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**REMINING WASHINGTON OF RUSSIA'S AGGRESSIVENESS • POPE FRANCIS READIES FOR TRIP TO KRAKOW**  
**500 GRADUATE FROM POLISH LANGUAGE SCHOOLS • HIPPOCRENE TO RELEASE NEW BOOK ON FORCED LABORERS**  
**BARANSKI TO STAR IN SPINOFF AFTER SERIES • AN UNSUNG HERO PASSES • "AGELESS POLE" WILL HAVE TO WAIT**

## Newsmark

**"A BAD DAY FOR POLAND AND EUROPE."** Britons have voted to leave the EU in a historic referendum, a result that has sent tremors across Europe and sparked turmoil on global markets.

British Prime Minister David Cameron announced he would resign by October after voters swatted aside his arguments that the UK should stay in the European Union.

Poland's Ryszard Czarnecki, Vice-President of the European Parliament, said the result "is a bad day for Poland and Europe" adding that the decision "will weaken the European Union, for example in its relations with Russia."

"Internally, it will make Germany and France stronger within the bloc," he added.

Global markets reacted sharply to the vote for a Brexit, with the British pound recording a historic plunge and reaching its lowest level against the dollar in decades.

The zloty and other emerging markets currencies also weakened following the news.

Polish officials have argued that a so-called Brexit would badly hit the British and European economy.

Polish Foreign Minister Witold Waszczykowski said that Britain would remain a key ally for Poland, despite its decision to leave the EU.

An estimated 800,000 Poles live and work in Britain.

Waszczykowski also said Britain's decision to leave the EU could lead to other countries "blackmailing" the bloc by threatening to hold their own exit referendums.

"Other countries, following the example of Britain, can for example, not even leaving the EU, blackmail the EU with further referendums, and through such blackmail demand changes in their position in the union or demand opt-outs — exclusion from certain European policies, said Waszczykowski. "Such a possibility exists, unfortunately."

**PLANE CRASH BODIES TO BE EXHUMED.** The Polish prosecutor told relatives of the victims of the 2010 Smolensk plane crash that all the bodies which were not cremated will be exhumed for testing.

"Comprehensive post-mortem examinations, also using computer tomography in the field of toxicology and DNA will be important for determining the injuries of the victims and the causes of their deaths," said Zbigniew Ziobro, the national prosecutor.

A meeting with the relatives of the disaster victims was attended by the head of Poland's ruling Law and Justice (PiS) party, Jarosław Kaczyński, whose twin brother, President Lech Kaczyński, was one of 96 who died in the crash near Smolensk airport in western Russia on April 10, 2010.

The meeting with Ziobro and his deputy Marek Pasionek might indicate that the body of Lech Kaczyński and his wife Maria Kaczyńska, who also died in the crash, might be exhumed. (Newsweek)

**MINISTER OFFERS CONDOLENCES.** "We are deeply moved and struck with grief by the shocking news coming from Orlando," Poland Foreign Minister Witold Waszczykowski underlined in his message of condolences that was sent today to U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry.

"On behalf of the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and myself, I wish to express our deepest condolences. Our thoughts go to the families and friends of the victims as well as to all people affected by this tragedy," reads the statement by Poland's head of diplomacy.

**KUCZYNSKI IS PERU'S PRESIDENT-ELECT.** Pedro Pablo Kuczynski, a well-respected economist and former U.S. citizen, officially became Peru's president-elect when his main rival conceded, June 10, after days of counting ballots from the country's tightest election in history.

Kuczynski fought a grueling campaign at age 77, but he now faces more difficult challenges. He must assemble a coalition and win popular support as he takes power with a weak political base.

Kuczynski's father was born in Poznan, in Poland, moved to Berlin, and later Peru when Hitler came to power.

## Obama Wants to Discuss "Quality of Poland's Democracy"



While in Warsaw for the NATO summit this month, President Obama plans to sit down with Poland's leadership.

WASHINGTON, D.C. — President Barack Obama wants to discuss U.S. concerns about the "quality of Poland's democracy" during a visit to Warsaw for the July 7-9 NATO summit, the U.S. State Department said.

Obama and U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry expect to discuss a range of issues with the Polish authorities in War-

saw, said Mark Toner, deputy spokesman for the U.S. State Department.

"We have a long and very close relationship with Poland. As a fellow democracy and an ally, the United States cares very deeply about Poland," said Toner.

"And so I think it's in that regard that Secretary Kerry... and President Obama look forward to having discussions with Poland's new political leadership about a broad range of issues, bilateral issues and multilateral issues that we engage on together.

"But I think also that would include some of our concerns about the quality of Poland's democracy."

In January, the European Commission said it was starting a "rule-of-law" probe into whether controversial laws pushed through by Poland's conservative Law and Justice party, which came to power in October, violate democratic standards.

Poland has been locked in a bitter domestic political row after Law and Justice introduced sweeping reforms to the Constitutional Tribunal and other institutions, prompting anti-government protests, and criticism from abroad.

Law and Justice has sharply rebutted criticism that its reforms are anti-democratic.

## Fr. Stanislaus Papczyński Canonized by Pope Francis



Stanislaus Papczynski founded the Marians of the Immaculate Conception to promote the doctrine of Mary's Immaculate Conception. In recent years the order has focused on spreading the message of Divine Mercy. Above: An image of Papczyński attributed to Nemirovsky, in St. Michael the Archangel Basilica in Marijampole, Lithuania.

WARSAW —The founder of the first Polish male religious order was canonized in Rome, June 5.

Saint Stanislaus Papczyński (1631-1701), founder of the Marians of the Immaculate Conception, which now has more than 500 priests in 19 countries, promoted social justice and prayers for the dying.

Poland's bishops said Papczyński calls people "to contemplate God's mercy and proclaim that God's heart is open to all."

They said Father Papczyński had created the order when his country was "sunk in endless war, famine and disease," after realizing that many Poles, soldiers included, were dying "unprepared for meeting with God."

"Father Papczyński showed that love is the spirit, light and life of every order and social community, that no needy person should be left to die without support," they said.

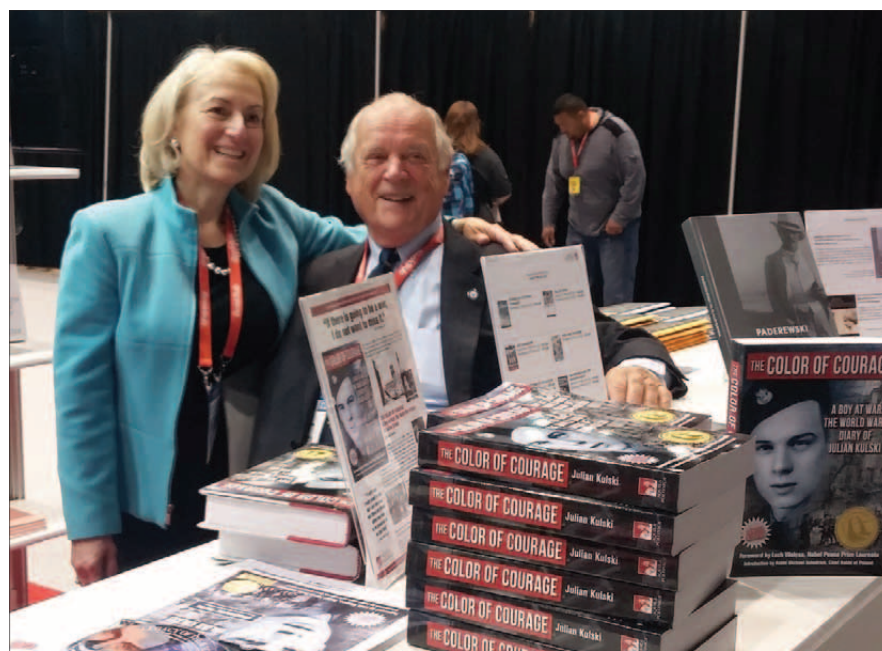
Papczyński had established clinics and shelters for the "distressed, rejected and unjustly treated," and to counter the alcoholism, rampant in the 17th century.

Born into a blacksmith's family at Podegrodzie, in Poland's southern Beskid region, Saint Papczyński joined the Spanish-based Piarist congregation in 1654, after being educated at Jesuit colleges, and became its first full Polish member two years later.

Ordained in 1661, he left the Piarists after nine years, complaining about their lack of rigor, and in 1673 founded a retreat house at Skiermiewice for his new Marian order, with a mission to promote the Immaculate Conception and pray for souls in purgatory.

He later served as a military chaplain against Turkish invaders in Ukraine and acted as confessor to King Jan Sobieski during his victory over the Turks at the 1683 Battle of Vienna.

## Polish Authors, Librarians Converge in Chicago at BookExpo America



**POLAND SHINES AT TRADE SHOW.** Poland was the 2016 "Guest of Honor" at the largest publishing trade show in the United States, with the spotlight aimed at Polish authors, publishers, and illustrators. Above, Aquila Polonica publisher Terry Tegnazian with Julian Kulski at the exposition.

CHICAGO — "This is the best publishing trade show in the United States."

Organized by the Polish Book Institute in Krakow, the Polish Cultural Institute in New York, and Aquila Polonica Publishing in Los Angeles, the Poland booth at BookExpo and at the May 14 BookCon show for the public, offered a

See "BookExpo," page 4

## ALMANAC



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## July ☽ Lipiec

"Nothing in life is to be feared, it is only to be understood. Now is the time to understand more, so that we may fear less."

— Marie Curie Skłodowska  
(Nov. 7, 1867-July 4, 1934).

1 1847. Founding of **Parisville**, Polish settlement in Michigan.

2 **MATKA BOSKA JAGODNA**  
*Blessed Virgin of the Berries. The first fruits and wild berries are ripened by this day.*  
1800. Birth of painter **Piotr Michalowski**.

3 1619. Account of strike by Polish settlers in **Jamestown, Virg.** entered into records of the Virginia Company. The Poles, pitch, tar and glassmakers, held the win strike for equal rights. It is considered to be the first labor strike in the New World.

4 **INDEPENDENCE DAY. (U.S.)**  
1934. Death of **Madame Skłodowska Curie**, 66, in France, Nobel Prize winner chemist who discovered radium and polonium.

5 War II ace **Col. Francis Gabreski** scores his 28th downed enemy plane.

7 1572. Death of **King Zygmunt August**, last of Poland's Jagiellonian dynasty.

8 1824. Birth of **Włodzimierz Krzyżanowski** (d. 1887), Union officer.

9 1803. Napoleon Bonaparte creates the **Grand Duchy of Warsaw**.

10 1835. Birth of composer and violinist **Henry Wieniawski**.

13 2000. Death of **Jan Karski**, former Polish diplomat who in 1942 tried to warn Great Britain and the United States of Nazi atrocities in occupied Poland.

15 1410. Polish victory over the Teutonic Knights at **Grunwald**.

16 **SAINT KUNEGUNDA**  
1873. **Jan Matejko** establishes a school of fine arts in Krakow.

17 1629. Birth of Poland's warrior king, **Jan Sobieski** (inset, right).

18 **ST. SIMON OF LIPNICA**  
Lt. **Col. Matt Urban**,

America's most decorated soldier, receives Medal of Honor.

21 1901. Dedication of **St. Joseph Basilica**, Milwaukee.

22 1942. Nazis began their transport of Jews from the Warsaw Ghetto to the death at Treblinka.

23 1885. *Ojczyzna* (Fatherland) founded in Buffalo. Semi-weekly newspaper. Ceased publication in 1887.

25 **ST. JACOB THE GREATER**

28 1812. Birth of prolific Polish novelist **Jozef Ignacy Krasinski**. 1915. Roman Catholic Diocese surrenders possession of **Holy Mother of the Rosary Polish National Catholic Church**, Buffalo, N.Y.

29 1908. **Bishop Paul P. Rhode** consecrated, first Polish American bishop in Chicago.

30 1619. At meeting of legislative assembly at the **Jamestown, Virginia** settlement, Poles are granted a political voice after withholding services as pitch, tar and glassmakers. Their action is considered the first strike in the United States.

This paper mailed on or before **June 30, 2016**. The August 2016 edition will be mailed on or before **July 29, 2016**

## VIEWPOINTS

## Reminding Washington of Russia's Aggressiveness

Americans for Security in Central and Eastern Europe (ASCEE) held a rally in front of the White House on Sat., June 11. The rally was in support of U.S. strategic security interests in Europe through a lasting U.S./NATO military presence in Poland.

Russian imperialist and military posturing is real and growing. Following aggression in Georgia, the annexation of Crimea, and war in the Donbas Region of Ukraine, Russia now threatens the free and democratic countries of Eastern and Central Europe along its borders. During the military maneuvers code-named "ZAPAD" (translated as "West") the Russian Armed Forces rehearsed all aspects of a surprise attack on Poland.

Today Russia represents a very real and even an imminent threat to Poland and to world peace.

Russian President Vladimir Putin's repeated announcements that Russia is strengthening its military presence in the Kaliningrad (Koenigsberg/Królewiec) region, in immediate proximity to the Polish border, suggests that Russian plans for aggression against Poland are advancing. Concentrations of Russian manpower, weapons of mass

destruction and military materiel are clearly intended to threaten and intimidate NATO members.

These developments have drawn a direct response from NATO in the form of broadening military exercises in its eastern region. It is imperative to further strengthen the eastern flank of NATO.

The U.S. Administration has earmarked \$3.4 billion for this purpose.

The 2016 NATO Warsaw Summit of July 8-9 will determine the response of the NATO Alliance to Russia's offensive and threatening moves, including war preparations. NATO is a defensive alliance and priority must be given to the Alliance's collective security in accordance with Article 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty. For the Central and Eastern European members, the summit in Warsaw is about putting in place military capabilities to deter war because only through military strength can real peace be assured in Europe.

Considering Russia's aggressive posture towards Central and Eastern European NATO members, only a sizeable presence of U.S. armed forces will prevent war. This is also the only deterrent to Russia's growing threat to world peace. Just as

during the Cold War, an American presence will reduce the probability of a Russian attack.

ASCEE considers this a pivotal issue facing U.S. strategic national security interests, and has called upon the Polish American Congress Conference of National Directors to implement the resolution enacted on in 2014 in Chicago, which requests a significant and permanent U.S. military presence in Poland and establishment of the NATO bases.

"Polish American communities and organizations across the United States, as well as those affiliated by

interest, are speaking with one voice now," said ASCEE. "The increased Russian threat makes it obvious that we must act together to petition the U.S. government to establish a lasting U.S. military presence as part of NATO in the region. Such a commitment represents an essential component of U.S. strategic security policy."



For more information on Americans for Security in Central and Eastern Europe, contact Roman Korzan at [ascee.dc@gmail.com](mailto:ascee.dc@gmail.com); (202) 888-4035.

## Defense Minister Plans for Hostilities

WARSAW— Poland plans to recruit 35,000 for a paramilitary force to counter Russian aggression, reports Poland's Defense Minister Antoni Macierewicz. He said that the new force is needed because Poland is "threatened by the actions of our neighbor Russia, which makes no secret of its aggressive intentions."

The goal of the paramilitary force is to counter the kind of "hybrid warfare" that Russia employed in the seizure of Ukraine's

Crimean Peninsula.

Recruitment is slated to begin in September. Civilian volunteers will be trained in military skills comprising of about thirty days of military training a year. The initial three brigades are slated to be operational in eastern Poland by January, 2017, given that that area is most subject to Russian aggression. Fourteen more are expected to be ready in 2019. The command structure and senior appointments are already in place.

## Briefing at Embassy in Washington Addresses Security of Poland

by Richard Poremski

WASHINGTON, D.C. — At the behest of Ambassador Ryszard Schnepf, 100 leaders of Polish American organizations and associations and special guests in many professional fields from across the United States convened here on May 13, 2016 at the Embassy of the Republic of Poland, where they heard expert presentations on the national security of Poland. The meeting was held in conjunction with the May 12 politically bi-partisan annual gathering of the American Polish Advisory Council (APAC) at the U.S. Capitol. Elected members of both the House and Senate are always invited to address important matters of concern to both Poland and Polonia.

Ambassador Schnepf welcomed the guests and emphasized the Embassy and Poland place the utmost importance on the close cooperation with the American Polonia and the reciprocal support for each other's initiatives. He said that an example of the good state of Polish American relations — and military alignment — is illustrated by the recent ground breaking of a U.S. missile defense installation in Redzikowo, northern



PHOTO: RICHARD POREMSKI

Political Section First Secretary Dorota Markiewicz-Zemke addresses guests, including (seated from the right) APAC founder General/Ambassador Edward Rowny, Ambassador Ryszard Schnepf, APAC Executive Director Darek Barcikowski, and Consul General Piotr Konowrocki.

Poland. Schnepf also emphasized the upcoming July NATO Summit in Warsaw, citing examples of Poland's resolute and significant military cooperation with the U.S. and all the other allied NATO partners.

APAC's Edward Rowny and Darek Barcikowski stressed the im-

portance of maintaining the Polish American dialogue. "We must be active in politics starting in our local communities, extending to our cities, counties, states and the U.S. Congress," Barcikowski strongly advised. Polonia activist Maureen Pikarski spoke about the recently

conducted listening and networking tours with Polonia and its leaders that evolved into the present two-day's summit meetings here. Military analyst Conrad Nowak echoed Ambassador Schnepf's remarks, the importance of the NATO alliance to Poland, and that the upcoming NATO summit in Warsaw is of the utmost significance. "Poland has been on the side of right wherever its forces have served," he remarked.

The embassy briefing concluded with the Political Section First Secretary Dorota Markiewicz-Zemke giving a complete and very detailed presentation on the present state of Poland's national defenses, and emphasized Poland's dynamic participation with NATO in various military situations. The vital military statistics she delivered, with their correspondingly huge numbers, left no doubt that Poland is well situated, and is fully prepared, to defend the homeland and forcefully repel against any foreign aggression or associated threats. All this in light of the rise of a resurgent, militaristic and aggressive Russia too near on Poland's eastern border.

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## Ambassador to UN Dedicates Special Exhibit at Port Washington Polish American Museum

by Gerald Kochan

PORT WASHINGTON, Long Island, N.Y. — On Sun., June 5, the Polish Ambassador to the United Nations, Dr. Boguslaw Winid dedicated an exhibit featuring one of the most poignant stories to come out of World War II. The event was the public premier of “Passage to India – The Wartime Odyssey of Polish Children and the Good Maharaja” that will reside for the next two months at the Polish American Museum, 16 Belleview Ave.

It features the touching story of 1,000 Polish children, mostly orphans, some of the more than two million Poles that were sent to the Gulags by the Soviets in the period of 1940-1941. It is the story of their odyssey from the Gulags to refuge in India, a story made even more relevant today by the actions of Putin in the Ukraine and elsewhere and the other war refugees from Southwest Asia and North Africa that Europe is presently facing. One of those children, Mrs. Alexander Puc was a specially honored guest at the exhibit opening.

After a few words of welcome by the president of the Museum Board, Barbara Szydłowska, the ambassador and the director of the Museum, Gerald Kochan, Colonel (ret.) assisted by his wife Malgorzata gave short presentations regarding the exhibit. The ambassador spoke of the “good Maharaja” the primary benefactor of the children and how he is still honored in Poland by a street and school named for him. The director touched upon the story of the other Poles deported and their fate



An exhibit about the the plight of orphaned Polish refugees, who were aided by the Maharaja of Nawanagar, draws on dozens of archival photographs. The children had survived being deported to corners of the Soviet Union following the Red Army's invasion of eastern Poland in September 1939.

when given “amnesty” by the Soviets upon the German invasion of the USSR in late 1941. The resulting agreement between the Soviet government and the Polish government operating in exile from Great Britain resulted in the formation of a Polish Army in the USSR under General Wladyslaw Anders.

The evacuation of this army to fight on the Western Front when the Soviets were unable to properly equip and feed the force provided an opportunity to rescue some of the civilians including the orphans featured in the exhibit. The director's father was one of those who left with Anders's Army as a soldier but was transferred to Great Britain to reinforce the Polish Parachute Brigade. Colonel Richard Jung, board member of the Center for Military Studies and special guest, had a similar background as his mother was rescued through the Anders Army relocation. Both admitted that their parents' history helped inspire their choice to become U.S. army officers.

Refreshments were served and the guests were encouraged to roam freely around the exhibit and museum. The ambassador's family and staff mingled with museum staff and family members and general guests answering questions.

All the attendees enjoyed the opportunity to have such direct access to the ambassador and his charming wife Beata. It was truly a family affair in that, not only was the Ambassador assisted by his wife, but his young son Aleksander was fittingly there for an exhibit on children.

## Czech Rader Posthumously Awarded with Legion of Merit

TOLEDO — A Toledo native was honored with the Legion of Merit decoration for her work as a spy in Soviet-era Poland with a ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery.

Born to Polish immigrants, Capt. Stephanie Czech Rader served as a major in the Office of Strategic Services, the World War II-era precursor to the Central Intelligence Agency.

Her knowledge of the Polish language and culture allowed her to work as a spy, collecting information on the Soviets and the Polish secret police in the months after World War II.

