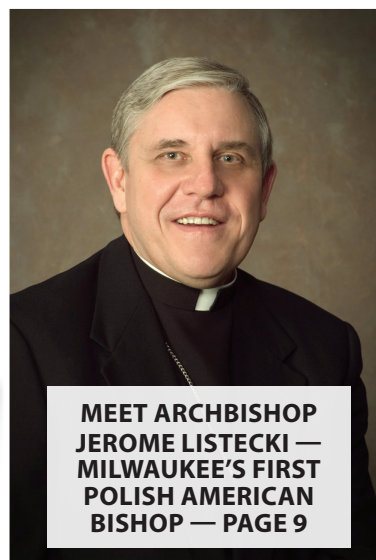


POLISH AMERICAN JOURNAL

ESTABLISHED 1911

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DEDICATED TO THE PROMOTION AND CONTINUANCE OF POLISH AMERICAN CULTURE



MEET ARCHBISHOP
JEROME LISTECKI —
MILWAUKEE'S FIRST
POLISH AMERICAN
BISHOP — PAGE 9

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

WAŁĘSA ISSUES WARNING • **ACPC AT NATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR THE SOCIAL STUDIES** • **POLISH HEAVY METAL**
GDANSK, THE AMBER CAPITAL OF THE WORLD • **LENTEN SUPPERS AND FISH FRIES** • **LET'S HAVE A POLISH PARTY**
MAZZEI: ITALIAN AMERICAN IN SERVICE TO POLAND • **NOBEL PRIZE WINNER A DELIGHT** • **A CHALLENGE TO THE THEATER**

NEWSMARK

U.S. MISSILE BASE 35 MILES FROM KALINGRAD.

Polish Defense Minister Bogdan Klich announced that United States surface-to-air missiles will be deployed near Russian soil.

An undisclosed number of missiles would be deployed in the vicinity of Morag, in northern Poland, just 35 miles from the Russian enclave of Kaliningrad. Klich said the missiles could arrive as soon as late March or early April.

He said the decision to base the missiles near Morag, and not Warsaw, had no political or strategic significance. "The only reason was the good infrastructure," Klich said.

The United States had promised the missiles to Poland in October, after President Obama had scrapped a missile-defense system proposed by President George W. Bush.

Morag is already home to a Polish military base. Klich said it could easily be adapted to the needs of the new missile battery and the American soldiers who would be based in Poland once the missiles were sent there.

While the placement of the missiles so close to Russia could be seen as provocative, Russia denied a report that it planned to increase the arsenal of its Baltic Fleet in response to Poland's announcement.

"No changes are planned in the combat components of the Baltic Fleet in connection with the deployment of U.S. Patriot missiles close to the border with Russia," the Defense Ministry said in a statement carried by news agencies.

ANOTHER GIANT STEP. Anthony Bajdek, President of the Massachusetts Eastern Division of the Polish American Congress, received a letter from the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee, stating it has placed requests for a stamp honoring World War II hero Lt. Col. Matt Urban "under consideration."

The Committee is the group which evaluates all stamp design proposals. Stamp designs for 2010 and 2011 will be announced shortly. The possible earliest date for an Urban stamp would be 2012.

Requests for a stamp for Urban, born Matty Louis Urbanowicz, in Buffalo, N.Y. have been repeatedly overlooked. However in September of last year, Rep. Peter Hoekstra of Michigan introduced resolution H.Con. Res.181 urging the United States Postal Service to issue a stamp commemorating Urban. A letter by retired veteran Leopold Potsiadlo to Postmaster General John E. Potter resulted in Potter asking Advisory Committee to review the Urban stamp proposal.

Urban (1919-1995) was an Army officer who served with distinction in World War II. He was belatedly awarded the Medal of Honor, in 1980 for repeated acts of heroism in combat in France and Belgium in 1944. According to the *Guinness Book of World Records*, he is the most decorated American serviceman. (more in "Viewpoints," Page 4).

MERGER QUESTIONED. The Kosciuszko Foundation has acquired the National Polish Center (NPC), formerly the American Center for Polish Culture, in Washington, D.C.

"This is an exciting alliance that expands the Polish community's presence in our nation's capital," said KF president and executive director Alex Storzynski.

Al Koproski and Julian Kulski of the NPC are now members of the board of trustees.

There are, however, questions regarding the legality of the acquisition. In 1985, the American Council for Polish Culture raised \$600,000 for the Center. The funds were transferred from the Council to the non-profit Center.

By-laws of the Center included a clause that, in the event of its dissolution, all proceeds would revert to the Council.

Council President Deborah Majka said steps must be taken to examine the legality of the merger, and to preserve the relationship between the Council and the Center.

Mazowsze Returns on Tour



AFTER THE SUCCESSFUL 2007 TOUR, the world-renowned Mazowsze returns to North America in a special 60th Anniversary celebratory tour of live performances in November-December 2010. This will once again be coordinated with major Public Television showings of the WLIW-PBS special, *Mazowsze - The Music and Dance of Poland*.

2Luck Concepts will produce the tour featuring the ensemble of ninety dancers, singers and the full 23-member orchestra. At present the tour dates are as follows: Buffalo Nov. 19, Toronto Nov. 20, Hamilton Nov. 21, Utica Nov. 23, Chicago Nov. 27-28, Detroit Nov. 30, New Britain Dec. 4, Bronx, N.Y., Dec. 11, New Brunswick Dec. 12, and Philadelphia Dec. 13. Additional city options are being explored and the schedule will modify. Check PAJ for details.

Frederic Chopin in Outer Space

by Robert Strybel
All photos: NASA

For the first time ever, the music of Fryderyk (Frédéric) Chopin has established its presence in outer space—a fitting tribute to Poland's great composer during International Chopin Year marking the 200th anniversary of his birth. A copy of Chopin's original manuscript of his *Prelude in A Major Opus 28 No. 7* and well as a recording of the composer's works were taken into space aboard the Space Shuttle *Endeavor* by the mission's captain, George Zamka.

Chopin's notes that had

been in outer space are due to be presented to the Polish Minister of Culture and National Heritage when the astronauts visit Poland in May. "When listening to those compositions, one can truly perceive the romantic beauty and majesty of outer space,"

CELEBRATING CHOPIN
More on page 17

Colonel George David Zamka who has Polish roots.

The latest mission, carried out by six astronauts—five males and one female—has involved delivering a third module to the international space station as well as a seven-window cupola to be used as a robotics control room.



Astronaut **KAROL JOSEPH BOBKO** took part in three space missions during the 1980s and was involved in preparations for joint Soviet-U.S. *Apollo-Soyuz* mission.



Veteran Pol-Am astronaut and space walker **SCOTT EDWARD PARAZYŃSKI**, a medical doctor, is the only astronaut known to have climbed Mount Everest.



NASA astronaut, Buffalo native **JIM PAWELCZYK** took a Polish flag abroad a space flight on the space shuttle *Columbia* during the Easter season of 1998.



GEORGE DAVID ZAMKA, the captain of the latest *Endeavor* space shuttle mission, who has a Polish father and Colombian mother, believes nothing can beat Chopin's music to enhance the beauty and majesty of outer space.

The space station, which had been assembled during earlier missions, is about 90 percent completed.

Zamka's great-grandfather came from what was then Prussian-occupied Pomerania in 1885 and settled in Milwaukee where he operated a furniture store. The astronaut's mother is of Colombian ancestry, so Hispanic Americans are also proud of "one of their own."

Another American astronaut of Polish descent is Scott E. Parazyński who took
See "Chopin..." page 6

Tusk Invited to Katyń Ceremony

WARSAW — Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk has been invited to a ceremony marking the 70th Anniversary of the 70th Anniversary of Katyń Massacre, the first Russian ceremony ever to mark the April 1940 murder by Soviet secret police of more than 20,000 Polish prisoners of war. The mass execution of Polish intellectuals, army and police officers has long been one of the most problematic issues plaguing Polish-Russian relations. For over fifty years, the Soviet Union blamed the murders on the German Nazis until Russian President Gorbachev in 1990 finally admitted Soviet culpability in the heinous crimes.

The invitation is seen in Poland as a breakthrough which could lead to improved relations between Russia and Poland. Russian Prime Minister Putin has stated publicly that he understands the meaning to Poles of the Katyn Forest massacre.

April 13 is officially recognized in Poland as Day of remembrance of the victims of Katyń.

Polish Scientists' Discovery Will Force Rewrite of Books

by Leo Kretzner

WARSAW, Poland — Polish scientists led by Dr. Grzegorz Niedzwiedzki of Warsaw University have made a major fossil discovery near Zachełmie, Poland. It is something even rarer than fossil bones—fossilized footprints.

These tracks are preserved in mud that became stone, which Dr. Niedzwiedzki and colleagues have shown to be 397 million years old. Their discovery's significance lies in the fact that this is 18 million years earlier than the first animals with limbs and feet—the first land animals—were thought to have existed.

The earliest known fossils of four-limbed animals are about 380 million years old, with no evidence they existed before that.

"Dr. Niedzwiedzki and colleagues lob a grenade" into the accepted timing of animal evolution, according to Dr. Philippe Janvier and Dr. Gael Clement of the French Museum
See "Discovery," page 6



Dungus Day

MONDAY, APRIL 5
The Clubhouse at Fairgrounds

All-You-Can-Eat Polish Lunch Buffet: Noon-4PM, \$12.95
Dinner Buffet: 4PM-9PM, \$12.95

Live music from The New Direction band (11:30AM-3:30PM)
and Fritz's Polka Band (5PM-9PM)

Make your reservations today!
Call 646-6109 ext. 60149.



Open year-round, 10AM-2AM. Seasonal live harness racing. Located on the Fairgrounds in Hamburg, NY. Call (716) 646-6109 for information. You must be 18 years old or older to play video gaming machines, wager on horses and to purchase and redeem NY Lottery tickets. All prizes must be paid in New York State. Please play responsibly. Rules for all promotions and giveaways are available at Player Rewards.

Parade Calls For Participants

BUFFALO, N.Y. — Organizers of Buffalo's annual Dyngus Day Parade invite social groups, ethnic organizations, schools, marching bands, dancers and performers to participate in the 4th Annual Dyngus Day Parade. The parade will take place at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, April 5.

The parade will march through the Historic Polonia District passing numerous Dyngus Day celebrations including those at St. Stanislaus Church, Polonia Hall, Buffalo Central Terminal and the Adam Mickiewicz Library and Dramatic Circle.

Parade entry applications are available on-line at DyngusDayBuffalo.com. The deadline for entries is April 1, 2010.

Questions may be directed to Parade Director Bernadette Pawlak at (716) 812-3342 or BernadettePawlak@gmail.com.

Dyngus Day Directory

WHERE TO DANCE ON EASTER MONDAY

DEPEW POLISH FALCONS CLUB DYNGUS DAY CELEBRATION

Our 36th Year!

MON., APRIL 5, 2010

2:00 p.m.-?? • Doors open at 1:00 p.m.
MUSIC • FOOD • DRINKS • GOOD TIME
One of the originals — we keep it going!
Celebrating a local event with local bands

FEATURING
BUFFALO'S BEST
BANDS

PHOCUS
2:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

RARE VINTAGE
6:30 p.m.-??

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reservations

Public is welcome
Plenty of FREE
parking

Food and drinks
available at
reasonable prices
Kitchen will open
at 2:00 p.m.

\$10.00 admission
NO REFUNDS
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WITH PARENTS

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www.polishfalconsdepew.com



DYNGUS DAY LUNCHEON CELEBRATION

You Are Cordially Invited
to Join Us on
**EASTER MONDAY
APRIL 5, 2010**

to start your Dyngus Day
early with us at

CORPUS CHRISTI CHURCH

Athletic Club — Lower
165 Sears St, Buffalo, NY 14212
11:30 a.m. - Easter Monday Mass
12:30 p.m. - Authentic Polish Lunch
1:00 p.m. - Entertainment by Polish
Heritage Dancers of WNY

Tickets: \$20.00 per person
— SEATING IS LIMITED —

Corpus Christi Church is located at 199
Clark Street, off Broadway, one block from
the Broadway Market. The Athletic Center is
located adjacent to the Church on Sears St.
Proceeds to Benefit Corpus Christi Church

Call (716) 479-2342
to reserve your seats

**DYNGUS PARTY
CORPUS CHRISTI CHURCH**

5:30-11:00 p.m.
Featuring: Buffalo's Only & Original
POLISH PIZZA

Music by **Al Kania's Polka Smile Band**
Cash Bar featuring Polish Brews
Theme Baskets

Dance Performances by
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Admission: \$10 per person
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For More Info Call (716) 895-1060

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St. Stanislaus Bishop & Martyr Church
Mon., April 5, 2010

Music...
5:00 PM TO 11:00 PM
MSGR. ADAMSKI SOCIAL CENTER

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**Buffalo Concertina All-Stars &
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Doors open at 4:00 p.m.

\$10.00 At The Door • Drinks Available
Free Kielbasa sandwich with \$10 Admission Ticket
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or Jackie Janusz, Rectory Office 854-5510

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JACEK KLOCEK & THE SALT CITY BRASS

\$10.00 advance • \$12.00 at the door

Includes Kielbasa and Sauerkraut Plate
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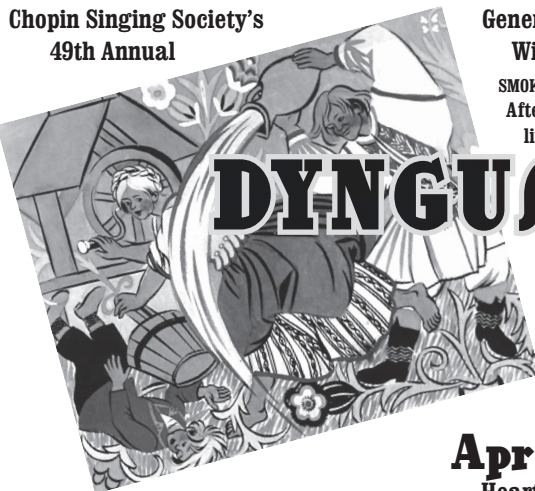
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49th Annual

General Admission: \$8.00
With Buffet • \$16.00

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After 6:00 p.m., admission is
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Buffalo's First and
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Monday,**

April 5, 2010

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Doors open at 11:00 a.m.
Noon Blessing of the Easter Table
Afternoon Buffet noon to 2:30 p.m.
EVENING BUFFET WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE
Followed by an artistic program
featuring the Chopin Chorus and the
White Eagle Dancers of Toronto at
2:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Polka Music
3:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. Rare Vintage
7:00 p.m.-2:00 a.m. Buffalo's Own
Cityside with Ted Szymanski,
alternating with the fabulous
Dynabrass from Waterford, Mich.

18th Annual Pre-Dyngus Day Celebration

Cash Bar &
Kitchen Available!

**BUFFALO'S OWN
JERRY DARLAK & THE TOUCH**

MASSACHUSETT'S
**LENNY GOMULKA
& THE CHICAGO PUSH**

Sunday, April 4, 2010

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#6251 VFW**

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table reservations call Pvt. Leonard Post Jr. Post
Jackie (716) 444-8693 (716) 684-4371

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Cash Bar &
Kitchen Available!

**BUFFALO'S OWN
THE KNEWZ**

MASSACHUSETT'S
**LENNY GOMULKA
& THE CHICAGO PUSH**

Monday, April 5, 2010

NO Squirt Guns • Reserved Tables of 10 or more only, NO EXCEPTIONS
A ticket does NOT guarantee a seat • NO BYOB
NO bringing in of food or any type of beverage. Bags will be checked!

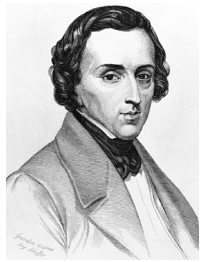
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ALMANAC

March
Marzec

"Put all your soul
into it, play the
way you feel!"
—Fryderyk
Chopin

- 3 1996. Death of **Cardinal John Krol**, Archbishop of Philadelphia, first Polish American Cardinal.
- 4 **ST. CASIMIR**
1484. Death of **St. Casimir**, Prince, Patron of Poland.
1904. First issue of the *Dziennik Polski*, Detroit.
- 5 1813. Birth of **Kazimierz Gzowski**, Polish engineer and bridge builder who emigrated to Canada.
1940. Birth of Connecticut DJ, polka musician and promoter **Dick Pillar**.
- 6 1745. Birth, in Mazowia, Poland, of **Casimir Pulaski**, American Revolutionary War hero, general, and father of the American Cavalry.
- 7 966. **Mieszko I**, Duke of Poland, accepts Christianity.
- 11 1913. Birth in Paris of American fashion designer **Paris as Oleg Cassini Loietwski**. Raised in Italy, he came to the United States in 1936.
- 12 **ST. GREGORY**
- 13 1995. Death of **Franciszek Gajowniczek**, Auschwitz prisoner saved from death by Fr. Maximilian Kolbe, who later became a saint.
- 14 **DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS**
- 17 **ST. PATRICK.**
1956. Death of **Irene Joliet-Curie**, Polish-French scientist, daughter of Pierre and Madame Curie, and Nobel Prize in Chemistry recipient. (b. 1897)
- 18 1895. Riots erupt when **Rev. Flaczek** is appointed to St. Adalbert's Church, Buffalo, N.Y. His controversial tenure led to the establishment of the Holy Mother of the Rosary Polish Catholic Church by parishioners upset with perceived authoritarian rule by the bishop.
- 19 **ST. JOSEPH**
- 20 1673. Death of **Fr. Augustyn Kordecki** (b. 1603), led the defense of Czestochowa against Swedish invaders.
1842. First Polish immigrant society formed in New York City, **Towarzystwo Polakow w Ameryce**, Association of Poles in America.
- 21 1822. Death of **Jozef Wybicki**, wrote the Polish National Anthem.
1980. Seventy year old Antoni Baylak sets himself on fire at the old town Square in Krakow to protest silence about the Katyn massacre.
Jakie wesele, takie zycie. — As the wedding, so the life.
- 23 1891. Death of **Fr. Leopold Moczygemba** in Detroit, Franciscan who founded the first Polish Church in the United States in Panna Maria, Texas. Also founder of St. Cyril & Methodius Seminary at the Orchard Lake Schools in Orchard Lake, Michigan.
- 24 1794. **Tadeusz Kosciuszko**, recently returned from the United States, assumes the title of Supreme Commander of the Polish Insurrection of 1794 in defense of the Constitution of May 3. His oath is sworn in the Krakow marketplace.
- 28 **PALM SUNDAY**
1928. Birth of **Zbigniew Brzezinski**, National Security Advisor to President Jimmy Carter.
- 29 1928. Birth of ice hockey legend **Gordie Howe**, whose mother was Polish.

This paper mailed on or before
March 5, 2010
The April 2010 edition will be
mailed on or before **April 2.**

VIEWPOINTS

Walesa Issues Warning to the United States

During his recent trip to Chicago in support of Illinois Republican gubernatorial candidate Adam Andrzejewski, former Polish president and Nobel Prize winner Lech Walesa warned the United States it must change its path.

"The United States is only one superpower. Today they lead the world. Nobody has doubts about it, militarily. They also lead economically, but they're getting weak," said the Solidarity icon. [The United States does not] lead morally and politically anymore. The world has no leadership. The United States was always the last resort and hope for all other nations. There was the hope, whenever something was going wrong, one could count on the United States. Today, we have lost that hope."

In a videotaped interview by a group known

as foundingbloggers.com, Walesa indicated that the United States was heading toward socialism because of two factors:

The issue with the banks; and the government wastes all the money; they build a bureaucracy; just for itself.

He went on to reassure Poland would not let the United States "devolve to communism."

Walesa said he feels the America that was his friend is moving in the wrong direction. He sees the current quest for redistribution of income as not different from the Marxist credo — from each according to his ability, to each according to his need.

The champion of Polish freedom, who certainly knows about tyranny, socialism and the

egregious path to both, came to warn us about the path we as a nation are on. He told America that it is no longer that "shining city on a hill ... as it slouches toward socialism," adding that "those yearning to breathe free in the world can no longer look to the U.S. for help."

In a press conference, Walesa lamented an America that "apologizes for everything these days, cajoles rather than confronts the thugs of the world, and is embarked on a path to shackle beyond redemption the free economy that led the Free World to victory..." In Walesa's view, something needs to be done to restore America's strength and leadership.

Walesa said he feels the America that was his friend is moving in the wrong direction.

Show Your Support for a USPS Urban Stamp

WASHINGTON, D.C. — New developments have recently taken place in the effort led by the Polish American Congress (PAC) to have a commemorative stamp issued for Lt. Colonel Matt Urban. (see "Newsmark")

In the recent exchange of correspondence between Anthony J. Bajdek, Polish American Congress' Vice President for American Affairs and the United States Postal Service, Terrence W. McCaffrey, Manager, Stamp Development, United States Postal Service advised that the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee has recently reviewed the proposal for a commemorative stamp honoring Matt Urban. "I am pleased to

inform you Lt. Colonel Matt Urban is now under consideration for possible future stamp issuance. (...) Currently, the 2010 and 2011 stamp programs are completed, and stamp subjects for the 2012 program and subsequent years are being selected" he wrote.

To date, the Polish American Congress has collected thousands of signatures in support of the issuance of this stamp. Per USPS request, all those petitions are going to be forwarded within the next month or so to the USPS for the Committee's review. After that, the collection is going to return to the PAC.

Before submitting its current collection, how-

ever, the Polish American Congress seeks to gather as many additional signatures as possible to "freshen up the bouquet" and show the community's support for the effort.

To make that happen, please download the petition (available at www.paceasternmass.org/petition.html), collect as many signatures as possible and return the form(s) to the Polish American Congress.

Time is now of the essence, so please make sure to return the signatures by March 15, 2010 to: Matt Urban Stamp Campaign, Polish American Congress, 1612 K Street NW, Suite 410, Washington, DC 20006.

QUOTES / compiled from news sources

Why He's a Saint

"As some members of his close entourage in Poland and in the Vatican were able to hear with their own ears, John Paul flagellated himself. In his armoire, amid all the vestments and hanging on a hanger, was a belt which he used as a whip and which he always brought to Castel Gandoifo."

— **Msgr. Slawomir Oder**, in his new book, "Why He's a Saint," in which Oder, who in charge of arguing for John Paul II's sainthood, describes how the late pontiff would practice self mortification, among other forms of denial.

❖ ❖ ❖
"Ironically, the most vociferous objections to Pius XII's silence came from Catholic Poles. They felt deeply betrayed ...

"In the Vatican Documents on World War II concerning Pius XII, one can read about protests from Poles who lived under brutal Nazi rule. For them it came as an enormous shock that the pope seemed to be neutral when the Germans were making major efforts to wipe out the

Polish intelligentsia and the clerical elite. This silence was not affected by the fact that the Poles were perhaps the most Catholic nation in Europe.

— **Noted antisemitism scholar Robert Solomon Wistrich**, on complaints that only Jews take offense to Pope Pius XII's silence in the face of Nazi atrocities against Poles and Jews. *Wistrich (April 7, 1945-) is the Neuburger Professor of European and Jewish history at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and the head of the University's Vidal Sassoon International Center for the Study of Antisemitism.*

❖ ❖ ❖
"This will fundamentally change the way in which we ensure the safety of our food supply."

— **Rep. John D. Dingell (D-Mich.)**, author of new legislation that gives sweeping authority to the Food and Drug Administration to regulate the way food is grown, harvested and processed. *The law requires food manufacturers to identify particular risks they face, create*

controls to prevent that contamination, monitor those controls to make sure they are working, and update those measures regularly.

❖ ❖ ❖
"Tradition is your dignity, your pride, your nobility, oh peasant son. Care about preserving the heritage of your fathers, your arts, your culture. Do not cut the roots that unite you with your native land, even if you find yourself at the ends of the earth. That would be like cutting the arteries of your life."

— **Polish goral author Wladyslaw Orkan**, from his "Directives to the Sons of Podhale," written over 70 years ago. *The gorale (Polish Highlanders) in the United States recently celebrated the 80th anniversary of their preeminent organization, the Polish Highlanders' Alliance of North America.*

❖ ❖ ❖
"A lot of people say 'if it ever stops being fun, then I'm getting out.' Anyone who thinks that the Army is always fun has obviously never been on the receiving end of

an improvised explosive device, or in a firefight in the middle of the night."

— **West Point 2009 Class President cadet Andrew "A.J." Pulaski**, who at 27 has already served in two tours of Iraq, and who said his fellow classmates feel fortunate to be able to serve their country.

