with a loved one. She has worked in a lab on treatments for opiate addiction and now is working with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration in order to accomplish her objectives of raising awareness about substance abuse as public health issue. Brzeski feels that she has the means to make an impact.



Brzeski provides an excellent example of what people from all walks of life can do to spread awareness about substance abuse prevention, treatment and recovery in their communities.

### SPEAK UP / Letters to the Editor

## A Call to Impeach Schumer

Dear Editor,

This is an open letter to all Polish American voters in the state of New York to start the impeachment proceedings of New York State Senator Charles Schumer.

Dear friends,

I am asking you to read Mr. Schumer's op-ed editorial for the WALL STREET JOURNAL published on June 3rd this year. In this article the senator from New York proposes to give Russia "complete hegemony" over Eastern Europe. He also proposes to recognize "Russia's traditional role in the region," the Caspian Sea region.

I am sure many of you know what appeasement is and how dangerous it may be. I am also sure that after reading this article many of you will ask yourself whose interests Mr. Schumer represents on the Senate floor because it can't be yours. Our roots are still in Eastern Europe and our families still live there, but Mr. Schumer wants to give this part of the world to Russia on a silver platter in exchange for Moscow's cooperation on Iranian boycott.

Krzysztof Trelski  
[polishvote.blogspot.com](http://polishvote.blogspot.com)

The link to the editorial can be found at <http://polishvote.blogspot.com/>

**FESTIVAL A SUCCESS.** We would like to thank everyone who attended the 2008 Polish Heritage Festival! It was because of your support that we broke the Guinness world record

### QUOTES / compiled from news sources

## The Dark Side of Detroit

- "The Moron Defense League"
- "Smart Americans abridge their names to make it (sic) easier to pronounce"
- "This group is a navel gazing bunch of jerks"
- "Go stuff Your face with pierogies (sic)"
- "Polish American think tank? Enough said right there"

—Comments posted about the Detroit's Piast Institute and Polish Americans on the website of the DETROIT FREE PRESS after the paper printed the Institute's press release demanding an apology from Lily Cavanaugh, who in an e-mail mocked the surname of Wayne County Treasurer Raymond Wojtowicz. (See "Just Between Us"). Cavanaugh's husband is challenging Wojtowicz in this year's election.

### A Not-so-Fond Adieu

- "Thank God and TWA he is gone. Too bad the people of LaCrosse [Wisc.] Diocese are still paying for a shrine and his mistakes. Good bless Pope Benedict."
- "Best wishes to Ray Burke. You have the ability to lead a church, too bad you have abused your powers with money being your God."
- "Good riddance!"
- "What a nasty old man he is! He's like a poster boy for everything that is loathsome and repugnant about the church. It was like having an Archbishop from the 14th century hit a time warp and show up on the scene here. I hope he is never inflicted upon another diocese anywhere."

—Comments from readers of the ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH following the paper's website story the departure of Archbishop Raymond Burke, who is leaving the St. Louis Diocese to head the Vatican's Apostolic Signatura.



"If the next bishop is a shepherd not a lawyer, if he is a father figure, not an executioner, I see a lot of

room to maneuver and find a solution."

—St. Stan's Fr. Marek Bozek.

### We Wonder What the State Duma Thinks ...

"If this American Congress comes out with a statement supporting a certain position of part of the Polish population ... [by] this part I mean Jewish population in this case ... I think it has an effect. ... There's a legitimate claim by the Polish citizens ... when all their property was taken away not rightly and they may have a claim, a legitimate and moral claim."

—Retired Vice Chair of the World Jewish Restitution Organization Naphtalie Lawie, who thinks a resolution by the U.S. Congress will influence Poland to pass legislation to award compensation for private property lost during and after World War II.

### Still Friends

"We didn't conclude them in time for the beginning of the Secretary's travel. That doesn't mean we're not going to keep working on them ... Poland's a good friend and ally. That was true yesterday, it's true today, it's going to be true six months, and a year from now."

—U.S. State Department Spokesman Sean McCormack, after the closed-door talks between with U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and Polish Foreign Minister Radek Sikorski about the proposed U.S. missile defense site in Poland. Rice hoped to stop in Warsaw following her departure from Prague, where she signed an agreement with Czech officials about the program.

### Cześć Twojej Pamięci

"He told me several times that everything he's doing over there [in Afghanistan], it's his job, and he was trying to do it in the best way. He was proud of what he was doing, and I was proud too."

—Dorota Pietrek, mother of

Pfc. Dawid Pietrek, 24, a Polish immigrant living in Bensenville, Ill., one of four U.S. Marines killed by a roadside bomb June 14 in Afghanistan's Farah province.

### Ahead of his Time

"No matter what you decide to do, take this idea with you: if you go to college, follow what fascinates you. If you live homeless on the streets of Buffalo, follow what fascinates you. If you become—as my dad always says—a butcher, a baker, or a candlestick maker, this realization applies. It is a gift available to all who pursue it ... Class of 2008, this is my statement: follow what fascinates you, and pursue it with every ounce of energy in your body. It is up to us to actualize our potential, and caring for what we do and working tirelessly is what will allow this."

—From the graduation speech of Hamburg, N.Y. High School 2008 valedictorian, David Machajewski.

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## Going to Rome

continued from cover

POST-DISPATCH.

In 2004, just after being installed as St. Louis archbishop, Burke said he would deny Holy Communion to Sen. John Kerry, then the presumptive Democratic nominee. Critics charged Burke—an ardent abortion rights foe—with playing politics.

But last year, Burke proved party-agnostic when he said he also would deny Communion to Republican presidential candidate Rudy Giuliani.

Perhaps the most polarizing decision Burke made in St. Louis was to pursue a battle with the parishioners of St. Stanislaus Kostka, the Polish church just north of downtown St. Louis.

For more than a century, St. Stanislaus' lay corporation has controlled its finances. Burke has worked to persuade St. Stanislaus parishioners to conform to the same legal and financial structure as every other parish in the archdiocese. Burke removed St. Stanislaus' pastor in summer 2004 after the lay board had taken away the priest's access to church coffers.

In late 2005, after the church hired a replacement priest themselves, Burke declared excommunicated the six members of the lay



**Archbishop Raymond Burke, 59, has led the charge to discipline Catholic politicians who stray from church teaching.**

**"The appointment should make pro-choice Catholic politicians very nervous," warned the Rev. Thomas Reese, a senior fellow at the Woodstock Theological Center at Georgetown University.**

board and the priest they hired. The board has since dissolved itself, and one of the original excommunicated members reconciled with Burke.

Comments about Burke's departure range from congratulations to sarcastic insults. (See "Quotes," page 3).

## Spirit of Compassion

continued from cover

photographs, documents in facsimile, posters and a number of maps. It is scheduled to remain open through September 30, 2008

It reveals aspects of Hoover's character and achievements, eclipsed in the popular narrative by the later linking of his presidency with the Great Depression. It documents the massive scale of the relief effort mounted in Poland by the American Relief Administration Hoover headed, an effort that, in the period between 1919 and 1922, provided a daily meal to over 1.3 million children, and provided each of them with a winter coat and a pair of shoes. And, in 1919, it also involved organizing medical help to stem a typhus epidemic that began to ravage the country.

While still a student, Hoover had met the great concert pianist, composer, and fervent Polish patriot Ignacy Paderewski. An enduring friendship developed between the two men. It gained an additional dimension when, in 1919, Paderewski became, with Hoover's backing, the nascent Poland's first Prime Minister.

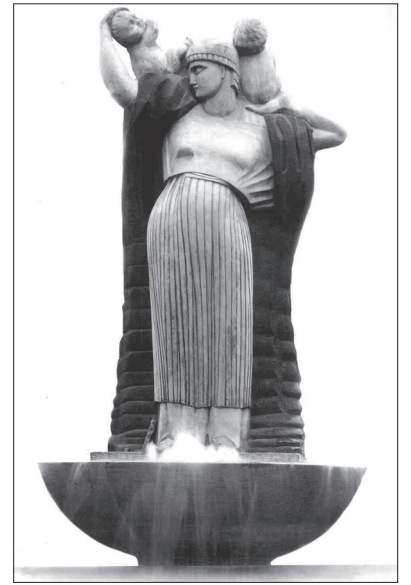
There were many expressions of thanks for the help Poland received, among them a Monument of Grati-

tude to the United States erected in the center of Warsaw on Hoover Square. It featured a fountain in the middle of which, as shown on one of the exhibit's historic photographs, stood two women back to back, representing the U.S. and Poland, respectively, each holding infants on her shoulders. The exhibit's historic photographs also show Warsaw's huge annual celebrations of America's Independence Day, July 4th which, in his honor, was referred to as "Hoover Day."

Come World War II, Hoover resumed his humanitarian efforts on behalf of the starving children of Poland, both during the early years of World War II, while American neutrality made this feasible, and in the war's wake.

First shown at the Royal Castle in Warsaw, the exhibit toured four other major Polish cities: Poznan, Lodz, Krakow and Katowice. It was also shown in New York City and Philadelphia before coming to Buffalo, where it was brought by the action of the Western New York Division of the Polish American Congress with the support of several other Polonian organizations.

The Buffalo showing of the exhibit is being curated by Peter K. Gessner with the help of Michael



**THE MONUMENT OF GRATITUDE to the United States erected in 1922 on Hoover Square in the center of Warsaw. It featured a fountain in the center of which two women—representing the U.S. and Poland respectively—stood back to back, holding infants on their shoulders in a gesture interpreted as protective. Over 100,000 witnessed the unveiling. The monument did not survive the World War II destruction of Warsaw.**

Zachowicz, Vice-President of the WNY Division of the Polish American Congress.

## Wałęsa: Hero, Informer or Victim of Circumstance?

continued from cover

when the then President led a parliamentary coup that toppled the government of Jan Olszewski.

When the right-wing government threw open secret-police files showing that the current president and other leading politicians had collaborated with the regime's security apparatus, Wałęsa rallied a group of top parliamentarians to vote Olszewski and his cabinet out of office. Among the backers of the plan was future president Aleksander

Kwaśniewski and today's Prime Minister Donald Tusk. The latest round of the ongoing controversy erupted with the publication of "The Security Service and Lech Wałęsa" ("SB a Lech Wałęsa"), a book by two historians attached to the National Remembrance Institute which investigates communist crimes.

On the basis of surviving secret-police files, its authors Sławomir Cenckiewicz and Piotr Gontarczyk contend that in the years 1970-1972 Wałęsa had been on the regime's



**Anna Walentynowicz**

payroll and had informed on his anti-communist coworkers at the Gdańsk shipyard. Józef Szyler, a shipyard worker at that time, said on Polish TV recently: "Wałęsa was the only person I had told of a plan to create a workers' action group at the shipyard. How else could the secret police have got wind of it and thwarted the move if he didn't inform them about it?"

Among Wałęsa's severest critics have been crane-operator Anna Walentynowicz, whose dismissal in 1980 had triggered the Gdańsk Shipyard strike, and engineer Andrzej Gwiazda, initially Solidarity's second in command. Through its infiltrators, the regime constantly dropped suggestions that they should have been Solidarity's main leaders and planted evidence that Wałęsa was a secret-police stooge.

After toppling the commie-busting Olszewski cabinet, President Wałęsa requested and received the Bolek file from the state archives but later returned it with the incriminating pages missing, the book's authors contend. But they managed to track down other documents purporting to show that for a time Wałęsa had been an informer and signed receipts for the payments he received in exchange.

Even before the book appeared, a group of journalists and intellectuals condemned it as a "smear campaign" against Wałęsa and the entire Solidarity movement. In response, a group of conservative activists countered that there should be no "sacred cows" and all the facts should be brought before the public. Despite Wałęsa's denials and a court ruling eight years ago that he had never been a communist agent, President Lech Kaczyński repeated the al-

legation in a TV interview. Wałęsa then said the president should be impeached. He has also threatened to sue Polish TV for screening a documentary portraying him as a collaborator.

Probably Wałęsa's biggest mistake has been his overly nervous reaction to the allegations, including his ouster of the Olszewski government, suppression of evidence and attempts at stonewalling. Only under the greatest pressure did he admit that he had indeed signed some papers but has tried to downplay their importance. People called in for questioning by the communist secret police were routinely required to pledge not to reveal what went on during the interrogation. They also had to sign for the return of their belts, shoelaces and personal belonging when leaving custody.

According to the Polish American historian Dr John Radziłowski, "it is likely that Wałęsa was an informer at some point during the 1970s ... The 'Free Trade Unions of the Coast Region,' which was the genesis of Solidarity in the shipyards, was a creation of the security services. It is a common tactic in totalitarian societies for the secret police to create its own opposition groups. What happened in 1980 is that due to a unique combination of factors, the authorities lost control of their own creation ... Poland needs people who will tell the truth, not more lies, and we do Poland no favors by joining the chorus of those who want to suppress evidence and silence unpopular opinions."

**AMONG THE DOCUMENTS** surfacing recently was an SB (security service) report from the mid-1970s describing Wałęsa as uncooperative and virtually useless as an informer. That suggests that SB agents had pinned their hopes on the young shipyard electrician who may have simply led them on without providing any valuable information. But even if at one stage he did play ball with the regime's police apparatus, that in no way detracts from his later achievements. Partly by being in the right place at the right time and partly thanks to his natural political instinct, Wałęsa took command of the 1980 shipyard strike that led to

the creation of the Soviet bloc's first and only independent trade union. Although it was suppressed the following year under martial law, during which Wałęsa spent a year in forced isolation, simmering opposition to the regime ultimately led to its peaceful overthrow at the polls in 1989.

Norman Davies, a British historian specializing in Polish and East European affairs, said the book was damaging to Poland's international image and he himself would never have considered tackling such a sensitive subject this early. "In Britain secret state documents remain under wraps for 50 to 100 years ... The row over Wałęsa's past is very harmful not so much to the former president, because it diminishes the prestige Solidarity and its victory round the globe," Davies explained. But Prof. Andrzej Nowak disagrees: "This book brings us closer to the truth, even though the materials it contains are incomplete. Over a dozen items are missing, because they were illegally removed by Wałęsa in the early 1990s and not returned."

The world-renowned composer Krzysztof Penderecki put it this way: "Lech Wałęsa can be forgiven for his indiscretion in view of his later accomplishments. His biggest mistake was to deny it and try to destroy the evidence." That seems to be the majority view. In a recent survey, 60 percent of Poles said that Wałęsa should be forgiven even if the accusations are true, considering all he has done for Poland.

Wałęsa became Poland's first Nobel Peace Prize laureate in 1983 and its first democratically elected president in 1990. He has been showered with high-ranking decorations, honorary degrees and other awards by foreign statesmen and universities and has lectured extensively around the globe. Since the death of Pope John Paul II, Wałęsa has remained the world's single most recognizable Pole, and most educated foreigners are now even able to correctly pronounce his surname: "Vawensa". More importantly, he has already achieved a permanent place among the world's most prominent 20th-century figures, and that is something no moment of weakness or youthful indiscretion can change.

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## Pillars of the Polish Community Honored

HAVERTHILL, Mass.—Polonia in Massachusetts' Merrimack Valley has been hard hit with the closings of Polish parishes in the area, particularly in Haverhill and Lawrence.

Victoria and Joseph Kmiec and Stanley Smardz of Haverhill were honored for their dedication to preserving Polish culture and heritage at "The Tribute to Our Forefathers," a charity event held at the Stopyra Post VFW—Lawrence to benefit the Początek Scholarship Fund.

Mr. & Mrs. Kmiec have long been influential in the city's Polish community. They instilled the importance of Polish heritage and identity first at home with their family. Unbeknownst to them it would peak the interest and pride in their children and expand beyond the homestead, leading to the formation of "The Lubliniacy Polish Song and Dance Ensemble," which became a family initiative. Mrs. Kmiec handled the costumes and rehearsal details and Mr. Kmiec handled the props and staging details, while son Stas directed the group and siblings John, Krysia and Danusia assisted and were members.

The group had presented performances and numerous festivities such as Dozynki and Zapusty-Ostatki-Karnawal dances and Jaselka presentations in the surrounding areas and continues by presenting educational programs and exhibits.

During the many years that followed Mr. & Mrs. Kmiec frequently put together cultural displays

and presentations at libraries and schools.

With the closing of St. Michael's Church, the community lost its cultural base. The Kmiec's worked to continue culture, to some degree at All Saints Church—with the Swieconka blessing of the Easter baskets, representing Wigilia, and also with the flying of the Polish flag at City Hall on May 3rd.

The group received numerous awards and honors of recognition, including the prestigious Oskar Kolberg Award which was bestowed upon the Kmiec Family by Poland's Ministry of Culture in 1989 for their promotion of Polish Culture Abroad.

Stanley Smardz was honored for his lifetime achievement to Polish musical culture by Janet Kolodziej. For years, Smardz directed the Choir at St. Michael's, which appeared at musical conventions, on television, and recorded a record album. The choir continues to this day representing Polonia in a smaller capacity at the combined parish of All Saints Church.

The organizer of the event, Joseph Czarnecki of Atkinson, N.H., said the awards were presented by third-generation Polish Americans: Yolanda (Bogacz) Thomas of Haverhill, Jowita (Borowiecki) Klein of Atkinson and Sharon Fankidejski of Methuen as a tribute to those who inspired their lives and appreciation of their heritage.

## NEWSWIRE

### 1943 DEATH UNDER REVIEW.

General Wladyslaw Sikorski, the Prime Minister of the Polish government in exile, died on July 4, 1943 when his plane crashed into the Straits of Gibraltar en route from North Africa to London. With him were his daughter, his Chief of Staff and seven others. No investigation was conducted, neither when he died nor when his remains were transferred to Wawel Cathedral in Krakow in 1993.

Now President Lech Kaczynski thinks that an exhumation of Sikorski's remains would provide a required explanation, and a similar declaration from the Prime Minister's Office followed. The idea of exhuming Sikorski's body is supported by historian professor Wojciech Roszkowski, who considers that it gives us a chance to at least double check certain circumstances which are unclear: "There are various hypotheses about the death of General Sikorski and the British authorities are not willing to help to explain those circumstances, not allowing Polish authorities to explore British archives. I think that the exhumation of general Sikorski's remains will give us a chance to at least find out some aspect of the accident."

Bearing in mind the many theories published about General Sikorski's

death, an exhumation and a medical examination would help solve the issue once and for all.

### THE EQUIVALENT OF \$230,000

USD disappeared from the bank account of former president and Solidarity leader, **Lech Walesa**.

The money was taken from a bank account at the Millennium Bank branch in Walesa's home town of Gdansk, northern Poland.

Walesa was just one of many customers at the bank to have their savings stolen, though the Nobel Peace Prize winner's was the largest amount to disappear. The bank has refunded the lost amount in accordance with its insurance policy.

The police have launched an investigation into the incident.

**PONGLISH?** Polish youth in Great Britain and Ireland have developed a new hybrid language, "Ponglish," writes London's THE DAILY TELEGRAPH.

The British have noticed that a million or so people in their country speak in a dialect combining Polish and English words. The Telegraph says Ponglish is particularly trendy among young Poles, while a bit confusing for elderly people.

A young Ponglish speaker would say "taksy" instead of "taxes" or "podatki." A new word—"drinkowac" (dreen-koh-vahch)—

means "to have a drink," or perhaps two. Some elements of Ponglish have also been transferred to Poland, where everybody knows such words like "szopink" (shopping) or "tiszert" (T-shirt), writes the newspaper.

**ZOFIA DRZEWIECKA** from Bransk, northeastern Poland, has been awarded the Righteous among the Nations medal.

Another four medals were awarded posthumously to her family, her parents, Wacława and Paweł Sobolewski and two brothers, Antoni and Aleksander.