Captain Czech Rader, who died in January at age 100, never really discussed her military exploits with those close to her. When the OSS's documents were declassified in 2008, her family was surprised to learn about the extent of her service.

“She shared a lot of fascinating stories with us,” Stephany Dobosz, a relative, said, “but not her postwar activity.”

Dobosz's father, Stanley — Captain Czech Rader's cousin — was sponsored to come to the United States from Poland by Captain Czech Rader's family.

With the release of the documents from the OSS, it became clear that Captain Czech Rader had twice been recom-

mended — and passed over — for the Legion of Merit honor. The OSS Society, a group of fellow OSS veterans, led the effort to recognize her actions.

Captain Czech Rader's extended family gathered at Arlington for the ceremony June 1, more than four months after her death. According to Stephen Smith, an Arlington National Cemetery spokesman, an extended wait is typical for families who request a full honors Army funeral.

But Captain Czech Rader is remembered for much more than her military service. At Cornell University she studied chemistry, a passion she tried unsuccessfully to pursue after graduation because chemistry labs were not open to women. Captain Czech Rader's estate is endowing a chair in chemistry at Cornell



Stephanie Czech Rader served in precursor of the Central Intelligence Agency.

in her honor. “I consider her an icon,” said Marya Czech, Dobosz's sister who was close to Captain Czech Rader.

Although the details of Captain Czech Rader's service were kept under wraps for most of her life, she still left a lasting impression on her family and friends.

“You just loved her when you saw her and met her,” Dobosz said.

— theblade.com

## Polish American Journal Foundation Begins Scholarship Fund Drive

Prizes to be given to students majoring in journalism and the arts

BUFFALO, N.Y. — The Polish American Journal Foundation (PAJF) announces the establishment of annual scholarships to be given to college students of Polish or Polish American descent. The scholarships are available to undergraduate and graduate students majoring in journalism (print news, broadcast news, or advertising/public relations in either print or electronic media); and the arts (literature, including poetry, drama, story, etc.); visual arts (painting, drawing, sculpture, etc.); graphic arts (painting, drawing, de-

Polish American descent.

- Applicant must be a full-time college student, currently enrolled at an accredited college/university in the United States, with confirmed future attendance at an institution in the Fall of 2017.
- Applicant must describe his/her involvement with the Polish community — past, present, or future.
- Complete application package must be received in its entirety no later than April May 30, 2017.
- There is a \$15.00 application fee.

### WE ASK OUR READERS FOR SUPPORT

The Polish American Journal Foundation (PAJF), a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, was established in 2014 to promote Polish and Polish American culture and traditions among members of the public and other Polish and Polish American groups

The success of this scholarship fund drive, the Polish American Journal Foundation — and ultimately the Polish American Journal — depends on the support it receives from Polish Americans. The PAJF is aware that, while there are numerous scholarships available for students of Polish descent, very few pertain to students in the areas of journalism and the arts. And, of those that do, strict criteria (membership in granting organization, residence, etc.) limits their availability to hundreds of other students. The PAJF hopes to bridge this gap with its Scholarship Fund.

For the 2017-18 academic year, we are offering two \$1500 scholarships. Over time, we hope to increase the number of scholarships offered each year, and ultimately, the prize amount.

### MEMBERSHIP AND SCHOLARSHIP DONATIONS

Membership in the PAJF is open to all. Donations are accepted in any amount. All donations will be acknowledged and may be used as charitable contributions on your tax return.

During this Fund Drive, all funds collected between July 31 and December 31, 2016 will be used for the Scholarship Fund. The success of the fund depends on renewed membership in the PAJF, and additional funds earmarked solely for scholarships.

Please help us help our own

community. Since 1911, the Polish American Journal has been an advocate for Poles and their descendants in the United States. Help us draw upon more than 100 years of the Polish American experience to support those who share our core values of strong family, faith, and community.

We would be happy to discuss all the various options available to you so that you can make a donation in

a way that corresponds exactly to your own personal situation.

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sign, sculpture, modeling, etc.); and performing arts (theatre, dance, music, etc.).

Both the journalism and arts scholarships will be \$1500.00 each.

The fund drive for the 2017 awards will run from July 1 to December 31, 2016. Applications will be accepted from January to April 30, 2017 with winners announced on May 31, 2017. Funds will be dispersed to the winners upon proof of full-time studies at an accredited institution.

#### ELIGIBILITY

- Applicant must be an American citizen, either by birth or naturalization.
- Applicant must be of Polish or

#### Factors for Consideration in Order of Importance:

- Demonstrated interest and involvement in Polish American cultural activities with future plans to advance those interests.
- Significant and potential contributions (academic, cultural, scientific, civic), open to all career fields.
- Academic and scholastic performance and achievements as demonstrated in application materials provided for examination.

The complete application package can be downloaded from the PAJF's website, which has a link at [www.polamjournal.com](http://www.polamjournal.com).

JUST BETWEEN US / Mark Kohan

SPOTLIGHT ON LONG ISLAND

## An Unsung Hero Passes

A big part of the *Polish American Journal* died with the passing of Larry Wroblewski on June 4, 2015. He had been senior associate editor of the paper since 1984, and had worked the Journal since it move here from Scranton in 1983.

I first met Larry at the then *Polish American Voice* offices, where he left his job as a writer for the weekly *Am-Pol Eagle*. At that time, Panagraphics — the company which owned the *Voice* — was making plans with Henry Dende to purchase the *Polish American Journal*, bring it to Buffalo, and combine it with *Voice*. David Franczyk was to serve as editor of merged paper, and Larry was assigned to writing, and layout of national, local, and fraternal editions.

Franczyk ran for a seat on the Buffalo Common Council (which he still holds today), and Larry became editor of the PAJ. He held that position for almost two years until he took full charge of the fraternal editions (The Polish Beneficial Association, Polish National Alliance of Brooklyn, The Association of the Sons of Poland, and the Union of Poles in America). I was then assigned as editor in chief.

Having much in common, we became fast friends. Just out of college, we were both paupers, living on coffee, the “sub of the day,” and lunchmeat from the last of the neighborhood’s corner stores. Neither of us minded working until sunrise to beat deadlines (something that confused the 9-to-5ers), writing stories at home (long before home offices were commonplace), or working for close-to-nothing for the benefit of Polonia. As altruistic as that may sound, it was (and is) the truth.

Larry had a way of making everything work, even if — at times — you wanted to drown him midstream. He was a giving soul — a trait that inspired hope among those in his circle. I know it did in me.

Because he was generous to a fault, there were times he took on more could handle. In addition to the newspaper, he was active with Boy Scout Troop 913 at Corpus Christi church. (Interesting fact: Johnny Rzezniak of the GooGoo Dolls was one of his Scouts.) While most of us would have dropped the volunteer grind for the paid work, Larry did the opposite: he brought in people from the working world to help with the volunteer work.

I was not the only person recruited by Larry, but I think my experience will give you an example of the impact he had on those around



PAJ Senior Associate Editor Larry Wroblewski.

him.

Before I knew it, I was a merit badge counselor, playing guitar in Corpus Christi’s folk group, driving with Larry to Erie to cover the closing of Alliance College, attending Polish American Historical Association banquets, Polish American Congress conventions, and the list goes on. That’s what Larry did: he got all his friends involved in everything. The thought of serving on the board of the Polish Community Center of Buffalo never crossed my mind, but within a few years of my introduction to the man, I was hashing over budgets with directors of the National Endowment for the Arts and the New York State Council on the Arts.

Larry grew up on the then-predominantly Polish American East Side of Buffalo. He was proud that he lived within the “Golden Triangle of Polonia” — Broadway, Fillmore Avenue, and Memorial Drive. Like many of us, he thought he could fight the inevitable, and make at least the Triangle a Polish American haven. But, with a young family, he realized city life, at least on the East Side, was not the best option for his wife and girls, and the Wroblewskis moved to bucolic North Collins, where (you can guess), Larry got involved in almost every aspect of life there. He became a volunteer fireman, reporter for several Southtown newspapers, active in the Parent Teachers Association, band boosters, and his parish’s Holy Name Society. Larry was not Larry unless he was helping someone, and (as you

will see reading his obituary in this month’s paper), that meant everything from running into a burning building to offering advice on the best chicken feed.

I am going to miss my friend and his sometimes quirky (but mysteriously always correct) observations on Polish Americana, politics, the arts, and life in general. I have been blessed to have known him, as has everyone who had the pleasure of meeting him. He was humble, kind, and passionate.

He cared more about people than things, and was never one for accolades, awards, or recognition. He would be no doubt be upset at his passing getting as much attention as it has, but I feel we owe him that — and so much more.

### HELPING THE WROBLEWSKI FAMILY.

Mary Fera, a close friend to the Wroblewski family, has set up a GoFundMe page to help Larry’s family keep up with the flood of medical bills, which are currently over \$150,000.

“Raising money for this family means so much to me because Larry was the kind of guy that lit up a room with pure joy and laughter when he walked in,” said Fera “He was a beloved husband to his wife and an incredible father to his three daughters. He did so much for everyone around him and never asked for anything in return. He loved the simplicity of life and saw blessings in all things. He was very active in his church and community. He wouldn’t hesitate to help anyone in need.”

To donate through the GoFundMe, go to: [gofundme.com/28zp8r5n](http://gofundme.com/28zp8r5n).

If you prefer to send a check, please make it payable to “Barbara Wroblewski,” and write “Larry’s Medical Bill Fund” on the check. Please mail to: Larry’s Medical Bill Fund, c/o Polish American Journal, P.O. Box 271, North Boston, NY 14110-0271. Your cancelled check will be your receipt.

## Museum Acquires “Gabby” Memorabilia

by Barbara Szydłowski

PORT WASHINGTON, Long Island, N.Y.

— The Polish American Museum at 16 Belleview Ave. recently acquired the military memorabilia of Col. Francis “Gabby” Gabreski (right), American fighter pilot and air ace. Colonel Gabreski, served in World War II downing over thirty German planes, as well as six Soviet Mig 15s in Korea. The Gabreski military collection, consisting of letters of commendation, and citation plus photos, will be on exhibit in the Fall.



The current exhibit, “Passage to India,” will be available until August 1. The unique exhibit spotlights the plight of Polish orphans rescued from the Soviet Gulags and an unexpected benefactor. The Museum is open Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and Saturday from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. For additional information, call the museum at (516) 883-6542.

**WHO WAS STAN COVELESKI?** He was an American major league baseball pitcher during the 1910s and 1920s who threw the finest spitballs to keep hitters off balance. On seven occasions during his 14 year career, Coveleski (nee Kowalewski) ranked among the league’s top ten in fewest walk allowed per nine innings pitched.

On the strength of his 215 career wins and lifetime .602 winning percentage, Coveleski was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1969. He died on March 20, 1984 at the age of 94 after a lengthy illness. At the time of his death, he was the oldest living Hall of Famer.

**THE STRIKE OF 1619** by Polish workmen at colonial Jamestown, Virginia, was the first strike in the recorded history of North America. Polish craftsmen had been brought to the colony by colonial leader John Smith, to make glassware, pitch and tar. When the colony held the first election in 1619, the Polish craftsmen were not allowed to vote, prompting them to go on strike. Due to the economic importance of these craftsmen in this young colony, colonial leaders bowed to the pressure and gave the Poles full voting rights.

## BookExpo: Polish American Authors also Highlighted

*continued from cover*

unique opportunity for Polish American librarians in Chicagoland to learn what books are new and hot in Poland, and to enjoy programs and author events designed to raise awareness of what is current in the publishing industry.

The big hit in the Poland booth was the display of graphic arts from children’s books, highlighted by a book signing by Aleksandra and Daniel Mizieliski. Other books on display included elegant tomes from the Fryderyk Chopin Institute in Warsaw, collectible editions of classic Polish works from Kurtyak & Ley, language-learning aids from Prolog Publishing, and dozens of popular titles. Another popular feature was *The Witcher*, an opportunity to sample Poland’s popular video game. A large selection of books by Polish American authors was also on display, and a four-color catalog of those books was distributed (A Selection of Books in English about BEA’s Guest of Honor, Poland).

Polish American Librarians Association President Leonard Kniffel helped staff the booth, and PALA members took full advantage of the focus on Poland to enrich their libraries’ collections and programs courtesy of the “Books from Poland” sponsors. A special librarian programming track resulted in small but focused audiences at associated

events and at a variety of venues around Chicago.

Five panel discussions about publishing in Poland during the convention’s May 11 “Global Market Forum” focused on the evolution of the industry since the fall of communism in 1989, including “Poland’s Book Market: Insights, Trends & Developments.”

Among the BEA programs sponsored by the American Library Association was “Polish Literature Is for Everyone: How to Curate Core Collections of Polish Literature at Public Libraries,” presented May 13 by Isabella Nowak-Osika of the Chicago Public Library.

Elsewhere around Chicago, the Polish Book Institute hosted a cocktail reception and a moderated discussion of “The Art of Narrative Nonfiction” with author/journalists Artur Domosławski from Poland and Sebastian Junger, bestselling U.S. author of “*The Perfect Storm*,” at the University Club of Chicago with Chad W. Post, publisher of Open Letter Books at the University of Rochester, moderating the discussion.

The Chopin Theatre hosted an opening event May 10 dubbed “Discovering Poland,” with readings by five authors from Poland: Krystyna Dąbrowska, Artur Domosławski, Dorota Masłowska, Zygmunt Miłoszewski, and Magdalena Tulli,

with opening remarks by Chad W. Post.

Aquila Polonica Publishing held book signings at the Poland booth and at Chicago’s Copernicus Center featuring Julian Kulski, whose World War II diary, “*The Color of Courage*,” the company published in 2014 in an expanded and annotated edition that includes “Digital Extras” (pictures with QR codes that connect to associated film footage that can be viewed on cell phones) as well as an “Educator’s Guide” for classroom use. Kulski was 12 years old when he was recruited into the Polish resistance, and 15 when he fought in the Warsaw Uprising. John Guzłowski, author of Aquila Polonica’s latest title, “*Echoes of Tattered Tongues*,” also signed books at the show and at the Copernicus Center where he read a selection of poems.

Aquila Polonica publisher Terry Tegnazian orchestrated six additional events at McCormick and the Eisenhower Public Library in Harwood Heights, Wood Dale Public Library, and Frugal Muse Books in Darien.

To keep the spotlight on Poland, Polish authors Agata Tuszyńska, Artur Domosławski, and Zygmunt Miłoszewski signed books at Chicago’s D&Z Polish bookstore, whose owners, Dorota and Zbyszek Kruczałak, helped staff the Poland booth and offered information to attendees

about how to buy books from Poland. Polish author Magdalena Tulli also appeared at Unabridged Books in Chicago, while Ron Balson, author of “*Once We Were Brothers*” and “*Saving Sophie*,” joined Tuszyńska May 11 in conversation with Greg Archer, author of “*Grace Revealed*,” at 57th Street Books.

Poet Krystyna Dąbrowska gave a reading at the University of Chicago, which was followed by a conversation with Karen Kovacic, editor of a new all-female Polish poetry anthology titled “*Scattering the Dark*,” and award-winning translator Antonia Lloyd-Jones for a May 11 program at the University of Chicago, moderated by Bożena Shallcross, UC professor of modern Polish literature.

Also signing in the Poland booth was Piotr Witt, author of “*On the Threshold of Fame: Chopin’s First Steps in Paris*” (available only in Polish), who also appeared at a Polish-language presentation at the Polish Museum of America May 13. That event featured Krystyna Dąbrowska, Agata Tuszyńska, Magdalena Tulli, Artur Domosławski, Zygmunt Miłoszewski, Aleksandra and Daniel Mizieliski, Małgorzata Gurowska, and Joanna Ruszczyk on a panel moderated by Zbyszek Kruczałak.

“It’s hard to imagine when an opportunity like this will come

along again,” said Kniffel. “It was an amazing four days with Poland at the center of attention, and what I liked best were the conversations with attendees who spotted the Poland exhibit and told stories about their family connections to Poland. It was also an honor to meet and talk with Julian Kulski. His book belongs in every library in America, and it is up to organizations like PALA to see that it gets there.”

BookExpo America and BookCon are spectacular book giveaways that also feature brand new titles at remainder prices, and librarians from all over the Midwest were on hand to add new titles to their collections. *Publishers Weekly* provided a conversation area exclusively for librarians complete with sandwiches and refreshments, which heightened the excitement that is BookExpo. Other PALA members in attendance included Elizabeth Marszałik, Joanna Klos, Anna Demitraszek, Grazyna Krzycka, and Krystyna Grell and Iwona Bozek of the Polish Museum of America Library, and Donna Solecka Urbik who gave away promotional copies of her new book from the University of Wisconsin Press, “*My Sister’s Mother*,” which was even more popular than the ribbon “Poland” bookmarks and the colorful postcards with illustrations from the children’s book art on display.

RELIGION / Benjamin Fiore, S.J.

# Pope Francis Readies for Trip to Krakow

Plans for Pope Francis' visit to Poland to celebrate the 1050th anniversary of Poland's baptism, and attend the annual World Youth Day in Krakow, also include a visit to the Divine Mercy Shrine.

On July 27, the pope will arrive in Krakow, Poland's second-largest city and also where Pope St. John Paul II served as a priest and eventually was an archbishop. Pope Francis plans on meeting the president of Poland, Andrzej Duda, and will give two speeches.

The pope's speeches will be directed to the diplomatic corps from the courtyard of the Wawel Castle; another speech is to be given to the nation's bishops at the Wawel Cathedral.

The next day, the pope will go to the shrine of the Black Madonna of Czestochowa to celebrate mass and commemorate the 1050th anniversary of the baptism of Poland. He will then return to Krakow to address youth gathered there for the annual World Youth Day.

The following day, Pope Francis will visit the infamous former Nazi concentration camp in Auschwitz and will deliver an address. The pope is then planning on going back to Krakow once again in order to visit a children's hospital and lead the Stations of the Cross.

On July 30th, he will visit the Divine Mercy Shrine located in Krakow, where the image of the Divine Mercy and the relics of St. Faustina Kowalska are located. The pope will hear confessions there and then head to the Shrine of Pope St. John Paul II, where he will offer Mass for all priests, religious, and seminarians. That evening, the pope will lead World Youth Day participants in prayer at the Campus Misericordiae, which is located several miles from Krakow.

The next morning, he will celebrate the closing Mass of World Youth Day at the Campus Misericordiae. Later in the afternoon, he will deliver a last address to young people celebrating World Youth Day and will return to Rome.

**ALSO PREPARING FOR WORLD YOUTH DAY.** To prepare for participation in the World Youth Day in Krakow, Poland this summer, St. Brendan-on-the-Lake parish in Wilson, N.Y. held its 3rd annual walking pilgrimage to the Our Lady of Fatima Shrine in Lewiston, N.Y., 15 miles away. **Fr. Józef Dudzik** welcomed the pilgrims, including **Noah Sacilowski** from Cheektowaga and **Teresa Colosanti, Jean Czerniak,** and **Michelle Kisluk** who joined the pilgrimage from St. John's Church in Alden, N.Y.

**BISHOP MAKES HIS OWN CROZIER.** Bishop David Konderla, recently ordained and installed as Bishop of Tulsa, Oklahoma, has long been a wood worker. He has already made four croziers, the staffs that symbolize the bishop's office as shepherd, for fellow bishops in New

Mexico and Texas. Now he is fashioning his own, using wood from trees at the Catholic Center at Texas A & M where he recently served as director of campus ministry. With tongue in cheek, Bishop Konderla noted "Every Jedi has not completed his training until he's made his own light saber that he uses to fight evil with – so this is my light saber."

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO...** The **Knights of Columbus** in Poland, celebrating the completion of the first ten years. During the past decade the Polish Knights have donated approximately \$1 million to charity and more than 450,000 hours of volunteer service. There are currently 88 Knights councils throughout Poland with more than 4,300 members.

Buffalo's Auxiliary **Bishop Edward M. Grosz** and **Fr. Thaddeus N. Bocianowski** on their 45th anniversary of priesthood and **Fr. Louis S. Dolinic** celebrating 50 years of priesthood.

**Fr. Józef Zuziak**, a Salvadorian priest, who celebrated 50 years of priesthood at Our Lady of Czestochowa Shrine in Merrillville, Ind, where he serves. Fr. Zuziak was ordained in Poland by then-Cardinal Karol Wojtyła, with whom he enjoyed skiing excursions. He also founded the annual walking pilgrimage in August from St. Michael's Church, Chicago, to the Shrine in Merrillville, with an overnight at the Carmelite monastery in Munster, Ind. Information about the August pilgrimage can be found at <http://polonijnapielgrzymka.com/>

**STO LAT TO...** **Fr. Jan Trela**, native of Rzeszów, Poland who was appointed pastor of Christ Our Hope Parish in French Creek, N.Y., where he had served as administrator for three years. Ordained in 1998, Fr. Trela served in various parishes in Kazakhstan before coming to Buffalo.

**Sr. Marie Fidelis Sledgeski**, a member of the Disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ in Prayer Town, Texas. Sr. Marie Fidelis graduated from Franciscan University in Steubenville, Ohio and then followed the call into the convent, after reflecting on religious life since her days in high school.