❖ ❖ ❖
"They kind of lost their glamour in intervening years as we went after acai berries and pomegranate."
— **Adam Drewnowski**, director of the Center for Public Health Nutrition at the University of Washington, on old-school foods: eggs, milk, beans, lean ground beef, potatoes, and soup. *He said sticking to these basics will help consumer pocket books and provide nutritious meals.*

POLISH AMERICAN JOURNAL

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

USPS 437-220 / ISSN 0032-2792

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

PANAGRAPHICS, INC., P.O. BOX 328, BOSTON, NY 14025-0328

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

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Editor in Chief Mark A. Kohan
editor@polamjournal.com

Senior Associate Editor Larry Wroblewski

Associate Editors Florence Waszkelewicz-Clowes, Benjamin Fiore, S.J., Michael Pietruszka, Stas Kniec, Steve Litwin, Jennifer Moskal, Walter J. Mysliwicz, Thomas Tarapacki

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JUST BETWEEN US / Mark Kohan

Notes From the “In” Basket

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF JESUS.

John Paul II was more a holy man than we may have believed.

In a new book written by Monsignor Slawomir Oder, the postulator (the church official who presents a plea for canonization or beatification), for John Paul II's canonization, says the late pontiff regularly practiced self-mortification by whipping himself with a belt.

The practice, according to Oder, is an ancient act of purification.

“It's an instrument of Christian perfection,” he said. Some use it to remind them of the suffering of Jesus.

Oder also wrote that John Paul often denied himself food and “frequently spent the night on the bare floor,” messing up his bed in the morning so he wouldn't draw attention to his act of penitence.

The new book is based on the testimony of 114 witnesses and boxes of documentation Oder gathered on John Paul's life to support the case for beatification and sainthood.

The book “Why He's a Saint” includes previously unpublished speeches and documents written by John Paul, including one 1989 signed memo in which he said he would resign if he became incapacitated.

The book also reported that John Paul forgave his would-be assassin in the ambulance on the way to a hospital moments after he was shot on May 13, 1981, in St. Peter's Square. It reported that he initially thought his attacker was a member of the Italian terrorist organization the Red Brigade, which had made threats.

REMIND THE CENSUS BUREAU WE ARE A NATION OF MANY.

During the month of March, the 2010 Census Form will be mailed to every household in the United States. You are asked to complete the 10 question form and mail it back by April 1, 2010.

Community leaders who reviewed the sample form, asked why there is not a specific place to write in your ethnicity in question #9; there is simply a block “WHITE.”

There should have been a place to allow every participant to complete not only a race block, but a place to list ethnicity, especially because America is a nation of many races and many ethnicities. This issue was brought to the attention of representatives of Census 2010, but was not rectified.

In order to highlight your ethnicity, you can do two things:

1. In block #9, check off WHITE and write in your ethnicity.
2. Also, where it states some other race, write in your ethnicity.

We realize that race is not ethnicity, but in order to highlight your ethnicity and make a statement, fill in your individual ethnicity as suggested above. Examples: Polish American, Polish and Irish, Polish and Italian, Irish American, German American, Ukrainian American.

Fill in the Census 2010 Form as soon as you receive it. If you do not complete the form by April 1, 2010, you can expect to be contacted by a census representative.

If you have questions, you can call the Polish American Congress office in Philadelphia at (215) 739-3408.

POLONIAN MEDIA SNUBBED.

The Census Bureau released a listing of where it will buy advertising to promote this year's population count. Included with mostly foreign-language radio and television stations, newspapers, and websites, were a handful of Polish-language media sources. The English-language Polonia media was not included in the list.

YOUR TAX DOLLARS AT WORK?

Retired Michigan Judge Don Binkowski received a letter from the U.S. Holocaust Museum, soliciting funds to pressure the Vatican to release its records of Pope Pius XII during World War II under the pretense of preserving the records of the Holocaust.

This request comes about one month after the Vatican announced its plans to move forward with the possible canonization of Pope Pius.

“The response of Pope Pius XII

to the Nazi regime—including his failure to condemn publicly the genocide of European Jews has long been the topic of debate and controversy,” says the letter.

Like Don, we have to ask: are tax dollars being used to pay for this solicitation? And, if Rome wants to make Pius a saint, what say does the Holocaust Museum in that matter?

The letter also said: “Because there is a tendency to politicize, rewrite or even deny Holocaust history, the Museum is engaged in a worldwide effort to open archives and collect other forms of evidence of humanity's greatest crime. The irrefutable evidence contained in the records of the perpetrators and the bystanders will shape understanding of the Holocaust for all future generations.”

We can understand and appreciate the Museum's request to learn more about Pope Pius during World War II, but that does not give it a key to the Vatican archives, nor should it count on taxpayer dollars to do so.

SO WHAT? We received several telephone calls and letters about one item in last month's Newsmark section, “Lubinski Named First Openly Gay U.S. Marshal.” Almost all who called said they were happy to see a Polish American earn this position, but could care less if Lubinski was gay or not. “So she's gay. So what? As long as she does her job, who cares what she does in her private life?” asked one caller.

THE WAY TO DO IT. Hats off to the Polish Center of Learning and Discovery at Elms College (33 South St., Chicopee, MA 01013, (413) 592-0001, www.polishcenter.net) for its production of an outstanding promotional brochure. The 12-page, full-color booklet—laden with photographs—describes the Center, its purpose, and offers membership information and perks. The layout and copy are first class. The caliber of the center and its volunteers is reflected by this slick brochure. To learn more, visit the center at www.polishcenter.net.

Providing Warmth and Smiles



SISTER MARY JOLANTA MASTERNAK, director of the Educative Center and Orphanage in Jaroslaw, Poland, sent this photo to Christine Jozwiak, fund-raising chairperson for the “Spirit of St. Nicholas” humanitarian appeal, coordinated through the Polish Heritage Festival in Buffalo, N.Y.

“On behalf of all the Sisters, and the girls in residence, I send you a sincere ‘Thank You’ for all the gifts that we have received,” wrote Sr. Mary.

“The coats and jackets for our children were very needed at this time of year. They are very nice, warm and fashionable — the kind that all children dream of having for their own. The store clerks were all very helpful in suggesting and choosing the warm clothes for all.

“You can all be proud that you have made our girls very happy and feel very lucky.”

For more information about the appeal, write to Christine Jozwiak at “Spirit of St. Nicholas,” P.O. Box 115, Springville, NY 14141-0115; (716) 998-2501.

Easter Sunday is April 4, 2010

Ad Deadline is March 19, 2010

Wesołego Alleluja!

Reserve Your Space in Our Easter 2010 Edition

Send Easter Greetings to Family and Friends Across the Miles!

We cordially invite our readers to participate in the time-honored tradition of sending Happy Easter wishes across the miles with a holiday greeting ad. All messages will be printed in the Easter 2010 Edition of the Polish American Journal. Your support, in the form of a holiday greeting, helps us continue our mission to serve American Polonia. Furthermore, it is a demonstration of the solidarity that exists between Polish Americans from all corners of our country. Can we count on you? If you have any questions, please call 1 (800) 422-1275, M-F, 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. **Don't be left out!**

ATTENTION: EASTER IS EARLY THIS YEAR — Because the holiday falls the first Sunday in April this year, we **STRONGLY** suggest groups and individuals return this form as soon as possible to guarantee placement in the April Easter edition.

SPEAK UP / Letters to the Editor

Chance are Sobieski has Blood Ties to King John

Dear Editor,

I need to clarify Rik-Sulima-Suligowski Fox's assertion that LeeLee Sobieski's claim she is a descendant of King John III Sobieski. Mr. Fox's statement is simply untrue.

If I am correct, Jan III had several sons, however, one named Jakub — the heir apparent — was snubbed by the Polish-Lithuanian nobles only because the Sobieski family was not aristocrat enough for their tastes of that era. In addition, Marysienka, the wife of Jan Sobieski, proved herself an opportunist and alienated the Polish-Lithuanian magnates from electing her son, Jakub.



SOBIESKI: Royal bloodline?

Who got the title? Augustus II “The Strong,” who lastly came into the throne of the Commonwealth, and received it through audacious bribery of the electees — the Polish-Lithuanian magnates. What ensued was the true downfall of the Polish-Lithuanian state, the Great Northern War.

Nevertheless, there is a chance that LeeLee Sobieski has blood ties to great King John.

Pawel Jasienica's Polish History is a wealth of information to anyone interested. He tells it how it was! The Internet's Wikipedia describes him as an amateur historian. Please inform your readers to judge for themselves. He tells too much to be an amateur.

And as for Poland's fate: I believe Poland should declare itself a neutral nation and demand that the United

Nations be headquartered in Warsaw. How appropriate that the UN be stationed in a city that wanted peace and never got it. Warsaw is a fascinating entity.

Anthony Guyda
Oil City, Pennsylvania

POLISH HISTORY ON GOOGLE EARTH. I wanted to share with you a powerful update to Google Earth that I hope will be most appreciated by Polish American Journal readers.

Google Earth now includes powerful imagery of Warsaw in 1935 and 1945 — showing the devastation of World War II through powerful and wrenching aerial views.

My grandma grew up in Yonkers with the most wonderful memories of the Polish-American community surrounding her, and to announce the news, I wrote a blog post on the official Google Lat Long blog about my reflections and experiences traveling in Poland — juxtaposed against the images now available in Google Earth. You can read more at <http://googlelatlong.blogspot.com/2010/02/spotlight-on-historical-imagery-warsaw.html>.

An announcement in Polish, “Wirtualna podróż w czasie do przedwojennej i powojennej Warszawy,” is available on the Google Blog-Polska: <http://googlepolska.blogspot.com/2010/02/wirtualna-podroz-w-czasie-do.html>

Sean Carlson
Manager, Global Communications & Public Affairs
Google — New York, New York

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PLIW "Walendowski Award" for Alex Storozynski

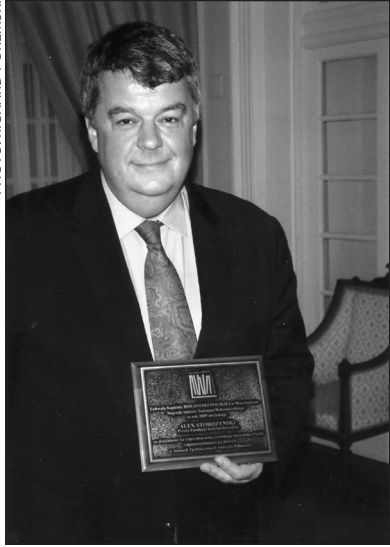


PHOTO: RICHARD POREMSKI

LITERARY HONORS FOR AUTHOR STOROZYNSKI. The Polish Library in Washington (PLIW) recently bestowed its coveted "Tadeusz Walendowski Award" on author Alex Storozynski, pictured above during the presentation ceremonies conducted at the Embassy of Poland.

by Richard Poremski

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Just like the steady snow that was accumulating here on February 2, 2010, the accolades, honors and awards continue to fall upon Alex Storozynski for his recent book — "The Peasant Prince: Thaddeus Kosciuszko and the Era of Revolution."

But on this cold evening, everything was quite warm and most accommodating inside of the Embassy of the Republic of Poland. Minister-Counselor Professor Marek Konarzewski and Grazyna Zebrowska, Ph.D., hosted the Polish Library In Washington (PLIW), led by President Richard Okreglak who presented its prestigious "Tadeusz Walendowski Award" to author Alex Storozynski.

The program, conducted primarily in Polish, began with an eloquent presentation by Jaroslaw Anders on the life and times of Tadeusz Walendowski (1944-2004), for whom the PLIW award is named. Walendowski was co-founder of the Library and its president for many years. He also was a journalist, filmmaker/director

and political opposition activist in Poland.

In 1979 Poland's communist government requested that Walendowski's wife Anna Erdman (an American citizen) leave Poland because of her opposition activities. They then resettled in the United States and Tadeusz worked for many years in the Polish Section of the Voice of America. Both justice and honor were duly served in 2006 when the now-democratic Poland posthumously awarded Walendowski the "Kryz Komandorski Orderu Odrodzenia Polski," from President Lech Kaczynski.

Storozynski is a Pulitzer Prize winning journalist who held editor positions at the *New York Daily News*, *amNew York* and the *New York Sun*. He has published in leading U.S. and European newspapers, and other publications.

Addressing the audience, Storozynski expressed his deep gratitude to the PLIW for the incredible honor it bestowed upon him for his book about Kosciuszko. He recounted the very important aspects of Kosciuszko's democratic and liberating core beliefs — and their corresponding selfless actions. Included in Storozynski's remarks was that he is honored to be the current president of the Kosciuszko Foundation in New York.

In closing, Storozynski was pleased to announce the very recent merger of the Foundation with Washington's National Polish Center. Arguably, this gives the dominant Kosciuszko Foundation a prime location and high profile here in our nation's capital.

A special guest of honor was also present in the person of Professor Katarzyna Chalasinska-Macukow, Rector of the University of Warsaw in Poland. She congratulated Storozynski and then remarked on the significant activity of the PLIW as an institution bringing together generations of Polonia. Expanding on the library theme, the professor commented on the newest library building (1999) at her Uniwersytet Warszawski.

ACPC at National Conference for the Social Studies

ATLANTA — "Dreams and Deeds" was the theme of this year's National Conference for the Social Studies in Atlanta, Ga., which took place November 13-15, 2009. Once again the American Council for Polish Culture (ACPC) took advantage of this great opportunity for its "Polish Perspectives" by manning booths to interact with teachers, providing them with historically accurate facts and highlighting Polish contributions to American and world history that are not readily available in American text books.

At this 89th Annual Conference with a gathering of 4,000 educators, ACPC presented Polish perspectives on World War II and Polish contributions to the Allied victory. Since the year 2009 marked the 70th Anniversary of the beginning of World War II and the 20th of the Solidarity Movement's success in expelling Communism, materials were prepared that highlighted Poland's accomplishments during those periods of time.

The ACPC display tables were piled high with books and other printed materials such as: "A Question of Honor," "Null and Void,"



(l. to r.): Debbie Majka; Henrietta Nowakowski; Donna Chmara; Meg Heubeck

"Warsaw Uprising," "Enigma," "Night of Flames," "The Mermaid and the Messerschmitt," and perennial favorites "Zegota," and "Legacy of the 'White Eagle,'" among others. Available for distribution were smaller versions of the posters on display, book marks, World War II documentary DVDs, and ACPC's

custom-designed CD containing many resources hyperlinked to web sites of all the supporting organizations as well as other resources.

This year the 90th Annual NCSS "Vistas, Visions and Voices" Conference will be held in Denver, Colorado on November 12-14.

— Barbara Lemecha

NEWSWIRE

NEW SECURITY IN PLACE. Officials at the Auschwitz Memorial Museum reported that a new improved security system was put in place after the infamous sign over its entrance, *Arbeit Macht Frei* ("Work Sets You Free"), was stolen by thieves recently.

Surveillance cameras and round-the-clock foot patrols already protect the vast 940-acre site, which includes Auschwitz I and Birkenau. But it is clear that the current system just was not enough, said museum spokesman Jaroslaw Mensfeld.

POLISH UNION-GRAND COUNCIL MERGER. The Executive Com-

mittee of the Polish Union of USA, headquartered in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., and the Grand Council of the Pennsylvania Catholic Beneficial League have reached an agreement that the two organizations should merge.

A special Polish Union Convention has been scheduled for March 21, 2010 in Wilkes-Barre to approve the merger. If approved, the Grand Council will operate as a division of the Polish Union. Grand Union members would be entitled to all rights and privileges afforded Polish Union members. Also, delegates from the Grand Council would be seated at the upcoming 37th Quadrennial Convention of the Union.

SINGERS TO MEET IN BUFFALO.

The 49th International Convention of the Polish Singers Alliance of America will be held May 27-30, 2010 at the Millennium Hotel located at 2040 Walden Ave., Cheektowaga, N.Y. The event is being hosted by group's District 9.

Mary Lou T. WYROBEK has been named Pre-Convention Chairperson. Co-Chairs are Hon. Ann T. Mikoll and Janina Mazun.

Sessions begin at 1:00 p.m. on May 27. In addition to convention business, participants will meet and rehearse for concerts, take trips to area attractions, and be part of the annual Awards Ceremony.

Discovery Will Force Rewrite of Books

continued from cover

seum of Natural History, in a commentary announcing the discovery in the journal *Nature*. A photo of the tracks appears on the cover of *NATURE*, which many consider to be the topmost weekly scientific magazine in the world.

The dozen sets of tracks were discovered in a quarry in the Holy Cross Mountains (Gory Swietokrzyskie). They were left by animals between 20 inches and 8 feet long, based on analysis of their size and spacing. Many of the prints show clear signs of early claws or digits of some kind. The biologists showed the patterns and spacing of the tracks was consistent with how four-legged animals move.

"The match between these tracks and the limb anat-

omy of *Ichthyostega* [the oldest limbed fossil] is impressively close," say Drs. Janvier and Clement in their comments.

Dr. Niedzwiedzki was joined in his work by colleagues Piotr Szrek, also of Warsaw University, Katarzyna Narkiewicz, and Marek Narkiewicz, of the Polish Geological Institute, Warsaw, and Per Ahlberg of the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

The Polish scientists' discovery indicates that older fossils of the earliest land animals remain to be found. They must have been there — after all, they clearly 'walked the walk'.

◆ ◆ ◆

Leo Kretzner is a biologist and science writer in Claremont, Ca.

Chopin in Space

continued from cover

part in NASA's 2007 mission aboard the space shuttle *Discovery*. A medical doctor and veteran spacewalker, he is the only astronaut ever known to have climbed Mount Everest. During that mission he took with him into outer space a Polish-American aviation symbol par excellence: a patch of the Tadeusz Kościuszko 7th Fighter Squadron in which American pilots fought for Poland against the Ukrainians and Soviets in 1919-1920.

Astronaut James Anthony Pawelczyk, who prefers to be called just Jim, took a Polish flag on board the space shuttle *Columbia* in 1998. A year later, on the Third of May, Polish Constitution Day, he presented the flag to then Polish President Aleksander Kwasniewski when he visited Poland. Since the 1998 mission had taken

place during the Easter season, Pawelczyk was reported to have prepared Polish-style white Easter barszcz and kielbasa for fellow-astronauts.

NASA's earliest known astronaut of Polish background was New Yorker Karol Joseph Bobko who took part in three space missions during the 1980. He was also a member of the team that prepared the joint Soviet-US Apollo-Soyuz mission. After leaving NASA, Bobko worked the aerospace sector specializing in flight-simulation equipment.

Judging by their names, other NASA astronauts with possible Polish roots have included Randolph Bresnik and Timothy L. Kopra. The first Pole in outer space was Miroslaw Hermaszewski who took part in a two-man space flight aboard Soviet space ship *Soyuz-30* with Russian Piotr Klimuk in 1978.

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TRAVELOGUE / Staś Kmiec

Wawel – Witness to the Past



THE ANCIENT GATE OF WAWEL

Part XIII

Although they may not possess the power of speech, the most eloquent witnesses to Poland's past are her castles, palaces and historical towns. Sown throughout the country, they have taken deep root in the Polish landscape and recall many centuries of Poland's history. These great landmarks allow us to take a journey through time.

Of the 450 castles surviving in Poland today, some of them in the west and north of Teutonic or German rather than Polish lineage, only a few dozen have preserved their original architecture, and these are now most commonly museums. The most important castle of them all is the Royal Castle on Wawel Hill in Kraków. Perched on Jurassic limestone rock and rising above the river Wisła, it is the religious, spiritual and patriotic heart of Poland, and has retained much of its symbolic, almost magical importance to this day.

There is a delicious shock of the foreign as one walks along the lower walls of the mas-

many stairs.

At the top a proud equestrian statue of Tadeusz Kościuszko stands before the 16th century *Waza Gate*. It is a replica of the one destroyed by the Nazis in 1940, that was erected in 1960 as a gift from the city of Dresden. Behind it are two towers – the lower one, originally defensive in purpose, now houses the famous *Zygmunt Bell* (cast in 1520); the taller *Clock Tower* has four great Slavic saints at its corners: Kazimierz (Casimir), Waclaw (Wenceslas), Stanislaw, and Wojciech (Adalbert).

Through the gate with ghostly worn tombstones, and to the right is a statue honoring Pope John Paul II, which does not bear a resemblance to the beloved pontiff. To the left is the *Cathedral* with the *Castle* and courtyards just beyond. Directly ahead is an open square – once the site of a Wawel township, but cleared by the Austrians in the early 19th century to create a parade ground.

Wawel is a hugely popular tourist attrac-

tion, so a ticket will most likely get you in 1 ½ hours after purchase; and specify that you want tickets to the castle and royal chamber, and the cathedral and its museum. In addition to the cathedral and its chapels, treasury, tower and crypts, there is the castle – complete with Royal chambers, State rooms, art collections, crown treasury, armory, the “Oriental” and “Lost Wawel” exhibitions, and the *Dragon's Cave*.

The Royal castle which was for almost six centuries the residence of Poland's rulers: from 1038 when King Kazimierz I Odnowiciel (the Restorer) made Kraków the capital of Poland to the end of the 16th century when King Zygmunt III Waza moved the residence to Warsaw. This marked the beginning of the castle's decline. Repeatedly sacked by Swedes and Prussians, it was eventually occupied by the Austrians after the Partitions and turned into a barracks. Only in the 1910s was the castle recovered by the Poles – restoration work began despite damage and looting by the Nazis and succeeded in recovering most of its earlier external form and interior decoration.

Even after the loss of its capital status, it was the coronation site for all of Poland's monarchs (with the exception of the last king, Stanislaw Augustus, who was crowned in Warsaw), the burial place of kings and national heroes, and during the Partition period was regarded as the most potent symbol of the subjugated nation.

King Zygmunt the I (1502-1548) was a patron of the arts and started in 1507 a reconstruction of Wawel Castle, which was to be made worthy of the position of Poland as a great power. Through the long castle gate (with the inscription “If God is with us, who will be against us?”) one reaches the famous Renaissance style courtyard built in 1507 by



WAWEL COURTYARD. Imposing in size, and perfect in proportion.

Francesco Fiorentino, Master Benedyky of Sandomierz and Bartolommeo Berecci. It is surrounded by galleries with arcades with columns on the lower two levels and tall shafts supporting the overhanging eaves, beneath which are fragments of the original painted decoration. This decoration originally surrounded the entire courtyard making it more colorful than it appears today – with a roof covered with multi-colored tiles and the ground made of crushed brick – the ideal surface for the tournaments that were held.

The splendid courtyard, following Florentine practice, is in many respects superior to similar structures in Italy. It has entirely individual features and as a whole it can be described as perhaps the finest palace courtyard in Europe – imposing in size and perfect in proportion.

*more history and inside
Wawel next issue...*

ASK ANDZIA ABOUT AMBER / Andzia Chmil

Gdansk, the Amber Capital of the World

Part I

Gdansk is the largest city in northern Poland and is the heart and soul of the amber industry. Finds from the Gdansk area dating back as far as 1200 BC indicate that amber played a role in varied aspects of daily life. Carved amber amulets in the shape of animals, weapons and heroes suggest that amber was considered to be potent medicine, an indicator of wealth and an object of glorification.

Gdansk is the epicenter of both ancient and modern amber routes. The Vistula River, nearly 700 miles in length, snakes its way northward until it empties itself into the Bay of Gdansk and the Baltic Sea. In ancient times the trade routes followed along the rivers. The meandering Vistula, the highly sought after amber that ancient cultures such as the Greeks and Romans not only craved but also demanded, the Baltic Sea and its role in producing amber have tied Gdansk and amber together in a perfect union for millennia.

Evidence of amber workshops in the Gdansk area has been documented as early as the 10th century when the local dukes held exclusive rights to fish and mine amber. The amber fishers had to obtain a license from the city rulers and also made to hand over a great portion of their amber in return for their license. During this time, amber production of dice, pawns, rings pendants, pawns and pendants was of an

astounding variety and quality of workmanship was quite high.

In 997 St. Adalbert baptized all Gdansk residents in one ceremony on behalf of King Boleslaw the Brave and amber rosaries and crosses of amber became an important part of the master guild system already in place in the region. These amber works weren't limited to local areas in the Gdansk – they were transported, commissioned and revered in other Polish cities as well as the great cosmopolitan centers outside of Poland. Finished goods and raw material made its way to far away and exotic destinations such as the Orient. The city of Gdansk became a solidly established hub of all things amber—buying, selling, trading, works of art, religious icons and articles of amber, the system of guilds, respect and fame for all things amber – all nestled nicely together in this Northern port city.

AS GDANSK'S AMBER STAR was rising, so was the quality of the body of work. Then, as now, things are subject to the whims and demands of the rulers. And in the 14th century, the new rulers – the Teutonic Order of Knights—swept into power and seized the Pomerania region. The word Pomerania in all languages is derived from Old Slavic *po*, meaning “by/next to/along” and *morze* meaning sea – thus Pomerania is literally “seacoast.”

In one stroke the Knights ruled all of the Baltic coast, its peoples and its treasures.

As the new rulers assumed power, terrible dark days fell upon the amber industry. The Teutonic Knights installed galleys along the Baltic coast specifically to hang anyone found with as much as an amber nugget on their person. The only exception was if the amber was already formed into the shape of a cross or part of a rosary.

