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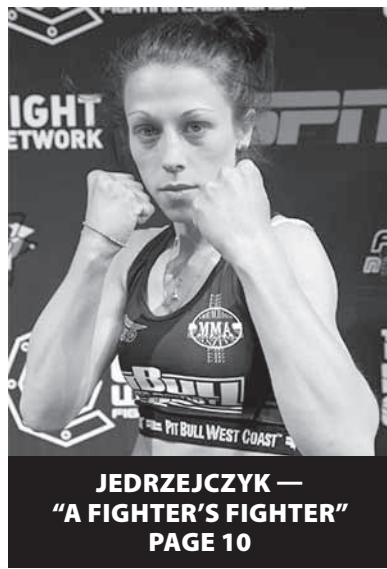
POLISH AMERICAN JOURNAL

DEDICATED TO THE PROMOTION AND CONTINUANCE OF POLISH AMERICAN CULTURE

ESTABLISHED 1911

AUGUST 2015 • VOL. 104, NO. 8 | \$2.00

www.polanjournal.com



JEDRZEJCZYK —
"A FIGHTER'S FIGHTER"
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PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID AT BOSTON, NEW YORK
AND ADDITIONAL ENTRY OFFICES

NOW IS THE TIME TO SIGN UP FOR THE PRIMARIES • LANCERS CHARGE AGAIN • THE ART OF POLISH CONVERSATION
AMBASSADOR HONORED BY SPAIN • MEMORIES FROM DEPORTATION TO KAZAKHSTAN — OUR NEW KAZAKHS HOME
"PIEROGIES" AND "GOLUMPKEYS" LIKE BABCIA USED TO MAKE • BLUEBERRY GOLD • AN OPEN LETTER TO POLONIA

Newsmark

AMBASSADOR PROMISES DEFENSE. At celebrations marking his country's Independence Day, outgoing U.S. Ambassador Stephen Mull pledged that America will stand by Poland in the event of military threat.

Mull spoke at a gathering at the American Embassy in Warsaw attended by Poland's defense minister Tomasz Siemoniak, two days before the official Fourth of July anniversary.

"I guarantee that we will be, in fact we already are, here with our soldiers and equipment to defend you against any threats, just as you defended us," Mull said, with ongoing NATO military exercises taking place across Poland.

The recent wave of joint exercises came in the wake of anxiety over the Russian-Ukrainian crisis.

Siemoniak thanked the outgoing ambassador for his efforts to strengthen the NATO alliance during his tenure, noting that Mull was always ready to help.

EQUIPMENT AT-THE-READY. The United States will place 250 Abrams tanks, Bradley Fighting Vehicles, and artillery in Eastern and Central Europe to ease tension in those countries after Russian president Putin announced his plan to add forty new intercontinental ballistic missiles to Russia's nuclear arsenal. The equipment supplied by the United States is for Poland, Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia, Romania, and Bulgaria. U.S. equipment is also positioned in Germany.

NATO is building six new bases in Eastern Europe which will house rapid-response forces to react to threats and aggression.

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF BATTLE OF BRITAIN MARKED. (Radio Poland) Tributes were held marking the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Britain, the 11-week airborne clash with Nazi Germany's Luftwaffe in which Polish pilots played a key role.

Britain's royal family, headed by Queen Elizabeth II, watched a flypast over Buckingham Palace, July 10.



Meanwhile, Poland's lower house of parliament's Defense Committee approved a draft resolution that honored Polish participants in the battle.

"The airborne Battle of Britain was one of the decisive battles of World War II in which Poles made a significant contribution to the victory," the draft resolution reads.

"The 75th anniversary of the battle is the perfect occasion to recall not only two squadrons taking part in it — 302 and 303 fighter squadrons — but also to recall other aviators who fought on all fronts in World War II."

The predominantly Polish 302 and 303 squadrons of Britain's Royal Air Force (RAF) proved highly effective during the battle.

303 Squadron managed to destroy more enemy aircraft than any other RAF formation.

By the close of the war, almost 20,000 Polish airmen and airwomen were serving in Britain.

Many chose not to return to Poland, after a Soviet-backed communist regime was installed in their homeland.

A LOVING GRANDMA. "Julus, Kocham cie bardzo," said Poland's Prime Minister Ewa Kopacz during a television interview. The TVN interviewer was stunned when interviewing the Prime Minister on the station's *Fact on Fact* program.

Just prior to signing off at the close of the interview, Kopacz turned to the camera to tell her grandson that she loved him very much.

Later the channel's website said that the Prime Minister "enjoys taking care of her three-year-old grandchild in her free time and quoted the PM as saying "I get plenty of exercise with him!"

U.S. Delegation Portrait of Prowess Calm Fears, Lends Support

WARSAW — House of Representatives Speaker John Boehner led a Congressional delegation to Poland, part of a broader U.S. attempt to strengthen economic ties and reassure an ally nervous about Russian aggression in the region.

Boehner met with Poland's president and foreign minister in Warsaw. He briefly told reporters that his visit was focused on security cooperation and strengthening economic ties.

He said, "I think both the Polish people and the American people recognize the need to deal with Russian aggression. ... We are here to show our support to the Polish people and to talk about how we can make our relationship even stronger."

Joining Boehner on the trip were Rep. Susan Brooks (R-IN), Rep. Mike Kelly (R-PA), Rep. Dan Lipinski (D-IL), Rep. John Shimkus (R-IL), Rep. Mike Simpson (R-ID), Rep. Ann Wagner (R-MO), and Rep. Greg Walden (R-OR).

Portrait of Prowess



The Greenpoint mural is the first and the only U.S. memorial commemorating the heroes and victims of the Warsaw Uprising of 1944.

BROOKLYN, N.Y. — The mural which adorns one of the walls of the Polish National Home in Greenpoint was first unveiled in August last year to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the Warsaw Uprising. Then, three months later, it was vandalized and defaced with senseless graffiti.

Now the mural, which pays tribute to the victims and the heroes of the 1944 Warsaw Uprising, has been repainted and will be unveiled

again on Aug. 2 to mark the 71st anniversary of the uprising. The ceremony is planned to start at 2:00 p.m.

"The mural has come along the same way Warsaw did. It was destroyed, and just like Poland's capital, has just been rebuilt," says Grzegorz Fryc, one of the initiators of the Warsaw Uprising memorial. "We are glad that right from the beginning, the mural has been an important place for Polish Americans and all
See "Mural ..." page 4

Jewish Officials Slam Offensive Art

WARSAW — Jewish officials are furious over a video installation at a Polish museum that shows naked men and women playing a game of tag in a gas chamber.

Efraim Zuroff, director of the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Jerusalem, called the exhibit at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Krakow "so offensive and so disgusting that we found it necessary to protest."

"Game of Tag," made in 1999 by Polish artist Artur Zmijewski, has for years been accused of violating the dignity of Holocaust victims.

In response to protests, the museum put it behind an enclosure with a warning. But Zuroff and other Jewish officials say it isn't enough.

The museum's director, Maria Anna Potocka, said her museum means no disrespect to the memory of the Holocaust. "We have tried to awaken (the) young generation's empathy with the tragedy of the Holocaust by stirring their imagination," she said.

Celebrating the Polish Harvest

by Dave Motak

Since I was a child, I had always wanted to attend an authentic *dożynki* — Polish harvest festival. When I was living in Poland during my younger years I never was able. So, last year, I decided to organize a cultural tour to Poland to coincide with the National Harvest Festival hosted by Polish President Bronisław Komorowski in the resort town of Spała, west of Warsaw. Having produced numerous cultural tours to Poland, I was surprised to find that no one has ever offered a tour that featured this colorful national folk event, so I did my research and, working with Chopin Tours from Toronto, Jack Samuels and I produced the *Polish Harvest Tour* last September.

Our itinerary focused on eastern and southern Poland with stops in Warsaw, Lublin, Zamość, Sanok, Zakopane and Kraków, a stay at the magnificent Renaissance palace of the Kraciski family in Krasiczyn, as well as a day trip to the picturesque city of Lwów in western



The celebration of the harvest or *dożynki* in Poland dates back to ancient pre-Christian times when Slavic tribes celebrated the fertility and abundance of the earth with special harvest festivities. Travel guide Dave Motak organized a cultural tour to Poland to coincide with the National Harvest Festival hosted by Polish President Bronisław Komorowski in the resort town of Spała, west of Warsaw.

Ukraine. There were 25 people in our group, including several members of the Polish Cultural Council. For the "grande finale" of our cultural excursion, we made arrangements for our group to stay at the beautifully restored Odrowążów Palace and Resort Spa in Chlewiska, in central Poland. Odrowążów was restored as an initiative of the Mazowsze Provincial government and is one of the

most luxurious resorts in Poland. The celebration of the harvest or *dożynki* in Poland dates back to ancient pre-Christian times when Slavic tribes celebrated the fertility and abundance of the earth with special harvest festivities. Throughout Polish history, *dożynki* has been the time to express gratitude for the abundance of the harvest and appreciation for the labor and toil that brought it from the fertile earth. Traditionally, the lord of the manor would welcome his villagers to his home for a harvest celebration that would include Mass, feasting and merriment. It was customary for the local farmers to present their lord with a large loaf of bread which he would reverently kiss. The farmers would also create a large ornate *wieniec* or crown incorporating a variety of grains, flowers, nuts, fruits, and adorned with colored paper or ribbon. Still made today, these structures are immense, often 10 feet or more in
See "Dożynki," page 4

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August Sierpień

“Never trust a computer you can't throw out a window.”

— Steve Wozniak, inventor, electronics engineer, and computer programmer who single-handedly developed the 1976 Apple I, the computer that launched Apple.

- 1 1944. The Warsaw Rising (powstanie warszawskie) begins, a major World War II operation by the Polish resistance Home Army (Armia Krajowa) to liberate Warsaw from Nazi Germany.
2 1945. Potsdam Conference (July 17-August 2, 1945) concludes. Held near Berlin, it was the last of the World War II meetings held by the “Big Three” heads of state: American President Harry S. Truman, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill (and his successor, Clement Attlee) and Soviet Premier Joseph Stalin.
3 1924. Death of Jozef Conrad Korzeniowski (Joseph Conrad), 66, British and Polish author.
5 1915. The Austro-German Army takes Warsaw, ending a century of Russian control of the city.
6 FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION
8 1915. Birth of Fr. Cornelian Dende, famed director of the Fr. Justin Rosary Hour.
10 1582. Russia ended its 25-year war with Poland. Russia and Poland concluded the Peace of Jam-Zapolski under which Russia lost access to the Baltic and surrendered Livonia and Estonia to Poland.
11 1950. Birth of self-taught computer genius and Apple Computer founder Steve Wozniak.
13 1916. Birth of Polish American historian Edward Pinkowski.
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. W Wniebowzecie Panny Maryji słońce jasne Będzie wino grodzie kwaśne. On the Assumption of the Blessed Mary, the sun is bright, and the grapes will be suitably sour.
17 ST. HYACINTH
19 1587. Zygmunt Waza elected King of Poland.
20 1794. Greater Poland Uprising begins
22 1939. Birth of Carl “Yaz” Yastrzemski, Boston Red Sox hitting star.
23 1939. Signing of the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact in Moscow, officially the Treaty of Non-aggression between Germany and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, also known as the Nazi-Soviet Pact.
24 ST. BARTHOLOMEW Na Bartłomieja apostoła bocian do drogi dzieci woła. On St Bartholomew's storks prepare for a journey
25 1919. Birth of Matt Louis Urban (d. 1995), in Buffalo, N.Y., the most decorated combat soldier of World War II.
26 OUR LADY OF CZESTOCHOWA
27 1764. Stanislaus Augustus Poniatowski named King of Poland.
30 BLESSED BRONISLAWA (1259) 1481. Two Latvian monarchs were executed for conspiracy to murder Polish King Kazimierz IV.

This paper mailed on or before July 31, 2015 The September edition will be mailed on or before August 28, 2015.

VIEWPOINT

Now is the Time to Sign up for the Primaries

Fifteen months from now, America will pick its new President. A month ago, we editorialized that launching a naturalization, voter registration, and information campaign now is an essential prerequisite for Polonia to play any meaningful role in that process.

Last month, we urged Polonian organizations to start a citizenship campaign to help green card holders begin the process of naturalization. This month, we want to focus on voter registration.

Getting citizenship is—and should be—a long process. But registering to vote is not arduous. In most states, registration involves just filling out a form.

The first primaries, that will decide who the presidential candidates are, take place in early February, with many primaries occurring in March and April. In some states, one has to declare to what party one belongs before voting in a primary; in others, unaffiliated voters can choose in which primary to vote even on Election Day. Check the local law. In either case, you have to be registered—somehow—to vote.

The next few months are a good time to launch the first of a two-phase registration plan. Summer picnics and cultural festivals as well as fall organizational meetings, leading up to Polish Independence Day November 11, are all great opportunities to get

new voters signed up. Why not plan now to have a presentation about how to register and cards available to sign up during at least some of those events?

We say a “two-phase” voter registration drive because now is the time to sign up for the primaries. But lessons learned and experience gained now will make it even easier to organize a second push for the general election. If we get voters signed up now, they will be ready for the election. But knowing there will always be folks that wait till the last minute, we’ll certainly also need to sign voters up next summer and fall. The more we sign up now, the less work later—and the whole process really needs to be done, in general, by mid-September 2016. That’s not a long time away.

Polonia often laments that it is politically weak and only gets the crumbs that fall from the political table. But Polonia will never be strong or politically reckoned with if it is politically unorganized—and the first step to overcoming that is getting registered.

In November 2016, we elect a President, 33 senators, and 435 Congressmen. That is what it means to be an American, and to count politically. So, can every Polonian organization decide now when it will organize at least one voter registration drive at its events within the next three months?

SPEAK UP / Letters to the Editor

Polarization Serves Putin's Interests

I want to commend you for publishing Robert Strybel’s article on “Smolensk Continues to Divide Poles.” This is an excellent, rational, balanced article about a painful tragedy that unfortunately is polarizing Polish society and seems to be doing the same to Polonia. As editor of PAJ you are practicing responsible journalism by publishing Strybel’s article. Strybel is right: polarization only serves Putin’s interests.

Thaddeus V. Gromada, Ph.D. Professor Emeritus of European History New Jersey City University

Defensiveness Is Off-Putting

Recent protests against the use of the phrase “Polish concentration camps” have taken on a hostile and accusatory tone. Clearly, the characterization is inaccurate, and in recent years it has been used in blissful ignorance by many political figures, including President Obama and now FBI Director James Comey. Yet our protests against the phrase often fail to acknowledge the difference between blatant slander and guileless misinformation.

For the past two and a half decades, more and more information has surfaced about Poland’s role in the Second World War. It may be comforting to know that after half a century of repression, the truth has been revealed about Katyn, the Warsaw Uprisings, Nazi concentration camps, and collaboration, but Americans have remained largely uninformed. As Polish Americans, we must ask ourselves what our goal is in protesting the unjust and inaccurate way Poland continues to be portrayed.

When someone misspeaks this hurtful untruth, those of us who believe in the power of education view it as a teachable moment. Certainly we should

call for a correction, but instead of leaping into a defensive posture and reacting as if to an enemy, Polish historians, politicians, and educators should be using the opportunity to enlighten not alienate. If we are truly interested in setting the record straight, we must be persistent in our efforts to open minds rather than shut mouths.

Leonard Kniffel Executive Director Polish American Librarians Association Chicago, Illinois

Brick by Brick

I just had to write this letter after learning the Bayway Polish Club on Pulaski St. in Elizabeth, N.J. has closed its doors forever. There is not a Polish Home in New Jersey, anymore.

What is going on with our Polish culture? I can remember Belmont Ballroom in Garfield, and Polanka at Dover, and Sommerville Falcon Camp. All are gone!

I loved going to dances there. It is very sad that we cannot keep these halls open. You have to go out of town if you want to go to a Polish dance now.

John Gajewski Little Egg Harbor, New Jersey

News of Polonia Ceases Publication

PASADENA, Calif. — News of Polonia co-founders and co-editors, Betsy and Marty Cepielik have announced they have ceased publication of the monthly newspaper with the June 2015 edition.

The publication covered California thoroughly and had subscribers across the United States.

Movie About Wojtek the Soldier Bear in the Works

EDINBURGH, Scotland — Edinburgh Zoo’s most famous former resident is set to star in his own big budget movie.

Soldier Bear, a film about Wojtek the beer-drinking, dancing bear who became a war hero, could be hitting the big screen as early as 2017.

Writer, director and producer Brendan Foley says there has been enthusiasm for the action-drama from film specialists in Europe and America.

“It is such an incredible story and people tend to fall in love with it — I am just yet another of the fans,” said Brendan.



The film Wojtek became famous for his role in the Battle of Monte Cassino.

Wojtek, a 500-pound Syrian brown bear. Originally adopted as a mascot by the Polish Army in Iran, Wojtek became such a part of army life that he was fully enlisted as a soldier with his own rank and number. The bear lived in a tent and was taught how to salute. He became famous for his role in the Battle of Monte Cassino in Italy in 1944 when he used his paws to help move heavy boxes of mortar shells. The image of him carrying a shell became the regiment’s official emblem.

When the war ended, Wojtek was sent to Berwickshire with some of his Polish comrades. He was taken into care of Edinburgh Zoo in 1947 where he lived out the rest of his life. The bear’s later years in Scotland will be featured in the movie with the plot starting and ending at Edinburgh Zoo with a flashback on the bear’s life from cub to war hero.

Planning for the film first began when the Belfast producer contacted the Wojtek Memorial Trust founder Aileen Orr, who is the author of Wojtek the Bear Polish Hero. Aileen grew up listening to stories about Wojtek from her grandfather who served with the King’s Own Scottish Borderers and spent around eight months with Wojtek while posted in the Middle East. He was also later reunited with Wojtek in Scotland.

CORRECTIONS

A headline in the May 2015 edition of the PAJ misidentified Dublin, Ireland as Belfast, Northern Ireland.

In the July 2015 edition, the story about Fr. Jerzy Popieluszko said he was beatified on June 6, 2010, when in fact, he was beatified that day.

POLISH AMERICAN JOURNAL

Dedicated to the Promotion and Continuance of Polish American Culture • Established 1911

TOLL-FREE 1 (800) 422-1275 • P.O. BOX 271, N. BOSTON, NY 14110-0271

IGNATIUS HAJDUK • Founder 1911-1920 JOHN DENDE • Publisher 1920-1944 HENRY J. DENDE • Publisher 1944-1983 USPS 437-220 / ISSN 0032-2792

The Polish American Journal is published monthly in four editions (Buffalo, Polish Beneficial Association, Association of Sons of Poland, and National editions) by:

PANAGRAPHICS, INC. P.O. BOX 271 N. BOSTON, NY 14110-0271

PHONE: (716) 312-8088 E-MAIL: info@polamjournal.com www.polamjournal.com

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

POSTMASTER—Send address changes to: POLISH AMERICAN JOURNAL P.O. BOX 198 BOWMANVILLE, NY 14026-0198 www.polamjournal.com

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Polish Lancers Charge Again

by Dennis Kubicki

June 18, 2015 marked the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo which resulted in the defeat of Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte of France by a combined allied army under the command of the Duke of Wellington of Great Britain and Marshal Gebhard von Blucher of Prussia. As Napoleon was a champion of Polish self-determination after the partitions of the 18th century, his defeat also resulted in a temporary suppression of Polish nationalism.

The anniversary was celebrated in Belgium, the locus of the fighting, and elsewhere by a multitude of festivities. These included reenactments on the battlefield on June 19th



Military re-enactors portrayed members of a squadron of Polish Lancers who were in exile with Napoleon on the island of Elba and who joined the Emperor during his famous "100 Days Campaign" to regain power.

and who joined the Emperor during his famous "100 Days Campaign" to regain power (see photos).

The Polish Lancers with Napoleon numbered about two hundred and were organized together with other cavalry into the Second Regiment of Lancers of the Imperial Guard. They saw action in the Battle of Quatre Bras on June 16, 1815. And they took part in a massive charge of French cavalry against British infantry arrayed in square formations during the height of the fighting at Waterloo. The attack was repulsed with significant loss. The Poles withdrew in good order from the field with the retreating French army and were disbanded when Napoleon abdicated and was exiled for a second and final time to the island of Saint Helena. A monument to the heroism of the Poles at Waterloo was erected in 1990. It is located next to the monument to Napoleon's Imperial Guard, his finest troops.

The two days of reenactments during the anniversary celebrations

were an opportunity to demonstrate early 19th Century battle tactics. Afterwards, participants retired to their accurately reconstructed camps to interact with the visiting public and share the history of the unit that they portrayed.

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Marker at the monument dedicated to the heroism of the Poles at Waterloo.

and 20th. Participating were hundreds of "living historians" from the United States and Poland. A score portrayed members of a squadron of Polish Lancers who were in exile with Napoleon on the island of Elba

Ambassador Honored by Spain



One of the highest Spanish state orders, "The Grand Cross of the Order of Isabel La Catolica," was bestowed upon Poland's Ambassador to the United States, the Honorable Ryszard Schnepf. Pictured above after the investiture ceremony is the Honorable Ramon Gil-Casares, Spain's ambassador to the U.S., Mrs. Dorota and Ambassador Ryszard Schnepf, with their children Antonia and Maksymilian.

by Richard Poremski

WASHINGTON, D.C. — It was a very pleasant early summer evening at the residence of the Spanish Ambassador, June 24, 2015. The gathering was held as per the decree issued by His Royal Highness King Juan Carlos I of the Kingdom of Spain and Principality of Andorra (1975-2014), to invest the most-distinguished Grand Cross of the Order of Isabel La Catolica and Sash upon Ryszard Schnepf, Poland's present ambassador to the United States.

The Order recognized the contributions of Ambassador Schnepf that strengthened the bilateral relations between Spain and Poland during 2000-2001 while in Madrid serving as Minister Plenipotentiary/Deputy Chief of Mission of the Embassy of the Republic of Poland there.

After bestowing the award upon

Ambassador Schnepf, Spain's Ambassador Ramon Gil-Casares highlighted Schnepf's many accomplishments in regards to building political and economic relations between Warsaw and Madrid, adding "It is hard to find an individual who did more to strengthen the relations between our two countries."

Schnepf expressed his deep gratitude for Spain's recognition and honors received. He noted the strong bonds that tie both countries together, as well as his personal fascination with Spain and its Iberian culture. "Spain and her citizens hold a special place in my heart, said Schnepf, and Madrid will forever be an exceptional place for me and my family."

He also said he has been a loyal fan of the Real Madrid soccer team.

An Open Letter to Polonia

by Edward Myska

Faith is a wonderful human trait. It confirms a strong belief in something. We see its power in our religious inheritance. There is unlimited energy in the prospect that "Faith can move mountains." Historically, Polish immigrants put their faith in the idea that "massively uniting in a foreign land would bring them additional benefits, and help them preserve their Polish culture outside of the homeland." This basic purpose was the cornerstone of the emerging Polonia movement, and gave immigrants a feeling of security in a strange land.

