

# POLISH AMERICAN JOURNAL

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PROMOTION AND CONTINUANCE OF POLISH AMERICAN CULTURE

IRELAND, POLAND, AND CITIZENSHIP • KF, ACPC AGREE TO TERMS ON NATIONAL POLISH CENTER

GROSS PENS ANOTHER BOOK • WIN ONE OF THREE POLISH COOKBOOKS • IT'S CHRUŚCIKI TIME

SZYK ARTWORK SHOWCASED IN CALIFORNIA • YOUTH LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE 2011



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

## NEWSMARK



### Sheriff's Comments at Center of Controversy

TUSCON, Ariz. — Some want him to resign. Others are joining the “Clarence Dupnik is my Hero” page on Facebook. Whatever your stance, Pima County Sheriff Clarence Dupnik’s comments about the political atmosphere in Arizona — and subsequently throughout the United States — have attracted attention from the left and right.

Hours after Rep. Gabrielle Giffords was shot during the Tucson rampage that also left six dead, Dupnik called Arizona “a mecca for prejudice and bigotry” and blasted “vitriol” in today’s political rhetoric.

The sheriff at the center of the shooting investigation then went after the state’s gun laws.

His comments raised hackle on both sides of the political fence, bringing the debate into the national spotlight.

Among those who think Dupnik, a Democrat, spoke out of line was his home-state senator, Republican Jon Kyl, for the remarks. “It was speculation,” Kyl said on CBS’ *Face the Nation*. (continued on page 4).

### Moscow Blames Poles for Smolensk Air Disaster

by Robert Strybel, PAJ Warsaw Correspondent

WARSAW — Russian investigators probing last April’s air crash that killed the Polish head of state and the remaining 95 people on board have blamed the disaster on Polish pilot error. The Polish crewman had ignored warnings not to land due to bad weather in order not to upset the flight’s main passenger, President Lech Kaczyński, who was running late, the one-sided Russian report\* claimed. It also sought to absolve the Russian side from any blame for the tragedy.

The antiquated Soviet-designed plane taking the top-level delegation to the 70th anniversary commemoration of the Katyń Forest Massacre had crashed while trying to land in heavy fog just short of the runway of a disused military airport in Smolensk, Russia. None of the passengers or crew survived one the greatest tragedies in Polish history, compared by some to another Katyń. Apart from Poland’s First Couple, the victims included senior government officials, top military brass, lawmakers, bishops, war veterans and family members who had lost loved ones in Stalin’s cold-blooded 1940 murder of 22,000 Polish officers.

At a special televised news conference in Moscow, the head of the Russian aviation committee Tatyana Anodina announced the findings of the investigation, emphasizing that the TU-154 jetliner had been technically sound when it took off from Warsaw. That echoed Moscow’s initial reaction to the April 10th disaster which insisted that the plane had just undergone a major overhaul and was in excellent shape.

Anodina then proceeded to read off a litany of alleged (continued on page 3)

### Poland, Three others, Urge EU Action

WARSAW — Poland’s Foreign Ministry says four EU governments have asked the bloc’s foreign policy chief to take up the issue of recent attacks against Christians.

Ministry spokesman Marcin Bosacki told The Associated Press that the foreign ministers of Poland, Italy, France and Hungary have sent a joint letter to Catherine Ashton suggesting that the EU “look into” the recent “wave of attacks on Christians.”

Bosacki refused to disclose further details.

A bomb attack on worshippers of Egypt’s Coptic Christian minority on Christmas Day in Alexandria killed 21 and left nearly 100 wounded. Deadly attacks also hit Christians on Dec. 25 in Nigeria and the Philippines. An attack last fall on Catholics in Baghdad claimed 68 lives.

## John Paul II to be Beatified

Ceremony to be held in Saint Peter’s Square, Divine Mercy Sunday, May 1

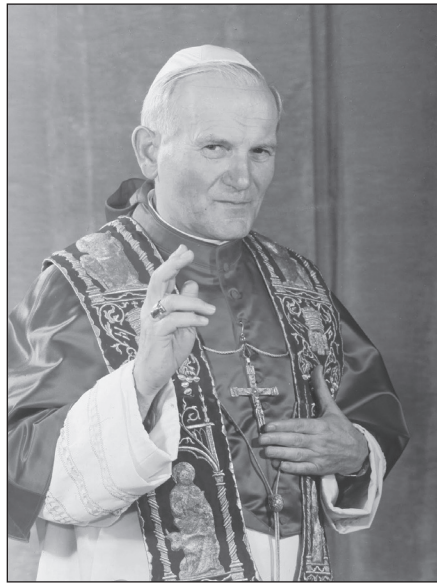
by Robert Strybel

WARSAW—Via the electronic media, e-mails, blogs and text messages, news that Pope Benedict XVI had signed his predecessor’s beatification document spread like wildfire across Poland and the country was overjoyed. Special masses of thanksgiving were celebrated in churches and cathedrals around the country, and thousands gathered at venues associated with the late Pope John Paul II, their nation’s favorite son.

Nowhere was the joy greater than in sleepy, provincial Wadowice in the Tatra foothills, Karol Wojtyła’s hometown, where he had lived until he was 18 before going to Kraków to study. Worshipers crowded the local church, where he had been baptized and served as an altarboy to express their gratitude for the current Pope’s decision.

“I am overjoyed. I thank Divine Providence for giving me a chance to live alongside someone destined to become a saint.. He was a giant in spirit, heart and intellect,” remarked octogenarian Eugeniusz Mróz, a Wadowice native and one of the late pope’s classmates.

In nearby Kraków, some 30 miles away, hundreds of Poles, especially university students and young married couples with children, clustered beneath Poland’s best-known window at ulica



JOHN PAUL II. Considered by many to be one of the greatest Poles in history.

Franciszkańska 3 (3 Franciscan Street). That is Kraków Archdiocese’s Episcopal Palace, where Cardinal Wojtyła had lived and worked. During papal visits to his homeland he would appear in the window to chat and joke with students before turning in for the night.

“I am happy that ‘Santo Subito’ (Italian for ‘sainthood at once’), which people had requested is being fulfilled,”

said Kraków Archbishop Stanisław Dziwisz, the late Pope’s secretary and close friend, in a message to Benedict XVI. “Thank you, Holy Father for signing the decree recognizing John Paul’s intercession in the miracle needed for beatification.”

A medical commission confirmed that French nun Marie Simon-Pierre had been inexplicably cured of Parkinson’s disease overnight after praying for the late Pope’s intercession. According to the Vatican’s saint-making rules, one miracle is needed for beatification, the penultimate stage leading to sainthood. A second is required for canonization. No miracle is needed for the beatification of a martyr for the faith such as Blessed Jerzy Popiełuszko, the pro-Solidarity priest beatified last summer.

A common, understandably impatient Polish reaction to the announcement went along the lines of: “At long last. This is what we have been waiting and praying for.” By the standards of the Catholic Church, whose wheels turn slowly but surely to avoid hasty errors, the process can only be called fast-track beatification. Banners with the words “Santo Subito” were unfurled by young Catholics in St. Peter’s Square during John Paul’s funeral in 2005, and accelerated (continued on page 4)

## Mikulski Sets Record as Longest-Serving Female Senator



ANNAPOLIS, Md. — Maryland Senator Barbara Mikulski, was sworn in for a fifth

term January 5, 2011, becoming the longest-serving female senator in United States history.

She served in the Senate for more time than the previous longest-serving female senator, Maine’s Sen. Margaret Chase Smith, who served 24 years.

Reflecting on when she was one of two female senators, Mikulski says she was never interested in being a celebrity because of her status. She credited male colleagues such as then-Sen. Paul Sar-

banes, a fellow Maryland Democrat, with helping her.

“Senator Paul Sarbanes not only helped me get very good committee assignments, but showed me those invisible channels and hallways of power that no woman — no Democratic woman — had ever gone before,” Mikulski said.

Mikulski is the daughter of a Baltimore grocer and social worker. She first gained recognition in 1970 when she successfully fought to block an interstate highway proj-

ect through the city’s historic Fells Point neighborhood.

First sworn in as a U.S. senator in 1987, Mikulski became the first female Democrat to serve on the Senate Appropriations Committee.

She said because she was first greeted with skepticism, she worked twice as hard. Mikulski credits her acceptance partly to her plainspoken, wisecracking personality, which she said was a powerful tool for breaking down barriers.

## Nienstedt Nixes Polish Church Appeal in Minneapolis

MINNEAPOLIS — On December 27, Archbishop of St. Paul and Minneapolis John C. Nienstedt rejected an appeal for the Polish parishes of Holy Cross and St. Hedwig (Jadwiga) to continue to exist as separate parishes. The appeal was signed by over 800 Polish Americans, concerned Catholics, and members of the two churches.

In his letter to Holy Cross parishioners, the Archbishop recognized Polish Catholics’ attachment to their parish, but stated that the continued existence of Holy Cross “is simply not in the best interests of the area.” He assured them that, in the new merged parish, Polish Mass and Polish activities would be continued. The Archbishop also informed



ARCHBISHOP JOHN C. NIENSTEDT rejected an appeal for Polish parishes.

them that an appeal could be sent to the Vatican’s Congregation for the Clergy, but expressed his hope that this would not be necessary.

A number of people from Holy

Cross, St. Hedwig and the Polish community are, in fact, preparing an appeal to the Vatican. Many have commented on the fact that while the Archbishop has shown a strong determination to eliminate existing Polish national parishes through merger, he has left a German national parish alone. Some believe that this may be due to Archbishop Nienstedt’s German background.

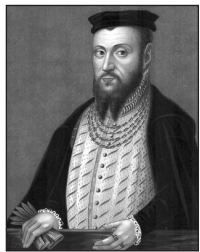
Others have been frustrated by a lack of meaningful consultation with the parishes involved and the laity. “I am sick and tired of his (Nienstedt’s) blatant arrogance,” said a caller to the PAJ office, who did not want to disclose her name. “And we Poles don’t go down without a good fight.”

## ALMANAC

## February • Luty

*Idzie luty, podkuj buty.  
When February comes,  
hobnail your shoes.*

- 2 **CANDLEMAS**  
*Gdy słońce świeci jasno na Gromnicę, to przyjdą większe mrozy, śnieżyce.  
If sun shines on Candlemas, more frost and snow will this way pass.*  
1674. Coronation of **Jan Sobieski**, king and military leader who defeated the Turks in Vienna.
- 3 1899. Death of painter **Juliusz Kossak** (b. 1824).
- 4 1505. Birth of the father of Polish literature, **Mikolaj Rej**.  
1745. Birth of Polish and American patriot, freedom fighter and military engineer **Thaddeus Kosciuszko**.
- 6 **ST. DOROTHY**  
*Świętej Dorocie  
uschnie koszula na płocie.  
St. Dorothy's shirt will dry on the fence.*  
1961. Birth of **John Kruk**, colorful and often-quoted major league baseball player.
- 10 1866. Birth in Detroit of **John Temke**, first American priest of Polish descent.
- 11 1945. Yalta Conference. Soviets receive Poland's Eastern lands.
- 12 1867. Death of **George Sokolowski**, first Polish American graduate of West Point Academy and Civil War veteran.
- 15 1903. Death of **Fr. Jozef Dabrowski**, founder of the Orchard Lake Schools. (b. 1842).
- 16 1952. Death of **Felix Witkowski**, last Polish American veteran of the Confederacy.
- 17 1772. First Partition of Poland between Prussia, Russia and Austria.
- 18 1386. Marriage of Polish **Queen Jadwiga d'Anjou to Wladyslaw Jagiello** of Lithuania.
- 19 1473. Birth of astronomer **Nicholas Copernicus** (Mikolaj Kopernik) in Torun, Poland.
- 20 1530. **Zygmunt II August** crowned King of Poland.
- 21 1883. 1899. Death of **Rudolph Piotrowski** in Saintes, France, one of the co-founders of the Polish Society of California in 1863 (now the Polish Club of San Francisco).  
1820. Birth of **Apollo Nalecz-Korzeniowski**, dramatist, poet and father of Joseph Conrad.
- 22 1814. Birth of folklorist and ethnographer **Oskar Kolberg**.  
1810. Recorded birth of **Fryderyk Chopin**, Polish composer, pianist, in Zelazowa Wola, Poland (d. 1849).
- 23 1884. Birth of biochemist **Casimir Funk**, father of the vitamin.  
1891. Death in Detroit of Fr. Leopold Moczygemba, patriarch of American Polonia, who led Silesian immigrants to the first Polish settlement in the United States, Panna Maria, Texas.
- 27 1971. First edition of the Polish language *Nowy Dziennik*.  
1996. Death of Ohio State Heisman Trophy winner (1950) **Vic Janowicz**.



ZYGMUNT II

## VIEWPOINTS

## Ireland, Poland, and Citizenship

Ireland is very generous in conferring its citizenship—and very public about that generosity. Americans of Irish descent can acquire Irish citizenship if at least one of their grandparents was born in Ireland. Nor is the Irish Government shy about the benefits: Irish citizenship entitles a person to live and work anywhere within the European Union, to purchase property there, and to attend university at preferential EU rates. And, as the Irish note, they have no objection to dual nationality. Lots of Americans have acquired Irish citizenship under this arrangement.

Ireland and Poland have a lot in common. Both were occupied countries that acquired their independence only after World War I. Both have large Diasporas in the United States which are sentimentally attached to the “old country.” Ireland figured out thirty years ago how to benefit from the political abilities of its Diaspora. Remember, the green card or “diversity” visa lottery started out originally as a vehicle to address illegal Irish immigration. Ireland and Irish Americans managed to work together to get the Northern Irish Peace Talks going, and the U.S. even has a special visa “reward” program for Northern Irish to come to the United States.

The Polish Diaspora hasn't yet gotten its political act together. When the visa lottery legislation was written, Irish Americans managed to set aside 40% of the visas in the original program for Irish nationals, but other countries (e.g., Poland in the last cycle) now get periodically kicked out of the program for producing too many “winners.” Despite criticism from the Washington establishment, Jean Kennedy Smith (Ted's sister) managed during her tenure as U.S. Ambassador to Dublin to get Ireland—high overstay rates in the 1980s notwithstanding—into the Visa Waiver Program. Poles, despite going to Iraq and Afghanistan with the United States, have again been left in the dust as Visa Waiver expanded in Central Europe.

## DATELINE WARSAW / Robert Strybel

**POLISH PRESIDENT BRONISLAW KOMOROWSKI** marked Hanukkah, as did his predecessor Lech Kaczynski, by welcoming members of Warsaw's Jewish community to his residence, lighting a Hanukkah candle and distributing gifts to Jewish children. The celebration took place on the fifth day of the eight-day festival of lights. Former President Kaczynski initiated the annual tradition, a gesture appreciated by Poland's Jewish citizens.

Since the overthrow of communism, Poland has demonstrated an interest in honoring the Jewish life that flourished there prior to World War II.

**POLAND WANTS TO CHANGE ITS MILITARY** presence in Afghanistan to a training and educational one mission, starting in 2014. Currently 2,600 Polish troops are taking part in the NATO-led operation in Afghanistan where they are in charge of Ghazni province. Soon after being elected last summer, President Bronisław Komorowski pledged to withdraw Polish troops in 2012. The target date has since been moved to 2014.

**U.S. PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA** has been invited to visit Poland by President Bronisław Komorowski, according to Polish presidential adviser Professor Roman Kuźniar. The visit would coincide with a planned summit meeting of Central/East European leaders due to be held in Poland in late May. Obama has yet to visit Poland, although on more than one occasion he has

The Irish and Polish Diasporas both originated in the 19th century, as a result of economic impoverishment in a homeland under foreign occupation. Ireland has managed to expand citizenship to grandchildren of persons born in Ireland. Poland confers citizenship only on children born to a Polish citizen. There are two key differences here: the Irish leave the door open to a third generation, and their criterion is birth in, not citizenship of Ireland. Sean O'Heaney can be an Irish citizen if his grandmother was born in Ireland, even if she arrived in New York on a British passport. Jan Kowalski, whose grandparents came with a Russian, Prussian, or Austro-Hungarian passport, is out-of-luck.

In an increasingly globalized world, dual Irish-American citizenship gives Americans a chance to work in France, England, Germany, Italy, Ireland, or Poland without any additional paperwork. They can stay in Europe without facing the Schengen visa limits Americans now face. And the university premium? If you live in England three years before beginning studies, for example, you can study at “Home/EU” rates, roughly 25% of what an American would pay.

And for those Irish who don't qualify for citizenship, Dublin is planning to inaugurate a “Certificate of Irish Heritage” later this year. It might not let you live in Ireland, but the plan is to allow various discounts for “Irish Heritage” visitors, e.g., on trains, public transportation, admissions, ferries, etc.

In the early 20th century, when Poland was still partitioned, our countrymen spoke of American Polonia as the “fourth partition.” Maybe Warsaw should finally start thinking about reforming its citizenship laws for the benefit of that “fourth partition.” Or at least acknowledging the heritage of 10,000,000 of us. Lots of Poles have been recently working in Ireland during the latter's boom times. It's time they brought something else home from that experience besides money.

been a short distance away during trips to neighboring Germany and the Czech Republic.

**CONTROVERSIAL SOCIOLOGIST JAN TOMASZ GROSS** has published a new book which describes how Polish gold-diggers robbed Jewish corpses in the area of Germany's death camp at Treblinka in Nazi-occupied Poland immediately after World War II. “A Golden Harvest,” due to hit bookshops in Poland in February, was inspired by Poland's second-largest daily newspaper *Gazeta Wyborcza* which, like Gross, dwells on alleged Polish anti-Semitism. Most Poles and Polonians protested against Gross' earlier books on anti-Jewish pogroms in Jedwabne and Kielce, but the controversy only helped him sell more copies.

**THE ONE-MILLIONTH VISITOR** to Wieliczka salt Mine in southern Poland was Urszula Szczęsnowicz from the town of Mława north of Warsaw. She was given red-carpet treatment, taken on a special tour, presented with gifts and asked to sign Visitors Book which includes the signatures of composer Fryderyk Chopin and the King of the Belgians Albert II. The mine, set up in the mid-13th century, ranks among the man-made wonders of the world and includes an underground sanatorium for asthma sufferers, ballroom, chapels, tennis court and numerous rock-salt sculptures. Last year, Wieliczka attracted more visitors than in 2009, and foreign tourists accounted for 52% of the total.

## KF, ACPC Agree to Terms on National Polish Center

by Jo Louise Winters  
ACPC PR Chair

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Kosciuszko Foundation, Inc. and the American Council for Polish Culture (“ACPC”) announced their joint solidarity in support of the Kosciuszko Foundation's current and future operation of the National Polish Center (the “Center”) in Washington, D.C.

The Center was first conceived at the annual convention of the ACPC held in 1985 to serve as a national Polish American cultural center in the nation's capital. It was subsequently established in 1988 by the ACPC as a separate non-profit organization and in 1991 acquired its current property — including a historic townhouse in the Dupont Circle area of the nation's capital, as well as pieces of artwork and other items of Polish and Polish-American cultural significance— with the help of the ACPC's fundraising efforts.

As of January 2010, the Kosciuszko Foundation acquired the Center, which is now operated as the foundation's Washington, D.C. office. The Kosciuszko Foundation, a non-profit established in 1925, promotes educational and cultural exchanges between Poland and the United States and awards up to one million dollars annually in scholarships to Poles and Polish Americans.

The ACPC is a national non-profit, charitable, cultural and educational organization that serves as a network and body of national leadership among affiliated Polish-American cultural organizations throughout the United States. Founded in 1948, the Council represents the interests of some 21 affiliated organizations in 15 states and the District of Columbia. Commenting on this important development, ACPC President Debbie Majka said, “The Kosciuszko Foundation's absorption of the Center will hopefully ensure its long-term financial viability.”

“The Center provides the Polish community with a foothold in our nation's capital, and I urge all Polish Americans to join the Kosciuszko Foundation and to support the Center to help promote Polonia's interests,” said Kosciuszko Foundation President and Executive Director Alex Storozynski.

To learn more about the Kosciuszko Foundation, visit [www.thekf.org/](http://www.thekf.org/) and to learn more about the ACPC [www.polishcultureacpc.org/](http://www.polishcultureacpc.org/).

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## Paper Late!

**PLEASE NOTE:** Because of production schedules in February, the **March** edition of the paper will not be mailed until March 3.

This paper mailed on or before **January 28**. The March 2011 edition will be mailed on or before **March 3, 2011**.

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**POLISH CHILDREN'S HEARTLINE begins its 26th 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. For information call 732-680-0680 or visit our website: PolishChildrensHeartline.org. **"If we don't help our Polish children, who will?"**

**POLISH CHILDREN'S HEARTLINE, INC.**  
A Non-Profit Corporation—State of NJ  
**177 Broadway**  
**Clark, NJ 07066**  
Ronald Syslo, President

## Hall of Fame Inductee



**CHERYL BABIEC** (left) was inducted into the Pawtucket, R.I. Hall of Fame for 2010. A teacher at Cunningham Elementary School, she was cited for the honor for her over 2,700 volunteer hours at The Memorial Hospital Emergency Department. Babiec transports patients, updates files, runs errands, and does "anything she can do to help the staff," says the hospital.

Babiec spends many hours after school helping students and meeting with parents. She works on such programs as Red Ribbon Week, DARE, and the School Improvement Team.

She has been involved in several Polish heritage organizations for over three decades, and helps organize events during Polish Heritage Month and at Christmas, when she helps collect, pack, and ship medical supplies and equipment to Poland. Babiec has raised money for the Pawtucket Times Christmas Fund and the Pawtucket Animal Shelter.

She is the daughter of the late Frank Babiec, and Jean (Janina) Babiec (above, center). Also pictured is Cheryl's brother, Dr. Daniel Babiec, of Alexandria, Virg.

## Moscow Blames Poles for Smolensk Air Disaster

*continued from cover*

Polish failings, shortcomings and unjustified risks on the part of the Polish crew. During the flight, the crew was repeatedly informed of inadequate weather conditions at Smolensk airport but refused to fly to an alternative airfield, she insisted.

She also accused the plane's captain and co-pilot of being poorly trained, because they feared the wrath of the president who was already late for the Katyń observance. The plane's black box had recorded one of the pilot saying in the flight's final minutes "On się wkurzy" ("He'll get teed off"), suggesting that Kaczyński would have opposed changing the plane's destination.

The findings set forth in the Russian investigators' 210-page report included allegations that:

- The crew had failed to take the decision to land at another airport, as suggested by air traffic control;
- The pilot had not reacted properly despite warnings issued by the automatic Terrain Awareness and Warning System;
- The crew attempted to land despite conditions below minimum requirements, thus assuming full responsibility for the consequences;
- The crew had decreased altitude at twice the safe speed;
- The presence of the head of Poland's chief Air Force commander in the cockpit and the predicted negative reaction of the main passenger had exerted pressure on the crew to land;
- The deficiencies of the airport's infrastructure and equipment were not the reason behind the catastrophe.

Contrary the last allegation, shortly after the disaster Polish TV viewers watched news footage of Russian workers hurriedly replacing the burned-out bulbs of the runway lights which were not working during the landing. Trees and bushes that had obstructed view of the runway were later removed. The report

also found no blame on the part of the Russian control tower, although its performance had raised various misgivings. Many Polish observers feel the airport, withdrawn from service a year earlier, should not have received an international VIP flight of that caliber in the first place.

Jarosław Kaczynski, the late president's twin brother and former Polish prime minister, told a press conference that "the report makes a mockery of Poland." He also raised some questions the Russian probe failed to explain: "Why did (Russian) air traffic control state that the plane was on course and on the right flight path? Such was the information received by the pilots and that was the basic reason behind their actions? Why did the air traffic controllers not react correctly and passed on incorrect data, including the wrong altitude of the plane. Why is there no mention of telephone conversations between the control tower and Moscow?"

The Russian report was rejected as "absolute scandal" by a Polish lawyer representing the families of some of the victims. "The families want to truth, not the version of just one side," Attorney Rafał Rogalski told reporters.

The original Russian report was sent to Warsaw in October, where it was carefully studied. The Polish government expressed serious misgivings over Moscow's findings and even Prime Minister Donald Tusk, an advocate of improved Polish-Russian relations, called the report unacceptable. In December it was sent back to Moscow with a 148-page list of questions, doubts and ambiguities which were to have been cleared up in the final version. As it turned out, some 80 percent of the Polish reservations were not taken into account.

