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NEWSMARK

EMBASSY LAUNCHES CAMPAIGN TO HELP LIFT VISAS FOR POLES. (RADIO POLAND) — The American embassy in Warsaw launched a campaign to help Poland join the U.S. Visa Waiver Program.

The aim of the VisaWaiverDlaPolski (Visa Waiver for Poland) campaign is to motivate Poles travelling to the United States to apply for visas, and to tell them about the essential requirements for being granted a visa.

The threshold for a country to enter the Waiver Program is a 3-percent refusal rate. According to the U.S. State Department, American consulates in Warsaw and Kraków in 2017 rejected 5.9 percent of visa applications submitted by Poles, up from a record low of 5.37 percent in 2016.

In March, U.S. ambassador to Poland, Georgette Mosbacher, vowed to help lift visas for Poles travelling to America by the end of 2020. Poland, Romania, Bulgaria, Cyprus and Croatia are the only EU member countries not included in the U.S. Visa Waiver Program.

STOCKING UP. Poland signed a deal to buy four Navy helicopters capable of combating submarines, said Defense Minister Mariusz Błaszczak. The Merlin AW101 helicopters are also expected to be capable of carrying out search and rescue operations in combat conditions.

The British-Italian machines are produced by the Leonardo group, which owns Poland-based helicopter manufacturer PZL Świdnik.

In January, the Polish government signed a multi-million deal to buy a first batch of four Black Hawk helicopters for the country’s armed forces from PZL Mielec, a Poland-based aviation producer owned by U.S. defense giant Lockheed Martin.

In March, Błaszczak announced the purchase the newest U.S. F-35 combat aircraft, in a move to replace worn-out Soviet-era aircraft by 2026 as part of the country’s multibillion military upgrade program.

Lockheed Martin, the company manufacturing the F-35, revealed that the first aircraft could arrive in Poland within five years.

DISGRACEFUL ACT CHIDED. The Primate of the Polish Roman Catholic Church, Archbishop Wojciech Polak, said the burning of books — including parts J.K. Rowling’s famous Harry Potter series — was a scandal.

In a parish in Gdańsk, northern Poland, three priests set fire to books they regarded as sacrilegious. They also set ablaze other items that were linked to what they described as “the occult and magic.”

“Books must not be burned but should be read so that one can debate their content in a critical manner,” said Archbishop Polak to the Catholic Information Agency.

OAK MARKS ANNIVERSARY. An oak tree from Poland has been planted in the gardens of the Vatican to mark 100 years since the Holy See resumed diplomatic relations with Warsaw.

Among those taking part in the ceremony at the Vatican was Cardinal Giuseppe Bertello, who is a senior advisor to Pope Francis, and a string of Polish officials led by Deputy Foreign Minister Szymon Szykowski vel Sęk.

The ceremony took place March 28, two days before the 100th anniversary of the Vatican recognizing Poland as an independent country.

DUDA OKS CASH FOR PENSIONERS. Poland’s President Andrzej Duda signed into law a plan to give pensioners a cash boost, a move pledged by the country’s ruling conservatives as part of a new package of benefits. Duda green-lighted the measure at a ceremony after it passed in a 81-1 vote with two abstentions in the upper house of parliament last month. A total of PLN 10.7 billion (USD 2.8 bn) in additional handouts will be paid out to more than 9.7 million pensioners in May under the government’s “Pension Plus” initiative.

Notre Dame’s Polish Chapel Survives Tragedy

by Robert Strybel

PARIS — The recently dedicated chapel of Our Lady of Częstochowa in Paris’ Notre Dame cathedral fortunately survived the blaze that gutted France’s historic 800-year-old structure. The cathedral’s first national chapel was funded by the French Polonia and unveiled in December 2018.

The relics of Saint John Paul II that had been enshrined there were also unscathed. When word of the French tragedy reached Poland, President Andrea Duda and Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki immediately pledged Poland readiness



PHOTO: YANNICK BOSCHAT / DIOCESE OF PARIS

The Polish chapel at Notre Dame, “Saint-Germain - Our Lady of Czestochowa, Queen of Poland,” was dedicated last December. It also became the chapel of St. John Paul II, since a relic of this Polish pope has been deposited there. The icon and relic were saved from the fire.

to in the reconstruction and renovation of France’s iconic, flame-damaged national cathedral. In a sign of solidarity with French Catholics and the French nation in general, church-bells rang out across Poland.

Notre Dame is a beloved symbol of both France’s Catholic heritage and its national culture. Caritas, the Catholic charity, has set up a special texting account for Poles wishing to donate to the project. French President Emmanuel Macron expressed the hope that Notre Dame, which took some 200 years to build, could be restored to its splendor within five years.

Polish American Journal Foundation Accepting Applications for 2019-2020 Scholarship

BUFFALO, N.Y. — The Polish American Journal Foundation (PAJF) is currently accepting applications for its 2019-20 scholarship for college students of Polish or Polish American descent. The \$1,000 scholarship is available to undergraduate and graduate students.

Applications will be accepted from May to July 31, 2019 with winners announced on August 31, 2019. Funds will be dispersed to the winners upon proof of full-time studies at an accredited institution.

ELIGIBILITY. To be eligible, the applicant must:

- be an American citizen, either by birth or naturalization.
- be of Polish or Polish American descent.
- be a full-time college student, cur-

rently enrolled at an accredited college/university in the United States, with confirmed future attendance at an institution in the Fall of 2019.

- describe his/her involvement with the Polish community — past, present, or future.

A complete application package — and \$15.00 application fee — must be received in its entirety no later than July 31, 2019.

Factors for consideration include a demonstrated interest and involvement in Polish American cultural activities with future plans to advance those interests, and a significant and potential contributions (academic, cultural, scientific, civic), open to all career fields.

The complete application package can be downloaded from Polish American Journal’s website by following the

links to the Polish American Journal Foundation and the Scholarship Application.

The Polish American Journal Foundation (PAJF), a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, was established in 2014 to promote Polish and Polish American culture and traditions among members of the public and other Polish and Polish American groups. Membership in the PAJF is open to all. Donations are accepted in any amount. All donations will be acknowledged and may be used as charitable contributions on your tax return.

For more information, or to make a donation, call, write, or email: PAJF 2018-19 Scholarship, P.O. Box 271, North Boston, NY 14110-0271; email: editor@palamjournal.com; (716) 312-8088 or (800) 422-1275.