The amber became state property, the amber fishers became slaves. The great movement of amber art masters was cut off at the knees. All amber workers were moved far from the amber and dispersed to other areas controlled by the Knights. Amber was brought to them in their new quarters in order to minimize even the slightest theft and they were continually watched as they worked. These policies were not conducive to the continual development of amber craft and for quite a long while, amber art slipped into oblivion until it became gloriously revived when Gdansk celebrated its Golden Age of Amber in the 16th and 17th centuries.

continued next month



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WORLD WAR II / Zamość under German Occupation 1939-1945 / Sophie Hodorowicz Knab

The Gestapo Arrive

Part III

The Zamoyski Academy located on ulica Akademicka (Academy Street) underwent many changes up until occupation by the Germans during World War II. The most changes occurred during the partitions of Poland under the rule of Austria Hungary and then under the Russians. It had acted as a military barracks during the time of the partitions and later, up until the beginning of World War II, the academy had been reduced to functioning as a grammar school. When the Germans arrived in Zamość in October, the Academy had been turned into a hospital for wounded Polish soldiers. The wounded soldiers were transferred to Krakow and the building was occupied by the *Schutzpolizei* (German police). The German military commanders made their headquarters at the Town Hall (Ratusz).

When the *Gestapo* (*Geheime Staatspolizei* — secret state police who followed the German armed forces into occupied territories and destroyed any element hostile to Nazi rule) arrived they established their headquarters in a brick building across from the Collegiate Church of the Resurrection of Christ and St. Thomas (now known as the Cathedral). Any person thought to be in opposition to the Hitler regime was taken into custody. The arrests, the interrogations, torturing and executions began. Anyone suspected of

being a partisan — a member of the underground resistance movement — was subject to interrogation. The Reverend Franciszek Zawisa, a priest at the Collegiate Church, witnessed the workings of the Gestapo firsthand:

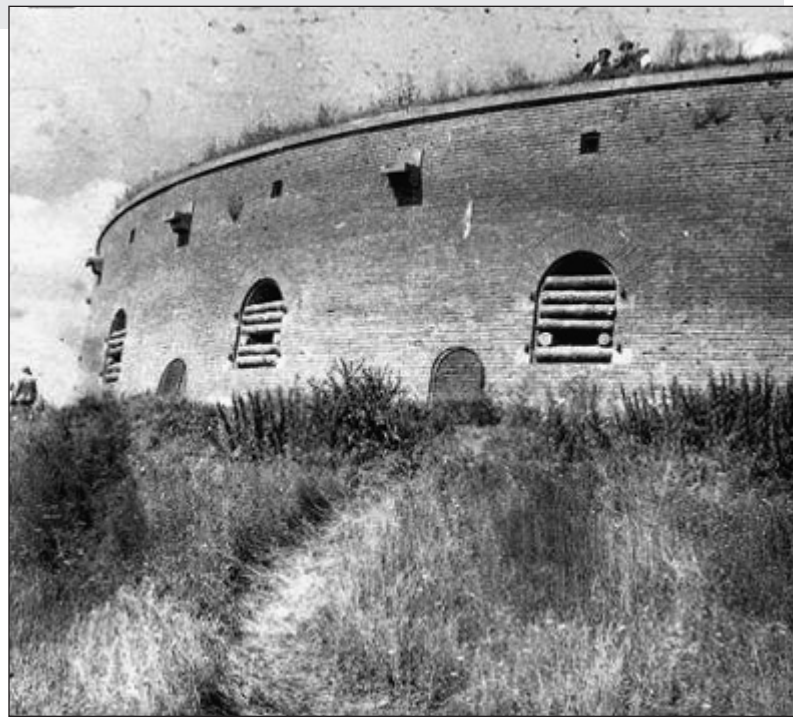
“Our close proximity to the Gestapo gave us the opportunity to be eyewitnesses to the arrival and leaving of the arrested and of the lynchings of which they made no secret. Through uncurtained windows you could see them torturing their victims. From the window of the vicarage you could see the executions in the field near the grammar school — the executions were done late in the evening or early in the morning. Eyewitness stated - I only heard the shots - how one young man being escorted from the jail to the corner of Academy Street near the Zoo, attacked one of the Gestapo near the gate to the park with the handcuffs on his wrists. The second Gestapo who was behind, pulled his pistol and shot him. Another time, two men escaped from the field across from the school where they were about to be shot. Shots were fired and in the melee a young girl student Radziszewska was accidentally shot.” (*Wojenne Wspomnienia Ks. Franciszka Zawisy*, www.eyewitnesstohistory.com).

The executions took place in the field across from the school because of existing trenches that had been dug to prevent the approach of

tanks. After being shot the victims were thrown into the trenches into what became a mass grave. It is estimated by Polish authorities that over 2,000 individuals were murdered at this spot. When the pits were full and could no longer hold any more bodies, the corpses were covered with dirt and the killing field was moved to the nearby edifice called the Rotunda located about 500 meters outside the old city walls.

The Rotunda is an imposing edifice built in the 19th century (1825-31) as part of the fortifications to protect the city of Zamość against any foreign invasion from the south.

It was built on a muddy clump of land and surrounded by a moat from the east, west and south. Beyond the moat was the river Łabunka which surrounded the Rotunda on three sides and added to its defense position. Built of thick brick and stone, the Rotunda was shaped in the form of a circle with only one outside access from the north which led to the town itself. The outer structure was composed of 20 identical interconnected cells. It had an inner courtyard 65 yards in diameter and could be accessed or exited through only one northern gate that faced the city of Zamość. If needed, the defenders could retreat to the town and its fortifications. The town was surrounded by a moat, ramparts, and a high wall 32 feet thick. You could only enter the town through three city gates



THE ROTUNDA was built in the 19th century as part of the fortifications to protect the city of Zamość against any foreign invasion from the south.

by lowering the drawbridges over the moat. During the 17th century the city had been able to withstand the invasions of the Cossacks and later on, the Swedes in 1656. The Rotunda added significantly to what was already known as the Zamość Fortress.

In 1866 the Czar of Russia who controlled Zamość during the partitions decided to liquidate the Rotunda and it began to be used as a place to store gunpowder and ammunition.

In 1916 a railway line was established connecting Zamość with

Lublin and other parts of Poland. The railway ran between the town and the Rotunda. During the invasion of Poland, one of the cells in the Rotunda was hit and ruined by German aircraft, leaving 19 cells. In June of 1940, the Security Police (SiPo) began using the Rotunda as a jail and an interrogation center. The high brick walls, the seclusion away from the town and a railway line that brought people from all points of the surrounding area, made it an excellent location for executions.

Next month: *The Rotunda and Aktion A-B*

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POLAND FIGHTS / Douglas W. Jacobson

70 Years Ago This Month

Kapitan Jan Grudzinski, executive officer of the Polish submarine ORP *Orzel* was a modest, quiet man who was called *Panienka* by his crew. Though he had only three months service in submarines when the war broke out, Grudzinski would direct one of the most daring escapes in naval history.

ORP *Orzel* was commissioned in February 1939, the lead ship of a new class of submarines designed for the Polish navy. Developed through a joint venture of Dutch and Polish engineers, she was 275 feet long, 21 feet wide, carried twenty torpedoes and had a top submerged speed of 9 knots.

The *Orzel* was on patrol in the Baltic Sea when the Germans invaded Poland on September 1. The submarine's captain fell ill a few days later but due to the war was unable to return to the Polish naval base at Hel. Instead, the *Orzel* went on to Tallin, Estonia and put into the port where the captain was taken to a hospital.

Though Estonia was technically a neutral country, German officials instantly became aware of the presence of the *Orzel* and ordered that she be detained. The next day Estonian guards boarded the sub, confiscated all of her maps and navigational aides, ordered the crew to be interned and began dismantling her armaments. It was at this point that Grudzinski, the inexperienced executive officer, decided to take action.

At 0300 the next morning, two of *Orzel's* crew overpowered the Estonian guards standing watch atop the conning tower. Meanwhile other crewmembers were at work severing the electrical cables of the searchlights, cutting the telephone lines and sawing through the sub's mooring cables. With her electric motors running quietly, the *Orzel*

got under way.

An alarm was raised as the *Orzel* attempted to navigate out of the harbor and she was fired upon by machine guns and artillery. Running half submerged, the sub went aground on a sandbar, losing her wireless equipment in the skirmish. But Grudzinski ordered the air tanks to be blown, fired up the diesel engines and managed to get the submarine off the bar and out of the harbor.

The *Orzel* continued on, out of the Gulf of Finland, intending to sail to Britain. Since all of the sub's charts had been confiscated, the only navigational aide left for Grudzinski and his crew was a list of lighthouses. Following the path of the lighthouses, the *Orzel* made its way along the Baltic coast and out into the North Sea, eventually making landfall on the east coast of Scotland.

After a refit, the *Orzel* and her crew were assigned to 2nd Submarine Flotilla of the Royal Navy and sent out once again on patrol. In April of 1940 the *Orzel* sank a five thousand ton German troop transport off the coast of Norway and two days later sank a German minesweeper. The *Orzel* embarked on her seventh mission on the twenty-third of May, bound for the North Sea. By the fifth of June, when no radio signals had been received from her, she was ordered to return to base. She never returned the radio transmission and never returned to base. To this day, the fate of the *Orzel* and its crew remains a mystery.

Douglas W. Jacobson is the author of the award-winning book, *Night of Flames: A Novel of World War Two*. He has been a frequent contributor to this newspaper and is currently finishing his second historical novel set in Poland during World War II.

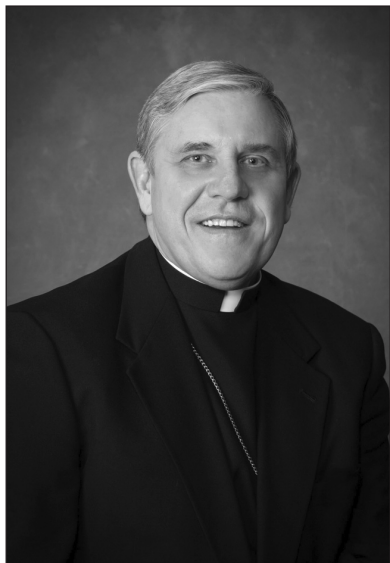


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The Polish Gift of Life, Inc. thanks our generous supporters, who, for over 30 years have made it possible for us to help sick Polish children. We are able to bring many children who needed life-saving surgery or procedures to the United States. This past year, 14 children have been operated on by Dr. Edward Malec, who has relocated to Munich, Germany, from Poland. We purchased needed equipment requested by Pediatric Hospitals in Poland. Once again, thank to you, we were able to fill some of these heart-rendering requests received from orphanages throughout Poland. This list for aid is long, but with your continued support, we will be able to provide Polish children with the precious "Gift of Life." For more information, please call (516) 746-1532.

Milwaukee's First Polish American Bishop



ARCHBISHOP LISTECKI

by Geraldine Balut Coleman

Jerome E. ListECKI, 60, set a milestone in Milwaukee's Polish Catholic community by becoming the first Polish American bishop in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee's 166-year history. In early January 2010, Pope Benedict XVI appointed the Most Reverend ListECKI to this post.

A native South Side Chicagoan, Bishop ListECKI attended Niles College of Loyola University Chicago, and, in 1975, was ordained a priest, and was assigned to St. Margaret Mary Parish on Chicago's North Side. In 1976, he was appointed Dean of Students at Quigley Preparatory Seminary North, received his civil law degree from DePaul University, and assigned to Mater Christi Parish in North Riverside, Illinois.

In 1979, he began his studies in canon law and was awarded a doctoral degree from the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas in Rome. Upon his return to the United States, Fr. ListECKI began teaching canon law and moral theology at the University of St. Mary of the Lake, located in Mundelein, Ill.

Additionally, ListECKI is a retired lieutenant colonel in the United States Army Reserves.

In August 2000, Francis Cardinal George appointed him pastor of St. Ignatius of Loyola Parish, which during its 93-year history, was administered by the Jesuits. Three months later, Pope John Paul II appointed Father ListECKI as Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago, a position he held until the Pope selected him to lead the Catholic faithful in the Diocese of LaCrosse, Wisc. Now, Archbishop ListECKI will be the spiritual leader of nearly 650,000 Catholics throughout the Southeastern Wisconsin area, succeeding Bishop Timothy M. Dolan, who was appointed a Bishop of the Archdiocese of New York.

His January 4, 2010 multicultural installation Mass at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist was attended by over 1,000 including church leaders from throughout the United States and abroad. Native Americans Indian drummers and Hispanic American singers greeted the Archbishop.

Welcoming greetings from Chicago's native son were spoken in Polish and Spanish, and portions of the Mass's liturgy were read in Korean and Polish.

RELIGION / Benjamin Fiore, S.J.

Surrender Not an Option

Former parishioners and supporters of St. Casimir parish in Cleveland have met outside the church every Sunday since the November 8, 2009 closing for prayer services.

"St. Casimir-in-exile is vibrant and quite alive," says Stanislaw Zadnik, who has attended all Sunday morning prayer sessions near the steps of the once majestic Polish church.

Shortly after the Diocese of Cleveland announced in March 2009 that St. Casimir's would be one of 50 parishes to be closed or merged, a group of church members began various efforts and appeals in hopes of preserving the parish.

One of them included the hiring of a canon lawyer in Rome to represent St. Casimir to the Vatican. A few other parishes took similar steps.

"Some still are waiting for Rome to rescind and end the suppressions" of their parish, Zadnik said in a message released to the media. He argued that Bishop Richard Lennon's suppression, or closing of St. Casimir was "illegitimate."

Zadnik says the Sunday morning prayer sessions would continue both at St. Casimir and elsewhere. He pointed to the dedication of the people who continue to come out in the cold and snow to demonstrate their faith.

"They are fervent and loyal Catholics. This they do this for their parish and yours," Zadnik said.

PARISH HONORS ITS PRIESTS.

Priests who served at St. Philip the Apostle RC Parish in Cheektowaga, N.Y., were celebrated at a tribute recently. The high point of the celebration was the dedication by Fr. David Borowiak, pastor, of the new Fr. Joseph H. Penkaul Memorial Walk, installed in honor of the parish's former pastor. Taking part in the event were Fr. Fabian Maryanski, Fr. Richard Jędrzejewski, Fr. Joseph Bayne, OFM Conv, Msgr. David Lee, Fr. Robert Gebhard, and Fr. James Cunningham.

FELICIAN SISTERS MERGE INTO ONE PROVINCE.

After 10 years of study and discussion, the Felician sisters decided to strengthen their presence and mission in North America by merging into one province. Our Lady of Hope Province of

the Felician Sisters of North America will be governed from a single motherhouse in Beaver Falls, Pa. Currently 850 sisters serve in North America. The original provinces were Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Livonia, Mich; Immaculate Heart of Mary in Buffalo, N.Y.; Mother of Good Counsel in Chicago, Ill; Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Lodi, N.J.; Our Lady of the Sacred Heart in Coraopolis, Pa.; Our Lady of the Angels in Enfield, Conn.; Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Rio Rancho, N.M.; Holy Name of Mary in Mississauga, Ontario, Canada.

The order was founded in 1855 by Blessed Mr. Angela Truszkowska.

UNDERGROUND SHRINE BLESSED.

Detroit RC Archdiocese's Archbishop Allen Vigneron descended 1,200 feet to bless a statue and shrine to St. Barbara, patroness of miners, at the Detroit Salt Co. on the city's southwest side. The ceremony was planned by Fr. Ed Zaorski, pastor of St. Andrew & Benedict Church, which sits 120 stories above the new shrine.

"In Poland, we have a big holiday for her [St. Barbara]," said Józef Kustrzyk, a Polish American who has been working at the mine for only a few months.

"Every day I go to work, I know she's with me." Emanuel Manos, vice-president of the mine company, explained that mines across Eastern Europe have shrines to St. Barbara. He was inspired to create the shrine on a visit to his family in Slovakia. He asked master woodworker Jan Martinka in Rajec, Slovakia, to make the statue.

STO LAT TO ... Sr. Mary

Zdzisława Krukowska on the proclamation of her perpetual profession as a Little Servant Sister of the Immaculate Conception. The ceremony took place at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Częstochowa in Doylestown, Pa. Sr. M. Zdzisława currently serves as administrator of the Manor at St. Mary's in Cherry Hill, N.J.

Sr. Joanna Sopala of the Little Servant Sisters of the Immaculate Conception on the renewal of her vows. Sr. Joanna is in juniorate formation.

MODLITWY

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

PRAYER TO ST. JUDE. Holy St. Jude, Apostle and Martyr, great in virtue and rich in miracles, near the kinsman of Jesus Christ, faithful intercessor of all who invoke your special patronage in time of need. To you I have recourse from the depth of my heart and humbly beg to whom God has given such great power to come to my assistance. Help me in my present and urgent position. In return I promise to make your name known and cause you to be invoked. (Say three Our Fathers, Three Hail Marys, Three Glory Be's). St. Jude pray for us and all who invoke your aid. Amen. Publication must be promised. This prayer is to be said for nine consecutive days. This novena has never been known to fail. My prayers have been answered. G.D.K.

PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN. (Never Known To Fail). Oh, most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my

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

PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT. Holy Spirit, You who solve all problems, who light all roads so I can attain my goal. You who give me the Divine gift to forgive and to forget all evil against me and that in all instances of my life you are with me. I want this short prayer to thank you for all things and to confirm once again that I never want to be separated from you, even and in spite of all material illusion. I wish to be with you in eternal glory. Thank you for your mercy toward me and mine. Thank you Holy Spirit. That person must say this prayer for 3 consecutive days. After 3 days, the favor requested will be granted, even if it may appear difficult. This prayer must be published immediately after the favor is granted, without mentioning the favor. Your initials should appear after the thank you. Thank You Holy Spirit. E.H.D.



PHOTO: POLISH AMERICAN CONGRESS

NEW YORK POLISH CATHOLICS JOIN JEWS TO MARK INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST DAY. Rabbi Moses A. Birnbaum welcomed his Polish American guests at the Jewish Center of Kew Gardens Hills. Shown here are: (l, to r.) John Gmerek, chairman of the Holocaust Studies Committee of the Kosciuszko Foundation; Rabbi Birnbaum; Michael Preisler; Frank Milewski, president of the Downstate N.Y. Division of the Polish American Congress and Chet Szarejko, who heads the Political Activities Committee of the Congress.

KEW GARDENS, N.Y. —Michael Preisler, a Polish Catholic who spent more than three years as a prisoner in Auschwitz, joined with the congregation of the Jewish Center of Kew Gardens Hills in Queens, N.Y. to commemorate the 65th anniversary of the Auschwitz death camp's liberation on January 27, 1945.

The United Nations chose the anniversary to be known each year as International Holocaust Remembrance Day.

Simultaneous observances of this event took place throughout the world, with the main observance held at the actual site of the former camp in Oswiecim, Poland. Auschwitz survivors and official government representatives from Israel and Poland were the main participants there.

Rabbi Moses A. Birnbaum, Spiritual Leader of the Jewish Center of Kew Gardens Hills, invited the Polish American Congress and Preisler to join his congregation in remembering the tragedy both peoples shared.

Jews were the largest group murdered in Auschwitz. Poles were the second largest.

Preisler was a member of the Polish Underground Resistance when the Gestapo arrested him and sent him to Auschwitz in 1941.

Preisler said he was grateful to Rabbi Birnbaum for reaching out to New York's Polish American community to have Jews and Poles remember together.

Rabbi Birnbaum has been a driving force behind the efforts to promote a better understanding between the two groups.

Dennis Walczyk, chief executive officer of Catholic Charities of Buffalo, on being named chair of the New York State Council of Catholic Charities Directors. In his position he will be the face and voice of the NY State Council at the Regional Summit for Catholic Charities USA's Centennial.

NEW ORLEANS SAINTS' DESTINED FOR VICTORY.

The winners of this year's Super Bowl, the New Orleans Saints were a "team with destiny," according to former New Orleans Saints player **Danny Abramowicz**. The star wide receiver from 1967 to 1973 and offensive coordinator for the team in the late 1990s spoke about the benefit Christian values can bring to sport, as shown by the "family quality" of the recent Super Bowl game. He noted that the latest Super Bowl had "no controversy" and had "solid men of good character." The commercials, too, had no poor presentations of the virtues.

In his book, "Spiritual Workout of a Former Saint," he aimed to start men thinking by using football coaching techniques like a "game plan" for spiritual principles. Abramowicz's show "Crossing the Goal" airs on EWTN on Sundays at 6:30 p.m. Eastern time and on Friday at 9:00 p.m.

POLISH CHAPEL OF ST. GIANNA BERETTA MOLLA.

The archbishop of Poznan dedicated a provisional

chapel for the newly-founded parish of **St. Gianna Beretta Molla**, the first in Poland named for the Italian saint who sacrificed her life in favor of the child in her womb by refusing to allow doctors to abort the child while removing a tumor.

"If you must decide between my life and the child's, don't hesitate," Gianna told her doctors. "Choose hers. Save her!" Archbishop Grodecki based his words on Gianna's husband's when he said, "Her death illustrates, in a wonderful way, Jesus Christ's words: 'There is no greater love than to give one's life for one's friends.'"

JOHN PAUL II HS SET TO OPEN.

At the consolidation of Pope St. Pius X High School in Pottstown and Kennedy-Kenrick Catholic High School in Norristown, Pa., the new **Pope John Paul II High School** in Upper Providence was planned to replace them. Now 85% complete, it is on schedule for a fall 2010 opening, when all the new students will be issued notebooks, or mini-laptop computers. The school will incorporate interdisciplinary learning across its curriculum. Fr. Alan J. Okon, the first president and currently president of Kennedy-Kenrick, has overseen construction and planning for the school along with principal Judy Owens and assistant principal Sr. Janet Purcell, I.H.M. For more information: (610) 275-8862 or (610) 275-8862 or visit www.pjphs.org.

HAPPENINGS: CHICAGO STYLE / Geraldine Balut Coleman

Illinois Primary Polonia Results



AURELIA PUCINSKI

CHICAGO — February 2 was the date to cast votes in the nation's first primary prior to the November 2010 election. Political disillusionment, negative campaign ads, and/or the weather played roles in the low voter turnout. It is believed that less than 30% of Illinois' registered voters went to the polls. However, among candidates running for office, these individuals made Polish Americans visible in the political arena.

Aurelia Pucinski, a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County since 2004, won a judicial position on the First District Illinois Appellate Court. During her tenure as a judge in the Circuit Court, Pucinski heard more than 10,000 domestic-violence cases and developed a system for providing extra city services to senior-citizen victims of abuse. Prior to her judicial responsibilities, she was the Clerk of the Cook County Circuit Court from 1988-2000. She is considered a hard worker and made important improvements while in the Circuit Court Clerk's office. Pucinski graduated from Catholic University in Washington, D.C. and later received her law degree from DePaul University College of Law. She is the daughter of the late Roman Pucinski, a noted journalist and reporter for the Chi-



JUDY BAAR TOPINKA

cago Sun Times, a member of the U.S. House of Representatives and a Chicago alderman.

Daniel Lipinski, a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for the Illinois 3rd Congressional District won the Democratic Primary with an overwhelming 77% of the vote. Lipinski has been a U.S. congressman since 2004, succeeding his father, William Lipinski, after Bill announced his retirement. Lipinski also served on the staffs of former Minority Leader Richard Gephardt, as well as on the staffs of three Illinois congressmen, Rod Blagojevich, Jerry Costello and George E. Sangmeister. Prior to his U.S. Congressional post, he taught political science at the University of Notre Dame and the University of Tennessee. Lipinski holds a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from Northwestern University, a master's in engineering-economic systems from Stanford University, and a Ph.D. in political science from Duke University.

Judy Baar Topinka won the Republican nomination for State Comptroller by 59% of the vote. Topinka was the Illinois State Treasurer from 1995-2007, and the first woman to hold that post. Also, she is the former Chair of the Illinois Republican Party. She holds a bach-

elor's degree from the Northwestern University Medill School of Journalism. Judy is a friend of Illinois Polonia and a second generation Czech and Slovak American. She ran against Rod Blagojevich in Illinois' gubernatorial race. She lost. Blago won.

WAŁESA STUMPS FOR ANDREJEWSKI. On January 30, former *Solidarność* leader, Nobel Laureate and former President of Poland, Lech Wałesa was in Chicago to be the keynote speaker at a fundraising luncheon for **Adam Andrzejewski**, one of several Illinois' Republican gubernatorial candidates. The luncheon was held at the prestigious Union League Club of Chicago. Although Andrzejewski traveled to Poland from Nov. 30-Dec. 3, 2009, he did not have the opportunity to meet Wałesa. However, during this research mission, he sought to find out how the State of Illinois could improve its economic and cultural relationship with the Republic of Poland, in addition to exploring job-growth improvement possibilities and international trade. Wałesa took a stand in the Illinois political scheme by endorsing a Polish American. But he wanted to assure everyone that he is not endorsing Andrzejewski because of his Polish heritage, but because, according to Wałesa, Adam brings a "new honest approach to Illinois government ... and he (Adam) has no baggage." Wałesa noted that "the world needs Solidarity. The new Solidarity and I see this in Andrzejewski." However, Wałesa's endorsement was not enough. Andrzejewski received 14% of the Republican vote in a very tight race. The Feb. 2 primary result for the Republican gubernatorial candidate has not been finalized as of this writing. Bob Brady and Kirk Dillard are at an almost virtual tie with each of these candidates having 20% of the votes. At the age of 40, Adam was the youngest of seven Republican candidates, and speaks a few words in Polish.