This original intention is to be applauded, but 100 years later, Polonia's noble mission has likely lost its meaning. Yet, immigrants need to be assimilated into their new country's culture. It's divisive for a person to pledge allegiance to two nations, and one's immediate loyalty has to be given to the place where we live and call home. It's self-deceptive for Polish-Americans to profess loyalty to both America and a distant Poland at the same time. There is no longer justification in preserving the Polish culture abroad, simply because some forefather of ours chose America as a place to resettle. It appears that Polonia has become a self-imposed contradiction for many Americans with Polish roots. Patriotism demands unflinching love and devotion to one's country, thus there is a dilemma for people who identify with both a Polish and American culture. Loyalty requires true devotion; a person cannot serve two masters.

The explanation and contradiction of Polonia's continued exist-

tence is that Polish Americans only embrace partial segments of the Polish culture, in their attempt to still identify with a mystified homeland. Ironically, organizers and followers continue to commit to a fairytale concept of a far-away country that never realized its potential. Poland's 1,000-year history frequently reflected tragic periods of oppression imposed upon her by more powerful neighbors; along with the Polish historical quest to be free and independent. These two emotional stirrings have been romantically enriched by Polish literature, and kept alive as must-reading in Poland's educational system. Understandably, Polish immigrants arriving in America carried these glamorized concepts of the "heroic" homeland they left behind. Indeed, such romantic convictions found patriotic expression in Polonia's mission. However the sense of purpose that was originally embraced by earlier immigrants now requires a rethinking, if Polonia is to be a meaningful force.

This original intention is to be applauded, but 100 years later, Polonia's noble mission has likely lost its meaning.

It is time for Polonia to shed established myths that romanticized Poland's tragic history, as we are now into a new era of European history that projects Poland in a different perspective. "Out with the old, and in with the new," is an accurate way of describing Poland's ongoing transformation since 1990. One obvious result is that international

Polonia has lost touch to what is happening in contemporary Poland. It is naive for Polonia to keep a dreamlike vision of an empire that never materialized. So people wanting a significant Polonia need to ask themselves whether "it is realistic to continue idolizing a mystical Polish nation built on legends and myths," rather than on actual historical deeds.

Forum

This conjecture of current Polonia "having lost its way," is a controversial statement, and demands proof to support the inference that Polonia needs a new direction. A starting point might well be the simple fact that Polish-rooted people abroad have little knowledge of what is happening in today's Poland. If this is correct, a plausible alternative would be to somehow connect, judicially, Polonia to current events in the homeland. Only then could a realistic picture of today's Poland emerge that would counteract previous fantasies.

UNCOMMON ACCORD. Actual proof of an anachronous Polonia is seen in the lack of a collective direction and strategy. Despite thousands of professed societies or affiliations, there is no real commitment to significant priorities. Most groups continue to follow earlier thinking that created local Polish sub-cultures. It's self-defeating that most Polonia organizations function as independent entities, rather than part of a more important whole. Allow me to share a few particulars:

This writer's sociological and ethnic background came together

perfectly when I moved to Poland in 1993. I finally saw all sides of the Polish cultural equation. It became a real chance to understand my Polish heritage, and what earlier attracted me to Polonia activities. Previously, there were times that I wasn't sure if I was American or Polish. This search for my personal identity led me to explore the vast framework of Polonia. I believed that, because I felt something deeply emotional, other Polish-rooted Americans felt the same way. My inherent enthusiasm encouraged me to reach out to any and all sources with a Polonia connection, e.g., Polish American internet forums; Polish student clubs in the United States, United Kingdom, and Canada; cultural and business organizations; and related associations. I was convinced there was a compelling "Polish spirit" around the world that united Polonia and people like me.

But I was wrong and it was a shock to discover that Polonia is only some kind of illusionary concept. It didn't matter that Polish-surnamed professors were teaching Polish Studies at 150 American universities; nor was it significant that foundations, historical associations, business clubs, and Polish student societies promoted themselves as Polish-rooted. Because I soon came to understand that attempts to connect and share common ground with Polonia "activists" is a fruitless venture. Instead of a willingness to communicate, cooperate, and share mutual interests, I encountered apathy and indifference. (Specific details are available.) Yet somehow, these many Polonia associations seemed bent on maintaining a sort

of Polish fiefdom, though without significant purpose. So here we are in 2015 still feeling snug about being part of a Polonia community, yet not appreciating the fact that we are drifting aimlessly.

This "Open Letter" is essentially an appeal to rational people to start a meaningful conversation about Polonia's future.

Wow! What an indictment against Polonia, many of you readers are saying to yourself. Who is this American crackpot who thinks he has all the answers regarding Polonia's continued existence? In response, I will only remind you that any negative situation first requires acknowledgement a problem exists; thus confirming a problem is the first step in being able to change something. Of course Polonia has its share of talented people capable of providing a new direction. And this "Open Letter" is essentially an appeal to rational people to start a meaningful conversation about Polonia's future. Discussions should address the needs and feelings of Polish-rooted people now living in another country, who believe their society still has room for ethnic, minority passions. Yet the focus has to prioritize our motherland, if Polonia is to have meaning. Polonia without Poland is an orphan; a child without a mother.

❖ ❖ ❖
Edward Myska, an American sociologist living in Szczyrk, Poland, is the author of "Inside Poland: 1990-2014." He welcomes reader feedback at myed70@yahoo.co.uk.

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Dożynki: Festival Returns to its home in Spała



President Komorowski ceremonially kisses a large loaf of harvest bread at the opening of last year's Presidential Harvest Festival.

continued from cover

height, are carried during processions and are blessed during the harvest mass. Sections of these creations are then stored in barns over the winter. In an effort to ensure fertility and abundance, pieces of the grain from the previous year's *wieniec* are incorporated with the fresh grain that is planted in the spring. Even though *dożynki* is today a Christian tradition, it is still common practice to place a large stone slab in the bottom of the *wieniec*, which replicates the stone altars used by our pagan Slav forefathers.

The *Dożynki Prezydenckie* (Presidential Harvest Festival) was established 80 years ago as a national event hosted by the first President of Poland Ignacy Mościcki at his presidential retreat in Spała from 1927 to 1938. This was the first time that delegations from villages and provinces throughout Poland came together to celebrate the harvest; prior to that time it was more of a local or regional event. During the communist era, when the communist party used folk art and culture to promote its political agenda, the national *dożynki* festival was moved to a large stadium in Warsaw and assumed a very political nature. Instead of the celebration of mass, communist officials presided over a heavily orchestrated ceremonial reception of delegations from various parts of rural Poland. After the return of democracy to Poland, *dożynki* was moved back to Spała, reassuming its original, more homespun character.

As I am a member of an international committee established by the Polish Parliament (Sejm), I was fortunate to secure personal printed invitations from President and Mrs. Komorowski for each person on our tour to be their special guests at the *Dożynki National Harvest Festival*. The morning of the festival, our group traveled to Spała aboard a vintage steam locomotive. There were numerous representative groups from every region of Poland, each dressed in their local folk attire. An outdoor mass, attended by President and Mrs. Komorowski and members of the Polish government, began the day's activities. To enter the VIP section, which is where our group's seats were reserved, we had to pass extensive security screening, much like at major airports. With the international situation with Russia a constant worry, the Poles were taking no chances. There were also police and secret service everywhere.

The presence of security did not hamper the festive nature of the event, however. There were hun-

dreds of people dressed in colorful costumes and displays of folk crafts and regional foods. After the mass, a parade proceeded through the streets of Spała comprised of many quaint horse-drawn carriages, marching bands and colorful folk groups, each carrying (or pulling) a large *wieniec* constructed from the fruits of their labor. An honor guard of *ulani*, or Polish Calvary on horseback escorted the presidential couple in their carriage, which presented a scene reminiscent of old Poland. The *dożynki* events included the presentation of the traditional large loaf of harvest bread to President Komorowski who ceremonially kissed it. This was followed by speeches by members of the Polish government as well as performances from various folk ensembles, including the Łany Student Ensemble of the Poznań University of Life Sciences. The various *wieniec* creations were also brought to the stage by delegations dressed in regional folk attire. President Komorowski's staff thought of everything and were perfect hosts. In addition to being offered beverages, when the clouds above threatened rain, they distributed "Presidential Umbrellas" to our group. Although not needed, these were wonderful souvenirs of the event. After the ceremony our group was invited to attend a special private reception hosted by President and Mrs. Komorowski.

Participating in this event helped us appreciate the abundance of the Polish harvest, to witness first-hand how our Polish heritage is kept alive through the colorful traditions and ceremonies of our ancestors, and to take pride in how Poland has now become a progressive and prosperous nation.

For more photos of our *dożynki* experience, please visit www.jandtdtours.net.

Mural: Rededication on August 2

continued from cover

other people who have respect for the soldiers risking their lives in the name of the most beautiful ideals."

In addition to Polish and American officials, veteran groups, and community leaders, Julian Kulski, a fighter during the revolt and a son of the president of Warsaw during the war, will attend the Aug. 2 ceremony of the unveiling of the mural.

Another prominent guest will be Rita Cosby, a renowned American journalist and author of a book "The Quiet Hero" that tells the story of her father Ryszard Kossobudzki, a Warsaw Uprising fighter, whose portrait also can be seen on the

SYBIRACY / Stefania Borstowa

Memories from Deportation to Kazakhstan — Our New Kazakhs Home

Editor's note: As a result of the secret protocol of Ribbentrop-Molotov non-aggression pact, Poland was invaded from the West by Nazi Germany and later from the East by Soviet Russia in September 1939. The German attack to Poland on September 1, 1939 is also considered the beginning of the World War II. Although the attack by Germany was anticipated, the Soviet invasion (September 17) caught Poland and the Western world by surprise. The invasion of Poland from both sides concluded a fourth partition of Poland. The Soviet invasion was followed by massive involuntary deportations of Polish population, especially so called "social enemies" to the East. This operation was done by NKVD and involved about one million people. The women and children were usually sent to the remote settlements of Siberia or Kazakhstan, while the men were sent to labor camps where they worked in inhuman conditions, and many died. The memoirs presented here depict very well the fate of these people through the example of one family, the Borsts.



Since 1938, Stefania (inset left), along with her husband, Edward Borst and their two children, lived in Stanislawow, in the Southeastern part of Poland. Edward Borst came from an influential family of textile manufacturers from Zgierz (Lodz area). He was a Polish officer of the reserve. In 1939, his military unit was caught by Soviets during the attempt to cross to Romania after the Soviet invasion, and he was sent to a forced labor camp in Komi republic, where he later died of dysentery.

Stefania Borstowa, her children, and Marysia, a home servant, were deported from Lvov to Krutoyarka, a little village in Kazakhstan.

PART I. Following our deportation to Kazakhstan in June 1940, we lived in a farmhouse until April 1943.

This was a one-level house with a basement and two big rooms. In one room there was a big oven for baking bread and for cooking, as well as wooden benches or plasters for

sleeping. Each room had three large windows. The kitchen had a table, chair and a furnace with the benches that served many functions. There were wooden shelves just below the ceiling and along the walls near the oven. They served as storage and also as beds. In the corner of the kitchen there was a holy picture — an icon. On the sturdy bench near the furnace, there was a bucket with water and occasionally a samovar. On the elevation or step along one side of the oven was a wooden kit; a pitcher was hung just above with a water used for washing. The kit served as both a sink and as a trash can; it could also be used as a potty at night during the cold winter. The second room, the living room, was very clean and not used for everyday activities.

Wooden ceilings and floors were habitats of bed-bugs and other types of bugs. The living room was cleaned once a month; there is a special cloth for it and this cloth is a treasure. Therefore, there was a special procedure for floor washing. First, the floor was watered and the wooden desks were scratched along the rings of the tree, so that the dirt could be cleaned by use of a large broom. Then the scratched places were washed with water again until the floor was perfectly clean. After that the floor was shined and scented by applying fresh pine or larch branches.

There is usually just one big knife in the household. This one and only knife is used for cooking, cutting *lepyoshkas* (Kazakh's flat bread), scratching dirt from floors, slaughtering poultry (occasionally) and for picking out lice. Picking out lice is done in a following way: the hair is split with the end of the knife and then the lice is killed with a fingernail squeezed on the blade.

The house is usually accessed with one or two entryways. One entrance is from the street, usually through the stairs. The entrance hallway contains an easily accessible food pantry with many shelves. In the past, pantries were filled up

with food — since the war started, they were usually empty. From the entrance hall there were doors that lead to the kitchen and another one that opened to the yard.

The roofed yard was aligned



Lepyoshkas — Kazakh's flat bread.

with the house, thus it ran the length of the house, about 30-40 m with a width of 15-20 m. It was fenced by a double layer of brushwood. The space between the brushwood was filled with the fertilizer that reaches up to 2.5 meter high. Every couple of meters there were pillars which supported rafters placed on the whole width of the fence. Rafters supported primitive roofing. The roofing often consisted of densely piled birch trunks stacked like a chessboard along and across to the rafters. The thick layer of hay and thatch (moss, dry leaves, forest litter) was distributed evenly on the top of the birch trunks. Each roofed yard served as livestock barn. Since it was tightly connected with the house walls, the animals were safe there. Cows and horses do not freeze in winter's low temperatures, but sheep, goats and chickens need comfortable temperatures. If the temperatures drop below -35° C, (-31°F) younger or smaller animals are taken to the house where we lived.

Part of the farming housing is used for grain, flower and barley storage. There is also a separated part for a snow sled. The floor is made of tight earth or clay. After the winter frost is over, the animal dung was swiped away and the animal stables were kept clean all through the rest of the year.

So we lived in an old and sound house which dated to the times of the tsars in Kazakhstan during World War II.

Reprinted from Jaga Polish Culture Website, www.polishsite.us.

Memorial To Reopen

MONTE CASSINO, Italy — Access to the three monuments via the formerly closed gate at the side of the Polish Cemetery at Monte Cassino, Italy, will once again be open to the public.

The Battle of Monte Cassino (also known as the Battle for Rome and the Battle for Cassino) was a costly series of four assaults by the Allies against the Winter Line in Italy held by Axis forces during the Italian Campaign of World War II. The intention was a breakthrough to Rome.

Following months of attempts to take the German stronghold, the 78th Division and Polish II Corps

linked up in the Liri valley two miles west of Cassino town on May 17, 1944. A patrol of Polish 12th Podolian Polish cavalry Regiment finally made it to the heights and raised a Polish flag over the ruins.

At the end of the war the Poles erected a Polish Cemetery at Monte Cassino.

Throws Hat in Ring

BUFFALO, N.Y. — Roger Puchalski, editor of Buffalo's weekly Polish American newspaper *The Ampol-Eagle*, announced he is a candidate for the 4th Ward Common Council in the City of Tonawanda.

SPOTLIGHT ON LONG ISLAND / Barbara Szydłowski

The Late Lt. Col. Francis Gabreski Honored

On June 8, I had the pleasure of attending the 7th Annual Luncheon of the Long Island Air and Space Hall of Fame, held at the Cradle of Aviation Museum, Garden City. This year, the inductees being honored were **Francis Stanley "Gabby" Gabreski**, World War II flying ace; Harry F. Guggenheim, publisher, pilot, and aviator; and astronaut Kevin R. Kregel.



"Gabby" Gabreski.

This well-attended luncheon at the Museum included members of the Gabreski and Guggenheim families, who spoke on behalf of their honorees. Kevin Kregel spoke to the attendees about his experiences as an astronaut and growing up on Long Island. Also representing the Polish government was the Counsel General of the Republic of Poland, **Ursula Gacek**, and members of the Polish American community of Long Island, including the presidents of the Polish American Museum, Polish American Cultural Association, Polish American Congress, and American Polish Association of Professional Business Men/Women.

"Gabby" Gabreski was born January 28, 1919 in Pennsylvania to Polish immigrant parents. He enlisted in the United States Air Corps in 1940 and was commissioned as 2nd Lieutenant in the Air Reserve and stationed in Hawaii. While in Hawaii during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, he flew combat missions, but scored no victories.

In early 1943, he was sent to Great Britain as flight leader and attached to the Polish 315 Squadron of the Royal Air Force. Here he flew 13 operational missions with the Polish RAF. That year, he was promoted to Major. In January 1944 he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and assumed command of the 61st Fighter Squadron of the 56th Fighter Group.

In 1944, Gabreski, now the highest scoring ace in the 7th Fighter Command, crash landed on July 20 during a strafing attack on Bassinjeim airfield east of Koblenz. Gabby's aircraft struck a small hill while trying to avoid tracer fire. He managed to belly land his aircraft and ran into a nearby wooded area. He avoided his captors for five days, but was eventually captured and taken to a POW camp, where he stayed until the end of the war.

He flew 1534 combat missions and scored 28 victories and 6.5 additional victories in Korea. His decorations include the Distinguished Service Cross, Silver Star, Bronze Star, Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters, Legion D'Honneur, Croix de Guerre and Poland's Cross of Valor.

Gabby served in the Air Force as a fighter commander until 1967, retiring with the rank of colonel. Upon his retirement from the military, he served as an executive of Grumman Aerospace and later president of the Long Island Railroad. He died in January 2002.

Also inducted were Harry F. Guggenheim, an American businessman, diplomat, philanthropist, aviator and publisher of *Newsday*, and Kevin R. Kregel, aveteran of four space flights, who logged 52 days, 17 hours, 20 minutes and 5 seconds in space.

OF INTEREST. Recently the Press Club of Long Island held its Awards Dinner at the Woodbury Country Club. Awards were presented recognizing the work across various media. The student staffers and community volunteers at WRHU Radio Hofstra University almost swept the professional radio categories, winning six first-place awards for programming in arts and entertainment, education, health and sports news. The Long Island Community Spotlight hosted by yours truly and Brian Simpson won first-place awards in the category of Business/Economy with their interview with Mayor Peter Cavallo of Westbury, and also their interview with Town

of North Hempstead Supervisor Judi Bosworth, in the category of Government/Politics. WRHU 88.7 FM is a college station run by students and community volunteers.

POLISH TOWN. All roads will lead to Riverhead, Long Island for the 42nd Annual **Polish Town Street Fair and Polka Festival** to be held on August 15 and 16. The Street Fair will open at 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. with Polish food, arts, crafts re-enactment of an old-fashioned Polish wedding, and contests. It is a day for the whole family to enjoy. The Polka Dance Festival will be held on Saturday only in Polonaise Park located in Polish Town. There will be music for dancing starting at 5:00 p.m.

While in Polish Town, visit the beautiful St. Isidore's Roman Catholic Church and across the street is the Polish Hall, which will be alive with music, refreshments and food. Sunday will feature the Street Fair only.

HARVEST TIME. An English proverb says "If the twenty-fourth of August be fair and clear, then hope for a prosperous Autumn that year."

There is a belief that the Dog Days of summer is an unhealthy time of the year. According to legend, the flies increase, rain seldom falls, dogs go mad, and snakes go blind and strike at any sound during the dog days. Thank God they end on August 11.

Since Poland has been an agricultural country for centuries, harvest festivals have been held traditionally on or about August 15, Assumption Day, known as the Feast of Our Lady of the Harvest. In days of old, the harvest celebration was held by the owner of a large estate, for the people who had worked during the reaping.

However in the "New Poland" (since the war) various farm youth organizations have changed this ceremony. It has become a manifestation and holiday of the entire countryside. The role of the Master of the Manor is now played by local officials, while members of youth organizations act the role of reapers. An impressive program is prepared, featuring songs and dances. The participants dress in their costumes and carry wreaths.

Poles Cited for Preserving Country's Jewish Heritage

KRAKÓW — The 18th annual ceremony "Honoring Righteous Poles Preserving Jewish Memory" was held in Kraków on June 28, 2015. Since its inception, it has honored over 170 non-Jewish Poles. This event recognizes the work of dedicated Poles who often worked alone to ensure that Poland's Jewish heritage would be remembered. Their acts of selflessness are a tribute to Poland. Michael H. Traison, Esq., established this special ceremony in 1998. The event is organized under the auspicious of the Michael Traison Fund for Poland, the Galicja Jewish Museum in Kraków, the Jewish Community Center (JCC), and Kraków's Hotel Eden.

The solemn ceremony began with welcoming remarks from Jakub Nowakowski, Director of the Galicja Jewish Museum and Jonathan Ornstein, Executive Director of the JCC of Kraków. Mr. Traison began the "Preserving Memory" ceremony. Aleksandra Kurzydłowski sang the Polish National Anthem, followed by the singing of the Hatikvah by the JCC Kraków Choir.

The following Poles were honored during this ceremony:

Sigmund A. Rolat for his work in promotion education on the history of Polish Jews;

Creators of the movie "Aftermath," which dealt with memories of Jews and the Holocaust in a remote Polish village, including the impact of its Jewish cemetery;

Jaroslav Nowacki, Grzegorz Wisniewski, and Tomasz Kowal. Three members of Poland's "Strongman" Association who took part in efforts to return scattered Jewish gravestones to the cemeteries from which they were uprooted;

Anna Jeziorna, who implemented the "Poetry Workshop Mordechaj Gebirtig" project, which aims to revitalize the space at #5 Berek Joselewicza in Kraków, where the poet lived;

Marianna and Stanislaw Zabala, who spent decades gathering and disseminating the history and culture of the Jews of the town of Radeecznicza;

Professor Slawomir Jacek Żurek, a literary scholar from the

Catholic University of Lublin, for his contribution in promoting Polish-Jewish literature among university students;

Anna Milczanowski and Wioletta Pal, the Mayor and Deputy Mayor, respectively of the town of Radomsko, for creating an Open Jewish Museum in Radomsko;

Professor Jerzy Mizgalski from the Jan Długosz Academy in Częstochowa, for his many years of preserving and protecting the heritage of the Częstochowa Jews.

Traison is a partner in the international law firm, Miller Canfield, with offices in Chicago, New York City, Detroit, Warsaw, and Tel Aviv. Kurzydłowski is third-generation Polish American and member of the 2017 class at Barnard College of Columbia University in New York City, majoring in Economics and Slavic and Eastern European Studies.

The JCC Kraków Choir, established in 2012, is under the direction of Michał Szostało, a New York University graduate, composer, and conductor.

Please help us help our own community. Join the ...

PAJF Polish American Journal Foundation

The PAJF is a non-profit 501c3 organization established to promote Polish and Polish American culture and traditions among members of the public and other Polish and Polish American groups. It does this by organizing and supporting special events, networking, and providing consultation to individuals and groups, which seek to learn more about the Polish community in the United States.

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

Likewise, we see so many talented academicians, scholars, artists, folk groups — the list goes on — whose special projects or areas of study have been dropped for lack of funds. In many cases, state or federal arts or cultural funding is available, but these groups cannot afford processing fees to meet application requirements. It is time to start helping our own.