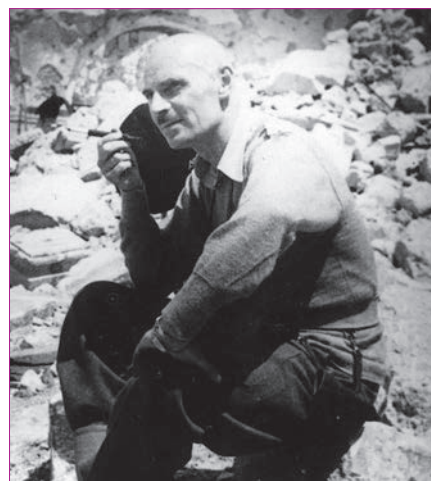
From the Steppes of Russia to Monte Cassino

The brave history of the Polish 2nd Corps

by Frank Pleszak

May 18, 2019 marks the 75th anniversary of the victory of the famous battle at the Monastery of Monte Cassino in Southern Italy in 1944.

This highly significant battle was one of the most important Allied victories of the war, which had by then been raging for nearly six months. Its capture from the German Army had required four separate hard-fought bloody battles involving Allied soldiers from Britain, America, Canada, France, Morocco, India, Poland, and New Zealand. However, its success and significance were largely overshadowed early the following month by the D-Day landings in Normandy which signaled the beginning of the end of World War II.



General Wladyslaw Anders, Monte Cassino, May 24, 1944.

For the Poles it represented the pinnacle of their wartime achievements. In the battle, members of the celebrated Polish 2nd Corps led the final successful assault and capture of the mountain

top monastery. How proud it was for them — in the eyes of the world — to raise the red and white Polish flag above the captured ruins. For most of the Polish soldiers who participated it was their first combat involvement since their homeland was invaded by Germany nearly five years earlier on the first day of September 1939.

But who were those Polish soldiers at Monte Cassino? Why were they there in Southern Italy? Where had they come from? How had they arrived there? And most importantly, why were they even bothered about fighting at all?

Most of the Poles there had originated from the eastern borderland region of Poland known as Kresy, and theirs is the tragic and truly unbelievable story of the short-lived 2nd Polish Army Corps.

Born in Russia’s frozen steppes from

ALMANAC

VIEWPOINTS

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May  Maj

Nie pamięta wół, jak cieleciem był.

The ox does not remember when it was a calf.

- 1 1908. Birth of **Krzysztof Skarbek**, who became a spy for the British Special Operations Executive during World War II, and inspiration for Bond Girls Tatiana Romanova and Vesper Lynd.
- 2 1952. Birth of award-winning actress **Christine Baranski**.
- 3 **FEAST OF MARY, QUEEN OF POLAND ŚWIĘTO TRZECIEGO MAJA**
Poland's Constitution of 1791 is the second oldest democratic constitution in the world.
- 5 1819. Birth of composer **Stanisław Moniuszko**. (d. 1872)
- 5 1846. Birth of novelist **Henryk Sienkiewicz** (d. 1916).
- 5 1194. Death of **Kazimierz II**, the Justified, grand duke of Poland (1177-94).
- 6 1982. Birth in Warsaw, Poland, of dancer **Edyta Śliwińska**.
- 7 1794. Issuance of Proclamation of Połaniec by **Tadeusz Kościuszko**, which partially abolished serfdom in Poland.
- 8 **VE DAY (U.S.) ST. STANISLAUS**
- 9 1667. Death of **Marie Louise de Gonzague-Nevers**, French Queen of Poland (1645-48).
- 10 1573. **Henry of Anjou** (Henry Walezy, Henry of Valois), became the first elected king of Poland.
- 12 **MOTHER'S DAY (U.S.)**
1935. Death of Polish Head of State **Józef Piłsudski**, 67.
1970. Death of World War II Polish Gen. **Władysław Anders** (inset, right). In addition to leading Poland's cavalry units during Poland's invasion in 1939, Anders is known for creating Anders Army. He was also the leader of several successful battles which freed Monte Cassino, Italy, from Nazi occupation.
- 13 1981. **Pope John Paul II** shot by a would-be assassin at public audience in St. Peter's Square.
- 14 1955. Signing of the **Warsaw Pact**.
- 15 1942. Founding of the **Polish Institute of Sciences in America**, in New York.
- 17 1025. Death of **King Bolesław Chrobry** (Boleslaus the Brave).
- 18 1944. Second Polish Corps win the **Battle of Monte Cassino** in Italy.
- 20 1881. Birth of Gen. **Władysław Sikorski**. (d. 1943)
- 21 1674. Coronation of **Jan Sobieski**, the "Defender of Christendom."
- 22 1993. Death of pianist **Mieczysław Horszowski**.
- 23 1939. Hitler proclaims he wants to move into Poland.
- 24 1543. Death of Nicholas Copernicus (**Mikolaj Kopernik**).
- 25 992. Death of **Mieszko I**, first Duke of Poland.
- 26 **MOTHER'S DAY (POLAND)**
- 27 **MEMORIAL DAY (U.S.)**
1953. Defection to the West of Polish pilot Lt. **Francis Jarecki**.
- 28 1944. **Polish American Congress** founded in Buffalo, N.Y.
- 29 1792. **Great Sejm**, which ratified Poland's Constitution of May 3, 1791 ends.



The Bottom Line(s)

by Mark Kohan

PROPERTY RESTITUTION. Poland and its representative organizations in the United States and abroad came under fire for Poland's lack of support for the Terezin Declaration, an agreement made between 46 countries on Holocaust property restitution. President Donald Trump signed it into law on May 9, 2018. Act S. 447 is presently known as Federal Law No. 115-171.

Poland had the largest Jewish population in prewar Europe, 90% of whom did not survive beyond 1945. But Poland did not seize Jewish property in the World War II period. This was done by the Germany and the USSR. There was no agreement between the Polish state and its aggressors to assume ownership from the Jewish community.

Property restitution has been under way in Poland for well over two decades, and it treats all claims equally, said Poland's foreign minister Witold Waszczykowski. "Property restitution is a process in which claimants' ethnic or religious background is irrelevant."

Reports calling Poland's non-compliance anti-Semitic are attempts to earn public support to force submission.

The bottom line: Parties seeking restitution for property seized by Germany and the USSR should do so from Berlin and Moscow.

IMMIGRATION QUOTAS. Poland, along with Hungary, has refused to take in any refugees under a 2015 deal that was supposed to allocate 160,000 people among EU member countries in order to take the load off Greece and Italy.

The government of Poland, which since 2015 has been led by the conservative Law and Justice Party, is often viewed as part of this transatlantic anti-immigrant trend. "But this perception is simplistic," said Filip Mazurczak, journalist whose work has appeared in the *National Catholic Register*, *Crisis Magazine*, *European Conservative*,

and *Tygodnik Powszechny*.