\* The full text of the Russian investigator's report translated into English may be found at: [http://www.mak.ru/russian/investigations/2010/files/tu154m\\_101/final-report\\_eng.pdf](http://www.mak.ru/russian/investigations/2010/files/tu154m_101/final-report_eng.pdf).

## ACPC Youth Leadership Conference 2011

by Jo Louise Winters

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Youth Leadership Conferences (YLC) have been sponsored by the American Council of Polish Culture since 1994 in Washington, D.C. The Conference assists youths of Polish background who are interested in civic and political activism to realize their full potential and to assume leadership roles in various fields at all levels of society.

This year's week-long Conference is scheduled for the third week of June.

It is an up close and intensive opportunity for 20 to 25 young Polish Americans, chosen from all over the United States to explore the political processes and interact with national and international leaders in the realms of foreign policy, business, science, education, journalism, culture, Polish American and east-central European affairs. It is open to high school graduates or college students, ages 17 to 26 of Polish descent.

A deposit of \$50 (refundable) will guarantee a place as attendance is limited.

The ACPC Youth Leadership Conference registration fee is \$500. This provides for housing at George Washington University and one meal per day, along with most other conference expenses such as local travel and tours. Transportation to and from Washington, as well as each student's optional expenses are up to the individual and/or local supporting ACPC affiliate, Polish club or student organization, etc., through their support for the student.

The application form is available from at the ACPC website, [www.polishcultureacpc.org](http://www.polishcultureacpc.org) or by contacting the YLC Director: Irena Mirecki, Conference Chair, 4041 41st Street, McLean, VA 22101, [irena@mirecki.us](mailto:irena@mirecki.us).

## SAN DIEGO ZOO IS REFUGE FOR WILD HORSES.

Although we use the word "wild" to describe feral horses, there is really only one wild horse left in the world. The Przewalski horse in east-central Asia has never been domesticated. In fact, this species almost became extinct in the 1960s. Today, only about 300 of these special horses live in the wild. They are consid-

## Godson First Black Member of Parliament

WARSAW — Poland got its first Black lawmaker, who says that he feels honored and believes "it is an historic moment for Poland."

John Abraham Godson (inset, right) is a 40-year-old councilman in the Polish city of Lodz, a teacher and pastor of the Church of God in Christ, an active Christian Pentecostal church in Poland. Originally from Nigeria, he came to Poland as a Protestant missionary, taught English there and has lived in Lodz for seventeen years where he has proven himself a popular local leader, serving on the city council for several years. He married a Pole and became a Polish citizen ten years ago.



He filled Hanna Zdanowska's national parliament seat which she vacated after being elected mayor of Lodz. Godson was her runner-up in the parliamentary elections of 2007. Both are members of the Civic Platform party.

Godson states that he will promote technological development and bolster Poland's relations with Africa. He is a graduate of the Department of Agronomy at Nigeria's Abia State University, holds a doctorate in human resource management, lectures at many universities throughout Poland and is president of Poland's African Institute.

In a recent newspaper interview Godson stated: "I am from Lodz, I will live here, I want to die here and I want to be buried here."

ered critically endangered.

However, wildlife refuges and zoos around the world, including the San Diego Zoo, continue to house and breed the Przewalski horse.

The horse is named after the Russian colonel Nikolai Przhevalsky (1839-1888). The name is of Polish origin and "Przewalski" is the Polish spelling.

## Reasons to Buy Life Insurance from a Polish American Fraternal Benefit Society

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QUOTES / compiled from news sources

**Poland Calls on United States to Aid Belarus Dissidents**

"We expect political and democratic pressure on the Belarusian authorities. This means all forms of support for democratic society to direct help for those brave people in Belarus who have the courage to oppose the oppressive government."

— Poland's ambassador to the United States, **Robert Kupiecki**, asking the United States to help fund dissidents in Belarus following a widely condemned election and a crackdown on dissent. The United States and other Western countries have called the Belarus's elections in December illegitimate and condemned the crackdown on Lukashenko opponents. More than 700 people, including seven candidates who ran against Lukashenko, were arrested after the voting, most of them at a massive demonstration protesting alleged vote fraud.

— "Right now there are more women serving right this minute than had served in the Senate — than had served in all of American history — when I arrived."

— U.S. Senator **Barbara Mikulski** (D-Md.), after being sworn in for her fifth term, Jan. 5, 2011, making her the longest-serving female senator in U.S. history.

— "We are a low-wage country compared to Germany, and that helps put jobs here."

— **Kristin Diczek**, director of Labor and Industry Group at the Center for Automotive Research, on the 1,000 jobs that will be created

by BMW, which is opening a factory in Greer; S.C. American workers will make \$15.00 per hour, compared to the \$30.00 per hour made by German autoworkers.

— "It was a little bit of a feeling of shock that everything I really wanted I got."

— **Midshipman Abigail Gesecki**, of Nanticoke, Pa., one of the first eleven female U.S. Naval Academy graduates who will be able to serve as officers aboard submarines. The group should be fully trained for active service by 2012.

— "It's a lot cheaper, and I kind of want a change of scene."

— **Kajetan Malachowski**, a senior at Walt Whitman High School in Bethesda, Md., who applied to five universities in the U.K. Enrollment of U.S. undergraduates in the U.K. has spiked 30 percent in the past five years.

— "Excessive weight is not only a risk factor for cardiovascular disease ... but it is also a risk factor for developing dementia."

— **Stefan Gazdzinski**, researcher at Poland's Jagiellonian University, on recent findings on body mass.

— "... the legendary Zubrowka is probably my favorite in the world."

— **Spirits columnist and author Jason Wilson**, rejoicing that Poland's bison grass vodka is once again available in the United States.

**Fast-track Beatification for John Paul II**

*continued from cover*

ated processing followed. Within weeks of his predecessor's death, Benedict XVI launched beatification proceedings, waiving the normal five-year "cooling-off" period.

In Warsaw, Catholics marked the beatification announcement with a mass at St. John's Cathedral followed by a torchlight procession across town to Piłsudski Square, where the papal cross proudly stands. It was there in 1979 that the Holy Father uttered his prophetic appeal: "May Your Spirit descend and change the face of the land... this land!" A year later, Polish workers launched a strike wave that led to the emergence of Solidarność, the Soviet bloc's first independent trade union. The rest is history and includes the peaceful overthrow of communist rule across the continent, the dismantling of the iron curtain and the end of the cold war.

Legendary Solidarność founder and former Polish president Lech Wałęsa, a devout Catholic, remarked: "I was delighted by the news. A man who was a living saint is now on the way to becoming an official one. Our Polish Pope did great things."

Pope John II is regarded by many in Poland as the greatest Pole ever to have walked God's good earth. Numerous surveys have shown that Karol Wojtyła is ranked by his countrymen ahead of such other unquestionable giants as Casimir the Great, Copernicus, Chopin, Kościuszko, Madam Skłodowska-Curie, Marshal Józef Piłsudski and Lech Wałęsa.

He will now join the some 280 Poles who have received the title of blessed so far, 154 of them beatified by Pope Wojtyła himself. During his 27-year pontificate, he also canonized nine of his compatriots. His beatification has been set for a week after Easter on Divine Mercy Sunday, a feast day instituted by John Paul. Initial estimates predict over a million Poles are planning to witness the ceremony at the Vatican, presided over Pope Benedict XVI.

**Sheriff's Comments at Center of Controversy**

*continued from cover*

"First, I didn't really think that that had any part in a law enforcement briefing last night," said Kyl. "We really don't know what motivated this young person (alleged shooter Jared Lee Loughner) except to know he was very mentally unstable as was pointed out in the piece."

Right-wing radio host Jon Justice, who is on KQTH FM 104.1 in Arizona, has called for Dupnik's resignation. Justice has taken issue with the Dupnik's comments that right wing talk radio helped to fueled the shooting.

"To say, as Dupnik did, that comments made on the airwaves essentially motivated this person to commit this crime is exactly what he blamed talk radio of doing, inciting through pure rhetoric," Justice said in a statement to Tucson Weekly. "It was complete misuse of his power and he owes the media in town, TV and radio, an apology for his horrible comments in the middle of such a tragic day. He should step down immediately from his position as Pima County Sheriff."

Hardly subscribing to Justice's view would be Karen Majewski,

**KAROL WOJTYŁA — Pope John Paul II**  
MAY 18, 1920 - APRIL 2, 2005

ORDAINED PRIEST	NOVEMBER 1, 1946
ORDAINED BISHOP	SEPTEMBER 28, 1958
ELEVATED TO CARDINAL	JUNE 26, 1967
ELECTED POPE	OCTOBER 16, 1978
ELEVATED TO PAPACY	OCTOBER 22, 1978
DUE TO BE BEATIFIED	MAY 1, 2011

Pope John Paul II will go down in history as one of Christendom's greatest popes, whose intense spirituality, intellectual brilliance and physical stamina were beyond dispute. Although a profound thinker, he never lost the common touch, brought the papacy to the people and earned the nickname 'Pilgrim Pope'

Born in Wadowice, Poland, Karol Józef Wojtyła lost his mother and elder brother at an early age and was raised by a religiously devout father, a military officer. His studies in Polish language and literature at Kraków's Jagiellonian were interrupted by the outbreak of World War Two, but he continued to take part in an underground student theatre group. He began secretly studying for the priesthood, while working in a stone quarry. After his ordination to the priesthood, he rose through the ranks of the hierarchy and was elected the first non-Italian Pope in 458 years in 1978.

John Paul's papacy was not without hardship or controversy. He survived an assassination attempt in St. Peter's Square, May 13, 1981; (When the text of the Third Secret of Fatima was revealed, it referred to the attempted assassination of John Paul II. He attributed his recovery to the intercession of the Blessed Mother. When he visited the Shrine to Our Lady of Fatima in Portugal, John Paul placed the bullet that nearly killed him in the crown of the statue of Our Lady of Fatima. He donated the sash he was wearing that day to Poland's Shrine of Our Lady of Częstochowa.

The Polish-born Pontiff has been acclaimed by many as one of the leading moral authorities of

recent centuries. He was the first pope to enter a Jewish synagogue and a Muslim mosque, asking forgiveness for the transgressions Christians had committed over the centuries. He constantly stressed that Jewish, Christians and Muslims "all worship the same God, but we are moving towards him along somewhat different roads."

A great promoter of ecumenism, John Paul II gathered the leaders of all the world's major religions in Assisi, Italy, to pray together for world peace.

His moral authority was a major spiritual force driving Poland's peaceful Solidarity revolution which ultimately led to the collapse of the Soviet bloc and put an end to the cold war and arms race.

Always concerned with human dignity and the sanctity of life, he opposed all forms of killing: capital punishment, abortion, euthanasia and war. When asked to bless the American-led invasion of Iraq, he only replied: I will pray for the children and others who will die and suffer in the war. John Paul pioneered World Youth Day which attracted crowds of up to a million and more around the globe. He developed easy rapport with young people, because he did not talk down to them but tried to understand and empathize with their cares and problems. He warned them against the propaganda of cheap commercialism and passing trends, urging them to seek higher values

The night before he died, thousands of young people filled St. Peter's Square, demanding his immediate canonization. His mortal remains were laid to rest in the grotto beneath St. Peter's Basilica.

mayor of Hamtramck, Mich., which has a large Muslim population:

"For those who want to argue the fantasy that the shooter was a loony and that public political rhetoric is irrelevant, let me tell you that every time some right wing blogger writes something about Hamtramck's call to prayer issue — or about ... Muslims in Hamtramck, or about efforts to resolve the [housing discrimination] R-31 lawsuit — I know about it. How? Because I start getting hostile email from all around the country," she said.

Majewski quoted one such threat made to her: "... if I did not have job I would travel to you and do something about this. Consider yourself lucky that I am not on unemployment you b\*\*ch."

"Dupnik got it exactly right," said nationally syndicated columnist Ruben Navarrette, Jr. on CNN's Opinion page, but also said early efforts to blame the right wing ("those on the liberal left who ... blame the tragedy on right-wing talk radio, the Tea Party movement and even potential 2012 GOP presidential hopeful Sarah Palin") for the shootings were "misguided."

But Dupnik himself pointed

his finger at Palin. When asked by Geraldo Rivera on Fox News if he regretted bringing politics into the investigation, Dupnik said:

"Not in any way shape or form. When you have people like Sharon Angle, in Las Vegas, running against Harry Reid, making outrageous statements such as 'We may need to resort to taking the second amendment into certain cases.' And for people like Sarah Palin to say 'We have people like Gabby Giffords in our cross-hairs.' I think those statements are totally irresponsible and they're not without consequences. And we are seeing them here."

Dupnik, 74, has been sheriff of sprawling Pima County since 1980.

Blunt and often partisan, Dupnik refused last year to enforce Arizona's controversial immigration law. The law requires local and state law enforcement to ask people about their immigration status if they are suspected to be in the United States illegally.

The Arizona law is being appealed in federal court. Dupnik was unabashed in criticizing the Arizona Legislature for passing the measure, calling state lawmakers "racists."

— compiled from press reports

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## TRAVELOGUE / Staś Kmieć

Kraków Bagels and the *Planty*

## Part XXI

I leave the historic sub-district of Kazimierz – the site of a lost era and make a final trek into the Old Town. Retracing my familiar path from many visits. I want to take in the ambiance of Kraków on my never ending final day in Poland.

**OBWARZANKI – THE KRAKÓW TWISTED BAGEL.** Still in Kazimierz, I pass by *Bagelmama* (ul. Dajwór 10) – the only bagel shop in Poland. The store is owned and run by Nava De Kime, an American who has lived here for the past ten years. The tiny shop is the place to go for a classic American bagel breakfast with smoked lox, onions,



Most of the bagels in Kraków today are sold on the street, from small mobile stands.

and capers.

An original bagel bakery – *Pan Beigel* (Mr. Bagel) that opened in 1915, has long since closed and disappeared. De Kime, a musician, and caterer, opened in exactly the same location allowing the history of the bagel to come full circle (with a hole in the middle).

Currently there is a baker in the district that advertises his bagels as “Kazimierz bagels.” If they are indeed based on the original, they must have been a poor, but necessary ingredient for survival back then ... they are chalky, dry and to the point of being difficult to swallow.

The notion that the bagel was invented in Kraków may be more than just myth, as a spate of recent scholarship has shown. The tradition of baking bagels is old, the first preserved records date from the fourteenth century accounts of the court of Władysław Jagiełło and Jadwiga, in which on March 2, 1394, it was enrolled: *Dla królowej pani pro circulis obrzanky 1 grosz* (for the Queen lady circular *warzanky* for the price of 1 grosz – a penny equivalent).

Initially, bagels could be baked only during Lent by bakers specifically designated for that purpose by the Guild. Another source survived from the fifteenth century (issued by Jan Olbracht, May 26, 1496) authorizing that the bagels could be bake and sold only by the bakers of Kraków.

The 1610 community regulations of Kraków reported that bagels were presented to women in childbirth as a mystical symbol of good luck to mother and child. Mothers used them as nutritious teething rings that their infants could easily grasp – a practice still popular today.

Legend has it that the bagel was popularized in Vienna, where it was baked to commemorate the Polish King Jan Sobieski's 1683 triumph over the Turks. It was then named *beugel*, (Austrian for stirrup). Over time, its shape evolved into a circle with a hole in the center and its name evolved to its modern form, “bagel.”

According to a resolution of 1611 the Kraków Bakers' Guild (*Krakowski Cechu Piekarzy*) could decide who and what place could deal with the sale of bagels. This strict control by the Guild continued until 1802. Bakers then had the right to make bagels, only when their turn came from a draw. This form of selection was used until 1849, at which point all bakers were allowed the privilege.

Traditionally, bagels were sold to the so-called *Jatek* (shambles) bakery, which opened at 6:00 a.m. every day. Control over these stalls was monitored by the Eight Brothers Guild. Since the nineteenth century into the 1950s twentieth century bagels were sold straight from wicker baskets.

Today most of Kraków bagels are sold on the street, from small mobile stands numbering about 180, and the average daily production of bagels sold during a week is almost 150 thousand.

On November 28, 2006 the “Kraków bagel” was included on the list of traditional products from the Małopolska province in the category of bakery and confectionery

### The Lender brothers, immigrants from Lublin invented the flash freezing process for a bagel and soon the product from the East could be distributed nationwide.

products, and on October 30, 2010 it was listed as a product protected by European Union.

Approaching the Old Town I spot one of the familiar blue street seller carts vending the ubiquitous street food *obwarzanki*, in actuality a bread transmutation between a bagel and a pretzel. They are traditionally sprinkled with poppy seeds, but now come in a variety of flavors. Usually manned by older sellers, they can be spotted all over the old city. I decided to buy one from a curt old lady for breakfast the next day, since I had an early flight.

This modern bagel predecessor has a ring-like shape – its color golden to tan, with a clear gloss. It is made from wheat flour (rye flour can be an addition), fat, sugar, yeast, salt and water, and is molded into an oblong shape the dough pieces are helical-twisted together to form a spiral. The formed bagels are left to ferment, then immersed in boiling water and *obgotowuje* or *obwarza* (hence the name). Then, they are sprinkled with seasoning, poppy seeds or sesame seeds and baked.

There is a tradition to eat *obwarzanki*, strung around a string, which is then tied in a circle. One can eat an *obwarzanek* in one of two ways: you either have to bite it off the

string, thus destroying it, and taking away its nature of being crunchy and circular and perfect – or you can untie the string and let all the *obwarzanki* loose – thus separating their unified chain of being.

Around 1900, Polish-Jewish immigrants brought this great bread to New York City, where it continues in popularity. The Lender brothers, immigrants from Lublin invented the flash freezing process for a bagel and soon the product from the East could be distributed nationwide. The brothers made a fortune and the bagel secured its position as a mainstream product beloved by millions of Americans.

The bagel has endured through the centuries not only because of its heroic legend. It also had the advantage of lasting longer than freshly baked bread because the boiling gave the roll an outer sheen and a crunchy, protective crust.

### PLANTY – GARDEN RING AROUND THE OLD TOWN.

I enter the green circle of public parks called *Planty* – an area which took up the emptied area of 52 acres in the 1820s. It can take an hour to two hours to walk around the Old Town historical district down the leafy alleys among old trees. The stroll is even more delightful as the ancient buildings reveal their unusual aspects.

Surrounding the oldest part of the city, *Planty* is one of the most unusual monuments of Kraków. It is a place where you can go for an amazing walk through centuries. This almost unbroken ring of greenness is attractive during all the seasons of the year. Now in autumn, it attracts and entices with its romantic

gold and purple leaves, but watch out – one can easily get hit by a falling chestnut.

The area was once a moat, but has long since been filled in. Built on the site of fortifications surrounding the city walls and located on the outskirts of ditches and embankments, the surroundings were muddy and unkempt serving as the mouth of garbage and sewage.

The gardens came about as a result of the dismantling of the medieval fortifications, a move that had been set in motion by the Austrians in 1806. With the exception of the area with the main gate, its adjoining towers and the Barbican, the medieval city walls were largely demolished after 1807. Many inhabitants of the city protested against the idea. Only a piece of the walls next to The Florian Gate was saved by the defenders of the old fortifications, who threatened the councilors that the strong mountain wind “Halny,” when it gets to Kraków, will raise the skirts of their wives, as it will no longer meet any large obstacles in a form of walls.

Following the Napoleonic Wars, Kraków enjoyed a brief period as a free city, and a grand project was launched to beautify the area. Gardens were laid out and a ring-road

was placed beyond them. In 1820 it was decided to create a “garden city” on the site demolished in the early nineteenth century walls (hence the name of the *Planty* – the *splantowania*,

The symbolic birth of contempo-



Before being baked, the bagels are are sprinkled with seasoning, usually poppy or sesame seeds

rary *Planty* was planting an elm – the “Freedom Tree” on May 3, 1892 to celebrate the anniversary of the Constitution of the Third of May. Since 1815, under the surveillance of Feliks Radwanski, trees had been systematically planted around the Old City, thus creating a different type of wall – the green one called “Plantation.”

Florian Straszewski continued Radwański's works developing this unusual park, and he was completely devoted to this undertaking until his death in 1847. The next stage of development (1847-1870) was called “romantic,” as *Planty* was given the look of the fashionable then English Gardens full of “flower portraits”, bends, secret bridges and arbors which suddenly appeared before its pedestrians. The third period started and it lasted until 1914. It was a period of naturalism and Art Nouveau. *Planty* was equipped with wooden benches, gas lighting, and monuments.

What followed was the interwar period (referred to as “stage-landscape”), the years of the Second World War and occupation when the memorial elm, then 150 years old, was cut down, the first after-war period until the 1960's and “the years of negligence” 1960 – 1990.

A park renewal was designed by Professor Janusz Bogdanowski including: plant renovation, restoration of small architecture – stylish lamps, fences, benches, and stone walls. Moreover, divided into eight gardens: Wawel, University, Palace of Arts, Florianka, Barbican Railway Station, Gródek, and Stradom Gardens.

A walk around the entire length of the gardens is a good way to get a feel for the city. Be careful walking in *Planty* at night, particularly at the north end (near the train station). At night time, some of those who frequent the park are there for more mischievous reasons than others. Those with a penchant for vodka are understandably fond of the pretty flowerbeds and inviting benches. This is an overwhelmingly safe, tranquil place and not to be missed.

Walking through a portion of the the *Planty* to the top of ul. Floriańska at the city walls and the Barbican, I spot an impressive monument. There in the middle of Matejko Square is a huge slab of granite bedecked with statues of mighty medieval warriors in dramatic militaristic poses.

Next month: *the Grunwald monument and last day in Kraków continues.*

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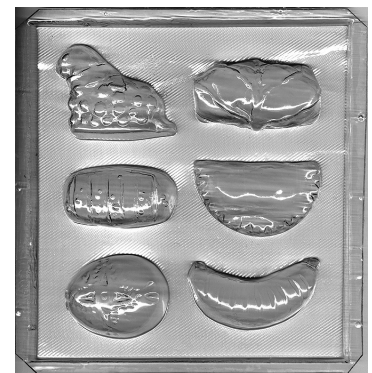
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RELIGION / Benjamin Fiore, S.J.

## John Paul II Relic to be Home in Krakow

A vial containing blood drawn from Pope John Paul II shortly before he died will be installed as a relic in a Polish church soon after his beatification later this year.

Piotr Sionko, the spokesman for the John Paul II Center, said the vial will be encased in crystal and built into the altar of a church in the southern city of Krakow that is opening in May.

The exact date of the opening is not yet known, but it should be shortly after John Paul's beatification at the Vatican on May 1 (see cover story).

Sionko said the idea came from Cardinal Stanislaw Dziwisz, the archbishop of Krakow and the longtime friend and secretary of the late Polish-born pontiff. The blood was drawn for medical tests at Rome's Gemelli Polyclinic shortly before John Paul's death on April 2, 2005, and is now in Dziwisz's possession, he said.

"It was the cardinal's proposal," Sionko said. "He is of the opinion that this is the most precious relic of John Paul II and should be the focal point of the church."

The church in the Lagiewniki district is part of a center that will be devoted to cultivating the memory and the teaching of the late pope — who was born Karol Wojtyla in Wadowice, southern Poland, and spent decades in Krakow.

The idea of displaying the pope's relics has met with some reservations, even inside the Catholic Church.

"The tradition of relics comes from medieval practices of teaching the Bible through images and symbols," said the Rev. Krzysztof Madel, a Jesuit priest in Nowy Sacz who has publicly questioned the usefulness of displaying John Paul's blood. "But in today's rationalized world the message should rather come through teaching about someone's life."

**CATHOLIC HEALTHCARE CENTER FOR WOMEN.** A specially developed infertility treatment that is both effective and pro-life is now being offered in the New York region through Gianna: The Catholic Healthcare Center for Women, lo-



**CARDINAL DZIWISZ.** Archbishop of Krakow and the longtime friend and secretary of the late Polish-born pontiff kept vial of blood that will be enshrined.

cated at 15 East 40 St. in New York and sponsored by St. Vincent's Hospital. In addition to fertility treatment, the center offers a wide range of general women's health care including obstetrics, prenatal care and routine gynecology. **Dr. Anne Mielnik**, co-founder of the center, explains that while it is open to all regardless of their beliefs, the center's pro-life ethic and its founders' Catholic faith touch every aspect of its work. She and her associate **Joan Nolan** of Syracuse, N.Y., also founded the John Paul II Center for Women, a nonprofit organization with the goal of creating centers throughout the US to offer pro-life medical care to women and to give them an alternative to treatments that are not prop-life such as in vitro fertilization (IVF). The Gianna center uses natural procreative technology (NaPro) to treat infertility and also to assist couples to avoid pregnancy naturally. With this approach, says Dr. Mielnik, no embryos are created in the lab for implantation in the uterus with some subsequently aborted as they begin to grow. Rather NaPro tracks the women's cycles to find underlying causes of infertility and then prescribes medical treatment or surgery to correct the problem. While IVF has a success rate of 45% after three cycles

of treatment or 51% after six cycles, NaPro boasts that up to 70% of couples have been helped to achieve pregnancy.