Your tax-deductible donation to the Polish American Journal Foundation supports our efforts to keep the Polish American community strong for generations to come.

MEMBERSHIP. Donations are accepted in any amount. All donations will be acknowledged and may be used as charitable contributions on your tax return. As a member, you can suggest any worthwhile cause: a donation to a local Polish American museum; veteran's group; scholarship fund; dance group, etc. Our board reviews these suggestions and creates a ballot of the most-requested causes/recipients, which will then be voted on by current members. (Membership is yearly, starting with the date of your most recent donation). All members reserve the right to abstain from being a voting member.

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RELIGION / Benjamin Fiore, S.J.

Annual John Paul II Celebration for U.S. Polonia

Rev. Msgr. Anthony Czarnecki is working with **Supreme Knight Carl Anderson** to establish an annual St. John Paul II Day for the U.S. Polonia. This celebration is designed to encourage John Paul II's devotional practices and promote his legacy to a new generation of Polonia. The Knights of Columbus recently dedicated the St. John Paul II national shrine and museum near the Catholic University campus in Washington, D.C.

PAPAL VISIT COVERED BY POLISH RADIO PROGRAM. Philadelphia is the first city in the United States to host the World Meeting of Families, which will take place from Tuesday, Sept. 22, through Sunday, Sept. 27, 2015. This is the 8th World Meeting of Families and will be attended by Pope Francis and hundreds of thousands of people from around the world.

Thousands of people from Poland and Polish Americans will be attending various events in the City of Philadelphia.

The daily *Polish American Radio Program* will offer coverage of Pope Francis' visit in Philadelphia and other events surrounding the world meeting.

For ongoing updates visit www.worldmeeting2015.org. To tune into the Polish American program, visit www.polishamericancenter.org.

POLISH KNIGHTS MARCH FOR LIFE. The Divine Mercy Council of the Knights of Columbus in Dębica,

Poland, joined in a group of 5,000 at Mass and a diocesan march for life at the Church of Divine Mercy. A talk by Canadian pro-life activist Mary Wagner and a family picnic rounded out the event.

STO LAT TO ... Coadjutor Archbishop Bernard Hebda on his appointment as Apostolic Administrator of the Minneapolis-St. Paul RC archdiocese. His move from the archdiocese of Newark came after Minneapolis Archbishop John Nienstedt stepped down as a result of an ongoing child-abuse scandal in the archdiocese. Archbishop Hebda will become Archbishop of Newark when the current archbishop retires in 2016. His appointment to Newark followed similar problems with Newark's Archbishop Meyer and his handling of abuse cases in Peoria, Ill. Archbishop Hebda is known for his expertise in civil and Church law and also as a "brilliant, generous, gentle and pious" bishop.

Rev. Lukasz Lech, 30, born in Czestochowa, Poland, on his ordination to the priesthood for the RC Diocese of Brooklyn. Born to Bozena and Kazimierz Lech, he attended minor seminary in Czestochowa and the Pontifical Institute for Foreign Missions in Rome, Italy, followed by a three-month training program in Japan. After philosophical studies at the pontifical Urban University, he completed his seminary studies at Ss. Cyril & Methodius Seminary in Orchard Lake, Mich. "To be a priest in Brooklyn, you have to have

a missionary spirit because there are so many people who have never heard about Jesus or who just forgot about Him," he said. "I want to bring them home."

Rev. John Gribowich, 36, born in Trenton, NJ, and reared in Pennsylvania as a member of St. John the Evangelist Church in Morrisville, on his ordination to serve as a priest in the RC Diocese of Brooklyn. The only son of the late John and Louise Gribowich, he graduated from DeSales University, Center Valley, with a bachelor's degree in history and theology. He studied at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary, Wynnewood, Penn., left the seminary in 2003 and became a teacher and campus minister at Allentown Central Catholic High School. He later moved to New York and returned to the seminary, this time for the Brooklyn Diocese. When asked about discerning his vocation, he said "I wanted to be a priest my whole life, but I did a lot of other things ... as a way to test if I really had a call."

Fr. Louis Klein on being honored as Citizen of the Year in the Religion category by Buffalo's *Am-Pol Eagle*. After earning a B.S. in Accounting, Fr. Klein worked as accountant and auditor for the City of Buffalo and worked with youth groups in his home parish. He is currently pastor of Queen of Martyrs Parish in Cheektowaga, NY.

Fr. Marcin Porada, on his assumption of ministry in the U.S. He is currently serving at St. John Gualbert Parish in Cheektowaga, NY. He

arrived from his native Rzeszów, Poland in time to experience the 7-foot snowfall in November.

UPHOLD TRADITIONAL TEACHING ON FAMILY.

Polish bishops and Eastern Catholic bishops from Europe expressed concern over the "shadow council" of some German bishops that strayed from John Paul II's teachings on marriage and family. Speaking to the bishops' conference general assembly, **Fr. Dariusz Kowalczyk, S.J.** (inset, above), clarified two of the Polish bishops' criticisms: 1. Does the Church have the authority to give sacramental absolution and Holy Communion to divorced persons cohabiting in non-sacramental unions? and 2. If absolution and communion are offered, would the new sacramental practice be useful and edify the Church? These doctrinal and pastoral questions will be raised at the synod of bishops in Rome.



UKRAINIAN SOLDIERS ON PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES.

Seventeen Ukrainian soldiers, a Greek-Catholic bishop, and a military chaplain joined thousands of military personnel from 35 nations on the annual International Military

Pilgrimage to Lourdes. **Fr. Ivan Yavorsky**, the soldiers' chaplain said, "It was a goal to come here and to be near to the Virgin to pray for Ukraine and to have peace in Ukraine."

At the same pilgrimage, Polish and Slovak soldiers joined in a mass in both Polish and Slovak. In all, 20,000 persons participated in the pilgrimage to pray, join in processions, hear concerts by a variety of military bands and admire the beauty of the varied ceremonial uniforms.

RELICS TOUR THAILAND, CUBA. Reliquaries of St. John XXIII and St. John Paul II were brought to ten Thai dioceses over the year.

Bishop Silvio Siripong Charatsri of the Chanthaburi diocese received the relics and said, "Only a few people have the opportunity to visit Rome and see the Vatican and the Popes, so the relics of the popes visiting parishes is like the Pope himself who is coming to visit them." The relics were brought by Bangkok's bishops to a special audience granted to them by **King Bhumipol Adulyadej** and the rest of the royal family.

Seventeen years after his historic visit to Cuba, **St. John Paul II** is returning to the country thanks to a relic brought by the Servants of the Pierced Heart of Jesus and Mary. A vial of the saint pope's blood traveled through the United States before being brought to Cuba.

Catholic League Appeal for Poland: A Tradition of Love and Sharing

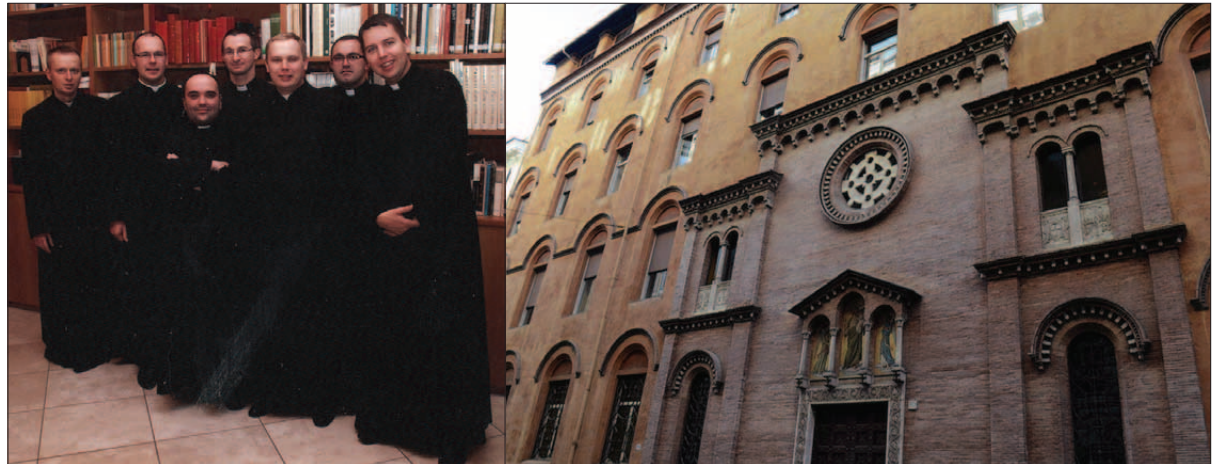
by **Msgr. Matthew Kopacz**
Diocesan Coordinator
Catholic League

The 2015 Catholic League Appeal for Religious Assistance to the Church in Poland takes place throughout the month of August in our eight counties diocese of Buffalo. For one, your contributions will help keep open the Polish Pontifical College and the Polish Pontifical Institute, both in Rome, where bishops of Poland send their talented priests for higher studies.

Last academic year, you helped

to provide this opportunity for about one hundred priests. They are most grateful!

While residing in Rome these young priests study at many prestigious Roman Institution; the Pontifical Biblical Institute, the University of the Holy Cross, the Pontifical Gregorian University of St. Thomas (Angelicum), to name a few. The locations of the College and Institute provide the opportunity for these priests to become familiar with contemporary and ever emerging issues of the Church.



(Photo, left). The Catholic League's 2014-2015 scholarship recipients from the Polish Pontifical Institute in Rome: Rev. Michał Cherubin; Rev. Lech Wołowski; Rev. Sebastian Dec; Rev. Marcin Koperski; Rev. Mariusz Świder; Rev. Krzysztof Soczyński; and Rev. Tomasz Krzysztofiak. (photo, right). The Polish Pontifical Institute in Rome, located conveniently near the Vatican, via Pietra Cavallini, 38.

The bishops of Poland are keenly aware that there is a tremendous need for a well-educated clergy; to have Learned Dogmatic Theologians, Holy Scripture and Liturgy scholars, Canon Law professors and others to serve in Chanceries and leadership roles.

While in Rome — in the closest proximity to the footsteps of Saints Peter and Paul, the Fathers of the Church, the early martyrs and saints — these student-priests immerse themselves in the historical splendor of the Catholic Church. As with former alumni surely they are inspired to a deeper faith.

The mission of the Pontifical College and the Pontifical Institute remains unchanged: to prepare well-educated priests and mentors for Polish seminaries, universities, colleges, and chanceries. Some will become bishops. When these priests return to Poland, the quality of their education will directly or indirectly affect seminarians and the laity.

Your charitable contribution to this year's Appeal will have a ripple effect. The Catholic League, if

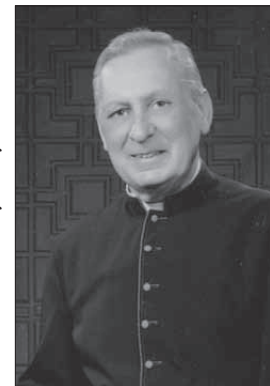
financially able, will also provide assistance to bishops' requests for orphanages, hospitals, needy parishes, evangelization, and missionaries.

Exciting things are happening! Bishop Andrew Wypych, auxiliary in the Archdiocese of Chicago and National Executive Director of the Catholic League informs us, "As part of our reflection and conversation about the future direction of the Catholic League, I would like to begin a discussion of how we could possibly broaden our definition and understanding of the Mission of the League. When the founders of the Catholic League met in September of 1944, they adopted a new constitution which listed twelve specific purposes for the League. The first purpose was 'To spread, foster and strengthen the principles of the Catholic faith among Americans of

Polish descent.' It is my hope and desire that we can formulate and put together a vision and action plan that will help us to assist with the needs of Polonia in the United States."

In just two years the Catholic League will begin preparations to observe a seventy-fifth anniversary and possibly, hopefully, with a National Convention. The only way to ensure the future viability of the organization is for all of us to come together and strive for its success. I hope and pray that once again we can have your support — clergy, deacons, parish administrators, Religious, laity.

I entrust all our efforts through the intercession of Our Lady of Czestochowa. God bless you for what you will be able to do. Contributions may be made in your parish collection or forwarded to me.



MSGR. MATTHEW KOPACZ, P.A. Buffalo Diocese Coordinator, Catholic League.



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POLISH CHILDREN'S HEARTLINE (a non-profit corporation, State of New Jersey) begins its 30th year of helping children. An all volunteer non-profit organization receiving generous donations from Polonia and American supporters makes it possible for over 2000 Polish children to be treated annually by cardiac surgeons and physicians in hospitals in Poland. As requested, equipment critical to pediatric care is provided to six hospitals in Zabrze, Katowice, Lodz, Suwalki, Bialystok and Grajewo. Contributions may be made in memory of and/or honor of family and friends. Each donation is tax exempt and acknowledged. We thank you for your support and ask for your continued support for much help is still needed. "If we don't help our Polish children, who will?" —Doreen Patras Cramer, President

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

HAPPENINGS: CHICAGO STYLE / Geraldine Balut Coleman

So Much Happening at the Polish Museum



Polish Spirit Award recipients.

CHICAGO — On June 5, The Polish Museum of America (PMA) held its 35th Annual Summer Ball at the Galleria Marchetti in downtown Chicago. Approximately 175 guests enjoyed a cocktail hour on the outdoor patio, followed by a dinner inside. As has been the custom since 1987, the PMA awarded its prestigious Polish Spirit Award to those who support the Polonian community in their own special way. This year's recipients were the Gift From the Heart Foundation (*Dar Serca*), and Shriners Hospital for Children in Chicago for their continuous care of children with disabilities from Poland and other European countries.

Kudos to the Summer Ball Chair, Virginia Cudecki, and the PMA Managing Director, Malgorzata Kot, as well as the museum staff and volunteers. A special "thank you" to Anthony Kawalkowski and his orchestra for their outstanding music.



"BETWEEN THE LINES, POLAND 1974-1990" EXTENDED. By popular demand, The Polish Museum of America has extended its exhibition: *Between the Lines, Poland, 1974-1990*, until August 31, 2015.

The life-size black and white photographs of life in communist-era Poland by photojournalist Stanisław Kulawiak is an exhibit not to be missed. In addition, the exhibit features an installation of images depicting food lines in 1970s Poland by the Creative Group SEM (Zygmunt Bzdak, S. Kulawiak, and Adam Rzepecki).



Art For Heart

ART FOR HEART BENEFIT. The Polish Museum of America and the Gift From the Heart Foundation (*Dar Serca*) are looking for artists to participate in their 5th Annual ART FOR HEART benefit gala. Ap-

plications are being accepted and details can be found through the website www.artforheartchicago.org with an application deadline of August 7th, 2015.

The Polish Museum of America and *Dar Serca* are grateful for four years of outstanding support from artists and the community for the ART FOR HEART success. The opening of this event will be September 19, 2015. As in years past, this 5th anniversary benefit will be a great opportunity for artists to display and sell their works and to meet the community, while supporting two very important causes. Both the Gift From the Heart Foundation and The Polish Museum of America are not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organizations. If you are not an artist, consider supporting these organizations by attending. So save the date: September 19, 2015, and check with www.PolishMuseumOfAmerica.org or www.artforheartchicago.org.

POLISH ARTS HOLDS INAUGURAL LUNCHEON. The Polish Arts Club of Chicago (PAC) held its annual inaugural luncheon on Sunday, June 14, at the Park Ridge Country Club in Park Ridge, Illinois. Approximately 80 guests enjoyed an afternoon of comradery, cocktails, fine dining, and a successful raffle. But more importantly, the wonderful pre-luncheon Chopin concert performed by cellist Patrycja Likos and pianist, Shirley Trissell, was the highlight.

Patrycja Likos is a cello instructor and director of the Likos Music Academy in Chicago. Patrycja began her cello studies at the age of eight at the Ignacy Jan Paderewski School of Music in Krosno, Poland, and went on to earn a bachelor's and masters of music degrees from the Grażyna and Kiejstut Bacewicz Academy of Music in Łódź. She went on to

receive an artist diploma in cello performance from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Patrycja is a regular member of the Civic Orchestra in Chicago.

Shirley Trissell is a freelance pianist, having studies at the University of Oklahoma, the Musikhochschule in Vienna, Austria, and DePaul University where she earned a bachelor of music in piano, a chamber music diploma and a master's in piano.

After lunch, some officers and directors of the PAC were officially installed. They are: Second Vice President Edward Kunzman, Executive Secretary, Shirley L. Dudzinski, and Directors Jolanta Pawlikowska, and Robert Maycan.



Polish Arts Luncheon. Patrycja Likos and Shirley Trissell

GIFT FROM THE HEART BENEFIT CRUISE. On June 28, almost 500 guests boarded the cruise ship, *Mystic Blue*, in support of *Dar Serca*, Gift from the Heart Foundation. The foundation brings seriously ill and disabled children from Poland and other European countries to the USA to receive high-quality medical care and treatments which are unattainable in their home countries. For over 20 years, the Gift From the Heart Foundation has helped hundreds of children receive modern medical treatments from the highest-quality clinics in the United States.

Guests spent almost five hours viewing Chicago's skyline from Lake Michigan on the four levels of this luxury boat, listening and dancing to wonderful music, and enjoying a continuous gourmet buffet and open bar. This is one of the Foundation's major fundraisers, and, through the efforts of its Junior Board, it was, once again, a success.

LEGION'S "SUMMER ROSE" FASHION SHOW. The Legion of Young Polish Women held its 4th annual charity fashion show, "Summer Rose," on June 26, 2015 at White Eagle Banquets in Niles, Illinois. The fashion show gave the Legion members, past debutantes, and family members the opportunity to participate. Chair Bożenna Hasztrakiewicz and President Mary Sandra Anselmo promised that the show would feature something for everyone. Children, teen-agers, past debutantes, and Legion members charmed the audience as they walked the runway to model various creations appropriate for the summer season. Designers and dress shops had the opportunity to display their talents and this year's collec-

tion.

The fashion show's master of ceremonies was Jacek Niemczyk, General Manager of WPNA 1490 AM Radio. Richard Owsiany cho-

reographed the entire fashion show presentation. At the conclusion of the show, an array of Poland's regional costumes was shown by various members of WICI Song and Dance Ensemble of the Polish National Alliance and the Polonia Dance and Song Ensemble of the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America. A portion of the proceeds will benefit both of these ensembles.

The Legion thanked the following dress ensemble providers for their generous contributions to the fashion show: Marian Michael, Dress Barn, Brickyard Mall, and Black Tie Formalwear.

The fashion show also pointed the way to the Legion's White and Red Ball to be held on March 12, 2016, in the Hilton Chicago Grand Ballroom.

A GORAL MASS AND PICNIC.

In spite of predicted foul weather, the Goral mountaineers of the Chicago area gathered with family and friends to enjoy their style of picnic. When the weather changed and

became bright and sunny, the Polish Highlanders Alliance of North America, who organized this event in Merrillville, Indiana, had a success. On June 20, the day began in



Highlander musicians and singers.

its traditional way by celebrating Mass in the Shrine of Our Lady of Częstochowa. The new bishop of the Diocese of Gary - Donald Hy-ing, along with Father Jacek Palica, Father Luke Kleczka, and Father Joseph Zuziak, con-celebrated. They were surrounded by musicians and singers of the Highlanders, who performed and sang throughout the mass.

After the service, guests began an afternoon of singing and dancing, and children participating in numerous activities. Naturally, this was a picnic. So, besides the traditional picnic-style beverages, Polish cuisine such as sausage, pork knuckle, and potato pancakes, just to name a few, were served.

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Fonfara Guest of Polish Consulate

CHICAGO — At the invitation of the Polish Consul General Paulina Kapuścińska, International Boxing Organization (IBO) World Champion Polish Boxer **Andrzej Fonfara** met with the Chicago community, fans, and media at Chicago's Polish Consulate on June 25. During this visit, Fonfara was interviewed by journalists from Polish Radio Chicago 1030 AM and the Polish Daily News, *Dziennik Zwiqzkowy*.

Kapuścińska stated, "Perseverance, hard work and talent often lead to success. Such was the case with Andrzej Fonfara's boxing career." Fonfara responded by stating "The Polish community in the United States contributed a lot to many of my victories. Their support was helpful each and every time. I always feel I fight the best when I am in Chicago. With its large Polish American community, in many ways Chicago feels like Poland for me."

Fonfara's professional career first began in 2006 in Ostrołęka, Poland. It was there that he won a decision against Czech fighter Miroslav Kubik. After this fight, he earned the opportunity to train and fight in the United States. From that point, he settled, along with his family in Chicago, and trained



with Sam Colonna, Andrzej Goluta's trainer. In 2010, Fonfara moved into the light heavyweight division. Later in 2010 he won a World Boxing Council (WBC) Youth Championship, and in 2011 the World Boxing Organization (WBO) - North American Boxing Organization (NABO) title. On September 23, 2011, he won by a TKO in the second round against Jose Spearman in his hometown Chicago. On June 13, 2012, at the University of Illinois at Chicago Pavilion, Fonfara defeated former champion Glen Johnson by a unanimous decision. Fonfara fought Adonis Stevenson on May 24, 2014, in Montréal, losing by a unanimous decision in 12-rounds. Fonfara next fought Mexican fighter, Julio César Chávez, Jr., on April 18, 2015, in Carson, California, for the vacant WBC International Light Heavyweight Championship. Fonfara won the fight by a technical knockout after Chavez could not answer the bell at the start of the 10th round.

PHOTO: JULIETA SIEGEL

PHOTO: DANUSZ PIŁKA

PHOTO: GERALDINE BALUT COLEMAN

PHOTO: JULIETA SIEGEL

PHOTO: KONRAD ZIELINSKI

POLONIA OF THE EASTERN GREAT LAKES

TOLEDO POLONIA

Bison Baseball Polish Festival Night, August 11

BUFFALO, N.Y. — Tickets are now available for the Buffalo Bisons baseball team's "Polish Festival Night" to be held at Coca-Cola Field in Downtown Buffalo on August 11. The team will recognize retired NYS Appellate Division Judge and Chopin Singing Society President **Ann Mikoll** as the Polish-American-of-the-Year, and **Pauly Kwiatkowski** of Arty's Tavern in Buffalo's Historic Polonia District with the Community Leadership Award. Entertainment will be provided during the tent 5:00 p.m. party by the Knewz and the Krakowiacy Dancers. The Bisons will meet the Rochester Red Wings in the 7:05p.m. game.

THE GREAT WAR OF 1914-18.

On September 16, the **Polish Arts Club** of Buffalo and the WNY Chapter of the **Kosciuszko Foundation** will co-sponsor a program related to World War I by Dr. Robert Blobaum, Eberly Distinguished Professor of History at West Virginia University; Dr. Professor Sławomir Josefowicz, Kosciuszko Foundation Teaching Fellow at UB and Professor of Political Science at the University of Warsaw; and Dr. Tomasz Pudlocki, Daemen College Fulbright Scholar and Professor of History at the Jagiellonian University, at the Harlem Road Community Center in Amherst.