Poland's government, along with much of Polish society, is in fact, pro-immigration. What is true is that Poland eschews the policies of Western European multiculturalism — by encouraging immigration selectively, from countries with similar cultural values. The vast majority of these non-EU migrants have come from the former Soviet Union, especially from Ukraine, a nation plagued by war, poverty, and corruption. (Belarusians are a distant second.) There are over 1.5 million Ukrainians working legally in Poland. In a country of 38 million, that amounts to nearly 4 percent of the population, and between 4 and 6 percent of the workforce. One in ten inhabitants of Wrocław, the fourth largest Polish city, is Ukrainian. It's impossible for a Polish speaker to visit Poland without noticing advertisements in Cyrillic, and vast numbers of cashiers, waiters, and building contractors who speak with "eastern" accents. Increasingly, Roman Catholic parishes are making their churches available to Ukrainian priests so that they can celebrate the Greek Catholic liturgy.

The bottom line: Poland is accepting immigrants who adhere to its terms of sovereignty.

MIXED FEELINGS. As Polish Americans, we are the children of immigrants, so it no surprise that some of us may have strong opinions about immigration, in Poland, and in our backyard.

Regardless of your feelings, there is one salient point we all must remember: those who came here from Poland assimilated. Yes, we had our own churches, Polish homes, organizations, and social clubs. Our streets were lined with shops that advertised their trade in the Polish language. We had Polish-language newspapers, radio shows, and even television broadcasts. Though we might have still spoken Polish at home, we fought for America in the uniforms of the U.S. Armed Forces. Some of us even changed our ethnic

surnames in order to get work.

The bottom line: Being a citizen of the United States gives you the right to an opinion, but it was done by the sacrifice of your ancestors.

JESUS SAID IT BEST. The child molestation claims against Roman Catholic priests is taking its toll on the church in the United States. What these men did is beyond detestable. Unfortunately, the revelations of their crimes come at a time when the church's influence is already in decline, giving many not wanting to participate in Mass the excuse they were looking for. It is sad to see the names of Polish American priests facing charges.

A solution to the problems facing bishops who must address the accusations and decide guilt or innocence would be to hand all cases over to local police departments.

The gospel settings (in Mark 12, Luke 20, and Matthew 22) shows Jesus' opponents trying to maneuver him into a corner by asking him the controversial question of whether the Jews were allowed, by their law, to pay taxes to the Roman power that occupied their country; their aim was to trap him. If Jesus replied that they should pay the Roman tax, he would be accused of betraying his people and collaborating with their enemy. If he replied that they should not pay the tax, he would be denounced to the Romans as a troublesome rebel. Jesus, being aware of what his opponents intended, asked his enemies to show him a tribute coin. Taking it, he asked his enemies whose head and title were on the coin, and they had to reply that it was Caesar's, whereupon Jesus said, "Render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and unto God the things that are God's."

"Many people have understood Jesus in this passage as making a distinction between two spheres: one sphere relating to Caesar and the matters of this world, and the other sphere relating to God and matters of God's world, with the conclusion that we should recognize and respect what belongs to each sphere," said Rev. Jack Mahoney, S.J. in "Rendering Unto Caesar" (*Thinking Faith*, Aug. 4, 2009).

The bottom line: The crime of rape, spiritually and morally wrong, is best judged by civic magistrates, whose interpretations are free of emotion and the sense of fraternity within the priesthood.

PULASKI'S SEX. The world is abuzz with the results of recent DNA testing which found Revolutionary War hero and founder of the American Cavalry as intersex, i.e., a general term used for a variety of conditions in which a person is born with a reproductive or sexual anatomy that doesn't seem to fit the typical definitions of female or male. This is being embraced by the LGBTQIA (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer or questioning, intersex, and asexual or allied) community. Its pride notwithstanding, Pulaski identified himself as a male.

The bottom line: Kazimierz Michał Władysław Wiktor Pułaski of Sępówron was a Polish nobleman, soldier, and military commander who fought for independence and freedom in both Poland and the United States.

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

Associate Editors Benjamin Fiore, S.J., Mary E. Lanham, Jennifer Pijanowski, Staś Kmiec, Thomas Tarapacki

Contributing Editors John J. Bukowczyk, Thad Cooke, Mirek Denisiewicz, John Grondelski, Sophie Hodorowicz-Knab, Steve Litwin, James Pula, John Radzilowski

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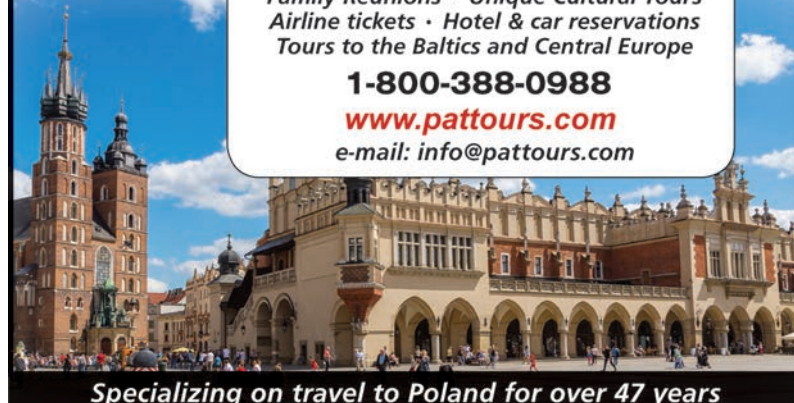
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This paper mailed on or before May 2, 2019.

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Humble Hero



Deputy Zaporowski

ROCHESTER, N.Y. — Monroe County Sheriff's Deputy **Luke Zaporowski** was honored by the Monroe County executive and the Monroe County legislature for saving a family when their home caught fire.

In March, Zaporowski noticed flames coming from the garage of a home around 1:00 a.m. He immediately requested the fire department. Zaporowski safely evacuated

two adults and five children in the home at the time. Fire crews say a chicken coop caught fire and spread to the garage.

"I was simply doing my job that night," said Zaporowski.

UPDATES

New Developments Concerning "Fort Trump"

by Tom Czerwinski

WASHINGTON, D.C. — A recent report sheds light on where Poland's "Fort Trump" proposal, whereby the government pledged \$2 billion towards the permanent stationing of a U.S. armored division on Polish soil, may be going.

The 46-page report "Strengthening the Defense of NATO's Eastern Frontiers" is the work of an "A-list K Street" Washington think tank, the Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessment, which has very close ties with the Pentagon. The report is a serious product backed up by wargaming exercises and by the considerations of two workshops comprising both U.S. and Polish military experts. One can assume that it will not only receive serious consideration at the highest levels at the Pentagon, but that it probably reflects its current deliberations.

All land commerce and travel between the West and Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania flows by two roads and a rail line through a 65-mile wide choke-point straddling the Polish/Lithuanian border between the Russian exclave province of Kaliningrad and Belarus, which is a virtual Russian client-state. Should this corridor, known as the Suwalki Gap be closed, the Baltic states — all members of NATO — would be isolated. Polish reconnaissance units patrol and man watchtowers inside the corridor 24/7. The purpose of the report is to assess this threat and recommend the means to deter Russia from doing so, and if necessary, to counter with military measures.