**TWO ARTISTS OPPOSE PHOENIX ORDINANCE.** Joanna Duka and Breanna Koski operate Brush and Nib, an art studio that specializes in hand-painting, hand-lettering, and calligraphy for various events, including weddings. The two have filed suit against the city of Phoenix's ordinance that would coerce them to do work for same-sex couples planning a marriage or face a \$2,500 fine and up to six months in jail. Alliance Defending Freedom (ADF) attorney Jonathan Scruggs explains, "Artists don't give up their freedom of speech and freedom from coercion when they enter into their art studio. Government can't

cancel artists or demand that they create art that violates their deepest and sincerely held convictions."

**HILLEL INTERNATIONAL OPENS OFFICE IN POLAND.** Hillel International, the global organization fostering community among Jewish students and young Jewish adults, announced the beginning of operations in Poland. "Jewish life in Poland has seen a remarkable revitalization in recent years, but that progress can only be sustained if we ensure that young Polish Jews have the community and the resources necessary to thrive," said the president of Hillel International Eric D. Fingerhut.

**CHANGING TIMES.** After 135 years, the Felician Sisters will no longer be part of the spiritual life of **St. Stanislaus**, the Mother Church of Buffalo, N.Y.'s Polonia. The two remaining nuns who serve St. Stan's, Sister Blaise and Sister Josanne, have added so much to spirit of the Parish and are an important part of the Polonia District ... **Our Lady of Czestochowa** on the Buffalo / West Seneca town line, will not have a lawn fete this year. The annual church picnic regularly drew thousands from across Western New York.

## St. Casimir to hold "Shishkebaba" Fest

**BUFFALO, N.Y.** — The **2nd Annual Shishkebaba Polka-Rock Fest** will be held on the grounds of St. Casimir Church, 160 Cable St., Aug. 6-7, 2016.

On Saturday, there will be kielbasa or chicken shishkabobs by Polish Villa II from 4:00 p.m., and rock, polka, and country music by Special Delivery from 5:00 p.m. On Sunday, the fest will feature Barney's BBQ Chicken from noon, and Rare Vintage from 1:00-5:00 p.m. A bounce house, Euro pobiotic coolers, raffles, Fr. Krysa's cherry cordial, watermelon and Polish beers will be featured both days.

An \$18.00 donation (which includes food) is requested. Presale tickets are available for \$35.00 per couple. This is St. Casimir's annual fundraiser, aimed at keeping the Polish American landmark in full working order. For more information, call (716) 824-9589, or visit [www.stcasimirbuffalo.com](http://www.stcasimirbuffalo.com).



**FR. KRYSA.** Saint Casimir's spiritual leader.

## Libeskind's Zlota 44 New on Warsaw Skyline



**DANIEL LIBESKIND**, architect of One World Trade Center and son of Holocaust survivors, returned to the country of his birth and early years to present the opening of his latest design.

Zlota 44 is one of Europe's tallest and most luxurious residential buildings. The iconic 629-foot, 52-story apartment tower, is located on Ulica Zlota (Gold Street) in downtown Warsaw, and has 287 one-, two- and three-bedroom apartments and penthouses complete with business, leisure, concierge, and parking facilities.

It recently captured five awards at the International Property Awards event in London, UK, including "Best Residential Development," "Best Apartment," "Best Interior Design Show Home," in Europe and "Best Residential High-Rise Development," "Best Residential Development," and "Best Apartment" in Poland.

Besides One World Trade Center, Libeskind's other notable works include Century Spire in Manila, the Wohl Centre in Israel, the Imperial War Museum North in Manchester, and the Jewish Museum in Berlin.

Libeskind has received several Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) awards and is an honorary member of the Royal Society.

## "Sto Lat" Birthday and "Jak Się Masz?" Note Cards



**CARD 402 – "Sto lat."** ("Happy Birthday – May you live 100 years") 4 1/4" x 5 1/2" Full color design with poppy, "Sto lat" lyrics in Polish and English, and role of poppy in Polish culture. Inside left blank for personalization. Printed on 4-1/4 x 5-1/2 glossy stock.

- 75¢ each
- 10-pack \$6.00
- 50 or more 50¢ each

	<b>SHIPPING</b>
1-10 cards .....	<b>\$3.50</b>
11-20 cards .....	<b>\$4.50</b>
21 or more .....	<b>\$5.95</b>

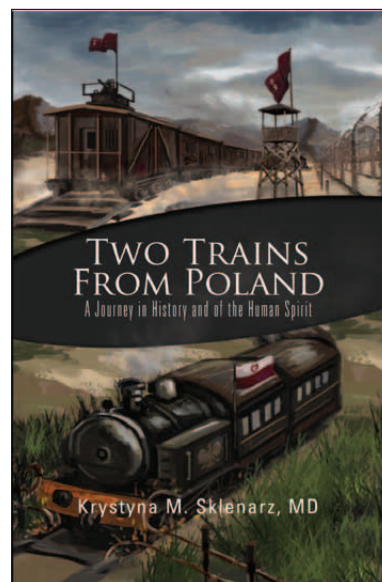
ENVELOPES INCLUDED

**CARD 403 – "Jak Się Masz?"** 5 1/2" x 4 1/4" "Jak się masz?" – This good-natured Polish expression of greeting and expression of good will can be heard when friends, neighbors, and family meet. From "How have you been" and "How's everything?" to "How do you do?" a lot of questions are packed into these three little words.

Full color design with "dziewięćsił" (Alpine Everlasting Thistle Flower), the card comes with a blank inside for personalization. Printed on 4-1/4 x 5-1/2 glossy stock. Ideal "Money Card" for gifts, etc.

Send to: **Polish American Journal**  
P.O. Box 271, N. Boston, NY 14110-0271

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## TWO TRAINS FROM POLAND

*A Journey in History and of the Human Spirit*

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

**Dr. Krystyna M. Sklenarz** was a psychiatrist trained at the University of Chicago, and later Director of the Lake County Mental Health Clinic, Indiana, before opening her own practice.

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## MODLITWY

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

**THANKSGIVING PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT.** Father, as a Church Family, we are grateful to You for sealing us with the promise of Your Holy Spirit. We are thankful that the same power (Holy Spirit) that raised Jesus Christ from the dead is now working in us to do Your good will and pleasure. Holy Spirit, we thank You for being our Helper and living in us forever. We thank You for teaching us all things and bringing to our remembrance all things God, our Father, has said. Thank You, for leading us and guiding us into all truth. Thank You for freeing us from the bondages of our fleshly desires; for to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. Holy Spirit, thank You, for producing in us the fruit of love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control as we walk in You. Holy Spirit, because of You, we have the power to love unconditionally; power to perform miracles and healing; and the power to cast out demons. We can do all things through Jesus Christ because of You. J.K.

## BOOKS IN BRIEF/ Mary Lanham

## At Look at Our Obsession with Meat

## MEATHOOKED

*The History and Science of Our 2.5-Million-Year Obsession with Meat*

by Marta Zaraska  
Basic Books, 2016, 272 pps.  
250 W. 57th St., Suite 1500  
New York, NY 10107  
BasicBooks.com

In *Meathooked*, science journalist Marta Zaraska explores our obsession with meat. Despite the health warnings of cancer and diabetes and the extensive greenhouse gases that are produced raising animals to be slaughtered, humans seem to be addicted. What drives this addiction is what Zaraska means to find out.

The book begins with a look at the earliest carnivores: bacteria-like organisms that consumed other microscopic creatures about 1.5 billion years ago. These small carnivores evolved into larger predators. Then primates happened upon the evolutionary scene. Our ape-like ancestors were mostly vegetarian, but, at some point, early humans made the leap to consuming meat, perhaps scavenging first and then later hunting with hands and tools. Many scientists theorize this jump to animal protein enabled the growth of a much larger brain that is present in modern humans.

Zaraska goes on to investigate the many other aspects of meat, from the meat industrial complex to the ethics and environmental cost of raising animals for slaughter to the cultural traditions surrounding meat as well as the myth that eating meat is necessary for survival. She even discusses the language we use to discuss meat. Her investigation leads her all over the globe, to a steakhouse in India, a meat growing laboratory in the Netherlands, and a vegetarian restaurant in Singapore.

According to Zaraska's research, the future of meat production is unsustainable if the trend towards greater demand due to population growth continues. However, there are solutions such as greatly reducing meat intake by eating pulses (beans, lentils, peas, etc.), cereals, and meat substitutes or perhaps lab-grown meat.

*Meathooked: The History and Science of Our 2.5-Million-Year Obsession with Meat* by Marta Zaraska examines the past, present, and future of meat, and should be read by vegans, vegetarians, and omnivores alike. It is available from Amazon.com and Barnes & Noble.

**About the author.** Marta Zaraska, a travel and science journalist was born and educated in Poland and has been published in *The Los Angeles Times*, *The Washington Post*, *Boston Globe*, and *Elle*. She

has also written two novels and lived in six countries and traveled to 80 of them. She now lives in France with her family and two dogs.

## THE SEAGOING COWBOY

by Peggy Reiff Miller  
Illustrated by Claire Ewart  
Brethren Press, 2016, 40 pps.  
1451 Dundee Ave  
Elgin, IL 60120  
1 (800) 441-3712  
BrethrenPress.com

Shortly after the end of the Second World War, Poland had lost so much. One-fifth of its citizens perished and many cities were greatly damaged. In addition to all that hardship, the country had also suffered a major loss of livestock. In the United States, the churches of the Brethren, the Society of Friends, and Mennonites saw a way to help: by sending cattle and horses overseas to Poland and other war-ravaged European countries to replenish these losses. Those that tended to the farm animals on the ships became known as seagoing cowboys.

In the beautifully illustrated children's book, *The Seagoing Cowboy*, a fictional account of one of these cowboys' experiences is relayed. His story, from the train ride to the ship to the tending of the horses and cows aboard ship and finally the joyous delivery of the extremely-needed resources in Poland is simply-told and punctuated with wonderful watercolor images.

*The Seagoing Cowboy* written by Peggy Reiff Miller and illustrated by Claire Ewart is suitable for those aged four to eight and is available from Brethren Press.

**About the author.** Peggy Reiff Miller was inspired to write about the seagoing cowboys since 2002 when she learned her own grandfather made such a voyage himself in 1946. She has written about the Heifer Project, now Heifer International, in several magazine articles, a blog, as well as creating the documentary, *A Tribute to the Seagoing Cowboys*. She holds degrees from Manchester University in Indiana, Western Michigan University, and the Institute of Children's Literature. She lives with her husband in Goshen, Indiana.

**About the illustrator.** Claire Ewart holds a BFA from the Rhode Island School of Design, and has been an author and illustrator for 27 years. Her books have been selected for state book awards and reading lists and her work has been featured on Reading Rainbow as well as museums and galleries. She currently works in both Fort Wayne, Indiana and Saugatuck, Michigan.

spirituality.

As jobs in Pittsburgh continued to be plentiful in the waning years of the nineteenth century, Poles began moving into the Lawrenceville neighborhood. Soon, a committee of Polish men began petitioning Bishop Phelan to establish a parish for the Poles in the area. Hearing their cries, the Bishop tapped Father Anthony Smelsz to establish a Holy Family parish in 1902. To show their thanks, the group raised the necessary funds to purchase a plot of land at the corner of 41st and Foster Streets for a combination school and church building. On June 7, 1903 the cornerstone was blessed and nine months later the complex was dedicated.

In the first quarter century, the parish grew by leaps and bounds.

The school was quickly overcrowded and an addition was added to the back of the building. In 1925, Father Ladislaus Sliwinski took over the parish with the hopes of building a new church for Holy Family, but the

parish debt, lack of a suitable location, and the onset of the Great Depression dashed those hopes. It would take 15 years of diligent work for the bishop to approve the new building and in January of 1939 he did.

While work on the new church was happening, Father Sliwinski was appointed Diocesan Consultor. In this capacity Father Ladislaus suggested to the bishop a number of ways Polonia could help war-torn Poland. The bishop took the priest's words to heart and after meeting with other American bishops, used Sliwinski's plans to help establish the Catholic League.

The second church building was dedicated October 28, 1940 with the Very Reverend Izydor Cwiklinski O.F.M. Provincial from Pulaski, Wisconsin and the Reverend Ferdinand Pawlowski, O.F.M., publisher of the Franciscan Monthly assisting with the ceremony.

In 1973 Holy Family received a very special rendering of Our Lady of Czestochowa. The icon, a gift of Cardinal Wyszynski to Orchard Lake Schools was acquired by the parish at the behest of longtime parishioner Dora Alski.

As the Polish population began to move out of Lawrenceville in the latter half of the twentieth century,

## 500 Graduate from Polish Language Schools



**CLASS DISMISSED.** On May 29, Chicago's St. Hyacinth Basilica hosted the unified graduation of 500 Polish American students from 35 Chicago-area Polish Language Schools. High school diplomas were presented by Eva Koch, president of the Polish Teachers Association of America (*Zrzeszenie Nauczycieli Polskich w Ameryce*), and Konrad Zielinski, vice consul general of the Republic of Poland. These students spent 12 years during elementary and secondary school years — in some cases, sacrificing their athletic pursuits — to attend Saturday morning and/or Friday evening Polish language classes (G.B.C.)

## Hippocrene Books to Release New Book on Polish Forced Laborers

NEW YORK — Sophie Hodorowicz Knab, bestselling author of several Polish-interest books, including *Polish Customs, Traditions, and Folklore* and *The Polish Country Kitchen Cookbook*, has written a new book inspired by her mother's experiences as a forced laborer in Germany during World War II.

Conducting extensive research of post-war trial testimonies housed in archives in the U.S., London, and in Warsaw, Knab has written a book about female Polish forced laborers and the unique set of challenges and often unspeakable conditions they experienced as a result of their gender. Hundreds of thousands of Polish women, some as young as twelve, were taken from their homes in Poland and forced to work for the Reich for months and years on end. She writes of the round-

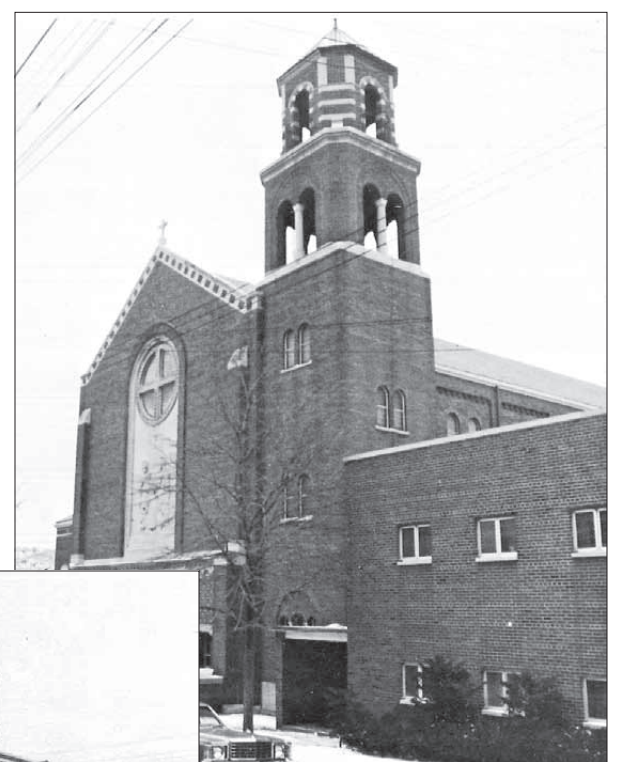
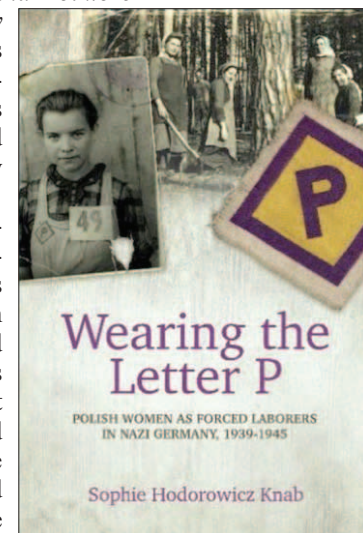
ups, the horrors of transit camps, the terrible conditions of life and work in both agriculture and industry; the wearing of the letter P on all their clothes and all the

severe discrimination associated with being a Pole, all under the threat of violence and being sent to concentration camps.

Knab draws from documents, government and family records, photos, and most importantly, diaries, letters and trial testimonies to present a detailed portrait of the lives of female Polish laborers, finally giving Polish women a voice in this aspect of World War II.

The book, *Wearing the Letter P: Polish Women as Forced Laborers in Nazi Germany 1939-1945* will be released in October.

It will be available from the Polish American Journal Bookstore.



(Left): The first Holy Family church and school building located at the corner of 41st and Foster Streets. (Above): The second Holy Family church designed by Anthony Pyzdrowski and completed in 1940.

decided that the Holy Family location would be closed and on December 28, 2008 a final Mass was held at the church.



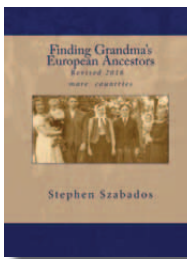
The interior of the second Holy Family church.

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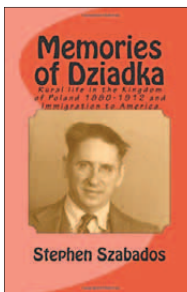
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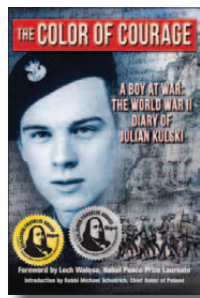
es many new sources for Polish records that have been implemented by genealogy societies in Poland.

NEW! A POLISH DOCTOR IN THE NAZI CAMPS



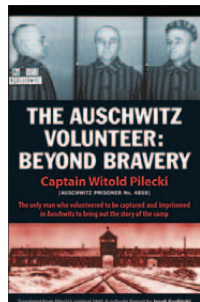
Memories of Imprisonment, Immigration, and a Life Remade by Barbara Rylko-Bauer 28 b&w illus. 416 pp., pb. 6.125" X 9.25" \$19.95

A daughter's account of her mother's wartime experiences and postwar struggle to rebuild her life. Jadwiga Lenartowicz Rylko, was a young Polish Catholic physician in Łódź at the start of World War II.



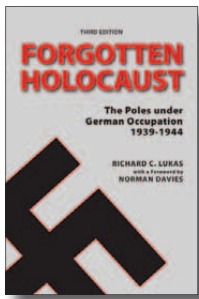
THE COLOR OF COURAGE A Boy at War: The World War II Diary of Julian Kulski Paperback by Julian E. Kulski \$19.95 Aquila Polonica Publ., 2012 496 pp., 6" x 9", pb.

"If there is going to be a war, I do not want to miss it." So wrote Julian Kulski a few days before the outbreak of World War II.



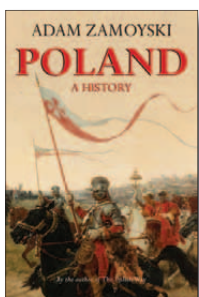
THE AUSCHWITZ VOLUNTEER by Witold Pilecki Translated by Jarek Garlinski \$34.95 Aquila Polonica Publ., 2014 460 pp., 6" x 9", pb.

In 1940, the Polish Underground wanted to know what was happening inside the recently opened Auschwitz concentration camp.



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

Forgotten Holocaust has become a classic of World War II literature. As Norman Davies noted, "Dr. Richard Lukas has rendered a valuable service, by showing that no one can properly analyze the fate of one ethnic community in occupied Poland without referring to the fates of others.



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

The Polish Way: A Thousand-Year History of the Poles and their Culture, which has been out of print since 2001.

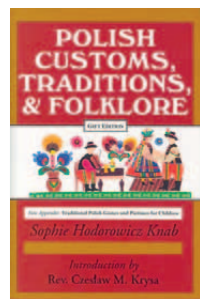


AMERICAN ORIGINALS Northwest Ohio's Polish Community at Home, Work, Worship, and Play Editor: Timothy Borden \$22.95

Pb. 258 pp. / University of Toledo Press 9 x 6 inches American Originals, an anthol-

ogy of stories from Toledo Polonia will prove to be a favorite on any bookshelf devoted to the Polish-American experience.

The University of Toledo Press published American Originals as part of its series on the various ethnic groups who settled in Toledo.



POLISH CUSTOMS, TRADITIONS & FOLKLORE \$24.95 by Sophie Hodorowicz Knab 340 pp., hc. Hippocrene Books

Polish Customs, Traditions, & Folklore is organized by month, beginning with December and Advent, St. Nicholas Day, the Wigilia (Christmas Eve) nativity plays, caroling and the New Year celebrations.



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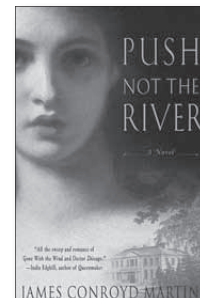
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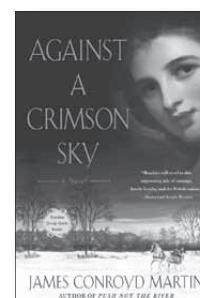
BE NOT AFRAID by Heather Kirk — \$19.95 Borealis Press, 276 pp., pb.