This program will serve as an introduction to an interdisciplinary conference on September 18 and 19 at Daemen College examining the impact of World War I, focusing on the Galicia region. The conference will include a keynote address by Dr. Blobaum on "Life on the Home Front in Warsaw During World War I". An exhibition of 50 works by Polish-Lemko artist Niki-for Krynicki, on loan from the Museum of Sculpture of Alfons Karny in Białystok, Poland, will remain at Daemen College until October 2. The event is free to the Public. For more information, please contact Dr. Andrew Wise, Chair of the Departments of History and Political Science at Daemen College at <awise@daemen.edu>.

POLONIA TIDBITS. At the recent 61st **Syracuse Polish Festival**, Elizabeth Siok was named Miss Polonia 2015; Marian Poczebott was named Pole of the Year; and Alycia Atwell-

Chwazik, Elizabeth DiGennaro, Mary Gatenby, Sierra Haynes, Erin Nemeyer, Gabriel Popiel, Elizabeth Siok, Ryan Skowron, Alexandra Szelewski and Sadie Zacharek were awarded \$1000 scholarships ... NYS Assembly Member **Angela Wozniak** of Cheektowaga was recently named a 2015 "40 Under 40 Rising Star" by the publication "City & State NY" ... The **Jackie Schmid Memorial Scholarship** Selection Committee awarded \$1500 scholarships to Alexandra Jasinski, Mary Elise Brady, Elizabeth Czajka, Kayle Green, Emily Maziarz and Sara Keller ... "**Z Polski Rodem**," a patriotic concert featuring bass Aleksander Ladysz, soprano Rosalind Juranty, mezzo-soprano Katarzyna Kacala, pianist Bartosz Hadala and accordionist Leszek Samborski, took place at the Polish Alliance Hall in Hamilton, Ontario on Canada Day, July 1

Former Miss America **Vanessa Williams** participated in a Mass of Thanksgiving on July 4th at St. Stanislaus Church, the Mother Church of Buffalo's Polonia, prior to her marriage to Depew native Jim Skrip at Statler City in Downtown Buffalo ... On July 5, **Canada Day** was belatedly celebrated with a Multicultural Music Gala featuring Aleksander Ładysz, Rosalind Juranty, Katarzyna Kacala, Stephanie Wojtowicz, Melissa Stolarz, Jessica Siemionkiewicz, Gabriel Arenshtam, Paweł Szczepanek, Julia Szaśiadek, Bartosz Hadala, Leszek Samborski at the Le Treport Convention Centre in Mississauga, Ontario ... July 6 was proclaimed "**Pomost International Day**" in Buffalo by Mayor Byron Brown. This is the 25th year that Pomost has presented its two-week intensive English Language and American Culture program in Rzeszow, Buffalo's Polish Sister City ... The **Professional & Businessmen's Association** hosted its Annual Summer Stag at Firemen's Park in Cheektowaga on July 9.

The **Polish Heritage Society of Rochester** is participating in a "New American Journeys@ Rochester Public Library" program in which the stories of immigrant experiences are being recorded and saved for future generations ... **Chrusciki Bakery** was awarded the Chairman's Choice Award at the 2015 Taste of Buffalo on July 11 ... **Immaculate**

Conception Parish in Eden hosted its Summer Festival 2015 on July 11 and 12. The festival included a Polish American Folk Mass with music by Joe Macielag & his Pic-A-Polka Orchestra on Saturday ... The **Podhale Youth and Parents' Association** hosted its Annual Picnic at the group's camp in Franklinville on July 11 and 12 ... Frontier Central Instrumental music teacher **Kyle Kohan** retired after 30 years of service to the district ... The 37th Annual Cheektowaga **Polish American Festival** was held in Cheektowaga Town Park the weekend of July 16 through 19. The featured performers included the Cheektowaga Community Symphony Orchestra, Polka Family, John Gora, John Stevens' Doubleshot, Maestro's Men, Special Delivery, Rare Vintage, Quo Vadis Choir and the Polish Heritage Dancers of WNY ... The **Pulaski Association Parade** travelled down Harlem Road on the 19th, led by Grand Marshal and Cheektowaga Town Justice Paul Piotrowski, and Honorary Grand Marshals "MASH" television star Loretta Swit, Polish Consul General Urszula Gacek, Canadian author Edward Zawadzki and Erie County Judge Michael Pietruszka.

The building at 806 Fillmore in Buffalo, the former home of **Dr. Francis Fronczak**, where he entertained I.J. Paderewski and Władysław Reymont, is on the City of Buffalo's demolition list and may have succumbed to the wrecking ball by the time this column is published ... The **Buffalo Polka Boosters** featured PhoCus at their Annual Picnic at Fontana's Grove, and **St. Andrew's Parish** in Sloan celebrated a Polka Mass with music by Special Delivery, on July 26 ... Also on the 26th, the members of **St. John Vianney Parish** in Orchard Park celebrated a Polka Mass, enjoyed Nowak's Polish dinners and danced to the New Direction Polka Band at their lawn fete ... **John Gora** led a "Just Poland" tour from July 26 through August 7.

UPCOMING. Chicago's "D Street Band", Polish beer and pro-biotic coolers will be featured at the "**Shishkababa & Kaiserbob Polka Fest**" to be held at St. Casimir Parish in Buffalo's Kaisertown neighborhood on August 1 ... Also on the 1st, the **Polish Union of America** will hold its Annual Family Picnic at Centennial Park in West Seneca ... **Holy Mother of the Rosary** Polish National Cathedral Parish will

mark its 100th anniversary with a picnic on the parish grounds in Lancaster on August 2 ... Danny Potts Deli and Grille and PhoCus will host a **Miss Buffalo Polka Cruise** on August 4 ... The Canadian Polish Congress will present its **Polish Day** in Mississauga 2015 at John Paul II Polish Cultural Centre on the 5th ... The **Pulaski Police Association** of Buffalo and Western New York will host its Annual Family Picnic at Como Park in Lancaster on August 5.

The Polish Consul General in Toronto will host a program, "**Je-stem Poeta: Tadeusz Rozewicz**" featuring performances by Maria Nowotarska, Agata Pilitowska and Krzysztof Jasinski, at the consulate on August 13 ... On August 16, the **Annunciation Parish Picnic** in Elma will feature performances by Rare Vintage, and Lenny Gomulka & the Chicago Push ... The 27th Annual charity event, the **OWL Family Picnic** will take place at the Lamm Post in Williamsville on August 23 ... The Fourth Annual **International Polka Association Festival and Convention** will take place at Cheektowaga's Millennium Hotel during the Labor Day weekend. Featured bands will include the Polka Family, Knewz, Dennis Polisky and the Maestro's Men, Polka Country Musicians, IPA Tribute Band, Buffalo Touch, Lenny Gomulka and the Chicago Push, Tony Blazonczyk's New Phaze and Freeze Dried.

The **General Pulaski Association** will honor educators of Polish descent at its dinner at the Creekside Banquet Facility in Cheektowaga on September 11 ... **Boy Scout Troop 107** from St. John Kanty Parish on Buffalo's East Side will mark its 90th anniversary with a dinner at the Matthew Glab American Legion Post in Lackawanna on September 19 ... The Corpus Christi "**Dozynki Polish Harvest Festival**" will take place on September 19 and 20 on the parish grounds on Buffalo's East Side ... The **Roncesvalles Polish Festival** will take place in Toronto also on September 19 and 20. For more information on this event, please visit <http://polishfestival.ca>.

❖ ❖ ❖

If you have an item for this column, please send the information by the 6th day of the month preceding publication month (i.e. August 6 for the September issue) to pietruszka@verizon.net.

Visit us on the internet at www.polamjournal.com

Polish American Concert Band Gives Spring Concert

by Margaret Zotkiewicz-Dramczyk

Continuing my reporting on the Ohio Theatre and the efforts of the folks who have helped to resurrect it, I am pleased to report that another recent event held there was successful. Congratulations goes out to the Polish-American Concert Band upon the occasion of their Spring Concert May 31, 2015. This was a perfect day to get out and enjoy a bit of traditional concert band music before the summer festivals began.

The PAC Band, as it is commonly called around Toledo, is under the direction of conductor Robert Krichbaum. The program featured familiar and favorite Polish selections, such as "Jeszcze Polksa Nie Zginela," the "Hoop-Dee-Doo" polka, the "Krakowiak," and "Beer Barrel Polka." American selections included the "Star Spangled Banner," "Themes Like Old Times," and the "Armed Forces Salute."



Dunn

As is usual with PAC band concerts, a special guest or feature highlights the program; for this concert, Dr. Lynda Dunn played two pieces, "Pride and Prejudice" by

Dario Marinelli and "Prelude in E minor, Op. 28, #4" by Chopin. Dr. Dunn received her Bachelors and Masters Degrees from the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music in Piano Performance and Music Education and the Doctor of Philosophy Degree from the Ohio State University. She has been a teacher in Toledo Public Schools, Northern Illinois University, and has retired from Carson-Newman University as Professor Emerita. Currently, Dr. Dunn is an adjunct professor at Owens Community College. She has completed 51 years as a music educator. Dr. Dunn's elegant solos brought a hearty round of applause from the crowd.

As the venues for the PAC Band concerts have changed over the past few years, it was nice to see them back in the Ohio Theatre, where their Fall-Winter Concert was held for many years. Hopefully, the band will hold many more concerts at the Ohio.

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THE PONDERING POLE / Edward Poniewaz

It's the Little Things

There has been way too much rain but the temperature has been temperate. Could turn into a hot and sweaty mess real fast, but up to and through Independence Day weekend, the trees and foliage are green and lush. I'll take it and now let's start with a quote:

"Make it a rule, and pray to God to help you to keep it, never, if possible, to lie down at night without being able to say, 'I have made one human being at least a little wiser, or a little happier, or at least a little better this day.'"

— Charles Kingsley

The quote by Kingsley is spot on except I could replace the words "one human being" with "the community" or with "the world." Although there are big issues that require large efforts or decisions to deal with them, for the great majority of us, our impact on changing the world is determined by lots of small and seemingly insignificant acts or behaviors. It is the collection of these small things that ultimately has the greatest effect on all of us and helps us to lie down at night content and at peace.

SMALL THINGS. Kicking up the kneelers rather than bending down and quietly lifting them into place. Instead of finishing with the same prayerful meditation that we began with, there is clunk, clunk, and clunkity-clunk. It bothers me also to

see people not recycle (especially when the recyclable is thrown in the trash can just two inches from the recycle container), slam doors, not hold a door, waste food or gas, forget to give someone the time of day, and on and on.

When we are walking through life in our kierpce moccasins, are we mindful of the little things that make a difference in how our ethnicity is viewed? How we interact with one another? Are we welcoming and gracious to our guests? Do we make sure we can pronounce the names or state the history? Is the Polish flag ragged or is signage in disrepair? On and on; how many can you think of? In the long run, one thought, one word, and one act, one at a time, carries a lot of weight, matters a lot, and really does makes a difference.

IT'S A SMALL WORLD FOR THE PONIEWAZES. Call me the Pondering Pole or just call me *dziadzia*. We welcomed a baby grandson — Lucca Stanislaus Bolton — into our family on June 30th. This is my first grandchild and I am overjoyed.

AL'S LITTLE LEAGUE. Need to put in a plug for the Polish National Youth Baseball Foundation. For as many baseball and softball players Polish-America has produced, it is more than fitting that our European counterparts join in the fun and represent Poland in the Little League



Lucca Stanislaus Bolton

World Series. A very big *dziękuję* *bardzo* to Al Koproski, PNYBF's National Vice President, for all of the work he does on behalf of the foundation. I would encourage you to Google their web site and oh, they can always use donations to help the kids. Mail them to: Polish National Youth Baseball Foundation, C/O Al Koproski, 222 Ocean Drive East, Stamford, CT 06902-8134.

FOR THE POLISH WOMEN. Found a book and the author is Sarah Helm, *Ravensbruck, Life and Death in Hitler's Concentration Camp for Women* (Penguin Random House, LLC, 2014). Ravensbruck was unique in that it was designed

to house only women and most of the prisoners were not Jewish. As Ms. Helm says in the prologue, "The facts of the Jewish genocide are today so well-known and so overwhelming that many people suppose that Hitler's extermination programme consisted of the Jewish Holocaust alone. People who ask about Ravensbruck are often surprised that the majority of the women killed there were not Jews."

Of the 130,000 women that were sent to this camp about a third of them were Polish Christians. The number of dead by starvation, execution, medical experimentation, or gassing ranges from 28,000 to 50,000. Of the number who perished, I cannot find a breakdown indicating how many were Polish. Besides the rendering of brutality that is presented in this and other works about the concentration camps, this one has a number of facets and twists that I think you will find interesting — even uplifting. These include the women known as the "rabbits" and the special relationship the chief guard of Ravensbruck, Johanna Langefeld, had with the Polish prisoners.

This is a sad history but it is also a beautiful tribute to all of the women who were sent to this terrible place. They were our grandmothers, mothers, sisters, and daughters. We owe Sarah Helm *bardzo* gratitude for telling their story.

POLISH OR NOT? Mary Abigail "Abby" Wambach, American soccer legend. Born in Rochester, New York, youngest of seven kids born to Pete and Judy Wambach. Polish or not?

Pico Alexander, 24 year-old stage and film actor and writer and hottie. Born Aleksander Lukasz Jogalla, he is the son of Polish immigrants, Magdalena Deskur and Lukasz Jogalla. Check him out on *ethnicelebs.com* as he has a rich pedigree in the arts. We wish him well in his career in television and movies.

Jeff Glor, host of the CBS Evening News, was born in upstate New York. Polish or not?

DZIĘKUJE BARDZO to Dick Kozacko for the inquiry on Jeff Glor. Enjoy the rest of the summer, have a tomato for me, and say a prayer for Lucca Stanislaus and his mom and dad. If you have a thought about this month's topic, answer to the questions, have a question of your own, or have interesting facts to share, contact me at: Edward Poniewaz, 6432 Marmaduke Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63139; email alinabrig@yahoo.com.

N.B. If you send email, reference the Polish American Journal or the Pondering Pole in the subject line. I will not open an email if I do not recognize the subject or the sender.

POLONIA PLACES

GREGORY L. WITUL

Polish Home Association

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

Seattle Dom Polski
1714 18th Avenue
Seattle, Washington
Status: Open

The Northeast, Great Lakes, Midwest and Texas are known as the great bastions of Polish-American culture, but Poles have made their mark in all 50 states. Poles began settling in the Northwest as early as the 1870s, and many are going strong today. One of the more lively and vibrant communities is in Seattle and their center piece is the Polish Home Association building in the city's Capitol Hill neighborhood.

At the outbreak of the First World War, the Polish settlers of Seattle began to collect donations with the hopes of creating an expanded community center in the city. By that time, the first Polish Hall in the Ballard neighborhood had grown too small to hold meetings and the well-attended events. In four years, this informal effort grew into the Polish Home Association, which incorpo-

rated on November 7, 1918. It would take less than a year for opportunity to knock on the Association's door when the Renton Hill Club building went on the market for \$12,000. With the \$1,000 the Home had on hand, a deposit was put down with a promise of a \$7,000 down payment within six months. To raise the cash needed in the short time frame, \$25 shares in the Association were sold throughout the community, and by the end of June, 1920, the payment was made. To shore up the rest of the funds, the Metropolitan bank agreed to a 20-year, \$4,000 mortgage. On July 22, 1920, a grand opening party for the Seattle Dom Polski was held, that lasted five days and nights.

The founding generation of the Polish Home saw the building as an extension of their own homes. They would go there to meet friends and eat or sing and dance and to freely speak their native tongue. Community events were held during Easter and Christmas as well as personal celebrations like weddings and birthday parties. To organize it all and maintain the building a manager was hired, a position reserved for recent immigrants to provide them with money and to help them get on their feet in their new homeland.

The early years of the Home were great, but by 1928 the financial situation had changed. A meeting was held to get all involved to recommit to the building which succeeded in securing donations and a second



The Seattle Polish Home Association building as it appeared in the first part of the 20th century.

loan on the property. This helped the Dom Polski sail through the Great Depression and a 1937 fire that destroyed a third of the building. With the end of the Second World War, a new wave of immigrants arrived just in time to relieve the old timers, who were slowly fading away. This younger generation brought a new life to the home where they could hold true to their Polish roots and embrace the American experience. In the 1950s, a library was added, and Joseph Lopatto started a Polish School within the building. For American entertainment, the Home brought in bands like the Rocking Kings, who played a concert in 1959 at same the hall where they de-

buted their new bassist, James Hendrix. For this, his second professional show, the guitar virtuoso played bass riffs on a regular 6-string guitar.

The generation of the Second World War would guide

the Home during the 1960s and '70s until they too were replaced by an influx of "Solidarity" and post-communist immigrants. It is this group and their descendants that still influence the Home today. They ushered in changes including a one day membership that allowed the club to open a restaurant, the PB Kitchen in 2003, and provided the oversight for an expansion of the facility which was completed in 2009. With such a strong core of dedicated people the Polish Home Association of Seattle has many more years ahead of it.

When you finish reading your copy of the PAJ, please pass it on, and ask that person to subscribe.

SUPPORT THE PAJ PRESS FUND

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

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

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

A sincere "THANK YOU" for your donations to the PAJ PRESS FUND: **John F. and Anne E. Halley**, Rowland Heights, Calif.; **Richard and Pearl Wilgosz**, Hollywood, Fla.; **Regina Wnukowski**, Philadelphia, and one friend of the PAJ. *Dziękujemy wam wszystkim!* The PAJ thanks all who donated to the Press Fund.

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The Dom Polski building today.



The dining area of the PB Kitchen.

SPORTS / Tom Tarapacki

Thumbs Up for Joanna Jędrzejczyk

Just off her dominant title win in March, undefeated UFC Women's Strawweight (115-lb.) champion **Joanna Jędrzejczyk** successfully retained her new belt with another big victory over Jessica Penne in Berlin. She now has a 10-0 MMA record, 4-0 in the UFC. Joanna suffered a broken right thumb, but she plans to fight again this year.

Jędrzejczyk was so impressive that her contemporaries showered her with praise, including UFC Bantamweight (135-lb.) Ronda Rousey. "Ronda called Joanna a 'fighter's fighter' and all the fighters are a fan of hers," UFC President Dana White told the media. "Like, I'm not kidding you, yesterday when we did the rehearsals and she walked in, everybody was like 'there she is.'" (BTW, Ronda's father has Polish and English ancestry).

Jędrzejczyk, a 27-year-old mixed martial artist from Olsztyn, took up Muay Thai as a teen to stay fit. Muay Thai is a martial art that originated in southeast Asia and uses the entire body as a weapon. Jędrzejczyk eventually competed in Muay Thai, and over 10 years won more than 60 matches and six championships. She had a hard time finding Muay Thai opponents, so she started MMA in 2013. She signed with the Ultimate Fighting Championship (UFC) in July 2014. An outstanding striker, Jędrzejczyk is known for her relentless attacks utilizing fists, knees, elbows, and high front kicks.

Jędrzejczyk is the UFC's only European champion, and her aggressive style makes her a real crowd-pleaser. She's fluent in English and an engaging personality as well. Already hugely popular in Poland and Europe, she recently inked a big sponsorship deal with Reebok.

TORONTO LEGEND PASSES.

Wally Stanowski, the last link to Toronto's Stanley Cup victories in 1942 and '45, died after a brief illness at age 96. The native of Winnipeg and son of a Polish immigrant blacksmith, he was the oldest surviving Leaf and the second oldest NHLer behind former Boston Bruin, 97-year-old Milt Schmidt. Stanowski, known as "The Whirling Dervish" for his skating ability and offensive skill, paved the way for modern day mobile defensemen.

Stanowski joined the Leafs in 1939, and in just his second season he was named a First Team NHL All-Star. His NHL career was interrupted by the WWII, as he served in the Canadian Air Force from 1942-45. He returned to the Maple Leafs until he was traded to the New York Rangers in 1948, and a broken leg led to his retirement in 1952. He won Stanley Cups in 1942, 1945, 1947 and 1948, each as a Maple Leaf. Stanowski was a key part of the 1942 Stanley Cup winning Leafs



A "FIGHTER'S FIGHTER." Joanna Jędrzejczyk.

who famously came back from a 3-0 series deficit to defeat Detroit.

Despite his many achievements, Stanowski might be best known for an incident in 1948 that may have inspired a scene in the movie "Slapshot." During a lull in a game against the Bruins, Stanowski was ordered to go for a skate to warm up during the break. At the time, he was having a number of run-ins with Leafs management. Instead of the taking the simple twirl that most players take, he performed a figure skating routine at center ice. The stadium organ provided musical accompaniment and the crowd cheered wildly. The performance didn't amuse Toronto and Wally soon was dealt to the Rangers.

ANOTHER FALCON. It wasn't until I read an article by David E. Skelton at sabr.com that I realized that **Gene Oliver** was a "Polish Falcon." Skelton wrote: "Eugene George Oliver was the eldest son and fourth of five children born to European immigrants Marshall and Stella Oliver on March 2, 1935, in Moline, Illinois. Marshall, a farm equipment assembly-line worker, arrived in the United States from Belgium, while Stella, three years his junior, made her way from Poland. It was from her side of the family that Gene later made his contribution to the Cardinals' 'Polish Falcon' brigade that included Stan Musial, Carl Sawatski, Bob Duliba, Bob Sadowski, and Ray Sadecki."

Oliver broke in with the St. Louis Cardinals in 1959 after attending Northwestern on a football scholarship. A 6-foot-2-inch, 225-pounder, he was a catcher by trade but also played first base and outfield in a career that took him to the Braves, Phillies, Red Sox and, finally, the Cubs. His best year was 1965, the Braves' final season in Milwaukee. That season, he hit .270 with 21 homers in 122 games and 392 at-bats.

In 1962 with the Cardinals he had 14 homers. One of them beat the fellow Polish American John-

ny Podres of the Dodgers, 1-0, on the final weekend of the season. It forced Los Angeles into a pennant playoff series with the Giants that the Dodgers lost.

Oliver died in 2007 from complications from lung cancer at age 71. He was remembered as a really solid person with a keen sense of humor.



BIG MAN. Brock Lesnar (above) is certainly one of the most incredible physical specimens ever. He is 6'4" and weighs close to 300-lb., but has been timed in the 40-yard dash in 4.7 seconds. His glove size is an incredible 4XL. He bench presses well over 600 lbs.

His athletic career has been pretty incredible, too. A native of Webster, South Dakota, Lesnar was undefeated in wrestling as a high school senior. He later won the 2000 NCAA Division I heavyweight wrestling championship his senior year at the University of Minnesota after being the runner-up the year prior, and had an overall collegiate record of 106-5. He then went into pro wrestling, and had great success. Then, despite his lack of football experience, he decided to try out with the NFL Minnesota Vikings in 2004. He declined a chance to play in NFL Europe. Lesnar then went into mixed martial arts and joined the UFC in 2008. He became one of its most popular fighters, and won the heavyweight crown later that year. After suffering from repeated bouts with life-threatening diverticulitis and losing a couple of matches, he retired in 2011. In April 2012, a fully recovered Lesnar returned to professional wrestling, rejoining WWE.