The report finds that the gap could be closed in less than 72 hours if uncontested, using tactics similar to those so successful in seizing Crimea, perhaps with the pretext of alleged mistreatment of the substantial Russian minorities living in the Baltic republics as an excuse for its actions. Further, no credible NATO response would be available in time and that Polish forces would need to be augmented by increased U.S. presence in the near vicinity.

RECOMMENDATIONS. Currently, the U.S. forces present in Poland consists of an armored brigade combat team of about 4,000 troops, and 80+ Abrams tanks, as well as a battalion of 800 infantry mounted in Stryker armored fighting vehicles. Both are manned on a rotating nine-month schedule from parent units based elsewhere in Europe or the United States.

Based on an assessment of the threat, the report strongly recommends a response built around the nucleus of two permanently stationed armored brigade combat teams and Stryker infantry unit. This combat nucleus would be permanently augmented by six specialized battalions to provide the capabilities required in modern warfare.

These include the essential long-range precision fires of rocket artillery, ground-to-air missiles to protect airfields, bridges and other strategic targets, electronic warfare capabilities to degrade Russian radars and communications capabilities while defending our own, surveillance and reconnaissance assets to identify and fix enemy targets, and engineers with an emphasis on building and repairing bridges. Further, recommendations include a rotational army air battalion equipped with transport and attack helicopters, the prepositioning of a 30-day supply of ammunition, fuel and spare parts, and — importantly — a permanent division headquarters, headed by a two-star general to command and coordinate all of the above.

In aggregate, these forces amount to a full division as requested by Poland in its original "Fort Trump" proposal. However, while all these measures are strongly recommended, the report concedes there are reservations concerning two matters. Unilaterally stationing the second armored brigade combat team in Poland and making both permanent has the potential to be viewed in European circles as being too provocative, risking Russian escalation as well as raising inter-ally resentments which would further strain relations, and perhaps lessen NATO's resolve to increase much needed budgets and capabilities to achieve a credible force.

HISTORY LESSON. Interestingly, another report likens the Suwalki Gap threat with that of the Polish Corridor in 1939, when France and Great Britain — though obligated to come to Poland's defense — had not forces in the near vicinity to deter Germany, or failing that, the means to counter Nazi aggression. "Fort Trump" is fundamentally an effort to avoid a reoccurrence.

The report also assesses the composition and capabilities of Poland's military forces with recommendations. This will be covered in a forthcoming article together with some personal observations and thoughts.

Kaptur Hosts Wife of Late Gdansk Mayor

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur (OH-9), co-chair of the Congressional Poland Caucus, hosted Magdalena Adamowicz, wife of late Mayor of Gdansk, Poland, Pawel Adamowicz, and their daughter Antonina Adamowicz for a roundtable discussion with lawmakers, diplomats, and policy experts to honor Mayor Adamowicz's memory and discuss policy issues related to U.S.-Poland relations and democracy in Poland. Gdansk, Poland is a sister-city of Cleveland, Ohio.

"Mayor Adamowicz was a passionate voice for liberty and freedom in Poland, and he was proud that Gdansk served as a beacon for a free and democratic Europe," said Rep. Kaptur. "It is my honor to host Mayor Adamowicz's wife Magdalena and their daughter Antonina here in the United States Capitol. It is our duty, and the duty of every person between America and Poland, to stomp out hate and extremism wherever it may arise. Indeed Pawel's profound sacrifice and lasting legacy call on us to strengthen democratic institutions and an independent judiciary that provide for a stable, just and open society, free from politically motivated hate."

On February 13, Congresswoman Kaptur introduced the "Pawel Adamowicz Democratic Leadership Exchange Act of 2019," which would establish increased democratic exchange between the United States and Poland. The

program would grant elected officials and civil society leaders from both countries the opportunity to travel to the partner nation for one to two weeks, participate in educational conferences, gain important leadership skills, and build transatlantic networks between the two NATO allies. These valuable experiences would further strengthen the historic partnership



Magdalena Adamowicz

between the U.S. and Poland and equip participants with the relationships and experience necessary to enrich their home country's democratic institutions upon their return home.

On January 14, 2019, Mayor Adamowicz was tragically murdered while giving remarks at a fundraiser organized by the Great Orchestra of Christmas Charity. In memory of Mayor Adamowicz's visionary leadership, dedication, perseverance, and honorable service to his community and nation, the U.S. Congress stands ready to strengthen U.S.-Polish relationship based on shared democratic values.

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As some readers may remember, last November the Polish American Journal's main computer crashed. At that time, we asked readers for donations to cover its cost. We received several, for which we are forever grateful.

However, we have yet to pay for the computer, and subsequent software upgrades, networking, and programs necessary to bring us up to date with currently technology. (The crashed computer and system — although a little over 10 years old — was described as "antique" by a technician). The cost of upgrades has almost doubled the initial price of the computer itself. Because we had no choice but to place the system on credit, we are now faced with additional interest charges.

With hat in hand, we appeal to our readers who may be able to help.

For accounting purposes, the new system is now an asset of the Polish American Journal Foundation, which means donations to cover its payment are now tax-deductible.

Again, is it embarrassing to ask for help, but this is the reality of producing a newspaper — and an ethnic one at that — in the 21st century.

Contributions to the PAJF can be mailed to:

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Monte Cassino. Many who fought never saw a free Poland



Soldiers of the 2nd Polish Corps at the battle of Monte Cassino, May 1944.

continued from cover

the emaciated remnants of a Polish nation exiled to Stalin's labor camps in Siberia, against incredible odds they developed into an elite fighting force in a hopeless struggle to liberate a homeland that would never be free. Theirs is a story that occurred during a largely unknown and poorly documented period of modern history that has been denied by successive Russian Administrations and overlooked by Western governments and media: a story hidden from most in the West. But it is a story with long lasting ramifications — a story that continues to the present day.

Even before the victory at Monte Cassino, the allies, who had gone to war in Poland's defense, had abandoned her to Stalin's demands for the Kresy region to be permanently incorporated into the Soviet Union. For the disillusioned Polish soldiers there was no recognizable country of their own left that they felt able to accept. They knew that they could never return to their homes or the families they had left behind ever again.

FOR MOST OF THE POLES at the battle of Monte Cassino it was just the next phase in a long battle that had started in late 1939 at the start of the war. At that time, over a million Polish citizens were deported, not by German, but by advancing Russian troops. They had battled starvation and brutality just to stay alive, in prisons, in cramped cattle trucks, in the bowels of murderous 'Slave ships' and in Soviet hard labor camps: the dreaded Gulags.