Learn about Poland and the movement that started the end of the Cold War in an easy-to-read, well-written book Be Not Afraid is an introduction to the Polish non-violent resistance movement, "Solidarity."



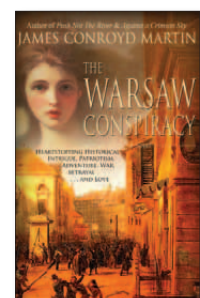
PUSH NOT THE RIVER \$15.95 St. Martin's Press. 496 pp.pb. Maps & wycinanki illust. Reading Group Guide

This book club favorite is based on the real diary of a Polish countess who lived through the rise and fall of the Third of May Constitution years.



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

"You don't have to read Push Not the River to get the most from this sequel," says Suzanne Strempek Shea.



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

Portraying two brothers in love and war, The Warsaw Conspiracy completes the trilogy. You need not have read the others to enjoy this family saga set against the November Rising (1830-1831).

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## HAPPENINGS: CHICAGO STYLE / Geraldine Balut Coleman

## Polish Army Veterans Commemorate Monte Cassino



Members of 2nd Polish Corps.

On 22 May, many gathered at the Lone Tree Manor Restaurant in Niles, Illinois to honor those who fought in the 2nd Polish Corps of General Władysław Anders and to commemorate the 72nd anniversary of the Battle of Monte Cassino. The Polish Army Veterans Association of Chicago and its Ladies Auxiliary Corps organized the event. After a moment of silence to honor the fallen and deceased veterans of the 2nd Polish Corps, Zygmunt Goliński, commander of the Polish Army Veterans Association, welcomed guests, veterans, and representatives of Polonian community organizations.

Goliński also welcomed former soldiers whose wartime experiences were associated with the Battle of Monte Cassino. Among those honored were: Lucjan Pawłowski, Waclaw Wierzbicki, Stanisław Latuszek, Jan Muniak, Kazimierz Baranek, Włodzimierz Świerczyński, Jerzy Chłystek, Captain Jerzy Pasiński, as well as Zofia Biernadska, Teodozja Musiałowicz, and Halina Różycka.

Veterans spoke of the heroism and patriotism of the Polish soldiers, who on May 18, 1944, stormed Monte Cassino and raised the Polish flag, seizing the famous Benedictine abbey from the Germans, and opening the way for the Allies to capture Rome, some 33 miles away. Victory came at a high price. Approximately 51,000 Polish troops fought with steely courage, and 4,100 troops died in the battle. In addition to the heroism of the Polish soldiers, the gathering also discussed the bitter result of the Polish victory following the geopolitical decisions made at Tehran, Yalta, and Potsdam and how those decisions tragically impacted Poland until 1990. The event concluded with the veterans singing the 2nd Polish Corps' anthem, "Czerwonych maków na Monte

Cassino," "Red Poppies on Monte Cassino."

**POLISH ARTS CLUB CELEBRATES 90 YEARS.** With 100 guests on hand, the Polish Arts Club of Chicago (PACC) celebrated its 90th Anniversary with an inaugural luncheon on June 13 at Café La Cave in Des Plaines, Illinois. Alicia L. Dutka, immediate past president, welcomed guests and Rev. Thaddeus Dziesko gave the invocation. Thaddeus J. Makarewicz conducted the installation of new PACC officers. The Polonia Dance Ensemble modeled regional and national costumes of Poland. Guests were treated to the melodic entertainment of violinist Anthony Kawalkowski, with Dr. William Crowle at the piano. The PACC announced that its 80th Art Exhibition of Painting and Sculpture would open with a special reception on April 22, 2017, at The Polish Museum of America.



Ewa Kowcz Fair and Marek Rachelski

**MUSICA LUMINA.** St. John Brebeuf Church is a perfect setting for any classical music concert, both esthetically and acoustically. On May 15, the church hosted the "Musica Lumina – From the Slavic World" concert. Under the direction of Marek Rachelski, St. John's music director, the Slavic world was represented by the compositions of Heinrich Ignaz Franz von Biber, Bohuslaw Martinů, and Antonin Dvořák, from Bohemia; Frédéric Chopin, Stanisław Moniuszko, and Mieczysław Karłowicz, from Poland; and Leoš Janáček, from Moravia.



Doba at the PMA.

Perhaps the highlight of the program was the Polish portion of the concert in which Ewa Kowcz Fair, soprano, sang Chopin's *Piosnka Litewaska, Opus 74, No. 16*, his ever-popular and melodic, *Życzenie, Opus 74, No. 1*, Moniuszko's *Prząśniczka*, and Karłowicz's romantic *Pamiętam ciche, jasne, złote dni*, along with Dvořák's *Měsíčku na nebi hlubokém* (Moon, high and deep in the sky) from the opera, *Rusalka*. For this last Dvořák piece, Ms. Kowcz Fair's voice soared clear and inspirational throughout the church.

**AN EVENING WITH KAYAKER ALEKSANDER DOBA – PADDLING THE ATLANTIC.** A crowd filled the Great Hall of The Polish Museum of America (PMA) to hear and meet Aleksander Doba, National Geographic Adventurer of the Year. The evening, hosted by the PMA and the Joseph Conrad Yacht Club, focused on his newest adventure – to start kayaking on May 29, 2016, from the Statue of Liberty in New York City to Lisbon, Portugal. He was the first person to travel in a 7m kayak across the Atlantic. This 2010 voyage, starting in Dakar, Senegal, and ending in Acarau,

Brazil, covered 3913 miles. It took the 67-year-old Pole 99 days, and it was the longest open-water crossing ever undertaken by a kayaker. Doba accomplished this by muscle power alone and without a sail. His next Trans-Atlantic kayak voyage started on Oct. 5, 2013, from Lisbon, Portugal. His goal was to paddle across the Atlantic in *OLO*, his 23-foot kayak, ending in New Smyrna Beach, Florida. His plan was to travel 5400 miles, but after 196 days, he arrived at that destination after paddling 6300 miles. Only Peter Bray of Great Britain kayaked across the Atlantic. Doba, however, has kay-



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aked across open water for more miles. Appropriately Doba's motto states, "Impossible does not exist."

### POLISH MUSEUM SUMMER GALA.

Café La Cave in Des Plaines, Illinois, was the place to be on June 3, when approximately 225 guests celebrated the 36th Annual Summer Gala of The Polish Museum of America (PMA).

The evening's festivities began with this year's gala chair, Sharon Orłowski, greeting guests. Joseph A. Drobot, Jr., chairman of the board of the PMA, sang the national anthems of Poland and the United States, followed by Father Stanisław Czarniecki, S.J., of Loyola Academy, giving the invocation. Richard Owsiany, president of the PMA, introduced Robert Rusiecki, consul general of the Republic of Poland in Chicago, who also greeted and thanked everyone for attending this fundraiser. Following dinner, Mr. Owsiany acknowledged those who gave considerable donations to the Museum: Copernicus Foundation, Deborah L. Greenlee, and Legion of Young Polish Women. He announced that the 2016 recipient of the Museum's Polish Spirit Award was Chicago's Polish American Chamber of Commerce. The Summer Gala is the PMA's largest fundraiser. The evening offered the guests the opportunity to bid on items in the PMA's Silent Auction and enjoy the music of the Anthony Kawalkowski Orchestra.

PAC-IL HOLDS ELECTIONS. Approximately 250 members of the Polish American Congress-Illinois Division (PAC-IL) gathered on

Monday, May 23, at Chicago's Copernicus Center to elect its new leadership. PAC-IL's new officers include Romuald Poplawski (president), Bogdan Strumiński (first vice president), Mary Sendra Anselmo (second vice president), Ewa Cholewińska (treasurer), Jolanta Grocholska (financial secretary), Jan Płachta (recording secretary), Mark Dobrzycki (corresponding secretary), and Walter Bochenek (sergeant at arms). The additional vice presidents elected include Michael Niemkiewicz, Michael Niedziński, Anna Zalinska, Irene Hercik, Peter Wyszowski, and Zygmunt Goliński. National directors elected are Andrzej Gedlek, Anna Zawadzka, Anna Wierzbicka, and Joseph Sobczak.

The new president of the PAC-IL, Romuald Poplawski, immigrated to the United States 50 years ago. He is a graduate of Georgetown University, the University of Wisconsin at Madison, and the international programs of Oxford University and the University of Adam Mickiewicz in Poznan. He is an active member of many organizations and the owner



Legion of Young Polish Women.

and president of U.S. Global Corporation, an international firm specializing in energy, environmental, and agro related industries.

As the new president of the PAC-IL, Poplawski aims to strengthen communication between Polish academic clubs, promote the Polish and Polish American communities, and expand business contacts within the Polonian community and beyond.

**JANUSZ KORCZAK'S PLAYGROUND.** Janusz Korczak Park is a tiny playground located in Chicago's West Rogers Park neighborhood. Established in 1950 as Claremont Park by the City of Chicago, it was transferred, along with more than 250 other parks, from the City of Chicago to the Chicago Park District. In 1974, Claremont Park was renamed Dr. Janusz Korczak Park, after the Polish pediatrician, educator, and writer known for his care of orphans. Korczak founded and directed orphanages for Jewish and Catholic children. Although he had numerous opportunities to flee Nazi-occupied Poland, he chose to accompany his orphans, when they were deported to the Warsaw Ghetto and to the Treblinka death camp. It was there that he died with the children he loved.



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POLONIA OF THE EASTERN GREAT LAKES / Michael Pietruszka

# Cheektowaga Polish Arts Festival Changes



MAZUREK

BUFFALO, N.Y. — Visitors to this year's Cheektowaga Polish American Festival in Cheektowaga Town Park, to be held the weekend of July 14th through 17th, may not see significant changes from previous festivals, but the changes will be there just the same. Past festivals have been the exclusive bailiwick of the Town of Cheektowaga. Beginning this year, the town will have a private partner in this endeavor, the Pol-Am Partners Volunteer Organization, led by NYS Assembly candidate **Kristy Mazurek**, which will handle organizational and financial responsibilities.

This year's festival will feature performances by the Cheektowaga Community Symphony Orchestra, Lenny Gomulka & Chicago Push, John Gora, John Steven's Double-shot, Special Delivery, Maestro's Men, Rare Vintage, Polish Heritage Dancers of WNY and Harmony Polish Folk Ensemble. The festival will focus on St. Stanislaus, the Mother Church of Buffalo's Polonia.

The Annual General Pulaski Association Parade will still wind its way down Harlem Road in Cheektowaga on July 17th as part of the festival, as usual. Pulaski board member Marian Kreutzer will serve as this year's Grand Marshal.

**POLONIA TIDBITS.** Under the leadership of **Jim Lawicki**, the new president of the WNY Division of

the Polish American Congress, the Division has gone "digital," and will be using email for alerts, meeting notices, events and newsletters ... The bas relief sculpture by **Jozef Slawinski** memorializing the Katyn Forest Massacre which has been in the lobby of Buffalo's City Hall since 1980, was recently restored and rededicated ... The Professional and Business Women of Polonia awarded their scholarship for this year to **Ashley Weselak** ... The **Canadian Polish Society** of St. Catharines, Ontario recently participated in Niagara Folk Arts Festival Open House events ... The *Am-Pol Eagle*, WNY's Polonia weekly newspaper, welcomed the readers of *PolAm World*, which was published in eastern NYS, upon the recent passing of Publisher Edward Dmuchowski.

The literary and artistic work of State University of New York at Buffalo Theatre Professor Emeritus **Dr. Kazimierz Braun** was the subject of a conference at the University of Rzeszow on June 1st and 2nd ... **St. John Guabert** Parish in Cheektowaga marked its 99th anniversary on June 3rd ... **St. John Kanty** Parish on Buffalo's East Side held its annual Polka Mass and Summer Festival, featuring music by "Rare Vintage," on June 5th ... The **Polish Scholarship Fund** held its 62nd Annual Syracuse Polish Festival the weekend of June 10th through 12th in Clinton Square in Downtown Syracuse. The entertainment for this year's festival included performances by the John Spillet Quartet, Melody Lane, Salt City Brass, Rymanowski Brothers Orchestra, Jimmy Sturr, Popshow Band, Lechowia Polish Canadian Dance Company, Mansfield Ave. Blues Brothers, Billionaires Band, John Gora, and the Noisy Boys. Pictures are available at <<http://polishscholarship.org>> ... **Roman Frankl** performed as part of "Letnia Serenada 2016" at the Consulate of the Republic of Poland in Toronto on June 11th.

The **International Joint Committee on Camp Kosciuszko**, made up of representatives of the WNY

Division of the Polish American Congress and the Niagara District of the Canadian Polish Congress, hosted the 99th Annual Pilgrimage honoring the North American volunteers to the Polish "Blue Army" under General Haller in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario on June 12th. Distinguished Polish veteran and current WNY resident Stanley Markut served as Grand Marshal of the Polish Veterans Pilgrimage Parade as part of the event. ... Also on the 12th, the **Polish Heritage Society** of Rochester held its Youth Talent Show at Nazareth College ... The **Buffalo-Rzeszow Sister City Committee** held its Annual Meeting at the Pitass Center in Buffalo's Historic Polonia District on June 17th ... On June 18th, the **Adam Mickiewicz Library and Dramatic Circle** in Buffalo hosted a St. John's Eve "KupalaFest" ... The Consulate of the Republic of Poland in Toronto held a "Wianki," featuring vocalist Danuta Blazejczyk, on the 18th ... **Polish Day** in Mississauga took place at Celebration Square on June 25th. More information is available at <http://mississaugapolishday.ca>.

On June 25th, the **Chopin Singing Society** and the **White Eagle Dancers** hosted a St. John's Eve program in the Cheektowaga Town Park ... The WNY Division of the Polish American Congress launched its new **WNY Polonia Heritage Trail** website at an event at Buffalo's Canalside on the 29th. The address for the interactive digital guide to WNY's Polonian history is <[www.PoloniaTrail.com](http://www.PoloniaTrail.com)> ... Also on the 29th, Michelle Kisluk of the **Polish Heritage Dancers** of WNY and Lynn Zakowicz of the First Catholic Slavic Association, with the assistance of musicians Mark Kohan and Ted Szymanski, taught polka dancing on the Boardwalk at Buffalo's Canalside ... On June 30th, the **Polish Arts Club of Buffalo** honored Sister Johnice Rzadziewicz of the Response to Love Center at its annual "Biesiada" at the Millennium Hotel in Cheektowaga ... Former NYS Appellate Division Judge and

Chopin Singing Society President **Ann Mikoll** will shortly be stepping down from the Chopin presidency in favor of current Vice President Gary Bienkowski ...

**UPCOMING.** On July 9th and 10th, the annual **Podhale Piknik** will be held at the Podhale Parents and Youth Association's campgrounds in Franklinville ... Our **Lady of Fatima Shrine** in Lewiston will host its "Polish Day" on July 10th ... On July 24, pianist **Igor Lipinski** will perform with the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra at Artpark ... St. Casimir Parish in Buffalo's Kaisertown neighborhood will hold a "**Shishkababa Polka-Roc Fest**" featuring music by Special Delivery and Rare Vintage on August 6th and 7th ... The Buffalo Bisons baseball team will take on the Indianapolis Indians on **Polish Festival Night** at Coca-Cola Field in Downtown Buffalo on August 9th ... The Syracuse Chiefs will host the Rochester Red Wings at their **Polish Night** at NDT Bank Stadium in Syracuse on August 10th ... On August 13th, the **Polish Union of America** will hold its Annual Family Picnic in Centennial Park in West Seneca ... The WNY Division of the **Polish American Congress** will host its first "Polonia Picnic," a free event for individual and organizational members of the Division, at Como Lake Park in Lancaster on August 21st ... The History Department of Daemen College and the Permanent Chair of Polish Culture at Canisius College will be bringing University of Warsaw political scientist **Slawomir Jozefowicz** to WNY in early September to participate in a series of events exploring the current political climate in Poland ... The 2016 **Roncesvalles Polish Festival** in Toronto will take place on September 17th and 18th. More information is available at <<http://polishfestival.ca>> ... The **White Eagle Smoker** is coming.



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

ARTSBEAT

## Baranski ends TV Series and Will Star in Spinoff



by Staś Kmieć

NEW YORK — With the series finale of the CBS drama "The Good Wife," you would think **Christine Baranski** (above) — a co-star for all seven seasons would be out of a job. But, it appears that a spinoff focusing on her Diane Lockhart character is in the works.

Discussions for Baranski's "Good Wife" spinoff are believed to have been planned for some time. Throughout pilot season, Baranski was the first choice for many lead roles in dramas and comedies across multiple broadcast networks, though she turned down all the offers, even one particular project that was extremely high-profile. Her team likely had the spinoff in mind when nixing offers for the newly-available star.

On the finale of "The Good Wife," to the surprise of many fans, Baranski's often devious character turned out to be the honorable and "good" one. After applying her palm to Alicia Florrick's cheek, she was upgraded to heroine status.

Baranski is the winner of the 1995 Emmy Award for *Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Comedy Series* for her role as Maryanne Thorpe in the sitcom "Cybill," and won Tony Awards for her stage work in the original Broadway productions of "The Real Thing" in 1984 and "Rumors" in 1989, both for *Best Featured Actress in a Play*.

Born in Buffalo, N.Y., she is the daughter of Virginia (née Mazurowski) and Lucien Baranski, who edited a Polish-language newspaper. Her grandparents were actors in the Polish theater.

POLISH CHEF / Robert Strybel

## Your Summer Picnic Menu: Conclusion

**POTATO DUMPLINGS (kluski kartoflane, pyzy).** Wash peel and dice or slice 3-4 medium-sized potatoes. Place in blender or food-processor together with 1 egg and whirl until grated. Transfer mixture to mixing bowl. Add 3 c cold leftover mashed potatoes, 4 T flour, 1 T potato starch (or cornstarch) and 1 t salt. Mix ingredients by hand until uniform. Tear off pieces of the dough, between floured palms roll into walnut-sized balls and drop into boiling, lightly salted water. When boiling resumes, cook about 5 min. Check one for doneness. Remove with slotted spoon and serve immediately. These are traditionally topped with skwarki (browned diced fatback or bacon) and their drippings. They can also be served (minus the skwarki!) as an accompaniment to meat dishes (especially those in gravies) in place of potatoes, groats, etc.

**NOODLES & CABBAGE (haluszki).** In lightly salted water cook 16 oz pkg of wide or med wide egg noodles. Sauté 2 chopped onions in 1/3 c butter until translucent. Core, slice and coarsely chop 1 med head cabbage and add to onions with another 1/3 c butter and simmer on low until cabbage is fully cooked but still unbrowned. Towards end of cooking add 1-2 buds crushed garlic.. Combine with drained cooked noodles, which should be better done than al dente, Salt & pepper to taste and serve. *Optional:* Transfer to casserole and bake at 325° 20 min or so until top is lightly browned. *Bacon option:* Dice 1/4 lb thick-sliced bacon, fry until golden brown but still not crunchy. Stir into haluszki at the end and toss well.

**POTATO PANCAKES (placki kartoflane).** Here is an-

other Pol-am festival favorite! Grate 2-1/4 lbs peeled potatoes (by hand or in food processor), transfer to sieve and let drip into bowl. Allow drippings to settle, pour off liquid from top and add the white sediment (starch) to the grated potatoes. Add 1-2 grated onion, about 2 T flour, 2 eggs and salt & pepper. Mix well and spoon batter into hot fat. With spatula flatten pancakes slightly, since thin ones cook better. Fry to a nice crispy, golden brown on both sides and drain on absorbent paper. Serve immediately with just sour cream and/or sugar. These do not store well, because they lose their crunch and become heavy and soggy, so fry as needed.

**CRÊPES/THIN PANCAKES (naleśniki).** In bowl combine 1 scant c milk with 2 beaten eggs and 1/8 t salt and whisk until smooth. Gradually add 1 1/4 c flour, sifted, whisking constantly until lump-free and air blisters appear on surface. Whisk in about 1 c water -- or just enough to have a thin, pourable batter. The traditional way is to grease a small, hot frying pan with a 1" square of pork fatback impaled on fork, pour in a little batter, tilt frying pan to coat entire surface and fry on high heat. (Note: Special non-stick crêpe pans are available!) Flip crêpe over and cook briefly on other side. Stack fried naleśniki on inverted plate. Re-grease pan before adding more batter. At your festival site, store the naleśniki stacked on an inverted dinner plate. They should be spread with filling folded or rolled up and reheated as orders come in. Do not store for any length of time with filling inside! Typical fillings include jam or preserves of choice (imported Polish powidla [plum butter] is excellent), sweet cheese filling or ground cooked meat with fried onions Provide sour cream.

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## TRAVELOGUE FIVE DAYS IN POLAND / Staś Kmieć

## Chasing Dwarves — Fighting Fire with Satire

**PART XX.** With my overview circle around Wrocław's Market Square complete, I aimlessly began to retrace my steps in order to take in more details of this intriguing city. With my training as a dancer, I tend not to look down when walking, which often leads to my feet finding the imperfections in sidewalks and streets. I carefully avoid two dwarves consumed with the titanic job of pushing a stone ball across the Square. Wait...dwarves? There are more than seven, and it appears Wrocław is overrun by them! When you walk around the city, you are going to find a dwarf near most major landmarks, and soon you realize they are everywhere — as the city is populated with more than 300 gnome inhabitants.