Lesnar is of Polish and German heritage. According to ethnicebs.com, Brock's paternal grandfather was Edward Charles Lesnar (the son of August Lesnar and Martha Ann Krzebiatkowski). August was born in Poland; August's parents were Joseph Lasnart (whose parents were Anton Lasnart/Lesnart and Marianna Heva Naczka) and Rosalia Eva Miotke (the daughter of Franz Miotke and Pauline Uzdrowski). Martha was born in South Dakota, to Polish parents, Julius Krzebiat-

kowski and Anna Burzynski.

I'M HERMANSKI, WELCOME TO BROOKLYN.

The movie about Jackie Robinson's life, 42, accurately depicts the day when Robinson walked into the clubhouse at Ebbets Field. The man who broke major league baseball's color line in 1947 was greeted by **Gene Hermanski** and **Ralph Branca**, who both shook his hand. A few other teammates nodded at him, and some ignored him.

In recent years, all major league players have worn the number 42 on "Jackie Robinson Day." Back in 1947 Hermanski suggested that all of the Dodgers wear 42 to show solidarity with Robinson — and also to confuse potential snipers who were said to be out to kill Jackie. However, the movie shows Dodger Pee Wee Reese suggesting that to Robinson.

Eddie (Stankiewicz) Stanky, the Dodger second baseman, is also shown defending Robinson when Phillies manager Ben Chapman viciously attacks Robinson with a torrent of racial slurs during a game. That very dramatic scene is a turning point in the movie.

PERKOSKI'S NOTEBOOK. Colorado's **Troy Tulowitzki** started slowly coming off a season-ending hip surgery, but at press time was leading NL shortstops in batting average (.321), on-base percentage (.358) and slugging percentage (.489) ... Poland qualified for the Group 1 Final Round in the FIVB World Volleyball League despite two tough losses in the United States in Chicago before a decidedly pro-Polish sell-out crowd. Poland later split two matches against the United States in Krakow ... Mets rookie catcher **Kevin Plawecki** has missed some games due to dizziness believed to be caused by a viral infection ... The Tigers designated veteran reliever **Tom Gorzelanny** for assignment after he struggled early in the season ... The Oakland A's claimed Texas OF **Jake Smolinski** off waivers ... 38-year-old catcher A.J. Pierzynski is now playing for Atlanta ... former Villanova football star **Matt Szczur** was called up by the Cubs from Class AAA Iowa to play in the outfield ... former big league pitcher **Mike Zagurski** is now playing for Hiroshima Carp of Japan's Nippon Professional Baseball ... Chicago native **Frank Ka-**

minsky was selected 9th in the NBA draft by the Michael Jordan-owned Charlotte Hornets ... Anaheim traded defenseman **James Wisniewski** to the Carolina Hurricanes.

BEST IS YET TO COME. Poland's **Robert Lewandowski** recently recorded the second-fastest hat-trick ever in European Championship history, scoring three goals inside four minutes in Poland's 4-0 home win over Georgia in a Euro 2016 qualifying match. The victory in Warsaw put Poland at the top of Group D, ahead of Germany and Scotland, and the goals put Lewandowski in the goal-scoring lead in the Euro 2016 qualifying with seven.

Lewandowski is considered one of the best in the world, and his efforts on and off the field are key to Poland returning to the World Cup. Polish goalkeeper Wojciech Szczęsny said that Lewandowski is "a leader of this team, with a great relationship with the other players, especially the youngsters who are now coming into the national side."

THEY SAID IT

"I think that's a shame. Much like how after 9/11 I didn't think they should've called the ballgames off, I thought they should still have baseball being played. I think baseball helps people heal. It changes things. Look at Jackie Robinson, what that did for the civil rights movement. I can speak for my family when they came over from Poland at the turn-of-the-century. They combined with other immigrant kids and they all learned baseball because that was one thing that brought everybody together."

— **Gary Cieradkowski**, on the cancelation of Orioles home games following violent rioting. He designed many of the elements of Baltimore's Camden Yards Ballpark, and is the designer/author who wrote "The League of Outsider Baseball."



"To this day, I still haven't touched one dime of my signing bonus or NFL contract money. I live off my marketing money and haven't blown it on any big-money expensive cars, expensive jewelry or tattoos and still wear my favorite pair of jeans from high school."

— **Rob Gronkowski** in his book, "It's Good to Be Gronk," written with Jason Rosenhaus.

You Can Help Girls' Softball in Poland

by Tom Krajewski

BOSTON, N.Y. — The Polish National Youth Baseball Foundation is a U.S.-based organization that works to support baseball and softball programs in Poland. For almost 25 years, the PNYBF has been sending good used equipment to Poland.

Tom Krajewski, the PNYBF representative to Poland was recently contacted by Christopher Sweeney manager of The Diamonds, an adult girls' softball team based in Warsaw. Sweeney is a U.S. expat (born near Buffalo in Cheektowaga, N.Y.), who lives in Poland with his wife and daughter.

The Diamonds have been in existence for six years, and have enjoyed great success as the result of its dedicated training and full effort. The team won the Polish Championship of its division in 2014, and then the Polish Cup. This qualified it to play in the Euro Cup, which will be played in

Dupnitsa Bulgaria this August.

The team now has two separate but similar crowd funding campaigns to help finance its Euro Cup trip and preparations. There is an English language web site and another in Polish. Both contain a very interesting and well-done video, which highlights the Diamonds team and its development. There is no overlap on what the two campaigns are trying to fund. One of the current donors has agreed to match all donations from the United States dollar for dollar.

The U.S. campaign is at www.gofundme.com/EuroDiamonds.

The Polish campaign is at <https://polakpotrafi.pl/project/diamenty-puchar-europy>.

The Diamonds and PNYBF would be most grateful for any financial support provided.

For any additional information contact Tom at (716) 941-6504 or email TomPNYBF@aol.com. Also check www.pnybf.com.

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POLISH CAN BE FUN! / Robert Strybel

“Pierogies” and “Golumpkeys” like Babcia Used to Make

Sociological and linguistic research has shown that the names of ethnic comfort foods like *babcia*, *Oma* (German), *nana* (Irish American), *abuelita* (Spanish) or *nonnina* (Italian) used to make are the non-English words Americans remember from their childhood the longest. That does not mean they are always remembered in their proper ethnic form.

Here are some examples as well as sample sentences to show how to use them:

PIEROGI. The hands-down favorite of many PolAms, these tasty filled dough pockets often get Anglo-mangled into: *pierogis* or *pierogies*. Language purists are quick to point out that *pierogi* are already in the plural, so no additional pluralizing “s” is needed. Incidentally, Italo-American purists similarly insist

that “one zucchini” is wrong, because zucchini is the plural, and a single veggie should be referred to as “one zucchini.” (*Te pierogi są bardzo smaczne. These pierogi are very tasty!*).

GOŁĄBKI. Probably no other Polish culinary term has been subject to as many distortions as stuffed-cabbage rolls. These have included: *golumbki*, *golumbkie*, *golumbkey*, *golumbkee*, *golumpki*, *golumpkie*, *golumpkey*, *golumpkee*, *galumbki*, *galumpkie*, *galumpkee*, *galumpkey* and all of the above with a pluralizing “s” added: *golumbkis*, *galumpkeys*, etc. Sometimes an “h” form such as *holubki* may appear, reflecting the pronunciation of Czechs, Slovaks and Ukrainians. (*Na obiad żona szykuje gołąbki. For dinner the wife is preparing goląbki.*).

PĄCZKI. Here we run into the same problem as with pierogi and gołąbki: they already are in the plural so writing or saying *pączkis* is incorrect. It is “one *pączek* – two *pączki*.” The word itself is sometimes misspelled as *punchki*, *ponchki*, *ponchkie* or (without the ogonek) *paczki*. As for pronunciation, the best phonetic approximation would be *PAUNCH-key*. (*Pączki są sprzedawane w naszej parafii przed Wielkim Postem. Pączki are sold at our parish before Lent.*).

BABKA. The name of this yeast-raised egg-bread is sometimes misspelled *bobka* or *bakpa*. Yes, the letter “b” before a “k” is pronounced like a “p”, but the correct spelling is nevertheless *babka*. (*Babka drożdżowa lepiej mi smakuje niż piaskowa. A yeast-raised babka tastes better to me than the bak-*

ing-powder type containing potato starch.).

KIELBASA. Apart from the frequent absence of the barred or slashed letter “Ł”, common misspellings include: *kielbassa*, *kelbasa*, *kielbosy*, *kelbossy*; in speech it is sometimes mispronounced to sound like *kabasa* or *kabassy*. (*Na Wielkanoc dziadek robi domową kielbasę. For Easter grandpa makes his own home-made sausage.*).

CHRUŚCIKI. Misspelled as *kruściki*, *krushciki*, *krushcikis*, *kruscheeky*, etc. (*Na Ostatki jemy pączki i chruściki. On Fat Tuesday we eat pączki and chruściki.*).

CZERNINA. Duck or goose-blood soup containing prunes and other dried fruit is properly spelled *czernina*, but the regional spelling *czarnina* is also OK. (*My żonę sz-*

lejemy za czerniną, ale nasze dzieci jej nie lubią. My wife and I are crazy about czernina, but our kids don't care for it.).

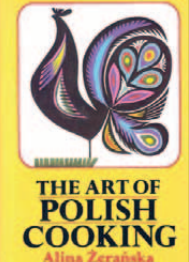
JAJECZNICA. Many English-speaking PolAms don't know the Polish word for scrambled eggs and may improvise with such things as *skremblowane* or *myksowane jajka*. (*Jajecznica to podstawowa potrawa wielu kawalerów. Scrambled eggs are many a bachelor's basic dish.*).

WORDS OF WISDOM
Gdzie kucharek sześć, nie ma co jeść!

Do milego! Until next time!
Please send all questions and comments to: strybel@interia or airmail them to: Robert Strybel, ul. Kaniowska 24, 01-529 Warsaw, Poland.

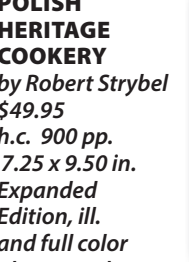
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COOKBOOKS



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Ethnic / Polish
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12 b/w illus. Index 2nd ptg.
Reissued by Pelican Publ., *The Art of Polish Cooking*, contains 500 authentic recipes, complete with recipes for hors d'oeuvres, soups, entrees, vegetables, pastries, desserts, and beverages. Special holiday menus are also presented, along with charming descriptions of traditional Polish feasts and celebrations. Author Alina Zeranska provides easy-to-follow recipes for favorites like Cabbage Rolls, Chicken in Dill Sauce, Meat Pierogis, and Fruit Mazurka. Zeranska has translated these Polish recipes perfectly using exact American measurements.



POLISH HERITAGE COOKERY
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“Polish Heritage Cookery is the best Polish cookbook printed in English on the market.” — *Polish Cultural News*
A perennial bestseller, *Polish Heritage Cookery* is the most extensive and varied Polish cookbook ever published. More than 2,200 recipes use

easily available American ingredients and measurements. Modern Polish cuisine is a blend of hearty peasant dishes and more elegant gourmet fare, incorporating a broad cross-section of cultural influences. The book includes numerous cultural notes, historical accounts of Polish culinary traditions, and descriptive line drawings. Its expanded edition includes information on Polish products available in the United States, such as plum butter, honey mushrooms, and kielbasa, and their culinary uses.



GREAT POLISH RECIPES
by Raymond T. Laskowski
\$10.00
Spiral bound, s.c.
62 pp., index
8.5 x 5.5 in.

Published in 1980 and rediscovered this year, this is a collection of four generations of recipes from kitchens in Poland and the United States. Includes appetizers, soups, salads, vegetables, breads, noodles, sauces, stuffing, kielbasa, entrees, and desserts. Straight-forward, easy-to-follow recipes for beginners and experienced cooks alike.

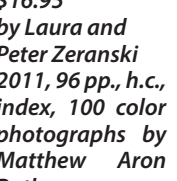


POLISH HOLIDAY COOKERY
\$24.95
by Robert Strybel
248 pp., h.c., Hippocrene Bks.

Polish Holiday Cookery acquaints readers with traditional Polish foods associated with various occasions and furnishes countless cooking tips and


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

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



POLISH CLASSIC RECIPES
\$16.95
by Laura and Peter Zeranski
2011, 96 pp., h.c., index, 100 color photographs by Matthew Aron Roth

Designed for the modern kitchen yet retaining traditional roots, each heritage recipe in *Polish Classic Recipes* has been tested to perfection. Accompanied by notes on Polish holiday customs, history, and menu pairing suggestions, these dishes offer a flavorful sample of the Polish dining experience, as passed down from generation to generation.



POLISH CLASSIC DESSERTS
\$16.95
By Laura and Peter Zeranski
2013, 96 pp. 8 1/2 x 8 1/2. Index. 100 color photos

Organized by type and with titles in both Polish and English. From mazu-

kas and babas to pastries and beverages, these recipes are designed for the modern kitchen but retain their traditional roots. Each of the forty-five desserts are tested to perfection and paired with mouthwatering photographs and notes on Polish history and customs.




POLISH PIEROGIES
FROM THE “OLD COUNTRY” TO THE “OLD NEIGHBORHOOD”
\$10.00 by Eva Gerweck, 48 pp., sc.

A collection of “secret” recipes, tips, and more for not only fillings and toppings, but a variety of dough recipes as well. Over 150 recipes with regional variations, from California to New York!



THE OLD NEIGHBORHOOD POLISH COOKBOOK:
Hamtramck, Detroit and Beyond — \$10.00 by Elna Lavine, 44 pp., sc.

96 recipes from the famed Polonia of Detroit. Breakfast, lunch, dinner pastries, pierogi, kluski, cream chipped beef, soups, desserts and more.



POLISH GIRL COOKBOOK
\$10.00 by Eva Gerweck, 44 pp., sc.

Another cookbook full of recipes from Detroit's Old Polish neighborhoods. Appetizers, entrees, breads, desserts, and more! Upper Peninsula style pastries, potato salad, pastries, babka, breads, and more.

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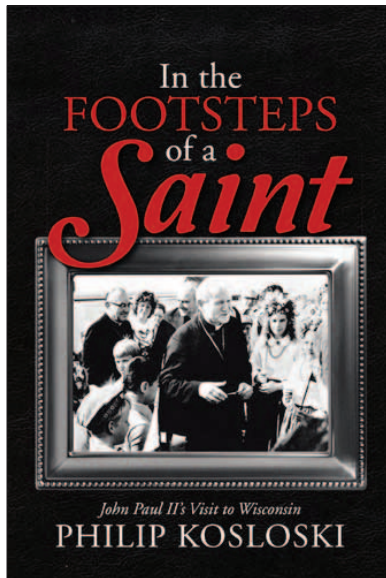
BOOKS IN BRIEF / Mary Lanham

In the Footsteps of a Saint *and* Aryan Papers

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF A SAINT: JOHN PAUL II'S VISIT TO WISCONSIN
by Philip Kosloski
Westbow Press, 2015, 94 pps.
1663 Liberty Drive
Bloomington, IN 47403
(866) 928-1240
Westbowpress.com

In August of 1976, Cardinal Karol Wojtyła visited the United States to give a homily at the International Eucharistic Congress in Philadelphia. Not one to pass up an opportunity, Wojtyła decided to visit a few Polish communities as he did in his previous visit to the States. One such community was Stevens Point, Wisconsin. *In the Footsteps of a Saint* recounts the future Pope John Paul II's visit to the rural community in central Wisconsin. Written in two parts, this slim volume by Philip Kosloski, takes a look at the life of a young Karol Wojtyła, a brief history of the city of Stevens Point, as well as Wojtyła's stay in the area.

After his tour of Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Baltimore, Cardinal Wojtyła a nature lover, craved green space. When Dr. Waclav Soroka invited him to speak at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, Wojtyła jumped at the chance



to visit the small rural city. Those short two days the future pope spent in central Wisconsin are skillfully narrated by Kosloski, who thoroughly researched the pontiff's life and the history of Stevens Point. The thin text is impressive in that it is dedicated to a single event in the heartland of America that would appear as a mere footnote or not at all in a more voluminous biography. A wonderful collection of photos helps cover not only Wojtyła's brief visit, but his life as a whole.

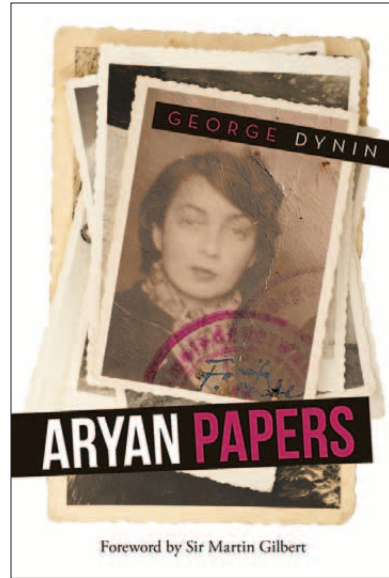
In the Footsteps of a Saint: John

Paul II's Visit to Wisconsin by Philip Kosloski is available on Amazon.com and Barnesandnoble.com

ABOUT THE AUTHOR. Philip Kosloski earned his bachelor's degree in philosophy and Catholic studies from the University of Saint Thomas in Minnesota and a master's degree in theology from the Augustine Institute. He has written for National Catholic Register, Catholic Exchange, Crisis Magazine, and Aleteia.

ARYAN PAPERS
By George Dynin
Archway Publishing, 2014
224 pps.
1663 Liberty Drive
Bloomington, IN 47403
(888) 242-5904
Archwaypublishing.com

Jerzy Dynin had a childhood free of worry, surrounded by a loving family and caring friends. All that changed with the Nazi invasion and the outbreak of World War II. Summer vacations, visits to his beloved grandparents, and harmless pranks were replaced with air raids, extreme hunger, and the constant fear of betrayal. *Aryan Papers* is the true story of how a family managed to survive under the radar by chang-



ing their identities to that of Polish aristocrats.

As a young teenager, Jerzy and his family left Lodz, Poland to escape the continuous bombings from the Nazis. When Jerzy's father is taken by the Soviets, he, along with his mother and younger sister fled from town to town, city to city, and across Eastern Europe, always fearing the discovery of their Jewish heritage. Along their journey they were aided by good friends, false documents and selling the jewelry they had taken with them from

Lodz. By changing their last name from Dynin to Dunin, they changed their destiny to that of aristocrats, and avoided the fate of the ghetto. Along the way, Jerzy and his mother joined the Polish Underground. With the bare minimum of training, they were able to spy on a Nazi collaborator and eventually save the lives of dozens.

Dynin's memoir, written shortly after the end of World War II is vivid and sincere. As with all survivors' memoirs it adds a little more depth and another individual story, for not just researchers, but for readers. *Aryan Papers* gives a unique perspective that should not be missed.

Aryan Papers by George Dynin is available on Archwaypublishing.com and Amazon.com.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR. George Dynin was born and raised in Lodz, Poland. A Holocaust survivor, he moved to Tel Aviv where he served in the Israeli Army during the War of Independence and studied economics at Tel Aviv University. In 1958, he moved to the United States where he established his own import and export company. He now lives in Georgia with his wife and cats.

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CULTURAL TELEGRAM / Kasia Romanowska

A Portrait of Maria Curie

"Marie Curie" — an international co-production telling the life of famous Polish Nobel Prize winner Maria Skłodowska-Curie — is slated for release in 2016. The film with the title role by Karolina Gruszka, is a story about the amazing life of a scientist, discoverer of two elements, polonium and radium, as well as the portrait of an extraordinary woman who managed to rack up the world of science, dominated by men. Curie, the first woman in Europe to receive her PhD, and the first woman to be granted a professorship. Moreover, she is the only double Nobel Prize winner so far, honored in two different scientific fields. However, "Marie Curie" is not only a portrait of a successful scientist but also of Skłodowska-Curie, tender mother, a loving wife, a charismatic, decisive, thoughtful woman, full of dilemmas and contradictions.

INTERNET GOES CRAZY FOR RADZIMIR DĘBSKI. The Polish composer and producer Radzimir

Dębski, known as JIMEK performed a 30-song miscellany of hip-hop classics conducting the Polish National Radio Symphony Orchestra. The concert was an encore following concerts at the Polish National Radio Orchestra Concert Hall in Katowice. The video has already gone viral, and was praised by, among others, Ashton Kutcher. It was also a number one video in the entire Internet. The list of tracks played includes Missy Elliott, Dr. DRE, Jay-Z and Beyoncé.

SUMMER MARATHON AT DRAMATYCZNY THEATER. Warsaw's Dramatyczny Theater has given its viewers an opportunity to see almost all titles with staging a summer marathon of its plays July 10-31. The marathon kicked off with *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* (Dziwny przypadek psa nocną porą), a play by Simon Stephens based on the novel by Mark Haddon and directed by Jakub Krofta. *The Curious Incident* is a story of a 15-year-old autistic

boy, a brilliant mathematician, who is accused of killing a neighbor's dog. In attempt to investigate the cause on his own, he finds out family secrets and puzzles with people's behavior. The original novel has been translated into 40 languages and the play proved a hit on Broadway. The Polish cast includes Krzysztof Szczepaniak, Marta Król and Marcin Sztabiński.

A WALK WITH CHOPIN. Every Saturday afternoon this summer, walks on Krakowskie Przedmieście Street in Warsaw will be accompanied by live music of Frederic Chopin. Young pianists will play selected Chopin's pieces from 4 pm till 7 pm. Soloists are students and graduates of the Fryderyk Chopin University of Music in Warsaw, with the youngest being a 17 year-old soloist. Before Chopin left Warsaw forever at age 20, Krakowskie Przedmieście was a place where he spent most of his days.

DANCE NEWS / Staś Kmieć

Making a New York Debut



POLISH DANCE THEATRE (Polski Teatr Tańca) of Poznań will be making their New York debut at the 34th Annual Battery Dance Festival. Established in 1973 on the initiative of the city government and local artists, its creative repertoire, original dance language and contemporary form have attracted praise from audiences all over the world. Under the artistic direction of Ewa Wycichowska, the Company will perform *It's Already Dusk* (1994), *Thousand Colors* (2009), and *Need Me* (2014).

The Festival will take place from August 15 through August 20 at Robert F. Wagner, Jr. Park from 6:30pm to 8:30 p.m., and will host thirteen NYC-based dance companies alongside international dance companies from Poland, Norway, Colombia and India. All performances are free to the public.