The Sobolewski family harbored two Jews after the liquidation of the Bransk ghetto in 1942.

The Poles saved 200 out of the 2000 Jews living in the ghetto and the town's inhabitants have received 14 medals.

The Righteous among the Nations is the highest civil Israeli recognition awarded to non-Jewish Holocaust rescuers.

By January 2008, 22,211 men and women from 44 countries have been recognized as Righteous among the Nations. Poland ranks first among them, with an impressive 6,066 number of medals received. Poland was the only country during World War II where people harboring and helping Jews were immediately executed.

## NPR Promotes Kosciuszko Memorial

WASHINGTON, D.C.—National Public Radio's program ALL THINGS CONSIDERED featured America's smallest National Park, the Thaddeus Kosciuszko National Memorial in Philadelphia.

The displays are interesting, Robert Smith told the listeners. The museum is small enough not to be-

come boring, and the Park Ranger on duty has plenty of time to explain the history and significance of the material. The brochures are in both Polish and English, but dated as to content and translation. Smith's report also noted that the home is scheduled to be renovated later this year.

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In 1971, a voluntary fund-raising campaign was launched by a group of loyal readers of the Polish American Journal entitled "We Love the PAJ Press Fund" in order to help cover rising postage, material and production costs.

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## Lawsuits Threaten Catholic Charity Works

**Chicago Auxiliary Bishop Thomas J. Paprocki** has called for some balance between providing adequate compensation to plaintiffs in cases of wrongdoing and "preserving charitable viability" for the church. The legal pendulum has swung from complete protection of charitable immunity to complete exposure of charitable liability, leading to bankruptcy in some cases. These cases now extend beyond the well publicized sexual abuse settlements to include all sorts of cases where the church and its agencies perform the corporal works of mercy. Such lawsuits don't punish the responsible parties as much as they punish "the church's charitable and social outreach," he explained. Such practices, he went on to say, "are a requirement of preaching the Gospel in order to carry out the church's mission."

### EARLY POLISH SETTLERS IN WILNO AND SARNIA, ONTARIO.

Early Polish settlers to the rural area of Paugh Lake northeast of Toronto had no church and so they erected wayside crosses at which they would gather for prayer and devotions around the Hamlet of Wilno. Of the 20 crosses, only six original ones and two modern ones remain. The most recent was erected by **Fr. Wilowski** in 1933 atop Shrine Hill. The Wilno area is the oldest Polish settlement in Canada, whose immigrant settlers in 1859 came from the Kashubian region of Poland. The area remains a favourite vacation spot for Polish-Canadians and Polish-Americans. The area retains a distinctively Kashubian flavor.

**Stan Niemiec** and some 40 other post-World War II Polish immigrants to Sarnia, Ontario, established a Polish parish, Queen of Peace, 50 years ago. They also started the local Catholic Women's League. Niemiec and his fellow parishioners actually carted the stones to build the church rectory. Many of the church's founders were among those Poles who survived the Russian deportation to Siberia and Kazakhstan after Russia invaded Poland and occupied its eastern regions in 1939. **Bishop Ronald Fabbro** of the London Diocese values the history of the ordeal of the parish founders

and **Helen Szober**, Niemiec's sister, declared "Their love for Poland and the church, that's what kept them going."

### NEW GUIDE TO THE ROSARY.

**Fr. Chester Wrzaszczak** has written more than ten books, the most recent being his *Rosary Reflections*, a 96-page presentation of the mysteries of the rosary with historical, traditional and biblical insights. The book includes the Mysteries of Light introduced by **Pope John Paul II**. The book, \$9.95 + shipping and handling, can be ordered at 1-888-273-7782 (toll free) or 408-286-8505; or at www.rpinet.com, campaign code RR04.

### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO...

**Fr. Krzysztof Mendelewski** on the 25th anniversary of his ordination. A native of Częstochowa, Poland, Fr. Mendelewski served in St. Anthony's PNC Church in Rokitno Szlacheckie. He currently is pastor of St. Valentine's PNC Church in Philadelphia, Pa.

Detroit Archdiocese priests celebrating: 66 years of priesthood, **Fr. Ralph Kowalski**, former pastor of Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish, Grosse Pointe Woods; 65 years, **Fr. Jerome A. Herman**, former pastor of Corpus Christ Parish, Detroit; 63 years, **Fr. Joseph A. Janiga**, former pastor of St. Helena Parish, Wyandotte; **Fr. Edward F. Konopka**, former pastor of St. Alan Parish, Troy; 60 years, **Fr. Fabian B. Slominski**, former pastor of St. Cletus Parish and chaplain at St. John-Macomb Health Center, Warren; 50 years, **Fr. John Gagala**, of Kraków, Poland, a member of the Metropolitan Tribunal and former administrator of St. Beatrice Parish, Southfield; 40 years, **Fr. Arthur R. Baranowski**, founding pastor of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, Troy and current pastor of St. Christopher Parish, Marysville; 25 years, **Fr. Zbigniew Grankowski**, a native of Warsaw, Poland, pastor of St. Cunegunda Parish, Detroit; **Fr. Stanley L. Pachla**, pastor of St. Veronica Parish, Eastpointe; **Fr. Joseph A. Plawecki**, pastor of St. Augustine Parish, Richmond; **Fr. Robert J. Wojciechowski**, pastor of St. Hedwig Parish, Detroit.

**Fr. Edmund C. Wesolowski**

celebrating his 60th anniversary of priestly service in the RC Archdiocese of Philadelphia. He had been on the faculty at St. James Catholic HS and Cardinal O' Hara School, Springfield; principal of Archbishop Ryan Girls HS, pastor of St. Albert the Great, Huntingdon Valley, and chaplain to Archbishop Prendergast HS, Drexel Hill.

**V. Rev. Francis J. Karwacki, VF**, on his 25th anniversary of ordination. He serves the RC Diocese of Harrisburg at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish in Mount Carmel, Pa.

**STO LATTO...** This year's 27 graduates of the John Paul II Institute for Studies on Marriage and Family in Washington, D.C. **Fr. Steven Boguslawski, O.P.**, president of the Dominican House of Studies, celebrated the Mass for the graduates at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. This is the 20th anniversary of the Institute, located at the Catholic University of America. To date, 339 have graduated at the Institute.

**Fr. Daniel Bogusz**, chaplain to Highlands Hospital, Connellsville, Penn. And the Ivrea Sisters in Mt. Pleasant; **Fr. Canon Joseph L. Sredzinski**, National Chaplain to the Polish Falcons and Chaplain at St. Emma Monastery, SCI Greensburg, and the Westmoreland Manor, on their recognition at the Greensburg, Pa. 76th annual Polish Day with the "Polonian of the Year" award. Fr. Bogusz has a weekly radio program "Echoes of Poland" on WEDO-810 AM and Fr. Sredzinski has a weekly program "That You May Believe" on WMBS-590 AM in Uniontown, Pa.

**Fr. Martin J. Ivanovich**, born in Bartoszyce, Poland to Zbigniew and Bożena Iwanowicz, on his ordination for the archdiocese of Philadelphia. His first Mass was offered at his home parish, St. Josaphat Church in Philadelphia.

**Rev. Ronald V. P. Poworoznik**, newly appointed rector of St. Athanasius Orthodox Mission in Sherwood Park Alberta.

**Msgr. Leon Dobosiewicz**, one of seven priests from the RC Diocese of Orlando presented by **Bishop Thomas Wenski** as newly raised to

the honor by Pope Benedict XVI.

The 12 recipients of the 19th Annual Prince Gallitzin Cross Award, including **Ms. Eileen Bohensky**, who served Ss. Csimir & Emerich Parish, Johnstown, Pa., as pastoral council member, liturgical committee member, lector, extraordinary minister of the Eucharist. A graduate of the Stephen's Ministry formation process, she currently serves in prison ministry at SCI Cresson.

**Fr. Richard W. Siepka** on completing 12 years as Rector of Christ the King Seminary, East Aurora, N.Y. He will receive a pastoral assignment from **Bishop Edward Kmiec**, bishop of Buffalo.

**Deacon James Trzaska**, on his recent ordination to the permanent diaconate for the RC diocese of Buffalo. Deacon Trzaska is a member of Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Parish in Depew, N.Y.

**Archbishop Henryk Hoser**, named by Pope Benedict XVI to head the Diocese of Warsaw-Praga, Poland ... **Resurrection PNCC Parish**, West Temperance, Mich., on the dedication of their new parish location after having moved out of Toledo, Ohio, earlier this year ... **Carolyn Blaszczak** on her consecration as a consecrated virgin celebrated by Harrisburg's Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades at her home parish of St. Joseph in Hanover, Pa.

### MONKS SEEK ALTERNATIVE MEANS OF SUPPORT.

**Abbot Stan Gumula**, leader of the Trappist monks at Our Lady of Mepkin Abbey in Moncks Corner, S.C., were pressured by PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) to cease their 56-year-old egg business. PETA threatened a boycott and public protests put unwanted pressure on the monks, which interfered with their quiet life of prayer and work. A ten member advisory panel recently met to help the monks develop a source of income to replace the loss of 60% of their annual budget.

### GOD'S BEAUTY ATTRACTS VOCATION.

**Sr. Mary Joan Greenburg**, a member of the Sister Servants of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, born of Jewish parents, was drawn by the Christian art and literature of Mozart, Palestrina, Fra Angelico, Dante, Dostoyevsky, to explore the beauty of God and His love. This led to her conversion and to her vocation to love, to sing, and to minister to the poor, the sick and elderly at the personal care home of the congregation in Johnstown, Penn. The congregation's foundress, **Servant of God Mother Klara Szcześna**, has had her cause for beatification presented in Rome. The congregation was founded in league with **Bishop (now Saint) Joseph Sebastian Pelczar** of Przemyśl, Poland, to assist servants, the poor and the sick.

### SACRIFICING ALL FOR HER CHILD.

Polish volleyball star **Agata Mroz** died in June after postponing a bone marrow transplant in order to allow her daughter to be born. Battling leukemia since she was 17, she went on to be one of the premier volleyball players in Europe. Her struggle led her to take a sabbatical during which she had many blood transfusions. She married **Jacek Olszewski** on June 7, 2007 and soon became pregnant. At the same time her cancer had progressed. "The news I was going to be a mother made me feel fortunate," she said. "I was so happy because I would know that it was like to be a mother and I would give my husband something good from myself." After she gave birth, she underwent the postponed transplant but contracted a deadly infection, which ended her life. **Bishop Marian Florczyk** of Kielce, Poland, told the congregation at the funeral that Agata gave Poland a witness of "love, motherhood, the desire to give life, and the heroic love for an unborn child."

## MODLITWY

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

**PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN.** (Never Known To Fail). Oh, most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. Oh Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein you are my Mother. Oh Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart and succor me in my necessity (make request). There are none that can withstand your power. Oh Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (three times). Holy Mary, I place this cause in your hands (three times). Say this prayer for three consecutive days and then you must publish and it will be granted to you. Grateful thanks, H.D.N.

**PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN.** (Never Known To Fail). Oh, most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. Oh Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein you are my Mother. Oh Holy Mary, Mother of

God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart and succor me in my necessity (make request). There are none that can withstand your power. Oh Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (three times). Holy Mary, I place this cause in your hands (three times). Say this prayer for three consecutive days and then you must publish and it will be granted to you. Grateful thanks, A.D.

**PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN.** (Never Known To Fail). Oh, most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. Oh Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein you are my Mother. Oh Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart and succor me in my necessity (make request). There are none that can withstand your power. Oh Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (three times). Holy Mary, I place this cause in your hands (three times). Say this prayer for three consecutive days and then you must publish and it will be granted to you. Grateful thanks, M.L.

**PRAYER TO ST. PIO OF PIETRELCINA.** Most blessed and beloved St. Pio, you were chosen to glorify the crucified Jesus through the visible wounds of the Cross that you bore for 50 years. And like our Lord Jesus, you demonstrate your great love by sharing

the many gifts bestowed upon you—especially the gift of intercession. Because of your great friendship with the Lord, He responds to your requests and blesses those you bless. I now add my prayer to the many prayers offered to you every day by those who seek your help to obtain healings and consolations, earthy and spiritual blessings, and peace for the body, mind and soul. In your loving kindness, please bless my loved ones, and me, and intercede for this special request (insert petition). In your great love, Saint Pio, please continue to pray for us. T.L.A.

**THANKSGIVING NOVENA TO ST. JUDE.** Holy St. Jude, Apostle and Martyr, great in virtue and rich in miracles, near the kinsman of Jesus Christ, faithful intercessor of all who invoke your special patronage in time of need. To you I have recourse from the depth of my heart and humbly beg to whom God has given such great power to come to my assistance. Help me in my present and urgent position. In return I promise to make your name known and cause you to be invoked. (Say three Our Fathers, Three Hail Marys, Three Glory Be's). St. Jude pray for us and all who invoke your aid. Amen. Publication must be promised. This prayer is to be said for nine consecutive days. This novena has never been known to fail. My prayers have been answered. T.L.A.

## Skalny Scholarships Awarded

by Jo Louise Winters

Three Louis & Nellie Skalny Scholarships for Polish Studies were awarded for 2008 by the American Council for Polish Culture (ACPC). Committee Chairperson Ursula Brodowicz reported that the Skalny Scholarship Committee, including Debra Majka, Ange Iwanczyk and Marion Winters, awarded \$1,000 scholarships to three outstanding applicants: Christopher Krupa, Zach Mazur and Dominik Stecula,

**Christopher Krupa** attends Wayne State University (WSU), Detroit, with majors in Business Administration and Slavic Studies with a concentration in Polish. The University has awarded him with Slavic Scholarships for 2006 and 2007, Slavic Studies Book Award for Excellence in 2005, the Norris & Vivilore Hitchman Scholarship in 2007, and an Undergraduate Research Grant in 2007.  
**Zach Mazur** (no photo available)

is a sophomore at the University of Rochester, NY. He has been studying the Polish language through regular courses as well as Independent Study and also completed a course on the History of Poland.

**Dominik Andrzej Stecula**, born in Poland, is working toward a degree in Political Science & History at the University of Michigan at Dearborn. He has made the Dean's List every semester and currently carries a 3.97 GPA in his Senior year. At the University's annual Quiz Bowl, Dominik has been the Champion for two consecutive years and represented the school at the Mid-Western Regional Championships.

For information about the Skalny Scholarships for Polish Studies and other scholarships and cultural programs of the American Council for Polish Culture, please visit www.polishcultureacpc.org.





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## Kościuszko: A Portrait of Love, Passion, and Patriotism

hired a contingent of one thousand to build fortifications near Saratoga on the Hudson. The defenses designed by Kościuszko to take advantage of the terrain were decisive in the defeat of the British. The British army commanded by John Burgoyne, was completely beaten and submitted to surrender. Historians consider the Battle of Saratoga as one of the ten most decisive

battles in the history of the world.

In a letter to Congress, George Washington wrote that "Kościuszko had most splendidly served the young republic."

During this time Ludwika Sosnowska, Kościuszko's true love, sent him a letter after having been married to Prince Józef Lubomirski for five years: "My thoughts are forever with you, for as my soul was beside you, so my heart belongs to you. I gave my person, but not my soul to the Prince. I told him this before the wedding and I'm telling you this now. In my heart I shall always and forever be your Ludwika."

Kościuszko's greatest and largest fortification was at West Point—a fortress on the Hudson River that blocked access to Philadelphia from the north. It was the project that brought him fame in the United States. He had met with Washington twice to review his work. The fortification was completed in two years—according to Kościuszko's specific design and under his complete supervision.

He remains guarding the Hudson to this day, as a statue was erected in his honor where he had marked the battlefield. Over 200 years have since passed, yet the landscape of this historic place has hardly changed. The fortress was expanded and the West Point Military Academy was established here.

The Revolutionary War ended on December 14, 1782; however Kościuszko remained in America until 1784. His participation in the war reflected his positive traits. He never came into conflict with any American and avoided any quarrels with the French, despite being constantly criticized and attacked by them. He was humble and never demanded promotion in rank. General Nathanael Greene, with whom Kościuszko has spent two years, wrote to George Washington: "He is an incredible person who accomplishes great things and is not aware he has accomplished them. He has no desire for promotions, to boast, or exalt over others."

In recognition of his service, Kościuszko was promoted to the rank of Brigadier General of the Continental Army. He also received land and a significant sum of money, which he used to buy the freedom of Negro slaves; slavery being a practice he could not tolerate. He was awarded the Cincinnati Order Medal, established to honor service in the War of Independence. He is one of only four foreigners who attained such recognition.

Kościuszko was one of the most outstanding, perhaps the greatest of the foreigners who rushed to the aid of the colonists of America. The Army museum has a laurel wreath on display—a symbolic token of the acknowledgment of his service to the United States. His sabers are one of the most valuable exhibits at the museum. Another valued memento is his book, *Manoeuvres of Horse Artillery*. In it he shared a vast amount of military knowledge and expertise. Americans have retained the memory of Kościuszko, built numerous monuments, and named many parks and streets after him.

Loved by his soldiers and valued by Washington, Franklin and Jefferson, he returned to Poland in July 1784.

*Next: The Fight in Poland*

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## HISTORY

### The Martyrdom of the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth



Painting of the *Blessed Martyrs of Nowogródek, Poland* (martyred August 1, 1943) by Adam Styka (1890-1959).

The year 1943 marked the dark night of Nazi occupation in war-torn Poland.

In Nowogródek, a town situated in what used to be the northeastern section of Poland, twelve Sisters of the Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth shared the anxiety and fear of their neighbors. Unconcerned about their own safety, they sympathized with those who were under arrest and with those who were detained in concentration camps or doomed to cruel execution.

The Sisters were especially compassionate toward orphaned families in their tragic fate and destitution. Arrests followed one upon another. Fathers of families were cast into prison where they awaited trial and final sentencing. In the homes, desolate wives and children sobbed out their hearts in hopeless grief and utter terror.

The Sisters yearned to relieve the distress of the unfortunate. Their hearts were aflame with the charity of Christ, and they found an opportunity to give witness to their love of neighbor. Sister Mary Stella, the superior of the Sisters in Nowogródek, expressed the desire of the Sisters in this prayer: (O God, if sacrifice of life is needed, accept it from us who are free from family obligations and spare those who have wives and children).

**SACRIFICE OFFERED—SACRIFICE ACCEPTED.** Suddenly, without cause or warning, eleven of the Sisters were imprisoned. After one night, a night that was shrouded in mystery, the facts of which were known only to God, they were packed into a van and driven beyond the limits of the town. During the early hours of the next morning,

August 1, 1943, the Sisters were shot and buried in a common grave.

A member of the Nazi detachment who had been present at the execution, later exclaimed: "How those Sisters went to their death! How they went to their death!"

Meanwhile a tide of joy swept through the town when the most recently imprisoned men were released and permitted to return to their respective homes.

One of the twelve Sisters, Sister M. Margaret, who was engaged in hospital work at the time of the arrest of the other eleven, sought and found the grave. After the Nazis left Poland, the bodies of the Sisters were exhumed. The people of Nowogródek, filled with sentiments of gratitude, paid honor to the Sisters who had been their deliverers in a solemn funeral service which was followed by burial in the cemetery adjoining the local church.

People in their various needs began to ask God for favors through the intercession of the Sisters. The many graces which have been received give evidence of the fact that the sacrifice of the Sisters was acceptable to God and is being rewarded by him.