(l. to r.): Rich Ruggerio, V.P. Communication & Public Affairs, Mary Anselmo, Marcelina Suchocka, and Leszek Janowski.

COMCAST CELEBRATES POLONIANS AND OFFERS "POLISH SUPER PACK." COMCAST, the nation's leading provider of information, entertainment, communications products and services, presented its News Maker Award to three members of Chicago's Polish American community, while at the same time announcing its expansion of Polish-language programming. On January 12, a special reception at The Polish Museum of America, hosted by COMCAST with Charlie Wojciechowski, longtime NBCTV CHICAGO reporter, as Master of Ceremonies, honored the following:

Mary Sendra Anselmo, who grew up in the Polish Triangle area near The Polish Museum of America, followed in her mother's footsteps and became involved in community service at a very early age. Mary served for years as vice-president of the Polish Museum's Board of Directors; as a member of the Polish American Congress, Illinois Division; as a member of the Copernicus Foundation Board; and, twice, as the president of the Legion of Young Polish Women. For 13 years, Anselmo has worked for the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County and was awarded the Cook County Public Service Award and its Leadership Award.

Marcelina Suchocka, a sophomore at Whitney Young Magnet High School, is a talented next-

generation percussionist. She has been a scholarship recipient of the prestigious Percussion Scholarship Program sponsored by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. Marcelina offered a sampling of her exceptional talent by performing on the xylophone.

Leszek Janowski, who is well-known in the Chicago music scene, brings his entrepreneurial talents together and introduces the sounds of reggae music to Chicagoans and Poles. Janowski has traveled throughout the world recruiting talented reggae musicians and exposing the people of Poland to these new sounds.

COMCAST is committed to offering ethnic diversity in its programming. Thus, with its "Polish Super Pack," COMCAST will enable Polish-speaking audiences outside of Poland to enjoy Polish programming 24 hours a day. This offering within the Chicago area costs \$19.99 per month and can easily be added to any level of COMCAST cable service. This package includes TV Polonia, TVP INFO, "Jedynka" Polskie Radio, and "Tojka" Polskie Radio 3. These programs incorporate world news, public and foreign affairs, sports, soap operas, children's shows, movies, cultural events, and popular radio programming. Guests were treated to an array of ethnic gourmet delights by the ever-popular Kasia's Deli & Catering.

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

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

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

A sincere "THANK YOU" for their donations to the **PAJ PRESS FUND**: **Mathew and Dolores Czyzycki**, Lowell, Mass.; **Madonna Dennis**, Kansas City, Mo.; **Kenneth Francis**, Avoca, Pa.; **Col. J. Grablewski**, Rancho Palos Verdes, Calif.; **Frances K. Guros**, Henderson, Nev.; **Jane Kaminski**, Lackawanna, N.Y.; **Irene Krzywinski**, Shadow Hills, Calif.; **Ron Luchut**, N. Syracuse, N.Y.; **Maryann Ogonowski**, Franklin, Maine; and two "**Friends of the PAJ.**" Dziękujemy! The PAJ thanks all who donated to the Press Fund.

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PHOTOGRAPHY ON CANVAS.

The Riverside (Illinois) Public Library hosted a "Meet the Artist Reception" January 17, to introduce the artistic photographic work of **Marcin Chojecki**. The exhibit runs until February 24. Chojecki has been a professional photographer since his university days. With master's degrees in chemistry and chemical engineering from the Warsaw University of Life Sciences (*Szkoła Główna Gospodarstwa Wiejskiego w. Warszawie*), Chojecki left communist-ruled Poland in 1985, via West Berlin, and arrived in the United States in 1986. When asked by INS (Immigration and Naturalization Service) why he wanted to immigrate to the United States, he replied "Because I am in love with the USA." He arrived in the Chicago area with his wife, Elisabeth, and their three month-old son, Maciej. For 22 years, Chojecki worked as a professional chemist, but his avocation has always been photography. His unique and innovative graphic designs have made Chojecki a frequently requested photographer/videographer for an array of social events including weddings, anniversary parties, child-oriented occasions, and other social gather-



(l. to r.): Maria Majka, Dorothy Sikora, Marcin, and Elisabeth Chojecki

ings. Additionally, Marcin is the official photographer/videographer for the Joseph Conrad Yacht Club and Polanie Dance Troupe. Many of his photographs have been used for Chicago-area publicity calendars (a popular item in Chicago) including the Polanie Dance Troupe, Polish American Engineers Association, and Polish American Chamber of Commerce. On November 7, 2009, Chojecki's sailing photographs were exhibited at the Marriot Hotel

in Schaumburg, Illinois. For further information about Chojecki's work, check his website at: www.marcin-photovideo.com.

Kudos to **Dorothy Sikora**, Administrative Assistant and Programming and PR Coordinator of the Riverside Public Library for receiving its 2009 Library Employee of the Year Award for her "tireless dedication to the library and the community."

POLONIA OF THE EASTERN GREAT LAKES / Michael Pietruszka

Welcome Rev. Mateusz Wydmanski

BUFFALO, N.Y. — Rev. Anzelm Chalupka, who has served as the pastor of Corpus Christi Parish on Buffalo's East Side for the past six years, has been reassigned to St. Casimir Parish in Yonkers by the Pauline Order. Rev. Mateusz Wydmanski has been named Corpus Christi's new pastor. In other Corpus Christi news, the parish broadcasts one Mass live each Sunday online at www.corpuschristibuffalo.org... The AM-POL EAGLE has announced its Citizens of the Year for 2009: Rev. Walter Madej (Art/Drama), Danny Potts (Business), The Felician Sisters (Civic Leader), Amy Betros (Community Leader; Non-Pole), Polish Singers Alliance District IX (Community Organization), Rev. Louis Dolnic (Culture), Msgr. Adamski Polish Saturday School (Education), Barbara Frackiewicz (Heritage), Edward Reska (Individual in Organizations), Judge William Skretny (Law), Steve Cichon (Media), Stanley Blake (Military/Veterans), Jacek Muzyk (Music), Cheektowaga Supervisor Mary Holtz (Politics), Rev. Walter Szczesny (Religion), Coach Dan Kryzanowicz (Sports), and Barry Pawlowski and Christina Slomczewski (Youth).

The Polish Cadets of Buffalo have elected the following leadership for this year: Wendy Higgins (president), James Johnson (vice president), Leonard Broncato (treasurer), Mike Golden (secretary), Marcia Myers (financial secretary) and Allan May (sergeant-at-arms)... Rev. Matthew Nycz has been reassigned to Blessed Mary Angela Parish in Dunkirk... The building which has been the home of Polish Army Veterans Association of America Post I has been sold to Robert Sienkiewicz of Buffalo. The group will continue to meet there for the foreseeable future.

Dr. Walter Drzewieniecki, Buffalo State College professor emeritus, decorated World War II veteran and honorary president of the Polish Cultural Foundation, passed away on February 13 at the age of 95... Paczki Day was marked by festivities hosted by the Adam Mickiewicz Library in Buffalo and Polish Heritage Dancers of WNY in West Seneca. This year's Paczki Contest was held at the historic Broadway Market and the results were Pumpernick N' Pastry Shoppe (gold), EM Chrusciki Bakery (silver) and White Eagle Bakery (bronze).

The Professional and Business Women of Polonia have elected



AMY SMARDZ of the Adam Mickiewicz Library and Dramatic Circle presides over the panel of "expert" judges for the Paczki Contest held at Buffalo's historic Broadway Market on February 13.

the following leadership for 2010: Christine Kibler (president), Mary Jane Wajmer (vice president), Barbara Wetzel (secretary) and Margaret Kubiak (treasurer)... The Polish Union of America is seeking to merge with another fraternal organization in order to meet new requirements of the NYS Department of Insurance.

A group from the University of Rzeszow Music Department will visit Nazareth College in Rochester in early March to discuss an exchange program

Hon. William Skretny, Chief Judge for the Western District of N.Y., and Hon. William Hochul President Obama's nominee for U.S. Attorney for the Western District of N.Y., will be the guest speakers at

the General Pulaski Association's installation dinner at the Protocol Restaurant in Williamsville on March 12.

❖ ❖ ❖
If you have any item for this column, please send the information to me by the 6th day of the month preceding publication month (i.e. March 6 for the April edition) at: POLEGL, P.O. Box 223, Niagara Square Station, Buffalo, NY 14201-0223; pietruska@verizon.net.

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

IN BRIEF

RIVERHEAD, N.Y. — Detective Patrick Waski was named the Riverhead Police Department's "Officer of the Year" for helping to solve a two-year-old burglary in Wading River, N.Y. Waski, a 17-year veteran of the department, also solved an August 2007 armed robbery. The two suspects are now jail.

MONTCLAIR, N.J. — Bryan Stepneski was the first person to perform in the Montclair State University John J. Cali School of Music, following its dedication in January. The freshman trumpet ensemble player took the stage in front a VIP audience, which included former State Senator Richard Codey, who served briefly as governor of New Jersey.

NEW YORK— The Home Depot Inc. started selling Martha Stewart-branded paint and cleaning products in January 2010 in addition to the home décor and closet organization lines announced back in September 2009.

Martha Stewart Living Omnimedia Inc.'s deal with Kmart ended in January 2010. Home Depot started to sell the Martha Stewart cleaning products in January, with home décor and closet organization lines to follow. The Martha Stewart paint line replaces Home Depot's line of Ralph Lauren paint, and is set to appear in March.

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Heavy Metal

LOS ANGELES — One does not often think of Polish history and Heavy Metal music in the same breath. But the two have come to meet more than once.

Last year, as reported in *The Huffington Post*, the Swedish Heavy Metal band Sabaton released a song and video commemorating the start of World War II. The song, "40-1," wrote Alex Storzynski in the *Post*, "has young Polish head bangers jumping into mosh pits, and Polish war-veterans weepy eyed over the video that shows their brothers in arms trying to hold off the Nazi at-



Suligowski-Fox today, as a Polish military re-enactor.

tack."

"Call it history through heavy metal," said Storzynski.

But the music and the Poland's past share something else in common: Rik Suligowski-Fox. It was just over a decade ago that Suligowski Fox, Greenpoint, Brooklyn's Heavy Metal rocker, began devoting his post-music time to Polish historical research.

Suligowski-Fox was a member of several Heavy Metal bands, including Wasp, Steeler, Sin, and Surgical Steel. He likes to say he traded his 1980s metal for 1680s metal, which he continues to this day.

"If other entertainers around the world can use their fame and notoriety to raise awareness for their favorite causes, then there's no difference here," he said. "Why can't I do the same for my Polish ancestry and that of often-misunderstood and misrepresented Polish history?"

Suligowski-Fox created the very first official representation of the famous Polish Winged Hussar cavalry in the United States in 2000. He formed the living history group "Su-

ligowski's Regiment of Sobieski's Winged Hussars." He made history by participating in the 2002 Pulaski Memorial Parade in New York City.

Suligowski-Fox takes great pride in his heritage. His re-enactment group is named in memory of his late father, Leonard J. Suligowski, and secondly, from sources showing his family's heraldry was represented by the victorious knights at the charge by the winged hussars at the Relief of Vienna by Sobieski's forces in 1683.

With such a rich legacy, Suligowski-Fox realizes his mission



Suligowski-Fox as a member of "Steeler."

is to follow in the footsteps of his famous ancestors, and to carry on the historical memory of Poland's ability to stand to the last man and accept no defeat.

For more on his musical career, visit www.fullinbloommusic.com/rikfox.html.

Information on the Suligowski Regiment can be found at www.husaria.us.

A video of Suligowski-Fox in the Pulaski Parade can be found at www.youtube.com/watch?v=M7jARYKXXSQ.

We invite you to join the American Council for Polish Culture and help preserve an environment that contributes to the development of our Polish culture.



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HAMTRAMCK BEAT / Michelle Odrobina-Jiompkowski

Gardening Phrase of "Weed and Seed" Becomes Metaphor for Crime Prevention Program

Just as sure as the **Hamtramck Community Garden** will spring to life again on Caniff Avenue, efforts are continually being made by dedicated city officials, citizens and coordinators to improve the safety and quality of life for Hamtramckans.

A case in point is the **Weed and Seed** program that has helped citizens become more alert to crime prevention since its local initiation in October 2007, according to Parris Kenney, the Hamtramck site coordinator. The program received its designation from the Department of Justice, but even before that, the planning committee brought it to Hamtramck, where concerned city officials and the community welcomed it, Kenney said. Via Neighborhood Watch groups, citizens help the police by becoming the eyes and ears on their blocks, reporting any suspicious activity to the police, he said. In the Neighborhood Watch, there are six sectors in the city with the seventh being planned for the public housing project on St. Aubin. Neighborhood Watch meetings are held on a regular basis and open to the public.

PURPOSE EXPLAINED. Kenney said the mission of Weed and Seed is two-fold: 1.) to reduce crime in Hamtramck by 10 percent for each year of grant funding from 2007-2012; and 2.) provide programs and services for youth that give them some activity and direction. The coordinator points to "Project Sentry" that has helped local students from grades 7-10 through an anti-gun, anti-violence program. This spring, for instance, 150 ninth-graders of Hamtramck High School will receive guidance. A Challenge Day will also come up in spring which will help Hamtramck youth to look on a personal level when bullying is happening and to examine within themselves the consequence of their actions.

BLOCK CLUB CONNECTION. Kenney said there is a direct connection between the Weed and Seed program and the block clubs. Both involve a grassroots approach to crime prevention and each one has a working relationship with the police, according to him. In turn, the police are encouraged by the assistance given them by the Neighborhood Watch groups, he added.

KLUB POLSKI. On January 16, the **Polish Club/Klub Polski** of the

University of Michigan sponsored their Wolverine Ball to benefit the Hamtramck Community Initiative, the nonprofit arm of the Weed and Seed program. The mission of HCI is to improve the safety and quality of life for Hamtramck residents. For more information about Klub Polski, contact www.umich.edu/polska.

CONTACT INFO. Parris Kenney may be reached at the Weed and Seed office at (313) 281-8150. Open to the public, the next meeting will be held March 11 at 6 p.m. at the office, 12101 Joseph Campau Avenue.

In Other News ...

ANNIVERSARY BOOK. St. Florian R.C. Church has its centennial anniversary book available for purchase. Thaddeus Radzilowski, Ph.D., is the historian and author of the book. The cost is \$50.00 per copy. For purchase by mail, the price is \$50.00 plus \$5.00 shipping and handling charges. Checks may be made out to St. Florian Parish and sent to 2626 Poland, Hamtramck, MI 48212-3485. E-mail the rectory at office@stflorianparish.org or phone (313) 871-2778 for more details or visit www.stflorianparish.org.

PARADE ROAST. Judge John M. Chmura announces that the **Polish Day Parade Roast** will be held May 6 at Villa Penna, with doors opened at 6:00 p.m. followed by dinner at 7:00 p.m. Sterling Heights District Court Judge **Stephen Sierawski** will be roasted this year. Tickets are priced at \$75 per person. For more information, call (586) 574-4925.

Sierawski will then automatically serve as the parade marshal for the Polish Day Parade held annually on Labor Day in Hamtramck.

This year's parade pays tribute to the Orchard Lake Schools on the 125th anniversary of their establishment. Under the auspices of the Polish American Congress, Michigan Division, the Polish Day Parade Committee carries on the traditions.

MURALIST'S EXHIBIT. Hamtramck muralist **Dennis Orłowski** has an exhibit of his portable King Arthur murals at the Ellen Kayrod Gallery in Detroit's Hannan House until March 12. With the exhibit, the retired Detroit Public Schools art teacher showcases his murals painted for his former workplace,

Burton International School. At the opening reception held January 29, a tuxedo-garbed Orłowski greeted visitors to the art show while a couple of young men dressed in knight costumes strolled around the exhibit as well as a young woman dressed as a maiden. Among his many interests, Orłowski is also involved with Detroit's Scarab Club, where one of his murals is depicted. His artwork enhances buildings in Hamtramck, Detroit and throughout southeastern Michigan and internationally in Germany and Mexico.

WOODY PLAZA. Named for the late Woody Pontiac, Hamtramck automotive dealer for many years, the new Woody Plaza, built on the former dealership site, was officially opened Feb. 2 as the new Michigan Department of Human Services Building. This building replaces the building on Denton. It consolidates services from Hamtramck, Highland Park and part of Detroit.

IN MEMORIAM. On Dec. 17, 2009, pharmacist Mitchell Kuffa died. The pharmacist was a longtime owner of The Medicine Shop in Hamtramck, where he demonstrated a personal and dedicated service to his customers. His business was a mainstay on Joseph Campau for many years. Condolences are extended to his entire family.

THINK EASTER. At the Polish Art Center, pisanki egg decorating classes began February 20 and will continue until April 25. The classes are designed for children, ages 7 years old and up, and children need to be accompanied by a participating adult. Call (313) 874-2242 to register. The cost is \$10 per person. The fee is nonrefundable and pre-registration is necessary due to limited space. Classes can be arranged on other dates for groups of eight or more. For specific dates and times, check www.polarcenter.com.

PACZKI DAY RECAP. For a snapshot of what Paczki Day is like in Hamtramck, visit downtownhamtramck.com, the Web site of the Hamtramck Downtown Development Authority (DDA). The site features a YouTube segment devoted to Hamtramck's 2008 Paczki Day presented on "CBS Sunday Morning, The Daily Show" by Mo Rocca.

Until my next column, Happy Easter and Happy trails to you!

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BABA JAGA'S CORNER / Jaga Urban-Klahn

Healthcare in the United States Versus the Rest of the World

The question of the healthcare the United States has been on everybody's mind. People argue to what degree the current health system needs to be modified; although almost everybody agree that something needs to be done. What is interesting, however, is everyone agrees that it is good to have a healthcare. All U.S. Congressmen have a great healthcare package, although they are split on the issue whether every American needs a healthcare, and who could pay for it.

The United States is the only developed country without any type of universal healthcare.

The Universal Healthcare System (UHS) in Poland was introduced with socialism after World War II. All countries of the Eastern bloc had public health systems. All citizens, at least formally, have the equal access to the best public healthcare available. I think the best part of UHS in Poland is its accessibility, since many small hospitals and health care centers were built all over the country so that even farmers would have the easy access to it. The doctors and nurses are also available in the schools and many work places Universal healthcare works well in preventive care. Thanks to the obligatory healthcare, all Polish children were vaccinated against many diseases.

Polish UHS is paid through taxes. Polish healthcare state is affected by the economy. The collapse of Polish economy in late 1970s and '80s led to a deepening crisis in the healthcare. Since there was a lack of investment in healthcare, the hospitals became even more overcrowded, many patients laid in the hospital corridors rather than in the well-equipped hospital rooms, and their care was poor. Poles believe that the healthcare is the most corrupted part of Polish life (data from a poll in 2006). Doctors and nurses were never paid well. Many of them would give extra time and effort to the patient whose family is able to afford to pay privately. Many doctors privately receive patients and then send them to the hospital when they have extra care. Public health services are still underinvested in Poland. During last 15-20 years several strikes were organized by nurses' unions.

Some private medical practice was allowed during the Soviet times like private dentistry. Some public dentists were available, but they were terribly busy and usually did not do such a good job as private dentists did. For now, the number of private medical practices is growing, but nobody is publicly opting to terminate public healthcare.

The UHS works much better in

Western Europe: France, England and Germany since their economy is much better and the system is less corrupt. People have good care paid for by taxes from those who work. There is a danger that the UHS would have to be reduced since not enough money would be available. There is growing number of retired people in good health and less young people working and paying taxes. Still, nobody in these countries negates the value of UHS.

[In Poland] ... the number of private medical practices is growing, but nobody is publicly opting to terminate public healthcare.

We have the biggest financial crisis since World War II and the deepest recession now. Still, there are some dangers of keeping the current private, for-profit healthcare in the United States. It just splits the society into the wealthy and middle class which can afford the decent healthcare of their choice, and those who cannot afford it since either they have only a part-time jobs or are self-employed. It especially affects the young family with small children who need a good start in life. It is hard to understand why the most powerful country in the world cannot afford universal healthcare for its citizens. Already existing partial healthcare systems: Medicare and Medicaid, cost the United States more per person than the cost of total universal health care in other developed countries. The U.S. government has to negotiate the conditions for these programs with private, for-profit healthcare insurers; therefore its cost is so high.

Maybe the availability of basic UHS would prevent the U.S. car makers from bankruptcy, since auto makers would not need to bear the financial burden of health insurance for retired workers.

The most absurd argument which I hear against universal healthcare is that somehow it limits a person's freedom. No healthcare system is ever perfect, but I think that the United States is ready for a common sense approach which would allow affordable healthcare for every citizen, woman, man and child. It does not matter whether insurance will remain private or not, but it has to be regulated to a certain extent so that the good of the people would be more important than a company's profit margin.

Visit Baba Jaga's Corner on the internet at www.polishsite.us.

PAHA

www.polishamericanstudies.org

The Polish American Historical Association was established in December 1942 as a special commission of the The Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences in America to collect, compile and publish information about Polish Americans. In October 1944, it was reorganized as a national American society to promote study and research in the history and social background of Americans of Polish descent. The Association, which was incorporated under the laws of Illinois in 1972, strives to assist and cooperate with all individuals and organizations interested in Polish American life and history. Contributions in support of the work of the Association are tax-exempt. Regular one-year membership to the Association is \$30.00.

I am interested in becoming a member of PAHA. Enclosed is a check or money order for \$30.00 made payable to the Polish American Historical Association.

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Johnstown PolkaFest Set for June 3-6, 2010

JOHNSTOWN, Pa. — It's a Polka Party ... and you're invited! The Greater Johnstown Convention and Visitors Bureau cordially invites you to join us in the Friendly City of Johnstown, for its annual PolkaFest. You'll enjoy three fantastic days of dancing to the best Polka Music around. It's one big Polka Party — Johnstown style!

Located in historic Cambria City, Johnstown's Ethnic Neighborhood. Come dance with your sweetheart on the wooden dance floor under the pavilion at Saint Mary's on Power Street. Experience the heritage of Johnstown at this free festival!

COME EARLY AND DISCOVER JOHNSTOWN'S HERITAGE.

Come early and plan to spend some extra time in Johnstown visiting our wonderful attractions that showcase the region's history and heritage.

Discover the shocking story of the Great Johnstown Flood of 1889 at the Johnstown Flood Museum. There you'll see state-of-the-art exhibits and the Academy Award winning documentary film, "The Johnstown Flood."

Take a ride on Johnstown's famous Inclined Plane — the World's Steepest Vehicular Inclined plane! The observation platform at the top provides a sweeping view of the city below. You can pick up a souvenir at the gift shop and enjoy an ice cream cone!

Don't miss Johnstown's newest museum — the Johnstown Heritage

Discovery Center — for a unique visitor experience. At the Discovery Center, the permanent exhibit "America: Through Immigrant Eyes" will allow visitors to immerse themselves in the different environments experienced by those who came to Johnstown from Eastern and Southern European countries from 1870-1914. You will travel with immigration characters as they disembark at the Johnstown Passenger Station, as they encounter the prejudice of the dominant class and as they seek work and a better home life. Bring the kids to tour the new Children's Museum and experience the Mystery of Steel.

From Johnstown you can travel throughout the scenic countryside and visit many of the other sites that tell the remarkable stories of tragedy and triumph. The national spotlight has shone on the region most recently with the crash of Flight 93 on September 11, 2001 and the miraculous rescue of the Quecreek Miners in July 2002. Both sites are located in Somerset County within a thirty-minute drive from Johnstown.

So, when you come to Johnstown for PolkaFest, stay for the history and take home memories that will last a lifetime!

For complete information on all of our sites and attractions, be sure to request a free visitors guide from the Convention & Visitors Bureau (1-800-237-8590) or email your request to jstcvb@visitjohnstownpa.com.

Partial Schedule for Sturr PBS Special

CHICAGO (PMN)—The Jimmy Sturr PBS Special, taped in at a casino in Canada before a large crowd, will air in early March in the following cities:

Albany, New York; New York, New York; Baltimore, Maryland; Chicago, Illinois; Detroit, Michigan; Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minnesota; Springfield, Massachusetts; Little Rock, Arkansas; Lehigh Valley, Pennsylvania; Memphis, Tennessee; Phoenix, Arizona; Trenton, New Jersey; Syracuse and Watertown, New York; Harrisburg, Penn-

sylvania; Milwaukee, Wisconsin; and Fort Wayne, Indiana.