**ARCHBISHOP RETIRES.** Pope Benedict XVI recently accepted the resignation of **Archbishop Daniel E. Pilarczyk** of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. Archbishop Pilarczyk had been the longest serving active bishop in the United States, heading the archdiocese for the previous 27 years.

### ARCHBISHOP UNMASKS "PRO-CHOICE CATHOLIC" GROUP.

Archbishop-designate of Milwaukee **Jerome E. ListECKI** declared that a self-described Wisconsin Catholic group which holds that Catholics can disregard the Church's teachings on abortion, contraception and human sexuality is disowning its Catholic heritage. The group Young Catholics for Choice, a part of the dissenting group Catholics for Choice, has begun collaborating with Family Planning Health Services of Wausau and is conducting an advertising campaign to convince Catholics that they can disregard Church teaching and still remain in good standing. "Nothing could be further from the truth," the archbishop-designate insisted.

**FAITH ON ICE.** Archdiocese of Chicago's **Bishop Thomas Paprocki**, known as the "Holy Goalie," skated with the Green Knights of St. Norbert College in Wisconsin and then addressed the team in the locker room before the game. The bishop is a seasoned athlete and marathoner and, after his practice with the team spoke to them about the connections between sports and living the Catholic faith. "My faith," he says, "gives me strength to run marathons, and running marathons teaches me endurance, which helps me to persevere when facing challenges in life."

Bishop Paprocki is currently writing a book on sports and faith. After blessing the St. Norbert team

before the game, the bishop skated to center ice and dropped the ceremonial puck to start the game. St. Norbert's won 8-2.

### JOHN PAUL II FILM FESTIVAL LAUNCHED.

The John Paul II International Film Festival, "a home to filmmakers who have chosen to use this medium to express and share a message of hope, struggle, triumph and love to the world," held its first awards ceremony in Miami in November. The Miami campus of Florida International University was the site and the festival was hosted by the non-profit 7eventhDay Media, Inc. The festival was created in response to the late pope's apostolic "Letter to Artists," in which he challenged artists to respond to the world's need for Truth, Love and Peace through the use of art." One of the films awarded was the documentary "The Water Project," which

followed a non-profit group to the Dominican Republic where they installed an aqueduct for a community that had never seen running water.

### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY.

... to priests and religious of the Philadelphia Archdiocese: **Bro. Kazimierz Paśnik**, of the Pauline order, 75 years; **Sr. Ann Rita Kobierowski**, CSFN, **Sr. Regina Wesolowski**, CSFN, **Sr. Consolata Pylilo**, CSFN, 70 years; **Sr. Aurelia Lopata**, CSFN, **Sr. Bernadette Sznurkowski**, CSFN, **Sr. Maryann McKeough**, CSFN, **Sr. Rita Partyka**, CSFN, **Fr. Marcellus Kolakowski**, OFM, **Fr. Clement Kurowski**, OFM, 60 years; **Fr. Joseph M. Olczak**, Pauline order, **Sr. Patricia Ann Czarnota**, OSF, **Sr. Maria Denise Provoke**, OSF, 50 years; **Bro. Martin Joseph Jarocinski**, Mercedarian, **Sr. Christine M. Konopelski**, SSJ, 25 years.

## GENEALOGY

### Interviewing Grandparents

This information comes by way of Diane Haddad with *Family Tree Magazine*. And although it was intended to help a school age child who may have been given the assignment of interviewing his/her grandparents, it can be of help to adults trying to learn more about their grandparents and the lives they led. The answers to these questions might be surprising and in turn bring us closer to our parents/grandparents. Here are some questions to help get started:

1. When and where were you born?
2. What were your parents' names?
3. What is your happiest memory of your father, your mother?
4. What is the most important lesson your parents taught you?
5. What are the names of your grandparents?
6. What is your happiest memory of your grandfather? Grandmother?
7. Where did you grow up?
8. What did you do for fun as a child?

9. How did you like school?
10. What did you want to be when you grew up?
11. Tell me about your first date
12. How did you meet Grandma/Grandpa?
13. Tell me about the day my mom/dad was born.
14. What advice would you give to parents?
15. What jobs have you had?
16. What are your strongest memories from your time in the military?
17. What would be your recipe for happiness?

To add extra interest to the answers, Diane suggests coupling this information with the historical events that paralleled the grandparents' lives or to simply compare their lives to their grandparents.

For more oral history interviewing tips go to FamilyTreeMagazine.com. Interested in filming interviews, see the March 2008 Family Tree Magazine.

— Polish Genealogical Society of America

## MODLITWY / Prayers

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

**PRAYER TO THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS.** May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be praised, adored, loved, preserved and glorified throughout the world now and forever. The Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, Helper of the Helpless, pray for us. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, for the help of your servant St. Jude in listening to my prayers. Say this prayer nine times for nine days. By the end of the eighth day, your prayer will be answered. It has never been known to fail. Publication must be promised. Thank you Sacred Heart of Jesus and St. Jude for prayers answered. I.C.S.

**PRAYER TO ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST.** O Angelic St. John! Jesus loved thee so much that He permitted thee to repose on His sacred bosom at the Last Supper; O favorite disciple of our divine Master, whom He appointed the son and protector of His most holy Mother, pray for us; obtain for us a special, a most fervent devotion to Our Lord in the Most Holy Sacrament and to the Blessed Virgin Mary; obtain for us, also, the lights and graces we may need, perfect conformity to the divine will, and perseverance in the following of Christ and the imitation of Mary. Amen. M.F.A.

## The St. Jude Center

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2-2:30 p.m.)

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## Zamość under German Occupation 1939-1945 / Sophie Hodorowicz Knab

## The Transports to Auschwitz

The camp at Zamość was meant to be a transit camp, a temporary holding place until the fate of each individual would be decided by the Germans. Those who were deemed capable were sent to work as forced laborers to Germany. Children who met certain racial characteristics were sent to Germany to become Germans. Some elderly and children were sent to live among strangers in the General Government and some were sent to the concentration camps of Majdanek and Auschwitz. From the collection of German documents gathered by Poland after the war we read the following:

Report on the transport of 644 Poles to the work camp in Auschwitz on December 10, 1942

The transport was dispatched from Zamość on December 10th at 1600 hours. The arrival in Auschwitz took place December 12 at 2300 hours. From among the 644 Poles, 14 escaped. Three individuals, specifically:

- Biala, Karolina, nee Batzdorf, born December 14, 1900
- Bialy, Czesław, son, born February 17th, 1926
- Sędzimirka, Michalina, born February 19, 1922

escaped on route during the stop near the distribution station in Kraków with the help of Polish railway workers who opened the locked door of the wagon. The escape was made possible by the darkness and occurred at a time when the guards were at the other end of the train. An immediate search produced no results. The other 11 people—the number accounted for in Zamość during the loading was accurate—apparently jumped out the top window of the freight car. It would be directed that in the future the unsealed top window be secured with barbed wire.

Admittance to Auschwitz took place on December 13, 1942; the list of names was not read.

The transport arrived as planned with the exception of the 14 individuals who skipped out and (the trans-

port) was definitely late.

In the matter of capability to work SS Hauptsturmführer, Hau-meir made it clear that arrivals to the camp should be Poles capable of work in order to avoid unnecessary overloading of the camp as well as modes of transportation. A certain number of individuals, idiots, cripples and sick people must be in the quickest manner be removed from the camp by liquidation to prevent overload. (Document #80 Zamojszczyzna-Sonderlaboratorium ss. Zbior dokumentow Polskich i niemieckich w okresu okupacji hitlerowski Tom 1)

**"You came here to be soap. It'll be very good soap."**

Wacława Kędzierska, with her parents, sister Stanisława and grandmother Agnieszka were expelled from their village of Skierbieszowa on November 27, 1942. Her sister and her grandmother were sent to the horse barracks to be transported somewhere in the General Government but she, along with her mother and her father were on that transport to Auschwitz.

"We were in the Zamość camp from November 28 to December 10th, 1942. On that day they crammed us into a cattle car in which we stood, thirsty and hungry, exhausted beyond all endurance, riding for three days. Our physiological needs we took care of on the wooden floor of the car. The stench was unbearable. A small loaf of bread, received in Zamość, protected us from starvation. On December 13 we arrived in Auschwitz. They separated the men and women.

The SS woman from the office told us to line up alphabetically. Each of us received an Auschwitz number; mine, still visible to this day has the numbers 26934 ... all the women, completely naked were pushed into the baths ... the camp staff cut our hair, then after the

baths, handed out camp uniforms—undershirt, shoes striped dress, a short overcoat and three cornered scarf. In the barracks we received coffee but because we didn't have any dishes, we drank it from a piece of straw obtained from our mattresses.

"On Christmas Day they drove us out to the apel (parade grounds) where — under the Christmas tree with electric lights— some of the weakened prisoners died. That was our camp Christmas. Constantly in my thoughts were the words of a German woman who said to us at the beginning of our stay in the camp, 'You came here to be soap. It'll be very good soap'."

At the beginning of her stay in Auschwitz her work was to separate items brought in to the warehouse from the crematorium. Then, together with other young girls, she was selected by Dr. Mengele for his pseudoexperiments receiving injections of the germs of typhus and malaria. Her entire body became covered in sores. From Auschwitz, Wacława was transferred to Ravensbruck where they worked for the notorious Siemens factory. From there they were transferred to Sachsenhausen. As the war drew to an end the prisoners were herded on a death march. She writes:

"For three weeks we were without food and water. During rest periods in the woods, to try and save ourselves from starvation we ate grass, roots and the buds of trees. The best were birch and linden trees. I was so exhausted, physically and emotionally, that I didn't want to go any further. And yet, I forced myself. Mother and a neighbor took me under the arms ... in the town of Schwerin we lived to see freedom. The Americans liberated us on May 3, 1945. (Excerpted and translated from Wojenne Losy Dzieci Zamojszczyzny (The Wartime Fate of the Children of Zamość); Rodzik, Julia, editor. Zamość. 2007.

## POLAND FIGHTS / Douglas W. Jacobson

## Krystyna Skarbek

When Krystyna Skarbek was living a comfortable life and winning teen-age beauty contests she could never have imagined that a few years later she would become one of the most renowned female operatives in the Allied Resistance.

Born in Młodziesyn in 1908, to Count Jerzy Skarbek, descendant of one of Poland's oldest noble families, and Stefanie Goldfelder, the daughter of a wealthy Jewish banking family, Krystyna's early life was one of luxury and privilege.

But events took a turn for the worse when Krystyna's father died and, shortly thereafter, her first marriage failed. In 1938, she married again, to the writer Jerzy Grzycki, and the couple moved to Ethiopia where Jerzy had accepted a diplomatic position. When the war broke out in 1939, returning to Poland proved impossible and the couple fled to London.

Eager to return to her home country and look after her mother, Krystyna offered her services to British Intelligence to conduct espionage and subversive actions in Poland. The British, however, showed little interest in a young woman with no experience. Not to be denied, Krystyna persisted and finally made her way to Budapest where she joined a Polish Resistance group. In the winter of 1940 she trekked over the snow-capped Tatra mountains into Poland where she tried, without success, to persuade her mother to leave Poland.

In Hungary Krystyna joined a secret courier operation, smuggling information and armaments over the mountains and conducting sabotage against the Nazis in Poland. She also met, and soon fell in love with, a co-conspirator and former Polish army officer, Andrzej Kowerski. The two of them worked side-by-side conducting subversive actions until they were arrested by the Gestapo.

But Krystyna's wit and gift of persuasion (especially over men)



Skarbek became a legend in her lifetime. Soon after her death, she entered the realm of popular culture. It has been said that Ian Fleming, in his first James Bond novel, *Casino Royale* (1953), modeled Vesper Lynd on her. According to William F. Nolan, Fleming also based Tatiana Romanova, in his 1957 novel *From Russia, with Love*, on Skarbek. Four decades later, in 1999, Polish writer Maria Nurowska published a novel, *Miłośnica (The Lover)*—an account of a fictional female journalist's attempt to probe Skarbek's story. The *Krakow Post* reported that Agnieszka Holland will direct a big-budget film about Skarbek.

saved their lives when she expertly faked the symptoms of tuberculosis and won their release. The couple then fled Hungary to Turkey. In Istanbul Krystyna again employed her natural beauty and charm to obtain travel visas to Cairo where they connected with British SOE.

Being fluent in French, Krystyna was assigned to SOE's "Section F" under the code name Christine Granville. She parachuted into France and coordinated sabotage operations with Italian partisans and the French Maquis. Then, in 1944, two of her fellow operatives were arrested by the Gestapo. When Krystyna learned that they were soon to be executed she embarked on another daring and audacious mission. Posing as the niece of British General Bernard Montgomery, Krystyna threatened a local Gestapo officer with terrible retribution if the captives were not released. She sealed the deal with a bribe using secret SOE funds.

The end of the war, however, did not bring good fortune to Krystyna. Though awarded medals for her six years of service by both the British and the French, she was given just one month's salary and left to fend for herself in Cairo. Unable to return to Poland, and virtually penniless, she divorced her husband, Jerzy, and spent the next several years travelling aimlessly, working at menial jobs. In 1952, after finally managing to obtain a visa, Krystyna returned to London where she met her final fate. An obsessive merchant marine steward whom she had encountered in her travels, and whose advances she had rejected, stabbed her to death in a Kensington hotel. Krystyna was buried at Kensel Green in London. In 1988 the ashes of her lover and comrade-in-arms, Andrzej Kowerski, were interred at the foot of her grave.

❖ ❖ ❖

Douglas W. Jacobson is the Polish-American author of the award-winning book, *Night of Flames: A Novel of World War Two*. Mr. Jacobson has been a frequent contributor to this newspaper and has written a second historical novel set in Poland in *World War Two*, *The Katyn Order*, which will be released in May, 2011.

## CIEKAWOSTKI / Martin S. Nowak

## Bits and Pieces

Martinus Polonus, or Martin of Poland, also known as Martin von Trappau (German), Martin z Opavy (Czech) and Marcin z Opawy (Polish), was a Dominican monk of the 13th century. His birthplace and ethnicity are unknown, but he was probably Czech (Bohemian). He was known as Martin of Poland because his home monastery in Opava, Bohemia, close to the Polish border, was under the jurisdiction of the Polish province of the Dominicans. His surname was Strebski. He went to Rome about 1250 where he served as papal chaplain. In 1278 he was appointed Bishop of Gniezno, Poland by Pope Nicholas III, but Martin died in Italy on his way to Poland to assume his bishopric. He wrote a chronicle of the popes that was used as a textbook for two centuries after his death. In it, Martin told the story of Pope Joan, the supposed female pontiff who allegedly served in the 9th century. It was through this book that the legend of Pope Joan was made known throughout the world.

Bernard Lichtenstein, known as Rodeo Ben, was a Polish born (Łódź) American Jew in Philadelphia who designed the rodeo jean for Wrangler in 1947. Working with pro riders, he designed a tough blue jean that was both smart looking and practical for rodeo competitors, and featured the first jean with a zipper fly. Rodeo Ben is also credited with being the first tailor to specialize in western wear, in the 1920s. Tom Mix, Gene Autry and Roy Rogers were among his customers. Nathan Turk was another Polish born (Warsaw) American Jew, who was tailor to

many western stars in Los Angeles, including Autry and Rogers.

*Strategy and Tactics* magazine reports that the Baltic Sea floor is home to hundreds of thousands of tons of unexploded bombs and mines dumped there following both world wars. Poland has a Baltic seacoast of about 300 miles. The sea bottom also is littered with tens of thousands of tons of discarded chemical weapons agents in rusting containers, about 5,000 warships, submarines and airplanes, and possibly nuclear waste dumped there by the former USSR. Combine all this with centuries' worth of dumped sewage and agricultural and industrial waste and the Baltic Sea is the most dangerously polluted large body of water in the world.



Hall.

The sit-down strike, or occupation strike, became known as the "Polish strike" during the interwar years because it was used by workers in Poland, but seldom anywhere else. It prevented employers from locking out workers,

or sending in strike-breakers. The workers took their places and simply refused to work. In 1937 in Detroit, two thousand women cigar factory employees, mostly of Polish descent, staged a big sit-down strike that led to sympathy strikes by auto workers. The most famous sit-down strike in history was the Solidarność strike in Gdańsk's Lenin Shipyards in 1980, that brought down communism in Europe. This is a mostly illegal move, since it is a violation of trespass laws. In the 1960s, young Americans used the tactic to occupy college buildings and public places, mostly to protest the Vietnam War, and it became known as the sit-in.

Ignacy Jan Paderewski funded a full-length statue of American President Woodrow Wilson in Poznań's Wilson Park. Of bronze and twelve feet high, it was designed by Gutzon Borglum, who also designed and supervised the carving of Mount Rushmore. It was unveiled on July 4, 1931 before a large crowd, with hundreds of Americans in attendance. The gathering included American ambassador John Willys who read a message from President Herbert Hoover, Polish ambassador to America Tytus Filipowicz, General Joseph Haller, Bernard Baruch, Polish Cardinal August Hlond, Polish President Ignacy Mościcki, and special guest Edith Wilson, widow of the late president. This was followed by a luncheon at Poznań's Town Hall. All day, Polish radio featured programs on President Wilson and America. In 1939 the statue was destroyed by the invading Germans, and was replaced years later by a granite bust of Mr. Wilson.

## HAPPENINGS: CHICAGO STYLE / Geraldine Balut Coleman

## Michelin Guide 2011 Selects Best Polish Restaurant

CHICAGO — There is no question that Chicago is home to the largest Polish community in the United States. From delicatessens to supermarkets to all-you-can-eat buffets and restaurants, there are plenty of great places to get an authentic Polish meal. But if you are looking for the best Polish fare, there is no other than **Smak Tak**. The 2011 Michelin Guide, Chicago Edition, selected this quaint storefront restaurant, located in the Jefferson Park area of Chicago's Northwest Side as one of its best. Smak Tak, a six table, wall-to-wall knotty pine, Polish chalet is the epitome of "Polish Highlander chic." The Polish culinary "marijuana" served here includes pierogi, served in a multitude of variations that satisfy everyone's taste buds. Steve Zavesky, a pierogi aficionado, third generation Whiting, Indiana native and the two time pierogi-eating contest win-



Inside Smak Tak restaurant.

ner of that famous Whiting Pierogi Festival, visited eight Chicago Polish restaurants and tasted only the potato cheese pierogi. The best, according to Steve, can be found at Smak Tak. But wait, pierogi are not its only specialties, the *Placek po węgierski*, a large and crispy potato pancake folded and stuffed with a massive portion of mushroom and pepper Hungarian-style goulash dabbled with exquisitely-decorated sour cream is another mouth-water-



Outside Smak Tak restaurant.

ing main course. This is a definite "take-home-the-rest" entrée. And the pork cutlet and *nalesniki* are to die for. And the soups! Try the *barszcz* with *uszka*.

Smak Tak's owners, Peter and Ewa Lakomy, have been serving authentic Polish cuisine for six years. It's a BYOB, where you can bring your own special bottle of wine or that six-pack of Zywiec or Okocim that Peter, at your request, will make sure is kept chilled. Have a special Polish request? If they can, Peter and Ewa will accommodate that request. It is like being in your *Busia's* kitchen.

Not only has the Michelin Guide considered Smak Tak the best, but local magazines and newspapers: Time Out Chicago, Max Week, Chicago Magazine, Chicago Tribune and Chicago Reader reviewed this restaurant with the best of culinary accolades. This may be the only Polish restaurant in the United States listed in the three Michelin Guides. Among the 40 Bib Gourmand restaurants covered, the Michelin Guide also included the famous and awarding-winning American Chef Rick Bayless' Frontera Grill, along with the very trendy, reservations-a must, Girl and The Goat, as well as the Purple Pig. All were selected for their quality, freshness, and under \$40 value.

Conclusion: If one loves old

world ambiance and a cozy atmosphere with traditional Polish kitchen flavors, along with a win-



Lira Ensemble at St. John Brebeuf.

ning combination of herculean servings, low prices and the freshest of good food, then Smak Tak is the place to be. *Gratulacje i Sto Lat!*

**LIRA ENSEMBLE'S CROWD-PLEASING CONCERT HELD.**

The Lira Ensemble, artist-in-residence at Loyola University Chicago, once again brought the sounds of the Polish Christmas Season to the Chicago suburbs by performing on December 26 in Burbank, Ill. at St. Albert

The Great Church and on January 2 in Niles, Ill. at St. John Brebeuf Church. Even though these concerts were held after Christmas, they are still in keeping with Polish tradition, as carols are sung well into January.

The Lira Singers, an eight-member female vocal ensemble, and the Lira's thirty-seven piece symphony orchestra sang and played gorgeous Polish carols, as well as some American carols, all under the baton of Maestro Mina Zikri.

The entire program was narrated in English and Polish by the Lira's Artistic Director and Co-Founder, Lucyna Migala. The church-filled audiences heard not only the most popular of Polish holiday music, but listened to the Polish mountain sounds and a collection of carols arranged by Witold Lutoslawski. The entire Lira Ensemble played the

landmark Gateway Theatre will be the site where volunteers will be on hand to offer their time to raise money for the purchase of the latest 21st century technological equipment for public Polish hospitals. This year's focus will be to the purchase medical equipment specifically to help children with urological and nephrological diseases.

This 19th Grand Finale is an annual fund raiser that is held on the first or second Sunday of each new year. This year, it will begin at noon with a Mass followed by live concerts, photography and painting exhibitions, an auction, and on stage appearances of sports celebrities, politicians and members of Polish community.

The Great Orchestra of Christmas Charity Foundation's main objective is "health protection and (the) saving of children's lives through the providing of medical equipment to public hospitals." Toward this objective, this Foundation has collected more than \$60 million and has American Heart Association Certification for providing courses in CPR and ECC, and for using the best possible technology for medical lifesaving.

**CHICAGO SOCIETY CELEBRATES ITS 99TH INAUGURAL BALL.**

The Chicago Society of the Polish National Alliance will hold its 99th consecutive Inaugural Ball on January 22 at Café La Cave in Des Plaines, Ill. Co-chaired by Conrad Miczko and Marian Skawski, this black-tie optional event will offer an evening of cocktails, gourmet dining and dancing to the music of the Anthony Kawalkowski, Orchestra. A short benefit program will include the induction of officers and the presentation of the Chicago Society's Booster Award, an award given to that member who sponsored the most new Chicago Society members during 2010. Proceeds from this benefit are designated toward academic scholarships. Students who matriculate to a four-year college and/or university will be eligible for the scholarships.

**53rd Polish Assistance Ball to Celebrate the Legacy of H.S.H. Princess Grace of Monaco**

NEW YORK — Polish Assistance will hold its 53rd Ball celebrating the legacy of Princess Grace of Monaco, at the Plaza Hotel's Grand Ballroom on February 26, 2011. Prince Albert II Sovereign of Monaco will be the Honorary Chairman and Guest of Honor as represented by his ambassador to the United States, Gilles Noghes.

Princess Grace opened the Ball in 1982 by leading off the dancing of the Polonaise with Doctor Robert J. Campbell only months before her tragic death, almost 30 years ago.

The Honorary Committee already includes such distinguished names as Edward Cardinal Egan, Robert Kupiecki, Ambassador of the Republic of Poland to the United States, Professor Zbigniew Brzezinski, former United States National Security Advisor, Isabelle Picco, Ambassador of Monaco to the United States among others.

"Although the ball is an opportunity to socialize and celebrate each other, more importantly, it is a major source of fundraising for Polish Assistance. We are also very pleased to see an increase in attendance among many young professionals who have an option to attend either the entire

affair or after-dinner festivities only." said Jadwiga Palade, President of Polish Assistance.