The eleven Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth who were executed by the Nazis on August 1, 1943 were: (all Blessed) Sr. M. Stella (Adela Mardosewicz); Sr. M. Imelda (Jadwiga Zak); Sr. M. Kanizja (Eugenia Mackiewicz); Sr. M. Rajmunda (Anna Kukolowicz); Sr. M. Daniels, Eleonora Jozwik; Sr. M. Kanuta (Jozefa Chrobot); Sr. M. Sergia (Julia Rapiej); Sr. Sister M. Gwidona (Helena Cierpka); Sr. M. Felicija (Paulina Borowik); Sr. M. Heliadora (Leokadia Matuszewska); and Sr. M. Boromea (Weronika Narmontowicz).

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## HAPPENINGS: CHICAGO-STYLE / Geraldine Balut Coleman

## Stanisław Cardinal Dziwisz Visits Chicago

CHICAGO—On June 29, Stanisław Cardinal Dziwisz, Archbishop of Krakow, visited Chicago. His Eminence celebrated Sunday Mass at Holy Trinity Polish Mission Church to a standing-room only congregation. Later that afternoon, Cardinal Dziwisz was honored at the Ninth Annual Bishop Abramowicz Seminary Benefit Dinner. His Eminence accepted the *Cari-tas Christi* Award, an honor which was given to him “in recognition of his life-long service to Polonia and proclaiming and preserving the centuries old connection between the

Roman Catholic faith and Polish culture”. Over 800 guests attended this elegant event, which was held at Przybylo’s House of the White Eagle, Niles, Ill. Among the guests were Frances Cardinal George, Archbishop of Chicago, along with Auxiliary Bishops Perry, Rassas, Manz, Garcia-Siller and Jakubowski to name a few. Chairing this year’s event was Chicago’s own Thomas J. Paprocki, Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago, and Alan Krashesky, popular news anchor and Emmy Award recipient of ABC TV-Chicago, served as Master of Ceremonies. Since its

establishment in 1999, the Bishop Abramowicz Seminary has ordained twenty-three priests from Poland. Today, twenty of these priests minister within the Archdiocese of Chicago, with the remaining serving in Marquette, Mich., Joliet, Ill. and Loncza, Poland. Proceeds, from this event and its extensive silent auction along with the purchasing of ads in the program book, will help to defray the annual costs of tuition in addition to room and board for these Polish-born seminarians.



**DZIWISZ VISIT (l. to r.):** Alan Krashesky, Bishop Paprocki, Cardinal Dziwisz, Cardinal George, and Bishop Jakubowski.

## New Officers

The Polish Arts Club of Chicago held an installation luncheon on June 19 at the Glen Club in Glenview IL. The Arts Club celebrated its 82 years with the installation of its new officers: President Vivian Walkosz, First Vice-President Ray Niwa, Recording Secretary Felicia Krupinski, and Treasurer Stephanie Kunas. Violinist, Anthony Kawalkowski, provided entertainment. Additionally, from August 3-31, the Arts Club will hold its annual Art Exhibit and Sale at The Polish Museum of America.

## Gniezno, Poland’s First Capital

On June 6, under the auspices of the Council General of the Republic of Poland, Zygmunt Matynia, the president (mayor) of Gniezno, Poland, Jacek Kowalski, and the president of The Polish Museum of America, Maria Ciesla, held an opening reception of an exhibit of photographs of Miroslaw Skrzypkowski. The theme of this exhibit of approximately 50 photographs was “Gniezno: The First Capital of Poland.” This exhibition will be held at the Museum until June 20, 2008.

## Spirit Awards to Polish and Polish American Veterans



**SPIRIT AWARDS (l. to r.):** Maria Ciesla, Bozena Matynia, and Teresa Buckner

On June 20, The Polish Museum of America (PMA) held its 28th Summer Ball. This year’s event was most memorable, as the PMA honored Polish and Polish American Veterans’ Associations to recognize those Poles and Polish Americans who served in the Armed Forces of the United States and Poland. Over 200 veterans were permanently memorialized or honored in the Summer Ball’s Program Book from

Lt. Col. Matt Urban, U.S. Army, considered the most decorated soldier in U.S. military history, to foot soldiers who fought for victory at Monte Cassino. Approximately 200 guests attended the Ball which was held at the Wyndham O’Hare Hotel in Rosemont, Ill. The Honorary Chair of this year’s Summer Ball was Bozena Matynia, wife of Zygmunt Matynia, General Counsel of the Republic of Poland, and the Ball



**SPIRIT AWARDS (l. to r.):** Sr. Rose Marie Kujawa, president of Madonna University; Fr. Canon Anthony Iwuc, PRCUA vice-pres; Judy Baar Topinka, former Illinois State Treasurer; Stanley Jendrejec, past-PNA president; and Anna Sokolowski, PRCUA vice-pres.

Chair was Teresa Buckner. Maria Ciesla, President of the PMA, along with Wallace Ozog, Chair of the Museum and Jan Lorys, PMA Director and Curator, presented PMA’s **Polish Spirit Awards** to the *Armia Krajowa*/Home Army Foundation, the 1st Armored Division as well as the 3rd and 5th Infantry Divisions of the Polish Armed Forces, the Polish Air Force, the Polish Legion of American Veterans (PLAV), *Stowar-*

*zyszenie Polskich Kombatantów* (SPK) Posts 15 and 31, and *Stowarzyszenie Weteranow Armii Polskiej/Polish Army Veterans’ Association* (SWAP-PAVA). Additionally, the attendees participated in a silent auction, a gift raffle, a gourmet dinner, listened and danced to the popular Anthony Kawalkowski Orchestra, as well as viewed a special dance performance by the Greg Rykowski Dance Studio.

## PWA Celebrating 110 Years



**NATIONAL PWA OFFICERS (back row):** Helene Simmons, Dawn Muszynski Nelson, Marcia Mackiewicz Duffy, Felicia Perlick. (front row): Antoinette Trela-Vander Noot, Virginia Sikora, Helen Wojcik, Sharon Zago

On June 22, the Polish Women’s Alliance of America (PWA) celebrated its 110th anniversary with over 200 guests attending this gala event at Café LaCave in Des Plaines, Ill. Special honors were bestowed on members of distinction for their dedication and service to the PWA. The honorees were Regina Solms, District 1; Sophie Emery, District 2; Josephine Kras, District 3; Diana Reeve, District 6; Irene Honc-Jadlos, District 7; Jennie Starzyk Benton, District 8; Jadwiga Czerwinska,

District 9; Marion Listwan, District 10; Mary Kurtz, District 11; Teresa Violanti, District 12; and Bertha Kuckla, District 14. The Chair of this event was Antoinette Trela-Vander Noot, the PWA’s Secretary/Treasurer, and its Mistress of Ceremonies was Jennie Starzyk Benton. During and after a gourmet dinner, guests were entertained and danced to the music of the Carl Linden Orchestra. Proceeds from the PWA’s national raffle and this event were for the PWA’s Scholarship Fund.

## Warsaw Rising Museum Adds Letters to Collection

WARSAW—The Warsaw Rising Museum recently acquired a collection of about 150 letters and postcards from the Warsaw Rising, that were up for auction in Dusseldorf, Germany. The letters were viewed as evidence of a telling fact of the Warsaw Rising, with a postal service that sprang to life as the work of a corps of young Polish scouts who dared to deliver mail to families trapped or splintered by battle during World War II. Of all the mail sent during the war, only about 1,000 pieces are estimated to have survived. The Warsaw Rising Museum already had about 100 pieces, so acquiring this group more than doubled the museum’s collection.

The Warsaw Rising of 1944 was a broad rebellion against Nazi German occupiers that was spearheaded by the Polish Home Army and should not be confused with the Jewish Ghetto uprising, a month-long heroic effort vanquished by the Germans in 1943. The rising of 1944 was expected to last only a few days until Soviet troops arrived, but it went on for 63 days before the Germans crushed it. The Soviets never advanced into Warsaw to fight the Germans.

Only since the fall of communism has Poland’s last-ditch fight against the Nazis been fully explored. The Warsaw Rising Museum opened in 2004 as a multimedia center in the

heart of the capital, and has added enormously to the study and understanding of the rebellion. Since the letters were up for auction, a great deal of publicity circulated in the Polish press about the items.

In order to acquire the letters, two business stalwarts—PKO Bank Polski and Poland’s biggest phone company TPSA—offered their financial support. The museum put in several bids before the auction, asking for the seller to accept the bid outright and abandon the auction, which was rejected. Instead, the auction house changed the time of the auction, and the museum later won the bid on the collection.

—Jennifer Moskal

## Krakow to Undergo Change

KRAKOW—This city will see some changes as it prepares for the Euro 2012 Tournament. A new stadium, tram lines, new hotels, a sports arena and roads will be built. The city’s main railroad station will undergo renovation. Krakow’s Wisla stadium will be enlarged to hold 33,000 seats and the area surrounding it will undergo vast change. Some 600 million euros from European funds will be divided among six Polish cities selected to host Euro games. Additional funding will come from state and local budgets.

## Explosives Found Near Public Beach

WARSAW (AP)—A huge cache of undetonated World War II ammunition and explosives was found near a public beach in northern Poland and was destroyed. The stockpile included about 155,000 pounds of undetonated explosives buried by Nazi German troops, said Piotr Bik, who was charged with removing the material.

Another 20,000 pieces of other explosive materials, including detonators and ammunition, were also discovered.

Bik said experts were called in after a mushroom picker stumbled across a machine gun belt sticking

out of the ground in a pine forest near the Baltic Sea village of Swibno, near the port city of Gdansk.

Bik said the explosives, if detonated, would have rivaled the force of an 1/4 ton bomb. The detonators were also extremely dangerous, Bik added, given that they were only 230 feet from a public beach.

Each one “is dangerous enough to rip off an arm,” he said.

Combat engineers destroyed the material.

Unexploded bombs from World War II are a relatively common find in Poland and Germany, more than 60 years after the conflict’s end.



## POLONIA OF THE EASTERN GREAT LAKES / Michael Pietruszka

## Bisons to Honor Schmid

BUFFALO, N.Y.—The Buffalo Bisons baseball team will honor WNY Polonia powerhouse **Jackie Schmid** as their Polish-American-of-the-Year at the team's "Polish Festival Night" on Tuesday, August 5th in Dunn Tire Park in Downtown Buffalo. The Knewz and the Krakowiacy Dancers will provide entertainment for the 5:00 p.m. tent party. Tickets are still available from Sharon Goldyn at (716) 681-0278.

Schmid is a polka music columnist for the weekly AM-POL EAGLE. She works for Congressman Brian Higgins, is active in the Democratic Party in Western New York, and produces several events in community throughout the year.

**AROUND THE TOWN.** Buffalo State College Class of 1950 graduate **Leonard Sikora** received the Distinguished Alumnus Award at the college's recent commencement ceremonies ... The **Polish Scholarship Fund** (PSF) of Syracuse's 54th Annual Polish Festival was a great success. Monika Majkowycz became Miss Polonia 2008 and Professor Tomasz Skwarnicki from Syracuse University was honored as 2008 Pole-of-the-Year. This year, the PSF awarded \$1,000 scholarships to Agnieszka Bak, Julie Dmochowski, Sandra Dowiat, Matthew Filmer, Anelia Guzola, Karol Kozioł, Bridget Lenkiewicz, Patrick Mast, Michael McCarthy and David Zurawski ... **Rev. Stanley Nowak**, pastor of Ss. Peter & Paul Parish in Depew, celebrated his 50th anniversary of ordination on June 29 ... **Lawrence Zielinski** has been named president of Buffalo General Hospital ... The **Professional & Businessmen's Association** awarded its 2008 scholarships to Jessica Biedny, Shannon Dziadaszek, Re-

nee Redlinski and Raelyn Walczak ... The "Polish Polonaise" at the Polish Hall on Pearl Street and the "Polish Warszawa" at the Polish Alliance Hall on Albion Street were two of the "villages" set up as part of this year's **International Villages Festival** in Brantford, Ontario in early July. More information is available at [www.brantfordvillages.ca/villages/polonaise/index.php](http://www.brantfordvillages.ca/villages/polonaise/index.php) and [www.brantfordvillages.ca/villages/warsawa/index.php](http://www.brantfordvillages.ca/villages/warsawa/index.php).

Polonia activist and WNY Polish American Congress Vice-President **Michael Zachowicz** has joined the on-air staff of Classical 94.5 - WNED FM radio ... Our Lady of Fatima Shrine in Lewiston marked **Our Lady of Czestochowa/Polish Day** with a Polish language Mass and Rosary Procession on July 13 ... Claudia Marosz, Zachary Mazur, Katherine Parmington, Katherine Adria Tucker and Daniel Zabek received **Joseph Skalny grants** to participate in the University of Rochester's Summer Study in Krakow program ... **PhoCus** performed as part on the Canal Fest of the Tonawandas on the 16th ... Rochester Polonia gathered at the Frontier Field for the Rochester Redwings baseball team's "**Polish Night**" on July 18. A performance by the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra was featured ... Erie County Judge **Michael Pietruszka** served as the Grand Marshal of the General Pulaski Association Parade in the Town of Cheektowaga on July 20. The parade was held in conjunction with the 30th Annual Polish American Festival in the Cheektowaga Town Park. This year's festival featured Polish Heritage Dancers of WNY, Harmony Polish Folk Ensemble, Ania Piwowarczyk with Radosc-Joy & Friends, City Side, Jerry Dar-

## Polish Heritage Dancers Celebrate Sobotka



BUFFALO, N.Y.—On June 21, the Polish Heritage Dancers and their families were invited to celebrate Sobotka, (St. John's Eve) at the Delevan farm of Diane and Steve Woloszyn.

They were joined by Fr. Czeslaw Krysa, who initiated the idea of celebrating Sobotka while visiting the Woloszyn's farm three years ago on a night that just happen to be St. John's Eve. Fr. Krysa, an international expert in Polish customs, told the Woloszyns of the beautiful tradition of weaving wreaths of flowers and clover. He also told them of St. John's Eve in Poland, where one could see at bonfires burning throughout the mountainside.

Inspired, Steve Woloszyn and his son decided to build a bonfire the following year, and invited Fr. Krysa and guests. This year, the Woloszyns invited members of the Polish Heritage Dancers and their families to their Sobotka.

This year began with a hayride to pick the wildflowers and clover to make wreaths. This was followed by dinner. Afterward, young maidens presented the St. John's Eve song and dance. Fr. Krysa and Judy Krauza then showed the girls how to start to construct their wreath.

Traditionally, each girl placed a wreath in a river or stream. If the wreath was found downstream by a young man, the girl would marry within the year. If it sank, the girl would remain single.

Michelle Kisluk, director of the Polish Heritage Dancers, thanked the Woloszyns for their hospitality and Fr. Krysa for his willingness to share his knowledge with the dancers.

lak & the Touch, Walt Wagner & the Polka Serenaders, Jimmy Sturr, Maestro's Men, and Bud Hundenski & the Corsairs.

The **Professional & Business Women of Polonia** awarded its 2008 scholarship to Jaclyn Shaw.

Runners-up Jillian Kosinski and Emily Tanski were also given education stipends ... **Jimmy Sturr** headlined a concert at the Greece Town Hall on the 20th ... The NYS Senate recently adopted a resolution calling on the New York Congressional delegation to urge the U.S. Postal Service to issue a stamp honoring **Lt. Col. Matt Urban**, the Buffalo native who is the most decorated combat soldier in U.S. history. Sponsors of the resolution included NYS Senators William Stachowski, Mary Lou Rath and Dale Volker ... The WNY Association for Continuing/Community Education honored Polish language instructor **Lucyna Dziedzic** of Lancaster with the 2008

West-NY Award for teaching excellence.

◆◆◆

If you have an item for this column, please send by the 6th day of the month preceding the month in which you would like the item to appear (i.e. August 6 for the September edition) at: POLEGL, P.O. Box 223, Niagara Square Station, Buffalo, NY 14201-0223. My e-mail address is [pietruszka@verizon.net](mailto:pietruszka@verizon.net).

For more information on what's going on in the Polonia of the Eastern Great Lakes, including a calendar of upcoming events, an organizational directory and interesting links, visit my website at [www.polegl.org](http://www.polegl.org).

## As Inflation Grows, So Do Gardens

PITTSBURGH—Gardeners like Vince Kaplack are part of a national trend of people growing their own food to cut mounting grocery bills. Rather than pay for tomatoes at the grocery store, people are sinking that money into plants, seeds and labor. Kaplack grows tomatoes and peppers for his homemade stuffed pepper soup.

"If they buy 12 tomato plants for \$4 and properly care for them, they'll feed a family of four the whole summer," said Patty Janoski, greenhouse manager at Janoski's Farm and Greenhouse in Clinton, where sales of vegetable plants increased 25 percent over last year.

Grow Pittsburgh, which works to develop sustainable urban agriculture in the Pittsburgh region, sold more than \$10,000 worth of starter tomato plants at their May Mart, double last year's sales.

Not counting World War II, when Victory Gardens seemed to be everywhere, backyard gardening hit an all time high in 1975 when President Gerald Ford urged Americans to plant Whip Inflation Now gardens.

Americans spent \$1.4 billion on their gardens last year, which was up 22 percent from 2006, and estimates point to an increase from the 2007 total this year.

## Teen Accepted to 18 Prestigious Universities

NEW YORK—Lukasz Zbylut started his American education in the seventh grade after emigrating from Poland. Now he's headed for Harvard after turning down 17 other prestigious schools, including six other Ivies.

Zbylut is graduating from New Utrecht High School in Brooklyn with a 104.7 average.

While applying himself academ-

ically, the 18-year-old also found time to be co-captain of his school's UN team, captain and founder of the debate team, president of the mock-trial team and editor of the school newspaper. He also played soccer and volunteered in his neighborhood.

At Harvard, Zbylut plans to take up politics, philosophy and law.

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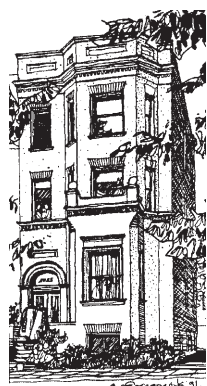
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## How Will You Be Remembered?

Many people talk about leaving gifts to worthy causes, but don't have a will, and do not realize it requires a will to do so. The laws of most states make it quite clear that personal property goes automatically, by law, to your nearest relatives, even if they are quite distant ones, unless you have a legal will that says otherwise. If you have no relatives, it goes to the state. More than half of all adult Americans die without having made their wills. Most of them undoubtedly planned to do so, but never got around to it. Some had wills but didn't keep them current. When you have a will, you should update it every few years as conditions change. Also, always name an executor who will carry out your wishes. Besides money, non-cash possessions can also be used as contributions and various donation plans can be carried out. Be a philanthropist: leave your stocks, bonds, real estate, art, valuable collections or insurance to continue the Polish American traditions. Your will is the most important way of giving. When you are gone, it is a legacy that is not forgotten. In your will, you can

specify what you would like your donation to be used for. For help in making your will, contact a competent lawyer. **The National Polish Center, Inc.** is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations that needs your help and legacy.

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## PSFCU Awards Scholarships



BROOKLYN, N.Y.—In July, at a gala event in Greenpoint, Brooklyn, the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union (PSFCU) handed out scholarships to undergraduate and graduate-level students, ranging in value from \$1,000-\$5,000 each. An independent panel of 12 people reviewed almost 200 worthy applications before choosing the final 144 winners.

A month earlier, teaming up with the New York State Credit Union League (NYSCUL), the PSFCU awarded 115 college-bound high school graduates with scholarships ranging from \$500-\$1,750.