More stations are expected to be announced. You can check your local listing for time and, date or call your PBS station for airing date.

Polka enthusiasts say a good viewership could be a great shot in the arm for polkas, particularly after the polka category was deleted by the Grammys.

An 8-minute promo of the show can be viewed on YouTube at www.youtube.com/watch?v=LclHAlFSRI.

2010 Adirondack Polka Festival

OLD FORGE, N.Y. — Make plans to attend the 13th Annual Adirondack Polka Festival, Memorial Day weekend, May 29 & 30, 2010 in beautiful Old Forge. The event is sponsored by the Central Adirondack Association and hosted by Dave Sychtysz of Syracuse, N.Y.

Two full days of polka music will feature Dennis Polisky & The Maestros Men, Dave Walter, Frank Liszka & Old School, Jeff Mieczko & the DynaBrass, and The Polka Family Band. Polish Food and beverages will be available. For motel information and additional details contact Dave Sychtysz at (315) 699-1708.

Polka Gala at Sunnybrook Ballroom

POTTSTOWN, Pa. — Sunnybrook presents Polka Gala 2 at the beautiful, historic Sunnybrook Ballroom, East High St. & Sunnybrook Road, Sunday May 2, 2010. There will be continuous music from noon to 8:00 p.m. by Polka Family, Ray Jay & the Carousels, and the Osuch Rhythm & Music Trio. Rhythm & Music Trio will start things off at noon to 2:00 p.m., with Polka Family and Ray Jay rotating until 8:00 p.m.

Sunnybrook Ballroom is a National Historic Site and has been refurbished to the beautiful ballroom

that it was in the late 1930s and 40s. It offers a large wooden dance floor and plenty of seating to enjoy your favorite Polish food and beverages. Special hotel rates are available to polka fans at Best Western and Comfort Inn, Pottstown, Pa. A cash bar and food will be available.

For tickets call: Sunnybrook Ballroom (484) 624-5186, Janet Osuch at (610) 326-2915 or Dolly Kubasco at (570) -655-0760. Visit the Sunnybrook website at: www.sunnybrookballroom.net.

WMNF Accordion Jam Fest was "Wackie"

TAMPA, Fla. — The Polka Party Express which airs on 88.5 FM WMNF Community Radio in Tampa hosted the first WMNF Accordion Jam Fest to help promote the accordion and help raise money to "Keep Polkas Alive on 88.5."

This Jam Fest was held Sat., Jan. 16 at the Polish American Pulaski Association in Holiday, Fla. The hall, which holds 475 people, was sold out.

Host of the Polka Party Express and organizer of the Jam Fest, Wackie Jackie Z. was overwhelmed with the support from the "Polkateers" for WMNF and this event. People came from all over the United States to attend this first annual event.

Musicians from all over the State of Florida showed up to jam, with many big name accordion players donating their time to ensure the success of this event. Joe Oberaitis, Alex Meixner, Bob Turcola, Tony

Lovella and Walter Kasprzyk entertained the sold out crowd.

"It just goes to show you that if people work together for a common cause, great things can happen" said Wackie Jackie Z. "I thank all the headliners for donating their time, the Polish American Pulaski Club for donating their beautiful facility, the folks at WMNF for supporting our music, Mrs. Wackie for putting up with me, and last but certainly not least, the polkateers who support us each and every week."

In addition, on January 17, 2010, Tampa Mayor, Pam Iorio appeared on the Polka Party Express and will officially proclaim a WMNF Polkateer Day in her fair city, Tampa, Florida.

The Polka Party Express can be heard live on 88.5 FM, WMNF a 70,000 watt community radio station in Tampa, Florida. For more information visit their website at: www.polkapartyexpress.com.

James W. Sturr, Chmielewski, Podzol Pass

FLORIDA, N.Y. — James W. Sturr Sr., a lifelong resident of Florida, passed away February 4, 2010 at home. Sturr, the father of polka band leader Jimmy Sturr, was 89 years old. He was born in Florida, N.Y. where he lived his entire life.

Sturr was the president of The Chester National Bank and Key Bank where he was also CEO. He proudly served in the U.S. Air Force during World War II as a First Lieutenant and has been a member of American Legion Post 1250 for over 60 years. He was an active member of the Florida Fire Department for over 64 years as a fireman, driver and president of the company for 25 years. He was a founding member and president of the board at St. Anthony's Hospital, Warwick, N.Y. In 2008 the Village of Florida honored him with the "Life Achievement" award. In his retirement years he became an auctioneer, and enjoyed his work throughout the county.

Funeral service took place at the Florida Presbyterian Church, Florida, with burial in Florida Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Orange and Sullivan County, 800 Stony Brook Ct., Newburgh, NY 12550, or Warwick Valley Humane Society, P.O. Box 61, Warwick, NY 10990.

Mark Chmielewski of the Chmielewski Funtime Band from Sturgeon Lake, Minnesota, passed

away on January 11, 2010, at the age of 48. He was an accomplished musician, businessman and devoted father who will be missed very much.

♦ ♦ ♦
Father Henry Pozdol, former chaplain of the International Polka Association died on January 29, 2010. He was also Pastor Emeritus of St. Joseph Church in Summit, Illinois, where he was waked.

Annual Spring Polka and Music Festival

McKEESPORT, Pa. — The 2010 annual Spring Polka & Music Festival will be held Sun., April 11, 2010, the first Sunday after Easter, at the White Oak American Legion Hall, Pennsylvania Ave. White Oak (McKeesport), 15 minutes from Pittsburgh.

This event will feature Henny & the Versa Js, Ray Jay & the Carousels, Western Pennsylvania's Concertina Jam Band, and Li'l John & the ATM Band, along with many surprise guest musicians, polka DJs and celebrities.

Everything gets underway at noon with dancing from 1:00-8:00 p.m. There will be free level parking, food, beverages and prizes.

Advance tickets at a reduced price only available until March 20, 2010. A sell-out crowd is expected. The crowds for the last five years exceeded 350. Children under 16 will be admitted free.

Table reservations held with eight or more guests are accepted with advance tickets purchase. For, information, and tickets contact: Michael Hakos, toll free, at (866) 657-0671.

Longest-Running Polka Show

WATERBURY, Conn. — The "Zembruski Polish Eagle Show" was started by well known band leader Victor Zembruski and his wife Sophie in 1935. In 1969 Sophie took over the program on her own until last year when health issues forced her to turn over the mike to her daughter, Lauretta. The program is in its 75th year of continued broadcasting on commercial radio, which may make it the longest running polka show on radio, with Sophie being involved in 74 of those years. She is celebrating her 92nd birthday this April.

Partial Dana Catalog On Web

Looking for a list of Dana recordings and have yet to find one? A partial list has been posted at a previously defunct website. The new site is www.txteldata.com. Albums cannot be ordered directly from the site, but a correct title may help find one elsewhere.

POLKA JUKEBOX / Steve Litwin

Great Recordings from Guca, Maestro's Men

With 50 years in the polka field, 2009 IPA Polka Music Hall of Fame inductee Ed Guca has played it all but always specialized in Polish music. *Raise Your Glasses - Niech Sie Gra*, the 15th recording by Ed Guca & the Polish Canadians offers 13 tracks with 10 Polish vocals along with three English vocals, two being originals.

"Niech Sie Gra," from the musical pen of Guca, kicks off the CD with solid vocals, and that familiar drive identified with this Canadian showman. A nice arrangement of "Rano Rano," is contrasted perfectly with the continental styling of "Czarne Oczy." The upbeat "Na Polskiej Zabawie" with Ed Humeniuk hot on violin is followed by Li'l Wally's classic "Night After Night." Add "Pod Mostem," "Niebieskie Oczy," "Corka," "White Table" and the original title tune, "Raise Your Glasses," and you will start right back at the first track for a second time through.

The multi-page graphic fold-out is an added attraction and offers full bios on all the musicians, Ed Guca on sax, clarinet, Ed Humeniuk on fiddle, drums, Henry Szarota on accordion, Brian Tos on trumpet, and Joe Banel on drums. Jerzy Krzeminski, leader of the Polish rock band, No To Co (So What), is also featured on guitar and vocals.

Raise Your Glasses - Niech Sie Gra was recorded at Polanca Studio. Visit Ed's Myspace page, www.myspace.com/edguca.

DON'T STOP THE MUSIC is the legacy of Dennis Polisky & The Maestro's Men and that's great news for the polka world. Their newest 17 track CD, *Don't Stop the Music*, is yet another classic collection of performances by this Massachusetts-based orchestra. Their ability to maintain what was, add something new, and perform in a style that continues to lead the polka world with

their instrumental expertise has become a trademark for the band. Borrowing from the books of Wojnarowski, Wisniewski, Budzilek, Witkowski and of course, Henry, these musicians offer a consistency that is almost unmatched in the polka industry.

From the clarinet work on "Nightengale" polka, to the smoothness of "Blue Roses" polka, to bounce of "Krakowianka" oberek, to the beat of "Roselawn" oberek, each tune carries its weight on this recording in a distinctive way. Let's not forget "Request" polka, and originals like "Soldiers Return" polka, and "Jealous Lovers" polka which add yet another flavor to the package.

Don't Stop the Music was recorded by the Wizears Studio.

The Maestro's Men are Jackie Libera, Jim Motyka, Ken Yash, Rich Bernier, Andy Galarneau and Dennis Polisky. On the internet visit: www.maestrosmen.com.

NOTES / Barb Pinkowski

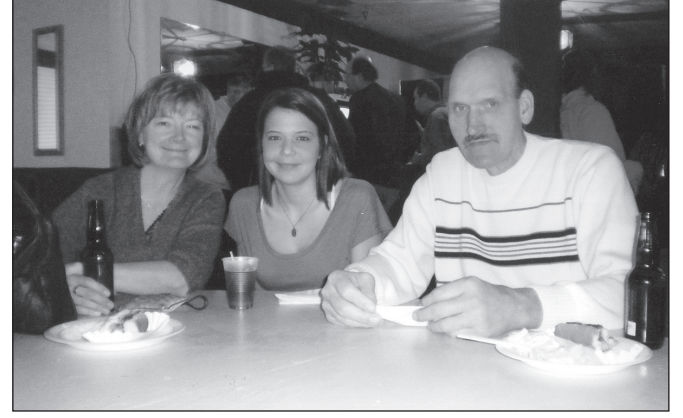
Dances Must to Advertised to Be Successful



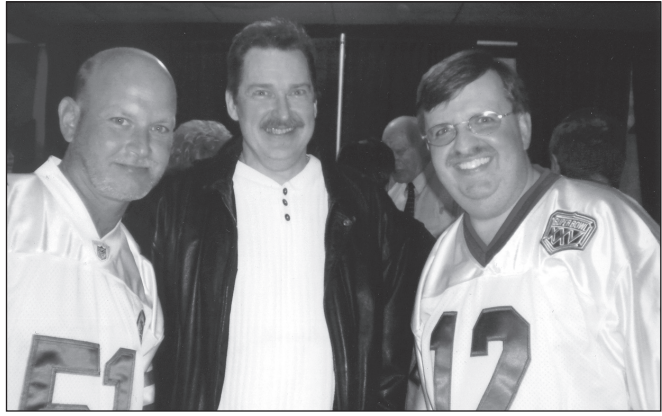
Jimmy Johnson, bass player for Phocus.



Gordy and Mary Ann Bellinger enjoying the music at Potts.



Barb and Albert Bakowski with daughter Rayne.



(l. to r.): Mike Burka, Val Bakowski, and John Fomenko.



The Patti Parks Band did a great job at Potts Hall.



The Knewz at Potts.

January was National Polka Month and there were plenty of polkas at mainly three places: Danny Potts Hall on South Ogden St., in Buffalo; Mike Kurdiel's Crownview Restaurant on Transit Rd. in Depew; and the Sportsmen's Tavern on Amherst St. in the Black Rock section of Buffalo.

On Jan. 30, **Phocus** played at Potts and attendance was poor. But this dance was not advertised much. There were no slingers and even a polka DJ had to ask the listeners for information on this dance as he had not gotten any information. It seems most of the people heard about it by word of mouth. You cannot expect people to attend something they do not know about!

It was good to see **Bob Wroblewski** and **Eric Bakowski** back on stage with the band.

The next day at the Crownview, a nice crowd did show up to hear the super sounds of Phocus.

On Feb. 6, a Polka Swing and Pre-Superbowl Party was held at Potts Hall with entertainment by the

big band sound of **Patti Parks** and polka music by the **Knewz**.

Patti is a very energetic singer who likes to interact with the audience. The band plays somewhat a mixture of blues and rock. **Al Kania**, one of our talented polka musicians, plays trumpet with the band. It was nice a change of pace. The Knewz band, as usual, did a super job. It was nice to hear a couple numbers featuring two clarinetists – **Tom Picciano** and **Tom Wanderlich**.

I talked to **Jimmy Adamczyk** visiting from the Utica area. He was a member of the Alliance band, but, he told me the band is no longer together. Too bad, as they were very good. **Matt Lewandowski** formed the band about a year ago, so they were not together too long.

CONGRATULATIONS ... go out to all the winners of the AMPOL EAGLE'S "Citizen of the Year" awards. I especially want to mention how great it was that **Danny Potts** got the award in the Business category and Ed Reska was honored as an Individual

In Organizations. All winners were deserving.

A luncheon to honor them all will be held on Sun., April 18 at the Kloc Grove, 1245 Seneca Creek Rd., West Seneca, N.Y.

GOOD LUCK! I want to wish **Fr. Anselm Chalupka** the best of luck and Godspeed in his new assignment at St. Casimir Parish in Yonkers, N.Y. As you know, Fr. Chalupka was the much-loved and respected pastor of Corpus Christi Parish in Buffalo for the last six years. He brought the parish back to life! Under his leadership, many improvements were made and many new families joined the congregation and others returned. He will be missed.

Fr. Mateusz Wydmanski, the current assistant, will be named the new pastor and we congratulate him on that appointment.

GRAMMY BLUES. The change made in Grammy categories did not bode well for polka bands. The winner in the "Best Traditional Folk Music" category was Loudon Wainwright III, shutting Jimmy Sturr & his Orchestra out of an award for the first time in many years.

MULTI-ETHNIC MEETING. I was in contact with Dan McCue and Joyce Czarniecki about the St. Patrick, St. Joseph's and Dyngus Day party. This will be the 13th annual and this year it will take place on March 21 from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Harvey Morin Post, 965 Center Rd., West Seneca, N.Y. **Jer-**

ry Darlak & the Touch will provide the polka music, The Formula Band will play the Italian music and Stone Row will entertain with Celtic rock. There will be a performance by Michelle Kisluk and the **Polish Heritage Dancers**. Tickets are \$10 presale and \$12 at the door. For more info, you can contact Dan at 834-7664 or Joyce at 741-3001.

ON THE LAMM. Also, I had spoken to Bob and Sandy Krawczyk, and they are preparing for several doings at the Lamm Grove. The first is the big band sound of **Eddie O** and his 13-piece band, featuring the vocals of the Vignettes and John Kondal on Sat., May 22 – Doors open at 6:00 p.m. and music from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

The official opening of the grove with a polka weekend will be Sat., June 12 with **Charm City Sound**. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and music from 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

On Sunday, June 13 – music will be by **DynaBrass** from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. with the doors opening at 3:00 p.m. A special two-day pass will be available. For more information, call Bob at 837-3582

Lots of great music and doings to look forward to including a big 40th anniversary celebration of the Polka Boosters Club in August! More information will follow in future editions!

Happy St. Patrick's Day and Happy St. Joseph's Day to all!

UPCOMING

March 18. Polka Boosters Meeting at the Polish Falcons Hall, 445

Columbia Ave., Depew, N.Y. Doors open at 7:00 p.m. Meeting starts at 8:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend. Call Chris for more info 892-7977

March 21. St. Patrick's / St. Joseph's / Dyngus Day party at the Harvey Morin Post, 965 Center Rd., West Seneca, N.Y. from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Dan – 834-7664

March 28. Jerry Darlak and the Touch at the Sportsmen's Tavern on Amherst St. in Buffalo from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

DYNGUS DAY.

Since Easter falls so early this year, I won't be listing the events in my next column. To find out what is happening in Western New York, see pages 2 and 3 of this edition, or visit www.dyngusdaybuffalo.com.

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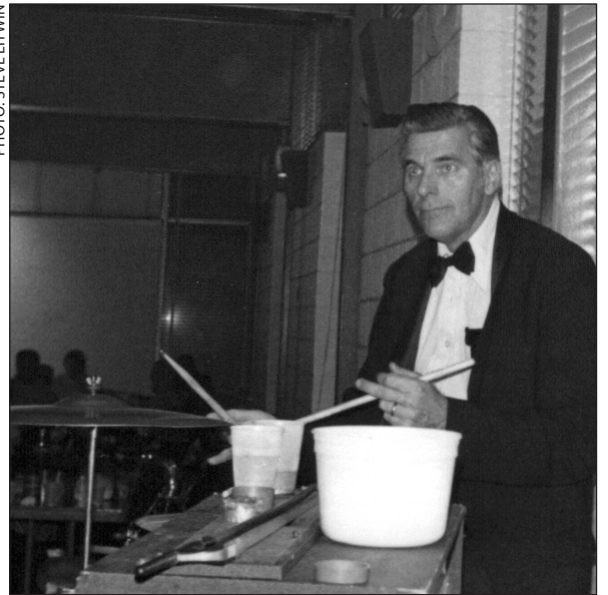
If you have a special Polka Memory photograph to publish in the Polish American Journal, email : pajpolka@verizon.net. For more Polka Memories visit www.polkamemories.com.



HAPPY LOUIE on stage, Binghamton, N.Y. 1983.



MARION LUSH AND EDDIE BLAZONCZYK, Buffalo Peace Bridge Expo Center. 1977.



THE LEGENDARY JAS PRZASNYSKI, a Polka Music Hall of Famer, on drums at the Empire Room of the New York State Fair Grounds, 1975.

POLKA PARADE / Prepared and Distributed by the Polonia Media Network

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

EVERY TUESDAY

- Illinois. The Major Pensionaires at Major Hall, 5660 W. Grand Ave., Chicago, Ill., 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

EVERY WEDNESDAY

- Illinois. Tony Paliga's Morning Stars at the Stardust, 5688 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, Ill., 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., \$4.
- Illinois. The Midway Cavaliers at Ma-benka's Restaurant, 7840 S. Cicero Ave., Chicago, Ill., 7:00-10:00 p.m., free admission.

EVERY FRIDAY

- Illinois. Joe Walega & the Happy Hearts at the New Warsaw Restaurant and Banquets, 6250 W. 63rd St., Chicago, Ill., 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., \$5.

FRIDAY, MARCH 12

- Florida. The Natural Tones at the St. Petersburg Polish Society, 1343 Beach Dr. S.E., St. Petersburg, Fla., dinner 5:00 p.m. Check locally music times.
- Maryland. The Continentals at Blob's Park, 8024 Max Blobs Park Rd., Jessup, Md., 8:00 p.m.-12:00 a.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 13

- Arizona. Varitones and two other band at the Polka Lovers Klub, Monte Vista Village Resort, 8865 E. Baseline Rd., Mesa, Ariz., 1:00-7:00 p.m.
- Connecticut. Dennis Polisky & the

Maestro's Men at a St. Joseph-St. Patrick Celebration, Polish Home, Enfield, Conn., dinner 6:00 p.m., music 7:00-11:00 p.m.

- Florida. The Natural Tones at the Polish American Club, 4616 Darlington Rd., Holiday, Fla., dinner 4:00 p.m., music 5:00-9:00 p.m.
- Minnesota. Doctor Kielbasa at the Bloomington K of C, 1114 W. American Blvd., Bloomington, Minn., 7:00-11:00 p.m.
- Wisconsin. John Gora & Gorale at Pat's Oak Manor, 1804 15th Ave., South Milwaukee, Wis. Check locally for details.

SUNDAY, MARCH 14

- Connecticut. Joe Stanky & his Cadets at the Polish American Citizens Club, 541 N. Main St., Bristol, Conn., 3:00-7:00 p.m.
- Florida. Gen. Kazimierz Pulaski Band at the Polish Club, Belleview, Fla., dinner 12:00 p.m., music 2:00-5:00 p.m.
- Florida. Polka Classics at the Polish American Pulaski Club, 3621 W. International Speedway Blvd., Daytona, Fla., dinner 1:00 p.m., 2:00-5:00 p.m.
- Florida. The Natural Tones at the Polish American Social Club, 7500 U.S. Highway 1, Vero Beach, Fla., dinner 1:00 p.m., music 2:00-6:00 p.m.
- Florida. Northern Sounds at the St. Petersburg Polish Society, 1343 Beach Dr. S.E., St. Petersburg, Fla., dinner 3:00 p.m., music 3:00-7:00 p.m.
- Illinois. John Gora & Gorale with Mollie Busta at a St. Patrick Dance, Glendora House 10225 S. Harlem Ave.,

Chicago Ridge, Ill., 2:00-6:00 p.m., tickets \$15, children under 16 free.

- Maryland. The Continentals at a Seniors Dance, Moose Lodge 1456, 1911 Crain Hwy. South, Glen Burnie, Md., 2:00-6:00 p.m.
- Michigan. Diddlestyx at the Polka Boosters of America, Msgr. Hunt K of C Hall, 7080 Garling Dr., Dearborn Heights, Mich., 2:00-6:00 p.m.
- New Jersey. Dennis Polisky & the Maestro's Men at the Bayway Polish Home, 625 Pulaski St., Elizabeth, N.J., 4:00-8:00 p.m.
- New York. Tony's Polka Band at Rose-lawn Hall, 446 Main St., New York Mills, N.Y., 3:00-7:00 p.m.
- Pennsylvania. John Stevens & Double-shot at the Dupont VFW, 403 Main St., Dupont, Pa., 2:00-6:00 p.m.
- Rhode Island. Eddie Forman Orchestra at the German Club, 78 Carter Ave., Pawtucket, R.I., 2:00-6:00 p.m.

MARCH 17, ST. PATRICK'S DAY

- Maryland. The Continentals at a St. Patrick's Dance, Bowie Senior Center, 14900 Health Center Dr., Bowie, Md., 11:30 a.m.

MARCH 19, ST. JOSEPH'S DAY

- Arizona. Donna Siebert & Polka Power at the Polka Club of Arizona, 4331 E. McDowell Rd., Phoenix, Ariz., 5:00-9:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 20

- Michigan. New Brass Express at a Polka Dinner-Dance, Fr. Kelly's K of C Hall, 23663 Park, Dearborn, Mich., 7:00 p.m.-12:00 a.m., \$25 advance.
- Ohio. Lenny Gomulka & Chicago Push at the Say Hello to Spring Dance of the United States Polka Association (USPA), Doubletree Hotel, 6200 Quarry Lane, Independence, Ohio, 8:00 p.m.-12:00 a.m. For details visit <http://www.uspapolkas.com>.
- Wisconsin. Polka Family and DynaBrass at the Rothschild Pavilion, 1104 Park St., Rothschild, Wis., 5:00 p.m.-12:00 a.m.

SUNDAY, MARCH 21

- Connecticut. Ted Lange & Squeeze-box at the Polish American Citizens

Club, 541 N. Main St., Bristol, Conn., 3:00-7:00 p.m.

- Florida. DynaBrass at the Polish American Social Club, 7500 U.S. Highway 1, Vero Beach, Fla., dinner 1:00 p.m., music 2:00-6:00 p.m.
- Florida. Polka Pals at the Polish American Pulaski Club, 3621 W. International Speedway Blvd., Daytona, Fla., Dinner 1:00 p.m., music 2:00-6:00 p.m.
- Florida. Tropical Squeeze at the St. Petersburg Polish Society, 1343 Beach Dr. S.E., St. Petersburg, Fla., dinner 3:00 p.m., 4:00-7:00 p.m.
- Michigan. The Natural Tones at the Warren Polka Boosters, Utica K of C Hall, 44425 Utica Rd., Utica, Mich., 2:00-6:00 p.m.
- Michigan. Touch of Brass at the Toledo Area Polka Society, Conn-Weissenberger American Legion Hall, 2020 Alexis, Toledo, Ohio, 2:00-7:00 p.m.
- Minnesota. Doctor Kielbasa at the Midwest Polka Association Snow Dance, North Air Event Center, 6831 Hwy. 65 NE, Fridley, Minn., 7:00-11:00 p.m.
- New Jersey. Jimmy Sturr & his Orchestra at Bayway Polish Home, 625 Pulaski St., Elizabeth, N.J., 2:00-6:00 p.m., \$10.
- Pennsylvania. Stanky & the Coalminers at a St. Joseph Dance, Dupont VFW, 403 Main St., Dupont, Pa., 2:00-6:00 p.m.
- Pennsylvania. Lenny Gomulka & Chicago Push at the Yukon Slovenian Hall, 137 Yukon Ave., Yukon, Pa., 3:00-7:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 27

- Florida. Frank Moravcik at the Polish American Club, 4616 Darlington Rd., Holiday, Fla., dinner 4:00 p.m., music 5:00-9:00 p.m.
- New York. Polka Country Musicians at the Spring Fling of the United States Polka Association (USPA), Pott's Banquet Hall, 694 S. Ogden St., Buffalo, N.Y., 8:00 p.m., \$13.