The Founders of Polish Assistance where Maria Dembinska, Helena Rubinstein, the cosmetics queen, and Aniela (Nela) Rubinstein who did the cooking for the first three events.

**ABOUT POLISH ASSISTANCE.**

Since 1956, Polish Assistance has been providing financial assistance to needy persons of Polish origin who are facing unforeseen hardships. Recipients receive assistance in meeting daily expenses, usually to supplement low social security payments or to cover extraordinary medical bills. Beneficiaries also include homeless people, those in need of medical treatment, and handicapped people who are unable to care for themselves. Polish Assistance also assists the elderly heroes who took part in the Warsaw uprising and who continue their involvement in many Polish causes.

For more information, please contact Cesare L. Santeramo at (212) 577-5560, e-mail office@polishassistance.org or visit www.polishassistance.org

**PIASA Issues Call for Proposals**

ARLINGTON, Virg. — The 69th Annual Meeting of the Polish Institute of Arts & Sciences of America (PIASA) will be held on June 10-11, 2011 at the conveniently located hotel, Hyatt Arlington (For more information visit <http://arlington.hyatt.com/hyatt/hotels/index.jsp>).

Proposals for individual papers with short abstracts will be considered, but preference will be given to proposals for complete two hour sessions involving presentation of three 25 minute papers with a chair and a discussant. Proposals for panel and roundtable discussions should be submitted only on topics that lend themselves to that format. Initial screening of all proposals will be made by a program committee as soon as they

are received. Deadline for receipt of all proposals April 9, 2011. Proposals should be sent to PIASA, 208 E. 30th St., New York, N.Y. 10016, Att: Dr. M.B.B. Biskupski, Program Chair. Submission by email with Word document to [piasany@verizon.net](mailto:piasany@verizon.net) PIASA is reserving single/double occupancy rooms at a special group rate of \$119. plus tax per room. All reservations (arr June 9 and dep June 12, must be made by May 20, 2011 either by phone : 1-800-233-1234 or on line [www.arlington.hyatt.com](http://www.arlington.hyatt.com) The Group reference code for reservations is G-POLI. More specific information regarding registration fees, directions, parking, etc. will be posted on [www.piasa.org](http://www.piasa.org). Papers presented will be considered for publication in "The Polish Review."

**"Polish Book of Monsters" Is Now Available**

NEW YORK — PIASA Books, the publishing arm of the Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences of America, is proud to announce the publication of its latest book, *A Polish Book of Monsters: Five Dark Tales from Contemporary Poland*, edited and translated Michael Kandel.

Although American monsters are villainous killers, the monsters in Michael Kandel's superbly translated collection of science fiction and fantasy stories. A Polish Book of Monsters show us that the line between good and evil, between human and monstrous, can be perilously thin. Fans of speculative fiction

will enjoy the mix in this volume: the five tales encompass everything from high fantasy to hard-core science fiction-and mixtures in between. The authors-Marek S. Huberath, Andrzej Sapkowski, Tomasz Kołodziejczak, Andrzej Zimniak, and Jacek Dukaj-range from age thirty to sixty and represent the best of Polish SF and fantasy. General readers as well as those interested in Polish and Slavic literature will find these "dark tales" strangely illuminating.

A Polish Book of Monsters is edited and translated by Michael Kandel. ISBN 978-0-940962-70-5. List price \$15.00. PIASA members'

price \$12.00. PIASA members may order A Polish Book of Monsters directly from PIASA by calling (212) 686-4164. Copies may also be ordered online from Amazon or Barnes and Noble.

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## Ziglinski Named Illinois Emerging Poet Award Winner



SPRINGFIELD, Ill. — **Elizabeth Hyden Ziglinski** of Marion, Illinois, has been named a 2010 Illinois Emerging Poet Award Winner. The Emerging Writers Competition is co-sponsored by the Illinois State Library, Secretary of State, the Illinois Poet Laureate and Illinois Center for the Book. The state-wide competition identifies outstanding Illinois emerging poets and short story writers.

Elizabeth won second place in the poetry category for her poem, "Echoes." Winners receive cash prizes and are submitted for review and possible publication in various Illinois literary journals.

Secretary of State Jesse White announced the winners and said: "I am very proud to congratulate these talented writers whose work added to our state's long and rich literary heritage." A ceremony honoring the award winners was held November 18 in Springfield.

Elizabeth, the daughter of Thomas Ziglinski and Elaine Hyden of Marion, is a graduate of Marion High School and received her Bachelor's degree in Biological Sciences from Southern Illinois University in 2009. She is currently pursuing a Master's degree in Genetic Counseling at the University of South Carolina in Columbia.

### FIRST BABY BOY A POLE.

New York's first baby born in 2011 was **Kacper Kozlowski**, the firstborn of Marta and Jacek Kozlowski. Kacper was born in the Beth Israel hospital in Manhattan. His mother came to the United States from Zambrow, and his father Jacek, who is a driver, is a native of Suwalki.

The couple lives in Maspeth in Queens. They were married in St. Cross Church, where they plan to baptize Kacper.

## POLONIA OF THE EASTERN GREAT LAKES / Michael Pietruszka

# 14th Annual Paczki Day will be Held March 6

BUFFALO, N.Y. — Celebrate the last hurrah before lent begins at Western New York's largest Polish pre-Lenten party. This year the Polish Heritage Dancers 14th annual "Paczki Day" celebration will be held on Sun., March 6. This serves as the group's major fundraiser for the year. As a self-supporting nonprofit organization that keeps alive Polish song and dance, the funds are used for costumes and music.

Help keep alive these great traditions by bringing your family and friends to the party. It all starts at 1:00 p.m. at the Hearthstone Manor, 333 Dick Rd., Depew, N.Y. Music will be by the Bedrock Boys from 2:00-6:00, the Polish Heritage Dancers take the stage at 3:00 p.m. with a folk dance show.

At 4:00 p.m. a Paczki Eating Contest and a Chrusciki Bake-Off will take place. Call to enter.

New menu of homemade Polish food (dinners, ale carte items and desserts) will be available for purchase. There will be a Theme Basket Raffle. Amber, Gems and More and Salt Lamps Etc. with be there as well for your shopping pleasure. Tickets are \$6 in advance or \$8 at the door. Children under 12 are \$2. At 5:00 p.m., there will be a crowning of the Paczki King, Queen, Prince and Princess.

For tickets and table reservations call (716) 937-0032 or 681-3526. Pre-sale ticket will be on sale until March 4. Tickets available at: Am-Pol Eagle 3620 Harlem Rd., Cheektowaga, N.Y., 835-9454; and Salt Lamps Etc., 5274 Broadway, Lancaster, 564-9286. There is plenty of free parking and buses are welcome.

The group is known as the "Ambassadors of Western New York's Polish American Community" since 1997. They continue to teach others about their Polish traditions through a variety of programs. New members are always welcome or you can share your talents as a dancer, musician, singer, or work behind the scene with sewing and fundraising. Please visit [www.phdofwny.com](http://www.phdofwny.com) or give them a call.

**CALL TO MARCH.** Organizers of Buffalo, New York's annual **Dyngus Day Parade** invite social groups, ethnic organizations, schools, marching and polka bands, dancers and performers to participate in the 5th annual Dyngus Day Parade. The parade will take place at 5:00 p.m., Monday, April 25.

Buffalo's Dyngus Day Parade, the first and only parade of its kind in the world, will march through the

Historic Polonia District passing numerous Dyngus Day celebrations including those at Central Terminal, St. Stanislaus Church, Corpus Christi Church, The Adam Plewacki American Legion Post 799 and the Adam Mickewicz Library and Dramatic Circle. Parade organizers anticipate more than 150 parade entries and over 50,000 spectators this year.

Parade entry applications are available on-line at [DyngusDayBuffalo.com](http://DyngusDayBuffalo.com). The deadline for parade entries is April 15. Completed applications or people interested in volunteering are to contact Dyngus Day Parade Director, Bernadette Pawlak at [BernadettePawlak@gmail.com](mailto:BernadettePawlak@gmail.com) or to Dyngus Day Parade, Attn: Bernadette Pawlak, 54 Arend Ave., Williamsville, NY 14221.

**TIDBITS.** The **Polish Heritage Dancers of WNY** and **Harmony Polish Folk Ensemble** recently participated in a workshop with the members of Poland's premiere dance troupe, Mazowsze, in Youngstown, Ohio ... Local attorney, SUNYab Law School adjunct professor and retired Army National Guard **Brigadier General Richard Kwiczak** recently passed away after a lengthy illness ... **Polish Falcons Nest 52** in Rochester hosted an open house to begin the new year ... Dancers from **Stacy Zawadzki's** Performing Arts Center in West Seneca performed at this year's Orange Bowl in Florida ... "Spirit", a musical written by WNYers **Michael** and **Paul Marszalkowski**, was presented at St. Philip the Apostle Church in Cheektowaga on January 7 and 8, and at Harvest House in Buffalo on the 16th. More information on the show is available at [www.spiritmusical.com](http://www.spiritmusical.com) ... On January 8, soprano **Brittany Mruzeczek** performed at a "Koledy" Concert and Mass at St. Adalbert's Basilica on Buffalo's East Side ... The **Polka Variety Social Club** elected the following officers for 2011: Richard Szykowny (president), Bill Janish (vice-president), Pauline Janish (treasurer) and Marcia Szykowny (recording secretary).

WNY natives and NFL standouts **Dan** (Denver Broncos), **Chris** (Dallas Cowboys) and **Rob** (New England Patriots) **Gronkowski** launched a new website, [www.gronknation.com](http://www.gronknation.com) ... On January 11, newly elected NYS Supreme Court Justices **Henry Nowak** and **Deborah Chimes** were officially welcomed to their positions by the Bar Association of Erie County and other

WNY legal organizations in Buffalo's Old County Hall ... Elma native **Rachel Sluberski** was named to the All-American Field Hockey Team ... **St. Stanislaus Kostka Parish** in Rochester held its "Oplatek Dinner Dance", and **Catholic Youth Studio KSM** hosted its Christmas Dinner Dance at Mississauga, Ontario's **John Paul II Polish Cultural Centre** on January 15 ... On January 16, the **Polish Union of America** marked its 120th anniversary with a dinner at the Potts Banquet Facility, and the **Polish Legacy Project** celebrated its "Oplatek - Koleda" at the St. Stanislaus Parish hall in Buffalo.

**Lucyna Dzedzic** started another semester of her Polish language courses for the Maryvale Community Education program during January ... The Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society is currently undertaking preservation efforts and beginning to catalogue the approximately 60,000 photographic negatives in its collection donated by the estate of the late Am-Pol Eagle photographer **Edward Kasprzak**. Kasprzak's photographs chronicle the life of Buffalo's Polonia Community from the 1940s through the early 1980s ... The **Polish Arts Club** of Buffalo presented "Classical Realism, Pursuing Masters," a lecture by Thomas Rojek, on January 19 ... The **Professional and Business Women of Polonia** heard a presentation by David Zablotny, the Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity - Buffalo, about Habitat's efforts in Gliwice, Poland during their January 20 meeting.

On January 28, Polish rock and roller **Krzysztof Krawczyk** performed at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre in Toronto ... WNED-TV, WNY's PBS affiliate, will be returning its popular "WNED Cooks" show with host **Eileen Koterak Elibol** to its schedule during February ... The **Polish Scholarship Fund** of Syracuse elected the following leadership for 2011: Tad Szyszka (president), Kasia Prus and John Klocek (vice-presidents), and Nancy Cummings (treasurer). Andre Bak, Dave Kolakowski, Mitchell Lenczewski, Laura Schumacher, Andre Siok and Robert Synakowski were elected to the group's board of directors ... The **Polish Arts Club of Buffalo** will be installing their new officers: Kathleen Pawlowski (first vice-president), Marsha Ashton (membership secretary), Thomas Zawadzki (treasurer), and directors Anna Gabryszak, Stanley Nowak and William Podlewski, at their annual luncheon at Gregor's Garden Grove in West Seneca on February 13.

**Buffalo - Rzeszow Sister Cities, Inc.** and the **SUNYab Polish Student Association** will host a "Zabawa Karnalowa Serduszkowa" featuring the music of "True Colors" at the St. Stanislaus Social Center on February 19 ... The **General Pulaski Association** will hold its annual wreath-laying ceremony at the Pulaski statue in Downtown Buffalo on March 3 ... The **Quo Vadis III** "Tools for Success" leadership conference for young professionals, graduates and students of Polish descent will be held in Toronto, Ontario from May 13 through the 15th.

❖ ❖ ❖

If you have an item for this column, please send the information to me by the 6 day of the month (i.e. Feb. 6 for the March edition) at: POLEGL, P.O. Box 223, Niagara Square Station, Buffalo, NY 14201-0223; [pietruszka@verizon.net](mailto:pietruszka@verizon.net). For more info, visit [www.polegl.org](http://www.polegl.org).

## Deportation Averted in the "Nic" of Time

NEW YORK — Staten Island Academy parent Marzena Pudelkiewicz was almost deported from the United States to her native Poland due to a clerical error that her previous attorney made while handling her case. But, fortunately, a Staten Island Academy staff member recommended that she seek the advice of another Academy parent, John Nicelli, a lawyer who specializes in immigration law. Pudelkiewicz did so, and now the family is celebrating winning their case and receiving their green cards.

In order for Pudelkiewicz to win this case, Nicelli had to demonstrate that it would have been an "extreme and unusual hardship"; for Samantha Pudelkiewicz, the family's eldest daughter, who was born here and is a United States' citizen, to have her mother removed from the United States. As this type of case is very difficult to prove, Nicelli urged the teachers and staff of the Academy to write to the court describing the impact of her mother's removal on Samantha. The staff responded with alacrity. Nicelli stated that "their input was instrumental in convincing the court that Samantha's life and life's goals would be demolished had her parents been ordered removed."

Mr. and Mrs. Pudelkiewicz are elated at the outcome and very grateful to Nicelli, Staten Island Academy and to the judge who heard their case and provided the special Christmas present, Sarah M. Burr, Assistant Chief Immigration Judge for the New York District.

"Judge Burr is a very nice lady but due to her seniority, she doesn't give anything away," said Nicelli. "The family's victory was well deserved!"

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PONDERRING POLE / Edward Poniewaz

## The Matriarchs

A simple definition of a matriarch is "a woman who dominates an organization, community, etc." (World English Dictionary). I don't believe there are many strict patriarchal or matriarchal societies left in the modern world. The Taliban of Afghanistan has a dominant patriarchal structure. I can't think of any society or community of people that have an exclusive matriarchal leadership.

Modern nations are evolving more and more into genderless entities although there still remains at least a hint of male or female influence on the behavioral aspect of the people. Examples of this include Italian, Polish, Russian, or Asian Indian. Germanic, African, and Arab societies traditionally lean toward a more male persuasion.

A professor at Washington University in St. Louis told the story of visiting Russia during World War II. He came upon a huge contingent of Polish soldiers kneeling down with their arms outstretched and heads lifted up to the sky praying after a horrendous battle had taken place. He asked his Polish guide, "Are they giving thanks to God for sparing their lives?" The guide replied, "No, to the Blessed Mother."

My experience with Polonia from a very broad perspective is that all of the major players were almost entirely women. One of those impressive Poles I became acquainted with in my younger years on a national level was **Marta Korwin Rhoades**, the publisher of the *Perspectives* newsletter and based in Washington, D.C. *Perspectives'* primary purpose was to educate other Polish communicators and organizations on how to be more informed and effective in Polish anti-defamation and in spreading Polish culture and history.

Her annual workshop was always an interesting and positive experience.

There are others:

**Wanda Tomczykowska** – founder of The Polish Arts and Cultural Foundation, San Francisco, California ([www.polishculturesf.org/home/](http://www.polishculturesf.org/home/)).

**Polanie of Minneapolis** – from the website "In October of 1927, twelve young women living in the Twin Cities founded a social club to share their Polish background with each other. They called themselves the Polanie Club, and sought to enrich their knowledge of Polish language, music, literature, food, history, art and folklore. The Club became a resource on Polish subjects, furnishing costumes, exhibits, recipes and a library on Polish subjects for the community" (<http://polanieclubmplsstpaul.com/history/history.htm>).

**Polanki of Milwaukee** – The Polish Women's Cultural Club of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. "Polanki was founded in 1953 and has been dedicated to promoting knowledge and appreciation of Polish culture among Milwaukee Poles and non-Poles alike" (<http://polanki.org/about.html>).

**Blanka Rosenstiel** – Miami, Florida. "Mrs. Blanka A. Rosenstiel founded the American Institute of Polish Culture (AIPC) in 1972 as a non-profit, non-sectarian, tax-exempt Florida Corporation. The aims of the Institute are twofold: first, to share with American society the heritage of Poland, which has contributed in many ways to Western civilization; second, to promote the scientific, educational, and artistic endeavors of Polish-Americans" ([www.ampolnstitute.org/ip.asp?op=Institute&m=x0500Aboutus](http://www.ampolnstitute.org/ip.asp?op=Institute&m=x0500Aboutus)).

**Ada Dziewanowska** – Milwau-

kee, Wisconsin. Award winning dance instructor, writer, researcher, and folklorist. ([www.phantomranch.net/folkdanc/teachers/dziewanowska\\_a.htm](http://www.phantomranch.net/folkdanc/teachers/dziewanowska_a.htm)).

**Lucyna Migala** – Artistic director, general manager, and narrator of the Lira Ensemble, Chicago, Illinois. "The Lira Ensemble is the only professional performing arts company in the United States specializing in Polish music, song, and dance. The name of the company, "lira," is the Polish word for "lyre," a traditional symbol of music. The Ensemble's performing groups present the music of Poland, sung in the original language, and Polish folk and court dances, with narratives in English" ([www.liraensemble.com/lira.html](http://www.liraensemble.com/lira.html)).

What an awesome group of women, spread out in various parts of our country, with vision, with spirit, and with an amazing list of accomplishments. Even for those that are no longer with us, the will to carry on a continuing and committed influence in the Polish community and in the whole nation is still there. These are the big matriarchs. The good news is there are hundreds if not thousands of small matriarchs, with vision, with spirit, assuming the same kind of leadership and service in every section of the country, with the same kind of commitment and influence. This Valentine's Day, my heart goes out to you. Dziękuję bardzo ladies, and thank you very, very much!

**THE HAPPY MARRIAGE IS THE 'ME' MARRIAGE.** In an article written by Tara Parker-Pope, December 31, 2010, for the *New York Times* comes a little bit of Valentine's Day advice from Gary W. Lewandowski Jr., a professor at Monmouth University in New Jersey. He, along with psychology professor Author Aron has ...

"studied how individuals use a relationship to accumulate knowledge and experiences, a process called 'self-expansion.' Research shows that the more self-expansion people experience from their partner, the more committed and satisfied they are in the relationship.

To measure this, Dr. Lewandowski developed a series of questions for couples: How much has being with your partner resulted in your learning new things? How much has knowing your partner made you a better person?

While the notion of self-expansion may sound inherently self-serving, it can lead to stronger, more sustainable relationships, Dr. Lewandowski says."

Try the Lewandowski "self-expansion" process by teaching your partner, for instance, a thing or two about Polish culture. Please let me know if this increases the romance in your life.

**POLISH OR NOT? Amanda Seyfried**, actress. Saw her in the movie *Jennifer's Body* and ironically she plays the character Anita "Needy" Lesnicki. Wikipedia says she was born in Allentown, Pennsylvania. I think she has the "look." Her mom is a Sander from home. Sander and Sanders often are changed Polish names. Is Amanda's look – Polish, or not?

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

BABA JAGA'S CORNER / Jaga Urban-Klahen

## Warsaw's Chopin Museum and a Golden Duck

One of the newest attractions of Warsaw is a multi-media Chopin museum which I visited last year. This is one of the most modern multi-media museums in Europe equipped in cutting edge audio-visual and interactive technologies. It is located in the Ostrogski Palace, a beautiful palace built near Vistula River. The palace was ruined twice, the first time in the beginning of the 19th century after it served as military hospital for Napoleon's soldiers, later it was rebuilt and served as a music institute. It was destroyed again during the World War II with 85% of Warsaw's infrastructure. Since its rebuilding it's housed Frederick Chopin's Society.

The cellars below the bastion of Ostrogski's Palace are supposedly home to a Golden Duck, a mythical creature from one of the most unique Warsaw's legends, presented below:

**IN 1815 WARSAW** was a capital of Warsaw Duchy under Russian czar. In this time, Lutek, a poor apprentice shoemaker, lived there. He was a skilled apprentice, but he was poorly paid by his master. He heard the story that the golden duck inhabits the basement of the Ostrogski's palace, which was ruined after Napoleon wars. The duck guarded big treasures. Since he lived not far from the palace he decided to try his luck.

The right time was coming since the golden duck was usually seen during St. John Night, June 23, the shortest night of the year. Lutek took a candle, went down to the dark, cold and musty basement that was partly flooded by Vistula River that was nearby. Then suddenly he saw the golden duck floating there! When the duck saw him, it changed into the beautiful princess with blond hair and crown. The princess asked Lutek why he came here. He responded that he had heard that she guards the treasures and maybe she could share some wealth with him since he was poor. The princess replied that she can make him rich but he needs to be tested first. Then she gave him 100 golden coins and told him that he has to spend it only on his own pleasures. He cannot share it with anybody else. If he could do it, she would give him much more money. Then she disappeared and left Lutek with the golden coins.

Lutek was happy like never before, he went home, hid his money under the pillow and went to bed since it was already very late. The next day in the morning he got up, checked that the money was still there and went to town. He ate a good breakfast and bought himself new cloths. Then he hired an expensive carriage. People in the town did not recognize him and were wondering who is this young and wealthy nobleman. Lutek went to see many places outside Warsaw that he was unable to see before, then came back to the town, ate lunch and went to the theatre. Since he never was in the theatre before he enjoyed the play and the music greatly. It was already getting dark when the theatre performance finished. Lutek counted his money and was surprised to see that he still had many golden coins to spend. He decided to take his carriage home since he was getting tired of all the excitement that day. He stopped the carriage near his home. Some young boys approached asking whether he



The Chopin Museum.

needs help to carry the packages, which were full of new cloths. Lutek walked along with the boys following when he saw an old man in a worn out military uniform sitting on the street corner. The man asked him for money to get something to eat since he did not have anything for two days. The veteran soldier said that he travelled all around Europe with Napoleon to fight for freedom of Poland and other countries, then he was injured badly and begging was the only way he could survive. Lutek did not think too long, took a golden coin and gave it to the needy old man.

Suddenly the wind came up and the princess showed up of the whirlwind. She said: "Lutek, you did not obey me. You will lose everything."

She disappeared and took everything that Lutek had. Lutek lost his money, packages full of clothings, only one coin was shining in the hand of the old man. The man said: "Lutek, do not despair, this money were not earned by you. You'd earn more in the future if you follow your heart and work hard."

This is what happened: Lutek did not lose his good spirits and optimism. He finished his apprentice and became a valued shoemaker. He worked hard and became known for good work. He got married, had many children and grandchildren and was always helping these who were less fortunate. Nobody saw the golden duck again.

The story of a golden duck and Lutek reflects a fate of Warsaw, the Polish capital. Warsaw's spirit survived in spite of the years of occupation, loss of independence after Poland's partitions and the complete destruction during World War II. After all of this, Warsaw was able to rebuild like phoenix from ashes. The hope, good work, sacrifice is more important than a good luck.

Visit Jaga Polish Culture Website at: [www.polishsite.us](http://www.polishsite.us).

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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 \$30.00.



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# Polka MAGAZINE

POLISH AMERICAN JOURNAL

DEDICATED TO THE PROMOTION AND CONTINUANCE OF POLISH AMERICAN MUSIC

POLKA INSIDER/ Steve Litwin

## If I Had a Wish ...

"If I had a wish, what would it be?" Well, "If you're like me you love that lively polka sound," but that sound is not as strong as it once was and the polka field isn't what it used to be. Changes in lifestyle, family structure, the loss of churches, all contribute to the state of polka music today.

Today's lifestyle is drastically different than what it was years ago. With only a few television channels and no such thing as cable, weekend entertainment often brought people to clubs and taverns where bands played. Whether it was a Dom Polski, a Polish Union, a Legion Post, or your local neighborhood bar, you could find a band or someone on an accordion playing polkas.