This marks the seventh year that the PSFCU has worked together with the NYSCUL to promote higher education for New York area stu-

dents.

The high school graduates applying for the PSFCU scholarship are automatically entered into NYSCUL's own program offered to 102 New York credit unions, which this year awarded a total of \$13,500. This year, NYSCUL granted a total of 18 scholarships, four of which went to the PSFCU members—an impressive accomplishment.

Over the past seven years, the PSFCU, the nation's largest ethnic credit union, has handed out more than \$1.3 million to over 800 students. This year, the credit union capped off its annual scholarship program this year by donating a total of \$300,000 to more than 250 high school and college students throughout the tri-state New York

area.

What makes the PSFCU scholarship program so impressive is that with more than 70,000 members, the credit union earmarks approximately \$4/member toward scholarships annually, a figure that dwarfs similar programs instituted by larger credit unions.

"What started out as a nice gesture seven years ago has turned into such an important project that will pay dividends well into the future," said Ms. Malgorzata Wadolowska, who headed the PSFCU's Board of Directors Scholarship Committee. "This is what really separates a credit union that has deep roots in the community from a storefront bank."

## Pierogi Guy Fined for Performance

CLEARWATER, Fla.—Clearwater is now safe from the Pierogi Guy.

Yes, it's true. Officials have cracked down on the dancing dumpster, alias Frank Dippz, who waved a saute pan in front of the Pierogi Grill on Gulf-to-Bay Boulevard. Clearwater sign inspector Mary Jo Weaver said the city sent a warning to Marek Pietryniak, president of Piramida Grill & Steak House, the restaurant's owner. As a human sign, Pierogi Guy violated the city's sign code.

Weaver said officials continued to get calls about how Pierogi Guy beckoned traffic later in the evenings when inspectors were off duty. That changed, when a sign inspector caught the 5-foot, 8-inch pasta bite

while working a weekend shift. The business was then issued a citation for violating the "signs carried and waved on the public right of ways" ordinance. Weaver said "human signs" come in waves and most comply once warned. She said the episode with Pierogi Guy is the first time she can remember actually having to issue a citation in this type of case.

Although he is hesitant to point a doughy finger, Dippz said he suspects nearby residents of complain-



ing because motorists honk during his shifts. "It's stupid," he said. "We're not causing problems. I'm just walking in front of the restaurant. There's no harm in that. It's not like I'm standing in the middle of the street. I value my life too much."

## "Poland The Beautiful: An Imaginary Flight"



**POLISH EMBASSY EMBRACES WASHINGTON SCHOOL CHILDREN.** Students from the Anne Beers Elementary School in Washington, D.C., participating in Embassy Adoption Program, are featured above singing "Piekna Nasza Polska Cala" ("Poland The Beautiful") at the Embassy just prior to their departure to Warsaw, Poland.

by Richard P. Poremski

WASHINGTON, D.C. —The fully-booked imaginary LOT Polish Airline flight to "Poland The Beautiful" became airborne in the Grand Ballroom at the Embassy of the Republic of Poland, June 6, 2008. Upon "landing" in Poland, a score and more of African-American students, mainly 6th graders at the Anne Beers Elementary School, proceeded to take the many passengers on a very unique and lively cultural tour of Poland.

The student "tour guides" proceeded to entertain and educate the audience with a presentation of Poland's song, dance and history, while costumed in the authentic folk dress of Poland. The enthusiastic student body sang many traditional and favorite Polish songs, including koledy (Christmas carols). The Grand Polonaise (led by a fluffy-white-wigged King Zygmunt), Mazurka and Krakowiak were all performed in very fine step.

A living tableau of posed statues representing Tadeusz Kosciuszko meeting with General George Washington, Nicolas Copernicus, Frederick Chopin and Maria Sklodowska-Curie all in turn became animated and spoke of their respective personal profiles. Skits portraying the Christmas allegory and folk tales about the Warsaw Mermaid and the Wawel Castle Dragon were also presented. The mischievous dragon made quite an impression upon the audience before being dispatched by the young hero.

On display in the Embassy anterooms were large colorful displays of Poland-themed art and traditional handicrafts skillfully created by the students, as well as a collection of whimsical personal portraits painted on glass. The sizable group of

Lajkonik figurines attracted a lot of attention.

Upon "landing" back at the Embassy the passengers gave their student guides and aircrew a very well deserved standing ovation; and then everyone disembarked into the imposing baroque Banquet Room for an buffet of delicious Polish foods and desserts.

The Embassy Adoption Program is made possible by a partnership between the D.C. Public Schools and the Washington Performing Arts Society, and the financial support of many generous benefactors. Former Ambassador Janusz Reiter, Mrs. Hanna Reiter, Secretary Anna Barbarzak, with officials and dignitaries at the Polish Embassy, and in Warsaw, all contributed to make this 2006-2007 school year program a huge success.

Hanna Bondarewska, program/artistic director and founder of the Ambassador Theater, was the "Belle of Polonia," who worked unceasingly with the students and assistants in every single aspect of the complicated and multifaceted program. The resulting accomplishment has garnered acclaim both here and in Poland.

Bondarewska then led the students and chaperones on a LOT Airline flight to Warsaw, Poland. There, on June 17, 2008 they presented their "Poland The Beautiful" program to President Lech Kaczynski and a host of other dignitaries at the Presidential Palace. Afterwards, the program was toured to different venues in Poland.

What began as an imaginary cross-culture trip to Poland, in the end, became an unimaginable reality beyond the wildest dreams of its young inner-city participants.

## PAHA

www.polishamericanstudies.org

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 \$30.00.



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# Polka MAGAZINE

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## Polka Jammer Network Returns To the Internet Airwaves

WINDSOR, Conn.—The Polka Jammer Network has returned to the air after a one year absence. After being forced to close its doors on July 15, 2007 due to royalty issues, the network was invited to join the Intercollegiate Broadcasting System (IBS). The network reopened on October 6, 2007 under the name: “The Jammer Network.” Unfortunately, the network was plagued with numerous issues with the BackBone system as well as connection issues caused by bugs with the QuickTime player.

“It was very frustrating having to sit until 4:00 a.m. in the morning processing shows under the Back-

Bone system,” said Jim Kucharski, the network’s Program Director. To date, while there has been some improvement in the BackBone system, problems have not been resolved.

Listeners will once again be able to connect via I-Tunes, WINAMP, RealPlayer, Windows Media Player, & AOL Media Player as well as QuickTime. The Shoutcast/Windows Media Player feeds will be available every day from 7:00 a.m. – 12:00 a.m. EDT

The Polka Jammer Network, an affiliate of the Intercollegiate Broadcasting System (IBS), is a not-for-profit Internet Polka Station streaming polka music 24 hours a day/7 days a week dedicated to the preservation and promotion of polka music. We feature a wide variety of live as well as pre-recorded shows.

The network is located at [www.polkajammernetwork.org](http://www.polkajammernetwork.org).

## Michigan Chooses Polka Hall of Fame Inductees

OWOSSO, Mich. (PMN)—The Michigan State Polka Music Hall of Fame Committee has announced the 2008 inductees. The Committee held its 36th Annual election of Candidates for the Hall of Fame by secret ballot.

Those elected were:  
 • Terry Dekoski of Ruth, musician and promoter.  
 • Clarence (Casey) Grocholski of West Branch, musician, band leader, recording artist and promoter.

- Millie Okapal of Ottawa Lake, musician, band leader, promoter and recording artist.
- Vladimir Jack Pesik (Deceased), musician, recording artist and promoter.
- Eddie Siwec of Dearborn, musician, band leader, vocalist, composer, arranger, DJ, and recording artist.

Those elected will be honored and inducted into the Michigan State Polka Music Hall of Fame on October 5, 2008, at the annual banquet

and presentation awards will be held at the ZCJB (Western Czechoslovakian Fraternal Association) Hall in Owosso, Michigan.

For information contact a Hall of Fame officer at (989)-875-3378 or (810)-621-4455

### Center Stage at Chez Josef Presents Push

AGAWAM, Mass.—Wed., Sept. 17, 2008 is the date Center Stage at Chez Josef in Agawam presents Lenny Gomulka & Chicago Push. This Afternoon Polka Special fea-

tures a New England Welcome of tasty Polish and American treats. Call to Reserve your tickets today. Call Jean or Connie at (413) 786-0257.

## POLKA INSIDER / Steve Litwin

### Those Pennsylvania Hills ...

You can't wait to get there and then you don't want to leave! That's what happens every year at the Polka Fireworks fest and this year was no different. From the first minute on the grounds of the massive resort you feel like you've come home again. The staff at the entrance greet you and remember you from past years. From the front desk to the restaurants, to the great service staff on your floor, to the bartenders, they have become friends over the years.

Of course the Polka Fireworks festival is the reason for everyone returning to these Pennsylvania hills and when you bring together

the Queen of polka events with the King of resorts, you know it will be a great marriage.

As written here before, the bands play up at this fest. When you have back to back halls with multiple great bands on the two stages, the dilemma is, “which hall do we hit first?” With each band putting forth its best effort, grading bands is somewhat out-of-place at this one. Obviously, the best is whatever band you are listening to at the moment.

On a personal note, Adele and I had the distinct pleasure of hosting our 25th Concertina Jam at this year's Polka Fireworks and this one,

like all those before it, was a gathering of musicians and listeners who love the instrument and the music of their musical heritage. It is heartwarming to see this event remain popular and get stronger with each year.

One thing for sure, “those Pennsylvania hills keep calling you home” to the Polka Fireworks at Seven Springs every year and each year we all answer that call.

Since pictures are often better than words, here are just a few of the over 500 we shot at the Polka Fireworks.

## 34th Annual Polka Fireworks

The Polka Fireworks Festival marked its 34th year at the Seven Springs Mountain resort in Champion, Pa. over the July 4th holiday. Featuring five days of polka music, polka workshops, polka jams and more, the event filled the massive Seven Springs Mountain Resort with thousands of people ready for a good time.

The Blazonczyk family along with Dave Lubovinski and their staff keep everything running on schedule. Both dance halls provide ample seating, dance floors and stage facilities for the 18 polka bands that provided a variety of styles and entertainment throughout the week.

The Polka Fireworks has become the place musicians and their fami-

lies can enjoy their off-stage time, taking in the pool, patio-lounge, restaurants, jam sessions, and other highlights of the grand resort. The atmosphere is as relaxed — or as busy — as you want it.

The music workshops, where musicians offered their expertise and talents to others eager to learn, were a great success.

The Pennsylvania State Polka contest filled the hall with contestants and a standing room only audience.

This year's 34th annual event has become a part of history but preparations are already being made for the 35th Polka Fireworks. Start making plans today.



Polka Family a favorite at Polka Fireworks.



Mitch Kempinski enjoying his first time at the Concertina Jam.



Jimmy K and Rich Benkowski with Ethnic Jazz.



Buffalo's Knewz in the hall, Saturday night.



Dave Morris and Ted Borzymowski with dueling boxes at Jam 25.



Three originals from the first Concertina jam, Rich, Butch and Steve.



One line of players at Concertina Jam 25.



Al Meixner and Bubba Hernandez polka rockin' the crowds.



Eddie Blazonczyk, Jr. and Rich Tokarz on stage.



The Touch of Brass Girls celebrating the Touch of Brass Band from Ohio.



Cheryl and Sarah of Tony's Polka Band.



The Polka Towners wowed the crowds.

## NOTES / Barb Pinkowski

## Back in the Sianda

BUFFALO, N.Y.—On July 7, Bob and Sandy Krawczyk had the season opening of the Lamm Post Grove with a "Polish Traditions Dance: Back in the Sianda" featuring Stas Bulanda. It was a beautiful evening outdoors and Bulanda and the band were just great! Even though there was a nice crowd, I was surprised there were not many more people. Bulanda has not played in our area in several years and I was very happy when I heard he was coming to town.

Bulanda's son, Tommy, sat in on the drums for a bit and his daughter, Jenny, back from serving in the armed forces, was also there. Playing with Bulanda were Mike Gunia, Paul Dudasik, Bernie Gorak, and filling in this eve was Richie Kois. There were lots of honky tunes and the great vocals by Bulanda made for an entertaining night.

Bulanda & the Old School Review's latest release is "Hey Muzykanci." It is a nice variety of fourteen tunes.

**A SAFE RETURN.** Polka fans lined up at the Canal Festival in North Tonawanda to congratulate **Michael Kilian**, 23, who returned from his tour of duty in Iraq with the U.S. Army. Mike is the son of late John Kilian, who played trumpet with the Dyna-Tones and Mix 'n Match. We are happy to hear he is home safe, and are very proud him.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!** A big 60th birthday celebration for **Hank Krzykowski** was held at Gregor's Garden Grove on June 6. His family and many friends joined together on this day for a fun celebration. Hank got a special treat when "Zosia" (Joyce Czarniecki) made a guest appearance and did a special dance for him!

Hank was the drummer for the G-Notes band until they disbanded. He has had a few medical problems; we wish him the best of health and sto lat!

**CONGRATULATIONS ...** to **Todd** and **Minser Bernys** on a baby girl,

Alexis, born in April. Proud grandparents are Barb and Stan Bernys. We welcome another future polka dancer! ... on their 50th anniversary go out to **Bob and Joni Przepiora** on June 14th. This couple is from the Rochester area. A party for this celebration took place at Kiebzak's New Beginnings Hall.

**GET WELL WISHES ...** go out to **John Zwawa** who underwent surgery in mid-June ... to **Arlene Krzeminski**, who had knee replacement surgery at the end of June ... to **Al Bakowski** who also had surgery in June. Al's condition is serious; he faces a long road to recovery ... **Art Gayler**, who fell ill en route to the Polka Fireworks festival in Seven Springs.

Please remember everyone in your prayers. We wish them all a very speedy recovery.

**AROUND THE TOWN.** On June 15, the **Treltones** played to a moderate crowd at the Lily of the Valley Hall. I'm sure that, it being Father's Day, some people were unable to attend. I heard the Treltones did another fantastic job.

**Dave Sychtysz** wants to thank everyone who attended the polka fest in Old Forge, N.Y. on Memorial Day weekend. This was the first time Sychtysz ran this event and he was very pleased with the turnout. Watch for it again next year.

On June 22 a nice crowd was at the **OLC Lawn Fete** to hear Jerry Darlak & the Touch. Good to see Stephanie and Joe Ohol enjoying themselves there. Joe tells me he is now a Councilman in the Town of Cambria. Good luck with that additional job.

**OUR SYMPATHY ...** goes out to the family and friends of **Al Stanko** who passed away on June 23, 2008. Al was involved in polkas for many years and belonged to several polka clubs ... Also to the family of **Louie Wojtaszek**, who passed away in June. Louie was a big fan of the New Brass and kept in touch with Mitch Biskup over the years.



Stephanie performs a vocal with Stas Bulanda's band.



Stas Bulanda was "Back in the Sianda," this time on the grounds of the Lamm Post.



Dave Miesowicz, leader of Buffalo's Bedrock Boys, and Robin Pegg, who filled in with the Treltones.



Members of the Treltones catch up on polka news with Jerry Darlak, second from right.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Aug. 3.** The Knewz plays at the Resurrection Church Lawn Fete, 130 Como Park Blvd., Cheektowaga, N.Y. from 12:30- 4:30 p.m.
- Aug. 4.** Polish Villa II Miss Buffalo Cruise with Jerry Darlak & the Touch.
- Aug. 5.** The Knewz plays at Polish Festival Night at the Ballpark. Pre-game tent party from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.. The Bisons vs. the Indianapolis Indians at 7:00 p.m.
- Aug. 6.** Polka Variety Club Monthly Meeting. Doors open at 7:00 p.m. Music at 8:00 p.m. Favorite T-Shirt Party. Music by Rare Vintage. Please note that the Polka Variety Club has moved their meetings to the Lily of the Valley Hall at 2379 Union Rd., Cheektowaga, N.Y. Formerly, they were at the Harvey Moran Post in West Seneca.
- Aug. 7.** Cityside Polka Concert in the Park, Galanti Park. 6:15 p.m.-8:15 p.m.
- Aug. 16.** The Knewz plays at the Erie County Fair, Slade Park, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Aug. 17.** Annunciation Church Picnic, 7580 Clinton St., Elma, NY

Polka Mass with John Stanczyk & the Statesmen at 11:30 a.m. in the Church. Continuous music in the Beer Tent from 2:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. with the Dynabass and Lenny Gomulka & Chicago Push.

- Aug. 18.** Cityside at the West Seneca Lions Bandshell behind Town Hall. 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
- Aug. 19.** Polka Boosters Meeting. Depew Polish Falcons Hall. Doors open at 7:00 p.m. Music by the Knewz at 8:00 p.m. Everyone welcome! Call Chris at 892-7977.
- Aug. 21.** Cityside plays from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Griffith Park, Sloan, N.Y.
- Aug. 23.** Cityside and the Auslanders at the Polish-German Summer Festival at the Knights of Columbus, Madonna Council, North Tonawanda, N.Y. Gus 628-1973.
- Aug. 24.** 20th Annual Owl Picnic at the Lamm Post Grove. Doors open at noon. Tickets are only \$20 and proceeds go charity. This price includes food, drink, and music by The Eddie 'O' Orchestra, The New Yorkers with C.J., Jerry Darlak & the Touch, Nickel

City Notes, Cityside, Concertina All Stars, Rare Vintage, Tony Krew, and Dan Neaverth and Accordion Bill. There will also be a huge Chinese auction. Entertainment is from 1:00-7:00 p.m. Call 837-3582.

- Aug. 24.** Phocus will be at the Marilla Memorial Park Polish Fest, Two Rod Rd., Marilla, N.Y. 2:00 p.m.
- Aug. 24.** St. Barnabas Lawn Fete, Depew, N.Y. Cityside from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
- Aug. 30-31.** Broadway Grill Reunion II at the Lamm Grove, 962 Wehrle Dr., Williamsville, N.Y. Sat. features the Boys from Baltimore and the Knewz from 4:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. and Sunday from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. David "Scrubby" Seweryniak and Larry Trojak team up with Dave "Nigel" Kurdziel, Al Piatkowski, Tom Wanderlich, Tom Picciano and Mike Burka for a Dynatones reunion. Jerry Darlak & the Touch will also be playing.

Hope to see you polka dancing outside soon!

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We believe the following information to be correct, but it should always be verified before traveling long distances or expending funds.

**FRIDAY-SUNDAY, AUGUST 8-10**

• Michigan. St. Francis Cabrini Parish Festival. Bands include Kielbasa Kings (8-9) and Misty Blues (8-10). Church Grounds, 9000 Lawrence, Allen Park, Mich.

**FRI.-SAT., AUGUST 8-16**

• Michigan. Frankenmuth Summer Fest. Bands include DynaBrass (8-8), PhoCus (8-8, 8-9)), Polka Country Musicians (8-8), Polka Family (8-9), Freeze Dried (8-9), Ray Jay & the Carousels (8-9), Eddie Blazonczyk's Versatones (8-9), Stephanie Pietrzak (8-10), Gary Brueggen (8-10, 8-11), Jerry Voelker (8-10, 8-11), Steve Meisner (8-11, 8-12), Barefoot Becky (8-12, 8-13) and Music Connection (8-12, 8-13). Heritage Park, Frankenmuth, Mich.

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 8**

• Massachusetts. Eddie Forman Orchestra at St. Michael Cathedral, Springfield, Mass., 5:30-8:30 p.m.  
• Michigan. Pan Franek & Zosia at the Alanson River Fest, Alanson, Mich., 5:00-9:00 p.m.  
• Michigan. Natural Tones at the Huron Community Fair, 155 Fair St., Bad Axe, Mich., 7:00-11:00 p.m.  
• Pennsylvania. John Stevens & Double-shot at St. John Church, Larksville, Pa., 7:00-11:00 p.m.