SUNDAY, MARCH 28

- Arizona. Varitones and another band at the Polka Lovers Klub, Golden Sun Resort, 999 W. Broadway Ave., Apache Junction, Ariz., 1:00-6:00 p.m.
- Connecticut. Tony's Polka Band at the Bristol Polish American Club, 541 N. Main St., Bristol, Conn., 3:00-7:00 p.m.
- Florida. Northern Sounds at the Polish American Club, 4616 Darlington Rd., Holiday, Fla., dinner 1:00 p.m., music 3:00-6:00 p.m.
- Florida. Frank Moravcik at the Polish American Social Club, 7500 U.S. Highway 1, Vero Beach, Fla., dinner 1:00 p.m., music 2:00-6:00 p.m.
- Florida. Just 4 Fun Band at the Polish American Pulaski Club, 3621 W. International Speedway Blvd., Daytona, Fla., Dinner 1:00 p.m., music 2:00-5:00 p.m.
- Florida. Florida Honky Polka Band

at the St. Petersburg Polish Society, 1343 Beach Dr. S.E., St. Petersburg, Fla., dinner 3:00-4:30 p.m., music 4:00-7:00 p.m., dinner \$8, music \$5 members, \$7 non-members.

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THURSDAY: 6:00-9:00 PM PolkaFest Kick-Off Party with "The Rhinelanders" (Everyone Welcome! Food & Drinks Available)

FRIDAY-SUNDAY: Rosie and The Jammers, Don Wojtila Orchestra, Polka Family Band, Johnstown Area Button Box, Eddie Forman Orchestra, Eddie Rodick Band, The Maestro's Men, Polka County Musicians, Duane Malinowski, Lenny Gomulka & Chicago Push

SUNDAY: Polka Mass, 11:00 AM, (under the pavilion) featuring Polka Country Musicians

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THE POLISH CHEF / Robert Strybel

Polish Lenten Suppers And Fish Fries

Here and there, all over Polish America, different Polonian parishes and groups hold pierogi suppers and fish fries. But these are not the only Lenten dishes of our ancestral heritage. There are many others, some of which are presented below. Apart from community suppers, they of course can also be served at home in the family circle.

MEATLESS RYEMEAL SOUP (żurek postny). Cook 1 carrot, leek, celery stalk and parsley root, 2 dried mushrooms and 1 bayleaf until veggies and mushrooms are tender. Strain, reserving cooked veggies for vegetable salad (below). Dice mushrooms fine and return to stock. Add enough water to make 4 c of stock, add 2 c ryemeal sour (see below) and bring to boil. Thicken with 1 T flour dissolved in a little cold water. Simmer briefly and season with salt, pepper and marjoram. Serve in bowls with dishes of mashed potatoes (garnished with chopped onions fried in a little oil) on the side. Or serve over diced cooked potatoes or cubed farmer cheese with rye bread on the side.

HOME-MADE RYEMEAL SOUR: (domowy zakwas na żurek). Zakwas na żurek: In glass or crockery jar or bowl combine 10 T rye flour, 2 halved buds garlic, 5 grains allspice, 2 bay leaves and 2 c warm pre-boiled water. Stir, cover with clean dish towel or cloth napkin and leave at room temp or slightly warmer for 3-4 days. When pleasantly tart, strain and use in ryemeal soup (above). Variation: Rolled oats and a crust of rye bread may be used if rye flour is not available. Note: Ready-to-use liquid or gel ryemeal sour, imported from Poland, is available at Polish markets and delis in America.

EASY MEATLESS RYEMEAL SOUP (łatwy żurek). In pot combine 6 c water, half a mushroom bouillon cube (Knorr or Winiary brands-available at Polish delis), 2 heaping T quick-cooking rolled oats (the budget brands are best because the oats are more broken up and mealy), bring to boil and simmer several min. Sour to taste 2-4 T white vinegar or several pinches citric acid crystals. Season to taste with salt, pepper, marjoram and 1-2 buds crushed garlic. Serve in bowls with dishes of mashed potatoes (garnished with chopped onions fried in a little oil) on the side. Or serve over diced cooked potatoes or cubed farmer cheese and rye bread on the side.

BEER SOUP (polewka piwna). In pot place 1-1/2 c crumbled rye or whole-wheat bread. Add 1 qt beer, 1 c water, 3 T oil, 1 t salt, 1 t sugar and 1/2 t bruised caraway. Bring to boil and simmer 2-3 min. Strain, forcing bread through sieve into another pot. Bring to boil again and season additionally to taste with salt & pepper if desired. Dilute with a little boiling water if too thick. Serve over cubed farmer cheese or rye-bread croutons fried in oil. An old Polish Lenten specialty!

HERRING IN OIL (śledź w oleju). Supermarket marinated herring (out of a jar) can be used to prepare this dish. Drain herring, discard onions and spices, rinse in cold water and drain well. Transfer to clean jar, interspersing with layers of chopped onion. Drench with oil to cover and refrigerate overnight. Serve with boiled potatoes or rye bread.

SAUERKRAUT SALAD (sałatka z kwaszonej kapusty). Drain, light-

ly rinse and press out moisture from 1 qt sauerkraut. Chop coarsely. Add 1 large grated carrot, 1-2 chopped onions and 1 peeled, diced cooking apple. Toss, season with some pepper, sugar and (optional) crushed caraway seeds and drizzle with salad oil. Optional: For best results, refrigerate several hrs before serving.

POTATO DUMPLINGS (kopytka). Put a large pot of lightly salted water on to boil. Peel and cook 6-7 med potatoes until tender, drain, steam off moisture and mash well. Transfer to floured board to cool. Add about 2 c flour, 1 egg and 1/2 salt and quickly work ingredients into a dough. Between palms of hands form into finger-thick strands and cut at an angle on board into 1"-2" pieces. Drop into boiling salted water, cover and when boiling resumes, cook 2-3 min. Remove with slotted spoon and serve garnished with butter-browned bread crumbs or sour cream. Hint: Leftover mashed potatoes may be used in this recipe.

NOODLES & CHEESE (kluski z serem). In lightly salted water cook 16 oz flat egg noodles until tender. Drain well, dot with about 2 T butter or margarine and stir in 16 oz grated or crumbled farmer cheese. Heat, stirring constantly, until cheese just begins to melt. Salt & pepper to taste. Optional: The noodles & cheese may be garnished with chopped onions fried in oil.

NOODLES & MUSHROOMS (kluski z grzybami). In lightly salted water cook 16 oz flat egg noodles until tender. While they cook, wash and dice 16 oz fresh Portobello mushrooms and fry up in 3 T oil with 2 diced onions until lightly browned, stirring often. Salt & pepper to taste. Toss the drained, cooked noodles with the fried mushrooms. Optional: Garnish with chopped parsley and/or dill.

MEATLESS GOŁĄBKI (postne gołąbki). Core and scald cabbage in pot of boiling water and remove leaves as they wilt. Fill with any of the following:

Groat & mushroom: Fry up 12-16 oz fresh, diced Portobello mush-



Foto: Babcia gramolka.

FRIED FISH (ryba smażona). Rinse and pat dry 2 lbs fresh or thawed frozen fish fillets, salt lightly and refrigerate several hrs or overnight. Optional: fillets may be drizzled with lemon juice and smothered in sliced onions. Salt & pepper fillets roll in flour or a 50-50 mixture of flour and plain bread crumbs. Fry in 1/2" hot oil to a nice golden brown on both sides. Drain on paper towel. Serve with boiled potatoes and sauerkraut salad (see below).

BREADED FRIED FISH (ryba smażona a panierce). Proceed as above, but dredge the salted & peppered fillets in flour, dip in beaten egg and roll in plain (unseasoned) breadcrumbs. Press in breading, and fry as above.

rooms fried with 2 chopped onions in 3 T oil until tender. Combine with 4 c slightly underdone buckwheat groats (kasza gryczana), cooked barley or rice). Stir in 1 egg and 1 T chopped fresh parsley and/or dill, and season with salt & pepper.

Groat & cheese: Combine 3 c underdone buckwheat groats, 1 c plain mashed potatoes and 3/4 c crumbled farmer cheese; stir in 1 egg and season with salt & pepper.

Rice, egg & onion: Combine 4 c undercooked rice, with 2 finely chopped onions fried golden tender in a little oil, 3-4 chopped hard-cooked eggs, 1 raw egg and 1 heaping T finely chopped fresh dill or more and salt & pepper to taste.

Roll up cabbage leaves, place snugly in baking pan in no more than 2 layers. Drench with mushroom sauce: 1 mushroom cube dissolved in 3 c water mixed with 1 small can cream of mushroom soup and several dashes of Maggi liquid seasoning. Bake in 350° oven 2 hrs. After switching off heat, leave in oven until cooled to room temp. Re-

frigerate and reheat as needed.

CRÊPES (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 for a thin, pourable batter. Grease frying pan with oil on a ball of paper towel, heat and fry thin pancakes. Find a ladle accommodating just the right amount of batter for 1 pancake. Flip crêpe over and cook briefly on other side. Re-grease pan as needed. Hint: Special non-stick (Teflon) crêpe pans are available. Spread your naleśniki with any of the following Lenten fillings:

Polish plum butter (powidła), Łowicz brand żurawina (cranberry jam) or other jam or preserves of choice;

Cheese: Mash well with fork 3/4 lb farmer cheese or pulverize to a powder in food-processor; stir in 1/2 t salt, 1 t sugar and 1 raw egg yolk or a heaping T sour cream

Cheese & potato: Cook 1 lb peeled potatoes in boiling salted water until tender, drain, mash and set aside to cool. To potatoes add 1/2 lb farmer cheese or dry cottage cheese, mashed in with potato-masher or processed to a ground-like consistency in processor, 2 med. finely chopped onions sautéed in 2 T oil until tender and lightly browned. Mix ingredients well and season with salt & pepper;

After spreading with filling, leaving a 1-inch margin around the edge, roll up naleśniki or fold into squares and brown lightly to heat through in a little oil or vegetable-sprayed skillet.

CHEESE PANCAKES (racuchy z serem). Process to a powder 1 lb farmer cheese. Stir in 2 eggs and gradually add 1-1/2 c flour, stirring the whole time. When mixture is smooth, stir in 2 c buttermilk, 2 T sugar, 2 t baking soda and 1/2 t baking powder. Beat well with whisk or hand-held mixer at least 5 min. Spoon into hot oil and fry to a nice golden-brown on both sides. Drain well on absorbent paper. Dust with confectioner's sugar or serve with fruit syrup or preserves of choice.

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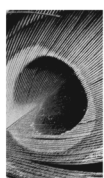


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CHOPINICA

Chopin and Paderewski 2010 International Conference Issues a Call for Papers

CHICAGO — Loyola University Chicago plans to hold an international and interdisciplinary conference entitled “Chopin and Paderewski 2010,” Nov. 11-13, 2010, in honor of the 200th anniversary of the birth of Fryderyk Chopin and the 150th anniversary of the birth of Ignacy Jan Paderewski.

The conference will be jointly sponsored by the Polish Studies Program, the Department of History, the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, the Department of Fine and Performing Arts, the Department of Political Sciences and the International Studies Program of the University.

The conference will begin with an opening reception on November 11, followed by two days of panel discussions and cultural events.

The first goal of the conference is to explore Fryderyk Chopin. The second goal of the conference is to explore Ignacy Jan Paderewski (1860-1941) as a pianist, composer, art collector, philanthropist, diplomat, politician, and the third Prime Minister of Poland. The final goal is to place Chopin, Paderewski and the “Polish question” in the context of American and world politics of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

The preliminary deadline for receipt of proposals is April 30, 2010. Electronic submissions preferred. For more information, contact: Marek Suszko, Ph.D., e-mail: msuszko@luc.edu, or write to: Loyola University Chicago, “Chopin & Paderewski 2010 Conference,” Department of History LSC, 1032 W. Sheridan Rd., Chicago, IL 60660.

Lectures at Museum

PORT WASHINGTON, Long Island, N.Y. — A series of piano lecture recitals celebrating the birth of Chopin will be held this month at the Polish American Museum of Port Washington.

The recitals will focus on Chopin's life as a poet, composer, and pianist.

In addition to the lectures, there will be a Chopin exhibit, including a carved wood bust, music compositions, commemorative medals, and replicas of his head, and death mask.

Guest artist for the series include Classical pianists Matthew Harrison, Vlada Yaneva, and Jonathan Levin of the Manhattan School of Music.

The first in the series will be held on March 6 at 3:00 p.m.

The recitals will continue on Fridays March 12, 19, and 26 at 7:00 p.m. in the main salon of the Museum at 16 Bellevue Ave., Port Washington. Tickets are \$15.00 for adults and \$10.00 for students. For information, call (516) 883-6542.

Kopernik Association Sponsors Concert

UTICA, N.Y. — The Kopernik Association of Utica will sponsor a concert of Chopin's music on March 14 at 2:00 p.m. at the Munson-Williams-Proctor Art Institute Auditorium.

The featured pianist will be Maryna Mazhukhova. Advance tickets only are available at the Stanley Theater Box Office (Utica, NY) and from Adam Ziemba at (315) 724-8205. Cost per ticket is \$20.00; \$10.00 for students and includes a reception at the Polish Community Center after the performance.

Chopin & Paderewski Year 2010 Kicks Off in Chicago

CHICAGO — A program on February 22 at the Chopin Elementary School Auditorium kicked off Chicago's events of the Chopin & Paderewski Year 2010.

Young students of the Music Academy of the Chicago-based Paderewski Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of Barbara Bil-szta, together with actors from the Little Star Children's Theater Workshop re-created the salon in the 19th century Polish home of Chopin and listened to his music.

Guest speakers included Chopin School Principal Antuanette Mester; a representative of the Consulate General of the Republic of Poland in Chicago; as well as a representative of the City of Chicago.

Other events celebrating Chopin and Paderewski will be held:

March 1: Chopin Fest: Happy 200th Birthday, Chopin!, Northwestern student pianist marathon, Lutkin Hall, Northwestern University, 700 University Place, Evanston, Ill., 5:00-10:00 p.m.; Free admission and refreshments.

March 26: Paderewski Symphony Orchestra, Celebration of Chopin's 200th Anniversary, Piotr Banasik, pianist, Symphony Center, 220 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, 8:00 p.m.; Tickets: \$48-\$28; www.

bilet.com

March 27: Paderewski Symphony Orchestra, Celebration of Chopin's 200th Anniversary, Youth Concert, Symphony Center, 220 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, 10:00 a.m.; Tickets: \$35; \$17 for students and educators; www.bilet.com

March 28: Lira Ensemble, Chopin Bicentennial Concert, Pick-Staiger Concert Hall, Northwestern University, 50 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston, Ill., 3:00 p.m.; Tickets: (773) 508-7040

Acclaimed Chopin Recording Re-released

LITTLETON, N.H. — “Images of a Homeland” — presenting performances of music by Chopin featuring the American pianist Marjan Kiepura — has been re-released for the 200th anniversary of the birth of the composer.

Comprising both rare and familiar repertoire by Chopin, the disc was critically acclaimed on its first release in 2001, and presents the composer in a uniquely Polish perspective, highlighting the specific nationalistic characteristics of his music.

As well as offering familiar repertoire such as the *A major Polonaise* and the *D flat major “Raindrop” Prelude*, the recording also has several rarities, including many of his Mazurkas which are, even now, seldom performed.

Chopin's Mazurkas (both early and late) are the prime focus of the disc. Kiepura, who has made a particular specialism of Chopin's Mazurkas over many years, believes they provide the key to Chopin's personality and in particular, his idiomatic Polish traits, more than any other genre in which he worked.

“In making this recording ten years ago, I had a special purpose — to observe Chopin as a person deeply affected by influences, chiefly what one might call the essence of his heritage — the Polish earth — which never left him and which informed so much of his music,” said Kiepura. “In my playing, I always try to convey the particular Polish characteristics of his music which I feel intuitively — namely, the rhythms, inflections and emphases — and in the coming year I will be performing, broadcasting and lecturing about this aspect of Chopin's art. I feel it is especially apt and fitting to re-release this recording now, just

as we celebrate the important anniversary of Chopin's birth.”

Extensive liner notes by the artist provide a historic reference to the concept of homeland and what it meant to Chopin. The Grammy award-winning David Frost was the producer for this recording, and the performances were recorded at the American Academy of Arts and Letters, New York.

“Images of a Homeland” is released on Patria CD No. KIE 2000 and is available from www.amazon.com or direct by mail from Patria Productions Inc. Box 344, Littleton, New Hampshire, 03561, (888) 522-8273; Email: kiepura@kiepura.com or from the Patria Website at: www.patriamus.com.

Concert and Birthday Bash

BUFFALO, N.Y. — The 200th anniversary of Frederick Chopin's birth has sparked great excitement in WNY and Southern Ontario. The Msgr. Adamski Polish Saturday School and the WNY Division of the Polish American Congress sponsored a concert featuring pianist Igor Lipinski playing Chopin's most famous pieces at the Pvt. Leonard Post in Cheektowaga on February 21. On the 23rd, the Chopin Singing Society hosted its annual Chopin Birthday Bash again at the Pvt. Leonard Post.

“Poet of the Piano”

TORONTO — The Third Canadian Chopin Festival is being held at the John Paul II Cultural Centre in Mississauga Ontario from February 26 to March 7.

The Festival events will commence with an opening concert featuring Li Wang and Avan Yu, the winners of the first two Canadian competitions. Other festival events include “The Salon Music: Waltzes and Nocturnes,” “Discovering the Dances: Mazurkas and Polonaises,” “Chopin's 200th Birthday Party,”

“Frederyk Chopin: His Greatest Works,” “The Muses Who Inspired the Master,” “Frederyk Chopin: The Poet of the Piano,” and “Chopin and Friends: A Parisian Salon Recital.”

For more information, visit: www.chopinfestival2010.com.

Chopin at Eastman

ROCHESTER, N.Y. — On March 7, the Skalny Center for Polish and Central European Studies at the University of Rochester, the Nazareth College Music Department and the Polish Heritage Society of Rochester will co-sponsor “Chopin in Music and Letters” at the Eastman School of Music. This special concert will feature pianists Brian Preston, Janusz Skowron, John Andrew Slominski and Rosa Villar Cordova; cellist Ignacy Grzelazka; and soprano Emily Tworek Helenbrook. Matthew Ames will read passages from Chopin's letters. More information is available at www.rochester.edu/college/PSC/CPCES/events_calendar.html.

Winner to Perform

BUFFALO, N.Y. — The Polish Cultural Foundation, Buffalo State College Music Department and Chopin Foundation of the United States will be presenting the winner of the 2010 U.S. Chopin Piano Competition in concert at the Rockwell Hall Performing Arts Center on the Buffalo State College campus at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, September 12. Tickets will be available at the Rockwell Hall Ticket Office, www.buffalostate.edu/pac/boxoffice.

At the Philharmonic

BUFFALO, N.Y. — On October 23 and 24, the WNY Chapter of the Kosciuszko Foundation will host concerts featuring pianist Berenika Zakrzewski performing the works of Chopin with the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra at Kleinhans Music Hall in Buffalo.

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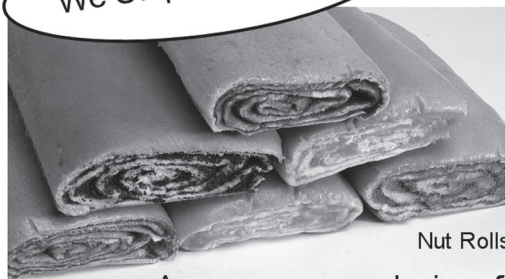
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SPORTS / Tom Tarapacki

Olympic Undertaking



BRIAN RAFALSKI (above) has little left to prove on the ice, but that didn't keep the veteran defenseman of the Red Wings from joining this year's US Olympic team. A winner of three Stanley Cups and veteran of five Cup finals, Rafalski also played in the 2002 and 2006 Olympics.

He was brought on the team to play a vital role in one of the most important aspects of the Olympics. At 36, he was the oldest player on the team. His leadership was considered a key component in getting the team to gel quickly.

"It's such a short-term thing," Rafalski said. "The leadership of the team is going to have to make sure that things are addressed quickly, keep the team focused and make sure that we don't let emotions take over the situation."

The Dearborn, Michigan native came to the Wings as an unrestricted free agent from New Jersey, where he helped the Devils win two Stanley Cups. The defenseman is considered an elite skater with great vision who can move the puck very well.

Rafalski had a great college career at Wisconsin, and in 1995 was named WCHA Defenseman of the Year. However, he was undrafted and received no contract offers from

NHL clubs, who were looking for huge backliners at that time. He did well in Europe, and was named by the Sporting News in 1999 as the best hockey player in the world not playing in the NHL. In 1999, Rafalski was signed by the New Jersey Devils as a free agent at age 26, and made the All-Rookie team on his way to a great NHL career.

CZYZ LANDS IN NEVADA. Olek Czyz can only practice with the team for now, but he's now a member of the Nevada Wolf Pack men's basketball team.

The native of Poland played high school ball in Nevada, and he led Reno High to a pair of state titles in 2006 and 2008. He then went to Duke, but played just 51 minutes over 13 games last year as a freshman and this year played just 61 minutes over six games. "Playing time was a big factor why I left Duke," Czyz said. "But it was hard to leave there. The environment there is something you don't see everyday."

Czyz should be comfortable at Nevada. His older sister Anita is a student at Nevada. He already know many of the Wolf Pack players, including former AAU teammate Luke Babbitt. Although he left Duke, Czyz says he learned a lot from his time with the Blue Devils. "In high school, I was just a post player," he said. "At Duke, I had to go out and play on the perimeter and learn a different game. It's been real good for my development."

Babbitt said that Czyz is the same person that he was before, but an improved player. "He's a funny guy. He's always talking, bringing a lot of energy." However, he adds that, "You can tell he's learned a lot having played for Coach K (Mike Krzyzewski at Duke) for two years." Czyz can practice with Nevada, but he won't be eligible to play until December 2010.

HALL OF FAME BALLOTING UNDERWAY. Voting is underway for the 2010 class of the National Polish-American Sports Hall of Fame. Added in the category of High Visibility Sports was baseball great

Ryan Klesko. Klesko played 16 seasons in the majors, hitting 278 home runs, 987 RBI and with a .279 career batting average. He played with the Braves, Padres and Giants from 1992 to 2007, and was a 2001 All-Star.

Rower **Jeff Klepacki** and Athletic Trainer **Joe Proski** were added in the category of other sports. Klepacki is a rower who was a US Olympian (1992, 1996 and 2000), and led the US Heavyweight 8+ to the gold medals in the world rowing championships in 1994, 1998 and 1999. Proski spent 33 seasons as a head athletic trainer in the NBA, mostly with the Phoenix Suns. Proski served as the head athletic trainer in four NBA all-star games (1971, '75, '85 and '95) and was named head athletic trainer of the year in 1988.

The 38th annual Induction Banquet will be held on Thursday, June 17, 2010 in Troy Michigan. Go to www.polishsportshof.com for more information.

TAKING A CHANCE. University of Arizona tight end **Rob Gronkowski** decided to skip his senior season and declare for the 2010 NFL Draft, despite having played only 23 games in college. Gronkowski, 20, sat out the past season with a ruptured disk in his back that required surgery. Gronkowski missed all of last season after back surgery. The 20-year-old Gronkowski said that he received clearance from the surgeon who performed a microdiscectomy on his back in September.

The 6-foot-6, 265-pounder is considered an extraordinary talent, a tight end who is a superior receiver and a devastating blocker. He caught 75 passes for 1,197 yards and 16

touchdowns in 23 games over two seasons, and holds a dozen school single-season and career records for tight ends.

Rob comes from a very athletic family, and that should help him prepare for the NFL. "Last year, my brother Dan, coming out of Maryland, had the experience of being drafted by the Detroit Lions," he said. "From him, I've learned how important it is to study hard and keep hustling when you're out on the field." Questions about his back might hurt his draft status a bit, but he should get the opportunity to play in the NFL.

RICHEST SPORTSMAN IN POLAND. According to the annual ranking by SUPER EXPRESS, Formula One racing driver **Robert Kubica** is the richest sportsman in Poland. In 2009, Kubica earned 17 million zloty (right now 1 Polish zloty equals 0.339064 U.S. dollars). It is estimated that the Polish driver, who has signed for Renault this season, will earn up to 5 million euro in the coming season — an increase of half a million on the 2009 season when he was driving for BMW Sauber.