One of Wrocław's most popular, memorable and iconic attractions is not a cathedral, castle or monument, but a legion of little people — *krasnale* or *krasnoludki* in Polish. These merry munchkins are ubiquitous and constantly underfoot. The little fellas are engaged in a variety of activities about town — from guarding public space to passed-out drunk. Beloved by locals and tourists alike, and the object of more photos than any landmark, these prolific pranksters have become the unlikely symbol of this picturesque city. Search high, search low — these small creatures, with their pointed hats and charming personalities, are a visitor attraction!

**WHERE DID THEY COME FROM?**

Although it sounds a wee bit like a tourist gimmick, *krasnale* have long held a place in Polish folklore.

In Slavic countries, house spirits — tiny, invisible creatures — were in pagan times appeased with rituals and treats to protect the home. Polish legends and fairytales are full of these magical creatures. Not all dwarves have moved to the forest and Wrocław has embraced their existence, and with that an entire culture has developed around them.

Their current iconic incarnation as symbols actually has a direct correlation to the political climate of the 1980s. It all started with a protest movement that used humor and satire to oppose the authoritarian Communist regime. The dwarves became the calling card of the *Orange Alternative* (*Pomarańczowa Alternatywa*), an underground protest movement that used absurdity and nonsense to stage peaceful, yet subversive protests as part of the wider *Solidarity* movement, and to avoid being arrested.

The group dressed up as gnomes or painted pictures of them over government propaganda. It was peaceful, it was absurd, and it was extremely effective. Armed with paint cans and led by Waldemar "Major" Fudrych, an artist and art history student at Wrocław University, the group specifically ridiculed



the establishment's attempts to censor public space.

During this period, any anti-establishment graffiti or public art was covered up with whitewash by the militia and authorities. Upon seeing these fresh smears of paint, the *Orange Alternative* quickly responded by painting over them yet again... with dwarves. As the movement gained popularity, gnomes became inexorably linked with the initiative



and Wrocław. They soon began appearing in other major Polish cities as well.

One might wonder why dwarves, but it made perfect sense: it represented the ever-present, anonymous little guy fighting back. Plus, as the movement's leader is quoted as saying: "Can you treat a police officer seriously, when he is asking you the question: 'Why did you participate in an illegal meeting of dwarves?'"



After all the trouble it gave the authorities, the *Orange Alternative* was never interested in political ideology as a mere frivolity. When detained in a Łódź police station for graffiti, Fudrych was happy to explain the gnomes to state authorities in the academic terms of a true art history student: "The thesis is the anti-regime slogan. The anti-thesis is the spot and the synthesis is the gnome."

As the *Orange Alternative* progressed to larger happenings, gnomes began to appear in demonstrations as well. International Children's Day on June 1, 1988, was celebrated by dozens of locals dressed as gnomes and smurfs, complete with orange hats and handkerchiefs, while an anti-Chernobyl protest saw the "Major" handing out iconic peaked orange gnome hats to passing pedestrians. After the fall of Communism in Poland, the dwarves remained a symbol of Wrocław — repurposed by the new regime to be a tribute to the *Orange Alternative* and playful city ambassadors.

**WITH ONE, OTHERS FOLLOW.** It started with just one of them — the tradition of the little metal men scattered around the city began with a single figure. Commissioned by *Agora* (publisher the newspaper — *Gazeta Wyborcza*) to commemorate the mascot of the protesters, the first dwarf in its statuette form, *Papa Krasnal*, was placed in 2001 on the corner near the subway where *Or-*



*ange Alternative* demonstrations often took place (ul. Świdnicka and ul. Kazimierza Wielkiego). Though no larger than a child, it remains the largest of the clan.

In 2005, the mayor and City Council decided to continue the tradition by commissioning local artist Tomasz Moczek — a graduate of the Academy of Art and Design, to create five more gnomes to adorn the Old Town. They were an instant hit and soon the city demanded more and more dwarves, each one representing a different profession or an aspect of everyday life. Local businesses quickly got involved by contracting other local artists to produce more, and in almost no time dwarves had proliferated around town to the point that they constituted as a sub-population of the city.

Walking the streets, you notice one dwarf, after another. By the seventh one you're almost expecting to see Snow White pop her head out from a tavern. There's a gnome asleep on a bed, one locked up in jail, another reading a book and a couple on their way to fight a fire. They've each got their own identity, their own character and their own reason for being.

Throughout the city, dwarves can be seen carrying on with their day to day lives. Some entertain one another with song; others participate in guzzling as much alcohol as they possibly can, and one (*Golebnik*), even prepares to carry an important message via pigeon post.

Three were commissioned for the city's 2008 *Wrocław without*

*Barriers* campaign to raise awareness of disability issues in and around the city. They were situated on Świdnicka Street, next to *W-skiers*: a dwarf in a wheelchair. The figures represent two disabled dwarves: one a deaf-mute, the other, blind. Five days later, at the Hematology and Pediatric Oncology Clinic, another dwarf was erected. It was to be the third female dwarf, *Marzenka*, whose design was based on the logo of the *Mam marzenie* ("I have a Dream") charity.

Perhaps indicative of folklore where male dwarves abound and vastly outnumber the female of their species, there are only several ladies in the mix.

The chief occupation of most of them is carousing. Most of them are chilling in the city center, but you can find them all around town — adorning fountains, climbing up lamps, guarding public spaces, or simply smiling at any passerby who is about to take photos of them. Each of them comes with a name and a particular meaning.

Among them: *Miłośnik* (the lover of Wrocław who holds the city's emblem in a heart); *Ślązak* (the Silesian, who represent the love of the Śląsk region); *Śpioch* (Sleepyhead); the *Stupniki Oławskie* (Oławska Street Polers); and *Pieroznik* (*Dumplinger*), who holds a fork with a *pieróg* in it!

**FINDING THE KRASNALE.** Running rampant and continuously multiplying, these little buggers are currently making it impossible for anyone to keep track of them, or for visitors to try to find all of them on their own. Seeing how many dwarves you can spot while you're in Wrocław, however, could be an incredibly fun alternative to traditional sightseeing.

A special map can be found at the tourist information booth



(Rynek 14), which shows where to find 30 of the most centrally located gnomes. There is a dual-language (Polish and English) website — [www.krasnale.pl](http://www.krasnale.pl) — where you can find their history, photos and other information, including downloadable maps of their various locations. GPS coordinates and smartphone apps marking all the dwarves' locations are available at tourist shops for those who want to go dwarf hunting, but just wandering the city while looking down to see what might pop-up, may be a more fun way of exploring.

**DWARF CELEBRATIONS.**

*Wrocławski Festiwal Krasnoludków*, a festival celebrating the dwarves, is held in September. The dwarves also get in on the *Day of Kindness* in November. The city plans events surrounding these celebrations and dwarf-design contests are often held. Dwarf sculptures representing official charities or organizations are unveiled with special ceremonies.

What started as a form of political protest may now be just an excuse for a little silliness for its own sake. It's important not to overlook the reason they are in Wrocław and, thanks to the dwarves, serious history will not be forgotten. Sometimes when the system oppressing you seems absurd, that's the very weapon that is going to be the most effective.

Given my time limitation, I abandoned the idea of ever locating many dwarves — particularly once I found that there are so many of them out there. I did however meet several which I ended up hanging out with for a while. As it was beginning to get dark, I went back to the outdoor stage to await the performance of *Mazowsze*.

*to be continued*

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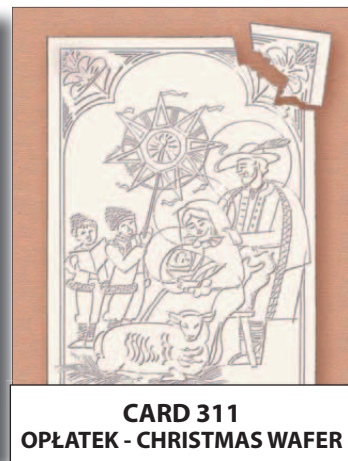
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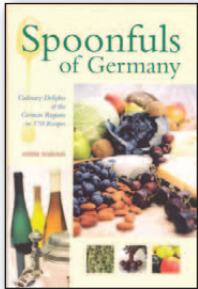
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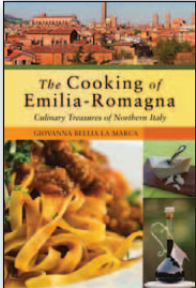
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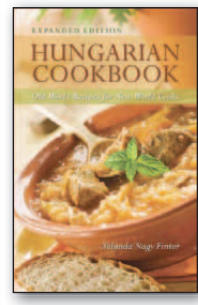
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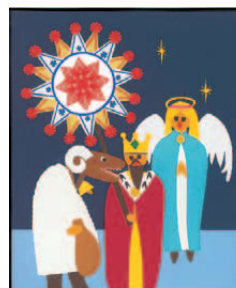
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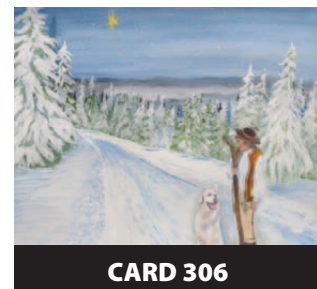
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## SPORTS / Tom Tarapacki

## "Ageless Pole" Will Have to Wait



Aleksander Doba

It looks like **Aleksander Doba** will have to wait another year to cross the Atlantic from North America to Europe in a kayak.

"Olek" had already crossed the Atlantic twice before, but in the opposite direction. The 8,000 km northerly route from America to Europe is more difficult, with lower temperatures and fiercer storms.

Doba was close to the peninsula of Sandy Hook near New York, when a wave hit his kayak, causing it to capsize. "After that came the next wave and it turned my kayak over again. In the first wave I fell off the kayak, the second was pounding at me [when I was] already under the boat." Doba escaped uninjured and hoped to resume his voyage, but some of his equipment was damaged beyond repair.

Doba had hoped to reach Portugal on September 9th, his 70th birthday. However, he said he might try again next year.

In 1980, Doba was nearly 34 when he joined a canoeing expedition on the Polish river of Drawa and "Head over heels, I fell in love with kayaks." Since that time, he has gone on numerous adventures around the world.

In October 2013, he set off from Lisbon, hoping to paddle 5,400 miles across the Atlantic's widest point and arrive in Florida in February 2014. But due to storms and equipment failure, he had to sail an additional 1,300 miles and finished



Jacob Panasiuk

his journey in mid-April, after 167 days. It was the longest open-water kayaking expedition across the Atlantic in history, and earned Doba the 2015 People's Choice Adventurer of the Year title from *National Geographic* magazine

**POLISH POWER AT MSU.** Junior **Jacob Panasiuk** committed to Michigan State after receiving offers from other schools like Minnesota, Penn State, Indiana, Illinois and others. The 6-foot-3, 266-lb. defensive lineman from Lake Park High School in Roselle, Ill., will join brother **Mike**, a 6-4 and 275-lb. defensive tackle who is one year older, with the Spartans.

Seeing tweets pop up on coaches' twitter accounts when they sign a player is nothing new, but Jacob's committing to Michigan State drew an interesting tweet from MSU coach Mark Dantonio:

"*Gratulacje na Twoim Wielki Dzień! Spartan Duma! Goin' to keep it Rollin! #V4MSU!*"

The basic translation of that tweet is: *Congratulations on your Big Day! Going to Keep it Rolling! #V4MSU!*

Mike Panasiuk, who also attended Lake Park, recalled that "Whenever coach Dantonio came for a home visit, he would tell us how he is half-Polish and he wants to get up to Poland and stuff like that. Just having that connection with coach Dantonio is great. We always joke



Mike Panasiuk

around about it."

Panasiuk pointed out that his parents (Dariusz and Jolanta) came to the U.S. from Poland when they were 18 years old. "They have been working their butts off to keep this family going, which me and my brothers are truly blessed to have great parents to come here from Poland and keep working," Panasiuk said. "(Dantonio) knows what my family has done for us."

A fast, athletic end, Jacob is a three-star recruit on 247 Sports' composite rankings, and is the No. 14 player in Illinois. Mike, who will join MSU this fall, recently set a record at a recent Nike showcase for high school players, bench pressing 185 pounds 43 times. Getting recruits like them has helped Coach Dan turn the Spartans into a powerhouse after taking over a program in 2007 that hadn't posted a winning record in three years.

**IT PAYS TO BE POLISH.** Gary **Lockwood** can thank his athletic ability — and his Polish heritage — for giving him a start in acting. The one-time college football star went on to star in numerous movies and TV shows, including portraying astronaut Dr. Frank Poole in the classic film *2001: A Space Odyssey* and Lieutenant Commander Gary Mitchell in the *Star Trek* pilot episode.

He was born **John Gary Yurosek** in California's San Fernando Valley. His Polish-born father, John, was a rancher and carrot farmer and later became a successful restaurant and motel operator. (John's younger brother, Mike, would become known as "The Father of the Baby Carrot"). After high school, Gary went to UCLA on a football scholarship. However, he left school after three years following a fight with another student.

Being athletic and having grown

up on a ranch, Gary was able to find work doing movie and TV stunt work. One day he went to an audition for a 1960 film called *Tall Story*. It was about a Russian basketball team traveling through America, and starred Jane Fonda in her first movie role. Lockwood was considered to double for Anthony Perkins, who played an American basketball player. Gary turned out to be much too muscular to double Perkins, but actors were needed to play basketball players. As Lockwood told interviewer Sam Tweedle: "So the director (Josh Logan) was looking at me and he asked the technical director, who happened to be a UCLA athlete who knew of me, 'We have a Russian guy who has some lines. Do you think [Gary] could do this?'" My friend said "Well his real name is Gary Yurosek. He's Polish." [The director] said "Yeah. I see kind of a Slavic thing in him, so let's see if he can handle the dialogue." I had been an English major, and I had seen a lot of actors and I kind of thought it was a piece of cake." Logan gave Gary his middle name, Lockwood, to use as a stage name.

Lockwood then made a big impression in a supporting role in the 1961 film *Splendor in the Grass*, and his acting career took off. For six years he was married to another Polish American, actress Stephanie Powers (born Stefania Zofya Federkiewicz). Now 79, Gary has his own website, gary-lockwood.com, and is working on an autobiography.

**ADAMEK CALLS IT A CAREER.**

**Tomasz Adamek** announced his retirement from boxing after suffering just the fifth defeat of his remarkable 17-year pro career. The 39-year-old Adamek lost to Eric Molina in a heavyweight bout in Krakow.

"Goral" won titles as a light-heavyweight and a cruiserweight. One of his most memorable fights came in 2008, when he defeated then champion Steve Cunningham in Newark, capturing the IBF and vacant *Ring Magazine* Cruiserweight titles in what was considered the Fight of the Year. Although he was considered "too small" for heavyweights he later moved up and beat some top heavyweights (including Andrew Golata), and did well against Vitali Klitschko, then the WBC heavyweight champ. Adamek had an impressive record of 50-5 with 30 KOs, and will be remembered as a courageous fighter who always gave their fans their money's worth. However, boxing

retirements are not always permanent and Tomasz could return to the ring, especially if he can drop some weight and move down a division.

**LYSIAK PASSES.** Former NHL All-Star **Tom Lysiak** has died of leukemia at the age of 63. He played 13 NHL seasons with the Atlanta Flames and Chicago Blackhawks, tallying 292 goals and 551 assists in 919 career games. Lysiak made the All-Star Game in '75, '76 and '77.

Following a record-setting junior career with Medicine Hat Tigers of the Western Canadian Hockey League, Lysiak was the NHL's second overall pick. He was the runner up for rookie of the year in 1973-74, and after being dealt to Chicago, was the Blackhawks' leading scorer in 1980-81 with 76 points. Lysiak was given a 20-game suspension, one of the longest in NHL history, for tripping linesman Ron Foyt during a 1983 game against the Hartford Whalers.

One of Lysiak's biggest fans was a young Ed Olczyk. When he was growing up in Chicago, Olczyk and a friend sent a letter to Lysiak saying that they wanted to be his teammate someday. Lysiak sent a signed picture that said: "To Eddie, hope someday we can play together. Best wishes, Tommy Lysiak." Olczyk said recently. "I thought that was like the greatest thing ever. I still have that picture on my mantle at home. There's not a day that I don't see it."

Olczyk went on to play two seasons as a teammate of Lysiak's with the Blackhawks. Olczyk said he was lucky to play with Lysiak in his first NHL game. "He was a great mentor, he was a really good player, a very underrated player when it came to the passing and the faceoffs and what have you," Olczyk said.

**PERKOSKI'S NOTEBOOK.** **Mike Yastrzemski**, the 25-year-old grandson of Red Sox great **Carl Yastrzemski** recently made the move up to Triple A. Yastrzemski was promoted from the Double-A Bowie Baysox to the Triple-A Norfolk Tide by the Baltimore Orioles. The Vanderbilt product wasn't selected until the 14th round of the 2013 MLB draft ... Poland clinched the first Olympic berth available at a men's volleyball qualification tournament, beating Venezuela 3-0 in Tokyo. Captain **Michal Kubiak** scored a team-high 13 points and **Bartosz Kurek** added 11 ... 38-year-old **Brock Lesnar** will return to the octagon at UFC 200 on July 9 in Las Vegas. It will be his first fight since 2011 ... On the undercard of the Adamek fight, unbeaten Polish cruiserweight **Michal Cieslak** knocked out former cruiserweight titleholder Francisco Palacios.

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SYBIRACY / Stefania Borstowa

## Construction Work, Beginning of German-Soviet War

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

Second part of a letter written on April 8, 1941: "We can feel Spring here. All are coughing and sneezing due to allergies. Jedrek, my son, has skin lice, I give him garlic. The cattle are dying out of hunger in kolkhoz. Starving bulls, ox, cows, horses, sheep and goats roam around the village and eat what they can find. It is an awful scenery. All around us there are pastures with grass which has not been mowed down, since somebody did not do a good planning before winter. Magpies and crows are sitting on these poor animals and they rip chunks of meat down to the bone from their spines. Cattle do not have enough strength to protect themselves from these annoying and hungry birds. In a neighboring kolkhoz, 400 cattle died during five days. We worry that the starvation will take over people. This happens every year and nobody is surprised. Referring to the post service: it works very well. Since I came here, a postman did not show up on time only twice, the first time because of buran (strong wind), the second time, when the postman's horse died on the way."

Below is a content of the letter from the mother of four boys who received clothes for the boys in the last parcel:

"Dear Mr. and Mrs. X: I do not know how to express my gratitude for sending cloths for my four children. I have four boys, they all wear rags and are hungry. Now, they would be able to walk around the community without shame and go to work which would help us all. Your kindness and generosity gives me hope and joy in my heart. Thanks for remembering us, the exiles. I don't have any family here and I have nobody to count on. The fact that there are still good and decent people gives us strength to survive our difficult fate here. I share with you our traditional Polish grace: "God bless you." With great respect, A.D. 1941, April 17; Krutoyarka."

Excerpt from the letter written May 25, 1941: "Sorry for late reply to your letters, but I am working at the constructions in the district, so my free time is very limited. It is a hard work, but we are able to do it and we can earn 8-10 rubles daily. Practically we cannot really buy anything for these money right now, but I have a contract from May 15 until October 1st, 1941. I go back home to Krutoyarka for Sunday to spend time with the family; all are healthy. There is a new representative of the Soviet government in our village. He barks like a dog, treats people like slaves, sometimes even uses corporal punishment. Somehow I got into his nerves and he threatened that he would make my life miserable in the kolkhoz. Since I was really worried, I decided to work in constructions rather than in the kolkhoz."

From the memoir: I made friends with

countess Burzynska from Uchrynow. She is a dignified lady, about 80 years old. She is using a wheelchair since she has muscle weakness in her legs due to polio. She was taken from her property together with her servant, who is also an elderly lady. They were taken so suddenly that they did not have any time to pack their belongings, no cloths, bed sheets, not any spoon or tea cup. Once I met her while returning back from work and she told me a lot about herself. Eventually we started speaking French, which I barbarize, but she had a lot of patience to correct me.

I receive one liter of barley soup with cabbage with two pieces of bread when I have lunch at work. After some solicitations I am able to secure extra soup portion with bread which I give to Lady Burzynska and her maid.

Going back to the description of our construction work, it was really difficult in the beginning. A daily norm was to carry and load a truck with eight thousand bricks a day. They gave us gloves the first day, but the gloves were ripped to shreds at the end of the first day. After three days of hard work we had no more skin on the fingers, our hands were bleeding and skin was peeled off. Majority are women, only few men. The main bricklayer, an elderly man with beautiful and good eyes, chose me as his helper. He was a very kind man, he praised me in front of an engineer. He was saying that I worked really well, although I did not feel that I did a good job, especially in the beginning. He taught me how to lay the bricks. I did not write about it to my friends before, since everybody has their own prob-



The bleak landscape of a Soviet collective farm.

lems, but the beginnings were very difficult.