THE POLISH NATIONAL BALLET

— Poland's leading ballet company is currently experiencing a significant resurgence onto the international scene after tumultuous and oppressive 20th century. The company is the modern continuation of the *Teatr Wielki Ballet* in Warsaw, which traces its history back to the 18th century, when King Stanisław Augustus III of Poland established "His Majesty's National Dancers." Today, the company represents a classical repertoire, as well as 20th century masterpieces and new commissioned works.

In June, the Company made its New York debut with a six-day engagement at the Joyce Theater, followed by a single night at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts' Eisenhower Theater in Washington, DC. PNB presented three works that displayed the company's elaborate partnering and athleticism and has characterized its aesthetic since 2009, when Krzysztof Pastor became its director. Audiences were treated to Emanuel Gat's salsa-inspired version of *Rite of Spring*, a thrilling combo of Latin American dance movement set to Stravinsky's score, as well as two works by Pastor—*Allegro/Scherzo*, set to Shubert, and *Moving Rooms*, set to Schnittke and Górecki.



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

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

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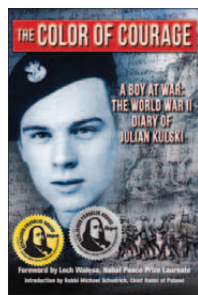
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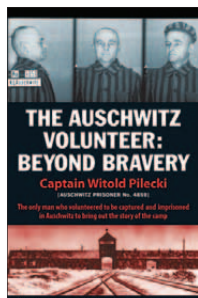
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NEW! THE COLOR OF COURAGE
A Boy at War: The World War II Diary of Julian Kulski
Paperback by Julian E. Kulski
\$19.95
Aquila Polonica Publ., 2012

496 pp., 6" x 9", pb.
"If there is going to be a war, I do not want to miss it." So wrote Julian Kulski a few days before the outbreak of World War II, in this remarkable diary of a boy at war from ages 10 to 16. Kulski wages his own private war against the Germans with small acts of sabotage. At age 12, Kulski is recruited into the clandestine Underground Army by his Scoutmaster and begins training in military tactics and weapons handling. At age 13, he meets with leaders of the Jewish Resistance. Arrested by the Gestapo at 14, he is rescued and at 15 fights in the Warsaw Uprising of 1944.



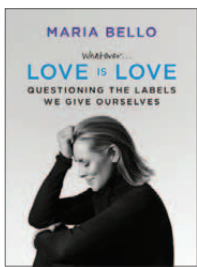
NEW! THE AUSCHWITZ VOLUNTEER
by Witold Pilecki
Translated by Jarek Garlinski
\$34.95
Aquila Polonica Publ., 2014
460 pp., 6" x 9", pb.

In 1940, the Polish Underground wanted to know what was happening inside the recently opened Auschwitz concentration camp. Polish army officer Witold Pilecki volunteered to be arrested by the Germans and report from inside the camp. His intelligence reports, smuggled out in 1941, were among the first eyewitness accounts of Auschwitz atrocities. Pilecki's story was suppressed for half a century after his 1948 arrest by the Polish Communist regime as a "Western spy."



NEW! MY WAGGING TAIL
by Stanley Bednarczyk
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476 pp., p.b.

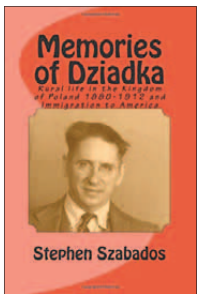
There comes a time in life when one begins to look backward instead of forward. The story of growing up in Camden, N.J. as the son of Polish immigrants (and the youngest of five children) Bednarczyk, an an 81-year-old Depression baby, recalls his life on the streets as a youth and as a letter carrier. "A member of the so-called Silent Generation, he has something worthwhile to say." (Mary Latham, *Polish American Journal*).



NEW! LOVE IS LOVE
List price \$25.95
Paj Bookstore price \$19.95
By Maria Bello
240 pages, 5.5 x 0.8 x 7.2 inches
Dey Street Books, 2015

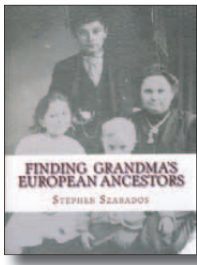
The daughter of a working-class Roman Catholic Italian American father and Polish American mother, Mario Bello majored in political science at Villanova University. Following graduation, she honed her acting skills in a number of New York theater productions before moving on to become one of today's most successful actresses. Bello speaks often and highly of the influence her Polish American grandmother had on her.

In 2013, Bello was recovering from a life-threatening illness when she made a discovery that changed her life: She was in love with her best friend, a woman named Clare. In her new book, she examines the myths that so many believe about partnerships. She explores how many different relationships helped define her life. She encourages women to realize that the "only labels we have are the ones we put on ourselves, and the best, happiest partnerships are the ones that make your life better, even if they don't fit the mold of typical."



MEMORIES OF DZIADKA
Rural life in the Kingdom of Poland 1880-1912 and Immigration to America
by Stephen Szabados
\$14.95

pb. 134 pp.
6 x 9 inches
This book is about the life of a Polish immigrant, from his birth in the Russian partition of Poland: the customs and traditions he grew up with; his decision to leave his family and the land of his birth; the trek across Poland to the port of Bremerhaven; his voyage across the North Atlantic Ocean; arrival in America; and his life in America. Through the story of one man, you will learn and understand the hardships of a typical Polish immigrant in the early 1900s.



FINDING GRANDMA'S EUROPEAN ANCESTORS
by Stephen Szabados
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128 pp., pb.

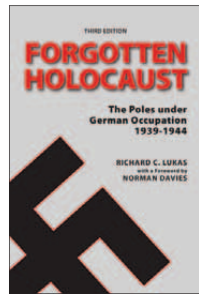
This is a "must have" book to find your European ancestors. The author uses his experience to help you

identify the available resources that you can use to find your own ancestors. The book includes many sample documents, current websites and books that will be useful for your genealogical search. Even if you are not a beginner, this book will give you helpful tips that may be the one you need to locate that missing relative.



POLISH GENEALOGY: Four Easy Steps to Success
by Stephen Szabados
\$19.95
164 pp., pb.

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



FORGOTTEN HOLOCAUST: The Poles Under German Occupation, 1939-45. Third edition
\$19.95
358 pp. pb.
Hippocrene Books.

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

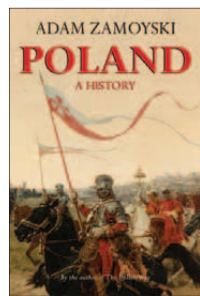


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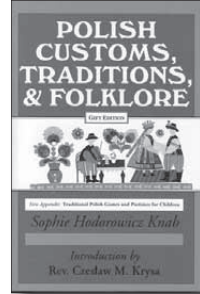
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55,000 words and phrases and more than 80,000 translations; hundreds of usage examples; abbreviations, acronyms, and proper nouns.



POLAND: A HISTORY
by Adam Zamoyski
\$19.95
pb. 426 pp. 5.5 in. x 8.5 in.

A substantially revised and updated edition of the author's classic 1987 book, *The Polish Way: A Thousand-Year History of the Poles and their Culture*, which has been out of print since 2001. No nation's history has been so distorted as that of Poland. "...excellent and authoritative" ... "fresh, different, and brilliantly readable"



POLISH CUSTOMS, TRADITIONS, & FOLKLORE
\$16.95
by Sophie Hodorowicz Knab
340 pp., pb.
Hippocrene Books

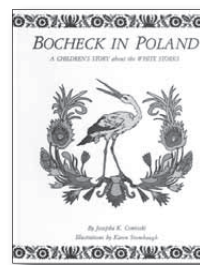
Polish Customs, Traditions, & Folklore is organized by month, beginning with December and Advent, St. Nicholas Day, the Wigilia (Christmas Eve) nativity plays, caroling and the New Year celebrations. It proceeds from the Shrovetide period to Ash Wednesday, Lent, the celebration of spring, Holy Week customs and superstitions, beliefs and rituals associated with farming, Pentecost, Corpus Christi, midsummer celebrations, harvest festivities, wedding rites, nameday celebrations, and birth and death rituals. Line illustrations enhance this rich and varied treasury of folklore.



BE NOT AFRAID
by Heather Kirk
\$19.95
Borealis Press,
276 pp., pb.

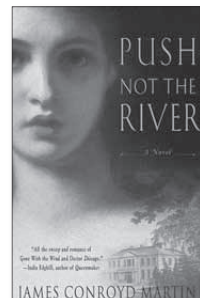
Want to learn something about Poland and the movement that started the end of the Cold War in an easy-to-read, well-written book? *Be Not Afraid* is an introduction to the Polish non-violent resistance movement, "Solidarity." It involved ten million people over a period of ten years, freed Poland from Soviet domination, and contributed to the fall of the Soviet Union in 1991. It

killed no one.



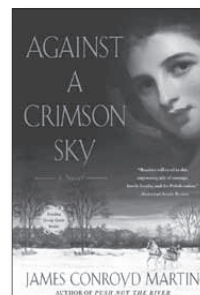
BOCHEK IN POLAND
\$11.95
54 pp., Polonie Publishing

A First Prize winner in a literary contest sponsored by the American Council of Polish Cultural Clubs, this is a delightful, captivating children's story about the life of storks and many of the Polish customs they encounter. Beautifully illustrated and educational, it will be thoroughly enjoyed by adults as well as children.



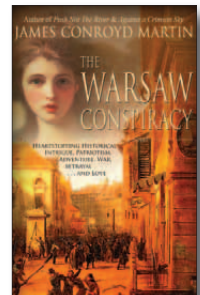
PUSH NOT THE RIVER
\$15.95
St. Martin's Press.
496 pp. pb. Maps & wycinanki illust. Reading Group Guide

This book club favorite is based on the real diary of a Polish countess who lived through the rise and fall of the Third of May Constitution years, a time of great turmoil. Vivid, romantic, and thrillingly paced, the novel has been called "Poland's *Gone with the Wind*."



AGAINST A CRIMSON SKY
\$15.95
St. Martin's 369 pp. pb. Map & wycinanki illust. Reading Group Guide

"You don't have to read *Push Not the River* to get the most from this sequel," says Suzanne Strempek Shea. The award-winning author picks up where *Push Not the River* leaves off, taking the characters 20 years into the fascinating Napoleonic era, highlighting the exploits of the glorious Polish lancers.



THE WARSAW CONSPIRACY
Hussar Quill Press,
508 pp., pb.
\$17.99

Portraying two brothers in love and war, *The Warsaw Conspiracy* completes the trilogy. You need not have read the others to enjoy this family saga set against the November Rising (1830-1831). With Siberia or emigration heart-rending contingencies, matriarchs Anna and Zofia attempt to steer the clan through ever-muddying waters.

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GENEALOGY / Stephen M. Szabados

Finding Your Polish Ancestors: What Documents are Important

To find the Polish records for your ancestors, you will need to know where they were baptized. Your first step will be gathering all documents that list your ancestor and also list town names. Try to find documents and letters from the "old country," church marriage records, naturalization papers, passenger lists, and death records. Review as many documents as you can find for your ancestor but also include the documents of siblings, other relatives and friends who came from the same area. Interview your relatives. Collect as many town names as possible. They are all clues that will point you to the correct location.

Try to identify the "care-giver." This is the person who cared for the immigrant before they died. They would also be the person who cleaned the house after the funeral and hopefully saved the important documents. Trace their descendants

to see if any papers were passed down. Ask for copies if you find any. Also be very careful with the originals since they may be very fragile due to age. These may include documents that your ancestors brought with them from Poland. Hope that these include copies of baptismal records or exit visas because they will list very accurate information that should point you to the exact location of your ancestor's birthplace.

YOU ALSO NEED TO TALK to your older relatives. Do it now before you lose them. The conversation that you have should be an equal exchange of information. The questions should flow as normal conversation and not as an interrogation. Avoid questions that seek a "Yes" or "No" answer. Let your relatives tell their stories. Try to be a good listener.

Civil and church marriage re-

ords are also great sources. Many civil marriage applications asked where the bride and groom were born and many church marriage registers listed where they were baptized. Remember that you are searching for the marriage records for your immigrant ancestors and any children, siblings and cousins who were born in the Poland.

Naturalization petitions submitted after 1906 will list the birthplace of the applicant. Note that the town name may be written with a phonetic spelling.

Passenger manifests are another great source for town names for our ancestors. Some formats list town names in as many as three columns. The clues are in columns labeled "last residence," "address of nearest relative ... whence alien came," and "birthplace."

Death certificates and obituaries for immigrants sometime list a

birthplace but you should be concerned with the accuracy of the information on these documents. Did the person supplying the information have first-hand knowledge of where the deceased was born?

DO NOT STOP your search when you find one name. Collect as many town names as possible. Most countries have multiple locations for towns with the same name. The "other" names that you find will help narrow your search. You will find that one of the names may be the name of the province, another one the county, another the town where the parish church is located, and another name where they were born. You will be able to locate your ancestor's birthplace by finding an area on a map where most of the names are found. Some of the names on your list may be missing from the map because town names

may have been changed or a small village may have been merged with a larger neighboring town. Remember that births, marriages and deaths were recorded by the churches in Poland and the target of your search is the name of the town where the church is located.

I describe the above process as being similar to solving a jigsaw puzzle. The town names found on the genealogy documents are similar to a jigsaw puzzle piece. The completed jigsaw puzzle is similar to a map showing most of the town names from the list that we compiled.



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

POLAND AND WORLD WAR I / Martin Nowak

America and Haller's Army

continued from last month

Right from the start of the Great War, Americans' sympathies clearly lay with the Allied British and French, and to a lesser degree Russians, and against the Central Powers of Germany and Austria-Hungary, whose people were derisively referred to as "Huns." Once the sinking of the Lusitania by the Germans occurred in 1915, followed by similar incidents, American entry into the war probably became inevitable.

In April 1917 the United States declared war on Germany and the first of two million American troops arrived in France in June. Of those, tens of thousands were Polish Americans, who would now face off in combat against German Poles across the trenches of the Western Front.

On the American home front, an anti-German attitude had taken hold of the populace. While many Polish Americans were technically German or Austrian, having come from partitioned Poland, Polish American organizations took pains to point out that they were in fact not ethnic Germans or Austrians but also victims of German oppression. Besides, they neither spoke with German accents nor bore German names. Polish Americans got wholeheartedly behind the American war effort.

During the war the main European belligerents allowed various formations of Polish fighting units to organize within their own armies. These Polish units varied in strength and number but were generally under the command of an ethnic Pole, used the Polish language and wore distinctive uniforms.

The units that formed in France, Russia and Germany were restricted, but in Austria-Hungary, even before the war, Józef Piłsudski was allowed to form a Polish Legion within the Austrian army. It numbered more than 10,000 when war broke out. Piłsudski secretly planned for his men to form into an independent Polish army that would lead to an independent Poland and in fact, he commanded a separate clandestine brigade.

After Germany and Austria took Russian Poland, Piłsudski refused to take an oath to the German kaiser and he and many of his soldiers were arrested in the summer of 1917. Józef Haller, commander of

one of the regiments of the Legion, escaped to France.

Early in the war 300 Polish emigres in France were allowed to form a company in the French Foreign Legion, but that country would not permit a Polish army unit under its regular army. France did not want to upset her ally Russia, which declared that all matters concerning Poles were an internal Russian affair.

But in early 1917 the czar was deposed and on June 4 French President Poincaré allowed the formation of a Polish army under its own flag, but under French command. Early recruits included Polish Frenchmen, German POWs of Polish descent, and Russian Poles fighting in France (there were a couple of thousand Russian troops in France). These numbered only two thousand. But they were augmented in the coming months by volunteers of Polish descent from other countries, especially the U.S.

The American contribution had at its root the Falcons, or Sokol, Polish American athletic clubs for young men. The Falcons were also

at the core of the development of Piłsudski's Legions in partitioned Poland. Just as Poles in France pressed for permission to form a Polish army there, in the U.S. Paderewski lobbied the Woodrow Wilson administration for the okay to form a Polish army on American soil to be sent to France to fight against Germany.

On October 5, 1917, with the U.S. fully involved in the war, President Wilson gave permission to recruit for such a force, but would not allow it to train in America. However, Canada gave permission for this army to set up Camp Kościuszko in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, just over the border. And about 400 officers were allowed to train at Alliance College in Pennsylvania. Soldiers for this Polish army could consist only of men not eligible to be drafted into the U.S. Army.

By June 1918 the first of 20,720 men from Camp Kościuszko were shipped to join the Polish Army in France and these Polish Americans made up the bulk of the organization. In October 1918 General Józef Haller assumed command of this

Polish Army and it thenceforth became known as Haller's Army, or the Blue Army after the color of its uniforms. It was involved in fighting on the Western Front and by the end of the war totaled about 20,000 men.

With the armistice declared on November 11, 1918 and the restoration of the Polish state, Haller's Army was augmented by thousands of former Polish POWs and ethnic Poles serving in the German and Austrian armies. It now totaled 70,000 men. In 1919 they were transported to Poland where they were put under the command

of the new Polish Army established by Marshal Piłsudski, who was now Poland's head of state.

Haller's Army was a vital force in the Polish-Soviet War of 1920 and in other skirmishes to establish the new Poland's borders. Haller's Polish Americans eventually left the Polish Army and almost all returned to the U.S. They were not recognized as veterans by Poland unless they joined the regular Polish Army for additional service. The U.S. did not officially recognize their service either. But their contribution to the re-establishment of an independent Poland should never be forgotten.



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TRAVELOGUE – 5 Days in Poland / Staś Kmieć

The Art of Polish Conversation

A New Metro line, the Underground Passage, Ulica Marszałkowska, and Beyoncé

Part XV

WARSAW'S METRO SYSTEM.

Leaving the Old Town, I retraced my steps back to downtown Warsaw with my destination toward Marszałkowska Street. The extensive construction work to enable a second subway line has put a damper on the scenic quality of the experience.

Warsaw's metro system opened in 1995 and is one of the newest underground railway systems in Europe. The rapid transit runs daily from early morning until midnight at 3-10 minute intervals; on Fridays and Saturdays, it operates until 3 am. Trains and stations are clean and neat. The system was designed to carry commuters from the densely populated new districts at the northern and southern outskirts into the City Center. As a result, while the Metro does not go to many tourist destinations, several stations will take you in a general vicinity of some attractions. The second route will connect the right and left banks. With seven stations, Metro Line II will link the Center with the Praga district and will include a tunnel under the Wisła River. At Świętokrzyska, there will be a transfer between the two lines. Most of the funding for building this section was secured from the European Union.

Plans to build an underground rail system date as far back as 1918, when Warsaw regained its status as Poland's capital city. An underground railway system was expected to solve the transport difficulties of the densely built Center. Preliminary planning was initiated by the Warsaw Tramway Authority in 1925, with construction expected to start in the late 1920s. The Depression curtailed those plans as the world was gripped by economic hardship. In 1934, the new mayor of Warsaw dusted off the plans, and with some minor adjustments, construction was planned to start by the late 1930s, with a projected completion date of the first of two projected lines (north-south and east-west) scheduled for the mid-1940s. In 35 years' time, a total of seven lines were to be built. The first phase of the planned transportation network started in 1938. With the onset of World War II and consequent destruction of Warsaw, the ambitious undertaking was never realized. The short trace tunnels made in 1938 serve as a wine cellar today.

Although the majority of pre-war projects perished during the war, most of the engineers behind their creation survived and returned to their city to take part in its rebirth. The Communist authorities of Poland envisioned a city completely different from what it had been before the war. As the "ideal" Communist city, Warsaw was to be decentralized and the need to commute to the City Center reduced. Engineers were commissioned to prepare a fast urban railway crossing the city. Although to a large extent it was to follow the Line I of the pre-war plans, only the central stations were to be located underground. By the end of the decade the project was canceled. In 1948 Communist planners developed a different concept that never got started and was also abandoned.

In the 1950s, Soviet strategic plans required that a secure transport link across the Wisła be built. One of the ways to achieve this was to create a deep metro system in Warsaw beneath the ground, which

would be interlinked with the rail network and could serve as an underground channel for transporting troops. By 1953 only 843 yards of tunnels had been built; after the death of Joseph Stalin and the start of a period of détente, all work was halted under the pretext of technical difficulties; in 1957, all work was halted.



The Italian Institute of Culture building was built in 1898.

In 1984, the program was approved by the government and the first tunnels built. Lack of funds, technical difficulties, shortage of materials and outdated tunneling methods meant that the work progressed very slowly, at a speed no greater than 6.6 feet each day. The Metro was opened in 1995 with a total of 11 stations. The inaugural line - Line 1 now has 21 stations along a route distance of 14.1 miles.

UNDERGROUND WITH BEYONCÉ. Back in the Centrum, I cross the busy Aleje Jerozolimskie-Marszałkowska thoroughfare through the familiar underground passage that I was introduced to on my first trip so many years ago. In downtown Warsaw, a network of tunnels filled with shops, eateries, and bars connects railway stations, as well as nearby bus and tram stops, underground levels of Złote Tarasy Mall and the shopping gallery under Centrum LIM skyscraper. There's a nearby separate underground commercial passage under Aleje Jerozolimskie/Marszałkowska crossroads.

I always found this method of crossing a busy street "super-cool" and made it part of my ritual each trip to visit some of the shops for unique leather products and souvenirs, or just a *kanapka* sandwich and cappuccino "to go."

Who do I see plastered all over the walls throughout the underpass? American pop star Beyoncé! She is the stunning face of H&M's summer collection. I had read that she reportedly was not happy to find out the company had retouched the original shots and were planning to use them. As pedestrians passed her "bootylicious" body, it seemed she won that battle. Beyoncé had been performing her "Mrs. Carter Show World Tour" in Europe and is set to headline at Warsaw's National Stadium in 10 days.

MARSZAŁKOWSKA STREET.

I trek down my route and am "bummed out" to see many of my familiar haunts no longer around. Where was the Communist-era Chinese restaurant with the worst version of this cuisine I have ever tasted?

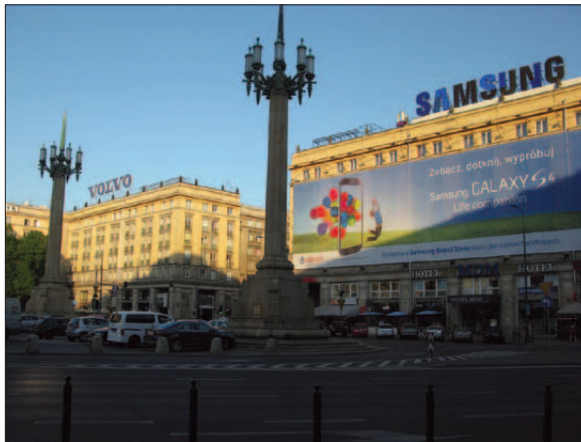
Ulica Marszałkowska begins at the Plac Bankowy and runs parallel with the Royal Route (Krakowskie

Przedmieście/Nowy Świat). After Plac Konstytucji it narrows substantially, before ending at Plac Unii Lubelskiej. The street was devastated during WWII, and after the war the street was reconstructed as a Socialist prestige project. Most of the street was thus reconstructed in a so-called *Socialist Realism* style, where monumental buildings show the authority of society. The style is best expressed around Plac Konstytucji.