Many of the neighborhood bars are gone now. They were not only bars but restaurants, places within walking distance where people relaxed. The Dom Polski clubs, the veterans clubs are all suffering from lack of membership today. People don't participate like they once did.

There are too many other activities to occupy their time.

Families have changed as well. At one time, 80 percent of my cousins lived within three city blocks of each other. I could easily walk to my grandparents house and it seemed like I was there "all the time." Without my Dzia I wouldn't know a brake line from an anti-freeze line in a car. I learned to play "Czyja ta Dziewczyna" on the accordion while he played it on harmonica or sang it. Polish music was always playing at their house, either on the radio or the "Victrola," as my Babcia called it.

Today, most families are scattered everywhere. Grandparents don't live within walking distance and most often it is within flying distance now. My grandparents didn't golf, didn't ski, didn't go to Florida. They lived for their families, for their grandchildren, for those Sundays when Polish music and family gatherings made the day special.

My Saint Stanislaus Kostka is closed. Your "home" church may also be no more. Many of these places of worship were also places to socialize with family, neighbors and friends. The church halls offered dances, dinners, and music—often polka music. They say the only thing constant is change and the changes in the church have also contributed to what has happened to polka music.

We all want to see that "future day, about a hundred years away," where polka music is still part of life, a reflection of our heritage, more than just a memory. It may fade but let's keep it from dying. Support not only the music, but those who make the music, those who promote it, those who love it.

"Just keep on dancing strong, next time bring your friends along, 'cause we Polish people like our dances packed."

A special thanks to The Modernaires Polka band of Buffalo for the inspiration.

## 5th Annual Memorial "Gift Of Life" Dance

WYANDOTTE, Mich. —The 5th annual memorial gift of life dance in honor of Lisa Marie Biskup will take place Saturday, April 30, 2011 at the PRCU Hall, 1430 Oak St, in Wyandotte.

Music is provided by The Legendary Brass and Lenny Gomulka & his Chicago Push. Performing with The Legendary Brass will be Rich Bernier, Nick Nidoh, Mitch Biskup, Steve Dudas, Steve Dudas Jr, Cory Nidoh and Ed "Weasel" Wolinski, former musicians of the New Brass.

A Polish kitchen, door prizes, a silent auction will be available. Doors open at 6 p.m. with music from 6:30 p.m. to midnight.

All proceeds are for the Lisa Biskup Organ and Tissue Donor Foundation. Adults-\$19.00, Kids 13 & under admitted free. All donations, including admission price, are tax deductible.

For More Information contact: Ron or Sue Biskup, 810. 588.6266 or visit the internet website at: [www.lisabiskupmemorial.com](http://www.lisabiskupmemorial.com).

## Organization Supports Chimnetzer Concertina Clubs

(PMN)—The United States Concertina Association (USCA) was founded in 2010 by a group of dedicated chemnitzer concertina musicians who had a vision to provide fellow musicians with a virtual fraternal organization that is truly nationwide, and to provide a means to give helpful assistance to local concertina clubs and individual musicians as well.

While the primary musical instrument supported by the USCA is the chemnitzer concertina, the association also recognizes the importance of supporting all of the other related musical instruments from the bellows-driven, free-reed family.

The mission of the USCA is to support the members of local concertina clubs and independent concertina musicians; further the exchange of information and cooperation in and between local concertina clubs; develop a better appreciation of, and respect for, the concertina by the public; encourage concertina musicians to improve their musical skills and abilities; and improve the fellowship and support that is shared within the concertina musician community across the entire United States.

The USCA can be found on the internet at <http://USConcertina.com>; email at [usca@usconcertina.com](mailto:usca@usconcertina.com).

## 2011 is Final Year for Versatones

CHICAGO (PMN)—The year 2011 will mark the conclusion for Eddie Blazonczyk's Versatones.

After more than 47 years of entertaining audiences worldwide, and more than \$47,000 annually in tour bus repairs and maintenance, the Versatones are going to retire following the 2011 season to take time off, reacquire themselves with their families and pursue new interests.

The band is currently in the process of booking its 2011 schedule of festivals, concerts and dances. Anyone interested in having Eddie Blazonczyk's Versatones perform at an event or venue, should contact the band by phone at (815) 254-7624 or by e-mail at [www.versatones@aol.com](mailto:www.versatones@aol.com).

Eddie Blazonczyk, Jr., who assumed leadership of the band after the retirement of his father, issued an open letter, saying, "Thank you in advance for all the good times we've shared in the past, as well as the party to come in 2011! We look forward to hearing from you, working with you, and seeing you soon. This music will never stop playing in our hearts, just on stage as Eddie Blazonczyk's Versatones!"

Eddie Blazonczyk, Sr., started playing polkas in the early fifties with a four-piece combo known as "Happy Eddie and his Polka Jesters." They performed at many Polish weddings, anniversaries and other engagements in Chicagoland.

**"Thank you in advance for all the good times we've shared in the past, as well as the party to come in 2011!"**

— Eddie Blazonczyk, Jr.

In 1958, he went into the pop music field as a songwriter and recording artist for Mercury Records. Under the name of Eddie Bell and the Bel-Aires, he recorded a few hits. He toured the country and appeared on television on Dick Clark's *American Bandstand* and the *Jim Loundsbury Show*.

In 1962, Eddie Sr., returned to the polka field with a group known as the Versatones. They toured and played in all parts of the United States and Canada. He was inducted into the International Polka Association's Hall of Fame in 1970.

## Versatones Fan Club Dance

CHICAGO — Everyone is invited to come out to the Versatones Fan Club Dance being held on Sunday, March 6 at the spacious Glendora Banquets, 10225 S. Harlem Avenue, Chicago Ridge, Illinois. Enjoy the phenomenal sounds of Eddie Blazonczyk's Versatones sharing the stage with Danny Mateja's Downtown Sounds. This annual event commences at 12:30 p.m. There will be drawings for the mon-

etary raffle as well as a prize raffle for well over 25 elaborate gifts, gift baskets and much more. Meet and greet with all the Versatones including Eddie, Sr.

To be included and purchase a monetary or prize raffle ticket, or to purchase dance tickets, contact Trudy Patek, (708) 594-1302, Laura Bethke, (708) 598-8038 or Chet Kowalkowski, (815) 834-1114.

TOLEDO POLKA NEWS / Margaret Zotkiewicz

## Winter and Spring Dances

The Toledo Area Polka Society (TAPS) and the International Music Association welcome all polka fans to their winter and spring dances. All dances for both organizations take place at the Conn-Weissenberger American Legion Post on Alexis Road in Toledo.

Toledo Area Polka Society line-up is as follows:

- February 27. Duane Malinowski and the Polka Jamboree
- March 20. Old School with Frankie Liszka and David Walter
- April 10. A Touch of Brass
- May 21. To be announced

For more information, contact Mike Marek at (419) 345-5925

The International Music Association line-up is as follows:

- Feb 13. Randy Krajewski's Hallmark Band
- March 6. Dyna-Brass from Michigan
- April 3. Stas Golonka from Chicago
- June 19. Polka Family from Pennsylvania

Doors open at 1:00. A light lunch is served at 2:00 p.m. and music is from 3:00-7:00 p.m. Information is available by contacting Bobby Earl, Jr. at (419) 215-5499.

Additional information on Toledo area Polish and polka events can be found at [PolishToledo.Com](http://PolishToledo.Com) and also for TAPS on Facebook.

POLKA MEMORIES / Jimmy K and Steve Litwin

If you have a special Polka Memory photograph to publish in the Polish American Journal, email : [pajpolka@verizon.net](mailto:pajpolka@verizon.net). For more Polka Memories visit [www.polkamemories.com](http://www.polkamemories.com).



**THE WALT JAWORSKI ORCHESTRA** of Buffalo, N.Y. at Polkatown Park (the former Liberty Park) in Cheektowaga, N.Y. 1963. Jaworski is the accordionist. The trumpet player was a member of the Ray Budzilek Orchestra, which was also playing that day at the grounds. Photo courtesy of Jack Barnas.



**POLISH POLKA** legends Gene Wisniewski and Frank Wojnarowski share a microphone at Polkatown Park, 1963. Photo courtesy of Jack Barnas.



**TED DARLAK** on clarinet and Harry Burdick on violin, both of The Goral Boys Orchestra. Third Warder's Club, North Tonawanda, N.Y., circa 1970.

NOTES / Barb Pinkowski

## You Know Bruno

BUFFALO, N.Y. — I hope everyone is keeping warm and cozy during these long winter days. It won't be long before Spring arrives, and that will be most welcome.

Recently, I had a nice conversation with John Gnojek, a local musician who has played trumpet for over 45 years with many local bands including Big Steve, Goral Boys, Happy Richie, and Wanda & Stephanie, and is currently playing in Stephanie's band. John has been traveling with Stephanie and her band to many states and everywhere they play there are followers from this area and Canada who frequently ask the same question:

When are you going to have a dance in the Buffalo area? So, John decided to give it a try and is the promoter for Honky Polka Night on Sat. Feb. 5 at Potts Hall, 694 South Ogden St., featuring Stephanie & Her Honky Band. The dance will be from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. and admission is \$10. Also, adding to the evening's entertainment, Bruno Mikos, long-time musician from Youngstown, Ohio will be making a guest appearance with the band. Bruno excels on trumpet and vocals and it will be great to see him perform here. Things are looking good as fans from some other states and Canada have already told John they have made plans to attend. We hope there is a big turnout to support our local musicians who have done so well. For table reservations, call Dan Potts at 826-6575. Don't miss what is sure to be a night of fun and fabulous honky music!

**CONGRATULATIONS** ... and a happy retirement wishes go out to **Ted Szymanski** who will soon be retiring from Dunlop and the Army Reserves. He is the leader of the Cityside band. And, get well wishes to Ted who had arthroscopic knee surgery for a torn meniscus ... Also, best wishes for a very happy retirement go out to **Carolyn Machelski**, who retired from the Town of Hamburg Recreation Dept. Carolyn is the wife of musician Ken Machelski who plays with The Touch.

**GET WELL WISHES** ... go out to **Greg Chwojdak**, who underwent colon surgery, and to **Gerri Bar-**



**SZYMANSKI.** Leader of Cityside to retire from Dunlop and the Army Reserves.

**sukiewicz**, who had a knee replacement in December. We wish them a very speedy recovery and hope they will be all better very soon. Greg was a local polka DJ until he moved to Ohio, and also plays with the Concertina All Stars. Gerri is married to Ray who also plays with the Concertina All Stars ... We also hope **Norb Pacer** is feeling better after a hospital stay.



Valentine's Day is around the corner. Enjoy the extra kisses!

### UPCOMING

**Feb. 5.** Honky Polka Night with Stephanie at Potts Hall, 694 South Ogden St., Buffalo, N.Y. from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. \$10 admission. Call Dan at 826-6575.

**Feb. 12.** Valentine's and Sweetheart Dance at Potts Hall, 694 So. Ogden St., with music by the New Direction Band from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Admission is \$6.00 for the dance and a buffet will be available from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. for \$6.95. Call Dan at 826-6575.

**Feb. 17.** Polka Boosters Meeting at the Polish Falcons Hall, 445 Columbia Ave., Depew, N.Y. Doors open at 7:00 p.m. Music, refreshments and meeting. Everyone welcome to attend. For more information, call Chris at 892-7977

**Feb. 23.** Polka Variety Meeting at the Leonard Post, 2450 Walden Ave., Cheektowaga, N.Y. Meeting from 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Everyone welcome to attend. For more information, call Richard at 826-2281.

## Michigan Accordion Society to Present Artist Peter Soave



**PETER SOAVE**

STERLING HEIGHTS, Mich. — The Michigan Accordion Society will host a concert featuring internationally renowned accordionist and bandoneonist Peter Soave, Sun., March 6, 4:00 p.m. at the American Polish Century Club. Peter will be joined by his wife Mady Soave.

Recognized worldwide as the foremost master of the bandoneon and concert accordion, Soave has established himself as the leading soloist of his generation.

Light refreshments will be served. A cash bar is available. Advance tickets: \$20.00. Tickets purchased at the door: \$25.00. Children age 14 and under: \$10.00. To order tickets, call (313) 822-4722, 585-0956, (248) 689-3296 or at Zoppi Music Studio in Sterling Heights, (586) 978-1816.

### Cabin Fever Dance

GIRARD, Ohio — Three great Ohio bands and seven hours of music will help fight that winter cabin fever on Saturday March 26 at Kuzman's Lounge 1025 S. State Street in Girard. Ethnic Jazz, Honky Express and The Polkatones will be on stage with music from 1:00 to 8:00 p.m. Doors open at 11:30 a.m. Call (330) 545-8521 or (330) 545-8995.

POLKA PATER / Polonia Media Network

Wackie Jackie Z., host of "The Polka Party Express," announced that WMNF (88.5 FM Tampa, Florida) held a food drive for "Feeding America Tampa Bay," a non-profit organization. He said that food banks were stretched to their limits during the holiday season, and families and individuals relied on them more than ever. Listeners to his show, who he calls "Polkateers," were invited to come to the WMNF studios and drop off non-perishable food.

**The Steve Drzewicki Band** of Bay City, Michigan, and eight other polka bands will be performing on the "Caribbean Polka Cruise," visiting Aruba, Curacao and the Bahamas, November 12-19 2011. Persons on the band's mailing list, who request cruise information, will receive a free copy of the latest release by the band. For details visit // [www.bobspolkaacruisesandtrips.com](http://www.bobspolkaacruisesandtrips.com).

**Danny Mack**, Palm Harbor, Florida, earlier of the Chicago area, has a new 21-selection album on BriarHill Records entitled "Me, Myself and I." The singer, songwriter, musician and recording artist, formerly of Chicago's popular The Casinos polka band developed his own unique style and sound, which he calls his Sun Coast Syncopation. He is now billed as "Tampa Bay's Premier One Man Polka and Variety Combo." His new album was co-produced with Polka personalities and longtime friends Billy Belina, Todd Zaganiacz and The Music Zone of Massachusetts.

**Some clips of a polka documentary** that was released in 1984 called "In Heaven There Is No Beer," have been uploaded to YouTube and a playlist makes them easy to view by name or band. There are selections by Happy Louie, Henny & The Versa J's, Jimmy Sturr, Walt Solek, Eddie Blazonczyk & the Versatones, Johnny Prytko and others. It appears that many of these clips were recorded at Seven Springs, Pennsylvania, around 1983. To see them go to <[http://www.youtube.com/view\\_play\\_list?p=67ED7D2C5486C6BD](http://www.youtube.com/view_play_list?p=67ED7D2C5486C6BD)>.

The "Happy Tappy Polka Show" kicked off Polka Jammer's 54 hours of continuous Christmas programming on December 23, 2010. Reportedly, the show was broadcast from the North Pole at Santa's Tavern with all those crazy little elves. The announcement said it would feature "Great Christmas polkas, giveaways and, of course, cocktails," although it was not made clear how the drinks would be made available to listeners via the internet. On the other hand, if you truly believe in Santa, internet cocktails may also have been real. The Polka Jammer Network can be found at <<http://polkajammernetwork.org>>.

**Ever wonder why** the direction of dance is counterclockwise, instead of clockwise? Well, a blogger at the internet's polka newsgroup recently gave ten possible reasons, of which this was the first. Many military men were invited to court in the middle ages and had to be taught such things as dancing. To keep dance training simple trainers needed a simple rule. The king went to the center of the room and lesser mortals had increasing circles extending to the outside nearest the onlookers, which was for commoners or private soldiers. Men were used to using their right arm to hold a bow and shake hands, and usually their first punch in a fight was with the right, stronger arm. If a strange man reached out to grab his lady or even touch her, he could fend off the "pervert" with his right arm.

**Polka fans** are always looking for lyrics, but they are not easy to find. Even searching Google, which seems to lead to everything, rarely helps. Both lyrics and sheet music are rare commodities these days. This might suggest a nice business for a polka entrepreneur to consider.

**Paul Wendinger**, a well known musician famous for German-style polka, passed away on November 20, 2010, at his home in St. George, Minnesota. He fought a tough four-year battle with cancer, and fought it to the very last minute.

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## Creative Partners Names Heuser President

YOUNGSTOWN, N.Y. — **Carol Heuser, P.T.**, has been named president of Creative Partners in Therapy, which assists children with Hippotherapy using equine (horse) movement to treat children with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, and Cerebral Vascular Accidents.

Heuser, nee Widlicka, has her clinic and offices at the Mourning Dove Farm in Youngstown.

She has been a physical therapist for ten years, working children as an inpatient therapist, as well as home care through the Early Intervention Program.

The program Heuser oversees treats children with autism, cerebral palsy, cerebral vascular accidents, developmental delay, functional spine curvature, sensory processing disorders, brain injury, and Trisomy 21 (Down syndrome).

A key principle of hippotherapy



is that the horse's movement promotes active responses in the child patient.

## FORUM

# View from the North: Surveying Directions of Development for Canadian Polonia

by Mark Wegierski

Canadian Polonia seems to have a perennial misapprehension of what constitutes "objective" cultural influence and power in today's Canada. Indeed, some representatives of Canadian Polonia have a rather curious definition of what makes up "culture" and "cultural activities." Considering that persons of Polish descent in Canada are said to number close to a million, it appears the community has a comparatively minor influence in Canadian society.

The Polish community in Canada seems to have a larger number of prominent artists (such as sculptors, painters, and so forth), than writers. Sculpture and painting often seem to offer far less scope for making a strong social impact, than writing. Some types of writing (such as opinion journalism) have almost immediate social and political effects. There are currently no opinion-columnists on staff in any of the major Toronto newspapers (*Globe and Mail*, *National Post*, *Toronto Star*, or *Toronto Sun*), who could be identified as belonging to the Polish-Canadian community, nor do any such opinion-columnists in any major newspaper in the country come to mind. There are also very few authors of books by recognized publishers.

**IT COULD BE ARGUED** that "objective" cultural influence and power does not mainly emphasize such phenomena as art exhibits, dramatic shows, symphony concerts, and poetry recitals. Rather, it means — at its most expansive definition — the extensive participation of community-minded activists in well-funded, well-supported structures across the various institutions of Canadian society. These can include the mass-media, the state bureaucracies, the education system (especially at the university level), and so forth. It also means the extensive funneling of government and major corporate philanthropic support to various facets of the community's activities. What can one say when even the post of the President of the Canadian Polish Congress is a volunteer position.

One can see over the decades the perennial inability to create a serious Polish-Canadian political and cultural "lobby" — although Polonia organizations and individuals have been talking about such a goal for many years. There is a chronic lack of funding, either from within the community, or from various levels of government — despite the fact that some reasonable expectations for the latter have been created as a result of the officially-proclaimed governmental multiculturalism

policies. There is the inability to convince wealthier members of the community to substantially support community initiatives, especially in regard what could be called "objectively culturally-empowering" initiatives — such as the proposed Polish-Canadian Defence Fund. In such a heavily media-saturated society, the ongoing monitoring of various Canadian media and launching a coordinated response when necessary cannot be entrusted solely to volunteer efforts.

There are, currently no M.P.s who could be identified as emphatically belonging to the Polish-Canadian community, in the Canadian Federal Parliament. The

Despite often great, outstanding accomplishments by individuals of Polish descent in Canada, the community is usually not strengthened.

coming to power of a new government in Ottawa in 2006 has somewhat ironically resulted in substantial movement on some difficult issues (such as the lifting of visa requirements for Polish citi-

zens visiting Canada, and a pension plans agreement between Canada and Poland) that had been log-jammed for years under previous administrations. Also, there has occurred the restoration of recognition of veteran status for Polish armed forces veterans who had served with the Allies during World War II — a status that had been withdrawn in 1995 by the Chretien government. The Polish armed forces veterans who came to Canada in the aftermath of World War II, had constituted one of the largest Polish immigrant waves to Canada.

The recent developments in Canadian politics could suggest that it would be helpful if people paid less attention to old, mostly unrequited political affections, but instead created the conditions for a situation where all the major parties are going to be seriously courting the community.

Polish immigrants and their offspring often do quite well materially in Canada — mostly through dint of sheer hard work and abstemious living. However, they usually have an emphasis on individual or family advancement, with a downplaying of community efforts. Because of the legacy of Communism, many Poles from the later immigrant waves, associate community work with a distasteful "social activism" — into which the Communist regime in Poland had apparently always been trying to force people. Despite often great, outstanding accomplishments by individuals of Polish descent in Canada, the community is usually not strengthened.

Could one hope that there could be at this late date a synergy of concerned persons of Polish descent in Canada that would be able to make some significant cultural and political impact?

## SPEAK UP / Letters to the Editor

# Looking for a Translator

Dear Editor:

I'm journalist of Polish nationality from Italian press agency Ansa. I collaborated with the Italian historian Marco Patricelli, author of "The Volunteer" (Laterza). The book is about Witold Pilecki, the Auschwitz volunteer who uncovered Holocaust secrets. It was published last January. The book won the "Acqui Storia" award, and the author received the "Bene Merito" honor from Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. That award is given for supporting the status of Poland in the world. The book had good reviews in the most important Italian newspaper, on State television Rai 1, Radio Vatican, and on Polish TVP. Patricelli has been interviewed on Polish Radio, in Poland's daily "Rzeczpospolita," and in the IPN Bulletin.

The book will be published in 2011 from Wydawnictwo Literackie in Poland and from Lattes-Hachette in France. It lacks translation in English, so I'm looking for support from the Polish American media (or Polish émigré associations) to find an editor in the United States.

**Adam Hanzelewicz**

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**DYNGUS DAY IS EASTER MONDAY.** Please take time to correct the people who call any party a "Dyngus" party. Dyngus Day is the Monday after Easter Sunday. No other day of the year is Dyngus Day. Just because a party or gathering has a polka band at it does not make it a Dyngus Day party.

I saw this in your paper on several occasions, including on group that called a dance during Lent as a "St. Joseph, St. Patrick, Dyngus Day Party." That makes promoters, the PAJ, and all involved, look like they don't know their Polish history.

**Mitchell Leszynski**  
Orlando

## INTERNATIONAL

**PETRAEUS PRAISES POLISH MILITARY.** (Warsaw Business Journal) General David Petraeus, commander of U.S. and NATO forces in Afghanistan, has issued an official statement praising Poland's military contingent in the country. His remarks come after U.S. Army officers were quoted in Time magazine criticizing the competence and capabilities of Polish forces serving in Afghanistan.

"Polish forces are serving their nation, the coalition and Afghanistan in truly admirable fashion," General Petraeus said in the statement. "All of Poland's citizens should be very proud of the enormous contributions their men and women in uniform are making in Afghanistan," he added.

The negative comments were published in Time in December, and caused much resentment in Poland.

An anonymous U.S. officer was quoted as saying, "It was as if the [Poles] were waiting for us to come back and release them from their base. [The Poles are] just kind of hanging around." Another U.S. officer claimed that the situation in the Polish-guarded district seems to have deteriorated.

Another source stated that the situation in the district overseen by Polish forces had "regressed," and that coalition forces were "basi-

cally starting from scratch."

Polish Defense Minister Bogdan Klich called the article "offensive."

**25TH ANNIVERSARY OF FIRST POLISH HEART TRANSPLANT** was marked at a special celebration gala. That successful surgery was led by human heart transplantation pioneer Professor Zbigniew Religa at the Silesian Center for Heart Diseases and is memorialized by a prize-winning National Geographic photo, depicting a doctor sleeping on the floor.

Religa is also the first surgeon to graft an artificial valve created from matter taken from human corpses, and developed an original Polish system for mechanical assistance to the human heart (POL-CAS).

An activist in politics as well, he was a member of Parliament, a Senator, the Minister of Health and was resolute in this dedication to the transformation of the Polish health care system into a modern and efficient one, available to all.

Religa passed away at his home in Warsaw on March 8, 2009 at the age of 71.

Recently heart surgeons from the Center transplanted a heart into a six-month old boy. The boy and his parents attended the anniversary gala.

**CADBURY CLOSURE BITTER-SWEET.** The Cadbury factory in Somerdale, England has produced its last chocolate bar. All production has been shifted to the company's Skarbimierz plant in southwestern Poland.

A total of 300 people will gain employment at the Polish facility, while 400 workers at the UK plant will lose their jobs once machinery at Somerdale has been dismantled. Most of the chocolate made in Poland will be transported 1,200 miles to Britain, a fact which has invoked the ire of environmentalists who complain about unnecessary "food miles."