Tomasz Kuszczak, goalkeeper at Manchester United, is the second best paid Polish sportsman. Third on the list was **Marcin Gortat**, basketball player for the NBA Orlando Magic. Three other soccer goalkeepers made the top 10: **Artur Boruc**, **Jerzy Dudek** and **Lukasz Fabianski**. The only woman in the top 10 is tennis player **Agnieszka Radwanska**.

THE SAINTS GO MARCHING. The New Orleans' Super Bowl victory brought some deserved attention to some former Saints greats. One was **Jim Dombrowski**, an offensive tackle chosen sixth overall in the 1986 NFL Draft. He spent 11 seasons with the Saints and was named to the franchise's 30th and 35th Anniversary Teams. Another was **Danny Abramowicz**, a 17th

round pick who went on to become a star wide receiver for the Saints from 1967 to 1973 and an offensive coordinator for the team in the late 1990s

Dombrowski, who resides in Mandeville, La. where he serves as a financial planner and a volunteer football coach at Mandeville High School, had predicted that New Orleans would win a close game. Abramowicz, a Catholic speaker and former New Orleans Saints player, has said the Saints' Super Bowl victory on Sunday showed they were a "team with destiny." He added that the family quality of Sunday's game made it more enjoyable and showed the benefit Christian values can bring to sports.

THEY SAID IT

"Tomasz Adamek takes this all with humility. What else would you expect from a man whose idol is Karol Józef Wojtyła, the late Pope John Paul II? He moves through the crowd with grace. 'Dziękuję,' he says over and over. 'Thank you,' in Polish.

— **Mark DiIanno** in *www.nj.com*, writing about boxer **Tomasz Adamek's** reception in his adopted hometown, Jersey City, N.J. Now fighting as a heavyweight, he recently disposed of countryman **Andrew Golota** in five rounds in Poland.



"If we're winning, I could (not) care less (about scoring). When it comes to playoffs, if you're not putting up points, but you're winning games, it doesn't matter...Different series require different things as a player, especially on defense. Sometimes you're focused on shutting down the other line, sometimes you're asked to do more offensively."

— **Brian Rafalski**, telling the *DETROIT FREE PRESS* that winning means more to him than scoring goals.

CIEKAWOSTKI / Martin Nowak

Mazzei: Italian American In Service to Poland

Philip Mazzei left his native Italy in 1756 at age 26, seeking greater freedom in more liberal England. A trained surgeon, Mazzei set up an importing business in London. When liberties there became curtailed, he moved to America, where the cause of true freedom was gaining a foothold.

Mazzei met Thomas Adams, a friend of Thomas Jefferson, and in 1773 bought a plantation next to Jefferson's Monticello. The two became great friends and neighbors. When the Revolution came, he took up arms against England and became an American citizen. He soon entered politics and became a political writer whose ideas influenced the course of government.

He landed a position as Virginia's agent in Europe in 1780 and traveled to Paris and Italy. His mission: to raise money for the American cause. But at this he failed and was recalled.

When Jefferson became U.S. Minister to France, Mazzei returned to Paris in 1785, hoping to secure a diplomatic post. In France, he promoted favorable views of America and vocally defended the United States at every opportunity. He eventually published a four volume work of his own about America,

in essence becoming a publicist for this country. One of the readers of Mazzei's writings was King Stanisław August Poniatowski of Poland.

Mazzei was recommended to the king to become his agent in France, to keep him informed of the situation there. Though the king thought Mazzei too revolutionary in his ideas, he was persuaded to employ the Italian American. Though Mazzei was hesitant to accept, lest he be considered an opportunist ready to abandon democracy to serve a king for pay, Jefferson assured him that Stanisław was an enlightened republican who was admired for his progressive thoughts.

MAZZEI ENTERED HIS DUTIES TO THE KING OF POLAND in 1788, and in this position he was able to bring about the resumption of diplomatic ties between France and Poland. A year later he became Poland's Charge d'Affairs in Paris. But he sincerely wished that the American government had seen fit to appoint him to a post. Mazzei's letters to the king about life in America and France, and their revolutions, had an influence upon Stanisław's thinking about constitutional reform in Poland.

Another American in Europe who was in service to King Stanisław was Lewis Littlepage. Mazzei and Littlepage had known each other in Virginia, and met again in Paris when both were there seeking positions in the early 1780s. It was Littlepage whom Mazzei replaced as Poland's agent in France. Mazzei had a disapproving opinion of his countryman, and he shared this with the king. No record exists of the two Americans meeting in Warsaw during Mazzei's visit in 1792, but both were there and it may be assumed that they at least greeted each other, however coldly.

When Mazzei at last came to Warsaw in 1792, he brought confirmation of the plans of Prussia to join Russia in dismembering Poland, but little could be done at that point. Mazzei's presence was even used by the Prussians as an excuse to intervene, calling him a dangerous revolutionary.

Mazzei gave his advice in economics and politics to King Stanisław, and tried to help diplomatically ward off the incursions of Russia and Prussia. He got to know Tadeusz Kościuszko, was made Chamberlain and Privy Councillor to the king, and became a naturalized citizen of Poland.

But Mazzei foresaw the sad destiny of Poland. He tried to convince the king to abdicate and retire to Rome, but this he did not do, telling Mazzei, "Up to now my device has been patience and courage and I will cling to it." Events in Poland became too painful for Mazzei to witness, and after a long goodbye with the king, he left Warsaw in July 1792.

Mazzei's letters to the king about life in America and France, and their revolutions, had an influence upon Stanisław's thinking about constitutional reform in Poland.

Philip Mazzei never again set foot in the United States. He instead returned to the land of his birth, hoping that King Stanisław would join him in Italy. Though he had lived in America for less than ten years, he was proud to call himself an American. He was also proud of his service to Poland, and deeply lamented its fate, that of dissolution and partition. The death of King Stanisław in 1798 pained him deeply. Like so many others who had come to know the king personally, Mazzei had the

utmost admiration for this enlightened and benevolent monarch.

Mazzei welcomed many Polish visitors to in villa in Pisa, including poet and politician Julian Niemcewicz and Prince Adam Czartoryski, who suggested Mazzei go to St. Petersburg to claim a pension owed him by Poland, whose debts Russia had assumed. His 1802 trip was a success, and becoming the czar's pensioner secured his financial future. During his sojourn, Mazzei stopped in Poland where he was welcomed by old friends.

From Pisa, Mazzei continued to exchange letters with Jefferson, as he had for decades, and also with James Madison. Mazzei's views on Europe were valued, for he had traveled there extensively and made many contacts. He died in Pisa in 1816 at age 86. The epitaph upon his grave duly notes his service to both America and Poland. He was an interesting figure in the Age of Enlightenment: a surgeon in Italy and Turkey, a merchant in London, a planter and supporter of American independence in Virginia, a diplomat in Paris and confidant to the King of Poland. He transmitted European ideas to America, and American ideas to Europe, and was truly a citizen of the world.

ARTSCENE / Staś Kmieć

Poland's Nobel Prize Winner — A Delight!



SZYMBORSKA

Poles around the world rejoiced when poet **Wislawa Szymborska** won the Nobel Prize in literature in 1996. Szymborska's work is profoundly conscious of history, full of layers of darkness and gorgeously suffused with wit. It is that delicious humor that suffuses the delightful documentary *Life is bearable. At times...*, that received an exclusive screening in cooperation with **TVN International** at **The Consulate General of Poland in New York**.

The first and the only documentary on the Grand Dame of world poetry by director-screenwriter **Katarzyna Kolenda-Zaleska** of TVN Television in Poland offers a rare glimpse of Ms. Szymborska in her everyday life. She is shown among friends, during several trips abroad, publicly reading her magnificent poems and composing limericks, and in shopping excursions for the kitsch curiosities and souvenirs she is famous for collecting.

The film features interviews with some of Szymborska's favorite people — Woody Allen, Umberto

Eco, Vaclav Havel, and Jane Goodall — who speak about the mystery of her poetry and her unique vision of the world. Her fascination with Dutch painters Rembrandt and Vermeer and her "love affair" with Polish boxer Andrzej Gołota are also shown.

Szymborska has always carefully protected her privacy, especially since the Nobel Prize put her in a rather dramatic spotlight. Due to the onslaught of media and public attention following the honor, she did not write for a period of two years. In the 73-minute documentary the audience is offered a glimpse of a side of her personality many were unaware of. Who knew this sweet old woman was such a firecracker, with an unexpected humor and devilish wit? This is depicted perfectly through expert film editing.

Kolenda-Zaleska does not shy away from a controversial period early in Szymborska's career during Stalinism in Poland. Her first book was to be published in 1949, but did not pass censorship as it "did not meet socialist requirements." Like many artists and intellectuals in post-war Poland, Szymborska remained loyal to the PRL official ideology. Initially close to the official party line, she gradually grew estranged from socialist ideology and renounced her earlier political work.

The film is presented in English-Polish, which means all titles are in English and utilize the natural language of those interviewed with English subtitles when necessary. The languages range from Polish, English, Irish-English, Czech and Italian.

Scheduled to premiere on Polish television, the documentary appears

not to have a US distributor. The Tribeca or Sundance Film Festival would be a perfect venue for such an enjoyable piece of work.

At the screening there was a special appearance of Ms. Kolenda-Zaleska, and **Michal Rusinek**, Szymborska's personal assistant and a scholar, writer and translator. Szymborska had been invited to come to New York City, but she is an avid smoker and said she couldn't last 10 hours on a flight without a cigarette. In the documentary she stated that she started smoking during World War II. When asked if it was because of the trauma, she said "No, it was purely erotic."

POLES HONORED WITH OSCAR NOMINATIONS. Each year, the entertainment community and film fans around the world turn their attention to the Academy Awards. Interest and anticipation builds to a fevered pitch leading up to the Oscar telecast, when hundreds of millions of movie lovers tune in to watch the glamorous ceremony and learn who will receive the highest honors in filmmaking.

Native Poles, Polish émigrés and Polish Americans have long been honored by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. This year in the *Best Picture* category **Daniel Dubiecki**, along with his fellow producers Ivan Reitman and Jason Reitman has been nominated for "Up in the Air." **Bob Murawski** and **Chris Innis** received a nomination for *Film Editing* for "The Hurt Locker."

The Short Subject documentary "Rabbit à la Berlin," a Polish-German coproduction by **Bartek Kopnoka** and **Piotr Rosolowski** is among the nominees crediting Ko-

pnoka and **Anna Wydra**.

The 82nd Annual Academy Awards will be televised on Sunday, March 7.

RISING PERCUSSIONIST FROM POLAND. Tomasz Arnold, a rising star of classical music (marimba) from Kraków, was admitted to Eastman School of Music at the University of Rochester — a prominent music school. In November, he won the International Marimba Competition in Paris, and recently performed at the Kennedy Center in Washington DC. Tomasz was the youngest member of the narrowly selected list of 4 best school performers.

The 19-year old percussionist won first prize honors at the *International EMCY Marimba Competition* (Germany); the *International Young Talent Percussion Competition of Jonas Talocka* (Lithuania); the *PEN-DIM International Competition for Percussion Instruments*, (Bulgaria); and the *International Marimba Competition* (Paris, France).

CONSUL GENERAL COMPLETES TERM IN NEW YORK. The Polish community bid a fond farewell to Consul General **Krzysztof W. Kasprzyk** at a special gathering at the Consulate in New York. Kasprzyk's term in New York will come to an end at the end of February and it was during his tenure that new programs were introduced, and changes occurred at the Consulate.

An on screen presentation devoted to the guest of honor was shown. Among the speeches and reminiscences, limericks about Kasprzyk, primarily in Polish and provided by the guests were recited. Documentary filmmaker **Richard Adams** offered the only limerick in English:



KASPRZYK

There was a young man from L.A., whose roots in Krakow'd gone astray. What he'd thought couldn't happen was being sent to Manhattan, where at last he could mix work with play!

The unfortunate side of the story, for us who have basked in his glory, is that Foreign Affairs calls for musical chairs: So he's off to some new purgatory.

Kasprzyk, who hails from Kraków, donned a traditional *czapka*, basked in the glory of these honors and enjoyed the festivities.

Beata Rybotycka, a singer and actress from Poland accompanied on the piano by **Konrad Mastyllo** sang a set of nine songs ranging from jazz, to theater and pre-war Polish cabaret songs. A lavish buffet dinner followed. The evening continued into the morning with camaraderie and conversation among the guests.

An interview with Kasprzyk discussing his legacy and term in New York will be forthcoming...

PONDERING POLE / Edward Poniewaz

Let's Have a Polish Party!

Pierogi tally for *Grand Torino*: Pondering Pole one pierogi, two other reader responses, more than one pierogi. Let me know what you think.

From my experience the Poles don't need advice on how to have a good time. Whatever the occasion, we seem to know the ingredients for having a good time. What got me thinking of this was a co-worker telling me about an old aunt (on the Polish mother's side) that died and how everyone was standing around talking about the "old" days and the traits of the ethnic past. This is a person who barely has a foot in the ethnic door and his references are slight if non-existent for his Polish roots.

Well, why not resurrect the ancestral references other than at the weddings or funerals? Find an occasion (or none for that matter), surround yourself with people who "speak your language," add a few old and new acquaintances, and have a Polish party. Part of the lure of this kind of thing is that if something ever happened to these people we would really miss them. When I am around my old college buddies, I love the reminiscing and the companionship with guys that gave me unforgettable memories. Clubs are like that — people from the old

neighborhood have a bond that refreshes and gives an emotional lift. So for something new and different, let me give a few examples of gathering when you want the theme to have a Polish twist.

At or around Constitution Day a few years back, a friend invited a group of people for a house party. Those invited were a mix of Polish and non-Polish, Polish Americans and immigrants, and from various backgrounds and experiences. The food was a potluck of Polish dishes; the drink was Coke and Sprite, Zywiec and vodka. The conversation was excellent and the highlight of the evening was everyone gathering around the piano for a short Chopin piece and then the singing of the Polish National Anthem. Sure, a few giggles squirted out during the playing and singing, but the tone was light yet respectful. I really, really enjoyed it.

For the Pulaski Day parade, there was a group of family and friends that met at someone's house off of the parade route and had a breakfast buffet in the morning. They left to watch the parade and then came back to the house and grilled kielbasa and enjoyed sausage and kraut sandwiches out on the deck while listening to a variety of polka favorites. It was the perfect time to wear

the red and white especially red and white bead necklaces. Though the weather was a bit nippy, a great time was had by all. A shot or two of *zubrowka* helps stave off the nipyness.

For a way-out experience, take the party way out of town. One of these days I am going to visit Savannah, Georgia, for a short vacation and have my picture taken in front of the Pulaski statue that is located in one of the 20-plus town squares. In addition, I will tour this great American city, relish the architecture and history, immerse myself in the culture of the South, and have many mint juleps while thinking of the heroic Pulaski.

Pondering Pole question for March, what was your most unique and memorable Polish party? By the way, the story has to be rated A, *Audienja Generalna* or for General Audiences, or at the most, R, *Rodzicielskiej Wytoczne*, Parental Guidance recommended.

IN A SOMEWHAT RELATED STORY (as in speakeasies; drinking and socializing), I was going to do something in February for St. Valentine's Day combined with gangsters in Chicago and the St. Valentine's Day Massacre. What I found in my research was a very interesting character named Joseph "Polack Joe" Saltis, the owner of a Southside brewery in Chicago during the prohibition beer wars and leader of the Saltis-McErlane gang. Saltis-McErlane was one of a num-

ber of smaller independents on the Southside, holding off takeover pressure from the two major organizations, Torrio-Capone also in the South, and O'Bannion-Weiss on the Northside.

Of the two principles in the Saltis-McErlane partnership, McErlane was the more well known, primarily for his ruthless prowess as the enforcer for the gang. Joseph Saltis was the Polish guy and gangster businessman. From *CRIME MAGAZINE* www.crimemagazine.com/mcerlane.htm.

Frank McErlane — the gangster credited with introducing the Thompson sub-machine gun to Chicago's bloody Beer War during Prohibition — was called "the most brutal gunman who ever pulled a trigger in Chicago" by the Illinois Crime Survey. He was alleged to have murdered at least nine men, a woman and two dogs.

Since McErlane was a kind of super soldier when it came to defending the turf, I am trying to think of what kind of person was Saltis in owning and running the breweries, leading a gang, and managing a psychopath. Based on his picture, "Piwo Joe" (my nickname for him) was a hard looking dude and apparently connected with and able to handle McErlane. The Chicago beer wars was a mix of Irish, Polish, and Italian mobsters, and the Saltis-McErlane gang went head-to-head with the best (or worst) of them. God bless American diversity.

Hey, how about a Polish Ameri-

can gangster party?

SENTIMENTS SHARED

"As a black American I want people to remember who I am and where I come from without attaching assumptions about deficiency to it."

— **Dr. Imani Perry**, Professor at Princeton's Center for African American Studies.

DID YOU REMEMBER TO:

- Send a donation to a Polish American candidate for public office?
- Send a copy of the Polish American Journal to a famous person?
- Send a thank you note to a Polish American celebrity or the local newspaper, television or radio station?
- Send thank you and words of encouragement to Polish Americans in your city or neighborhood for their work on behalf of Polonia?

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

1. Adrienne Palicki, actress, Polish?
2. Kelly Kulick, professional bowler, is her dad Polish?

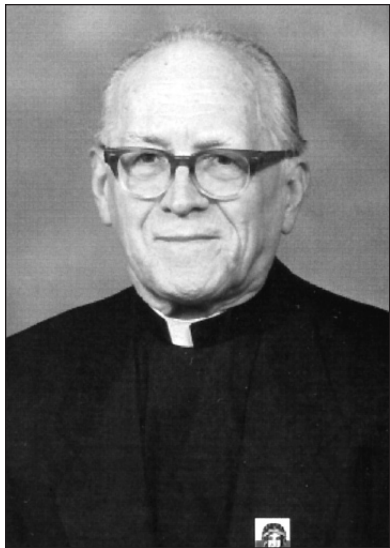
If you have a thought about this month's question, have a question of your own, or have interesting facts to share, contact me at: Edward Poniewaz, 6432 Marmaduke, St. Louis, MO 63139; e-Mail alinabrig@yahoo.com.

Please note: if you send e-mail, reference the Pondering Pole or the Polish American Journal. I will not open e-mail if I do not recognize the sender.

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IN MEMORIAM

Rev. Louis S. Garbacik, 81, Pastor Emeritus of St. Stanislaus Church, Hazleton



THE REV. LOUIS S. GARBACIK, 81, pastor emeritus of St. Stanislaus Church, Hazleton, died January 1, 2010 in Lehigh Valley Hospital, Allentown.

Garbacik, son of the late Andrew and Sara Strzempek Garbacik, was born in West Hazleton on July 28, 1928.

He received his early education

from Transfiguration Elementary and Junior High schools and graduated from Hazle Township High School in 1946. Father received a Bachelor of Arts from St. Mary's College, Orchard Lake, Mich., in 1950 and entered Ss. Cyril and Methodius Seminary, Orchard Lake, for his theological studies. He was ordained to the priesthood on May 29, 1954, by the Most Rev. Henry T. Klonowski, D.D., D.S.T., in St. Gabriel's Church, Hazleton.

Garbacik's first assignment was on June 15, 1954, as assistant pastor at Gate of Heaven Church, Dallas. He was then assigned to Maternity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Wilkes-Barre, where he served for 10 years.

He was then assigned to St. Michael's, Old Forge, and Ss. Peter and Paul in Plains Township. Father then received his first pastorate at St. Martin of Tours in Jackson on Jan. 25, 1972.

On Jan. 18, 1977, Garbacik became pastor of Holy Child Parish in Nanticoke and was also appointed

director of St. Stanislaus Medical Center at the same time. On March 4, 1983, he became administrator of Ascension Church in Mocanaqua, also with his other duties.

He was named pastor of St. Stanislaus in Hazleton on Oct. 25, 1986, where he remained upon his retirement and appointment as pastor emeritus on July 6, 2006.

Garbacik was proud of his Polish heritage and his service to his parishioners which was always infused with Polish expressions, customs and culture. He began every Mass with the traditional saying "Niech będzie pochwalony Jezus Chrystus" ("Praised be Jesus Christ"). He had many diverse talents; he was an avid baker and pierogi maker, which he did with his parishioners in the church basement. He was a long-time supporter of the POLISH AMERICAN JOURNAL, and other Polish American publications.

A Pontifical Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated in St. Stanislaus Church. He is laid to rest in St. Stanislaus Cemetery, Hazleton.

IN MEMORIAM / Jennifer Moskal

MARINE LANCE CPL. JORDAN L. CHROBOT, 24, of Frederick, Maryland, was supporting combat operations in Helmand province, Afghanistan. Chrobot was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina.

ANTHONY "TONY" DUNDEE, 79, of Miami, passed away January 17, 2010 in his home of natural causes. Tony was born in Mt. Carmel, Pa. on Dec. 29, 1930 and after serving in the Army and then the Merchant Marine, he came to Miami Beach where he met his wife, the Elizabeth Florio. There they settled and raised three children. Dundee and his wife ran the Miami Health Studio (later Universal) on SW 8th Street from 1958 to 1977 where he trained many athletes and would-be athletes.

"Tony had a huge amount of energy and a wickedly funny sense of humor, a passion for politics and absolutely no patience for BS. In this homogenized, politically-correct, cookie-cutter world, Tony was a rare breed and an iconoclast. We won't see his like again," were words written in his memorial guestbook.

FOREST EVASHEVSKI, 91, was the former Michigan football star who coached Iowa to two Rose Bowl victories in the 1950s. Mr. Evashevski was hired at Iowa in 1952, seven years after Iowa's last winning season. By 1956 his team was in the Rose Bowl, defeating Oregon State 35-19, and again in 1958, defeating California 38-12. He won 52 games at Iowa, where he coached until 1960. He also led the team to three Big Ten championships.

ESTHER (RODOMIN) HAUTZIG, 79, wrote a memoir of growing up in exile in Siberia, "The Endless Steppe," that became a classic of children's literature. Hautzig was born in what is present-day Vilnius, Lithuania, then a part of Poland. In 1941, her family was arrested for being capitalists, and they were all shipped to the Siberian city of Rubtsovsk.

After the war, her family reunited in Lodz, Poland. Her other relatives who had remained in Vilnius had perished in the Holocaust. She came to the United States on her own in 1947, meeting Viennese concert pianist Walter Hautzig on the ship across the Atlantic. She completed high school in Brooklyn, New York, and attended New York's Hunter College before marrying Hautzig in 1950.

LEE PELTY, 74, born Isaac Leon Peltynovich, was a well-known Chicago actor who had numerous starring performances as Tevye in the musical "Fiddler on the Roof." Peltz's family fled from Poland to Panama when he was just a boy, and Spanish was his first language. He became a basketball star in Panama, playing for the Olympic team. He first came to Chicago as a teenager and studied chemical engineering at Purdue University, where his time with the university glee club set the direction of his future career. He was also known for his portrayals of Don Quixote in "Man of La Mancha," among others.

ANDREW SMIALEK, 19, of Chicago's West Lawn neighborhood, had a passion for football and was a constant entertainer who loved to make people laugh. Smialek, who lost a five-year battle with Hodgkin's lymphoma, graduated from St. Rita High School as the president of the National Honor Society, a member of the school service group called the Knights of Augustine, and a linebacker on the football team. He attended the 2007 Super Bowl between the Chicago Bears and the Indianapolis Colts after classmates raised money to be able to purchase the tickets for him. He was a freshman at DePaul University.



EDWARD J. WINKOWSKI, 92, served in the United States Army as a Tec 5 in the 701st Ordnance Maintenance Company, 1st Infantry. As a member of the unit, he took part in the Invasion of Normandy (Omaha Beach), and saw action in Northern France, Rhineland, Ardennes-Alsace, and Central Europe to V-E Day in Pilsen, Czechoslovakia. Fluent in Polish and its dialects, he served as a translator, and assisted in the liberation of several POW camps throughout Europe. An avid natural-

ist, he was known throughout Western New York for his award-winning flowers and vegetables. Devoted to birding, he was among the last of a group which raised and raced pigeons in his native Lackawanna, N.Y. He was also an antique collector. Winkowski was a retiree of Bethlehem Steel.

PAUL W. YESKIE JR., 39, was a lifelong resident of Northampton, Massachusetts, attending local schools and graduating from Northampton High School. He worked for many years at Riverside Industries and for the past 10 years at Florence Casket Company. Paul loved music and especially enjoyed polkas, often traveling across state lines by cab or riding his bicycle to local polka dances to enjoy the music he loved. He also loved the Red Sox and was one of their biggest fans.

Yeskie and his father, Paul, Sr. (see below), died after they were unable to escape what appears to be an act of arson to their home.

PAUL W. "WOODCHUCK" YESKIE, SR., 81, was a lifelong Northampton, Mass. native, educated in local schools and graduated from the former St. Michael's High School. Yeskie became a bricklayer and mason by trade, starting out with Daniel O'Connell & Sons, Piquette Masonry and then starting his own business which he ran for several years. He was a timber harvester, cutting firewood for many years, which earned him the name "Woodchuck." He was a gardener who donated vegetables to many of the elderly retirement communities in his local area. He was also a U.S. Army veteran of World War II, serving with the 28th Station Hospital, and received the Army of Occupation Medal for Japan and the World War II Victory Medal.