Undoubtedly a part of Warsaw's center, it appears to be more real than the streets around the Old Town. This is a place where people work, with less tourists and most who pass by stick to a rapid, big-city gait.

The style of the shops and bars on parallel streets like ul. Poznańska and ul. Mokotowska, display a growing avant-garde culture. It is known among locals as the "Warsaw Pub crawl." During the last couple of years the amount of new bars and restaurants has exploded. The atmosphere is very Mediterranean, with people wandering from one bar to the next through the evening. Many elegant pre-war buildings can be found here, some of them in a better condition than others. The *Chef's School* with conjoined restaurant is a place for an excellent, hot meal every day at lunchtime for next to nothing.

Around Plac Konstytucji and Plac Zbawiciela, Marszałkowska is



Plac Konstytucji (Constitution Square) was established after World War II as a part of the newly renovated prestigious boulevard, Marszałkowska.

characterized by the nearby Technical University and an army of students demanding cheap food and action. Among frequent dwellers, the Warsaw City Court is often referred to as the "judgement factory," and standing slightly back from the actual street is *Klatka* bar (the Cage) — a new kinky cellar-pub.

The Italian Institute of Culture has been in Warsaw since 1934, and located at ul. Marszałkowskiej 72 since 2001. Inside the "Kamienica Matias Taubehaus" — a neo-Gothic-style building from the 19th century — belongs Poland's artistic heritage. The building, which was built in 1898 and covered with ceramic tiles, is the work of the famous architect Edward Goldberg, who modeled it after Venetian-Gothic style. The interior is decorated with stucco work, arcades, ogive arches and parquet floors. After the Second World War and a devastating fire in 1944, the House had significant repair work in the years 1945-1950, and has regained its former splendor.

Plac Konstytucji (Constitution Square) was established after World War II as a part of the newly renovated prestigious boulevard, Marszałkowska. The Polish parliament and a number of important



Who do I see plastered all over the walls throughout the underpass? American pop star Beyoncé, the face of H&M's summer collection.

state institutions are situated a 5-10 minute walk from the Square. The name was originally attributed to the Communist Constitution of 1952, but few people remember this, so the name may as well now pay tribute to the 1997 Constitution.

Socialist Realism, admired and detested, has now been accepted as one of the intelligible architectural expressions of Warsaw. Strong working people have been immortalized in the fronts of the buildings and on the roofs. Communist Poland was proud of the reconstruction of Poland, and it took care that no one would forget who carried out that effort.

Plac Zbawiciela — the "Pub crawl circle" is where the Methodists have been teaching English for a generation. Besides the preaching premises, the Square hosts a pharmacy, a Catholic Church, a sewing machine repair shop, and 12 unique bars and restaurants. The slogan of the bistro "Chleb i Wino" (bread and wine) evokes established and traditional

Catholic values. Next door to the club *Plan B* has chosen to adapt the slogan to no less established Polish values: "Wódka i Piwo" (vodka and beer). Zbawiciela Church (The Saviour's Church) has given its name to the square and is more special from the outside than from the inside. It also distinguishes itself by a limited use of the church bells.

In front of the church there is: *Bastyli* (pancakes, beer, and champagne), *Izumi Sushi* restaurant, *Karma* (coffee, actors and theatre spectators), a huge, extremely cheap Chinese restaurant on three levels, and a flower woman. As the time is getting late, I turn around, head to the train station and back to Karolin.

Polish Psyche, Identity and Conversation

Returning from my eventful and packed single day in Warsaw, I am decidedly late for the Bytom Opera's performance of *La Traviata* at Matecznik that I was invited to attend. Turning the corner on my way back to *Mazowsze's* onsite hotel, I am surprised to see retired Ballet Master and Master Choreographer Witold Zapala. He had just attended Act I of the opera and decided to depart. After another extensive exchange, I bid him good night.

As it is now too late to even "second-act" the Verdi opera, I decided to accept an invitation to *Mazowsze* dancer Norbert Kurdzial and wife Agata's apartment in nearby Pruszków for a home cooked meal, wine, and the "Art of Polish Conversation." Soup, salad and a specialty

dish, then a dessert of topics ranging from politics, culture, the Arts, philosophy, food, and communication. The conversation is complete, thorough, and engaging and I have the chance to meet their little daughter Tosia, who was awakened by our camaraderie. More than in the United States where our lifestyle and culture is fast-paced and disconnected, I have found that among friends in Poland, I can become bonded in an exchange of dialogue. Language is what connects us, and fortunately through the Polish language another world opened up for me — a world where I am a different person.

Language and identity in Poland were buffeted by a turbulent journey through the 20th century. Regional and cultural traditions were suppressed and abused, as national identity gripped on defiantly to emerge as an important facet of the modern state

Despite a deserved reputation for warm welcomes, *Polacy* are relatively restrained in conversation, yet unmistakably passionate. An even temperament is important and overt displays of emotion or wild gesturing are rare, even though they happily stand close to each other while talking. Similarly, they talk evenly, even when speaking loudly, and usually prefer measured response to rapid-fire monologue. Slang is common, and mild swearing may pepper the conversation — although less so with women. In terms of protocol, avoiding eye contact during conversation is considered rude, and while topics like religion and abortion are perhaps best avoided on a first meeting, Poles are generally direct in conversation. They don't skirt around issues, favor insinuation or engage in subtle hints.

Labeling individuals with national characteristics is always a dangerous practice, but it seems fair to say that Poles are polite, easy-going, hospitable people. The Russians have often labeled them, with mild ridicule — as "happy-go-lucky." Their sense of humor, never far from the surface, has an undercurrent of irony, but also a bluntness unhindered by political correctness. For centuries, Poland was one of the most progressive regions in Europe, particularly during the "Golden Age" of the Polish State and today, most Poles continue to maintain those unrestricted values. The ongoing influence of the Catholic Church also means they can be more puritanical on controversial issues than the citizens of other European nations.

For generations, Adam Mickiewicz's romantic portrayal of Poland as the "Christ of Nations," the martyr of Europe, was ingrained in the collective psyche and identity of the Poles, a role confirmed by the prolonged anguish of the 20th century. Similarly, Poland's place in Europe is shifting. While the people, ethics Slavs, may be considered "Eastern," the country increasingly faces "West" in attitude and outlook.

to be continued

Poland's Blueberry Gold

by Richard Poremski

BRZEZINY, Lodzkie — Poles know that summer has truly arrived as signaled by the annual blueberry harvest. It is a much welcomed relief to see and taste these delicious berries recognized as a gift from the sun after the usual long, cold and dreary Polish winter. Cultivated blueberries are called *borowki* here. However, the names *jagoda/jagodi* (singular/plural) are also used for blueberries, but sometimes used generically to describe other types of berries in general. The prized and much sought after *jagodi* are the wild blueberries found growing in the forest. The delectable berries are prepared and eagerly consumed in many different ways - but the most classic preparation is the savory blueberry pierogi, sautéed in butter and served topped with a dollop of sour cream — *smaczny!*

It is a very busy time from the first week of July into September (depending on Poland's early fall weather) at the Klosowski family-owned blueberry plantation (as referred to in Poland), 18.6 miles

east of the city of Lodz.

This particular plantation is 2.5 acres, and produces over 44,000 pounds of blueberries annually. These berries are individually hand-plucked from the bushes as they ripen. The Klosowski's harvest is sold in the greater-Lodz area, but are even being directly exported to Croatia and Finland.

People from the local villages provide the field labor, which includes shorts and t-shirted teenagers, arriving by bicycle and seeking pocket money, along with some older people working to supplement their incomes.

Noticing one much older woman — sensibly attired in a long dress, brimmed sun hat and sturdy shoes



Pani Ania Klosowska weighing/logging-in blueberries from three young pickers.

— I wondered aloud how she could keep up with the young people, and was quickly told matter-of-factly by proprietress Pani Ania Klosowska that the lady is one of the plantation's most valued and productive workers. Up to a score of pickers were active on the day of my hot, sunny August 2014 visit, constantly shuttling back and forth from the

fields to the weighing-in table with their pails brimming with lush blueberries.

There are numerous other family owned blueberry holdings of varying size radiating out from here in central Poland, but there are some very big industrial players as well. According to the latest available published reports (2013), the berry production for the cooperative Rajpol stood at 881,840 pounds and at 1,543,220 pounds for the producer group Polski Jagody, with both entities planning on expanding their orchards and harvests. In addition to the domestic market for fresh consumption, and mainly for export to the U.K., Germany, France, and Scandinavia, they both grow the varieties Patriot, Sierra, Sunrise, Bluecrop, Nelson, Chandler, Liberty and Aurora — all collectively identified and referred to as "American blueberries."

No matter on what scale you look at it, the annual blueberry motherlode is growing and proving to be a very golden agriculture asset to Poland, both domestically and abroad,



Some crates of freshly harvested blueberries awaiting shipment. being warmly welcomed everywhere as a true summer delight.

POLISH CHEF

Guest Chefs Offer Polish Blueberry Delights

SWEET BLUEBERRY BUNS

Ania's Polish Food Recipes

Dough

2 cups of white all-purpose flour
1/3 cup of white granulated sugar
2 eggs
1 tsp of pure vanilla extract
Pinch of salt
1/2 cup of lukewarm milk
1 1/2 tsp of instant yeast
2 tbs. of white all-purpose flour
2 tbs. of white granulated sugar
1/4 cup of melted butter

Filling

2 cups of blueberries
1/3 cup of sugar
2 tbs. of flour
Topping
1 beaten egg
2 tbs. of sugar

In a small mixing bowl add milk, 2 tbs. of sugar, 2 tbs. of flour and yeast. Mix until well combined. Set aside to start foaming. (around 20 minutes). In to the bowl of your stand mixer add all the ingredients for the dough except melted butter. Add yeast mixture and mix with a paddle attachment until all is well combined. Add melted butter and mix for another couple of minutes. Spray with oil and cover with a kitchen towel. Let rise until doubled in size (around 2 hours). Mix your blueberries with sugar and flour. Sprinkle the dough with a little bit of flour and knead with a dough attachment until the dough

is smooth and elastic. (around 5 minutes). Transfer the dough on to your working surface sprinkled with some flour. Knead it few more times and then roll into 3/16-1/4 inch thick square. Cut into squares. Fold around 1 tbs. of blueberries in to the dough squares forming nice buns. Place them on the baking sheet covered with parchment paper leaving them space to rise. Spray with non-stick spray. Let them rise for about 20 minutes. Paint with beaten egg and sprinkle with some sugar. Bake in preheated oven to 350 for 20 minutes.

BLUEBERRY MAZURKA

by Cara Ferguson

Blueberry Filling

1 cup fresh or frozen blueberries
1/4 cup blueberry flavored vodka
1/4 cup water
2 tablespoons granulated sugar
1 tablespoon cornstarch

Pastry

1 1/4 cups flour
1 cup brown sugar, packed
3/4 cup rolled oats
1/2 cup Unsalted Butter
1/2 cup chopped walnuts
1/4 teaspoon salt

Combine blueberry filling ingredients in a medium saucepan and place over medium heat. Stir filling until you see it thicken and bubble, about 8-10 minutes. Remove from heat and allow to cool completely before assembling dessert. Preheat oven to 325°F. Mix pastry ingredients together in a large bowl until most of the butter is incorporated and creates a crumbly, strudel-like texture (make sure not to let the butter melt). Prepare an 8x8 inch brownie pan by lining with foil or parchment paper, and grease with butter or nonstick spray. Pack half of the pastry mixture onto the bottom of the pan and spread blueberry filling over the bottom layer. Sprinkle remaining half of pastry over blueberry filling and very gently pack down, making sure not to let any filling seep to the surface. Bake for 1 hour. Allow dessert to cool before lifting out of pan, and cut into 16 bars.

BLUEBERRY PIEROGI

by Robert Strybel

Put a large pot of lightly salted water on stove to boil. Sift 2-1/2 c. flour onto bread-board and sprinkle with 1/2 t. salt. Break 1 egg into flour mound, add 1 T. salad oil and work into a dough, gradually add-

ing about 1/2 c. water. Knead dough on floured board until smooth and place under warm bowl for 10 min. Sprinkle 2-3 c. washed, drained blueberries with 1 heaping T. sugar, 1 level T. plain bread crumbs and 1 level T. cornstarch and toss gently. Roll dough out thin, cut into rounds with glass or biscuit-cutter, place a spoonful of fruit onto round, fold in half, seal by finger-pinching and crimping with fork and drop into boiling water. Cover. When they float up, cook about 2-3 min. Remove with draining spoon and serve dusted with powdered sugar and topped with sour cream (or low-fat yogurt). Note: Some cooks sprinkle the blueberries with sugar before filling pierogi, but that makes the filling quite runny. We feel it is better to fill them with just the blueberries and then sprinkle the cooked pierogi with powdered or granulated sugar on serving platter.

POLISH BLUEBERRY CORDIAL

by Barbara Rolek

Combine 2 1/2 pounds blueberries and 1 quart good-quality vodka in a large, sterilized glass container. Seal and set in a dark, cool place for 1 week. After 1 week, pour through a sieve, reserving blueberries, and transfer blueberry-infused vodka into a clean, sterilized glass container and seal. Add 2 cups sugar to blueberries, mix well and transfer to a separate clean, sterilized glass container and seal. Place both containers in a dark, cool place for 1 month. After 1 month, thoroughly combine blueberry mixture with vodka, strain and pour into a clean, sterilized glass container. Seal and allow to age in a cool, dark place for several months. Blueberries may be discarded or served over ice.

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Special Delivery Releases First Studio Recording

BUFFALO, N.Y. — Special Delivery has released its first studio recording, "Blueprints for Dancing."

The CD is a collection of modern and traditional Polish American polka, oberek, and waltz music.

Formed two years ago by five veteran musicians from Western New York, Special Delivery plays everything from ethnic specialties to alternative music. Known for its versatility, the band's repertoire includes oldies, classic rock, Latin, country, swing, blues, and party music. All members have roots in the Polish American circuit, thus making the decision to record a polka CD an easy one.

"Polka music is still alive and strong in Western New York," said vocalist and drummer Tom Goldyn. "We figured we owe something to the community that gave us our start."

The CD contains 18 songs, six of which are in a medley called "Hap-

py and Rich," a tribute to Buffalo Polka Legend, "Happy Richie."

An original waltz by band members Ted Szymanski and Mark Kohan, "My Guardian Angel," con-



tains a verse of a treasured Polish prayer, known to almost every Polish American.

All members of Special Delivery sing in both Polish and English. Polish vocals on the CD include the sing-along "Bottoms Up," "Two

Michaels," and "Boys from Laboga," which is based on Polish folk song. English-language vocals are "Giant Step," "Losing You," and "The Things You Used to Say."

Both obereks — "Take Me Home" and "Iron Casket" — are sung in Polish.

There is also an instrumental polka on the CD, "Chrome Dome," which showcases the musicianship of saxophone player David Miesowicz, and trumpeter Jay Skiba.

Recorded at Max Studios in Lancaster, N.Y., "Blueprints for Dancing" is on the Sunshine record label, SNCD 259.

To order a copy, or to hear song samples, visit the band's website thespecialdeliveryband.com, or send \$15.00 plus \$3.00 s&h to: Special Delivery, c/o Ted Szymanski, 41 Rachele Drive, Cheektowaga, NY 14227 (716-668-9101). The recording is also available from cd-Baby.com.

POLKA INSIDER / Steve Litwin

Accordion was Key in Lifelong Passion for Music

Growing up in Western New York, I thought everyone owned and played an accordion. In many taverns and bars, an accordion would just be sitting in the backroom waiting for someone to pick it up.

I was young when I took my first accordion lesson. My dzia (grandfather) paid for those initial lessons and my Uncle Emil was not only my teacher, but an accordionist extraordinaire. After a few lessons, my uncle realized I wasn't reading the music chart, but playing by ear. Questioning me on this, I told him, "I listened to you play it at my last lesson and I just followed the melody. It was obvious the accordion was my instrument. It also became obvious that I needed my own accordion and my uncle's early 1950 vintage Pollina was the right price.

After a couple of years, when my teen years got in the way, I realized the Pollina was going to be



The author's Pollina accordion may have lost its shine, but not its charm.

my instrument of choice. From Litwin's Blue room to the Dom Polski, to the American Legion, to the Canal cruises, to Woodward Avenue

of Detroit, to the State Fair of Missouri, me and my accordion were inseparable.

The right hand keys have yellowed a bit, some of the chrome edging has dulled, and some of those "hot spots" for accordion music are no longer there. One thing that hasn't changed is my love for the music, for the accordion, for the songs of my dziadek. The accordion also played a part in meeting my one and only at a dance.

I've added a few concertinas to my musical collection, but that Pollina is always there, waiting for me to pick it up and play a few tunes.

Many who were instrumental (pun intended) in starting my love affair with the accordion are gone now, but I think of them each time I play that squeeze box.

And for me, there just may be nothing better than boxes and bellows.

OBITUARY

Polka World Losses Musician, Bandleader Bernie Goydish

HILLSBOROUGH, N.J. — Bernie Goydish, an active member of the Polish American community, who dedicated himself to promoting Polish American heritage, music and scholarships, died June 28, 2015.

Goydish began his musical career in 1956 as a drummer with a four-piece Hazleton area polka band called Jackie Lesko's Skyrockets and then progressed to his own band called Bernie Goydish and his Tic-Toc Orchestra. Born Feb. 17, 1940 in Tresckow, Pa., Goydish graduated from West Hazleton High School, attended Penn State University, Rutgers University and Thomas Edison College. He held degrees in chemistry and accounting.

Since 1963, he resided in Hillsborough, and spent decades promoting polka music entertainment as a musician, bandleader, recording engineer, polka record producer, disc jockey, and polka music festival promoter. In the late 1960s he created LeMans Records and Sound Studios, which became a major polka-recording label. Over 140 albums were recorded and many new and young polka artists were introduced to the polka world. His LeMans recordings have won awards from



many polka music associations, as well as a nomination for a Grammy award. Bernie's recording of the "Suicide Polka" was played in its entirety in the movie *Spiderman 2*. His Polka Hits music distributorship helped get polka music into many commercial retail outlets.

For 40 years as a polka DJ, his shows were heard on WCTC and WBRW in New Jersey, WGPA and WLSH in Pennsylvania and most recently heard on 247polkaheaven.com. www.247polkaheaven.com. He also promoted the "Polka Spree by the Sea" in Wildwood, N.J., and the "Sunnybrook Polka Spree" in Pottstown, Pa.

He is survived by his four children: daughters Christine Wolinski, Bernadette Goydish, Nicole Geary, and son, Bernie Marc; sisters Bernadine Ensor and Anna Grusetskie; and nine grandchildren.

The family requests any donations be made to the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research or Deborah Heart and Lung Center.

POLKA CALENDAR / John Zioborwski

To list your event, please send date, band, location, times, and contact number to johnzz@cox.net.

AUGUST 15

- Eddie Forman. PACC. Medford, N.J. 2-6. (856) 466-7396
- John Gora, Rich Bobinski Orchestra. Polish Town Fair. Riverhead, L.I.N.Y. (631) 727-9200
- John Stevens DoubleShot. St. Marys. Scranton, Pa. 6-10. (570) 342-6429

AUGUST 16

- Eddie Forman. PACC. Gardner, Ma. 1-5. (978) 632-9729
- Rich Bobinski Orchestra. Polish Town Fair. Riverhead, L.I. N.Y. 1-6, (631) 727-9200
- John Gora. Pulaski Park. Three Rivers, Mass. 2:30-6:30
- Dennis Polisky Maestros Men. Lions Pavillion. Hatfield, Mass. 1-5. (413) 665-2129
- John Stevens DoubleShot. South Cass Fire Co. Minersville, Pa. 12-4. (570) 544-2211
- John Stevens DoubleShot. Irem Temple CC. Dallas, Pa. 7 pm. (870) 675-4653
- Old School. Roosevelt Hall. Norvelt, Pa. 2-6. (724) 423-8558
- Joe Stanky & Cadets. Athenia Veteran's Post. Clifton, N.J. 2-6. Aug. 12 ticket deadline (773) 778-0931
- Polka Family Band. German Club. Pawtucket, R.I. 2-6. (401) 723-3549
- Eastern Sound. St. Michaels. Peabody, Ma. 12-5. (978) 532-3208

AUGUST 20

- John Stevens DoubleShot. Best Western. Matamoras Pa. 11-3:30. (518) 491-2400

AUGUST 21

- Polka Family Band. Holy Trinity Zabawa Festival. Erie, Pa. 6-10. (814) 456-0671
- Alex Meixner. Evergreen German Club. Fleetwood, Pa. (610) 944-7501

AUGUST 22

- Special Delivery. Veteran's Stadium, 2960 South Park Ave., Lackawanna, NY 1:00-4:00 p.m.
- New Direction Band. PACC. Lowville, N.Y. 6-10. (315) 489-0234
- Polka Country Musicians. Holy Trinity Zabawa Festival. Erie, Pa. 6:30-10:30. (814) 456-0671

AUGUST 23

- Dennis Polisky Maestros Men. Falcon Field. New Britain, Conn. 1-5
- Eddie Forman. Former Sacred Heart Church grounds. Easthampton Mass. 1-5
- D Street Band. Pulaski Park. Three Rivers, Mass. 2:30-6:30
- Joe Stanky & Cadets. VFW. Dupont, Pa. 2-6. (970) 654-9104
- Golden Tones. St. Mary Ukainian Church. McAdoo, Pa. 3-7. (570) 929-1014
- Lenny Gomulka. St. Benedict's Grove. Mohuton Pa. 2-6. (610) 856-1035
- Frank Moravick. American Legion. Rossiiter, Pa. 2-6. (814) 938-9891
- Charley Tansek & Chicago Tradition. Slovenian Hall. Yukon, Pa. (814) 938-9891
- The Knewz. Holy Trinity Zabawa Festival. Erie Pa. 2-6. (814) 456-0671
- Polka Classics. Polish Club. Daytona Beach, Fl. 2-5. (386) 258-7059
- Special Delivery and others. Owl Picnic (Charity Fundraiser). George F. Lamm Post, 962 Wehrle Dr., Williamsville, N.Y. \$20.00 adults, \$10.00 children.