Food giant Kraft assumed control of Cadbury last year after a bitter, but ultimately successful hostile takeover. The U.S. corporation initially said that it would reverse the plan to close the plant and shift production from Somerdale to Skarbimierz, but backtracked after it won control, saying Cadbury's plan was too advanced to reverse.

Explaining Kraft's decision, CEO Irene Rosenfeld said Cadbury had already invested in improving its Polish factories, partly in readiness for the transfer.

The Somerdale factory had been in operation since 1919, when it began making Fry's Chocolate Creams.

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call **Erika Danner** at  
**(401) 723-3549**

## Gen. Zdzislaw Starostecki, Polish War Hero, Designed Anti-ballistic Missile Warhead

SARASOTA, Fla. — Gen. Zdzislaw Starostecki died at age 91 at his home in Sarasota, Florida, moments before beginning of the New Year 2011. Considered a Polish hero, Starostecki designed an anti-ballistic missile warhead used in the Patriot system.

Born in Lodz, Poland in 1919, he fought the Germans in the September Campaign in 1939, was captured by Soviet secret police, charged with spying for the United States and sent to a Soviet gulag in Siberia. He joined the Polish Army after the 1941 Polish-Soviet agreement. He fought Germans at the battle of Monte Casino and was seriously wounded in Bologna in 1945. At war's end, Starostecki settled in London and in 1952, emigrated to the United States.

In 1960, he earned an engineer-

ing degree in from Stevens Institute of Technology and then worked at The Department of Defense Research and Development Center in New Jersey, constructing missiles capable of carrying nuclear warheads. During the 1980s he led a forty-person group tasked with designing the radar and warheads missiles combating air targets at high altitudes. The system (Patriot Missile System) was used initially during Operation Desert Storm. Starostecki was awarded the Virtuti Militari, the Cross of Valor, the Order of Merit of the Republic of Poland, the National Military Ac-



tion Cross and was appointed to the rank of General in 2009 by then Polish President Lech Kaczynski.

"I was at the death of my father, who died peacefully in the arms of his wife, 64-year-old Irene," said the general's son Andrew. "He was a true Polish patriot, loyal to the end."

As per Starostecki's will, his remains were cremated. His ashes were placed in two urns; one rests in the Polish American Czestochowa National Cemetery in Pennsylvania and the other will go to Poland and will rest in the family cemetery in either Lodz or Warsaw.

## Edward Czyzyk, Pulaski Days Co-Founder

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — While many in Grand Rapids will remember Edward Czyzyk as co-founder of the annual Pulaski Days Celebration; his son, Gerald, remembers him as a loving father who taught his family to be proud of their Polish heritage.

"He wanted all of us kids to be proud of where we came from, but not to the exclusion of others," said Gerald Czyzyk, of his father, Edward Charles Czyzyk, 90, who died Dec. 18, 2010, in Grand Rapids from heart failure.

A former U.S. Marine who saw action in the Pacific theater during World War II, Czyzyk's legacy can be seen on the streets of Grand Rapids every October during Pulaski

Days, which he helped found with friend Walter Ulanich in 1973.

Pulaski Days is the city's largest ethnic celebration. It's named after a Polish American war hero killed in the American Revolution.

Czyzyk and Ulanich started it as a one-day celebration of Polish heritage at Diamond Street/St. Isidore's Aid Society. The event has grown to include 15 Polish clubs that open their doors to the public over a three-day weekend.

"He was very proud of his heritage and thought people should know more about the Polish people," said Czyzyk's wife, Cecilia, 91. "We were surprised how it grew after the first few years. He was happy with the way things turned out."

Gerald Czyzyk described his father as "a quiet, behind-the-scenes guy," he said. "He might come up with an idea that takes off, then he could gather the support for it."

Czyzyk was a steady, traditional type of father, he said, who was always there for his children and liked to tell stories about the ethnic make-up of neighborhoods on the city's west side, where the elder Czyzyk was born in 1920.

He met Cecilia at a youth club-sponsored polka dance in 1940. After coming back from the war, the two married in September 1945.

Czyzyk was a retired U.S. Postmaster and at one time hosted a radio program.

### IN MEMORIAM / Jennifer Moskal Trowbridge

**THEODORE S. GUTOWICZ**, 90, was a longtime Common Pleas Court judge, who made headlines as the first Polish American named to a cabinet post in Harrisburg, Pa. Judge Gutowicz trained in the law and quickly mastered local politics and held various state jobs before serving as state insurance commissioner in 1962 and 1963. He was named to the Common Pleas Court bench in 1965. He served as an aviation cadet in the U.S. Navy Reserve during World War II.

**PETER M. KUTZA**, 81, was an Oakbrook, Ill. resident and former vice president and financial advisor at Merrill Lynch. Kutza attended Bradley University, and taught science and mathematics at Morton East High School prior to his 30-year career at Merrill Lynch. He was active in the Polish National Alliance and a veteran of the U.S. Army.

**MARCELLUS "MARC" F. LIPINSKI**, 86, received a philosophy degree from the University of Chicago and received a law degree from St. Mary's University in San Antonio, Texas. Lipinski was born in White City, Illinois, but spent most of his life in Parma, Ohio. He was an usher for many years at St. Anthony of Padua parish where he also coached baseball and wrestling. He was a World War II veteran, 95th Infantry Division.

**JOHN WILLIAM MACKIEWICZ**, 77, attended St. Dionysius Catholic School and J. Serling Morton East High School in Cicero. He joined D&S Electric Supply Co. in La Crosse, Wisconsin and rose to become President and GM before retiring in 1996. He also joined the Air Force in 1951 and was awarded three Battle Stars during the Korean War. He and his wife, Ruth, were married for 54 years.

**FRANK J. NIEMIEC**, 89, was retired from ACME Steel Co. of Riverdale, after 42 years of service. Niemiec was a member of the St. John the Baptist Church Holy Name Society, Golden Agers Society, PLAV Post 39, and PNA Lodge 2003. He was also a veteran of the U.S. Army Air Corp.

**ZYGFRYD L. OBORSKI**, of Chicago, was the past owner of Chicago Tool & Die. Oborski was a deacon at St. Stanislas B & M Church, and a past president of St. Stanislas B&M Church Holy Name Society. He also was active in the Lafayette Council #361 K of C, and Christian Outreach, among other community organizations.

**JOSEPHINE PASTERNAK**, 89, of Lester, was a retired chemist who earned a degree from Temple University when she was 60, graduating with a bachelor's degree in education and earning Temple's W.E.B. DuBois Award for Academic Excellence. In the 1950s and 1960s, Pasternak worked in pharmaceutical research at Smith, Kline & French Laboratories. She was a graduate of the former Eddystone High School. When World War II broke out, she worked at Westinghouse Electric Co., helping to build ship engines.

**IRENE (KONCZAK) PENTZ**, 76, of Johnstown, Pa. was the choral director of KMP Singing Society, Choir 117 of the Polish Singers Alliance of America. For well over 26 years, Pentz was also the choir director of St. Casimir Church. She was devoted to the promotion of Polish music and Polish culture and was recognized by many national Polish organizations for her lifelong service.

**ESTELLE TURKIELA**, nee Drag, 92, passed away suddenly on December 24, after attending the family *wigilia*.

Born in Hamtramck, Mich. on October 15, 1918, Turkiela was Hamtramck High School's most enthusiastic alumna. She attended each and every class reunion, including her 65th reunion. Turkiela was a gourmet Polish American cook who used that talent to surprise dinner guests, even when she was not the hostess. Her treasured recipes were only a small portion of her legacy. She was the epitome of fashion elegance and a fun-loving and "young-at-heart" woman. Her funeral Mass was held in Detroit at Our Lady Queen of Heaven. She is survived by her husband, Chester, and children Patricia Bosch and Robert Cole, along with six grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. (GBC).

**CHESTER TUSZYNSKI**, 92, was an inventory aeronautical engineer and retired electrician. Born in Inowroclaw, Poland. Tuszynski was in the Polish Underground at the start of World War II and was interrogated by the Nazis and sent to Siberia. When released, he joined the Royal Air Force, and was awarded several medals, including one for wounded service. He came to the United States and worked as an electrician in Chicago for more than 50 years. He also wrote several books and designed several inventions over the course of his career.

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## Ed Chlapowski, Informed World of Pearl Harbor Attack

BILLINGS, Mont. (AP) — Ed Chlapowski, the man who notified the world that Pearl Harbor was being bombed by the Japanese, has died at 88.

The former Navy radio man died January 16 at his home in Billings a few weeks after being diagnosed with cancer, his family said.

Chlapowski was a member of the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association and was frequently asked to speak about his experiences. In a 2007 interview, he told a reporter that it was his job to report the deaths of Pearl Harbor survivors to the association and see that plaques were presented to their families.

At a 2009 commemoration of the attack on Pearl Harbor, Chlapowski told the Downtown Billings Rotary Club his story about the Dec. 7, 1941, attack that propelled the United States into World War II.

He said he had worked an early watch at the submarine base, had eaten breakfast and had just sat down on his bunk in the barracks when he looked out the window and saw a hangar roof blown away. Then he saw the Japanese planes.

"The hair on the back of my neck stood up, just as it still does today when I think about it," Chlapowski said at the time.

Chlapowski said he ran to the radio room, where he knew the crew was short on Sundays. A supervisor handed him a message, and in Morse code, he sent out word that Pearl Harbor was under attack.

He said he saw the smoke begin to rise from the battleship Arizona after she took her first hit. Then, at 8:06 a.m., a bomb struck the ship's starboard side, about where Chlapowski's duty station was.

The bomb exploded the Arizona's ammunition magazine.

"The first thing I saw afterward was the ship was gone where the No. 1 and 2 turrets had been," he recalled.

Chlapowski was born in Webster, Mass., on June 5, 1922, and attended school through eighth grade. He spent five years in the Navy. He had wanted to be a pilot and after his discharge he combined his love for flying with his skill as a radio man and became an air traffic controller. He worked for the Federal Aviation Administration for 34 years, retiring in 1975.

Chlapowski married Margaret Betty Thomson in 1943. They moved to Montana in 1946 and spent most of the past 65 years in Billings.

## Polish Christmas in Kabul

KABUL, Afghanistan (militaryweb.com) — "Wesolych Swiat" means Merry Christmas in Polish. On Christmas Eve at Camp Eggers, Polish soldiers and their U.S. co-workers celebrated the holiday with traditional Polish foods, Christmas trees and presents, and gifts from various Polish American groups in the states.

The soldiers make up the Personnel Security Detachment for Deputy Commander International Security Cooperation and all of them volunteered to deploy to Afghanistan.

"I volunteered out of a sense of duty, it just felt like what I should do," said Warrant Officer Lukasz Sobczak.

Due to a complicated postal system at home, receiving mail while deployed is somewhat difficult. U.S. military co-workers reached out to various Polish American groups in the States and the groups responded with individually-addressed Christmas packages for the entire detachment.

"I was excited when the boxes began to arrive, I had never seen so many boxes all in one place," said Captain Andrez Kucharski assistant to the general.

"I wasn't expecting this; it's really nice to do something that is our tradition even though we're here in Kabul," said Sobczak.

Brig. Gen. Jozef Nasiadka, Deputy Commanding General, International Security Cooperation expressed his gratitude for the kindness of their co-workers and his appreciation for the hard work and accomplishments of the unit.

— Petty Officer 1st Class Denise Alford NTM-A

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BOOKS IN BRIEF / Florence Waszkelewicz Clowes

BOOK REVIEW / John Grondelski

## Europe Between Hitler and Stalin The Legendary Battle of Britain Fighter Squadron

### BLOODLANDS, EUROPE BETWEEN HITLER AND STALIN

by Timothy Snyder  
Basic Books, 2010  
abstract, bibliography, notes,  
index, maps, 544 pp. \$29.95.

This book concentrates on the Eastern Europe killing fields which includes Poland, Ukraine, Belarus, the Baltic States and western Russia, in which over 14 million people were victims of the Soviet and Nazi regimes. No U.S. troops fought in these lands; they liberated prisoners of concentration camps, but never reached the death factories, killing fields and starvation sites in which Snyder calls the Bloodlands, an area where most of Europe's Jews lived. The book is a history of political mass murder, victims of a Soviet and Nazi killing policy, not of the war, itself.

Hitler and Stalin began their mass murders long before the Second World War, from the *Kristallnacht* in Austria and Germany to the starvation and slaughter in the Ukraine. Both leaders had no qualms in ordering thousands of people deported, slain, gassed or starved.

The Germans and Soviets cooperated in the destruction of Poland and its educated classes when they divided the country. The Germans shot and gassed 5.4 million Jews along with non-Jews, and carried out the mass starvation of Soviet prisoners of war. Hitler allowed Stalin's Terror on seven hundred thousand in Leningrad while beginning his own campaign of killings of Polish citizens.

Most of the deaths during World War Two were caused by ethnic cleansing, gassing, starvation, and deportation. There were concentration camps in which people were executed or starved and killing sites where death came from gas or bullets.

While not a subject most people would be drawn to, this book provides a disturbing, documented history of the horrors of the twentieth century. It provides information on the Eastern European Bloodlands that have never before been documented in this manner. Historians will appreciate the work of Snyder and the general public will try to comprehend the heinous actions of others.

### KILLER HEAT

by Brenda Novak  
Mira Books, 2010, 443 pp, \$7.95.

In this, Novak's 12th mystery, Francesca Moretti, private investigator, discovers a body in a salvage yard and is attacked by the owner. When she returns with the police, there is no body, only a mannequin. Francesca is convinced she saw a

body and is determined to investigate further.

When the police accompany her to the salvage yard, she discovers her old boyfriend, who betrayed her when he had a sexual relation with her best friend ten years ago, has been assigned to locate a missing person and help in the identity of ten women who had been buried in a mass grave. The police want to keep the mass murders quiet until they determine if they have a serial killer on their hands. Francesca is forced to work with Jonah Young, and they find themselves in a love/hate relationship.

Butch Vaughn, the salvage yard owner, and his family have secrets to hide. His wife knows of his sexual dalliances with women he meets on the internet; his brother is considered weird by the family and his parents do not want to hear of any wrongdoing. When a body is discovered propped up outside a downtown shop, she is convinced it is the body she saw at the salvage yard. Jonah and Francesca work together to identify the body and the serial killer.

Novak is able to create tension and suspense in miniscule incidents and ends up with a great read.

### OUT OF THE CROSS

by Rev. Charles Jan Di Mascola  
Eternal Lamp Press, 2009, 137 pp,  
\$10.00.

This collection of short biographies of Polish martyrs is prefaced by a timeline of events in Poland, beginning in 1791. These Polish martyrs of World War II lived and suffered excruciating deaths. In Poland, where Catholicism and culture are intertwined, and Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union attacked the Church relentlessly, it is not surprising that so many would be willing to give up their lives for their faith.

This collection provides a short biography of the 108 religious men and women who had the courage to carry the cross and sacrifice their lives for their faith in God.

### MEMORIES OF MAMUSIA

Father's Mother's Dessert Book  
by Parish Council of Our Lady of  
Czestochowa Church  
Fundcraft Publishing, 2010, 104  
pp, \$10.00.

An interesting collection of old and new recipes of a mother who loved to cook for the family and the parish. Her son, Rev. Father Di Mascola generously shared the recipes with the Parish Council who created the book. Recipes include Babka, Nalesniki, Paczki as well as traditional cakes, jams and candy and even Death by Chocolate Truffle.

Smaczne!

### 303 SQUADRON: THE LEGENDARY BATTLE OF BRITAIN FIGHTER SQUADRON

By Arkady Fiedler, translated by Jarek Garliński  
Aquila Polonica. 2010, Hardcover/  
Softcover, \$27.95/\$21.95, pp. 331.  
To Order: info@aquilapolonica.com, tel: (310) 470-0770;  
aquilapolonicapublishing.com/

In 1943, the Polish Underground received an Allied parachute drop. In addition to anticipated supplies came a canister with a manuscript, a manuscript subsequently duplicated and circulated throughout Occupied Poland. After the war, the manuscript was printed and became part of the prescribed reading list in Polish schools. That manuscript was *Dywizjon 303*.

The work had previously appeared in 1942 in English as *Squadron 303*. Written by a talented Polish travel writer then serving in the Polish Armed Forces in the UK, the book detailed the substantial and heroic contributions a band of Polish fighter pilots made towards winning the Battle of Britain. The story of the Royal Air Force's (RAF) defense of England, which stopped a German invasion of Britain, is legendary. What is not as well known is that, during the height of the Battle of Britain in September 1940, Poles downed one out of every eight German aircraft shot down using RAF planes. Of the 967 German planes brought down that month, the Poles bagged 121.

Unfortunately, like the Polish contribution to breaking the Enigma Code, the Polish legacy in the Battle of Britain has also been largely forgotten in the West. Although the Polish edition has been part of the reading canon in Polish schools, English editions have not appeared since the 1940s. (We Poles have an amazing propensity to talk to ourselves while adopting a false humility when it comes to telling the outside world).

Kudos, then to Aquila Polonica, a new California-based publishing house whose mission is to tell Poland's story in World War II. Aquila Polonica has truly found a lacuna to fill; the major Allies all have selective memories about the Second World War, and their selectivity, to a greater or lesser extent, tends in practice to Poland's detriment. Poland needs to be heard in its own voice, both in the interest of truth as well as in its own interest. Aquila Polonica is providing that voice, in English: it's high time we stopped writing our memoirs to ourselves in Polish.

Fiedler's book is exactly that — a memoir, written amidst the heat of battle. Approaching General Sikorski at the height of the Battle of Britain, he offered to memorialize the story of the valiant Polish fly boys who were defending London in the middle of the Blitz. Fiedler produced a lively epic of

the experiences of 303 Squadron in September 1940 — the month that would make or break Hitler's plans to march through London, just as he had already marched through Vienna, Prague, Warsaw, Oslo, Copenhagen, Brussels, and Paris.

Fiedler's writing gives readers a



thorough feel for the moment and the action. Here's how he describes the gravity of England's lot at that particular turning point: "... the summer of 1940 was horrific. The whole free world rubbed frightened eyes to dissolve a nightmare, but awoke to a reality even more dire. The world was shaken with hitherto unknown convulsions, the hearts of billions of people trembled from the worst premonitions, from anxiety, despair, doubt. Everyone ... the cockney on the Thames, the native from Brazil, the miner in Pennsylvania, the rancher in Australia, and the planter in Java, everyone watched as if transfixed. All hope was lost. They lived in anticipation of eventual defeat — the defeat not only of Great Britain, the last free bastion of Western Europe, but of the whole civilized [sic] world" (p. 1).

In the midst of despair, the RAF created a squadron of Polish fliers who, having faced the Germans in their own country and later witnessed the fall of France, were ready to stand with their British ally against the Bosch. Many in Britain entertained doubts about them in August 1940. Had they not been defeated at home? Were not some of their flying techniques, to put it

charitably, "unconventional" (to put it uncharitably, "crazy"?) Whatever doubts existed at the end of August, however, were thoroughly dissipated by the end of September. The Poles had proportionately downed the most German planes with the least losses of men and equipment.

Readers feel they're in those planes. Consider this excerpt of one Polish flyer, in hot pursuit of a German returning to France, whose plane was crippled by enemy fire. Having changed course back to England, he is aware that his plane had no engine power. His survival depended on whether the aircraft would stay airborne long enough to glide back. "The altimeter was merciless: 5,500 feet, 4,500 feet, 4,200 ... Still four miles to go, three miles ... The English coast was becoming clearer: 4,000 feet, 3,000 ... A thrilling race between two rivals: distance and height. Which would win? The sea was coming ever closer, now Ferić could see individual waves — but he could also see little houses on land. A few minutes more, and the wings seemed to be winning the race. Yes, they were. The wings were winning, those good, honest, and faithful wings" (p. 39). Equally poetic action is found in "The Enemy's Dance of Death" (which describes a Polish pilot's satisfaction with shooting down a German bomber, mixed with respect for a fellow airman's futile gyrations to keep his mortally wounded plane aloft).

The original text of the book is supplemented with a chapter on how Polish forces came to be in England, individual biographies of the distinguished airmen of 303 Squadron, and the Squadron's own history (another untold story — the Kościuszko Squadron originated with American airmen who volunteered to fight for Poland during the Polish-Soviet War of 1920, three of whom lie in the famous Eagle's Cemetery in Łwów/L'viv). Over 200 black and white photos fill its pages.

A "History Book Club" choice, the book is for history buffs, those who like a well-written action book, and those proud of Polish accomplishments. As Churchill said, "never was so much owed by so many to so few."

### New Enigma Created

WARSAW — A group of Polish cryptographers and mathematicians have constructed a device for unbreakable encryption of data sent between computers or phones.

The group is headed by Prof. Jerzy Gawinecki, director of the Institute of Mathematics and Cryptology Military University of Technology. Work on the new device, the "National Encryptor," was carried out in secrecy in the Military University of Technology basement.

For now, it will be used only by commercial institutions like banks or companies possessing sensitive data. If everything goes according to plan, in future the encryptor will be able to protect the biggest and most important state secrets.

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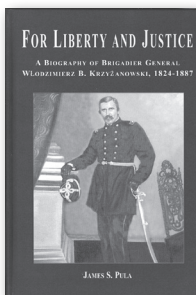
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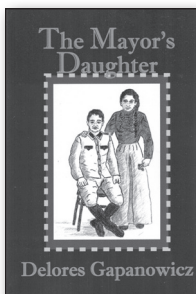
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by James Pula. 335 pp. plus introduction. 112 illustrations, hc. 1978, 2010  
Published by the Ethnic Heritage Studies Center at Utica College

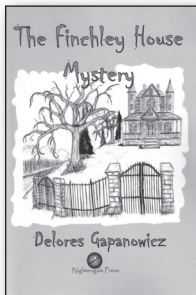
A lavishly illustrated biography of a major Polish American figure of the 19th century, For Liberty and Justice tells the story of a Polish revolutionary exiled to America where he rises from private to general during the Civil War. Following the war he becomes a federal agent, helps Helena Modjeska begin her American career as a Shakespearean actress.



**THE MAYOR'S DAUGHTER**  
by Delores Gapanowicz  
**\$12.95**

Edition illustrated  
Nightingale Press, 2007. 176 pp., pb.

Readers will discover what life was like in rural Eastern Europe before World War I, a way of life that has changed forever. This book retrieves one family's heritage and allows us all to connect with our own. The stories were told to the author by her parents before they passed away. These tales show that young people on farms didn't spend all their time milking cows and picking potatoes.



**THE FINCHLEY HOUSE MYSTERY**  
by Delores Gapanowicz  
**\$13.95**

Nightingale Press, 2005  
For Ages 9-12. 132 pp. pb.

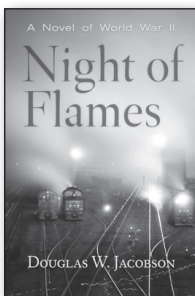
Is the Finchley House haunted or not? Are those ghosts flitting from room to room after dark? Or is someone secretly living in the old house and not wanting to reveal themselves? Could it be the rumors floating around Green Hills are actually true? *Delores Gapanowicz is a published author of children's books.*



**THE FORGOTTEN FEW**  
**\$14.95**

by Adam Zamoyski. hc. 239 pp.  
Fleeing to Britain after the Germans captured their homeland, the pilots of the Polish Air Force played an important role in the Battle of Britain and the air war in the European theater. They shot down 745 enemy aircraft, with another 175 unconfirmed, and 190 flying bombs targeted at London. A story of the life and times of these airmen stationed in Britain.

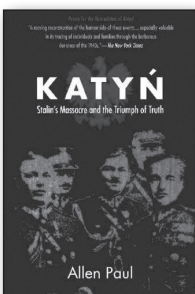
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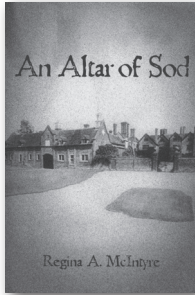
In 1939 the Germans invade Poland, setting off a rising storm of violence and destruction. For Anna and Jan Kopernik the loss is unimaginable. She is an assistant professor at a university in Krakow; he, an officer in the Polish cavalry. Separated by war, they must find their own way in a world where everything they ever knew is gone.