They received an unlikely "amnesty" in 1941 when Germany invaded Russia and Stalin was desperate for anybody to help him fight against Hitler's mechanized war machine. On release they had to find their way to recruiting centers in an attempt to join a Polish Army being created by the charismatic General Wladyslaw Anders. They moved through Russia, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, and Turkmenistan, and for those lucky enough, into Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Palestine, Egypt, and eventually to Italy. Once there, loyal to the Polish Government-in-Exile in London, they fought without fear in battles against the German Army, hoping in vain for the opportunity to liberate Poland.

SUCCESS ON THE BATTLEFIELD was tempered by catastrophes on the political field. The already strained Polish relationship with Russia moved to breaking point in 1943 when the bodies of thousands of military officers, academics, politicians, and doctors murdered in 1940 were discovered at Katyn near Smolensk. General Sikorski, leader of the Polish Government-in-Exile, demanded an immediate independent investigation. Stalin was incensed and severed all diplomatic relations. Within weeks Sikorski had died in a mysterious plane crash and — as Stalin's Red Army grew stronger and pushed further west towards Berlin — he demanded acknowledgement from the allies for his puppet Polish Government. The allies needed Stalin and distanced themselves from the Polish Government-in-Exile, and so the fate of the Polish 2nd Corps was

sealed.

For most, like General Anders, the man who was arguably the savior of the exiled Poles and millions of other Poles around the world, the fight to see a free Poland has never been won. Many, including Anders, died in exile never returning to see the country of their birth. The Poland that they knew and fought so long and hard for would never return. Even now, with Poland fully integrated into the European Union, the pre-war Polish Kresy region, lost to the Russians in September 1939, is now part of Belarus and Ukraine.

Sanctuary was reluctantly offered by Britain and, as the Polish 2nd Corps was disbanded, the soldiers moved through the Polish Resettlement Corps to new lives in England, Canada, New Zealand, and Australia where known as Polonia they still maintain strong Polish communities. Even the memory of the Polish 2nd Corps is kept alive with active ex-combatants groups, and the name of Anders and the Polish 2nd Corps, once ridiculed and denounced in Communist Poland, has at last been recognized and honored. It is now quite rightly remembered with pride for their place in modern Polish history.

♦ ♦ ♦
The father of author Frank Pleszak was deported to Siberia at age 19 and Frank has had the story of his journey published by Amberley in a book entitled "Two years in a Gulag." Pleszak is also finalizing a book on the concise history of the Polish 2nd Corps for publication next year and is a contributor to the Kresy-Siberia Virtual Museum.

Polish Corps at Monte Cassino

The Battle of Monte Cassino involved the encirclement of the monastery hill at Monte Cassino. The Polish advance was aimed at capturing the mountain massif of Monte Cassino-Monte Cairo. Despite fierce fighting and heavy casualties, the first attack on May 12 did not create the intended breakthrough, yet the operational objective was reached. The second attack began on the evening of May 16. On May 18 at 9.45 a.m., a patrol of the 12th Podolski Lancers Regiment reached the ruins of the monastery at Monte Cassino. Soon after that, the Polish flag was raised there followed a little later by the British Union Jack next to it.

In April 1944, the 2nd Polish Corps

in Italy numbered about 48,000 soldiers and was part of the British 8th Army. After landing in the Apennine Peninsula, Polish troops were given orders to defend the Sangro-Volturno river line, including front positions in the Mainarde Mountains. They would then fight in the fourth Battle of Monte Cassino on a patch of land fiercely defended by elite German units. Since January 1944, the Allies had unsuccessfully tried to break the Gustav Line, suffering heavy casualties. The bombing of the abbey and town of Cassino by (mainly U.S.) air forces in February and March turned them into ruins and made them hard to capture. The five-month-long Battle of Cassino was fought by soldiers from all continents: Europe, Africa, Asia, America and Oceania.

On the night of May 11, 1944, after long and difficult preparations, the decisive fourth battle began to break the Gustav Line by carrying out two operations which

involved the encirclement of the monastery hill at Monte Cassino. The Polish advance was aimed at capturing the mountain massif of Monte Cassino-Monte Cairo. Despite fierce fighting and heavy casualties, the first attack on May 12 did not create the intended breakthrough, yet the operational objective was reached. The second attack began on the evening of May 16. On May 18 at 9.45 a.m., a patrol of the 12th Podolski Lancers Regiment reached the ruins of the monastery at Monte Cassino. Soon after that, the Polish flag was raised there followed a little later by the British Union Jack next to it.



Polish artillerymen readying munitions.

Winning key German defensive positions and breaking the Hitler Line opened the way to Rome, which was taken over by the U.S. 5th Army on June 4. The 2nd Polish Corps paid a very high price for its victory: 923 dead, 2,931 injured and 345 missing in action (of whom 251 were found). The number of fallen officers was also high, approximately 7%. Considering all the battles fought around Cassino and including all the missing, wounded and captured, the battle, which lasted half a year, claimed 200,000 casualties on both sides.

Commenting on the cost of the battle, General Wladyslaw Anders, leader of the Polish troops who would raise their flag over the ruins of the famous Benedictine monastery at Monte Cassino, said, "Corpses of German and Polish soldiers, sometimes entangled in a deathly embrace, lay everywhere, and the air was full of the stench of rotting bodies."

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Court Ruling Saves Family

WARSAW — A Polish court ruled in favor of a Russian father, who fled with his three daughters to Poland after Swedish social services put the children in a Muslim foster family.

The Warsaw court ruled Swedish social services had violated an EU convention that forbids placing children in foreign cultural environments, ended a forced separation of Denis Lisov and his daughters who are 12, 6 and 4 years old.

Lisov, who came to Sweden seven years ago, learned social services decided to take away his daughters following his wife's admission to a hospital for mental illness. The services decided Lisov couldn't take proper care of the girls, since he lacked employment. His lawyer said the family was not given opportunity to defend its rights, and the Christian girls found it difficult to abide by the rules of the Muslim household.

The court also decided the father had to stay in Poland until his refugee status was granted.

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BOOKS IN BRIEF

Agent Wisniewski at it Again

reviewed by Mary E. Lanham

CHASING THE WINTER'S WIND
by David Trawinski
Outskirts Press, 2017, 429 pgs.

In this sequel to *The Willow's Bend*, author David Trawinski reveals the original story of retired CIA agent Stanley Wisniewski. Starting just after the end of the previous book, *Chasing the Winter's Wind* chronicles the actions of Wisniewski as he seeks to uncover the corruption inside the CIA.

The deputy director of the CIA sets Diane "the Huntress" Sterling on the former agent's trail. Sterling, whom Wisniewski used to mentor, will stop at nothing to locate her prey. Stanley leads her on a winding chase through Europe, driven by the memory of a woman he fell in love with during the Cold War in Poland, Agnieszka Danuska.