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 9**

• Ohio. John Stevens & Doubleshot at the Cleveland Polka Association, St. Sava Church, Parma, Ohio, 4:00-8:00 p.m.

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 10**

• Massachusetts. Dennis Polisky & the Maestro's Men at the St. Joseph Parish Festival, Gardner, Mass., 1:00-5:00 p.m.  
• Massachusetts. The New England All Stars with Richie Gomulka at Pulaski Park, Three Rivers, Mass. Check locally for details.  
• Michigan. Pan Franek and Zosia at the Holy Cross Parish Festival, Cross Village, Mich., 12:00-4:00 p.m.  
• Michigan. Big Daddy Lackowski at the St. Pious Church Festival, Flint, Mich., 1:00-5:00 p.m.  
• Pennsylvania. John Stevens & Double-shot at St. Jude Church, Mountain Top, Pa., 2:00-6:00 p.m.  
• Rhode Island. Marty Swiatek & RBO at St. Joseph's Veterans, 99 Louise St., Woonsocket, R.I., from 1:00 p.m., \$12.50, cash bar.  
• Wisconsin. Prime Time and Paper City Sounds at the St. Bartholomew Parish Picnic, Mill Creek, Wis., 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.  
• Wisconsin. New Generation and Polonia Sounds at the St. Bartholomew Parish Picnic, Stevens Point, 4:00-10:00 p.m.  
• Wisconsin. Polish Connection at the St. Theresa Parish Picnic, Schofield, Wis., 4:00-8:00 p.m.

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 15**

• Wisconsin. John Gora & Gorale at the Wisconsin Polka Center, Franklin, Wis., 8:00 p.m.-12:00 a.m.

**SAT.-SUN., AUGUST 16-17**

• Michigan. Sweetest Heart of Mary Church Festival. Bands include Pan Franek and Zosia (8-16) and Kielbasa Kings (8-17). Church Grounds, Detroit, Mich.  
• Michigan. St. Stephen Parish Festival. Bands include Duane Malinowski (8-16), Pan Franek and Zosia (8-17) and Kielbasa Kings (8-17). Church Grounds, Huron River Dr., New Boston, Mich., 4:00-8:00 p.m.  
• Michigan. St. Malachy Parish Festival. Bands include Tri City Plus (8-16) and Duane Malinowski (8-17). Church Grounds, 14115 14 Mile Rd., Sterling Heights, Mich., 6:30-11:00 p.m.

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 16**

• Connecticut. Marty Swiatek & RBO at the St. Joseph Polish Society, 395 Main St., Colchester, Conn., 7:00-11:00 p.m.  
• Maine. Eddie Forman Orchestra at Harbor Park, Wells, Me., 6:30-8:30 p.m.  
• New York. The Knewz in concert at the Erie County Fair, South Park Avenue, Hamburg, N.Y., 1:00-4:00 p.m.  
• New York. City Side in concert at the West Seneca Bandshell, 1250 Union Rd., West Seneca, N.Y., 7:00 p.m.  
• Wisconsin. Prime Time at Fr. Marquette Days, Montello, Wis., 1:00-5:00 p.m.

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 17**

• Connecticut. Marty Swiatek & RBO at the St. Joseph Parish Picnic, Warsaw Park, Pulaski Hwy. (Rt. 243), Ansonia, Conn., 3:00-8:00 p.m.  
• Florida. Polka Generation at the Polish American Society of St. Petersburg, 1343 Beach Dr. SE, St. Petersburg, Fla., dinner 2:30-4:00 p.m., \$7.50; music 4:00-7:00 p.m., \$5 members, \$7 non-members.  
• Massachusetts. Eddie Forman Orchestra at the Polish American Citizens Club, Gardner, Mass., 1:00-5:00 p.m.  
• Massachusetts. Dennis Polisky & the Maestro's Men at the St. Stanislaus Parish Festival, West Warren, Mass., 1:00-5:00 p.m.  
• Michigan. Pan Franek and Zosia and Kielbasa Kings at the St. Steven Parish Festival, Huron River Dr., New Boston, Mich., 1:00-9:00 p.m.  
• Michigan. Virgil Baker at the Playhouse, 1701 W. Houghton Lake Rd., Houghton Lake, Mich., 3:00-7:00 p.m.  
• New York. DynaBrass and Lenny Gomulka & Chicago Push at the Annunciation Parish Festival, 7580 Clinton St., Elma, N.Y., 2:00-10:00 p.m.  
• New York. Jimmy Sturr & his Orchestra at the Grahamsville Fair, Grahamsville, N.Y., 2:00 p.m.  
• New York. Lenny Gomulka & Chicago Push and the DynaBrass at the Annunciation Parish Lawn fete, Elma, N.Y. Check locally for details.  
• New York. Tony's Polka Band at the Polish Community Club, Utica, N.Y. Check locally for details.  
• Wisconsin. Norm Dombrowski & the Happy Notes and Duane Burclaw & the Golden Aces at Polonia Polka Fest, Sacred Heart Parish Fest, Polonia, Wis., 7:00-11:00 p.m.

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 19**

• Connecticut. Eddie Forman Orchestra at Polish Day, Aqua Turf, Plantsville, Conn., 11:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.  
• Connecticut. Eddie Forman Orchestra at Hubbard Park, Meridan, 6:30-8:00 p.m.  
• New York. The Knewz at the Buffalo Polka Boosters, Polish Falcons Hall, 445 Columbia Ave., Depew, N.Y., 8:00 p.m.

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 21**

• Massachusetts. Eddie Forman Orchestra at the Senior Center, Millbury, Mass., 5:30-7:30 p.m.  
• New York. Tony's Polka Band at the Whit-

estown Veterans Club, Whitestown, N.Y., 6:30-9:00 p.m.

**FRI.-SUN., AUGUST 22-24**

• Michigan. Mt. Carmel Parish Festival. Bands include Ethnic Jazz (8-22), Stas Golonka & the Chicago Masters (8-22), Stephanie Pietrzak (8-23, 8-24), Eddie Blazonczyk's Versatones (8-23, 8-24), Glass Town Sound (8-23) and DynaBrass (8-24). Church Grounds, Wyandotte, Mich.  
• Pennsylvania. Zabawa Polish Festival. Bands include the Knewz, DynaBrass, Mar-Vels and Henny & the Versa J's. Holy Trinity Parish Grounds, 2220 Reed St., Erie, Pa. For details call (814) 456-0671.

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 22**

• Ohio. Ray Jay & the Carousels at Kima's Grove, East 71st St., Cuyahoga Heights, Ohio, from 6:30 p.m.

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 23**

• Michigan. Natural Tones at the Maple Valley School, 138 Maple Valley Rd., Sandusky, Ohio, 7:00-11:00 p.m.  
• New Jersey. Lenny Gomulka & Chicago Push at the Bayway Polish Home, 625 Pulaski St., Elizabeth, N.J. Check locally for details.  
• New York. City Side and the Auslanders at the Polish-German Summer Festival, Madonna Council K of C, 755 Erie Ave., North Tonawanda, \$20. Check locally for details.  
• Rhode Island. Marty Swiatek & RBO at River Island Park, Woonsocket, R.I., 2:00-5:00 p.m.  
• Wisconsin. Duane Burclaw & the Golden Aces at the Steam and Gas Engine Show, Edgar, Wis., 7:00-11:00 p.m.

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 24**

• Illinois. Summer Picnic of the International Polka Association (IPA), Heritage Manor, 5540 S. Narragansett Ave., Chicago, Ill., gates open 1:00 p.m., music 2:00-6:00 p.m., \$8 non-members, \$7 with IPA card.  
• Massachusetts. Eddie Forman Orchestra at the White Eagle Picnic Grounds, Greenfield, Mass., 2:00-6:00 p.m.  
• Michigan. Polka Music Sound at SS. Peter & Paul Parish Festival, North Branch, Mich., 1:00-5:00 p.m.  
• Michigan. Pan Franek and Zosia at the Sacred Heart Parish Festival, Munising, Mich., 1:00-5:00 p.m.  
• Michigan. Natural Tones at the Gillis Ho-

tel and Lounge, 1773 Main St., Minden City, Mich., 4:00-10:00 p.m.

• New York. PhoCus and the Polish Heritage Dancers of Western New York at the Marilla Polish Fest, Marilla Memorial Park, Marilla, N.Y. 2:00 p.m. Check locally for details.  
• New York. City Side at the St. Barnabas Parish Lawn Fete, Church Grounds, George Urban Blvd., Depew, N.Y., 6:00 p.m.  
• Ohio. Big Daddy Lackowski at the American Czechoslovakian Club, 922 Valley St., Dayton, Ohio, 3:00-7:00 p.m., \$13.  
• Ohio. Squeeze Box at the Ottawa K of C Hall, Ottawa, Ohio. Check locally for details.  
• Pennsylvania. Lenny Gomulka & Chicago Push at the St. Stephen Parish Picnic, reading, Pa. Check locally for details.  
• Wisconsin. Duane Burclaw & the Golden Aces at Sherriland Ballroom, Sherry, Wis., 1:00-5:00 p.m.

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 29**

• Massachusetts. Eddie Forman Orchestra at the Town Gazebo, Easthampton, Mass., 6:30-8:00 p.m.  
• Pennsylvania. Lenny Gomulka & Chicago Push at Good Samaritan Parish, Ambridge, Pa. Check locally for details.

**SAT.-SUN., AUGUST 30-31**

• New York. Broadway Grill Reunion. Bands and musicians include Boys From Baltimore, Knewz, Scrubby, Larry Trojak, Dave "Nigel" Kurdziel, Al Piatkowski, Tom Wanderlich, Tom Picciano, Mike Burka and Jerry Darlak & the Touch. Lamm Post Grove, 962 Wehrle Dr., Williamsville, N.Y. Sat. 2:00 p.m.; Sun. 1:00 p.m. Tickets \$12.

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Cindy Koretsky.....	610-775-7766
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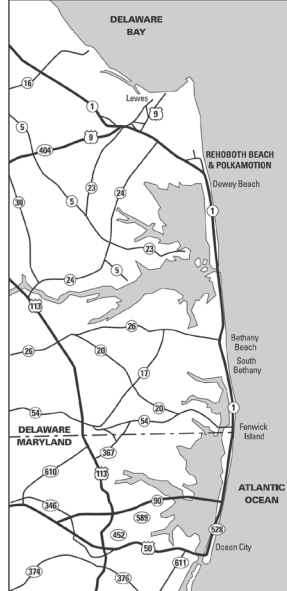
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POLISH CHEF / Robert Strybel

## Home-made Kiszka or Kaszanka

In the Poland of our immigrant ancestors and in the Polish countryside to this day, *kaszanka* (mainly known across Polonia as *kiszka*!) was always produced at pig-butcher time—at Christmas, Easter, for weddings and other festive occasions. Most of the necessary main fixings were right there—the variety meats, fatback, casing and blood—and only some groats and seasonings were needed to make it all work.

Today's Pol-Am *kiszka*-lovers usually stock up at their favorite Polish grocery, butcher shop or deli. Anyone who loves *kaszanka* but does not live in or near a Polish outlet, might try their hand at making it at home.

They would need to find the casing (salted hog's intestines) and pork blood, but that very thought of the latter might turn some people off. Here then is a less drastic, sim-

pler, updated version for the squeamish and faint at heart, but the final result is quite good. See if you don't agree.

Cook 1-2 pork hocks (golonka) in water to more than cover 1 hr, skimming off scum from top until no more forms. Add 1 T salt, 1 bay leaf, 6 peppercorns, 1 grain allspice, 1 onion, 1 carrot, 1 parsley root and 1 slice of celeriac (or 1 stalk celery) and cook until meat comes away from bone easily. Strain stock and in 3.5 c of it cook 2 c buckwheat groats until water is absorbed. Cover pot and transfer to 325° oven for 30 min. Note: If weight-watching and/or cholesterol-conscious, chill stock overnight in fridge and, next day, remove congealed fat from top and discard. Then proceed to cook the groats in the degreased stock.

Remove meat from hock bone. In 2 T butter briefly stir-fry 1 c raw chicken livers (trimmed of any

veins and membranes) until lightly browned on the outside but still pink or red inside. Run pork-hock meat and chicken livers through coarse plate of meat-grinder (or use chopper setting of processor). Dice and fry 1/2 lb pork fatback ( *słonina*) to a pale golden-brown and drain. (Save drippings for some other purpose like frying eggs in.) Combine the groats, *skwarki* (pork fatback nuggets) ground pork and liver, mix well, salt & pepper to taste and season with salt, about 2 T rubbed marjoram and 1/4 t ground allspice. Pack mixture into well-greased loaf-tin(s) and bake in 350° degree oven about 1 hr.

Serve hot, straight from the oven or first let it cool, slice when cold and reheat in a little fat in frying pan. Serve plain or with mustard, horseradish or fried onions, rye bread, sliced tomatoes or brined cucumbers and ice-cold vodka or beer.

## Polish Kissing, Hugging, Hand Gestures, and Body Language

by Robert Strybel

WARSAW—Polish Americans visiting relatives in Poland for the first time are often surprised by the prevailing greeting custom. When embraced by a Polish relative who appears about to kiss them, the American often puckers his lips, but the Pole turns his/her head away from the Pol-Am's mouth and plants three kisses on alternate cheeks one after the other. Kissing on the lips is reserved for lovers and married couples. There are many other forms of greetings and symbolic gestures that first-timers may find exotic, while others will ring a bell. These include:

- **Hand-kissing:** Dashing Polish officers and even enlisted men stationed in Scotland during World War II swept the local lasses off their feet with the gallant custom of hand-kissing, and many mixed marriages ensued. This custom of greeting members of the "weaker" (?) sex by kissing their right hand has lasted on into the 21st century, although it probably won't survive another generation or two. President Lech Kaczyński (born 1947) still greets ladies the traditional way, but the more "Western" Prime Minister Donald Tusk, who is eight years younger, simply shakes their hand.

- **Thanks-for-the-dance handkiss:**

After leading his partner onto the dance floor, a Polish gentleman kisses her hand before the dancing begins and does so again after the selection is concluded. This obviously applies to traditional couples dances, not discos where everybody shakes, bounces and gyrates on their own.

- **Hand-shaking:** This gesture is known world-



wide during introductions, but in Poland it is a daily greeting among peers. When arriving at work, an employee shakes hands and says "Cześć!" (Hi!) to his workmates. The neighbor or acquaintance one runs into at a bus stop, in a shop or on the street is greeted the same way.

- **Hug, kiss and handshake/hand-kiss:** When greeting someone you haven't seen for some time (or ever), it is customary to embrace the person being greeted, impart the triple-barreled kiss (mentioned above) and follow it up with a handshake for a male and a handkiss for female.
- **Nod/bow:** When shaking hands, the Poles bends his head forward in a kind of cross between a nod and a bow. This gesture is also used when greeting others at a distance (as when passing them in a car), when hand-shaking is impossible.
- **Ladies first:** The Western feminists and their Polish imitators may rant and rave, but chivalrous Poles always greet females first.

When encountering a roomful of Polish relatives, the first reaction of many Pol-Ams is to greet them in the order in which they are seated or standing, but the proper way is to greet the ladies first and then move on to the gentlemen.

- **Deference to age:** Members of the older generation are greeted first, then the middle

generation and finally the youngsters. But the "ladies first" principle persists: a grandmother would be the first female greeted, and the grandfather would be the first male to whom greeting are extended.

- **Ladies first in letters:** The proper way to address an envelope to a married couple is: Sz. Państwo Maria i Jan Kowalscy (with the woman's first name listed first). The salutations that open letters do likewise: Kochana Ciociu i Wujku (Dear Auntie and Uncle).
- **Hat-tipping:** Males who wear hats, berets or caps tip them when greeting someone on the street, while the hatless simply nod. If close enough, a handshake may follow. When passing a church, religious men tip their hats as a sign of respect to a "Dom Boży" (house of God). Women never tip their headgear.
- **Thumbs up/thumbs down:** This international gesture, made famous by Roman emperors to indicate whether a defeated gladiator should be killed or spared, is also used in Poland to mean all is well

## Johnny's Angels



**CHARLIE HAD THREE ANGELS** on TV, but John F. Szuch, president of the Polish Genealogical Society of Greater Cleveland, has four!

Pictured here with John are the ladies that make his job as president easy (l. to r.): Georgene Jasinski (books speakers for the meetings), Elaine Marec (hostess in charge of refreshments), Cindy Spikowski (librarian and bulletin editor), and Trina Galauner (in charge of website). The group is off for the summer with meetings resuming in September. Visit its website at [www.freewebs.com/pgsgc/OFF](http://www.freewebs.com/pgsgc/OFF).

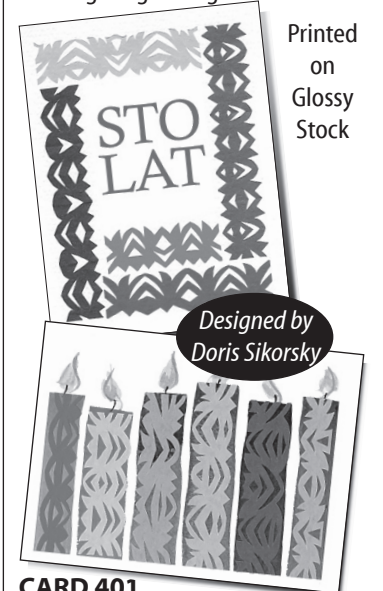
- **Fig sign:** This is a very old gesture made with the thumb poking out between the index and middle fingers of a clenched fist. Its meaning varies in different countries, although it is always negative. In Poland it is usually a turn-down or refusal meaning "no," "nothing," "zilch" or "no way." If someone asking for a 100-złoty loan is shown the fig it can mean something like "drop dead," or "get lost."

- **AOK sign:** The American "all OK" sign, made by bringing the point of the thumb and forefinger together to form a circle, is not used in Poland. Be sure never to make it when visiting Greece, where it is a derogatory gesture to indicate a homosexual!
- **Tapping the forehead:** Rather than twirling their finger round their ear the way Americans do, Poles tap their forehead with a forefinger or pretending to be drawing a circle thereon to indicate that someone is off his rocker or not quite right in the head.
- **Tapping the neck:** Snapping the neck with one or two fingers or tapping it with two fingers or the side of a full palm indicates alcoholic drink. If someone says "We went out last night" while making that gesture, it means it was a drinking bout. Without the need to say so, it can also mean someone is inebriated or has been imbibing.
- **Pulling the eye:** The gesturer points to his eye, touches the skin just below the lower eye lid or even pulls it down a bit in a sign of disbelief to something that has been said by someone. Its the equivalent of saying: "My eye," "Yeah, sure," "Don't give me that" or "That's a load of BS."
- **Nose thumbing:** The thumb is placed on the tip of the nose, with the remaining fingers of the hand extended and waggled freely in this humorous gesture of gentle mockery. It is also known in America and elsewhere.
- **One-finger salute:** The vulgar American gesture of "giving someone the finger" by extending and upraised middle finger from the fist has become widespread among Poland's younger generation weaned on MTV and Hollywood.
- **Bent elbow gesture:** This is an obscene gesture of extreme disrespect known much longer in Poland and throughout Europe than the American one-finger salute. The gesturer thrusts up his arm in a fist whilst simultaneously striking the crook of that arm (bending point) with the side of his other hand. Since the 1980s it has been known in Poland as "Kozakiewicz's gesture," because the Polish champion pole-vaulter displayed it to the jeering Russian audience at the 1980 Moscow Olympics.