**KATYŃ: STALIN'S MASSACRE AND THE TRIUMPH OF TRUTH**  
by Allen Paul  
**\$24.95**

Northern Illinois University Press  
2010. 430 pp. pb. 9"x6.5"

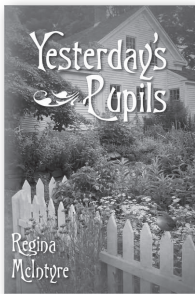
Marking the 70th anniversary of the Katyn Forest massacre, this edition exposes the crime and its cover-up. Twenty years ago, Allen Paul wrote the first post-communist account of one of the greatest but least-known tragedies of the 20th century: Stalin's annihilation of Poland's officer corps and massive deportation of so-called "bourgeoisie elements" to Siberia. Today, these brutal events are symbolized by one word, Katyn.



**AN ALTAR OF SOD**  
By Regina A. McIntyre  
**\$19.95**

Hats Off Books, 2001, 2010, 304 pp., pb

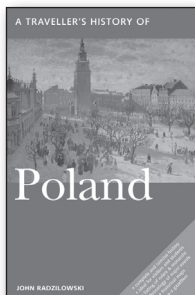
In 19th century Partitioned Poland, the village of Miska sits almost unchanged on the banks of the Vistula. This is the story of three families who are unforgettably joined by love, pain, struggle and hope. Rich in tradition, the story builds to a far-reaching conclusion.



**YESTERDAY'S PUPILS**  
By Regina A. McIntyre  
**\$17.95**

Create Space Books, 2010, 208 pp., pb

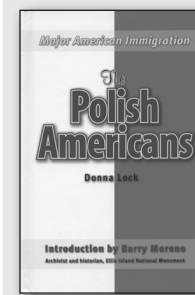
Sequel to "An Altar of Sod." At the turn of the 20th Century, three families emigrate from the same village in Poland. The Victorian era provides the style and mores that challenge these immigrants to adjust to that culture, and at the same time try to maintain their old world traditions and customs.



**A TRAVELLER'S HISTORY OF POLAND**  
by John Radzilowski  
**\$14.95**

312 pp. ill., maps. pb.

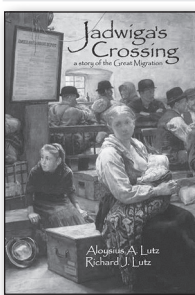
A comprehensive historical survey guides travellers through a general history of the people and places of Poland from pre-history to today. Includes a full chronology, a list of monarchs and rulers, a gazetteer, historical maps.



**THE POLISH AMERICANS**  
from the "Major American Immigration Series" by Donna Lock  
**\$22.95** Full color illustrated.

Ages 9-12. Mason Crest Publishers. 2008. 64 pp. hc. 9"x6"

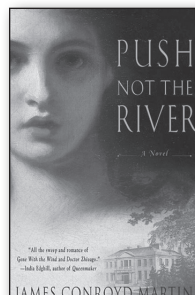
Polish emigrants left their homeland for many of the same reasons as did other ethnic groups. Yet in America's melting pot, the Polish have maintained a stronger hold on their traditions and customs than most of the other immigrant groups that arrived in North America during the 19th and early 20th centuries.



**JADWIGA'S CROSSING:**  
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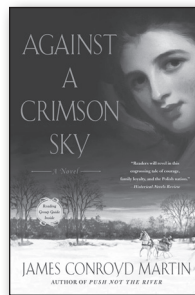
A perfect gift of heritage...The experience of late 19th Century immigration, as seen through the eyes of Paul and Jadwiga Adamik and what they went through to make America their new home. Appropriate for all ages 12 and up.



**PUSH NOT THE RIVER**  
by James C. Martin  
**\$15.95**

St. Martin's Press. 496 pp.pb. Maps & wycinanki illust. Reading Group Guide

AUTOGRAPHED! 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 paints the emotional and memorable portrait of the metamorphosis of a nation—and of Anna, a proud and resilient young woman, and Jan, her soldier-husband. Critics have called the story Poland's *Gone with the Wind*.

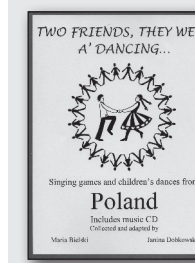


**AGAINST A CRIMSON SKY**  
by James C. Martin  
**\$15.95**

St. Martin's 369 pp.pb. Map & wycinanki illust. Reading Group Guide

AUTOGRAPHED! "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. Having narrowly escaped death amidst the chaos caused by the violent dissolution of their homeland.

"A sprawling epic...entertaining." — *Publishers Weekly*.



**TWO FRIENDS, THEY WENT A' DANCING**  
by Maria Bielski and Janina Dobkowski  
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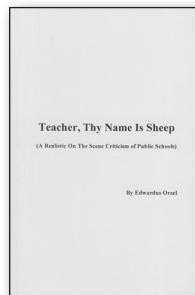
Singing games and Children's Dances from Poland  
**INCLUDES MUSIC CD, LYRICS, AND SHEET MUSIC**  
Spiral bound, softcover

The book contains lyrics (in both English and Polish) of ten popular singing games, and a vocal music score with chords. Clear step-by-step movement and dance instructions are outlined precisely with the text. In addition, a CD of the recorded songs with accompaniment is included, so that parents, grandparents, teachers, and children can immediately enjoy the songs and games. Each page has an original "wycinanki" (Polish cut-out style) illustration, designed by the artist, Joanna Bielska, which can be reproduced for coloring or craft projects.



**TWO FRIENDS, THEY WENT A' DANCING COMPANION COLORING BOOK**  
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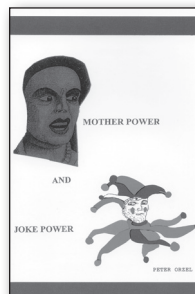
by Maria Bielski and Janina Dobkowski  
Using these "wycinanki" icons, you can draw the story of each song, color the enlarged full page cut-out, or reproduce any of these icons for educational purposes. Some craft ideas are included.



**TEACHER, THY NAME IS SHEEP**  
by E.J. Kalinowski (NDP Edwardus Orzel)  
**\$9.95**

Kalski Books, 2004. 132 pp., pb.

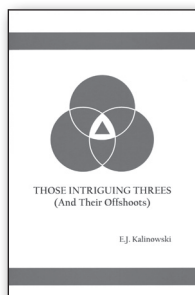
Why are American high school students so undisciplined? Read this book and judge for yourself. The author, a retired high school and junior high school teacher, first wrote his opinionated discourse in 1968, and updated it in 2004. Among his views are "Give me a Principal with Principles." "It takes good parents, and good teachers, not a village, to raise good students," and "TV is today's mother, father, and teacher" among others.



**MOTHER POWER AND JOKE POWER**  
by E.J. Kalinowski (NDP Peter Orzel)  
**\$9.95**

Kalski Books, 1998. 142 pp., pb.

*Mother Power* is a compendium of psychological sketches on personalities in various fields. *Joke Power* stresses the deleterious effects jokes have in individuals and groups targeted for derision. The author is a retired school teacher, who has penned numerous observations in community and regional newspapers.



**THOSE INTRIGUING THREES (And Their Offshoots)**  
by E.J. Kalinowski  
**\$9.95**

Self published / Kalski Books, 2009. 166 pp., pb.

Why are there so many threes in the Bible — both the Old and New Testament? Creation abounds in threes? Have you noticed the amount of triadic construction in nature? The premise of this book is the prevalence of threes in our world and how apparent these triadic aspects are if one takes the time to observe them.

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SPORTS / Tom Tarapacki

## Making a Difference

**Lou Creekmur** was an outstanding offensive lineman for the Detroit Lions in the 1950s, playing in eight Pro Bowls and eventually earning enshrinement in the Polish American Sports (his mother's name was Rose Kaminski) and Pro Football Halls of Fame. In ten full seasons he never missed a game, despite suffering 14 concussions and numerous broken noses. However, in retirement he suffered, and doctors couldn't explain his frequent bouts of anger and forgetfulness. Near the end of his life he would even chase his wife in a rage, only to apologize later. He died at 82 in 2009.

Then **Chris Nowinski** called. He wanted Creekmur's brain. Nowinski is co-founder of the Boston University School of Medicine Center for the Study of Traumatic Encephalopathy (CSTE), and has collected the brains of athletes to assemble physical proof for his belief that permanent brain damage is pervasive among athletes who suffer concussions.

Caroline Creekmur agreed to donate Lou's brain to the CSTE. She said: "My husband died a hard death, and I did not know what was wrong. I wanted to know why this happened. The CSTE examined Mr. Creekmur's brain and found no evidence of Alzheimer's disease or of any other neurodegenerative disease. Instead, Creekmur was with an advanced case of Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy CTE, a progressive degenerative disease found in individuals who have been subjected to multiple concussions and other forms of head injury.

So Nowinski has taken on the task of calling up the survivors of athletes who have died, within 48 hours of their deaths, to ask for their brains. He also requests that living athletes agree to donate their brains to his research. So far 270 have done so.

Nowinski is a graduate of Harvard, where he played football. Afterwards he wrestled for World Wrestling Entertainment until headaches (he sustained two concussions while playing college football and four concussions as a pro wrestler) Diagnosed with post-concussion syndrome forced him to retire from the ring at age 24. Following his wrestling career, he wrote *Head Games: Football's Concussion Crisis*, which examined the long-term effects of head trauma among athletes. He is also the co-founder and president of the Sports Legacy Institute (SLI), a non-profit organization dedicated to solve the sports concussion crisis.

Nowinski also played an integral role in the discovery of CTE in former Pittsburgh Steelers offensive lineman **Justin Strzelczyk**. Strzelczyk was killed in a fiery automobile crash in 2004 at age 36 after a bizarre 37-mile police chase at speeds up to 100 miles per hour on the wrong side of the highway. It was widely believed that Justin's behavior was caused by bipolar disorder. However, Nowinski called Mary Strzelczyk, Justin's mother, to ask for permission to have it examined for CTE, which was eventually confirmed.

The NFL and other major sports leagues are starting to realize that concussions are a very serious problem, and a change of policy regarding recovery time and education is needed at all levels of sport. Nowinski is widely credited with putting the concussion issue on the map.

Another strong advocate in this arena is **Kevin Guskiewicz**, the

research director of the Center for the Study of Retired Athletes at the University of North Carolina. He recently received matching \$100,000 grants from the NFL and NFLPA for concussion research.

Guskiewicz has been working with retired NFL players since 2001, studying the life consequences of concussions. Guskiewicz's research includes neuro-imaging scans to study brain activity and also atrophy of the brain and the link between the head injuries and the development of dementia and depression.

The center has already studied 41 retired NFL players, Guskiewicz said. The new grants will enable the center to study another 45 former college players - who didn't play in the NFL - and compare the data. "That will help us answer the magic question: What is the effect of the additional exposure?" Guskiewicz said.

**WHAT A CATCH!** It happened over six decades ago, but the dramatic catch made by **Bill Swiacki** to help Columbia defeat Army is still regarded as one of the greatest ever.

It happened on October 25, 1947. Columbia faced the task of trying to end the defending national champion's 32-game unbeaten streak. Not surprisingly, the service academies had very powerful football programs during the war years. Army been undefeated over the previous 4 years, and no team had even scored a point in its 4 previous games that season.

Army took a 20-7 lead into the fourth quarter, and a missed extra point by the Cadets seemed unimportant. Columbia trailed Army, 20-14 late in the fourth quarter when quarterback Gene Rossides dropped back to pass from the Army 29.

He fired a low pass short of the goal line. It looked uncatchable. Swiacki stretched both arms and laid his body out horizontally, grabbing the pass just above the ground. It was a 26-yard gain to the three. Two plays later, Lou Kusserow ran it in from the two and Ventan Yablonski kicked the go-ahead extra point to put Columbia up, 21-20. That's how the game ended, and it still ranks as one of college football's most memorable upsets.

Swiacki caught nine passes that day, one for a touchdown. He finished the season with Columbia records for receptions and yards, to go with his 23.6 yards per catch in 1946, still the Lions' all-time record. His 18.6 career yards per catch also ranks as a Columbia record. He was a first team All-American, and was eighth in the voting for the Heisman Trophy.

Swiacki had actually begun his college career at Holy Cross, not far from his Southbridge, Mass., home. After one season he enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps, serving three and a half years as a second lieutenant and navigator on a B-17. He attended Columbia after his discharge for two years.

A fine all-around athlete, Swiacki was signed as a catcher by the Boston Red Sox while still an undergraduate. He later went into pro football, playing with the New York Giants from 1948 through 1950, and the Detroit Lions for the next two seasons. His 550 receiving yards in 1948 set a Giants record and he set two new marks in 1949, when he caught 47 passes in 12 games for 652 yards and four touchdowns. He caught 11 passes for Detroit in 1952, helping the Lions to the NFL championship.



**SWIACKI.** Catch that helped Columbia defeat Army is still regarded as one of the greatest ever.

He also played Canadian pro football, and spent two seasons as head coach of the Toronto Argonauts. He was later an assistant coach for the Giants and Rams before establishing a real estate business in Sturbridge, Mass. He was named to the College Football Hall of Fame in 1976. He died tragically that year, at the age of 52, when a rifle he was cleaning in the basement of his home accidentally fired.

Swiacki is best remembered for that spectacular catch against Army, but his athletic career was one of consistent excellence.

**PERKOSKI'S NOTEBOOK.** Shortly after being traded by Orlando, **Marcin Gortat** started for Phoenix and had 12 points, 9 boards, a steal and a block in the home loss to the Lakers ... Patriots kicker **Stephen Gostkowski** went down with a season ending injury ... In the Under-20 European Championships in Austria, **Olek Czyz** averaged 16.1 points and 8.1 rebounds per game for Poland, which won bronze. Olek transferred this season from Duke to Nevada ... **James Wisniewski** capped a three-point night with a goal in overtime to give Montreal a 3-2 win over Florida a week after being traded from the Islanders ... Buffalo Sabre **Patrick Kaleta** has formed the HITS Foundation (Helping Individuals To Smile) to give families the opportunity to participate in organized sports ... The New York Rangers acquired forward **Wojtek Wolski** from the Phoenix Coyotes for veteran defenseman Michal Rozsival. The 24-year-old Wolski, a left wing, had had career highs with 23 goals, 42 assists and 65 points in 80 games split last season between Colorado and Phoenix ... Vancouver Canuck **Rick Rypien** is a cousin of former NFL QB **Mark Rypien** ... former Montana State University standout **Beata Bak** is now playing for Montana State Billings.

**TOP PROSPECT.** **Stefen Wisniewski** became the first Penn State football player to earn Academic All-America honors three times. Wisniewski, a secondary education major, is a first-team selection this year, was first team last year and second team in 2008. He also finished second in voting for the Academic All-American of the Year, behind only Alabama quarterback Greg McElroy.

Wisniewski carried a 3.91 GPA, even knowing that he likely has a lucrative NFL career to look forward to. "Just because I might not be using my degree in education any time soon, I really feel like it's my responsibility to do the best that I could with those talents in order to bring glory to God," said Stefan.

Very active in the community, Wisniewski has participated in the Student-Athlete Advisory Board's Autism Awareness reading program, THON Make-A-Wish program, Pennsylvania Special Olympics State Summer Games, Habitat for Humanity, Athletic Directors Leadership Institute, Athletes In Action, The Second Mile and has tutored local high school students.

Stefen's father was a standout defensive lineman for the Nittany Lions, lettering from 1979-81 and serving as a tri-captain in 1981. He was selected by the Baltimore Colts in the 2nd round of the 1982 NFL Draft and played 4 seasons with Baltimore/Indianapolis. An uncle, Steve Wisniewski, was a two-time first-team All-America guard during his Penn State career (1985-88) and was selected All-Pro eight times in his 13 years with the Raiders. Stefen, a 6-3, 306-lb. guard, will likely be drafted in the 1st or 2nd round as a center.

## World War II Museum to Open in Gdansk

GDANSK, Poland — The Polish government said it will build a World War II Museum here, with the aim of increasing knowledge of World War II and cherish the memory of victims and heroes of that tragic time. Through the establishment, Poland hopes to successfully fight unjustly and falsely used terms like "Polish concentration camps."

The idea of the museum's creation dates three years back, when in December 2007, Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk mentioned there was a necessity of establishing the institution that would show the war from the common perspective: both Polish and European.

Apart from exhibition activities, the museum will also engage in education and research actions. Polish authorities hope it will promote Poland as a state of values and active civic attitude. The museum is also expected to contribute to increasing tourists' interest in both Gdansk and Pomeranian Region.

The project is scheduled for 2011- 2014 and will cost about \$121.1 million.

## What Does Your Polish Name Mean?

Everyone has heard about Harry Potter, the boy hero of today's pre-adolescents. His surname in England once identified someone who made clay pots and bowls, and its Polish equivalent is **Garncarz**. Many other Polish surnames were also derived from occupations, the most common being **Kowalski** (blacksmith) and **Wójcik** (village mayor).

Others include, **Piekarz** (Baker), **Stelmach** (Carthwright), **Cieśla** (Carpenter), **Kucharz** (Cook), **Rybak** (Fisher), **Młynarz** (Miller), **Tokarz** (lathe operator) and **Ślusarz** (Locksmith). Each produced numerous spin-offs such as **Piekarski**, **Stelmachowski**, **Ciesielski**, **Ślusarczyk**, **Tokarczuk**, etc.

Whether your Polish name is of occupational, patronymic (father's name), toponymic (place-name) or other origin, you can order a custom-researched analysis thereof by airmailing a \$19 personal or bank (cashier's) check or money order (adding a cut-rate \$10 for each additional surname you wish researched) to: Robert Strybel, ul. Kaniowska 24, 01-529 Warsaw, Poland.

Included at no extra charge is an illustration of the coat of arms (where applicable) and a contact sheet full of valuable genealogical leads, data bases and researchers able to explore your ancestral roots.

For more information please contact: research60@gmail.com.

## POLAM HERITAGE QUIZ

### Win one of Three Polish Cookbooks in English in our Annual Quiz

By taking part in this year's Pol-Am Heritage quiz, you will be eligible to win one of three Polish cookbooks in English. Simply write your name and mailing address at the top of a clean sheet of paper, number it from 1 to 5 and indicate the correct answer (a, b, c or d) to each of the following five questions:

- In 2012, Poland and Ukraine will co-host: a) European Soccer Championship Finals, b) International Strongman Competition, c) World Cup Soccer Finals, d) World Skeet Shooting Championships.
- Poland's presidential election held in summer 2010 was won by: a) Bronislaw Komorowski, b) Donald Tusk, c) Jaroslaw Kaczyński, d) Waldemar Pawlak.
- Poland became a Christian nation after Duke Mieszko I married a: a) Czech, b) Lithuanian, c) Hungarian, d) Russian princess.
- America's first permanent Polish community was set up in the mid-19th century in: a) Texas, b) Illinois, c) Pennsylvania, d) New York State.

New York State.

- In Polish tradition, herring and zurek (meatless ryemeal soup) would be served mainly: a) at weddings, b) on New Year's Day, c) on Easter Sunday, d) during Lent.

Airmail your entry without delay to: PolAm Heritage Quiz, ul. Kaniowska 24, 01-529 Warsaw, Poland; or e-mail the correct answers to: research60@gmail.com.

All correct entries will take part in a random drawing to select the winners. The first prize is the 900-page "Polish Heritage Cookery", the biggest Polish cookbook ever published in the English language. Second prize is "Polish Holiday Cookery" (248 pages) focusing on the traditional foods of Christmas, Easter, weddings and other special occasions. Third prize is "Culinary Traditions of Mazovia, Silesia and Kashubia" (60 pages), whose regional favorites are printed on opposing pages in both English and Polish. It should be helpful to those trying to learn Polish or English Powodzenia! Good luck!

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## Health Part 6

Jestem diabetykiem.....	(YEHS-tehm dyah-beh-TIH-kyem)
I am diabetic. [male]	
Jestem diabetyczką.....	(YEHS-tehm dyah-beh-TICH-kohm)
I am diabetic. [female]	
Mam anemię.....	(Mahm ah-NEH-myeh)
I have anemia.	
Mam astmę.....	(Mahm AHS-tmeh)
I have asthma	
Mam epilepsję.....	(Mahm eh-pee-LEHP-syeh)
I have epilepsy.	
Mam uczulenie skóry.....	(Mahm uh-chuh-LEH-nyeh SKUH-rih)
I have a skin allergy	

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

Mam uczulenie.....	(Mahm uh-chuh-LEH-nyeh ...)
I have an allergy to ...	
antybiotyki.....	(ahn-tih-byoh-TIH-kee)
antibiotics	
aspirynę.....	(ahs-pee-RIH-neh)
aspirin	
kodeinę.....	(koh-deh-EE-neh)
codeine	
penicylinę.....	(peh-nee-tsih-LEE-neh)
penicillin	
pyłki kwiatowe.....	(PIHW-kee kfyah-TOH-veh)
dairy products	
produkty mleczne.....	(proh-DUHK-tih MLECH-neh)
dairy products	
pszczoly.....	(PSHCHO-wih)
bees	

POLISH CHEF / Robert Strybel

## Pączki and Chruściki

**PAŃZKI, POLISH DONUTS** (pączki). Mash 1 3/4 oz fresh yeast with 2 T sugar and dissolve in 5 T milk. Set aside to rise. Beat 4 egg yolks and 2 whole eggs with 6 T sugar and grated zest of half a small lemon until fluffy, add yeast mixture, 7 c flour, 1/2 t vanilla sugar or extract, 1 1/2 c milk, 1 t salt and work by hand into a uniform dough. Mix in 2 T rum, beat well by hand and gradually add 9 T melted butter and continue beating until dough is glossy and no longer sticks to hand. (Note: A less messy way is to use

serves, rose-petal jam, plum butter (powidla) or other thick fruit fillings.

**UNFILLED COUNTRY-STYLE PAŃZKI (pączki wiejskie bez nadzienia):** After your pączki dough (prepared as above) has risen, tear off pączki-sized pieces and roll them into a ball snowball-fashion. Let rise in warm place. Fry as above on both sides and drain on absorbent paper. When they cool, serve just as they are – unfilled, unglazed and unsugared. These plainer, less sweet, more irregularly-shaped pączki would be more typical of what the rural-dwelling Poles of yesteryear feasted on.

**FAVORS, ANGEL-WINGS, BOW-KNOTS. (faworki, chruściki):** Sift 2 c flour onto board. Make well at center and deposit therein 5 egg yolks, 1 T butter, 2 T sour cream, a pinch



bread-hook-equipped electric mixer. Set aside in warm place to rise. When dough doubles in bulk, divide into 4 parts. Roll out each part on floured board to a thickness of 1/8". Cut dough into rounds with glass or biscuit-cutter and place a spoonful of filling\* at center, cover with another dough round and pinch rounds together with fingers and roll snowball-fashion into balls. Place pączki on flour-sprinkled surface in warm place, cover with cloth and let rise. Heat lard or oil in a fairly wide pan. It is hot enough if a piece of dough floats to top immediately. Brush excess flour off pączki and fry in hot fat deep enough so they can float freely. When one side is browned, turn them over and brown the other side. Transfer to absorbent paper and dust with confectioner's sugar. Variation: For smaller pączki, use only one dough round per pączek, fold it over filling, pinch edges shut and form into a ball.

of salt and 1 T 190-proof grain alcohol or 100 proof vodka. (Optional: 1/2 t vanilla or rum extract may be added if desired.) Work into a dough and knead well (about 15 min) until dough is glossy and full of small holes when cut in half. Beat dough with rolling-pin on all sides – the more air forced into the dough, the lighter the pastries will be. Roll out as thin as possible on lightly floured board, sprinkling top of dough sheet with a little flour. With pastry-wheel or knife cut dough sheet into 1 1/2" strips, then cut strips at an angle into 5" pieces. Cut a 1 1/2" vertical strip down center of each piece and gently pull one of the ends through the slot to form a bow. Heat at least 1 1/2 lb lard, shortening or oil in deep pan or electric skillet to 350°. Deep-fry to a light golden-brown on both sides and remove to absorbent paper. Fry in batches so they are not crowded and can float freely. When slightly cooled, dust with confectioner's sugar.

\*Fillings include rose-hip pre-

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**Neighborhood"** Polish community of Detroit area Michigan. Breakfast, lunch dinner. Pasties, Pierogies, Kluski, Cream chipped beef, soups desserts & **MUCH, MUCH MORE!!**

**"POLISH GIRL" COOKBOOK** – This is yet another cookbook full of recipes from Michigan's **Old Neighborhood** district. Appetizers, entrees, breads, desserts and more! Upper Peninsula style pasties, Polish Potato salad, Old neighborhood pasties, babka, breads & **MUCH MUCH MORE!!** A great gift for ANY good polish girl (or guy!!). 44 pages.