Agnieszka was no stranger to tragedy when Wisniewski met her. Her father was murdered in the Katyn massacre. He recruited her and together they worked to bring about the collapse of the USSR.

An example of Trawinski's descriptive writing style is below:

"As the concerto played the delicate, yet frenetic, notes of Chopin into the cold night air, it was then that the question first formed in her being. Diane looked at his shaven head, his gaunt frame, his beleaguered appearance. She dared not ask it, but the more she suppressed the intellectual aspect of the query, the more she felt it pressing into the core of her very being, into her very existence. It now demanded to be asked, in so much

Family Heirloom Almost Lost to Bureaucracy

BUFFALO, N.Y. — Andrew Ciepiela, a veteran with a pistol permit, said he was just trying to follow rules when he went to Old County Hall last summer to register a century-old Iver Johnson revolver that had been passed down through three generations of his family.

He sees the 1917 firearm as a family heirloom.

But that's not how the Erie County Pistol Permit Department saw it. The department classified the firearm as a "nuisance weapon" after a check revealed that someone else decades ago had registered the gun. Not only did the department refuse Ciepiela's request to add the firearm to his permit, it cleared the way for the police to destroy the gun.

"I wasn't expecting any issue. It took me by great surprise," recalled Ciepiela, 46, a retired staff sergeant with four deployments during his 22 years in the Army. He filed a legal petition on his own and argued the case in court himself. The gun has been at the West Seneca Police Department during Ciepiela's legal proceedings.

Assistant County Attorney Thomas Navarros said authorities traced the gun's ownership to a doctor who registered it in 1951. The county didn't have the authority to register the gun, given the previous registration. Navarros said he didn't see a reason to destroy it but legal steps had to be followed. The judge agreed and told the police department to release the gun to Ciepiela, who said he wanted it back "for heirloom purposes and its historical value only."



as breaths are required to be drawn."

Wisniewski's story continues in *War of the Nocturne's Widow*, in which he gets pulled into the nefarious

web of his former boss, the CIA deputy director.

For over 35 years, David Trawinski worked in the aerospace industry. He has degrees in Chemistry, Computer Engineering, and Business Administration from Loyola University and Towson University. After retiring, he had the chance of pursuing his formerly secret passion, writing. This is his second fictional novel in the Chopin Trilogy. His third novel in the series was released in the spring of last year. Originally from Maryland, he now lives in Georgia with his wife.

Polish Books in America

by Peter Obst

PHILADELPHIA — This year the Polish Book Institute (PBI), following up on the success of the "Polish Bookshelf" program in Great Britain, has inaugurated the program in the United States. The program centers on making Polish books, in translation, available to American readers through city libraries.

The institute sent lists of available books to collection managers at the Philadelphia Free Library and the Brooklyn Library System. Paul Artrip of the Philadelphia library selected over 80 titles, and nearly 200 books were requested by Ms. Izabela Barry of the Brooklyn Central Library. These were ordered by the Book Institute and delivered as a gift to the respective libraries at the beginning of March. Interestingly, both librarians also asked for some of the titles in the Polish language to enrich the collections of branches located in neighborhoods with a Polish speaking population. The books will soon appear in the on-line catalogues of both libraries. Among the titles are: Polish literary classics, modern literature, cookbooks, science fiction, poetry, children's books and more. Those who would like to see a listing of the available titles may do so under: www.polishcultureacpc.org/books/list.html

TO INAUGURATE THE PROGRAM, Krzysztof Koehler, deputy director of the Institute and a poet and author in his own right, came to the United States. On March 6 he gave an interesting presentation at the Brooklyn Central Library about the Found in Translation Award given annually to an outstanding translation published in the previous year. The award is a platform for promoting contemporary Polish literature by supporting and showcasing emerging writers and translators. Also speaking at this forum was Jennifer Croft, who won the 2018 Man Booker International Prize for her translation of Polish of Olga Tokarczuk's *Flights*.

In addition to her commentary on her work she also read short selections from two of her books. The meeting ended with a question and answer session.

Foundation to Make Polish American Journal Digital Archives Free to the Public

BUFFALO, N.Y. — A decade of digital editions of the *Polish American Journal*, 2008-2018, will be made available to the public free of charge. The Adobe® PDF files can be accessed from the Polish American Journal's website. www.polamjournal.com, beginning July 1, 2019.

The PAJ, which began as a Polish-language newspaper in Pittston, Pa., has been published since 1911. The first Polish-language paper to convert to an all-English edition, the PAJ has been published internationally from Buffalo since 1983.

The paper began its digital subscription service in 2008. Since then, these copies have become a resource for historians, genealogists, researchers, and Polish studies students.

Funding for the digital archives is coming in kind from the Polish American Journal Foundation (PAJF), a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation, established by friends of

the monthly newspaper who seek to utilize the paper's expanse and contacts for the betterment of the Polish American community and Poles living abroad. Other projects supported by the Foundation include grants to other Polish American non-profit agencies, and scholarship and tuition assistance to Polish American students.

"With additional funding, we hope to catalog all existing print editions of the newspaper, and pay for the conversion of microfilmed copies currently in the collections of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, the Buffalo and Erie County Library, and several university libraries," said PAJ editor Mark Kohan. "We could not do this without the help of the Foundation and its generous donors."

Kohan said the archive will be updated monthly with the previous year's edition.

The Foundation is also working on a Polish lyric library, which

hopes to document Polish song libretti from the turn of the 20th century to the present. Most of these songs, said Kohan, have folk roots in Poland, and have outlived their recognition in that country. An announcement on that project is forthcoming.

The Polish American Journal Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, Federal Tax ID# 46-4279861. Its mission is to promote Polish and Polish American culture and traditions among members of the public and other Polish and Polish American groups.

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(l. to r.): Peter J. Obst, Poles in America Foundation; Piotr Wilczek, Republic of Poland Ambassador in Washington, D.C.; Debbie Majka, Honorary Consul of the Republic of Poland for South East Pennsylvania; Siobhan Lyons, director Citizen Diplomacy International of Philadelphia; and Krzysztof Koehler, Deputy Director Polish Book Institute.