On Saturday, June 21, 1941 I did not go home to Krutoyarka, I asked a postman instead to tell Teresa, my daughter, to come here together with her girlfriends to the district since they were organizing sport competitions. They came in the morning, full of joy that they would have a good day. The competitions started with a song, running and jumping competition. Suddenly, the NKVD commissary walked into the middle of the field and whistled. Everybody stopped whatever they were doing and became silent. The commissary asked people to come closer to hear him well. He announced calmly but with a strong voice that Germans crossed the boarder with Soviet Union and that this is a beginning of the war. He told people to disperse and go home since this is not time for celebration. Teresa, her friends and other youth went back home, I remained here and did not know what to do with myself. The government immediately drafted all remaining men into the military. The first group of men left during the first week after German-Soviet war was announced.

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RESISTANCE / Regina Szamborska-McIntyre

## Gestapo Justice

Resistance is a story about the conditions which led to the Warsaw Uprising during World War II, and how the courageous and tenacious people of Poland fought the Nazi occupation, only to be decimated by the political vagaries of war.

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

**CHAPTER 4.** Three black autos were parked around building number 16 on Zielona Street. They wore the markings of the dreaded swastika.

Michal Bednarek walked up the street to his apartment, which was directly across the street from the disturbance. He kept his gaze straight in front of him, and made an effort to appear nonchalant as he slipped into the front door of his building. He reached into his pocket for his keys. Before he withdrew them, the door was opened by Janina, the maid.

"Pan, they have come for Tavish!"

"Yes, I see." He shut the door behind him and went to the front window. "How long have they been there?"

"Maybe ten minutes before you arrived." She stood behind him, not taking her eyes off old man's apartment.

Two Gestapo agents filed down the steps, followed by two more agents who flanked either side of the old man, as they jostled him down the stairs. Tavish appeared quite disheveled; blood was streaming from his forehead.

"Listen, Janina, I must go to Gestapo Headquarters to investigate

the situation. Don't wait dinner for me."

"What shall I say to Pani?"

"Tell her I've gone back to the office to meet with a client. If she asks about Tavish, don't mention the shape he was in. And for God's sake, don't tell them that I've gone to Szucha Street."

The sound of the women's approaching voices filled the hall. Janina wiped her hands on her apron and went to the door, rehearsing the lines she would deliver.

Pani Leona spoke first. "Janina, what has happened? The neighbors were upon us with reports of the Gestapo taking Tavish away."

"They did Pani, around fifty-three. I watched from the time I saw the Gestapo cars come up the street, until they took him away."

Irena glanced around the foyer for signs of her father's presence. "Has Tata come home?"

"He is at the office, working on a new account. He said not to wait dinner."

Leona grabbed her daughter's hand. "He's gone to Szucha Street to find out what they have on Tavish."

Bednarek warily approached the building on Szucha Street. An armed sergeant stood sentry at the front door. "What is your purpose?" Bednarek handed over his *Ausbeis* card.

"I'm here to represent a client of mine, and I need to see Commandant Stroop."

"Ah, Pan Tavish holds your interest." He led him through the hall to a bench in front of an office. The frosted glass on the top half of the door, bore the inscription, SS Brigadefuhrer Jurgen Stroop. Have a seat; I'll announce you."

Either Stroop was involved with matters on his desk, or he had gone to his dinner. Bednarek warmed the seat for an hour and half. It was after

eight when the sergeant reappeared. "Commandant Stroop will see you now."

The Brigadefuhrer greeted him by standing up from his desk. He extended his hand. "Good evening, Pan Bednarek. How may I be of service?"

Bednarek was in no condition to mince words. "I'm here to see Ignatz Tavish."

Stroop drew himself into full military posture. "There will be no legal representation for him. Your client is guilty of conspiracy against the General Government."

Bednarek tipped his hat and was about to leave.

"Let me caution you, Bednarek. You do not want to go about defending people inciting against the German authority. You stand the risk of being considered a conspirator as well."

Bednarek bristled to attention.

"Commandant Stroop, I practice the law, not conspiracy."

Stroop took his seat and sneered up at Michal.

"So, you continue to practice law? Where are you getting your clients? Can any Pole afford to pay legal fees at this time?"

In reality, his clients had dwindled away. He was earning his living as an accountant, a position he held as a student while he worked his way through law school. His clients were the wealthy Schindlerites, entrepreneurs from Germany, who bought the confiscated businesses of Poles at a severely reduced price.

"I still have a legal client or two."

"Then concentrate on them and leave the conspirators alone, if you value your neck, or you may be considered to be in league with the partisans."

He called out to the sergeant, "Show this prominent lawyer the

way out." He smirked, "The next time he appears in this office, there may not be a way out."

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

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## POLONIA NEWS / Staś Kmieć

## Jan Karski's Legacy Honored

The *Jan Karski Humanitarian Award* is presented to individuals who show courage, grace, and bravery under escalating pressure of bureaucratic inertia, totalitarian fiats or public indifference to those less fortunate withstanding cultural and/or physical debasement.

On May 9th, the Award was presented at the Polish Consulate in New York to the Diocese of Brooklyn's Auxiliary Bishop Witold Mroziowski, television and radio host Rita Cosby, Sigmund Rolat – businessman, philanthropist, and Polish-Jewish Holocaust survivor, and posthumously to The Ulma Family, Polish Righteous Christians who harbored Jewish neighbors at the cost of their own lives.

The Award was established by The Polish-Jewish Dialogue Committee. The organization was created six years ago by the Polish American Congress (Downstate New York Division), Queens Jewish Historical Society and the KPA on Long Island. It is an institution that seeks to build an agreement between the Polish and Jewish communities. Together with other organizations, it participates in various events aimed at improving Polish-Jewish relations.

Jan Karski was a war hero who carried out missions for the Polish Government in exile. He also reported on the Nazi Holocaust to Britain and the United States and tried to stimulate help for the Jewish populations of Eastern Europe. Unfortunately the president and prime minister failed to listen and take action. He would become a United States citizen and a professor at John Hopkins University.

Jacob Juszczyk, a student at Stony Brook University, read his essay "Courage and Hope in Times



Rolat, Bp. Mroziowski, and Cosby

of Despair," which won the competition organized by the Polonia of Long Island. Bishop Mroziowski's achievements included the efforts which resulted in renaming a street-sin Maspeth "John Paul II Way."

Cosby, the daughter of the Warsaw Uprising Polish resistance fighter Richard Kossobudzki wrote the book *Quiet Hero: Secrets from My Father's Past* uncovering his story of heroism and courage. "In writing the book what I found was not just my father's story. It wasn't my story, it was your story," said Cosby. "It was the story of the courage of the Polish people, and it was the story of the guts of this incredible country we love so much, and that we share with so many people her in America."

Rolat is one of the leading founders of the Museum of the History of Polish Jews – *Polin* in Warsaw, and the initiator of the museum's monument honoring Poles helping Jews during World War II. He supports numerous initiatives aimed at building the Polish-Jewish dialogue, including festivals of Jewish culture in Poland.

The documentary *Świat Józefa* (Joseph's World), which details the plight of the Ulma Family, who lost their lives at the hands of the German occupiers for having hid Polish-Jews in his home, received its premiere screening. The film shows multiple aspects of this brutal period in history. The exhibition "The Good Samaritans of Markowa" was also on display.

The Ulma Family Award was presented to the filmmakers Julita and Rafał Wiczyński, the director of the recently opened Ulma Museum in Markowa – Mateusz Szpytma, and Bogdan Romaniuk - Deputy Marshal of the Podkarpackie Voivodship, and co-founder of this institution. The Wiczyński team is currently working on a feature film about Ulma family.

"Through the efforts of organizations such as the Polish-Jewish Dialogue Committee, Jan Karski Educational Fund and others, Karski and his heroic deeds are gaining international recognition," said Consul General of Poland Urszula Gacek. "We hope that the real story of his life will become a counterweight to the many false and harmful statements in which the Poles accused are involved in the Holocaust."

#### BAPTISM OF POLAND MURAL UNVEILED IN NEW YORK.

Manhattan's Bohemian East Village welcomed a mural commemorating the 1,050 years of Polish Statehood. On April 17, a crowd of Poles, as well as local residents took part in the official unveiling. Pastor Tadeusz Lizińczyk. St. Stanislaus Bishop and Martyr; Agata Grenda, director of the Polish Cultural Institute in New York; and artist Janusz Gilewicz, the creator of the mural, broke the symbolic ribbon. The ceremony was preceded by a Mass.

The mural marks the 966 baptism of Duke Mieszko I, which was not only an act of faith, but one with significant political and social consequences. This, along with the appearance of the first missionaries, began the process of introducing Western cultural models to Poland, including political and administrative state structures, a legal system, social customs, writing, and Latin as the language of government. The baptism consequently led Poland to join the ranks of established European states recognized by the Holy Roman Empire, while maintaining a strong national identity, permitting the country to withstand partitions and occupations.



"This mural will survive me, my children, and my children's children, and therefore it is a reason for pride and joy," said Gilewicz. "We should be proud that it will represent Poland in one of the most iconic places in the world — the heart of the East Village in Manhattan — where scrolling millions of people around the world will see it, and thanks to them our name, the word Poland, will go to the world."

"Polska," the year 966, the red and white flag of Poland, and the *ichthys* are depicted on the mural.



Students of the Abbot Augustyn Kordecki Polish School sang "Tysiącletnia Historio, nasza wspólna historio" (A thousand-year history, our common history), at the mural's dedication.

The fish symbol of Christianity is much older than the cross, and is still in use today. In his novel *Quo Vadis*, Polish Nobel Prize winner Henryk Sienkiewicz showed that early Christians using the *ichthys* as a secret sign to identify one another. "The fish was first hallmark for Christians, especially at a time when they were persecuted," Rev Lizińczyk explained.

Along with honoring Poland's history, placing the mural in the East Village honors the footprint of Polish immigrants in the area and the community's long-standing presence in the life and building of Lower Eastside New York.

The neighborhood has witnessed many important events such as 1909's final tribute to Helena Modrzejewska (Modjeska) at the Parish church that was established by Polish immigrants in 1872; Tadeusz Kantor's plays at LaMaMa Theater; and events at the famous Polish National Home "The Dom," known as one of the hippest hangouts of the 1960s. The East Village was also portrayed in the plays of Janusz Glowacki, and has inspired many contemporary artists, including those who have visited Ms. Ludwika "Lucy" Mickevicius in her famous Polish bar. When Polish national poet Cyprian Kamil Norwid visited the East Village in the middle of the 19th century, he wrote his famous poem "To John Brown" during his stay downtown.

The mural was created on the initiative of the Polish Cultural Institute in New York and is located adjacent to the Polish church which attracted Poles from different parts of the metropolis of New York when it was founded 115 years ago.

## OUR POLISH SAINTS / Martin Nowak

## Saint of the Saints

**PART VII.** St. John Paul II not only canonized more saints than any other pope, more than four hundred, he also canonized more Polish saints than any other pontiff, a total of fourteen during his twenty-six year papacy. Being from Poland, he was very familiar with the lives of these holy men and women, although it cannot be said that he favored Poles above others for sainthood.

#### ST. TERESA BENEDICTA OF THE CROSS

*Teresa Benedykta od Krzyża*  
1891-1942

Canonized: 1998

Feast Day: August 9

Grave: Exact location unknown, ashes scattered within Auschwitz-Birkenau

Born Edith Stein, Jewish at birth. She was an atheist as a teen but converted to Roman Catholicism at age thirty and became a nun. She was born in Breslau, Germany, not Wrocław, Poland and her restored childhood home is in that city. Her parents' graves are in the city's Jewish cemetery. She was a teacher, philosopher and author. During the Nazi era, her superiors sent her to

Holland for her safety since she was an ethnic Jew. But she was arrested by the Nazis in 1942. Though given a chance to escape, she refused, choosing to share the fate of other Jewish converts. St. Teresa was sent to Auschwitz where she died. Patron saint of Europe, converted Jews and loss of parents.

#### ST. KINGA

1224-1292

Canonized: 1999

Feast Day: July 24

Grave: Poor Clares Monastery, Stary Sącz, Poland

Also known as Cunegunda or Kunegunda. She was born in Hungary and was the daughter of King Bela IV, a niece of St. Elizabeth of Hungary and Blessed Agnes of Prague, and great niece of St. Hedwig, Queen of Poland. Kinga was the sister of St. Margaret of Hungary and Blessed Yolanda of Poland and a cousin of St. Elizabeth of Portugal. She was married to King Boleslaus V of Poland, whose sister was Blessed Salomea of Kraków. Kinga founded several convents and was dedicated to charity. When her husband died she sold all her pos-

sessions, entered a monastery and spent the rest of her life in prayer. Legend says that she dropped a ring into a salt mine in Hungary which reappeared in Wieliczka. Poland where she had ordered a well to be dug. This became the famous Wieliczka salt mine. Patron saint of salt mines, Poland and Lithuania.

#### ST. FAUSTINA

*Faustyna Kowalska*

1905-1938

Canonized: 2000

Feast Day: October 5

Grave: Chapel of the Shrine of Divine Mercy, Łagiewniki-Kraków



Born Helena Kowalska into a poor family near Łódź, at age nineteen she joined the convent of Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy. In the 1930s she saw visions of Jesus who told her to spread the message of God's mercy and also to have a painting made of Him with the words, "Jesus I Trust You." After her death

at the Łagiewniki convent the Vatican banned her writings, but twenty years later they were reinterpreted and accepted. St. Faustina was the founder of Divine Mercy Sunday (one week after Easter), which St. John Paul II declared a churchwide observance when he canonized her in 2000.

#### ST. JOSEPH

**SEBASTIAN PELCZAR**

*Józef Sebastian Pelczar*

1842-1924

Canonized: 2003

Feast Day: January 19

Grave: Przemysł Cathedral

Born in Korczyna and attended seminary school in Przemysł, and ordained a priest in 1864. He taught at the seminary, then at the Jagiellonian University in Kraków for twenty-two years as professor, dean and rector. Later he was Bishop of Przemysł for twenty-five years. He was a doctor of theology and a canon lawyer, as well as president of the People's Education Society of the St. Vincent De Paul Society. He wrote several books of prayers and sermons as well as textbooks and published more than a thousand. He

founded more than a hundred libraries and two societies to care for the sick, orphans and the poor, restored churches, founded homeless shelters, soup kitchens and nurseries. Patron saint of Przemysł.

#### ST. URSULA LEDOCHOWSKA

*Urszula Ledóchowska*

1865-1939

Canonized: 2003

Feast Day: May 29

Grave: Ursuline Nuns

Motherhouse, Pniewy, Poland

Born in Austria proper of Polish-Swiss lineage, she was the niece of a Polish cardinal. Her family moved to Austrian Poland near Tarnów when she was eighteen. She became an Ursuline nun in Kraków and rose to mother superior and opened a home for female college students. Ursula also worked in Russia, then Sweden where she opened a girls' school, and Denmark where she founded an orphanage. She was back in Poland in 1920 and founded religious centers. The Grey Ursuline Congregation she founded still thrives. Her sister was Blessed Maria Teresa Ledóchowska. Patron saint of young girls.

GENEALOGY / Stephen M. Szabados

## The Importance of the Arrival of Our Ancestors in America

The story of our ancestors' arrival in America is an important event for our families. Their arrival and the arrival of the many immigrants that came before and after them, are a large part of American history. The industrial growth in the 1900s could not have happened without the immigrants.

To arrive here, they had to make a painful decision to leave their home in Poland. Their voyage across the Atlantic and the inspection process on American shores was traumatic.

The immigrants who were granted admission walked through the "kissing gate," the area in which where they met their relatives, husbands or friends and had a joyous and tearful reunion. They claimed their luggage, exchanged their money for American dollars, purchased train tickets and then boarded trains for their destinations in America.

Some passengers were not as lucky. Over

the years, about two percent of the arriving immigrants were turned back and returned to Europe. In his book, *Polish Immigrants*, W. Scott Ingram estimated that one percent of the Polish immigrants were refused admittance. Many immigrants were detained for a variety of reasons. Unescorted women and children were detained until the arrival of a male relative or they received a prepaid ticket from a relative. Some waited for travel funds before they could be released.

Most U.S. citizens are descendants of immigrants and our ancestors contributed to the tremendous growth of America. Passenger manifests from the ships help document the arrival of your ancestors and may give you valuable information of where they left and where they were going in America. Finding the passenger manifest will also answer the important question of whether they were trav-

eling alone, or with their family, relatives or friends.

The U.S. Customs service has been recording cargo and passenger information since 1798. However, many of the records created between 1798 and 1820 are missing because there was no uniform national policy on how to save these documents until 1819. The Steerage Act of 1819 required the captain of all ships arriving in America to deliver a passenger manifest to a federal official. For arrivals prior to the steerage act, genealogists have to rely on finding lists generated for the ships' logs.

Early formats for the passenger manifest that were used after the Steerage Act listed the passenger's name, age, gender, occupation, what country they left and what country was their destination. After 1893, formats were gradually expanded and in late 1907

they became two pages. This larger format listed marital status, last residence, the ability to read or write, final destination in the U.S., name of friend or relative in the U.S., the name of relative where they left, mother tongue, if they had been in the U.S. prior, physical description and birthplace. Passenger manifests are important family history documents.

The surviving U.S. Customs passenger lists from U.S. ports are now stored at the National Archives, and most of them have been microfilmed, digitized, and indexed. Ancestry.com offers the largest collection of passenger manifests for our Polish ancestors.

❖ ❖ ❖

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

POLISH CAN BE FUN / Robert Strybel

## Letters and eMails — Listy i Mejle

The Polish word **list** means letter, not list. For a list Poles say **lista** as in **lista zakupów** (shopping list). The most common usage is: **napisać list** (write a letter), **wysłać list** (mail a letter) and **otrzymać or dostać list** (get/receive a letter). But shortly after Poland dumped communist rule (1989/90), a new invention appeared: email.

Since the word for mail and post office in Polish is **poczta**, the "e" was seen as redundant and an email just became a **mejł** as in: **"Dziś dostałem mejla od narzeczonej"** (Today I got an email from my fiancée.). There is also a verb **mejlować** (to email): **Cały dzień siedzi przy komputerze i mejluje**. (All day long he's at his computer emailing.)

If you plan to type a letter or email to someone in Polish, first type <http://polish.typeit.org/> into your browser and hit ENTER. If you do not have a Polish keyboard, that is any easy way to get all the accented Polish letters (ą, ć, ę, ł, ń, ó, ś, ź, ż) right.

Once you're past that hurdle, the

question is what to write?

**SALUTATION.** **Szanowny Panie** (Dear Sir), **Przewielebny Księżu** (Most Reverend Father), **Kochana Babcia** (Dear Granny), **Drogi Ojciec Chrzestny** (Dear Godfather).

You can also start with just the person's first name: **Panie Józefie** (Joesph) or **Droga Pani Elżbieta** (Dear Elizabeth) if your relationship is semi-formal or simply **Droga Marysiu** (Dear Mary) or just **Tomku** (Tommy) to a relative or close friend. **Note:** Salutations are always in the vocative case.

You can skip the name entirely in casual correspondence and start with: **Dzień Dobry!** (Hello, Good day), **Cześć!** (hi) or **Witaj!** (Greetings).

**MESSAGE.** **Kopę lat!** (It's been quite some time or long time no write). **Co u Was słyhać?** (What's happening out your way?) **U nas po staremu**. (Same old thing hereabouts). **Wszystko w porządku**. (Everything's OK.) **Mieliśmy trochę**

**problemów ale teraz wszystko jest już pod kontrolą**. (We did have some problems but now everything under control.) **Babcia trochę nam chorowała, ale teraz już lepiej się czuje**. (Granny was under the weather but now is feeling better.) **Basia wychodzi za mąż, a Adam ma nową pracę**. (Babs is getting married, and Adam's got a new job.) **Serdecznie zapraszamy na wesele**. (We cordially invite you to the wedding.)

**CLOSING.** **Kończąc, serdecznie pozdrawiamy Was wszystkich** (In closing, we send our very best regards to all of you.) **Czekamy na szybką odpowiedź** (We await your swift reply.)

**POSTSCRIPT.** In Polish the at-sign (@) is called **malpa** (monkey), be-

cause it was originally seen as a monkey with its tail wrapped round. The email address: **madamski@interia.pl** is read in Polish: **madamski malpa interia kropka pl**; they might add: **madamski bez kropki (no dot) to show it is not m.adamski**.

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## OBITUARIES

## Kazimiera "Kasia" Bober, Founded Pierogi Empire



PHOTO: ANDRZEJ BARANIK

**Kazimiera Bober**, better known as "Kasia," was born on November 6, 1935, in Hoczew, a small village in the Bieszczady Mountains in Southeastern Poland. She passed away surrounded by her family on June 2, 2016, at the age of 80.

Bober immigrated to the United States in 1974 with a dream of a better life for her children, Barbara, Maria, and Christopher. After a series of working odd jobs, she decided to take a chance on something she did well: cooking.

Bober was living proof of the "American Dream." Despite difficult times, but with perseverance and dedication, she decided that her love of cooking would be the foundation for a new life. Thus, in December 1982, she opened her deli on Chicago Avenue in the Ukrainian Village area of Chicago and began offering her Polish-style home cooking. Neighbors quickly became her customers, but as the news spread about a Polish lady with exceptional

cooking skills, her clientele expanded beyond ethnic lines and beyond her neighborhood. Regardless of how pierogi aficionados serve them, as an appetizer, side dish, or entrée, Bober has been inspirational in introducing Polish-style pierogi to the American home. Her outstanding pierogi-making skills and the art of producing other great Polish food products made her dream a reality and a success. Her award-winning pierogi became Chicago's ultimate comfort food.