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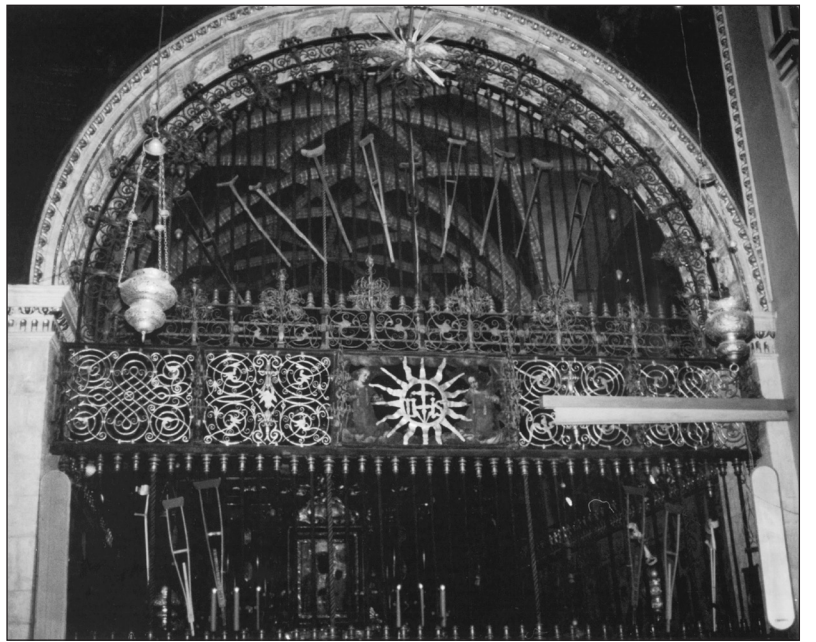
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THE OLD COUNTRY / Richard Poremski



PRAYERS ANSWERED BY OUR LADY OF CZESTOCHOWA. Jasna Gora, Poland. May 24, 1976.

TRIVIA TIME / Ellye Slusarczyk

- "The Partisans" by Andrew Pitynski is a: a sculpture b. a historical play c. a Polish-themed operetta
- Stanislaus Dziwisz was Pope John Paul II's: a. physician b. aide c. legal advisor
- In 1794, Thaddeus Kosciuszko was victorious in the battle of: a. Torun b. Gdynia c. Raclawice
- Stanislaw Ulan, a mathematician, worked on the: a. atom bomb b. hydrogen bomb c. nuclear missile
- Leopold Stokowski was a: a. conductor and composer b. scientist c. Solidarity leader
- Number 307 Polish Squadron of the Royal Air Force had a two-year defense of: a. London b. Salisbury c. Exeter
- The largest painting in the United States depicting the crucifixion of Jesus is found in: a. Chicago b. Glendale, Calif. c. Buffalo, N.Y.
- A panorama painter is: a. Adam Styka b. Josef Franczyk c. Julian Chrobny
- A tablecloth is a: a. *ilyzka* b. *talerz* c. *obrus*
- One puts water in a: a. *szklanka* b. *flaga* c. *mewa*

**ANSWERS.** 1.a-sculpture; 2.b-aide; 3.c-Raclawice; 4. b-hydrogen bomb; 5.a-conductor and composer; 6.c- Exeter; 7.b- Glendale; 8.a-Adam Styka; 9.c-obrus; 10.a-szklanka.

HERITAGE / Ellye Slusarczyk

## Palace on the Water

Of neoclassical architecture is Lazienki Palace, often referred to as "Palace on the Water" and "Palace on the Isle." The castle is situated on an artificial island. This island divides the lake into two parts. The northern part of the lake is

Coat-of-Arms is most impressive. The grotto garden is a perfect place for reflection.



Stanislaw August Pomotowski delighted in the beauty of the palace. He made the structure into a private residence. The palace was in

need of remodeling and Domenico Fertini was commissioned to do the work. The remodeling was done from 1764 to 1795. In World War II, the Germans nearly destroyed the palace. In fact, at one time, the palace even served as a barracks.

Two Ionic colonnaded bridges connect to the mainland. The main floor of the palace is worth touring. In its center is a yellow and white marbled Rotunda decorated with figures of Polish kings. You are able to enjoy the Bacchus Room, a grand ballroom, a chapel, and an impressive Gallery of Paintings. Many works of well-known artists, such as Rembrandt, are here to be shared, for viewing. The Palace dining room was used for the very famous "Thursday Dinners" allowing talented writers, poets, artists, and important personages to share their thoughts and expertise. The largest room is the Solomon Room. There is also a balcony room with a picture gallery overlooking the premises.

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Stroll over the bridge to visit the Palace on the Water. It will be a most memorable experience.

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## AMERICAN POLONIA AT A GLANCE

## CHICAGO HEIGHTS, Ill. —

In observance of Polish Heritage Month last October, the Chicago Heights-Wadowice Sister Cities Committee presented a pictorial display honoring the history of the Polish community, and noted men and women of Poland. The display was viewed in the foyer of City Hall.

The display was organized through the efforts of the Chicago Heights Polish Sister City program. Wadowice, which became Chicago Heights' Sister City in 2001, is the birthplace of Pope John Paul II.

Eugene Sadus, a former Bloom High School teacher and city official, is chairman of the organization. There are approximately ten active members on the committee.

During the month, a special City Council Meeting was held to honor Poland and the local Polish community. A proclamation was signed by the mayor, and throughout the month, the Polish flag was flown in front of City Hall.

**EAST POINTE, Mich.** — The **American Polish Assistance Association** is in dire need of volunteers. Past pleas have largely gone unanswered, says the organization.

Some volunteers are at APAA's office many hours each week; others, only a few hours each year.

You can help in a number of ways, including: collecting clean clothes, shoes, and school supplies; advertising in church bulletins; selling folk items; transporting, loading, sorting, or packing clothes; computer skills, fundraising, Polish translations, and newsletter production.

APAA was founded in the late 1960s to assist the people of Poland, then living under the totalitarian regime of the communist party. The mission of APAA has evolved throughout the years. Today it continues its efforts to help the people of Poland as well as other countries of Eastern Europe.

If you can help this charitable organization, contact APAA at P.O. Box 116, Eastpointe, MI 48021; (586) 778-9766; www.apaa.us.

**MINNEAPOLIS** — The **Twin Cities Polish Festival** is the recipient of a \$10,000 matching grant from the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund. As a matching grant, TCPF must raise up to \$10,000 to receive the full grant.

After a ten-year absence, the festival was reborn in 2008. It high-

lights the area's rich Polish heritage.

To help the committee reach its goal, donations are being accepted. Send your tax-deductible donation to: Twin Cities Polish Festival, P.O. Box 19312, Minneapolis, MN 55419. All donations will be acknowledged by letter and publicly, unless indicated otherwise.

**ST. PAUL, Minn.** — On Sunday, February 6, 2011 at 3:00 p.m., the **Frederic Chopin Society** (www.chopinsocietymn.org) will present the Minnesota debut of the youthful but renowned Polish pianist Rafał Blechacz, Gold Medal Winner of the 2005 International Chopin Competition in Warsaw. The concert will take place at Sundin Music Hall at Hamline University, 1536 Hewitt Ave., St. Paul. Single tickets are \$23 each, or \$20 for Chopin Society members and \$12 for full-time students 21 and under (with student ID). An early sellout is expected. To reserve, call (612) 822-0123 or e-mail chopinsocietymn@aol.com.

**ST. PAUL, Minn.** — **Bal Karnawalowy** will be held on February 12, 2011 at The Historic Saint Paul Hotel. A social hour with incidental music provided by piano virtuoso Bonnie Frels will start at 5:30 p.m., followed by a gourmet meal in The Grand Ballroom. Edziu Rajtar will be honored for his many contributions to the Polish American community. Entertainment will be provided by the Dolina Polish Dancers and dance music by The Retractions with amplified carnival music from Midnight to 1:00 a.m. Tickets will be available soon for online purchase at \$60 per person or \$440 per table of eight. A Silent Auction will be part of the evening's festivities.

**BUFFALO, N.Y.** — The **Polish Genealogical Society of New York State** meets monthly every second Thursday at 7:00 p.m. in the Villa Maria College cafeteria, 240 Pine Ridge Road in Cheektowaga. The meetings are free and open to the public. For membership information, call (716) 652-9120, or visit www.pgsnys.org.



**NEW YORK** — The **Polish American Folk Dance Company** is fundraising to send members to

the 15th World Polish Folk Dancing Festival, which will take place in Rzeszow, Poland, July 21-28, 2011. The festival is an excellent opportunity for PAFDC dancers to perform at an international level and forge bonds with members of other folk dance ensembles. Members will have the chance to learn Polish folk dance from some of the greatest choreographers in the world. The group needs to raise over \$32,000 in order to attend.

Tax-deductible donations may be sent to: Polish American Folk Dance Company, attn: PAFDC Rzeszow Festival 2011 Donation, 261 Driggs Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11222. For more information, call (718) 907-6199.

**CLEVELAND** — WKYC-TV reports that **Pulaski Plaza** will have to make way for the Medical Mart and Convention Center, but will be returned and restored after construction.

Pulaski Plaza is at the north end of Mall C, one of several public parks in the city's downtown.

The so-called "Polish Rifle," a long slim, black, naval cannon, plus plaques honoring American Revolutionary war hero Casimir Pulaski, are featured exhibits.

There were no formal plans to preserve the plaza in the original Medical Mart/Convention center proposal.

Gary Kotlarsic, of the Polish American Congress, expressed concern that the plaza was at risk. The Landmarks Commission later approved the redevelopment firm's (MMPI) request to demolish the top of Mall C. But it included a requirement that Pulaski Plaza be dismantled, stored, and reassembled once construction is complete.

MMPI's representative and Mayor Frank Jackson's team agreed to the proposal by City Councilman Tony Brancatelli.

"We don't know what would have occurred. The concern was it would be taken down, stored, put away and long forgotten. And they didn't want the memory of Casimir Pulaski to be forgotten," Brancatelli said.

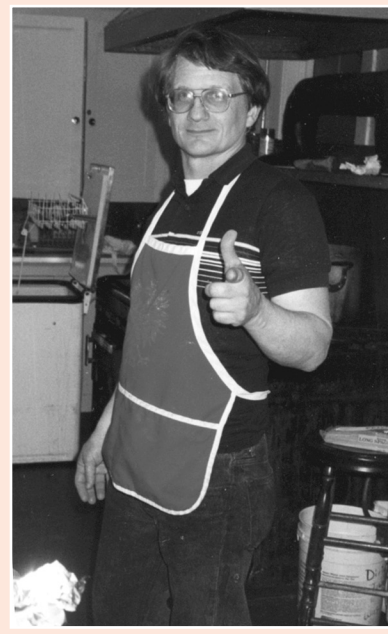
Ironically, the decision to preserve the plaza was made on the same day — Dec. 9 — that new Polish President Bronisław Komorowski was visiting Cleveland. The original Pulaski Square was dedicated in 1937. It was at East 12th Street and Superior Avenue

## The World's His Oyster

**DON NORKOSKI**, president and hall manager of the Polish Club in Aberdeen, Washington, gives the "thumbs up" after the club's 20th Annual Oyster Feed. A crowd of 125 members enjoyed an "all-you-can-eat" feast of raw oysters, oyster stew, grilled and pan-fried oysters, spaghetti, salad, garlic bread, and more. The preparation, cooking, serving, and clean-up is done entirely by the men of the club.

The club, dedicated in 1916 and restored in 1996, is located at 823 W. First St. in Aberdeen, near the Pacific Ocean.

—James Hicker



and included the 1899 cannon.

The plaza was moved and rededicated on Mall C in 1968 by Mayor Carl Stokes. It was moved to make way for an urban renewal project.

Polish City Council members Ed Katalinas, Henry Matt and Ted Sliwa protested the possible destruction of the plaza and helped get it moved. MMPI will have the plaza dismantled, stored and reinstalled intact once construction is complete.

**PHILADELPHIA** — The **Museum Without Walls** audio program was created to be used like a customizable museum that's free and never closes. Its self-guided audio tours are available 24/7 in several different formats.

The project's first phase includes 51 outdoor sculptures at 35 stops along a three-mile stretch of the bustling Benjamin Franklin Parkway from downtown to leafy Fairmount Park. The Marian Konieczny sculpture of **General Tadeusz Kosciuszko** is part of the new project.

Three-to-five minute segments are voiced by people connected to the works — historians, curators, the art honoree, or a living relative — to explain each piece and give context. Visitors can upload their own pictures and thoughts to the website, museumwithoutwalls.org.

**FRONT ROYAL, Virg.** — **Ailynson Doran**, 17, a member of the Polish Roman Catholic Union, is the first female cadet to be appointed as Corps Commander at the Randolph-Macon Military Academy.

The Academy began accepting female cadets thirty-six years ago.

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** — **Rep. Dan Lipinski** (right) was one of 19 House Democrats who declined to vote for Nancy Pelosi as Democratic leader. Lipinski, one of the most conservative Democrats in the House, has long been at ideological odds with Pelosi during her time as House speaker.

Pelosi, the first female Speaker of the House, ended her tenure when she turned over the gavel to new Speaker John Boehner (R-Ohio). Lipinski said in a statement that since the selection of Pelosi was a foregone conclusion, the vote was "largely symbolic."

With that in mind, Lipinski, who is Polish American, cast a vote for **Rep. Marcy Kaptur**, who he called, in his statement, "a Polish American Democrat from Toledo who is the most senior woman in the House."

Lipinski did not detail his beefs with Pelosi.

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** — The Director of the Polish Institute for

International Affairs (PISM) in Warsaw, Marcin Zaborowski, has joined the Center for European Policy Analysis (CEPA) as a non-resident Senior Fellow. There he will assess the impact of the back-to-back European Union (EU) Presidencies of Hungary and Poland as part of CEPA's latest program, Visegrád to Weimar: Measuring Post-Communist Europe's Transformative Potential in the EU, 2010-2020.

Dr. Zaborowski received his Ph.D. in International Studies from the University of Birmingham in Great Britain and was awarded a Chevening Fellowship by the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office. Before assuming his current post at the Polish Institute for International Affairs, Zaborowski served as Director of the Transatlantic Program and Senior Research Fellow at the European Union Institute for Security Studies in Paris. Early in his career he was Assistant to the Under-Secretary of State at the Ministry of Economics in Warsaw.

As part of his CEPA Fellowship, Zaborowski will be paired with a Hungarian scholar as well as CEPA Senior Fellow and Head of European Regional Analysis at the State Department's Bureau of Intelligence and Research, David Armitage.

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** — The **Kosciuszko Foundation** (2025 O Street NW, Washington, DC 20036, between 20 and 21st Street) will soon begin its Spring semester of **Polish Language and Culture classes**.

Four levels of classes are being offered: Beginners I (Thursdays, Feb. 3-May 12); Beginners I Second Semester (Wednesdays, Feb. 2-May 11); Beginners II (Tuesdays, Feb. 1-May 10); and Intermediate/Advanced (Mondays, Jan. 31-May 9).

All classes start at 6.30 p.m. and end at 8.10 p.m.. There will be 15 sessions during the spring semester.

Please visit [www.learnpolishdc.com](http://www.learnpolishdc.com) for all the other information, or e-mail [basiabernhardt@yahoo.com](mailto:basiabernhardt@yahoo.com).

**MILWAUKEE**—Prof. Michael Mikos is leading the University of Wisconsin/Milwaukee five-week **Summer Study-Tour at the Catholic University of Lublin**, Poland. The July 2-August 9 tour in Lublin, is a course on the Polish language (100 hours) at beginning, intermediate and advance levels. Also available are three weeks and six credits in Polish Culture and Polish language, July 4-23. Lectures, films, excursions to Warsaw, Kazimierz and other places of interest are part of the trip. For detailed information, contact Prof. Mikos at (414) 229-4313, Dept. of Foreign Languages & Linguistics, University of Wisconsin/Milwaukee, P.O. Box 413, Milwaukee, WI 53201; e-mail [mikos@uwm.edu](mailto:mikos@uwm.edu); [www.lrc.uwm.edu/tour/](http://www.lrc.uwm.edu/tour/).

## Artwork of Arthur Szyk Showcased in California

**SAN FRANCISCO** — An exhibit of artwork created by Poland-born Jewish artist Arthur Szyk will be on display at the Legion of Honor through March 27. Showcased are two decades of news-magazine covers Szyk created for *Collier* in the 1930s and '40s.

Some 70 works covering a great range of subjects make up the exhibit, which includes illustrations of traditional Jewish and Polish folk tales and religious texts, and watercolors of political cartoons. Also included in the illustrations are those of Revolutionary War heroes, representations of World War II, and the Holocaust.

The Polish American artist, who lived from 1894 to 1951, created remarkable portraits of two important Polish American soldiers. A painting of Casimir Pulaski, who became a general in the Continental Army and is credited with saving President George Washington's life, is memorable. (The soldier died in the Battle of Savannah, becoming one of only five people to be posthumously awarded honorary American citizenship.) Another notable subject is Tadeusz Kosciuszko, a Polish colonel in the Continental Army, eventually promoted by the Continental Congress to the rank of brigadier general.

The California Legion of Honor is located in Lincoln Park, 100 34th Ave.. Show hours are 9:30 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. Tuesdays-Sundays. Tickets are \$7.75 to \$11.75. Call (415) 750-3600 or visit [legionofhonor.famsf.org](http://legionofhonor.famsf.org)



SZYK'S allegorical illustration of General Pulaski. 1938. The artist's work covers many Polish and Jewish themes.

## REFLECTIONS / OUR CHURCHES

## St. Stanislaus Kostka Church

1124 HUDSON AVENUE, ROCHESTER, NY 14621  
FR. ADAM OGORZALY, PASTOR

ST. STAN'S, 2010

St. Stanislaus Kostka Church is situated at a busy intersection on Rochester's northeast side, in a neighborhood whose streets were literally carved through fields by Polish immigrants at the end of the nineteenth century. Constructed in 1909 for the parish that was established in 1890, the church has served throughout its history as the spiritual heart of Rochester's Polonia. Today, under the leadership of Rev. Adam Ogorzaly, cherished Polish traditions are joined with new initiatives of ministry and community life.

The church's interior is rich with Christian imagery and evidence of Polish heritage, featuring many beautiful details including an ornate high altar, vivid stained glass windows, intricate stenciling, and murals and statues of saints well loved in Polish tradition. A new shrine, added in 2008, honors Our Lady of Czestochowa and her faithful servant Pope John Paul II. Designated a local landmark by the Rochester Preservation Board in 1992, St. Stanislaus Church has been honored for architectural and historic significance by the Landmark Society of Western New York and the Preservation League of New York State.

As part of our 100th year observations, we would like to reflect on the great houses of worship built by Polish Americans. We ask our readers to provide us with a photo and a paragraph or two on the parish. While we appreciate full histories, we do not have space to print them. Please provide us with a photo or two of the interior and/or exterior. We can accept digital photos via e-mail if they are of high resolution (300 dpi or greater). Please include: Name of church, year opened (year closed if no longer open), street and city, any identifiable people in the photo, and any special memory you may have of the church. Additional information may include: pastor, school status, or, if closed, name of last pastor, name of new merged parish, etc. All denominations welcome.

## From the Pages of the Polish American Journal

## Historical highlights from the newspaper and its predecessors

The Polish American Journal traces its history back to the Polish-language newspaper, *Zorza* (*The Dawn*), which was published in Pittston, Pennsylvania. Since its founding, *Zorza* and its successors — *Republika* (*The Republic*), *Gornik Pennsylvanski* (*The Pennsylvania Miner*), *Republika-Gornik* and the *Polish American Voice* — have provided newly-settled Poles and their ancestors with news about life in America and events in the Old Country.

The *Polish American Journal* is — in effect — the Polish immigrant's logbook. The paper has documented virtually every major event in the history of 20th and 21st century Polish Americana, from the arrival of those came here *dla chleba* (as well as the post-World War II and Solidarity-era immigrations), to the successes of their descendants, who today enjoy a life style unimaginable by parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents.

**1916.** Death of Henryk Sienkiewicz, 70, Polish novelist ("Quo Vadis"), 1905 Nobel literature prize winner, in Vevey, Switzerland.

**1917.** United States enters into World War I.

**1918.** Independence of Poland is reestablished by the Central Powers during World War I.

**1918.** *Republika's* editor Haduch moves to Scranton, Pa., home of another Polish-language newspaper, *Gornik Pennsylvanski* (*The Pennsylvania Miner*). Haduch's offices are located in the Farr Building, 127 Adams Ave.

**1918.** President Wilson announces his "Fourteen Points," the 13th calling for a free Poland.

**1919.** League of Nations is formed primarily through the efforts of President Woodrow Wilson ... Treaty of Versailles, making Poland a free nation, signed by I.J. Paderewski, the first premier of the newly created Republic of Poland.

**1920.** John Dende, a recent arrival from Poland, purchases both the *Gornik Pennsylvanski* and the *Republika*. He renames his new publication *Republika-Gornik Pennsylvanski* (*The Republic Pennsylvania Miner*). The name of the paper would later be shortened to *Republika-Gornik*.

**1922.** Buffalo, N.Y. area now has 34 churches established by Polish Americans ... The Polish Welfare Association founded in Chicago, later to become the Polish American Association ... On June 9, Joseph (Tykocinski) Tykociner publicly demonstrated for the first time a motion picture with a soundtrack optically recorded directly onto the film.

**1924.** Death of author Jozef Conrad Korzeniowski (Joseph Conrad).

**1925.** Founding of the Kosciuszko Foundation in New York City.

**1926.** John Dende purchases and remodels a building at 409 Cedar Ave. in Scranton, Pa. and makes it the new home of Dende Press.

## ANNIVERSARY COUNTDOWN

## 100 Things Every Polish American Should Do

**100 FOR 100.** We continue our countdown to our 100th Anniversary with another 10 items this month. In today's world of lost identity, it is important to know who you are, the roots from which you come, and what your background represents. Show pride in your Polish and Polish-American heritage

## FEBRUARY

11. Relate your love to your wife/husband, girl-friend/boyfriend by frequently stating "Ja cie Kocham," and encourage them to return the gesture, even if they are not Polish.
12. If no longer needed, donate your collection of Polish books and archives to a well-known and respected Polish archive, such as the Polish Mission at Orchard Lake Schools' Polish and Rare Book Collection.
13. Support Polish and Polish American authors by buying, reading and promoting their books.
14. If not stocked by your grocer, ask them to carry quality *pierogi* — a significant step above mass-produced brands.
15. Invite your neighbors, friends or business associates for a dinner of traditional Polish favorites, or a sampling of Polish liqueurs with Polish desserts and coffee.
16. Conduct, record and document an oral history of a relative or another person regarding their Polish or Polish-American experience.
17. The next time you call your Polish grandparents, uncles and aunts, address them with their Polish titles — *babcia* (grandmother), *dziadziu* (grandfather), *wujek* (uncle), or *ciocia* (aunt), as appropriate.
18. Pay homage to deceased members of your family by arranging a requiem mass at your parish, and attend the mass. Arrange that a Polish choir or soloist sings, or that the organist plays Polish hymns.
19. Read a book on Polish history or check an internet site documenting Polish history.
20. Preserve your lineage by designing a family tree chart, or join a Polish genealogical society to assist with the discovery of your roots in Poland.

For tips on how to accomplish these items: recipes, music, lyrics, online and store contacts inquire at: PAJ-today@yahoo.com or check: www.pajtoday.blogspot.com.

Edited and compiled by Staś Kmiec from contributions to be announced in the anniversary edition.



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# Wesołego Alleluja!

## Celebrate Easter with Us!

Send greetings to family and friends across the miles with a patron ad in our Easter 2011 edition

We cordially invite our readers to participate in the time-honored tradition of sending Happy Easter wishes to fellow Polish Americans with a holiday greeting ad. All messages will be printed in the Easter 2011 Edition of the Polish American Journal. Your support, in the form of a holiday greeting, helps us continue our mission to serve American Polonia. Furthermore, it is a demonstration of the solidarity that exists between Polish Americans from all corners of our country.

Can we count on you? If you have any questions, please call 1 (800) 422-1275, M-F, 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

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