On the following day, Koehler arrived at the neo-classical main building of the Philadelphia Free Library on Logan Square. Here, Citizen Diplomacy International (CDI) a local organization for promoting good relations between the

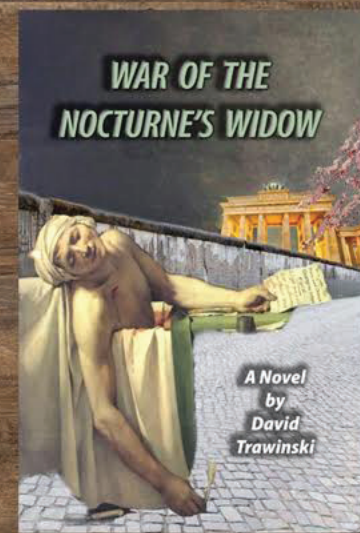
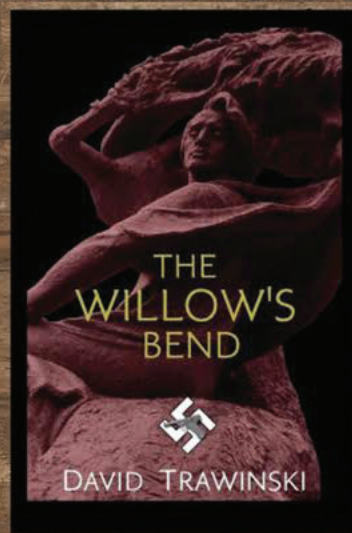
United States and other countries and cultures, arranged a lecture and reception to welcome the "Polish Bookshelf" program to Philadelphia. After a greeting by CDI's director Siobhan Lyons, the podium was given to the featured speaker,

Poland's ambassador in Washington, Piotr Wilczek. His presentation addressed the difficulties that Polish writers have in transcending borders to become known and appreciated outside their home countries. Mr. Koehler spoke about the value of the relationship between translators and authors. After answering many questions, the speakers joined the audience for a friendly social evening.

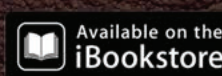
Among the many persons attending several Polish American organizations were represented, including: Polish Heritage Society (Tiffany Loomis), Associated Polish Home (Hon. RP Consul Deborah M. Majka), Philadelphia Chapter of the Kosciuszko Foundation (Andrzej Zlotnicki and several board members), Jagiellonian Law Society (**Elizabeth M. Zechenter**) and Poles in America Foundation (Peter J. Obst). It was gratifying to see that many American supporters of the Free Library and members of CDI also came out to hear the presentation and speak with the Ambassador Wilczek and PBI Deputy Director Koehler. The staff of CDI deserves much credit and praise for organizing this event and in bringing Polish books to Philadelphia.

The Chopin Trilogy by David Trawinski

Modern Day Mysteries based on Classic Polish History



Available on: DavidTrawinski.com



RELIGION

Roll Call of Nations Planned

by Benjamin Fiore

On Friday, June 14, at the Victims of Communism Memorial in Washington, D.C., corner of New Jersey and Massachusetts Ave. NW, the twelfth annual Roll Call of Nations and wreath laying ceremony will take place at 9:00 a.m. Interested persons are invited to take part. The Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation is at 300 New Jersey Ave. NW, Suite 900, Washington, D.C. 20001; (202) 629-9500.

HOLOCAUST DENIER UNWELCOME IN POLAND. David Irving, a notorious Holocaust denier, had scheduled a tour of Treblinka, Sobibor, Belzec, and Majdanek, former Nazi concentration/death camps in Poland. He has called these camps “controversial” and has claimed that there was no evidence to prove the existence of gas chambers at Auschwitz. Moreover, he alleged that Hitler was not aware of what was happening in the Holocaust. Reacting to his plans, Jonny Daniels, founder of the From the Depths Foundation, which deals with Holocaust memory and memorial, called for a full ban on his trip to Poland. Polish Foreign Minister Jacek Czaputowicz told reporters that “negation of the Holocaust is not allowed by Polish law and that Irving would therefore not be welcome in Poland

if he plans to come and present his opinions.

POLISH BISHOPS' REPORT DOCUMENTS SEXUAL ABUSE.

The report of the Polish Episcopal Conference reveals that from 1990 to 2018 nearly 400 Polish priests were accused of sexual abuse of minors in a study that covered some 10,000 parishes in Poland and also religious orders. The bishops called the report findings “tragic” and said that every instance of abuse is a painful betrayal of trust. A Polish delegation of sex abuse victims and advocates met with Pope Francis and presented him with a copy of the report. Archbishop Stanislaw Gadecki, who heads the Polish episcopal conference, also declared that while the problem of clerical sexual abuse had to be dealt with, it was important that the same kinds of abuse in other institutions also had to be prevented.

MILWAUKEE BISHOPS' NAMES REMOVED FROM BUILDINGS.

Milwaukee's Archbishop Jerome Listcki announced the removal of the names of Archbishop Rembert Weakland and Archbishop William Cousins from archdiocesan buildings. Both archbishops had been found to have reassigned priests accused of sexual abuse. Archbishop Weakland was also re-

vealed to have had a sexual relationship with a male seminarian.

RADIO STATION IN ALASKA BLESSED.

Bishop Chad Zielinski, RC bishop of Fairbanks, Alaska, recently visited Nome, Alaska where he blessed the studios of KNOM, a Catholic radio station for the far-flung parishes of Western Alaska. The station is a financially independent ministry but has a cordial partnership with Bishop Chad and the Diocese of Fairbanks.

NEW HOME FOR ST. JOHN PAUL II RELIC.

A reliquary, brought from Poland, was blessed by Pauline Fr. Thomas Wilk, pastor of St. Stanislaus, Bishop and Martyr Church in Buffalo, N.Y. The reliquary houses a first class relic of St. John Paul II in a shrine topped by a statue of the sainted pontiff.

RELIC OF ST. JOHN VIANNEY VISITS STATES.

The relic of the saintly French parish priest, John Vianney, his uncorrupt heart, has been circulating through the United States under the care of Fr. Patrice Chocholski, pastor of the parish in Ars and director of the shrine there. The relic's pilgrimage was the idea of Knights of Columbus Supreme Knight Carl Anderson, who thought it to be a “spiritual response” to the clergy abuse crisis in the United States. Fr. Chocholski

includes prayer and reflection sessions at each stop. The special intentions for the prayer are healing, reparation and purification. The pilgrimage of the relic will continue until early June.

CYCLING PILGRIMAGE REACHED JOHN PAUL II CENTER.

Members of the Msgr. Joseph F. Loreti Council 3240 of the Knights of Columbus in Roselle Park, N.J. made a cycling journey of some 330 miles as a “Divine Mercy Pilgrimage for Persecuted Christians” in October, 2018. The pilgrimage, which ended at the St. John Paul II National Shrine in Washington D.C, raised \$7,500 to support the Knights of Columbus Christian Refugee Relief Fund. Past Grand Knight Thomas Grasso explained that the five riders and three support crew made the pilgrimage to “remember and help those Christians in the Middle East who have suffered so greatly in recent years. It was also our way,” he added, “of showing spiritual solidarity with them as members of the universal Church.” The Middle Eastern Christians in Iraq and Syria were the particular targets of Isis terrorists but also suffer persecution from other Islamic groups.