For years, Pani Bober's products were showcased at neighborhood festivals and at "Taste of Chicago." Her pierogi were the first ever to be served aboard United Airlines, and "Newsweek" magazine selected Bober Bober as one of the top 15 entrepreneurs, creating "exquisite food with the finest ingredients and whose product transcends ethnic orientation." In 1995, her pierogi empire expanded throughout the continental United States. Bober's pierogi can be found in countless grocery stores in 26 states, including Costco, Kroger, and Piggly Wiggly. Presidents George H. Bush and Bill Clinton, Mayors Richard M. Daley and Rahm Emanuel, along

with Martha Stewart, have all raved about her pierogi.

Still, even with her humility and quiet demeanor, Kazimiera Bober's accomplishments went beyond producing successful food products. Her real success was her strong commitment to her family, friends, and the community. She was a true jewel of the Polish American community and beyond. Her generous support extended beyond her neighborhood and community to civic organizations, Polish events, and benevolent causes. She was a generous supporter of The Polish Museum of America (PMA) and Dar Serca (Gift From the Heart) Foundation. For many years, she sponsored the official State of Illinois Pulaski Day Observance hosted jointly by the PMA and Polish Roman Catholic Union of America.

Pani Bober is survived by three children, six grandchildren, and one great-grandson: Barbara (Waclaw) Jakubowicz, Maria Kordas (Dr. Boguslaw) Bonczak, and Christopher (Renata) Bober; grandchildren: Elizabeth (Zbigniew) Jakubowicz, Joanna, Peter, Kasia, Lucas, and Julia; and great-grandchild, Leon.

## Larry S. Wroblewski, Editor, Volunteer Fireman, Scout Leader



More than anything, Larry Wroblewski will always be remembered as a volunteer — as a giver of himself. Whether he was at a fire hall, in a church basement, or among friends, he was always willing to help others. The recording secretary of the North Collins Volunteer Fire Company and owner of the graphic arts firm Polograph died June 5, 2016, after a brief illness. He was 59.

Wroblewski was born in Buffalo, and lived on the city's East Side, where he worked at Corpus Christi parish as a custodian while attending Canisius College. At the church, he was an altar server, lector, and usher. His willingness to help others brought him to the Parish Council, and Holy Name Society, of which he became president. Wroblewski played bass and sang with the parish's folk group. He also belonged to the Corpus Christi Athletic Club and its bowling league.

Wroblewski took an active role in Corpus Christi's scouting program, and eventually became leader of Pack 913.

Concerned about the neighborhood, he served on the board of the Polish Community Center, today known as the Lt. Col. Matt Urban Human Services Center of W.N.Y.

Wroblewski was a graduate of Bishop Turner High School. He attended Canisius College, graduating in 1979 with a Bachelor of Arts in political science. He was a member of the college's Schuyler Colfax Thinking Club.

Wroblewski has long been a part of Western New York's print media. He worked at the *Am-Pol Eagle* as a reporter while in college, then later joined the staff of the *Polish American Voice*, which merged with the *Polish American Journal*, where he served as a reporter, columnist, and editor. He has been the newspaper's senior associate editor since 1984. Wroblewski began his own

editorial and graphic arts company, Polograph, which produced *The Irish Times* and publications for the Greater Niagara Frontier Council of the Boy Scouts of America. He was a staff reporter for the Community Papers of Western New York, and was a regular columnist in the *Gowanda News*, *Springville Journal*, and *The Sun*.

Wroblewski and wife Basia (Barbara) Karkosza were married in 1992, and moved to North Collins, where Larry soon became involved in the community. He joined the North Collins Volunteer Fire Company, and served as its president and vice president. He took an active role in the North Collins School District, and volunteered in its Music Boosters, Sports Boosters, and PTA. The Wroblewskis became members of Holy Spirit Church, where Larry joined its Holy Name Society, and took on the chair of many parish functions.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by daughters Amelia, Isabelle, and Sabrina; cousins, many friends, and business associates.

For more on Wroblewski, see "Unsung Hero," page 4

## Bernard "Benny" Kaukus World War II Marine Corps Veteran



**BUFFALO, N.Y.** — Bernard "Benny" Kaukus of Lancaster, a World War II Marine Corps veteran and automaker, died June 16 after a brief illness. He was 94.

Kaukus was a graduate of Emerson High School. After the war, he went to work at the Ford Stamping Plant, where he was a general machine repair foreman. He retired in 1986 after 30-plus years.

An active Catholic, he attended several parishes and was a volunteer for several renovation projects, including at the Shrine of St. Jude and Our Lady of Czestochowa Parish. He was also active in the Polish community, and a member of the Polka Boosters, Polka Variety Club, and Polish Falcons.

He is survived by a special friend, Charlotte Zawada; two daughters; a son, a brother, and sister, seven grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

## PONDERING POLE / Edward Poniewaz

## Let Democracy Work in Poland

The topic with regard to Poland in recent months has been that country's constitutional "upheaval." Like politics everywhere, getting a handle on what is really happening is hard to decipher, but it is also what makes it so interesting. In Poland, it seems to be all about the constitution, what is constitutional, and who the stricter adherent is. Sound familiar?

If you are not up on the background and details of the criticism directed at the new Law and Justice Party (PiS) government, there is a summary of the history and platform of PiS in Wikipedia. There are also two perspectives that are hundreds of years apart but seem to be very similar in tenor and approach as it pertains to the Polish character and to the constitutional government they embraced in the late 1700s and after independence in the 1980s.

The French philosopher and political commentator Jean-Jacques Rousseau gave his opinion on forming the Polish constitution of 1772 in his dissertation "Considerations on the Government of Poland and on its Proposed Reformation." Rousseau's blueprint for what was happening during the transition period right before the partitions are eerily prophetic of what is happening now with the new Polish government. I strongly encourage you to read it. His understanding of the Polish people and the meddling of Poland's neighbors could be from a page in a 2016 article from a Google search on the internet. For instance:

"Incline the passions of the Poles in a different direction, and you will give their souls a national physiognomy which will distinguish them from other peoples, which will prevent them from mixing, from feeling at ease with those peoples, from allying themselves with them; you will give them a vigour which will supplant the abusive operation of vain precepts, and which will make them do through preference and passion that which is never done sufficiently well when done only for duty or interest.

"... loving the fatherland, they will serve it zealously and with all their hearts. Given this sentiment alone, legislation, even if it were bad, would make good citizens; and it is always good citizens alone that constitute the power and prosperity of the state.

There is equal vigor with the victor and the vanquished if we are to

believe the numbers of supporters and protestors in Poland. The true solution remains to be seen and like all nations, the swing from liberal to conservative or some combination is typical of the democratic process. Remember Margaret Thatcher? Remember Sarkozy? There is complaining in this country that China or India are competing and gaining greater share in the world market but it was the United States that promoted this economic model. So Poland is acting like a Western country; so be it.

Still, if the constant barrage of news about PiS is a little disconcerting then the words of Edmund Janniger, a special representative of the Minister of National Defense of the Republic of Poland may help to calm and dampen the hysteria. In an article from the NewsMax World website "Overreach in Poland Leads to New Justice Appointments," he explains the situation in mater-of-fact terms that basically says, anything that is happening in our country hasn't been done in yours. He writes:

Most recently, President Obama has seen his nomination of a new U.S. Supreme Court Justice in the last year of his administration widely resisted by Congress on the grounds that the winner of the upcoming presidential election should make that choice, since it will affect the balance of power on America's highest constitutional tribunal.

Observers can agree or disagree with how the American political process ultimately handled these matters relating to the distribution of power between the branches of government in the United States, but we should all agree that they were and are internal matters that are the business of the American people. They are decidedly none of Europe's business, and certainly none of the business of international bodies.

I have to admit I don't understand the intense interest from the European community on how Poland governs herself, at least in this early stage of the process. Janniger is calling for patience and tolerance and to give President Duda and his cabinet a chance. We heard this same sentiment over and over again concerning President Obama.

One of the big complaints heard in the United States is that our Congress is not getting anything done. Democracy is a preferred philosophy but on a practical level it is very, very inefficient and moves slow. We would all like to make our friends say and believe what we do but that is not how it works. If you want to get a lot done, get a dictatorship. Janniger, as well as Rousseau, gives the Poles a lot more credit than many of the experts.

Poland should be judged by the international community on how it relates to mutual security concerns and economic stability in Europe. On both of these important counts the new government in Poland has proven to be a reliable partner to NATO and the EU.

If helping keep Europe free and prosperous are the touchstones by which Poland's government is fairly measured, the current Law and Justice government is off to a strong start.

The Polish people have proven the experts wrong before, and I hope this is another one of those instances.

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# Polka MAGAZINE

POLISH AMERICAN JOURNAL

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DANCE TIME / Jen Pijanowski

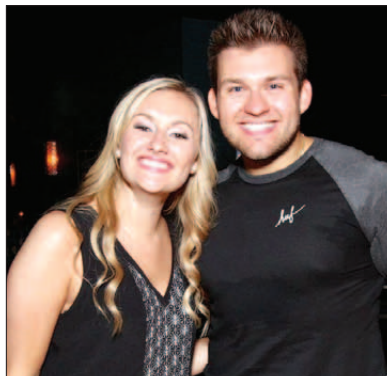
## Dynabrax is Alive and Well



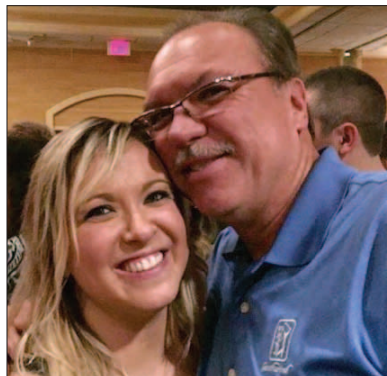
Dave Janicki and Marianne Liskiewicz and having a great time at the Clinton Bar & Grill.



Billy Heinzenberger, owner of the Clinton Bar & Grill, and cook and waitress Jennifer Wisniewski.



Alicia Iwanczuk and Jacob Zawisza at the United States Polka Association Convention in Cleveland.



Holly Lashway and Bob Earl enjoyed the TBC and TPM reunions at the USPA.

After many years of absence from the Buffalo polka scene, **Dynabrax** made an appearance at Potts Banquet Hall in mid-May. Although I was beyond thrilled to learn of this dance, there was a part of me that couldn't get

thanks to Jeff's committed musicians — and more importantly, true friends. Please continue to keep Jeff in your prayers and join me in looking forward to the moment when he is back on stage where he belongs.

past seeing **Dynabrax** without Jeff Mleczo on the stage. Jeff has been one of my long-time favorite musicians and vocalists. I still remember the first time I listened to him sing many years ago at Seven Springs. I adored his Polish pronunciation and trumpet playing while passionately singing and swaying back and forth.



Peter Danielczuk, Hall of Famer Joe Oberaitis, and Ernie Daigle.

As the dance started, I wasn't sure what to expect. However I was undeniably pleased — the band played all of the characteristic **Dynabrax** favorites while adding in standards and some new music. Jack Beachly took on an unbelievable amount of the vocals assisting with the seamless transition of the band. It is a true tribute to Jeff as a band leader that these musicians have continued to keep the band viable while he is progressing during his recovery process. No doubt his presence was missed, but the spirit of **Dynabrax** is alive and well

**MEANWHILE, IN CLEVELAND** ... Although I was not able to attend USPA this year, I was overjoyed to hear of its success. The event moved to a larger venue and still managed to sell out every room, months in advance. Both **TBC** and **TPM** reunions were headliners at the Memorial Day event, which welcomed over 1300 people in attendance. The board of USPA does a spectacular job promoting and hosting this kickoff to the summer polka season.

Congratulations to **The Knewz** for winning the polka recording of the year for "Breaking Knewz." Of course, since they are Buffalo boys, I may be a bit biased, but I think most polka fans would agree that this is a

much-deserved award. The **Knewz** constantly strive to burst open the confines of polkas, while keeping the music authentic. These musicians spend countless hours writing, practicing, driving, and spending



IPA Band members Rich Benkowski, Laura Mateja, and Dan Mateja.

time away from their families to ensure that polka music progresses to the changing audience.

Additionally, congratulations to **Andy Bojczuk** on again receiving the "Male Vocalist of the Year" award. This is a well-earned distinction not only for his indisputable vocal talents but also for the integrity he brings to polka music. Typically at festivals and dances with his wife Michelle and daughter Hannah by his side, Andy unselfishly shares his spotlight with his family. Congratulations to Andy and the **Knewz** for making Buffalo proud once again and propelling polka music ahead to the younger fans while remaining true to the roots set forth by prior generations.

**PULASKI POLKA DAYS.** From July 21-24, polka fans invade Pulaski picnic grounds in Pulaski Wisconsin for Polka Days. This four-day festival welcomes thousands of visitors to indulge in some of the greatest music the polka genre has to offer. Money raised through this festival is kept local to support many community-based organizations throughout Pulaski. Some of the organizations who have received funding thanks to this wildly successful event are the local VFW, Lions Club, AmVets, American Legions and Firefighters. It is obvious that this is a community effort as businesses roll out the red carpet to those attending the festival and join in the spirit of the polka celebration. The most difficult part of attending this event is trying to fit in supporting the local businesses while decid-

## Concertina Club forms in Western New York

BUFFALO, N.Y. — Concertina players Casey Kliszak and Ron Urbanczyk invite both professional and novice concertina players to join the newly formed Concertina Club of Western New York.

The new club will meet on the first Thursday of every month, at 6:30 p.m., beginning July 7 at the Potts Banquet Hall, 41 S. Rossler

Ave., Cheektowaga, N.Y. Bring your concertina.

The new club will be devoted to the promotion and preservation of the Chemnitzer style concertina, and its purpose is to support the membership of the World Concertina Congress, the national Chemnitzer concertina organization, and Western New York concertina musicians by exhibiting the sounds and music of the instrument.

It will also provide a means to exchange concertina information and music. Members can share information on concertinas that are available for sale, how or where to repair and tune a concertina, and where to purchase concertina accessories such as straps, microphones, corners, nameplates and parts.

The main objective of the club will be to develop a better appreciation and respect of the instrument by the public and to encourage concertina musicians to improve their musical skills and abilities.

The club will focus on Polish American style polkas, waltzes, and obereks, but will consider all varieties of music.

Membership is open to any interested individual. All new members will pay a one-time fee of \$10.00 to join the World Concertina Congress; this membership fee represents a lifetime membership to the WCC, even if the WNYCC dissolves.

For more information contact Casey Kliszak (716) 684-7504, or Ron Urbanczyk 675-6588.

## Mitch Moskal Now on the Jammer

HOLYOKE, Mass. — After the disappointing cancellation of his (and other) Saturday morning polka shows on WMUA-FM at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst, Mitch Moskal is back at the microphone with The Early Bird Polka Show, Saturday mornings on the Polka Jammer Network starting at 6:00 a.m. Moskal is no stranger to the Polka Jammer; he had shows on the network back in 2006 and 2009 and is now back providing a full range of polka music to a worldwide listening audience.

A resident of Holyoke, Mass., Moskal has been a DJ for more than 27 years and continues to host a country music summer series at WMUA.

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## TOLEDO POLONIA / Margaret Zotkiewicz-Dramczyk

## “We Came, We Saw, We Jammed”

If you were walking around the Holiday Inn on the Sunday morning of the USPA Convention this past Memorial Day weekend, perhaps you noticed several unobtrusive posters hanging in the elevators and the hallways. The posters, hand written, said simply “We Came, We Saw, We Jammed, Pro-Am Jam 2016, Lounge 12:30.”

Being new to the violin and thus new to the Pro-Am Jam, my 10-year-old daughter **Claire** prepared for practice with some trepidation earlier that morning. Charts and audio files were sent to the young musicians ahead of time, yet as everyone knows, practice and performance are two vastly different things. Not sure what to expect, we both entered the Lounge a bit nervously.

**Randy Koslosky**, the creative impetus behind the **Pro-Am Jam**, had assured us in the weeks leading up to USPA that Claire would have plenty of support from more experienced musicians to feel comfortable when performance time came. Around 10:00 a.m., we arrived for practice, where a few dozen folding chairs had been set up in front of the stage. As this was just before the Sunday Mass, the room was fairly empty, except for the kids and the organizing musicians.

Fast forward to 12:30 p.m., when the Pro-Am Jam began in earnest. Around noon, a few people filtered in from the ballroom at the conclusion of church services. As the minutes passed, to use the phrase “standing room only” would have

been an understatement. By the time the musicians finished tuning up their instruments and the music began, the Lounge was filled to capacity and beyond.

A dozen songs were played: “Come On Over” was sung by **Matt Martin**, who had proposed the song to Randy. With a simple riff for the horns, “Come on Over” worked well, while also allowing for some of the more advanced sax players to take the sax solo parts.

“Everyone Loves Someone,” a song from Jimmy Weber and the Sounds, featured a concertina solo by 11-year-old **Stas Stetar**, a talented young man who also played drums on a lot of the songs.

“We Were Made for Each Other” was a group vocal arranged for all the guys and girls to sing their respective parts. **Nathan Neuman**, who is a great-nephew of the Langer sisters, jammed along on accordion on this tune.

“Bride’s Dance” the fourth tune to be played, is a personal favorite, with its rock and roll like bass solo. On this day, the bass solo was taken by 11-year-old **Sebastian Pucowski**, a sax solo by **Zach Piatkowski**, and a trumpet solo by **Jenna Zelasko**.

“Our Favorite Dish,” the old Marion Lush tune, had a surprise thrown in for the crowd, when **Whitey Ryniec**, who played with Lush, stood up, said a few words, and led the vocals.

“Polka Music in my Veins” was next up. Originally sung by Lenny

Gomulka and Jimmy Weber, the song about two friends, one from Chicago and one from Pennsylvania who both love polkas, was on this day sung by **Zach Piatkowski** and **Matt Martin**, who personalized it to be about their hometowns.

“Together You and I,” written by **Jeff Mleczo**, brought **Bobby Earl Jr.** to the bandstand and a few tears to eyes, as Randy prefaced the song with comments about how Jeff always wanted to include violins in songs he wrote. As the small but mighty violin section played, the crowd was even more appreciative.

“Devil’s Dream,” another Mleczo song and an instrumental, continued the violin theme, followed by “Suicide,” an old melody based on a folk song.

“Polka Maniac,” a tune fans certainly associate with Randy Koslosky, was next up. As this is a duet song about a doctor and a patient, the ceremonial passing of the stethoscope took place much to the delight of the crowd. Randy’s brother **Bernie** passed it on to his niece **Emily Olszewski**, who sang the song along with her sister **Rebecca Olszewski**.

“Bright (by Echosmith), a modern tune, was sung by **Alli Lange**.

“Angelina” a favorite from the band Freeze-Dried, was the final song in the jam, and sung wonderfully by **Zach Piatkowski**. As the final measures signaled the end of the 2016 Pro-Am Jam, the crowd went wild with applause for all of the musicians, whether pro or amateur,

who took the stage.

**THERE ARE MANY MORE** names to add to the list of musicians who were present, whether playing or in support: the one and only **Paul “Sonny” Kuhar**, **Dave Morris**, **Rich Zembrowski**, **Dawn Rosinski**, **Travis Rosinski**, **Brian Earl**, **Wally Dombrowski**, **Mike Fudalla**, **Eddie Biegaj**, **Chirs Hedrich**, **Rick Rzeszutko**, **Kevin Adams**, **Mollie Busta Lange**, **Chris Bogdon**, **Bob Naessens**, and of course **Randy Koslosky** himself. (I’m sure I’ve missed many more).

Not only did the kids play the music, but the emcee duties were carried out by several young performers, including **Victoria Koslosky**, **Emily Olszewski**, **Matt Martin** and **Emma Bogdon**.

The most important aspect of the jam was of course the young people themselves (and I’m sure I’ve overlooked many names here as well), who took the time out to practice ahead of time and play their instruments at the Pro-Am Jam of 2016.

**I TALKED TO RANDY** after the fact, and he provided the following information:

“The first Pro-Am Jam was three years ago at the USPA Festival. It was a last minute idea a few weeks before the event. It was fairly small and featured kids playing songs they knew with the pros jamming along with them. We didn’t even have a drum set, so the young drummers played on pans (seriously).

The concept was to provide an opportunity for kids to jam with pros. In the first one there were a lot of Q&A between the kids and the pros.”

Some of the goals of the Pro-Am Jam are to have a positive musical performance experience, to make connections with other young musicians, to make connections with pros who may become mentors, to learn some classic polka songs, and to explore possibilities of how to make new songs into cool polkas.

I would like to mention that we will be doing another Pro-Am Jam at the IPA Festival in Buffalo on Sunday, September 4th. It would be great if more young musicians became involved. One of the basic ideas of the Pro-Am Jam has been to work out parts that are suitable for kids at any level, so no one needs to be afraid. It has also been great to see how the pros have become mentors to many of the kids.”