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BOOKS IN BRIEF / Florence Waszkelewicz Clowes

# The Fine Art of Quilting

**CONTEMPORARY QUILT ART**  
*An Introduction and Guide*  
by **Kate Lenkowsky**  
Indiana University Press, 2008  
142 color photos, glossary,  
bibliography, index, notes,  
304 pp., \$34.95

This is not a collection of your grandma's functional quilts—instead the quilts have been transformed into pieces of fine art. This oversized book is full of vibrant colors of a few traditional quilts, but the majority are imaginative designs and creations of contemporary men and women.

Part one begins with a description of the methods of construction of traditional quilts, including the historical and social developments of the 20th century that led to their evolution. Fabrics, dyeing, embroidery, fabric painting, digital image printing, French knots, fusing and much more are discussed. Illustrations of the work of nineteen prominent artists throughout the country make this book spellbinding. The last section includes a guide for buyers and collectors, galleries and quilt exhibits, as well as information on caring for and displaying your art collection. An informative, beautiful book that will be treasured by both collectors and artists.

**LULU MEETS GOD AND DOUBTS HIM**  
by **Danielle Ganek**  
Plume Publishing, 2008  
277 pp., \$14.00

Mia McMurray came to New York, planning to be a famous artist. Instead she has been a receptionist at the Simon Pryce gallery for the past five years and has yet to take up her paintbrush. When an aspiring one-armed painter, Jeffrey Finelli, comes into the gallery, Mia leads him through the display of his first show of seven paintings. It is an enormous painting, *Lulu Meets God and Doubts Him*, that is striking. The young girl's eyes force the viewer to stay glued to her. Mia is fascinated with the painting, and has been staring at it across from her desk for the past few days.

Tell me about her, she asks. But then, as Simon struggles to come in, his hands full with an umbrella and a sippy cup of tea, it spills over his shirtsleeve. The tranquility of the gallery is broken, and Finelli suddenly demands the paintings be taken down, there will be no sale. But Simon reminds him he has already bought them. It is common for the owner to purchase the paintings before a showing, hoping to make a killing as addicted art collectors bid up the price. Finelli, angry, rushes out the door, into the rainy street, and is run over by a car. Now that the artist is dead, his paintings are all the more collectable.

Mia leads the reader into the world of art galleries, auctions, commissions, and wealthy self-important people, bit by the collection obsession, outbidding each other. She takes the reader into her own world, reluctant to give herself to a young artist who pursues her. In the end, she finds her own creative identity and agrees to let the artist become part of her life. A light, fun book for the beach.

**ABROAD FOR HER COUNTRY**  
*Tales of a Pioneer Woman Ambassador in the U.S. Foreign Service*  
by **Jean M. Wilkowski**  
University of Notre Dame Press,  
2008; photos, index, 400 pp.,  
\$30.00

This is a fascinating biography of a woman who entered the political arena at a time when few women were accepted. Jean Wilkowski entered the Foreign Service in 1944, accepting assignments around the world before retiring in 1980. As one of the few women in the Foreign Service, she had to become accustomed to living in close quarters with men and taking their jibes or romantic approaches. Learning Spanish and other languages was just a few of her achievements as she rose from vice council to the first woman U.S. ambassador to Zambia. During that time, she served in Paris, Rome, Chile, Columbia, and El Salvador—nine countries on three

continents in her thirty-five years of service. She has met and dealt with popes, presidents and dignitaries in her long career.

Witkowski tells her extraordinary story with humor and wit. Work was not always formalities and documents to prepare, dignitaries to meet. For instance, her ill-fated ballet lessons from the Prima Ballerina of La Scala, Signora De Santis while in Milan, or purchasing a villa in Tuscany, or the insult from former Governor John Connally or being silenced by Pope John XXIII.

Forced to retire at age 60, she soon found work on the board of Volunteers in Technical Assistance and later on the board of the Corn Products Company in Milan. In 1995 she was presented the Foreign Service Cup for her fifty years of service to the Nation in governmental and private capacities.

This testament will go far to encourage young women to investigate a career in government service.

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THE PONDERING POLE / Edward Poniewaz

# Trying Times

The tomatoes are doing well. The operative words are *czekać* and *mieć* (to wait and to hope).

If you are looking for just a wonderful and engrossing docu-drama while waiting for the tomatoes to ripen and only a month after celebrating Independence Day, get the HBO miniseries *John Adams*, from the book with the same name by David McCullough. The book is the better way to learn the complete historical record but either format will produce an understanding of the monumental and excruciating effort in war and politics that was required to break from England and unite the states. The superb cast is lead by Paul Giamatti and Laura Linney. The costume designer for this period film is Donna Zukowska. The series' co-producer is Kirk Saduski.

The information card included in the DVD set describes the United States during the time of Adams as "suffering attacks from both within and without." I will submit that most Americans do not have an inkling of the kinds "attacks" the framers and participants of the new constitution and country went through to produce the unique method for government that we enjoy.

The difficulties of the framers made me think of Polonia's problems at this period in American history concerning the Catholic Church and the disposition of parishes and churches that are or were traditionally Polish. The parishes and churches still are in many cases the center of Polish community and culture. They are what keep us together.

I'm not big on promulgating the standard tag that the Poles are victims, have endured so much suffering, had it so tough, and so on. That part I understand for what it is worth (and it is worth something.) The more important thing is that we are in a time when we are being tested in a number of ways. As mentioned, the parishes and most importantly the churches are closing and some are being torn down; the active Polonia is getting very old with few young folks to carry on the traditions; Poles have been singled out and have a harder time getting a visa for admittance to the United States.

Recently I heard a woman lament, almost in tears, about how tragic it is to see how the Polish communities in St. Louis and other American cities are being torn apart by events and circumstances instigated by religious and other leaders.

Like the colonists, Polonia wants recognition as well as representa-

tion in these matters. The colonists were upset over a lack of representation.

Our Polish parishes and churches are the loyal and dedicated remnants of the colonial American Catholic Church. The colonists were in a squabble which was tantamount to a family feud.

In many cases it is relatives and friends who are not talking with one another over what is happening with the churches. It was Englishmen against Englishmen in the war for independence.

Colonists and parishioners on both sides of the issues were torn on whether to remain with the *status quo* or to look at alternatives. Adams, Jefferson, and Washington had bigger problems than we have of course but the consternation many of us have felt is just as real.

We are at a place where independent and creative minds must prevail to carry on the fight just as they did. There is a very poignant part of the movie where the Reverend Whitney tells John Adams, "Some taught, some wrote, and some fought to provoke and establish but you and Mr. Jefferson thought for us all." Thinking is good. Straightforward and clear thinking will get us through these trying times and to carry on in the future. I am confident of this.

**THIS MONTH'S QUESTION**, totally unrelated to new constitutions: Sonia Rykiel is a famous fashion designer. (About time we added another name under Cassini.) Wikipedia says that she is a "Polish Jew," however it would be nice to have more credible information than that. What is the ancestral background and biography of Pani Rykiel?

**READERS RESPOND TO THE PONDERING POLE.** Dziękuję bardzo to Martin Nowak and Gerald Singleton for the nice comments on June's Pondering Pole. Please let me know what you think, whether you agree or disagree with what is said in the column. I do appreciate your opinions.

Dziękuję bardzo to Alina Casimira Poniewaz for the great birthday present of the DVD set mini-series *John Adams*.

If you have an answer to the question this month, a previous month, have a question of your own, or have interesting facts to share, contact me at: Edward Poniewaz, 6432 Marmaduke, St. Louis, MO 63139; eMail [alinabrig@yahoo.com](mailto:alinabrig@yahoo.com).


## Look what we've found!

Original new, nearly-MINT hard-cover editions of Sienkiewicz's "With Fire and Sword" and "Fire in the Steppe" published by the Copernicus Society of America and translated by W.S. Kuniczak. ("The Deluge" is sold out).

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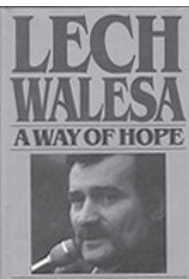
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## SPORTS / Tom Tarapacki

## A Disappointment for the Polish National Team

Euro 2008 ended in disappointment for the Polish national team. In the last match of Group B Poland lost to Croatia 1-0. In the first match with Germany Poland was defeated 2-0, and the second match with Austria was a 1-1 draw.

Poland coach **Leo Beenhakker's** contract with Poland has been extended to take him through to the end of 2010 World Cup qualifying, but Poland's poor performance in their first European Championship has led to speculation that he may resign.

"I signed the contract in November, which allows me to coach Poland in the next two years," said the 65-year-old.

Poland lost the very last chance to make it into quarterfinals following the loss to Croatia, having already qualified as group winners before the kick-off. Poland's exit from the tournament with two defeats and one draw with co-hosts Austria, who was also eliminated after losing to Germany 1-0 in Monday's other simultaneous Group B match.

"In the three games, apart from some lucky moments," said Beenhakker, "we were not good enough to handle this level. I think the only solution is going back to the training pitch and starting practice. Hopefully, after a few years, we are able to compete with strong countries."

**WHAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN.** Poland might have done better in Euro 2008 if it had the services of **Lukasz**

**Podolski.** The stand-out striker for the German national team was born in Gliwice in Silesia. He was the son of Krystyna Podolski, a former member of the Polish national handball team and Waldemar Podolski, former Polish football professional. In 1987, when Lukasz Podolski was two, his family emigrated from Poland to West Germany.

After a couple of impressive performances by Lukasz in 2003 Polish media suggested then-Polish national team coach **Pawel Janas** pursue Podolski, since he was still eligible to play for Poland. Janas told the press that "as for today we have much better strikers in Poland ... He's not even a regular starter at his club." By that time Podolski was still interested in representing Poland, but as the season progressed more and more German media started to suggest to call up the striker to their national team. By the time he was reaching his potential, he had already been convinced.

Podolski made his Euro 2008 debut against Poland. He scored both goals in a 2-0 victory. He avoided celebrating his goals, however, to show respect for his country of birth. After the game he gave an emotional interview on Polish television.

**MATUSZ GOES EARLY.** University of San Diego All-American pitcher **Brian Matusz** was the first pitcher selected in the MLB draft, as the Baltimore Orioles made him the 4th player taken in the first round.

A two-time finalist for the Golden Spikes Award and the current NCAA leader in strikeouts (141). Matusz is the reigning West Coast Conference Pitcher of the Year and the all-time strikeout (396) leader at his school. The left-hander went 12-2 with a 1.71 ERA this season, and held opponents to a .211 batting average and 22 walks in 105 innings.

Matusz went 10-3 with a 2.85 ERA last season and pitched for Team USA during the summer. He was drafted in the 4th round by the Angels in 2005, but he elected to attend school instead. Matusz became the first San Diego player to be named as a finalist for the Golden Spikes Award—given to the best amateur baseball player—and he helped the team achieve its highest ranking (No. 4) last season.

The lanky southpaw can hit 93 mph consistently with his fastball and shows a touch with his changeup and curveball, but his mental toughness is what most scouts talk about.

The Brewers chose **Josh Romanski**, Matusz's teammate at USD, in the 4th round. Romanski, who was named a 3rd-team All-American utility player, posted an overall record of 9-1 with a 4.00 ERA on the mound and hit .324.

Elsewhere in the MLB draft: In the 2nd round, with the 70th pick, Washington drafted **Jacob Smolinski**, SS from Boylan Catholic (IL) HS ... draft-eligible sophomore **Mark Sobolewski** was a 4th-round



Poland might have done better in Euro 2008 if it had the services of **Lukasz Podolski.**

pick by the Twins ... in round 5 the Blue Jays drafted **Marc Rzepczynski** and the Yankees selected **Adam Olbrychowski**, RHP from Pepperdine ... Florida selected **Pete Andrelezyk**, a RHP out of Coastal Carolina ... the Reds picked C **Tim Federowicz** from N. Carolina and LHP **Richard Wasilewski** from Brunswick (GA) HS ... the Cubs selected **Tony Zych**, a RHP from St. Rita HS in Chicago ... In the 12th the Cards drafted **Brett Zawacki**, RHP from La Salle-Peru Township HS Peru, Ill.

**POLISH HOOPS.** Prokom Trefl Sopot won a thrilling game 7 over Turow to capture the Polish Basketball Championship for the fifth time in a row. **David Logan** of Turow, an American who played collegiately

at Indianapolis, was named Season MVP, while Finals MVP Award went to Prokom Trefl forward **Filip Dylewicz**. Milan Gurovic, of Greek-Serbian nationality, scored 36 points in the final for Pokrom.

The Polish Professional League allows each team to play 2 American players and 6 from European countries. Pokrom had two U.S. point guards, **Tim Kisner** from Central Michigan and Mustafa Shakur from Arizona. One of Pokrom's American players had been DaJuan Wagner, a former 1st round (6th overall) draft pick of the Cleveland Cavaliers. Other U.S. players in Poland this year included **Logan Kosmalski**, a former Davidson standout, and Lee Humphrey, who played guard for the Florida Gators national championship team.

### POLISH SURNAME CORNER / Robert Strybel

## Your Polish Last Name Means Something!

Most Polish last names mean something. If it is Pawlak, someone once nicknamed some distant ancestor of yours "Paul's kid" (English equivalent Paulson) and it stuck! Brzeziński was the guy from Brzeziny (Birchville), Piekarczyk was the village baker and Piekarczyk was what people called his helper or son, Zając was nervous and flighty as a hare, Głowacki had an exceptionally large head and Nawrocki had converted to Catholicism. Biegała was always seen running off somewhere, but rarely walking, Stolarski made a living as a carpenter and Nowak was what they called the new guy in the village.

Nowak happens to be Poland's most popular last name, shared by more than 200,000 Poles. Since it is widely held that about one-fourth of all Polish make their homes beyond Poland's borders, there may be another 50,000 or so living in North America and around the globe. Probably most everybody has run into at least one Nowak over the years or at least seen the name on store fronts, billboards and campaign posters as well as in news stories, obits and even movie credits flashed on the screen. Novak is the Czech and Slovak spelling, but some Poles have been known to also spell it that way so as not to go through life in America being called "no whack"!

What had started out as a nickname became the normal way of identifying a given individual and eventually evolved into an ordinary

surname. It got passed down from one generation to the next and finally was brought over to America by immigrant ancestors.

### Nowak happens to be Poland's most popular last name, shared by more than 200,000 Poles.

A custom-researched analysis of your last name or that of other relatives will provide you with its meaning and derivation, how many people share it, where they live and whether a coat of arms goes with it. (Illustrations of the coats of arms are included.) That can be the first step to tracing your Old World roots. If interested, please airmail a \$15 check (adding \$7 for each additional surname you want researched such as your mother's maiden name or grandparents' surnames) to: Robert Strybel, ul. Kaniowska 24, 01-529 Warsaw, Poland

You will also get a bonus list of root-tracing contacts that can put you in touch with professional genealogists, genealogical groups and helpful Web sites, data bases, addresses and phone numbers. Anyone aware of what research or consulting fees fare like nowadays will surely agree that this is almost for free. The primary purpose of this a service to enable Polish-Americans to touch base with their ancestral roots. Speedy service is guaranteed, and the research is launched the same day an order is received.

### Teacher Sells Granny's Stories to Help Students

LAWRENCE, Mass.—Kimberly Kozak lovingly remembers the stories her grandmother, Blanche Gurka Kozak, would tell her as she tried to coax her to sleep as a child. She wouldn't simply read her nursery rhymes or childhood favorites from a bookstore. "She made up stories about things that happened in this area," said Kozak.

Like Kozak, children throughout the region can now enjoy some of "Granny Gurka's" homespun tales. Kozak, an alternative high school teacher in Lawrence, is selling sets of coloring books and nursery rhymes her grandmother published prior to her death in 1997. Approximately 20,000 copies, sold in sets of 14, are now on sale for \$15. Ten percent of the book sales will benefit students at the School of Exceptional Studies, a highly structured alternative educational program.

For more information or to order a set of books, check out [www.bcent.com/users/kimkozak/](http://www.bcent.com/users/kimkozak/), e-mail Kozak at [granny@bcent.com](mailto:granny@bcent.com) or call Kozak directly at (978) 687-1235.

### PIASA Selects New Editor of The Polish Review

NEW YORK—The Board of Directors of the Polish Institute of Arts & Sciences of America (PIASA), acting on the recommendation of a search committee, appointed Dr. Charles S. Kraszewski, the new editor-in-chief of its scholarly quarterly journal, *THE POLISH REVIEW*.

This multi-disciplinary journal published without interruption since 1956 is the only English language academic periodical devoted entirely to Polish and Polish American affairs.

Dr. Kraszewski received his Ph.D. in Comparative Literature at Pennsylvania State University in 1990. He is currently professor

at King's College in Pennsylvania, where he lectures on the literatures and cultures of Europe. He was twice recipient of Fulbright grants which enabled him to study at the Jagiellonian University in Krakow, and later to teach there as an adjunct professor in the Comparative Literature department of the Institute of Polish Philology. There he lectured on European Pre-romanticism and Translation Theory. His discussion with students in the latter course led to his book, "Translation Theory Backwards: Four Translation Strategies Determined by the Particular Needs of the Receptor." (1998). His published criticism chiefly centers on Polish, Czech and Slovak literatures.

The first issue of *THE POLISH REVIEW* published under the editorship of Dr. Kraszewski is Volume LIII, 2008, No. 1 which appeared in late March. The new editor can be contacted by e mail at [editor@thepolishreview.org](mailto:editor@thepolishreview.org). The mailing address of the Review is PIASA 208 East 30th St., New York, N.Y. 10016.

### New Legion Post Named for Antoni Chrusciel

TUSCOLA, Ill.—When Paul Wisovaty heard about the Polish Legion of American Veterans, he knew he wanted to join a post. A call to the National Commander convinced him to start a post himself. What resulted was the Antoni Chrusciel Post 215, named for the Polish commander of the Warsaw Uprising of 1944.

The post is unique for many reasons. Besides being alone in an organization full of posts named for Casimir Pulaski, the group is pretty informal. They don't have a regular meeting place or time; in fact three of the members of the 13-member group live in Connecticut, one in Maryland, and one in Orlando, so coming up with a quorum is a little

difficult.

But small as they are, the Polish post's members are able to do some pretty mighty things. This spring will be the fourth time they award two \$300 scholarships to a child or grandchild of a veteran graduating from Tuscola Community High School. Now, any veteran who's been honorably discharged can join the organization. "They don't have to be Polish anymore," Post Commander Leo Plaszczyński said. Still, they do have an honorary member. Tuscola resident Ed Wachala isn't a veteran, but he was born in Poland and spent his first few years under Nazi rule before moving to the United States. The members of the Polish legion surprised Wachala with his membership, which Wachala called an honor. "I think it's great," he said, adding that he likes getting together with other Polish Americans and remembering Poland's history. "I wouldn't trade it for the world."

### Murawski Awarded Hawthornden Fellowship

CHICAGO—Poet Elisabeth Murawski has been notified that she is a recipient of a Hawthornden Fellowship. She will be spending a month at the Hawthornden Castle writer's retreat in Scotland.

Murawski is the author of "Moon and Mercury" (Washington Writers Publishing House, 1990) and "Troubled by an Angel" (Cleveland State University Poetry Center, 1997). Her work has appeared in *SPOON RIVER POETRY REVIEW*, *THE YALE REVIEW*, *VIRGINIA QUARTERLY REVIEW*, *FIELD*, *CHELSEA*, *THE AMERICAN VOICE*, among others. She is a native of Chicago, graduated with an MFA from George Mason and lives in Alexandria, Virginia.