BRUSH UP

Flowers and Crops

kwiat.....	(kfyah) m	flower
goździk.....	(GOHZH-djeek) m	carnation
lilia.....	(LEE-lyah) f	lily
róża.....	(RUH-zhah) f	rose
słonecznik.....	(swoh-NEHCH-neek) m	sunflower
tulipan.....	(tuh-LEE-pahn) m	tulip

HERITAGE / Ellye Slusarczyk

Mythological Folklore

It is interesting to note that Polish mythology has been most influential to many a Pole. Science still has not set many a person free from such a practice.

Divination, in many forms, was practiced in many ways. Herbs would be thrown on a fire, producing smoke. Then the rising smoke was interpreted by the shapes the patterns created. Finding a pysanty pattern was a prediction of good fortune. Even dropping candle wax in a glass of water had its unique interpretations when held up to the light.

Circles and grooves were worshipped. Circles are easy to make. They can be drawn in dirt by using

a tool or other available object or by using a lighted candle.

Crossroads throughout the country are both sacred and magical. Many utterances are made here. Also, talismans and amulets are even buried at a crossroads. Crossroads, it is said, are where all places and directions meet and all time fades away into the present. Even today throughout Poland, thousand upon thousand of crosses and countless Virgin Mary statues can be found at both remote and congested crossroads.

Enjoy the mythical Polish folklore handed down to us throughout the ages.

HERITAGE / Ellye Slusarczyk

- Lenny Gomulka and Jimmy Weber are: a. *Dancing With the Stars* celebrities b. scientific researchers c. Polka Hall of Famers
- For breakfast many enjoy: a. *kawa* b. *robota* c. *kubek*
- Host of the Adirondack Polka Festival is: a. Dave Sychtysz b. Frank Sergot c. Gene Modelski
- A *zegar* is a a. cigar b. fork c. clock
- "Mountains of History — Teaching American History Through the Black Hills" has been held at a. Pike's Peak: b. Mount Rushmore National Memorial c. Crazy Horse Memorial
- How many fingers are on one hand? a. *sto* b. *jedan* c. *piec*
- In the battle of Gniew, in the 1630s, Polish forces captured the castles which had been overtaken by the a. Russians b. Germans c. Swedes
- "Lot" means a. sunshine b. flight c. fair weather
- In a courtroom you need a: a. *prawnik* b. *chata* c. *burza*
- During hurricane season, there is much a. *reskin* b. *wiatr* c. *niewolnik*

ANSWERS. 1c. Polka Hall of Famers 2a. *kawa* 3a. Dave Sychtysz 4c. clock 5c. Crazy Horse Monument 6c. *piec* 7c. Swedes 8b. flight 9a. *prawnik* 10b. *wiatr*

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— continued next month —

AMERICAN POLONIA AT A GLANCE

ARIZONA

GILBERT — **Kevin Glowacki** battled two other chefs on the “Today” show with Kathie Lee Gifford and Hoda Kotb. Glowacki is the executive chef at the Seville Gold and Country Club in Gilbert. He prepared his Crab and Whitefish Burger during his appearance on a segment titled, “Battle of the Burgers.”

He competed against Ingrid Hoffman, host of “Simply Delicious” on the Food Network, who made what she called a Latin Burger, and Mike Carrino, the owner of Restaurant Passionné in Montclair, N.J., who made a Venison Burger. Kathie Lee, Hoda Kotb and Adam Miller served as taste testers and judges.

SEDONA — Polish artist **Mariusz Gilwinski** along with his daughter **Gosia** recently delivered his line of fine-art jewelry to Exposures International Gallery of Fine Art in Sedona. Gilwinski’s creations blend the timeless, Earth-molded look of rare Baltic Sea amber with sleek, modern designs set in silver.

CALIFORNIA

PASO ROBLES — The **Paderewski Festival** and the Back Roads Wineries of Paso Robles invite lovers of fine wine and music to a reception showcasing the wines of the Back Roads Wineries complemented by Polish-themed appetizers provided by Cass Catering.

A “Toast to Paderewski” will be held Sat., April 24 at 6:00 p.m. at Pear Valley Winery, 4900 Union Road, Paso Robles. Tickets are \$75 per person; \$25 for youth under 21. Proceeds to benefit the Paderewski Festival Exchange Program with Tarnów, Poland

Tickets and Information at: www.paderewskifest.com or call (805) 227-2888

Pianist **Marek Zebrowski**, a Steinway artist and director of the Polish Music Center at the University of Southern California Thornton School of Music, will be joined by the Midnight Winds to perform a special concert featuring works by Paderewski, Chopin and Mozart. A live auction of private concerts, premium wines and vacation package getaways will follow the concert.

LOS ANGELES — The Polish American Film Society announces April 20 to May 2, 2010 as the dates for the **Eleventh Annual Polish Film Festival Los Angeles**.

For the eleventh time, the Society will present the most recent achievements of Polish cinema, among others: *All that I Love* by Jacek Borcuch, *Before Twilight* by Jacek Blawut, *Case Unknown* by Feliks Falk, *City of the Sea* by Andrzej Kotkowski, *Czarny* by Dominik Matwiejczyk, *Freedom Is Within Us* by Rafał Wieczynski,

General Nil by Ryszard Bugajski, *God’s Little Garden* by Jacek Bromski, *Impromptu* by James Lapine, *Janosik — The True Story* (Janosik. Prwdziwa historia) by Agnieszka Holland and Kasia Adamik, *Last Action* by Michal Rogalski, *The Lesser Evil* by Janusz Morgenstern, *Little Moscow* by Waldemar Krzystek, *Love and Dance* by Bruce Paramore, *Love on the Catwalk* by Krzysztof Lang, *The Magic Tree* by Andrzej Maleszka, *Mall Girls* by Katarzyna Roslaniec, *Never Say Never* by Wojciech Pacyna, *Operation Danube* by Jacek Glomb, *Piggies* by Robert Glinski, *The Reverse* by Borys Lankosz, *Snow White and Russian Red* by Xawery Zulawski, and *Splinters* by Maciej Pieprzycza.

At the Gala Opening at the Egyptian Theater on the 20th of April, the Society will present *The Courageous Heart of Irena Sendler* by John Kent Harrison; the film is dubbed in Polish and has English subtitles.

For more information, visit www.polishfilm.org

CONNECTICUT

HARTFORD — The Polish Cultural Club of Greater Hartford will present an Artists Series 2010 Program that will celebrate Polish Easter Traditions and feature the Art of Pisanki (Polish Easter Eggs) with folk artist **Alexander Zielinski**.

Zielinski, of Ludlow, Mass., has lectured extensively and given numerous demonstrations on Polish folk art, traditions, and artists. His own work includes exquisite *pisanki*, *wycinanki*, and other Polish folk art. His educational background includes four years at the Boston Museum of the Arts School, Tufts University Bachelor of Science, and Master of Arts from Westfield State College.

Zielinski’s presentation will include a description of the various types, techniques, and designs of Polish pisanki and the regions they are from. The extensive array of designs and symbols particular to pisanki will be discussed as well. Zielinski will demonstrate a Polish egg decoration technique.

The Polish Cultural Club’s program will include a display of the traditional Polish Easter table arranged by members Maria Brodowicz and Krystyna Farley. Easter items will also be available for purchase. The Polish Scouts of Hartford will be selling bouquets of pussy willows outside the Ss. Cyril & Methodius Church after Mass, weather permitting. Proceeds to benefit the Polish Scouting group.

The event will be held on Sunday March 14, 2010 at 1:30 p.m. at the Polish National Home 60 Charter Oak Ave. Hartford The public is cordially invited to attend—admission is free of charge.

For further information you may call (860) 521-0201. The Polish Cultural Club is an affiliate of the American Council for Polish Culture.

ILLINOIS

CHICAGO — In November of last year, the **Polish Highlanders Alliance of North America** celebrated its 80th anniversary. Nearly a thousand *gorale* (Polish highlanders) of all ages attended the event, which included a Mass at Holy Name Cathedral in downtown Chicago, and a banquet at the Polish Highlander’s Home.

The Windy City is home to the largest group of *gorale* who emigrated to the United States before and shortly after World War I. Groups also settled in Northern New Jersey, Western Pennsylvania, and Upstate New York. They brought with them the regional cultural movement of “ruch podhalanski,” which called for maintaining their cultural ties with Poland. (See “Quotes” for more).

NEW YORK

NEW YORK — The Board of Directors of the **Polish Institute of Arts & Sciences of America** at its January 23, 2010 meeting elected **Matthew Kaminski** full regular member of PIASA in recognition of his achievements in the field of journalism.

Kaminski is presently member of the editorial board of the WALL STREET JOURNAL where he writes editorials and columns for the Journal’s domestic and International editions. His focus is on foreign policy, defense and American politics. Earlier from 2005 to 2008 he was the Editorial Page Editor of the WALL STREET JOURNAL EUROPE and was based in Paris.

His experience includes working for the FINANCIAL TIMES as a Kiev correspondent where he reported on Ukraine and other former republics of the Soviet Union. He also worked for the CENTRAL EUROPEAN ECONOMIC REVIEW, a monthly magazine based in Brussels. In 2004 Kaminski received the “Peter R. Weitz Prize” for “excellence in reporting on European affairs” for a series of columns on the European Union.

BUFFALO — Come watch the **Duquesne University Tamburitzans** present a show of Eastern European song, music, and dance Sat., March 13 at 7:00 p.m. at Hilbert College, 5200 South Park Ave., Hamburg. The Eastern European hand-made costumes, including Polish, are historically accurate, vibrant and beautiful. The show is suitable for all ages. For tickets and more information call (877) 826-6437.

PENNSYLVANIA

HARRISBURG — **Jonathan Sidel**, well-known Philadelphia City Controller between 1989-2005, is a candidate for Lieutenant Governor of Pennsylvania in the primary election which will be held on May 18, 2010. Sidel has been a long-time supportive member of the Polish American Congress, Eastern Pennsylvania District, and is well-known for his ongoing participation with the Polish American community and for his participation at city-wide civic and ethnic events.

In February, 2006, Sidel received the “Outstanding Friend of Polonia” award and has been recognized for his many years of work to help unite people in the Philadelphia area. His new challenge in the democratic primary is to unite the people of Pennsylvania using the many talents he displayed during



A 98TH ANNUAL INAUGURAL BALL. The Chicago Society of the PNA (Polish National Alliance) held its 98th Annual Inaugural Ball on January 13 at the Café LaCAVE in Des Plaines, Illinois. Chaired by Conrad Miczko, this black-tie optional gala not only featured the induction of Society’s officers, but included a champagne reception, followed by a gourmet-plated dinner serenaded by the strolling violins of the much-in-demand Anthony Kawalkowski Orchestra. Installation of officers was conducted by Diann J. Marsalek, a legal advisor for the Illinois Secretary of State. The evening’s festivities continued with cocktails and dancing. As Conrad mentioned, the Chicago Society, an organization comprised of business and professional men, provides charitable grants through the Chicago Society Foundation, a not-for-profit corporation.

Pictured above are: l. to r. Conrad Miczko, Charles Komosa, Mark Orwat, Frank Czaja, Marek Loza, T. Ron Jasinski-Herbert, Romuald Matuszczak, Diann Marsalek, and John Wojciechowski.

—Geraldine Balut Coleman

his 16 years as Philadelphia City Controller.

PHILADELPHIA — The **Polish American Cultural Center Museum Philadelphia** welcomes many bus groups and tour groups visiting the Historic District every day. If you are planning a group tour to Philadelphia, be sure to visit the Polish American Cultural Center Museum at 308 Walnut Street, and the Kosciuszko House at 3rd and Pine Streets.

When you make your plans, call the Museum in advance so that a representative can greet your group and give them a tour.

Call the Center, Mon.-Fri., 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. to let them know when your group is planning to visit: (215) 922-1700. For more info, visit: PolishAmericanCenter.com/busgroups.html

PHILADELPHIA — Sunday, March 7. 13th Annual **National Migration Week Mass**,

Cathedral Basilica of Ss. Peter & Paul, 18th & Benjamin Franklin Parkway, Center City. Procession of ethnic groups 2:00 p.m., Mass 2:30 p.m. Info call (215) 587-3540.

PHILADELPHIA — Sunday, March 14. **Polski Uniwersytet Ludowy Lecture**, in the

Polish language, Associated Polish Home, 9150 Academy Rd., Northeast Philadelphia, 3:00 p.m. Speaker: Fr. Marcin Iwanowicz. Topic: “Rycerz Maryji.” Info call (215) 624-9954. All are invited to attend. Free.

On Sunday, April 11, Speaker Dr. Jerzy Danielewski will discuss “Medycyna Ludzi Dojrzałych.”

PHILADELPHIA — Thursday, April 8. **Memorial Tribute Mass**, Fifth Anniversary of the death of Pope John Paul The Great, St. Adalbert Church, Thompson Street and Allegheny Avenue, Port Richmond section of Philadelphia, 7:00 p.m. Info call Polish American Congress (215) 739-3408.

EXETER — Sunday, April 18. Berks County **Polish American Board of Education Scholarship Banquet**, Reading Country Club, Exeter Township, cocktails 4 p.m., dinner 5:00 p.m. Music by Osuch Trio Band. Info/reservations call Helen Nowotarski (610) 777-4598.

JOHNSTOWN — **Edward Wojnarowski, Sr.** of Johnstown was appointed to the state Veterans

Commission. Wojnarowski served in the state legislature for 12 years, and is an Army veteran. He is also chairman of Conemaugh Valley Veterans, the organization that has sponsored downtown Johnstown’s Veterans Day parade and program for the past 13 years.

“I am thrilled,” Wojnarowski said of his appointment. “It will give me an opportunity to work with veterans, which I thoroughly enjoy.” His appointment to the 25-member board is for four years.

TEXAS

ANDERSON — **St. Stanislaus Kostka Catholic Parish** was founded in 1866 by Polish immigrants. The parish serves nearly 300 families, from a farming and ranching community of hard working Polish descendants. The church is located about 100 miles north of Houston.

St. Stan’s original wooden church burned in the early 1900s, and its second and existing church was completed in 1917.

In a few short years St. Stan’s will be celebrating its 100th anniversary, and has begun a major renovation project. Through the generosity of its parishioners, the church has restored its baptismal font, large statues, and has started refinishing its Stations of the Cross. All its stained glass windows and Stations are written in Polish.

St. Stan’s recently discovered that its altars have been painted white over the original gold leaf, and also over a beautiful mural above the main altar. These will be very costly to restore. The church is appealing to Polonia for financial help and support so we may accomplish these tasks. Tax-deductible contributions can be made directly to: St. Stanislaus Catholic Church, P.O. Box 210, Anderson, TX 77830.

Discover Your Polish Name

For a custom-researched analysis of the meaning and derivation of your Polish last name, how many people share it, where they live, and whether a coat-of-arms goes with it, please airmail a \$16 check (adding \$7 for each additional surname) to: Robert Strybel, ulica Kaniowska 24, 01-529 Warsaw, Poland.

Grand Tour of Poland, Sept. 11-24

NEW YORK — Discover Poland’s treasures, its varied landscapes from the Baltic Sea to the soaring Tatra Mountains on a Grand Tour of Poland with Jane Shuback, scheduled for September 11-24, 2010.

Accompanied throughout by a registered professional English speaking guide, some highlights of the trip include visits to:

- Gdansk, the “Amber Capital of the World”
- Westerplatte Peninsula where the first shots of World War II were fired,
- Beautiful Masurian Lakes region,
- “Wolf’s Lair” bunker, Hitler’s headquarters in World War II

- Warsaw, Poland’s capital
- Czestochowa, Poland’s pilgrimage center
- Zakopane and the soaring Tatra Mountains,
- Krakow, its Old Town, and Coronation Cathedral.

The tour, open to the general public and limited to the first 25 passengers, will depart from Newark Int’l Airport via LOT Polish Airlines, and includes flights, comprehensive sight-seeing tours, accommodations in first class hotels, two meals daily, transportation between cities by deluxe motor coach and all taxes.

For a complete itinerary call PAT Tours, 1-800-388-0988 or Jane Shuback, (845) 343-6198.

BOOKS IN BRIEF / Florence Waszkelewicz Clowes, MLIS

A Challenge to the Theater

EUROPEAN FICTION, 2010
ed. by Aleksandar Hemon
Dalkey Archive Press, 2010, 425 pp, \$15.95.

As a rule, few foreign writers are well-known in America. Here this inaugural issue offers an anthology of new fiction from Europe. The stories are from England to Iceland, from Croatia to France. Included are famous writers as well as those who have never been published in English. The translated collection from thirty countries is diverse and eccentric.

The story, *Dida*, by Michal Witkowski of Poland, is a story of a prostitute who left home in Bratislava in anger for a better life, but is now living on the edge in Vienna, from one doorway to the metro, to local bars looking for a pick-up and some money to keep from freezing, to searching for coins on the ground, turning over endless bottle caps instead. Uncouth Americans, slobs, come into the bar, throwing money around for drinks and food. They are loud, play billiards, drink and eat grotesquely. When a group of young Poles comes in, Didi leaves, afraid of a fight, as they complain of their bad luck and no jobs. She leaves, shivering and hungry, once more on the cold streets, eating snow off lawns, hugging a building for warmth, avoiding the police, until she is picked up by a lawyer, who for three months tends her chafed legs in exchange for apartment cleaning and sex. Soon he tires of her and once more she is thrown out on the street, where she cries loudly to be let in. He finally drags her back to his apartment for the night, forcing her to sleep on the floor. Desperate, she goes into the bathroom and cuts her wrists.

Witkowski's descriptions are realistic, vivid and shocking, drawing the reader into the story.

Editor Aleksandar Hemon, an author and recipient of the Guggenheim Fellowship in 2003, was born in Sarajevo and presently lives in Chicago.

GROTOWSKI'S EMPTY ROOM
A Challenge to the Theater
ed. by Paul Allain
Seagull Books, 2009, half tones, notes, 224 pps, \$29.00.

Jerzy Grotowski (1933-1999), born in Rzeszow, Poland, was a Polish stage director, author and founder of the Laboratory Theatre, who had tremendous influence on the acting world. His method of actor training combined rigorous physical work, exercises, preparation, physical conditioning with psychological spiritual practice. This training went on for 12 or 14 hours at a time, with actors working into physical and mental exhaustion, which he felt necessary for them to transcend themselves. During a Paris workshop in 1968, American students revolted against this type of teaching. However, it continues to influence many playwrights, actors and teachers.

He never owned a home, never had money, yet traveled the world—Moscow, India, China, France and Italy, learning and teaching along the way. A character with a chameleon-like personality, his entire life was devoted to the Theatre and he is considered a genius in theatre method workshops. He produced theatre in small towns with little or few props or costumes.

The book consists of an essay from ten people who corresponded, or worked with and knew him well, all reflected on the challenges Grotowski provided the theatre or on his personal life.

A desirable book for serious actors and those immersed in the profession.

FADO
by Andrzej Stasiuk
tr. by Bill Johnson
Dalkey Archive Press, 2009, \$13.95

First published in Poland in 2006, the book is an interesting series of European travel essays. This collection is not of famous places or scenic views. Rather, the traveler takes you through villages and small towns in Romania, Slovakia, Poland and Albania, on lonely roads, marveling at the lonely scenic beauty, or the cold devastation of old cemeteries, with lit candles on obscured gravestones. Or the memories of a six year-old, spending the summer with grandparents on a farm.

Stasiuk's writing is poetic—silvery spider's webs, pigs trotting along the sidewalk, shepherd bells in the Bieszczady mountains, gypsy settlements in Slovakia, where children rolled balls of snow to clear the meadow for cattle grazing. The essays are a pleasure to read, unlike his book, *Nine*, a story of a deserter in Warsaw under Communism during World War II.

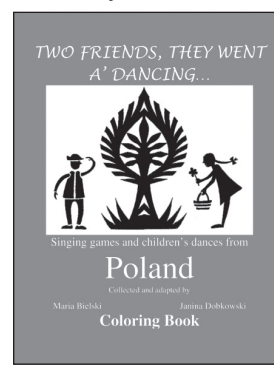
Bill Johnson is a leading translator of Polish literature for many years and Director of Indiana University's Polish Studies Center.

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Two Friends Companion Coloring Book Released

NEW YORK — Maria Bielski and Janina Dobkowski, two lifelong friends who enjoy dancing and singing are the authors of a book of Polish children's singing games and dances entitled *Two Friends, They Went A' Dancing...* It contains lyrics in both English and Polish for these popular singing games, a vocal music score with chords, and clear step-by-step movement and dance instructions. In addition, a CD of the recorded songs with accompaniment is included, so that parents, grandparents, teachers, and children can immediately enjoy the songs and games. Each page has an original wycinanki (Polish cut-out style) illustration, designed by the artist, Joanna Bielska.

Teachers, occupational therapists, ethnic dance directors, whether Polish or not, can use these to enrich their classroom program, physical education curriculum, music and dance classes and children's events. The CD can be used during assemblies, multicultural fairs, and parties for children and adults, car trips and sing-a-longs. These books make an ideal gift for anyone who loves music, dance, and folk art.



A companion book, *Two Friends, They Went A' Dancing... Coloring Book* is also available. Using these wycinanki icons, you can draw the story of each song, color the enlarged full page cut-out, or reproduce any of these icons for educational purposes. Some craft ideas are included.

The authors created these books as a resource for anyone interested in folk culture. They hope this will help to pass on Polish traditions to children and grandchildren in families that may not be fluent in Polish.

Both authors are teachers by profession and have an extensive background in Polish folk art, music and dance. They are members of the Polish American Folk Dance Company, N.Y., and the Polish American Teachers Association, which has its headquarters at the Kosciuszko Foundation, N.Y., and the Marie Sklodowska Curie Professional Women's Association, N.Y. of which Maria is the current president. Janina is a member of the National Dance Association, the National Dance Education Organization and a board member of Dance and the Child International, USA which fosters dance opportunities for children.

Both books are available from the Polish American Journal Bookstore, (800) 422-1275, www.polamjournal.com.

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Made in Poland. Chicken egg size. Hand-painted eggs with appliques of either Saint Faustyna Kowalska, Our Lady of Czestochowa, John Paul II, or Polish Eagle.
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Butter Molds



Easter Lamb Butter Mold

The molded butter lamb is a Polish tradition, and has become a staple in many homes during Easter celebrations. Mold measures approximately 5" W x 3" H x 2" D.
#KOR101 \$24.95



Oselka Butter Mold

This mold gives your butter nicely sculpted sides, with a beautiful, raised flower on the top. Mold measures approximately 5.0" L x 3.0" W x 1.25" H.
#KOR109 \$19.95

Butter Mold Instruction:

- Insert dry and assembled mold into a freezer for 30-40 min.
- Remove it from the freezer and fill with softened butter
- Place into freezer for another 40-50 minutes
- Carefully open mold by wedging a butter knife into the cutout
- Delicately remove frozen form
- Clean mold with water and detergent



Easter Chick Butter Mold

A cute Spring chick sprouts from this hand-crafted mold. Makes a nice companion piece to the Easter Lamb Butter Mold. Mold measures approximately 3.75" W x 2.75" H x 2" D.
#KOR103 \$14.95

Wesołego Alleluja! Happy Easter!



Wesołego Alleluja Lamb T-shirt Design

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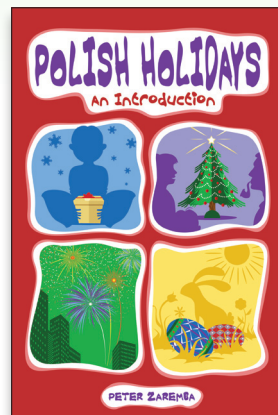
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Measure approximately 2.4" H x 1.7" D.
#250407 \$12.95



Small Painted Wooden Eggs, Set of 3
Hand painted. Measures approx. 1.25" H x 0.8" D.
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Polish Holidays: An Introduction

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Each set contains three packets containing either Children's, Ukrainian, and Fantasia designs, or Churches, Traditional, and Slavic designs. Each individual packet has 7 unique designs, giving you a total of 21 designs for your Easter egg decoration. Easy to use and safe, non-toxic material when in contact with food. It is so simple to get beautiful pisanka for Easter.
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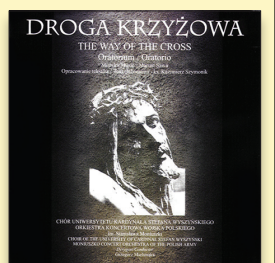
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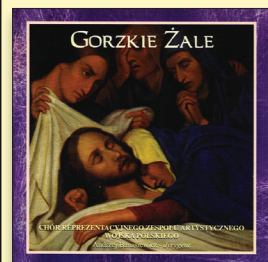
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