AUGUST 26

- The Special Delivery Band. Aurora Park Senior Center. East Aurora, N.Y. 7:00 p.m. (716) 652-1560

AUGUST 28

- Eddie Forman. Coe Memorial Park. Torrington, Conn. 6-8
- Happy Polkateers. Evergreen German Club. Fleetwood, Pa. 7-11. (610) 944-7501

AUGUST 29

- John Stevens DoubleShot. American Legion. Blossburg, Pa. 1-5. (570) 638-2481
- Dennis Polisky Maestros Men. VFW. Dalton, Ma. 2-6. (413) 684-9714
- Eddie Forman. St. Andrews Bobola

Festival. Dudley Ma. 5:30-9:30. (508) 943-5633

AUGUST 30

- Eddie Derwin Polka Naturals. Irem Temple CC. Dallas, Pa. 2-6. (870) 675-4653
- John Stevens DoubleShot/Joe Stanky Cadets. Best Western. Matamoras PA. 1-6. (518) 491-2400
- Dyna Brass. Pulaski Park. Three Rivers Ma. 2:30-6:30
- Dennis Polisky Maestros Men. PACC. Webster, Mass. 1-5. (508) 461-6794
- The Swingmasters. Columbia Hose Co. Shenandoah, Pa. (570) 462-9574
- New Direction Band. Roosevelt Hall. Norvelt, Pa. 3-7. (724) 423-8558

SEPTEMBER 2

- John Stevens DoubleShot. Roosevelt Hall. Norvelt, Pa. 3-7. (724) 423-8558

SEPTEMBER 4

- The Polka Whoo. Evergreen German Club. Fleetwood, Pa. 7-11. (610) 944-7501
- Polka Family/The Knewz/Buffalo Touch. IPA Festival. Buffalo, N.Y. (800) 867-6552

SEPTEMBER 5

- Lenny Gomulka. Roosevelt Hall. Norvelt, Pa. (724) 423-8558
- Dennis Polisky/IPA Tribute Band/Polka Country Musicians. IPA Festival. Buffalo, N.Y. (800) 867-6552
- The Boys/Walt Wagner. Our Lady of Czestochowa. Doylestown, Pa. (215) 345-0600

SEPTEMBER 6

- The Shoreliners. St. Marys Picnic. Mocanaqua Pa. 5-9. (570) 544-2805
- Lenny Gomulka/Freeze Dried/Tony Blazonczyk. IPA Festival. Buffalo, N.Y. (800) 867-6552
- John Gora/Tamburitzans/Goralisi. Our Lady of Czestochowa. Doylestown, Pa. (215) 345-0600
- Rich Bobinski Orchestra. Roosevelt Park. Blackstone, Ma. 2-6. (508) 294-1512
- The Boys. Evergreen German Club. Fleetwood, Pa. 2-6. (610) 944-7501
- Jimmy Sturr. PLAV Pavilion. Pine Island, N.Y. (845) 258-4168
- Polka Pals. Polish Club. Daytona Beach, Fl. (386) 258-7059

SEPTEMBER 8

- Special Delivery. Cheektowaga Senior Center, Town Hall Pavilion, Broadway & Union, Cheektowaga, N.Y. 6:00-8:00 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 11

- Joe Stanky & Cadets. Mohegan Sun Casino. Wilkes Barre, Pa. (888) 946-4672

SEPTEMBER 12

- John Stevens DoubleShot. Mohegan Sun Casino. Wilkes Barre, Pa. (888) 946-4672
- Polka Family/Dennis Polisky/Effect Band. Our Lady of Czestochowa. Doylestown, Pa. (215) 345-0600

SEPTEMBER 13

- Dennis Polisky Maestros Men. Pulaski Park. Three Rivers, Ma. 2:30-6:30
- T.K.O./Polish American String Band/Pectus. Our Lady of Czestochowa. Doylestown, Pa. (212) 345-0600
- Eddie Derwin Polka Naturals. VFW. Dupont, Pa. 2-6. (570) 654-9104
- The Swingmasters, Beaver Meadows Community Stage. Beaver Meadows, Pa. (724) 773-6700
- Pennsylvania Villagers. BVM Church. Egypt Park. Egypt, Pa. 3-7. egyptmemorialpark@gmail.com
- The Golden Tones. Roosevelt Hallo. Norvelt, Pa. (724) 423-8558
- John Stevens DoubleShot. Epiphany of Our Lord. Annandale, Va. 12-6. (703) 573-0777
- Northern Sounds. Polish Club. Belview, Fl. 2-5. (727) 753-9631
- Frankie K Band. Polish Club, Daytona. Fla. 2-5 (386) 258-7059

SEPTEMBER 15

- Polka Family. Aqua Turf Club. Plantsville, Conn. 11-3:30. (860) 621-9335

DANCE TIME / Jen Pijanowski

Take My Advice: Visit Milwaukee's Polish Fest

BUFFALO, N.Y. — Currently we are in the midst of the summer polka frenzy with festivals, dances, and lawn fetes popping up all over the country. Social media has given many of us the opportunity to experience these events even in our absence. Videos, pictures, and live internet feeds have allowed me to enjoy festivals all over the country and keep in touch with polka friends. I look forward to catching up with many of you at the IPA Convention in Buffalo over Labor Day weekend to wrap up the summer polka scene.

This year, I was fortunate enough to attend Milwaukee's Polish Festival for the very first time. This long, running event is held at Henry Maier Festival Grounds and is currently the largest Polish festival in America. The festival grounds are home to world's largest music festival SummerFest which hosts over 900,000 people in late June to early July. The well-maintained grounds house several stages for an abundance of entertainment during the three-day Polish fest.

OPENING CEREMONIES. Friday started the weekend out on a high note featuring IPA Tribute Band, Jimmy K & Ethnic Jazz, Buffalo Touch, Polka Family, Polka Country Musicians, Squeezebox, Norm Dombrowski's Happy Notes, and John Gora's Korona. I arrived early enough for opening ceremonies and then headed directly to enjoy the IPA Tribute Band. A collection of seasoned polka musicians from the Chicago area, it is easy to understand why this band has such a strong following. Musically, they are a pleasure to listen to, belting out staple polkas that everyone holds dear to their heart. They were

the perfect pick to open a weekend of polka music and fun, filled escapades for attendees.

Next I headed over to the larger "Miller Stage" to watch Squeezebox. This band has acquired quite a following as many people were right in front of the stage ready to watch their performance and dance. Molly Busta exudes such personality and literally shines from the stage. Her smile and charm is so endearing and she has the voice and musical talent to back up her confidence. I enjoyed watching her sing and seamlessly switch from playing piano, to trumpet, saxophone and even button box without missing a beat.



The Erdmans: Paul, Sabrina, Logan, Lily Rose, and Lance.

The third stage — located between the other two musical stages — was considered the folk stage. After indulging in some delicious Polish food from one of the dozens of vendors, I made my way over to catch bit of Norm Dombrowski's Happy Notes. I had never heard the band so I was anxious to see what they had to offer. The peppy band played music straight from the heart sending out dedications to their many fans cheering them on. Dur-

ing one of the bands breaks, I got a few minutes to catch up with band leader Joe Dombrowski who gave me a little history on this Stevens Point, Wisconsin, based band. His father Norm Dombrowski started the band back in 1960 after falling in love with polkas through listening to Marion Lush, Lil' Wally, the Naturals, and other honky style bands. Sadly, Norm passed away in 2013 but his legacy lives on through his children who have kept this band alive. Their lively beat and commitment to honor their father perseveres with every note that they play. I feel honored that I got the chance to watch this band and learn their

story. I even got the chance to hear Norm's widow sing a song while the audience roared. There is no doubt that Norm was smiling down from the heavens.

A REAL POLKA FAMILY.

With the Happy Notes onstage, I noticed a young family taking turns dancing with their children to their music. I started chatting with the father and found out that his daughter had just been crowned Miss USPA Polka Princess in May at the convention. Sabrina, and Paul Erdman parents of Lance, Lily Rose, and Logan are the picture, perfect family. Their enthusiasm and love of Polish heritage and polka dancing is impressive and has forged a sense of pride into each of their children. Lily Rose was proudly sporting her sash and crown whirling about the dance floor throughout the weekend. Sa-



Rob and Steven Piatkowski.

brina has committed to traveling all over the United States this summer with her children promoting polka music during Lily's reign as princess. Their plans included Milwaukee Polish Festival, Ocean Beach, Seven Springs, Frankenmuth, and more. I am hopeful that they will find the time to visit Buffalo for the IPA Convention as well. We all know how expensive these polka trips can be, especially with three children in tow, so I commend these parents who are sacrificing to ensure that their children appreciate their heritage and the music. It was an absolute pleasure to meet this wonderful family and I look forward to seeing them over this summer.

Saturday brought about even more astonishing entertainment for a jammed packed day. The non-stop polka stage offered bands that included: Buffalo Touch, Jimmy K, Box On, Polka Family, The Knewz and Polka Country Musicians. Meanwhile the Miller stage housed Squeezebox, John Gora & Gorale, and Jimmy Sturr and his Orchestra. This was the first time that I had gotten a chance to see Box On in person and they were even better than I anticipated. Literally every single person standing or sitting was swaying or tapping their feet to the infectious beat of this family band.

The talent and exhilaration of these young performers makes it difficult to walk away as they belt out one favorite after another with spirited fervor. It is obvious that these kids have grown up hearing and loving polka music and are inspired by their family's spotlight in the polka field. I enjoyed watching each of them perform and transform each spectator into a Box On fan. I am sure we are going to be seeing a lot more of this entertaining family in the future.

WHAT RAIN? As the evening came upon us, the cold and rain started to set in but that did not keep the polka fans away. As the Knewz and Polka Country took the stage, the crowd grew in front of the band singing, dancing, and chanting for their favorite songs. I can never get over the wide array of the age range which these two bands draw. From older couples to very young teenagers, people are singing along to the words of each song. At one point, the rain became so heavy that most attendees jumped up onto the stage to join the band and danced along behind them. No amount of rain would keep the fans from staying until the very last note was played. Both the Knewz and Polka Country know how to keep the crowd captivated and they did it during a downpour which was astonishing.

My friends Lenny and Paulina Zielinski drove in from Chicago to join us for the day's activities. Even their 12 year-old daughter Lea was enthralled watching the bands. She was playing along on "air drums" not missing a beat as each polka was played. I cannot begin to communicate what an extraordinary time we had at this festival. Just touching on each segment of this event would entail writing pages and pages. My best advice is to go and check it out if you get the chance. Although I knew that I would enjoy it, the magnitude took me by surprise. We will surely be making it a must-do trip next year.

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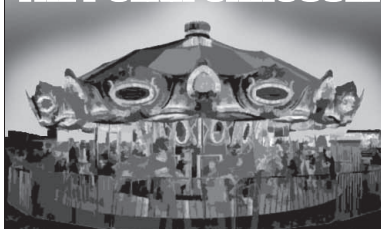
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TAPS First Annual Polish Summer Picnic

by Margaret
Zotkiewicz-Dramczyk

TOLEDO — With a lot of excitement and a bit of trepidation, the Toledo Area Polka Society Board of Directors and a dedicated group of volunteers headed out to Oak Shade Grove on June 20th at noon to begin set-up for the first annual Polish Summer Picnic. Given that the rains of spring have not let up for much more than a week at a time, there was some concern that wet weather would keep crowds away. As Kevin Kwiatkowski told me after the event, “the polka gods were on our side” that day: the sky held off dropping precipitation, and, except for some humidity and a few too many mosquitoes, the weather was great for an outdoor polka event. The Polish Summer Picnic was advertised all throughout northwest Ohio, southeast Michigan, and just about anywhere a TAPs member traveled in the weeks immediately preceding it. So we held our breath as the gates opened at 2:30 p.m. and people started to enter the grounds.

Randy Krajewski & Badinov started the musical portion of the day at 3:00 p.m. and played throughout the afternoon. At 5:00 p.m., Toledo City Councilman Tom Waniewski opened the picnic formally with welcoming remarks. Waniewski, a long-standing West Toledo councilman who is well-known in Toledo Polonia for his efforts at helping to raise money for a Polish Cultural Center, commented

on how wonderful it was to see so many people from Polish-American backgrounds coming together for the day. After thank yous to our sponsors and volunteers, the music resumed, as John Gora & Gorale alternated with Badinov for the remainder of the evening.

The food vendors were the Zychowicz family from Stanley’s Market, Foccacia’s from downtown Toledo, and the Malczewski Family. Besides food vendors, the Toledo Polish Genealogical Society and the Polish-American Community of Toledo had booths with information, and there was a TAPs table for membership and upcoming dance information. The requisite beer and beverage booth and 50-50 raffles rounded out the features of the picnic.

The hard work paid off- we were hoping to draw 350-500 guests; at the end of it all, the count was upwards of 700 people of all ages who attended. They were there to hear the two bands, partake of the Polish food being served throughout the grounds, have a beer or two with friends, and all in all enjoy a day of old fashioned picnicking. A few special treats that day- Dan Gury got up and sang with Randy’s band, and a 100 year old woman celebrated her birthday in true Polish style with Sto Lat being sung all around.

What was TAPs hoping to accomplish? Our goal was to start a new tradition with a timeless theme, the traditional Polish picnic. From

the many positive comments we received throughout the day, it is clear that the first Polish Summer Picnic will become an annual event in years to come.

To conclude, I would like to say a big Thank You to all of the Board members and the volunteers, band members, and friends who helped to make this such a great first event. Dziekuje bardzo!

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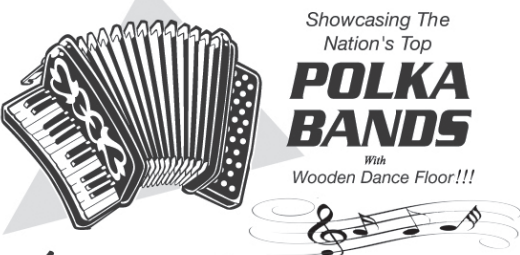
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Polka Family Box On
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FRI, AUG 14th

Polka Family The Boys
Lenny Gomulka Polka Country

SAT, AUG 15th

The Knewz The Boys
Lenny Gomulka Polka Country

THUR, AUG 20th

Squeezebox featuring Ted Lange and Mollie B
from the Mollie B Polka Party on RFD-TV
Fred Ziwich

FRI, AUG 21st

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CALIFORNIA

LOS ANGELES — **Aquila Polonica Publishing** sold simplified Chinese rights to its award-winning book, "The Auschwitz Volunteer: Beyond Bravery by Captain Witold Pilecki," to Beijing World Publishing Corporation, Beijing.

"The Auschwitz Volunteer" is the first time that Pilecki's most comprehensive report on his secret undercover mission at Auschwitz has been published in English. The book received rave reviews from major media, including *The New York Times Sunday Book Review*, which calls it "a historical document of the greatest importance."

MASSACHUSETTS

STOCKBRIDGE — The National Shrine of The Divine Mercy will hold its **Polish Day**, Sat., Sept. 19, 2015.

The day begins with Confessions from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. At 12:30, there will be a concert by Rays of St. John Paul II, the Children's Choir from the Polish Language School and Our Lady of Czestochowa Parish in Boston, followed by a 1:00 p.m. Mass in Polish celebrated by Fr. A. Gorczyca, MIC, Ph.D.

After the Mass the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy will be recited, followed by blessings of religious articles, raffle results announcement, and Stations of the Cross.

The Shrine's Gift Shop will be open from 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

For more information, visit TheDivineMercy.org/shrine or call (413) 298-3931. The Shrine is at 74

Pine St. Stockbridge, MA 01262.

MINNESOTA

COLUMBIA HEIGHTS, Minn. — The **Columbia Heights / Lomianki, Poland Sister Cities International Committee** has won the 2015 Sister Cities International Best Overall Award for cities with a population less than 25,000. This award is in recognition of the outstanding exchange work done by the organization in advancing the goals and mission of the sister cities movement.

The organization was recognized at the Sister Cities International 59th Annual Conference in Minneapolis, during the Lou Wozar Annual Awards ceremony and dinner, July 18.

NEW JERSEY

CAMDEN — Sat., Aug. 15. **Polish American Citizens Club of Camden County Annual Picnic**, JCC Camps at Medford, 400 Tuckerton Road, Medford, N.J. Noon to 6:00 p.m. Music by Eddie Forman Band, private swimming pool, outdoor activities, lake with paddle boats and much more. Ticket includes food, beer and soft drinks, children under 12 free. Info call (856) 466-7396.

PENNSYLVANIA

DOYLESTOWN — Sun., Aug. 16. **Polish Soldiers' Day**, National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa, Ferry Road. Mass 12:30 p.m. Activities throughout the day. All are welcome. Info call (215) 345-0600.

DOYLESTOWN — Sun., Aug. 23. **Polish Apostolate Day & Pol-**

ish Women's Alliance of America Day, National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa, Ferry Road. Mass 12:30 p.m. All are welcome to attend. Info call (215) 345-0600.

PHILADELPHIA — Thur., Aug. 27. **Polish American String Band Concert**, Mummies Museum, 2nd & Washington Avenue, South Philadelphia section of Philadelphia, 7:30 p.m. Info call Walter Wojcik (267) 608-7969.

DOYLESTOWN — Labor Day Weekend, Sept. 5-7 and Sept. 12-13. **Polish American 50th Anniversary Festival**, National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa. Live music, dance groups, food and refreshments each day. Noon.

PHILADELPHIA — On Sunday, October 4, 2015, the **Pulaski Day Parade** in Philadelphia will be held on the Benjamin Franklin Parkway in center city, televised by WPVI-TV6 ABC.

The Polish American Congress, Eastern PA District, announced that Wesley Musial, who is serving his second term as the Censor of the Polish National Alliance, America's largest national fraternal organization (and founded in Philadelphia in February 1880), will lead the Parade as the 2015 Grand Marshal.

Musial has been a long time participant with the Polish American Congress, Eastern PA District, Pulaski Day Parade in Philadelphia and supporter of organizations in Polonia.

For additional information, call the Polish American Congress office at (215) 739-3408; email Info@PulaskiDayParade.com.

A New Take on an Old Favorite

CLIFTON, N.J. — Casey Barber, founder and editor of the critically acclaimed website Good Food Stories, loves dumplings of any kind. Her true love, however, is for pierogi.

Growing up in Pennsylvania, pierogi were a part of almost any celebratory event she can remember. She loves the traditional flavors she grew up eating, but she thinks pierogi can be so much more.

Barber, the author of "Classic Snacks Made From Scratch," takes on tradition with her newly released cookbook, "Pierogi Love: New Takes On An Old-World Comfort Food" (Gibbs Smith, 2015), in stores this month.

Embracing the essentials of pierogi, Barber reimagines them with modern flavors and updated doughs. Pulling them out of grand-



ma's kitchen and church basements everywhere, they become freezer-friendly snack foods, party fare and family-friendly weeknight dinners.

She's not dissing grandma's dumplings. No, this is her labor of love. Barber is on a mission to spread her pierogi passion and get cooks into the kitchen.

While traditional dough and



CASEY BARBER. Acclaimed chef/author wants to share her passion for pierogi.

filling recipes are included, she branches out with five additional variations of dough. Fillings take on sweet and savory flavors from a traditional Reuben sandwich and Elvis' favorite peanut butter/banana combo to pretzels with cheese, falafel, pumpkin, s'mores, even jalapeño poppers.

Barber lives in northern New Jersey with her husband, who is half Polish but had never eaten pierogi before they met.

"I love eating all kinds of dumplings. I will never say no to a dumpling," said Barber. "But pierogi have a special place in my heart, which is why the book ended up being called 'Pierogi Love'."

For more recipes and an online dough tutorial with step-by-step instructions, check out her blog at goodfoodstories.com.

"Pierogi Love" is available from the Polish American Journal Bookstore for \$19.95 plus \$5.95 s&h.

OCTOBER IS POLISH HERITAGE MONTH
JOIN THE CELEBRATION

Dear Friend of Polonia:

October is Polish American Heritage Month, and the Polish American Journal invites you to join the celebration! You can participate by sending greetings to American Polonia in the form of patron advertising in the October edition of the PAJ. This special edition will contain greetings from friends, businesses and organizations who are **proud of their Polish roots**.

By being part of this **special edition**, we ask you for your help in strengthening the ties between all Americans of Polish descent during Polish American Heritage Month. This month is set aside to honor those whose selfless dedication helps to preserve our rich Polish traditions.

Through your patronage, we are able us to bring American Polonia a paper it can be proud of, as it is our mission to **keep alive the traditions** which define us. Every month we publish the good news about Poles Americans of Polish descent who make a difference in the world today.

To guarantee placement of your ad in the Polish Heritage Month edition, please return the form below with your check in the enclosed return envelope by **September 17th, 2015**.

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SCHOLARSHIPS

Gen. Edward L. Rowny Announces 2015 Paderewski Scholar

WASHINGTON, D.C. — American Polish Advisory Council President Edward L. Rowny announced the arrival in Washington of **Oskar Raczycycki** as the 2015 Paderewski Scholar.

Raczycycki began his summer session at George Mason University, where he is studying American-style democracy and market economics. At the same time, he commences an internship at the Institute of International Finance.

Gen. Rowny established the Paderewski Scholarship in 2004. It is named for Ignacy Paderewski, the renowned statesman and Polish composer.

Raczycycki is about to graduate in international relations with a thesis on cybersecurity in U.S.-China relations. In 2013, his B.A. thesis won first place in the competition of the Polish Geopolitical Association. He also studies international economics and law. Raczycycki has worked as a legal assistant in SKS Legal (the top-ranked law firm in Poland), was a member of AIESEC committee and project editor in Polish Humanitarian Action and for the last year worked as a research assistant at the Royal Danish Embassy in Warsaw.

The scholarship covers tuition, board and round-trip airfare from Poland. Funds from the scholarship come from individual donors and an annual fundraising concert. To date, the Paderewski Scholarship Fund endowment is funded at \$158,000 almost three quarters of the way to its goal of \$214,000 to permanently endow the scholarship.

To learn more and to contribute, please visit www.paderewskischolarship.org or contact Gen. Rowny at erowny@aol.com.

— by Michael Crowley

Valenti Awarded Wyszynski Memorial Scholarship

PHILADELPHIA — On May 9, 2015, the Polish Police Association of Philadelphia held its 40th Annual Founders Day Banquet at Falls Manor in Bristol, Pa.

During the banquet program, a scholarship, established by Ray Wyszynski in 1998 in memory of his mother, Frances E. Wyszynski, was awarded to the 16th recipient, **Marie Valenti**, a 2014 graduate of Boyertown Area Senior High School.

Valenti ranked 20th in her class of 650 with a cumulative GPA of 4.24 upon graduation, and was awarded with the Presidential Award for Academic Excellence. She was a member of several varsity teams including soccer, basketball and lacrosse, and was voted captain for all of her teams and honored as Most Valuable Player for soccer as well as lacrosse.

In the fall of 2014, Valenti began a post-graduate year at Blair Academy, which was a step needed to put her on the path to attend the United States Naval Academy. Last month, she began her college experience at the Naval Academy and plans to study Ocean Engineering, in the hopes of one day being able to serve as a Surface Warfare Officer.

The scholarship is presented to a student in recognition of outstanding scholastic achievement and service to the community.