For more on Murawski and the works of those writing about the Polish Diaspora, visit <http://writing-polishdiaspora.blogspot.com/>.

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CIEKAWOSTKI / Martin S. Nowak

## The Poles and the Poles

Any discussion about Polish polar exploration must begin with a discussion of Polish American scientist Henryk Arctowski.

He was born in Warsaw in 1871 and attended university in Belgium and France. After graduation, he helped organize and took part in a Belgian Antarctic expedition which became the first to winter below the Antarctic Circle, from 1897-1899. As one of the group's chief scientists, Arctowski conducted oceanographic, glaciologic and meteorologic research, and discovered the rainbow-like halo which forms around the sun due to ice crystals in the air.

After the expedition he worked at the Royal Belgian Observatory where he processed data collected during the trip. As a geologist, Arctowski studied similarities between the Antarctic Peninsula and the southern tip of South America. He embarked on lecture tours to talk about his research and observations, and during one such trip he met his future wife, the American singer Arian Addy, in London.

From 1911 to 1919, Arctowski was the director of the natural sciences division at the New York Public Library, and in 1919 he was the chief researcher during an expedi-

tion to the Svalbard (Spitsbergen) Islands north of the Arctic Circle. In 1920, Arctowski returned to Poland to take a position at Jan Kazimierz University in Lwów as head of its Geophysics and Meteorology Department. He turned down an offer to become Education Minister in the Polish government, preferring to continue his scientific investigations.

When World War II broke out, Arctowski was in Washington, D.C. participating in a climate change conference. He stayed in the United States and was appointed to a position at the Smithsonian Institution, where he continued his research. He retired in 1950 and died eight years later. Arctowski published hundreds of papers, and his research and studies contributed greatly to the understanding of the earth's geology, geography and climate. The Arctowski Peninsula and Arctowski Peak in Antarctica and Mt. Arctowski and Arctowski Glacier in Svalbard bear his name.

Another member of the 1897-99 Belgian expedition was Antoni Dobrowolski, a Polish student hired as a sailor but promoted to meteorologist. He became a researcher and teacher.

The roots of Polish polar research

lay in Siberia. Polish scientists deported there for anti-Russian activities were able to conduct pioneering research in the Siberian Arctic. Austrian Antarctic expeditions of the late 19th century include the name Johann Wilczek of Vienna and Silesia, and Germany's Erich von Drygalski, most likely of Polish descent, led that country's first expedition to the southern continent.

Arctowski sparked great interest by Poles in polar exploration. Expeditions to Svalbard were undertaken during the interwar years. After the war, a Polish scientific station was built there and in the 1970s the United States and Poland conducted joint Arctic research. A current expert in polar exploration is Dr. Paul Mayewski of the University of Maine, who has organized and led numerous expeditions in Greenland and Antarctica for the United States.

In the Antarctic, Poles participated in Soviet expeditions and in 1959 the USSR turned over one of its facilities to Poland. It was renamed the Dobrowolski Station but was abandoned in 1979. However, in 1977 the Polish Academy of Sciences established a permanent facility on King George Island near the Antarctic Peninsula. Named the



Polish American scientist Henryk Arctowski, 1945.

Arctowski Station, it operates today and does research in cooperation with scientists from many nations.

The Antarctic Treaty of 1959 established international rules regarding the continent's status and uses, and Poland was one of the early signers. Today, Poland is one of three "bipolar" nations; that is, countries that maintain a permanent presence in both the Arctic and Antarctic. The other two are Russia and America.

Due to recent concerns about global warming, polar research has assumed a greater importance as

scientists study climate changes at the poles. As the ice cover retreats, the polar regions are becoming more enticing for commercial use, including navigation, fishing, and oil and mineral extraction. Several countries claim parts of Antarctica, and in the north, Russia has recently claimed rights far out into the Arctic Ocean.

These are issues which need to be addressed by the world community. Though Poland makes no territorial claims at the poles, its presence and interest in those regions make it a player in determining their future.

BABA YAGA'S CORNER / Jaga Urban-Klaehn

## Save our Planet

### How we used less and saved more in Poland

It might be a right time to compare the way people live in Poland (simplicity) and in the United States (overconsumption). The United States is the biggest consumer of goods in the world. People here use more energy than anywhere else in the world. Now, as gas prices in the United States go over four dollars per gallon, it is a time to modify our habits.

I was born in Poland sixteen years after the end of World War II, which completely devastated Poland economically. Poland, "thanks" to Soviet occupation did not accept the Marshall Plan which helped rebuild the Western European economy. Poles lived under the umbrella of a Soviet-type socialistic economy. The development of Eastern European countries was slower than the countries of Western Europe, since we denied any help from the United States and embraced a communistic economy.

For as long as I can remember, there was never a surplus of products on the market. Our socialistic, planned economy did not even predict such a case. Our propaganda said that stores in capitalistic countries are full of products just because the hard-working people in these countries cannot afford many products they want! According to our economic rules, production should be always planned ahead in such a way that the supply should equal the demand, so there would never be any excess products. The balance between the supply and the demand was rarely achieved. Many basic products (butter, toilet paper) were in short supply from time to time. We had to learn how to live with less and save more and how to live without some necessities.

The variety of consumer goods available in stores was very limited—usually to the basic ones. Products did not have attractive packaging, the price was usually fixed, there were no sales or special bar-

gains. For example, there was just one type of sugar and it was sold in grey paper bags, one kilogram each. Life itself was more grey, but simpler. People were less spoiled. I did not know what a shopping spree was before I came to the United States. Instead of shopping for fun and filling their houses with useless things, Poles spent their free time in the parks or outside of the big cities on weekends, especially since the majority of stores were closed on Sundays. Of course, not every Pole is an angel; alcoholism was a common problem in Poland and it still is.

Europeans in general are more restrained in their needs. Because they live in smaller houses, they have limited space, so they can't afford to store as much as Americans! They'd rather buy quality products than something which is just cheap.

We learned early in life how to re-use and recycle. If we wanted to buy milk, juice or sour cream, we had to bring used empty bottles for an exchange, otherwise we had to pay a fee. In my household we never threw away any newspapers or a notebook. We kept them for recycling. My school notebooks had the information on the back page "protect the forests—recycle" and so we did! Children in my school competed to see who could bring the most recycled paper. I remember walking a mile with my father carrying heavy bags of paper to the recycling place. We were very satisfied to receive a toilet paper in exchange! Toilet paper was quite a luxury and it was not easy to buy on the market. Receiving a toilet paper in exchange for the recycling paper seems to be a very justified cause.

Our family of five did not produce much trash. We had just one small trash can which was emptied once a day.

We had fewer material goods, less variety and there were more of us concentrated in a smaller space,

therefore we used less. Maybe this is something Americans can learn from Europeans or Canadians, who also have smaller houses and cars.

Of course I do not envy the times when we didn't have enough basic food products available in the stores. And I enjoy having more variety, more color and some competition in the supermarkets. But we should buy what we need and not just stock our houses with useless goods. We all live on the same planet, all of us should realize that our resource pool is limited and we have to behave responsibly for the future generations.



Visit my Polish Culture website at [www.culture.polishsite.us](http://www.culture.polishsite.us).

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TRIVIA TIME / Ellye Slusarczyk

- "Sitting on amber" means you are a) uncomfortable b) wealthy c) shrewd
- The Polish Parliament is considering making Jesus Christ a) the most important saint in Poland b) the Polish Prince of Peace c) honorary King of Poland
- Dick Pillar lives in a) Ludlow, Mass. b) New London, Conn. c) Uncasville, Conn.
- America's polka sweetheart from Buffalo is a) Ania b) Josa c) Stephanie
- In Nieboron, the palace's main staircase is decorated with a) flecks of gold dust b) 10,000 blue Dutch tiles c) silver filigree
- Anna Orzelska's painting depicts her and her a) dog b) cat c) horse
- The Temple of Diana is found in a) Arkcadia Park b) Zebzowa Wola c) Lipkou
- The Swietokrzykie Mountains

- were once a center for a) salt mining b) forest products c) iron production
- At the annual Mazovian Ghost Holiday, you might be visited by the ghost of a) Queen Bona b) Piotr Wysocki c) Prince Boleslaw the Sly
- Pulaski grew up in a) Warka b) Zwolen c) Czersk

**ANSWERS.** 1.b wealthy 2.c honorary King of Poland 3.c Uncasville, Conn. 4.c Stephanie 5.b 10,000 blue Dutch tiles 6.a dog 7.a Arkcadia Park 8.c iron production 9.a Queen Bona 10.a Warka

#### HERITAGE

### First Names

by Ellye Slusarczyk

Popular Polish first names have traditionally come from saints, Poland being a Christian nation. If a saint's name was a child's given name, it was believed the saint became the child's patron, protecting him all his life. Other sources of names came from kings, favorite family members, and people of importance and famous people.

Some parents sometimes preferred unusual and often times rare names. Such names were Retina, Narcyz, Ramaneia and Wmicjusz.

Once considered old fashioned, some names return again for popular use. These include Franek, Stas, Wladek, Zosia, Jas, and Marysia.

Many variations of Maria exist. Since this was used for the Blessed Virgin only, many other versions evolved. Mania, Marianna, Maja, Marysia, Maryna, Mariola, and Marysierka came into popular use.

Some of the traditional girl's names are Zofia, Ewa, Helena, Stefania, Irena, Jozefa, and Anna.

Traditional boy's names are Tadeusz, Lech, Boleslaw, Jozef, Wladyslaw, and Stanislaw.

Some names tend to trendy and reflect today's society: Gabriela, Dominika, Oliwia, Alicja, and Patryk, Lukasz, Andrzej, and Dawid.

## Getting Polish Citizenship through a Grandparent?

by Robert Strybel

Ever since Poland dumped communism and became a free country in 1989, and even more so after it joined the European Union in 2004, more and more Americans of Polish descent have taken an interest in Polish citizenship. Apart from the symbolic, nostalgic or cultural benefits of having a passport displaying the Polish Eagle and the words "Rzeczpospolita Polska" (Republic of Poland), such a move offers concrete, practical advantages.

Unlike Pol-Am tourists who require a Polish visa for an extended stay, a Polish American with Polish citizenship may enter and leave Poland at will, find employment, set up a company and buy or sell real estate. And since Poland is now in the EU, he or she can do all those things in any of the bloc's 27 member-states. A Pol-Am businessman therefore has a great advantage over American competitors without such status who are required by many EU countries for apply for special permission.

A popular notion circulating amongst our Polonia is that you can get Polish citizenship if you had Polish grandparents. Basically that is true. However if you think you can simply phone your nearest Polish Consulate, tell them your grandparents were Polish and expect to hear "Congratulations, welcome abroad!", you've got another thing coming! Life in general is far more complicated, and this is no exception.

Poland has what is known as

"citizenship by blood" which means that it is possible for even a third-generation Polish American to claim the right to Polish passport. The main condition is that the grandparent would have to have had Polish citizenship. Immigrants who came to America before 1918, when Poland did not officially exist, may have been Polish nationals but were not Polish citizens, hence such grandparents were unable to pass on Polish citizenship.

If at least two of your grandparents had Polish citizenship and did not renounce it, the Pol-Am is required to apply for what is known as "confirmation of citizenship". The nearest Polish consulate should be contacted for information on what documents are necessary to prove an ancestor's citizenship status and what procedures need to be followed. Again, this is not automatic, and requires paperwork and plenty of patience. Polish consular offices are understaffed and bogged down with back applications, so the applicant is usually in for quite a wait.

Anyone may apply for Polish citizenship, and normally that requires a five-year period of residence in Poland. In the event the applicant marries a Polish citizen, the residence period can get shortened to three years. Pol-Ams who cannot prove their grandparents' Polish citizenship are said to receive slightly more preferential treatment than someone with no Polish roots whatsoever, but this is more of a customary practice than a hard-and-fast rule.

The President of Poland Lech

Kaczyński has the right to grant Polish citizenship at his discretion regardless of any of the above normal requirement. Such a move, however, is usually reserved for exceptional cases. Only someone of unique cultural, economic or athletic value to Poland and its interests can expect such special treatment. Most recently, the president granted fast-track citizenship to Brazilian soccer player Roger Guerreiro so he could join Poland's national team at June's European Soccer Championships.

None of the Polish Americans who have asked me about becoming a Polish citizen intend to give up their American citizenship. Neither the US nor Poland expressly forbid dual citizenship, but neither do they promote it. In essence they turn a blind eye and ignore any citizenship other than their own. That means that the holder of dual (or even triple, quadruple, etc.) citizenship is regarded as a citizen of the country he is currently in and is bound by all its laws.

For the sake of convenience, many Pol-Ams with dual citizenship use their Polish passports to enter and leave Poland and other EU countries, and their American ones to leave and enter the US. But a Pol-Am who gets into trouble and is jailed in Poland has no right to suddenly whip out his US passport and demand to see someone from the American Embassy. He will be treated like any other Polish-born Nowak, Kowalski or Wójcik with only Polish citizenship.

## Pol-Am Martha Stewart visits Poland

by Robert Strybel

WARSAW—Martha Stewart, the famous cooking, housekeeping and decorating authority, recently paid her first ever visit to her ancestral homeland. The occasion of her visit was the opening of her photo exhibition of American landscapes at downtown Warsaw's high-tone Złote Tarasy (Golden Terraces) shopping mall. Another reason was the recent launch of a Polish version of her Martha Stewart Living magazine.

In a brief address in the glittery setting, the 66-year-old Stewart said she felt linked to the country in which all four of her grandparents were born. She also praised her late mother Martha (née Ruskowski) at whose side she learned how to make such traditional Polish favorites as pierogi, gołąbki, kielbasa and babka. "So if you want to have a pierogi cook-off, I am up for it," she told her appreciatively laughing audience. On several occasions, Stewart had her elderly mother on her TV show demonstrating how she prepared different Polish delicacies.

Obviously thrilled to be in the

country to which her ancestors traced their roots, Stewart was her upbeat, optimistic and smiling self despite the rebuff she had received from the British. Border guards had refused to let her enter the United Kingdom because she did not have a visa. British subjects and American citizens normally enjoy visa-free travel between their countries, but people convicted of certain crimes are required to produce a visa at the border.

Her crime was connected with an insider stock-trading offense, for which in 2004 Stewart was convicted in federal court of conspiracy, obstruction of justice and making false statements. She received a five-month prison sentence, and served an additional five months and three weeks of home confinement wearing an electronic bracelet. But following her release from prison in March 2005, she picked up the Over the past two decades pieces and made a highly publicized comeback.

Born Martha Kostyra and raised with her five siblings in Nutley, N.J., for the past two decades Mar-

tha Stewart has held a prominent position in the American world of domestic arts and style. She is currently probably America's best-known celebrity with 100 percent Polish roots, and her fellow-Polonians generally supported her during her legal troubles.

Now worth \$638 million, she worked her way up from humble beginnings, doing cigarette commercials, modeling, working as a stock broker and starting a catering business out of her basement. She went on to author several books and hundreds of articles on the domestic arts. She has served as the editor of MARTHA STEWART LIVING, a national housekeeping magazine, and host of popular daytime television shows.

Despite her Polish roots, Stewart she is still not widely known in Poland, although the Polish media did publicize her run-ins with the law several years back. She is now hoping her photo exhibition, launch of her magazine's Polish edition and recent personal appearance will soon change all that.

ENTERTAINMENT / Jennifer Moskal

## Nina Kaczorowski, Stunt Lady and Actress

Stuntwoman-turned-leading-actress **Nina Kaczorowski**, step-daughter of actor Telly Savalas of "Kojak" fame, will appear in a film release titled "Instant Dads."

Her screen credits are impressive: "Austin Powers Goldmember," "Coyote Ugly," "A Simple Plan," "AI" (Artificial Intelligence), "Minority Report," and "Pearl Harbor."

Knowing how to stunt, along with experience as a model on the catwalk, often got this former tomboy into bigger movies. All this fame has not gone to her head, however, something she credits to her modeling experiences.

"They told me 'pretty girls are a dime a dozen.' You have to make your mark elsewhere. Give me that shot, I can do it." And she certainly has.

### NAMES IN THE NEWS

**Rafal Blechacz**, a 22-year-old pianist, has released his debut recording, "Chopin: The Complete Preludes," which includes Chopin's Preludes and a few Nocturnes. His interpretations of the music sound almost improvisatory, like he was making up the music as we went along. It is a truly refreshing tribute to Chopin's work.

**John Krasinski** plays Carter Rutherford, a football star at Princeton in "Leatherheads," alongside George Clooney and Renee Zellweger. The 1920s-era romantic comedy about the early days of pro football is named after a time when players wore leather helmets with no face masks and made a few hundred dollars a game. Krasinski, who is best known as Jim on the U.S. version of "The Office," portrays Rutherford, a college football star, a likable fellow who isn't quite the golden boy



Kaczorowski

the world believes him to be, but not far from it either. The movie was released this April.

Krasinski also worked on "Brief Interviews With Hideous Men," which he calls a "small art-house thing" based on a novel by David Foster Wallace. Krasinski directed, wrote the adaptation, and appears onscreen in the movie.

**Andy Wachowski** and **Larry Wachowski**, two of Chicago's creative sons best known for their Matrix movies, have found an equally unassuming North Side spot to edit their projects. A post-production studio will open in what has been known as the Ravenswood Studio, just north of Bryn Mawr. The brothers' most recent collaboration was on the film "Speed Racer," an update of the 1960s cartoon out this May.

**Robert Prosky** was honored with the "2008 Edwin Forrest" award at the Walnut Street Theatre's 199th Annual Gala in Philadelphia.

### MUSIC

## Ryan Kisor, Jazz Trumpeter

**Ryan Kisor** was born April 12th, 1973 in Sioux City, Iowa.

He grew up in a musical environment. He studied with his father, who played in polka bands and was music director at North Sioux City High School. By age 10 Ryan was already playing in a local dance band.

His brother Justin, a Julliard music grad, was recently chosen to play trumpet with one of the military Washington, D.C. Jazz Bands. "One of the best polka trumpet sections was Ryan and Justin Kisor in the band, often with the Eddie Skeets Orchestra out of Sioux City, Iowa," said South Dakota promoter and DJ Chuck Stastny.

He began classical studies at 12 and was playing professionally full time in a dance band at 14. At the same time his interest in jazz was developing, and he soon discovered records by Dexter Gordon and Clifford Brown.

In 1988, at the age of 15, Ryan won the Siouxland Youth Symphony Scholarship and was named best Soloist at the Iowa State Jazz Championships. Soon he was playing first Chair Trumpet in both jazz and symphony orchestras in and around Iowa and Nebraska. Later that same year, and again in 1989, he was chosen to be a member of the all-star high school band that performed at the convention of the International Association of Jazz Educators.

At a jazz camp in Emporia, Kansas he caught the attention of jazz legend Clark Terry who suggested

he enter a new contest. The result was R y a n winning the Thelonious M o n k

Institute's First Annual Louis Armstrong Competition in a unanimous decision from a panel of judges that included Nat Adderly, Red Rodney, Clark Terry and Snooky Young. That was in November of 1990.

In 1991, while still attending North Sioux High, he went to New York and cut his first CD for Columbia Records. "Minor Mutiny," produced by Dr. George Butler, was released in 1992.

After graduating from high school, Ryan moved to New York, where he studied with Lew Soloff and played with Mingus Dynasty and The Gil Evans Orchestra.