If people are interested in participating, they can contact Randy at 412-798-1342 or at [rkoslosky@gmail.com](mailto:rkoslosky@gmail.com), or check the IPA website: [www.ipapolkas.com](http://www.ipapolkas.com).

Final remarks were made by USPA President **Barb Haselow**, who had a tear in her eye as she thanked Randy for all he had done. Barb stated: “The Pro-Am Jam may be the best part of this convention.”

Congratulations to everyone on a job well done! For pictures of the Pro-Am Jam and all of the events at USPA, visit USPA on FaceBook.

# PULASKI POLKA DAYS

## July 21-24, 2016

[www.pulaskipolkadays.com](http://www.pulaskipolkadays.com)

### PULASKI, WISCONSIN

#### BAND SCHEDULE

##### Thursday

- Chad Przybylski & Polka Rhythms
- Maroszek Brothers
- New Generation

##### Friday

- New Generation
- Aaron Socha & Livewire
- The Boys
- The Knewz
- Polka Dynamics
- Polish Connection
- Dr. Kielbasa
- Polka Country
- John Gora
- Hauser’s Hot Shots
- Molly B

##### Saturday

- Chad Przybylski & Polka Rythms
- Box On
- Polka Family
- The Knewz
- IPA Tribute Band
- John Gora
- Polka Country Musicians
- The Boys
- Concertina Rich
- Music Connection
- Jeff Winard
- Molly B & Ted Lange Squeezebox

##### Sunday

- Box On
- Polka Family
- Stephanie
- Maroszek Brothers

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#### FUN FOR ALL AGES!

#### EVENTS

##### Community Events

- Community Night
- Fireworks
- Polish Food & Souvenirs

##### Saturday Events

- Polka Trot 5K
- Arts & Crafts Fair
- Dance Contest

##### Sunday Events

- Worship Services
- Pancake & Porkie Breakfast
- Arts & Crafts Fair
- Polka Days Parade
- Raffle Drawing

#### CONTACT

##### General Information

- Harold @ 920-822-3869 or 920-660-9126
- Jim @ 920-680-3223

##### Camping

- Randy @ 920-822-5702  
Email: [wick6102@yahoo.com](mailto:wick6102@yahoo.com)

##### Parade Information

- Wayne @ 920-822-5456

**CHILDREN UNDER 12 ARE FREE**  
(MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT)

Pulaski Polka Days is organized by the Community Organization Sponsors - and all proceeds from Pulaski Polka Days is contributed back into the community through the following organizations:

- AMERICAN LEGION POST #337
- TRI-COUNTRY FIREFIGHTERS, INC.
- TRI-COUNTY OPTIMIST CLUB
- PULASKI AMVETS
- PULASKI LIONS CLUB
- KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
- PULASKI FFA ALUMNI & FFA
- VFW

**POLKA CALENDAR / John Ziobrowski**

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

- JULY 4**
- The Special Delivery Band. Town Park Pavilion, Cheektowaga N.Y., 1-5. (716) 668-9101
- JULY 7**
- Eddie Forman. Masonic Home. Wallingford. Ct., 6:15-7:45. (203) 679-5900
- JULY 8**
- Tony's Polka Band. St. Stanislaus. Amsterdam. N.Y., 5-9
  - July 9
  - Mike Surratt. American Legion. College Park. Md., 8-11. (301) 441-2783
- JULY 10**
- Dennis Polisky. Pulaski Park. Three Rivers. Mass., 2:30-6:30
  - Eddie Derwin. Our Lady of Mt. Carmel. Lake Silkworth. Pa., 3-6. (570) 477-5040
  - Lenny Gomulka. St. Stan's Church. Amsterdam. N.Y., (518) 842-2771
  - Mike Surratt. Old Stein Inn. Edgewater. Md., 4-8. (410) 798-6807
- JULY 12**
- Buffalo Touch. River Grill. Tonawanda. N.Y., 6:30. (716) 873-2553
  - July 13
  - Dennis Polisky. Baldwin Park. Terryville. Ct., 6-8. (860) 585-4031
- JULY 14**
- John Stevens. St. Elizabeth Ann Church. Swoyersville. Pa., 7-11. (570) 287-6624
  - Joe Stanky. Knoebels Amusement Park. Elysburg Pa., 1:30/6/8:30. (800) 487-4386
  - Special Delivery. Lackawanna Senior Center, 230 Martin Road, Lackawanna, N.Y. Open to the public, no admission. (6:15-8:15)
- JULY 15**
- John Gora/Lenny Gomulka. Town Park. Cheektowaga. N.Y., 4:30-10
  - Eddie Forman. Ferry St. Park. Easthampton. Mass., 6:30-8. (413) 529-1440
- JULY 16**
- Special Delivery/Dennis Polisky/

- John Stevens. Town Park. Cheektowaga, N.Y., 2-11
  - Eddie Derwin. Shawnee On The Delaware Resort. E. Stroudsburg. Pa., 11:30-3:30 (800) 275-8777
  - Buffalo Touch. St. John's Church. Alden. N.Y., 6 p.m. (716) 937-6959
  - Jimmy Sturr. MD State Fairgrounds. Timonium. Md., 3 p.m.
  - Lenny Gomulka. Main Stage. Gardner. Mass., 6-8. (978) 630-400
  - Eddie Forman. Immaculate Conception Church. Indian Orchard. Mass., 4-8. (413) 543-3627
- JULY 17**
- Dennis Polisky/Rare Vintage. Town Park. Cheektowaga. N.Y., 3-9
  - Special Delivery. Pulaski Parade, Harlem Road, Cheektowaga, N.Y.
  - The Boys. Evergreen CC. Fleetwood. Pa., 2-6. (610) 944-7501
  - Eddie Derwin. Shawnee On The Delaware Resort. E. Stroudsburg. Pa., 11:30-3:30. (800) 275-8777
  - Lenny Gomulka. Immaculate Conception Parish. Indian Orchard Mass., (413) 543-3627
- JULY 19**
- Special Delivery. Quaker Arts Pavilion. Orchard Park. N.Y., 7-8:30 (716) 881-6604
  - John Stevens. Best Western. Matamoras. Pa., 11 a.m. (518) 491-2400
  - Jimmy Sturr. Bauer Amphitheater. Linden N.J., 7:30 (908) 474-8600
- JULY 20**
- John Stevens. Best Western. Matamoras. Pa., 11 a.m. (518) 491-2400
  - Buffalo Touch. Elma Gazebo. Elma. N.Y., 6:30. (716) 652-3260
- JULY 21**
- Jimmy Sturr. Town Park. Secaucus N.J., 7 p.m.
- JULY 22**
- Dennis Polisky. Town Park. Port Chester. N.Y., 7:30-9. (914) 939-2354
  - John Stevens. Lewis County Fairgrounds. Lowville. N.Y., 9:30 p.m. (315) 376-8333
- JULY 23**
- Mike Surratt. State Fairgrounds. Timonium Md., TBA (410) 780-9054
  - Eddie Forman. Hadley COA. Hadley

- Mass., 6-8. (413) 586-4023
  - June Ingram RBO. St. Michael. Beacon Falls. Ct., 6-8
- JULY 24**
- Eddie Forman. Divine Mercy Church. Three Rivers Mass., 1-7. (413) 283-6030
  - June Ingram RBO. St. Cyril's. Binghamton. N.Y., 2:30-6:30. (607) 723-2920
  - Eddie Derwin. VFW. Dupont Pa., 2-6. (570) 654-5504
  - Jack Tady. American Legion. Rositer. Pa., 2-6. (814) 938-9891
  - Jersey Polka Stars. Spring Lake Park. S. Plainfield. N.J., 6:30-8. (609) 424-0660
  - Mike Surratt. State Fairgrounds. Timonium Md., TBA. (410) 780-9054
  - New Direction. Veterans Park. Lackawanna N.Y., 1-4
- JULY 25**
- Eddie Forman. Walnut Hill Park. New Britain Ct., 7-9. (860) 612-4200
  - July 27
  - Eddie Forman. Band Stand. West Brookfield, Mass., 6-8
  - July 28
  - Jimmy Sturr. Third Ward Park. Passaic. N.J., 7:30. (973) 473-5111
  - Joe Stanky. Central Park. Honesdale. Pa., 7:30-9. (570) 253-3855
- JULY 30**
- Box On. Pulaski Park. Three Rivers Mass., 2:30-6:30
  - Dennis Polisky. Lowell Folk Festival. Lowell. Mass., (978) 275-1764
  - Jimmy Sturr. Historic Track. Goshen. N.Y., 6-8. (845) 294-5333
  - Tony's Polka Band. Arvin Fire Co. Mechanicville. N.Y., 5-9. (518) 664-6711
- JULY 31**
- Special Delivery/Box On. Lamm Post. Williamsville. N.Y., 2-8. (716) 668-9101
  - Dennis Polisky. PACC. S. Deerfield. Mass., 1-5:30. (413) 665-8735
  - Stephanie. Pulaski Park. Three Rivers Mass., 2:30-6:30
  - Tony's Polka Band. Polish Community Club. Utica. N.Y., 2-6. (315) 732-0087
  - Eddie Forman. Stanley Park. Westfield, Mass., 6-8. (413) 572-6263
  - John Stevens. St. Nicks Grove. Primrose. Pa., 4-8. (202) 526-7811
  - PA Express. American Legion. Rositer. Pa., 2-6. (814) 938-9891
  - Northern Lites. Pulaski Club. Daytona Beach. Fla., 2-5. (386) 258-7059

- AUGUST 1**
- John Gora. St. Joseph Bakery. St. Catharines. Ont., TBA. (905) 937-4411
  - Eastern Sound. Seashell Stage. Hampton Beach. N.H., 7-9:30. (603) 642-4134
- AUGUST 3**
- Eddie Forman. Town Common. Leicester, Mass., 6:30-8:30 (508) 892-7021
- AUGUST 5**
- Tony's Polka Band. Sacred Heart/St. Mary. New York Mills. N.Y., 6-11. (315) 316-0506
  - Walt Groller. Evergreen CC. Fleetwood Pa., 7-11. (610) 944-7501
  - The Beat. Potts Banquet Hall. Buffalo. N.Y., 7-11. (716) 675-6588
- AUGUST 6**
- Special Delivery. St. Casimir Lawn Fest. Buffalo N.Y., 4:30-9. (716) 824-9589
  - Eddie Forman. Immaculate Heart of Mary. Granby, Mass., 6-10. (413) 467-9821
  - Tony's Polka Band. Sacred Heart/St. Mary. New York Mills. N.Y., (315) 316-0506
  - Walt Groller. Musikfest. Bethlehem. Pa., 12-4. (610) 332-1300
  - Joe Stanky. Sacred Heart. Dupont. Pa., 7-11. (570) 654-3713
- AUGUST 7**
- Polka Country Musicians. Pulaski Park. Three Rivers. Mass., 2:30-6:30
  - Mike Surratt. Old Stein Inn. Edgewater. Md., 4-8. (410) 798-6807
  - Mon Valley Push. Am. Legion. West Brownsville Pa., 3-6. (724) 785-8333
- AUGUST 11**
- Alex Meisner. Potts banquet Hall. Rossler Plaza, Cheektowag. 7-11. \$12 admission.

**BUFFALO POLKA BOOSTERS' Annual Summer Picnic**

**SUNDAY, JULY 24, 2016**  
2:00 until 7:00 p.m.

**Music by SURPRISE BAND**

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**48<sup>th</sup> Annual International Polka Association Festival & Convention**



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Mike Costa & The Beat	IPA Tribute Band	Lenny Gomulka & Chicago Push
	The Boys	Music Company
	The Knewz	Polka Country Musicians

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**Polka Jamboree In The Grove** featuring

From Traverse City, Michigan, The Polka Family Band



**SUNDAY, JULY 31, 2016**

Doors open at 1:00 p.m. Music begins at 2:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

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**2016 - FRANKENMUTH Summer Music Fest**  
Daily Schedule

**5<sup>th</sup> THUR, AUG 11<sup>th</sup>**  
Polka Family Box On  
Ampol Aires Stephanie

**6<sup>th</sup> FRI, AUG 12<sup>th</sup>**  
Polka Family The Boys  
Lenny Gomulka PCM  
New Brass Express

**7<sup>th</sup> SAT, AUG 13<sup>th</sup>**  
Tony Blazonczyk The Boys  
Lenny Gomulka PCM

**8<sup>th</sup> THUR, AUG 18<sup>th</sup>**  
Squeezebox featuring Ted Lange and Mollie B  
from the Mollie B Polka Party on RFD-TV  
Fred Zivich Leon Olsen

**9<sup>th</sup> FRI, AUG 19<sup>th</sup>** **10<sup>th</sup> SAT, AUG 20<sup>th</sup>**  
Squeezebox featuring Ted Lange and Mollie B from the Mollie B Polka Party on RFD-TV  
The Fabulous HUBCAPS  
Jesse Aron as Elvis & Roy  
SHOW AND DANCE

**11<sup>th</sup> SAT, AUG 20<sup>th</sup>**  
Squeezebox featuring Ted Lange and Mollie B from the Mollie B Polka Party on RFD-TV  
The Fabulous HUBCAPS  
Jesse Aron as Elvis & Roy

BAND LINE-UP SUBJECT TO CHANGE

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## AMERICAN POLONIA AT A GLANCE

## MARYLAND

**TIMONIUM** — Homemade *pierogi*, traditional dancing, polka music and learning more about Polish cultural heritage — something for everyone — at the **42nd Annual Maryland Polish Festival**, July 16 and 17 at the Exhibition Hall at Timonium Fairgrounds, 2200 York Rd. Presented by The Polish Community Association of Maryland, the festival will feature entertainment and live music, including a performance by Jimmy Sturr and his Orchestra. Additional entertainment will be provided by Lenny Adams Band, the Krakowiaki Dancers and the Ojczyzna Folk Dancers, as well as local bands.

For more information, log onto [www.pcamaryland.org](http://www.pcamaryland.org) or call (410) 780-9054 or (410) 276-4019 (sk).

## NEW YORK

**BUFFALO** — Marian Kreutzer, long-time serving General Pulaski Association, Inc. board member and Cheektowaga civic leader has been named grand marshal for the 78th annual Pulaski Day Parade, announced Parade Chair Mira Szramel, Pulaski Assn. President Brian D. Rusk and Parade Co-Chair Edward Reska, Jr.

Kreutzer is the co-chair of Pulaski Association Installation Dinner and is a member of the Cheektowaga Patriotic Association.

The Pulaski Day Parade will take place at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, July 17, 2016 and will proceed from the Thruway Plaza west on Walden Ave. to Harlem Road and north on Harlem to Cheektowaga Town Park.

For more info, call parade chair Mira Szramel 681-6739 or email [ziggyzr@msn.com](mailto:ziggyzr@msn.com)

## WASHINGTON, D.C.

The **Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences of America (PIASA)** held its 74th Annual Meeting and Conference June 17-18 at Georgetown University. This multidisciplinary conference featured the latest research on Polish and Polish American subjects by leading U.S., Canadian and Polish scholars. An opening reception, hosted by Polish Ambassador Richard Schnepf, was held at the Polish Embassy on June 17. The concluding reception and banquet was held June 18 at the Holiday Inn in Arlington, Virg. Ambassador Richard Schnepf was the speaker.

## Murphy Honored on Constitution Day

by Richard Poremski

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** — A few hundred guests descended upon the Residence of the Ambassador, May 20, 2016, at the invitation of Ambassador Ryszard Schnepf to celebrate the 225th Anniversary of Poland's May 3rd Constitution of 1791 — *Konstytucja Trzeciego Maja*. The guest list included members of the U.S. Government, Congress and armed forces, the Washington diplomatic corps and its military attaches, NGOs, many luminaries, and American Polonia. Professor Andrzej Rzeplinski, Poland's president of the Constitutional Tribunal, visiting Washington, was also in attendance.

Ambassador Schnepf welcomed the guests and paid homage to the May 3rd Constitution, which was modeled on the earlier U.S. Constitution of 1787. Poland's revolutionary Constitution championed the avant-garde concept of freedom and democracy for the common man — heretofore an alien political concept, which also attracted the collective ire of the ruling crowned-heads of Europe.

Ambassador Schnepf's remarks centered on the NATO alliance and its upcoming summit in Warsaw, noting the

summit will determine Europe's security and that of all its member states, adding that "America's presence in Europe is vital for our future and security." The Ambassador thanked the Obama administration and Congress for undertaking decisions to bolster NATO's eastern flank and deploying the U.S. military Poland, adding that "We must make NATO stronger in regards to threats from the East as well as from other directions."

Ambassador Schnepf expressed his disappointment that Poles continue to have to obtain visas to travel to the United States. "We will not cease from our efforts (to right the wrong) especially since many members of the U.S. Administration and Congress support our efforts."

U.S. Senator Chris Murphy (D-CT) expressed his gratitude to the government and people of Poland. "My



**U.S. SENATOR CHRIS MURPHY** (left, at podium) addresses guests in the garden of the Residence of the Ambassador Ryszard Schnepf (right). The senator from Connecticut was awarded the Commander's Cross of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Poland.

mother is going to cry when I bring it back home ... Although my name is Murphy, I have much more Polish blood than Irish. My maternal great-grandparents came from a very small town in southern Poland and eventually settled in New Britain, Connecticut. My Polish paternal great grandparents also settled there ... I am the story of Poland, and I am the story of Polonia."

Senator Murphy agreed that the U.S. Visa Waiver Pro-

gram's exclusion of Poland is "discriminatory treatment" and not a point of pride for the U.S., and — as a friend of Poland — he will continue to undertake efforts to change this current state of affairs.

At the conclusion of his remarks, and referencing the imminent critical NATO summit in Warsaw, Senator Murphy stated that "America is committed to NATO's future and we will strive to protect it from those who would undo it from the inside or outside."

## Polish Singers Convention Wraps Up in Brooklyn

**NEW YORK** — On Saturday, May 21, 2016, eight member choruses of the Polish Singers Alliance Of America's District 7, hailing from Conn., N.J., N.Y., and Pa., gathered in South Brooklyn's Our Lady of Czestochowa to conduct their business sessions, rehearsals, competition/concert and Mass. The day's events concluded with an awards banquet at the Grand Prospect Hall.

Mary Wozniak, chairperson of the Pre-Convention Committee greeted the delegates and turned the business session over to District 7 President Yaga Chudy. Izabella Kobus-Salkin led all in singing the Polish and Ameri-

can national anthems. Chosen chairman of the business session was Deborah Majka of Marcella Kochanska Sembrich Female Chorus, assisted by Helen M. Pater of Jutrzenka and Mary Lou WYROBEK, president of PSAA's Central Administration located in Buffalo, N.Y.

Mary Wozniak of Jutrzenka became recording secretary of the business session, assisted by Halina Fabianska of Hejnal.

Election results of officers for the next two years are as follows: Yaga Chudy (pres.); Brent Iskra and Bozena Madej (vice pres.); Katarzyna Wysocka (sec.); Jeff Pogorzelski

(treas.); Mariusz Bryszkiewicz (librarian); Barbara R. Blyskal (PR, English); Bozena Madej (PR, Polish); Janusz Sporek (Dist. Choral Dir.); David Zagorski (Asst. Choral Dir.) Ela Bernatowicz and Cecylia Bidiuk (sgts.-at-arms); and Jacek Borkowski, and Mariusz Bryszkiewicz (flag bearers).

The choral competitions and concert were held in the church proper. The results were:

Achieving first place in the Male Category was Chopin #182; second place in that same category went to Oginski #283.

First place in the Female Category was Jutrzenka #226; second place in that same

category was awarded to Marcella Kochanska-Sembrich #321; and Polonia-Paderewski #311 won third place honors.

First place in the Mixed Category was won by Aria #303; while Hejnal #323 won second place and Polonia-Paderewski #287 took third place.

Aria #303 scored the highest of all eight competing choruses.

In 2017, PSAA's 51st International Convention will be held from May 25-28 and will be hosted by District 7's Marcella Sembrich-Kochanska Female Chorus #321 in Philadelphia.

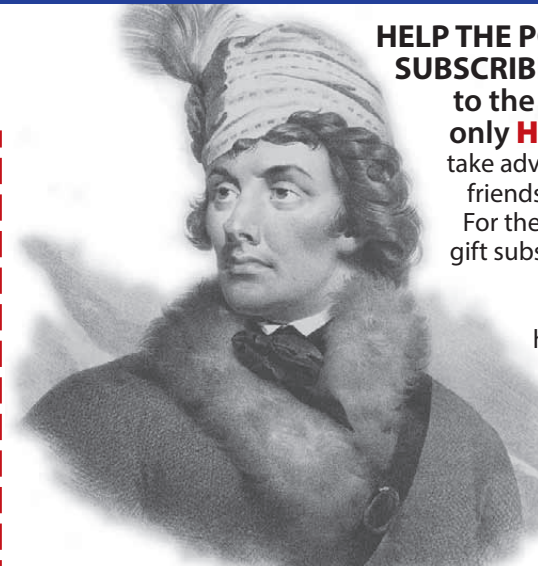
IT'S TIME FOR  
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