Kisor has performed on nearly 50 recordings, including several as a group leader—"On the One," (1993) for Sony/Columbia and "The Usual Suspects" (1998) for Fable/Lightyear Records. Ryan can also be heard on the 1992 Pat Metheny CD "Secret Story," and on the 1996 Bluenote recording "The Carnegie Hall Jazz Band/Music Director Jon Faddis."

He now is a regular with the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra. Wynton Marsalis affectionately calls him Ryan "King" Kisor.



### BRUSH UP / Prepared and distributed by the Polonia Media Network

## Grocery Shopping III

wolowina .....(voh-woh-VEE-nah) f  
beef  
wieprzowina.....(vyehp-shoh-VEE-nah) f  
pork  
cielęcina.....(cheh-lehn-CHEE-nah) f  
veal  
baranina .....(bah-rah-NEE-nah) f  
lamb  
parówka .....(pah-RUUF-kah) f  
hot dog, frankfurter, wiener  
szynka.....(SHIHN-kah) f  
ham  
połędwica .....(poh-lehnt-VEE-tsay) f  
sirloin  
golonka .....(goh-LOHN-kah) f  
pig knuckle

Phonetic hh is like ch in loch • Phonetic ai is like eye  
m, n, f denotes male, female, neuter

wątróbka ..... (vohn-TRUUP-kah) f  
liver  
żeberka ..... zeh-BEHR-kah) n, pl  
ribs  
kielbasa.....(kyehw-BAH-sah) f  
sausage  
kurczak.....(KUUR-chahk) m  
chicken  
indyk.....(EEN-dihk) m  
turkey  
kaczka.....(KAHCH-kah) f  
duck  
gęś .....(gehsh) f  
goose

—continued next month—

## THE OLD COUNTRY / Richard Poremski

## Lezajsk, Poland, May 20, 1976



Making a clean sweep.

## OBITUARIES / Jennifer Moskal

**DENNIS MISLER** most recently lived in Konstancin near Warsaw, Poland, his adopted country. Misler was a president the Polish American Jewish Alliance for Youth Action (PAJA), a non-profit organization he co-founded in 2000 with the goal to help young Poles and Americans with Jewish and non-Jewish roots develop friendship and understanding and to shatter fears and prejudices. Due to his passions, throughout the life of the PAJA, the organization planned and coordinated culturally-historical meetings and conferences and also received numerous honors and accolades. The organization made a major contribution to correcting perspectives about the Holocaust and toward greater understanding between Poles and Jews.

**MARIE PAPROCKI**, 90, was born in Chicago and graduated from Holy Family Academy. Paprocki received her

B.S. and M.S. from De Paul University and taught high school biology and math in McHenry, Ill. for 26 years. Later she was a substitute teacher at several Catholic high schools in Chicago. She was also a long-time member and officer in the Polish Arts Club and served on the Board of local AARP Group #3481.

**EDWIN R. SIKOWSKI**, 84, was born in Chicago and married his wife of 41 years in his hometown. Sikowski was a mechanical engineer for Western Electric for 41 years. He was a World War II Army veteran of the 8th Armored Division and participated in The Battle of the Bulge. He was also a member of the Telephone Pioneers of America and the American Legion Skwiat Post 451.

## Polish Guitarists Break World Record

Over 1900 Polish guitarists gathered at the Wroclaw market square in southern Poland to play "Hey Joe," a Jimi Hendrix classic in unison during the 6th annual "Thanks Jimi Festival." Their feat broke the Guinness world record. Event organizer guitarist and music teacher Leszek Cichowski says the festival was just an idea ten years ago during a small music workshop in the town of Zakiew in southwestern Poland, where 16 guitar players performed together: "Last year we had 1881 guitar players in the market square in Wroclaw ... [this year] we had 1951 guitar players."

## IN MEMORIAM

## Artist and Illustrator Alice Bak

NIAGARA FALLS, N.Y.—Polish American artist and book illustrator Alice Wadowski-Bak died June 14 in Niagara Falls.

Bak was a noted Polish American creator of wycinanki (paper-cutting) and folklore artist whose works can be found in private collections and galleries worldwide.

She was an exhibitor at the Albright Knox in Buffalo, the Boston Institute of Contemporary Art and the Pittsburgh Center for the Arts. Her work appeared in the books "Polish Folklore and Myth" and "Polish Proverbs," both by Joanne Asala.

She also illustrated "The Owl's Nest: Folk Tales from Friesland" by Dorothy Gladys Spicer. Her wigilia illustration appears on envelopes of

oplatek sold throughout the United States.

Bak, who was recognized by the AM-POL EAGLE as the 1996 Citizen of the Year in Media, said of her wycinanki: "My drawings are done in my own way; I like to make each one have a pattern all its own."

In the book "Polish Touches," she published the story of her mother's travels from Poland to the United States.

In 2001, Bak gave a presentation to the Polish Arts Club of Buffalo entitled, "Art Journeys: WNY, NYC, Poland and Bak."

She had received her early art training in Buffalo. Eugene Dyczkowski, president of the Buffalo Society of Artists and the founding president of the Polish Arts Club,

was sufficiently impressed with her work to offer her a scholarship but she was pursuing other artistic paths at the time and was not able to accept the offer.

Bak enrolled in the master's of fine art program at Syracuse University and completed her studies at the University of Buffalo. She would later spend time in New York City in the art field and was a book illustrator and fabric designer.

She, however, returned to her beloved Niagara Falls where she helped with the Polish School at Holy Trinity Parish, used her talents in art and writing to work with children of migrant workers in Niagara County, and as a coordinator for the Alcohol Council in Niagara County, Inc.

## Pfc. Dawid Pietrek, Gave Life for American Freedom

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Pfc.

Dawid Pietrek, 24, a Polish immigrant living in Bensenville, Ill., was one of four Marines killed by a roadside bomb June 14 in Afghanistan's Farah province. More than 90 mourners gathered at Arlington National Cemetery to celebrate Pietrek's life and honor his sacrifice. He was the 489th member of the military killed in Iraq and Afghanistan to be buried at Arlington.



Seven of Pietrek's family members traveled to the United States for the burial, six from Poland and one from Iceland.

Pietrek came to the United States three years ago on a green card, hoping to attend college and become a police officer. He lived with two families in Elmhurst, outside of Chicago, as a trained medical caregiver for elderly family members.

In a note sent to his mother and sister in Police, Poland, after arriving in Afghanistan, Pietrek talked about what he was accomplishing.

"We are helping and protecting these people and providing them

with schooling and medicine," he said in the note.

"If something should happen to me remember—this was my decision. We're defending people here and fighting terrorists," wrote Pietrek.

Pietrek's mother wanted two things. She wanted him to be buried at Arlington and be granted citizenship.

Shortly before the funeral service began at Arlington, the latter came true, as an official from the Department of Homeland Security presented her with her son's certificate of posthumous citizenship.

## Leonard Suligowski, Director of Polish Nobility Foundation

NEW YORK—Heraldic artist Chevalier Leonard J. Suligowski passed away June 19 from complications of a stroke-induced coma at New York's Bellevue Hospital. The life-long resident of Greenpoint, Brooklyn, was for years the director of Heraldry and the College of Heraldry for the Polish Nobility Association Foundation of Baltimore, Md.

During his tenure with the PNAF, Suligowski was the recipient of the following Chivalric awards: Knight's Grand Cross in both, Royal Order of Piast and Royal Order of Jagiello, both with the titles of Chevalier. In addition, he was awarded the Polish Restituta, Officer First Class, from the past President-in-exile, for his contributions to the continuation of promoting the arts and culture associated with Polish heraldry.

He also held the title of Knight

of Grace with the Sovereign Hospitaller Order of St. John, Knights of Malta. The walls of his Brooklyn home are literally lined with framed awards accolades and diplomas and certificates of various organizations as well as his Navy memories.

Suligowski was a U.S. Navy Korean Veteran who served aboard four aircraft carriers, including the *Bon Homme Richard*; he was honorably discharged with five years of service as an Aviation Machinist Mate-Second Class Petty Officer, and receiving the following awards: Navy Combat Action Ribbon; Presidential Unit Citation; Navy Unit Citation; Good Conduct Medal; National Defense Medal; Korean Service Medal (with Star); Korean Presidential Unit citation; Korean War Service Medal; and United Nations Service Medal; American Legion and VFW Service Medals.

Suligowski was a published author of several short stories and newspaper articles in addition to his editorial work as editor of THE WHITE EAGLE newsletter Journal for the PNAF.

Suligowski was a life member of the American Legion and a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Additionally, he was a member and consultant to the Polish Genealogical Society of America.

He is survived by his only living son, Rik (Suligowski) Fox, a musician/celebrity and current vice-president of the Polish American Congress of Southern California, and founder of the "Living-History" re-enactment group "Suligowski's Regiment."

His son asks that either Mass Cards be offered in lieu of flowers or, donations to either Navy Relief, or the Salvation Army.

Suligowski was also a member of the Organ Donations organization, and has now helped the lives of others through his wishes.

Being a former Navy man, it was Suligowski's wish to be cremated and have his ashes scattered among both, the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, returning him to the sea, which he loved so fondly.

His son Rik may be emailed at wngdhussr@yahoo.com.

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## Sgt. Raymond Strojny, Decorated Hero of Omaha Beach

Sgt. Raymond Strojny, 90, a combat veteran of 1st Infantry division who fought in North Africa, Sicily, Omaha Beach, France, Belgium, Germany—in combat for 32 consecutive months and one of the most highly-decorated soldiers of the U.S. Army in World War II—died May 31, 2008 at his home in Lynwood, Washington.

He was one of three or four soldiers on Omaha Beach that turned almost certain defeat into victory.

In an almost miraculous performance he rounded up a few survivors, destroyed a German pillbox,

then led them off the beach by scaling the bluffs, and killed many German soldiers. Strojny took over command of a unit, whose officers—being paralyzed with fear—refused to move. Cornelius Ryan, in his definitive book on D-Day ("The Longest Day"), cites Strojny and only a couple of others as being the decisive factor on Omaha. One of the others was Sgt. Philip Streczik, also a Polish American of the Big Red One.

Strojny's decorations include: Silver Star Medal (Sicily); Presidential Citation Ribbon (Sicily); Disting-

uished Service Cross (Normandy); Oak Leaf Cluster to Presidential Citation (Normandy); Combat Infantry Badge (France); Purple Heart (Germany); Bronze Star Metal (Germany); and Seven Battle Stars.

Strojny, although wounded slightly on three occasions, missed not a single day of duty with his company during campaigns which took him across Africa to Tunis; through Sicily; D-Day in France; on through Belgium; Aachen, the Hurtgen Forest, the Belgian Bulge and into the heart of the Siegfried Line.

## AMERICAN POLONIA AT A GLANCE

## MINNESOTA

MINNEAPOLIS—August 10 is the date for the Polish American Cultural Institute of Minnesota's Annual Picnic, held in the backyard of the Institute, 2514 Central Avenue NE starting at 1:30 p.m. For information, call (612) 378-9291 or e-mail Pacim2006@yahoo.com.

MINNEAPOLIS—PACIM will be bringing Polish artist Joanna Sulek-Malinowska to Minneapolis for a showing of her work at the Northrup King Galleries, 1500 Jackson St. NE on September 19. The opening reception will be in Gallery 332 from 6:00- 9:00 p.m. The gathering is open to the public. For more information, contact Irene at (612) 729-5911.

ST. PAUL—The Polish Genealogy Society of Minnesota will host a program Saturday, September 20, at the MGS Library, 1185 N. Concord St., South St., which will feature genealogist Danuta Jampolska, Foreign Exchange Co-coordinator for the Ochota Cultura Center in Warsaw. Information: Terry Kita (612) 927-0719 or terrykita@earthlink.net

COLUMBIA HEIGHTS—The Columbia Heights Sister Cities Committee holds free informal Polish classes from 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the Gauvite Room of Murzyn Hall on the second and third Monday of each month starting in September. Ania Antus will be teaching. This year, instead of starting at the beginning, participants will have a couple weeks of review and then continue at lesson 9 in the "We Learn Polish" text by Barbara Bartnicka.

For information call Gil Mros at (763) 571-1166.

MINNEAPOLIS—Polish 1101 Beginning Polish (5 credits) will be offered by the University of Minnesota in Folwell Hall on the East Bank on Tuesdays from 6:10- 9:30 p.m. beginning September 2. The instructor is Professor Leonard Polakiewicz. Senior citizens 62 and older wishing to audit the class for \$10 per credit should attend the first class and get the instructor's permission to attend before registering. For

registration information, please contact Continuing Education Office at (612) 624-4000 or (612) 625-1384.

## MISSOURI

ST. LOUIS—The Polish American Cultural Society of Metropolitan St. Louis has announced that its annual Polonez Ball will be held Nov. 8 at the Sunset Country Club in Sunset Hills, Missouri.

ST. LOUIS—Pre-Labor Day Picnic, Aug. 31. Ss. Cyril & Methodius Church. Chambers Park, St. Louis, Mo. Field Mass 12:00 p.m. For details call (314) 231-2688.

## NEW YORK

NEW YORK—August 25th is the date for Polish American Night at Shea Stadium. In addition to the game (Mets vs. Astros), there will be pre-game entertainment featuring traditional music and folk dancing, and a ceremony to honor representatives of the largest Polish American group in attendance. Each person will receive a Commemorative Shea Stadium Lapel Pin (with advance purchase through this flyer or group ticket window).

Groups of 25 or more as asked to call the Mets Group Sales Department at (718) 565-4348. For groups less than 25, please order online at mets.com/groups, using the sign-in ID "POLISH" and the password: METS. Please note both sign-in ID and password are in all capital letters.

BUFFALO—In keeping with the ancient tradition of Poland, Corpus Christi Church will hold a blessing of herbs and flowers on the Feast of the Assumption on Friday, August 15 at 11:30 a.m.. This is a custom that was once prevalent throughout the Polish community in the United States, brought to this country by Polish immigrants.

In Poland the Feast of the Assumption is also called Matki Boski Zielnej—Blessed Mother of the Herbs, or Our Lady of the Herbs. The Blessed Mother is seen as the patron and keeper of the earth and all of its abundance. On this special feast day, every village housewife brought a bouquet of herbs, flowers

## PIASA Elects New President



Dr. Piotr S. Wandycz, PIASA's president emeritus, and Dr. Thaddeus V. Gromada, president.

PHILADELPHIA—Philadelphia's Historic District was the site of PIASA's 66th Annual Meeting on June 13-14, 2008, which was co-sponsored by Polish American Cultural Center.

According to Dr. Thaddeus V. Gromada, chair of the Annual Meeting, some 200 persons attended the two day multi-disciplinary conference on Polish and Polish American studies. Most of them were academics from 18 states stretching from Vermont to California. Three were from Poland: Rafal Stobiecki, from the University of Lodz, Dorota Janiszewska-Jakubiak from Poland's Ministry of Culture and National Heritage, and Marek Baranski, director of Warsaw's Preservation and Conservation Workshop.

The conference consisted of 14 sessions on various topics and disciplines which included history, economics, politics, literature, music, education, Polish American studies, biography, etc.

The main banquet address was delivered by Poland's Ambassador to NATO in Brussels, Dr. Boguslaw Winid who spoke on Poland's Participation in NATO's Afghanistan Operation. He was preceded by Brig. General Leszek Soczewica, Defense Attache in Poland's Embassy in Washington, D.C.

Prof. Paul W. Knoll, of the University of Southern California and PIASA Board member, presented the "Ambassador Kazimierz Dziewanowski Memorial Dissertation Award" jointly sponsored by PIASA and the Polish Embassy in

Washington, D.C. The \$1000 prize was received by Dr. Paul Milliman, Assistant Professor of History at the University of Arizona for his doctoral dissertation "The Place of Pomerania in the Social Memory of the Kingdom of Poland and the Teutonic Ordensstaat of the Knights of the Teutonic Order," submitted in 2007 at Cornell University.

The results of the 2008 election by mail ballot were announced. Each year PIASA Members elect 1/3 of the Board of Directors for a term of three years. The results were: Dr. Thaddeus V. Gromada, president and board; Dr. M.B. Biskupski, v.p. and board; Susanne S. Lotarski, v.p. and board (2 yrs.); Dr. Jakub Grygiel, board; Dr. Donald E. Pienkos, board; Dr. Jan Napoleon Saykiewicz, board; and Dr. Anne Hermanowski-Vosatka, board (2 yrs.).

Dr. Piotr S. Wandycz, who served as president of PIASA for the past nine years, gave his farewell address during the banquet. Earlier during the general business meeting of the membership, the title of *President Emeritus* was bestowed on him on the recommendation of PIASA's Board of Directors in recognition of his leadership and achievements. He was further honored by the creation of a special "Prof. Piotr S. Wandycz Fund," endowed by an anonymous donation of \$50,000 plus a \$5,000 administrative fee. This fund will enable the Institute to make grants of \$2,500 each year to a Polish scholar doing research in the United States.

and grain that was collected from her own garden, the fields and orchards. She gathered dill, mint, rosemary, southernwood, parsley, hyssop, lovage, and comfrey—whatever she had growing in her garden. She added her favorite flower such as sweet pea, tansy or sunflowers. A branch of a favorite fruit tree was also tucked in such as apple or pear. Since this time coincided with the time of the

harvest, it was also the custom to take a few spikes of various grains including wheat, rye and oats.

After the blessing, the flowers were taken home and tucked behind holy pictures to protect the home against fire and lightning. Some farmers crumbled some of the blessed flowers into their seed bags in the belief that it would assure a good harvest. Some of the herbs

were used in folk medicine to cure a cough or a cold.

In recent years this beautiful custom has slowly gone by the wayside. Fr. Anzelm at Corpus Christi is actively trying to keep the tradition alive and invites everyone to bring their flowers and bouquets. The church is located at 199 Clark Street. For more information, please call (716) 896-1050.

## October is Polish Heritage Month

### Help Us Celebrate the 400th Anniversary of the First Polish Settlers in Jamestown

**DON'T BE LEFT OUT OF THIS SPECIAL EDITION!**



ON OCTOBER 1, 1608, the first Polish settlers arrived at Jamestown, Virginia, on the ship MARY & MARGARET. Well aware of the quality of imported glassware from Poland, the Virginia Company of London hired Polish artisans to establish a profitable glass production house in America. To insure the success of the new Virginia colony, additional workers from Poland and other countries were enlisted to produce soap, pitch, and wood building supplies. After their arrival, the Poles built a glass furnace, which became the first factory in America and

produced the first made-in-America products exported to Europe.

The Poles at the Jamestown settlement were the first of millions who came to America's shores. From Panna Maria to Chicago, New York to Los Angeles, our country owes a great deal to the brave men and women of

Poland, who left the land of their birth for better lives for themselves and their children.

This is but one of the many reasons we take time in October to pause and reflect on our Polish roots. It is a time to remember those who came before us. It is a time to teach those who will follow of the accomplishments, contributions, and sacrifices made by our Polish ancestors so that we may pursue happiness in the United States.

**CAN WE COUNT ON YOU?** All-too-often, we forget to find time to re-examine how much of a role our heritage has played in our formation, not only as a nation, but as individuals as well. This is the main reason behind Heritage Month. The fact that this year's celebration coincides with the 400th anniversary of the arrival of Poles in Jamestown makes Heritage Month 2008 one of the most important ones in recent years. We want everyone involved as a show of American Polonia's strength. That is why we ask for your help. By being part of this special edition, you are strengthening ties between all Americans of Polish descent. Through your patronage, we are able to bring American Polonia a paper it can be proud of.

To guarantee placement of your ad in the Polish Heritage Month edition, please mail the form to the left with your check or money order by September 12. You can also place your donation with any major credit card.

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