CONCERT CELEBRATES POLISH MUSIC.

The Permanent Chair of Polish Culture at Canisius College

and the Polish Arts Club, both in Buffalo, N.Y., jointly sponsored a concert promoting Polish composers as well as young people in the next generation of Polish Americans. Maria Chomicka brought her choral ensemble Cantate Omnes with their soloist Chelsea Brodka. Also on the program were Ontario, Canada pianist Dominik Wrona and Buffalo-based soprano Brit-tany Mruczek. Proceeds from the concert benefited the Leokadja Dombrowska/Polish Singers Alliance of America Scholarship Fund. The music of Chopin, Szymanowski, and Moniuszko (to kick off his anniversary year), as well as well-known hymns, made up the program. Pianist Ivan Docenko added to the evening's program.

Lost in Translation

Popular British radio talk host Mike Graham received a reprimand from a Polish listener after the host of “The Independent Republic of Mike Graham” show said he “hates polls” and “doesn't trust polls.”

The listener, only identified as “Michael” confused “polls” for “Poles.” Graham said he would never say or think such a thing, and meant “poll,” as in a survey. The caller then laughed about his misunderstanding.

MODLITWY

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PRAYER TO ST. RAPHAEL THE ARCHANGEL. Glorious Archangel St. Raphael, great prince of the heavenly court, you are illustrious for your gifts of wisdom and grace. You are a guide of those who journey by land or sea or air, consoler of the afflicted, and refuge of sinners. I beg you, assist me in all my needs and in all the sufferings of this life, as once you helped the young Tobias on his travels. Because you are the “medicine of God” I humbly pray you to heal the many infirmities of my soul and the ills that afflict my body. I especially ask of you the favor (here mention your special intention), and the great grace of purity to prepare me to be the temple of the Holy Spirit. Amen. R.A.

SUPPORT THE PAJ PRESS FUND

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

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

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

A sincere “THANK YOU” for your donation to the PAJ PRESS FUND: Janina Dabrowski, Hernando, Fla.; Gerald Janusz, Pittsburgh; Geraldine Koziatek, Creve Coeur, Mo.; Christine Grzybala Kucher, Saugus, Mass.; Paul Lukasiewicz, New Haven, Conn.; Millicent Mito, Los Angeles; Dr. John Niziol, Clifton, N.J.; Walter Wojnar, S. Grafton, Mass.; and two Friends of the PAJ. Dziękujemy wam wszystkim! The PAJ thanks all who donated.

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POLONIA PLACES

St. Josaphat Church in Loup City, NE



by Gregory L. Witul

ST. JOSAPHAT CHURCH
704 N. 9th St., Loup City, Nebraska
Status: Open

Summer is almost here and many people are already planning their great American road trip. This year, I have friends who will be traveling to Yellowstone National Park, Watkins Glen for Woodstock 2019, Hersheypark, and Cleveland, Ohio for the baseball All-Star Game. Now I'm not sure where I'm going this year but one place on my radar is Loup City, Nebraska home of a three-day Polish fest and St. Josaphat's Roman Catholic Church.

As America continued its westward expansion after the Civil War, it took little time for Poles to begin filling in these newly established states. In the first decade of its existence, Nebraska was home to hundreds of Poles, the settlements New Posen (now Farwell) and Warsaw, and the Polish parish of St. Anthony's in New Posen. Being the only Polish church in the state, families would travel for hours from their smaller communities to attend Mass in New Posen. As the Polonia of Loup City grew, Polish priests began to visit this county seat in the 1870s, holding Mass in family homes. As more Poles moved into the area, J. Woods Smith donated 12 lots of land to the Catholics on the condition that they immediately build a church and then within 5 years a school. It would take a year, but in 1882 a small frame church was erected and named St. Joseph.

Within a year, 20 families called St. Joseph home and, in accordance with their agreement, the young mission built a school in 1887. On December 6, 1888 Mr. Smith handed over the deed to the property to Bishop James O'Connor of Omaha and Ignatius M. Polski. August Meissen, and Paul Chylewski were

named as trustees of the church. Too small to have a priest assigned to them, priests visited from St. Anthony's Church as well as parishes in Choynice and Elba. Priests like Father A. Jakimowski and Father Boleslaus Radka oversaw first communions, weddings, and funerals.

Things went smoothly until June 5, 1896 when a tornado leveled much of the church, save for the western wall and a portrait of the Virgin Mary that hung there. For the next 12 years the tiny school served as the church hall as the parishioners saved money for a new building. To meet the needs of an ever-growing Catholic population, Matthew Jauniewicz and Ladislaus Zakrzewski, heads of the New Building Committee, signed a contract for a brick building with Ohlsen Brothers Contracting on March 22, 1906.

After two years of construction, the newly completed church was dedicated on July 15, 1908, this time under the patronage of St. Josaphat. Father Joseph Kolaska served as the first pastor of the new church followed shortly by Father Alexander Cudzinski, and Father Irenaeus Jarka. Over the ensuing years the parish added a rectory, a cemetery, and eventually secured the Sisters of St. Joseph to teach in the school. St. Josaphat's built another church nearly seventy-five years later. Recycling the stained-glass windows and beams, the new church incorporated some iconic elements into the new modern structure which was dedicated November 21, 1972.

As part of the Loup City Polish Days, the parish celebrates a special Polish Mass, this year on June 9th. Other events held around the city will include a parade, a Polish King and Queen pageant, a kolache making contest, and much more. There will also be Polish food, Polish vendors, a beer tent, and the Big Boonski fireworks show. If you are looking for something to do in Middle America this June 7-9, head over to Loup City.

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POLISH CHILDREN'S HEARTLINE (a non-profit corporation, State of New Jersey) begins its 34th year of helping children. An all volunteer non-profit organization receiving generous donations from Polonia and American supporters makes it possible for over 2000 Polish children to be treated annually by cardiac surgeons and physicians in hospitals in Poland. As requested, equipment critical to pediatric care is provided to seven hospitals in Zabrze, Katowice, Lodz, Suwalki, Bialystok, Grajewo, and Ostroleka. Contributions may be made in memory of and/or honor of family and friends. Each donation is tax exempt and acknowledged. We thank you for your support and ask for your continued support for much help is still needed. "If we don't help our Polish children, who will?" —Doreen Patras Cramer, President

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

HAPPENINGS: CHICAGO STYLE

LYPW Celebrates Its 80th *Bal Amarantowy*

CHICAGO — The Legion of Young Polish Women (LYPW) held its 80th annual formal White and Red Ball, *Bal Amarantowy*, and the 74th anniversary of the Presentation of its Debutantes for nearly 400 guests on March 16 at the Chicago Hilton's Grand Ballroom. The evening began with a formal receiving line and cocktails. **Barbara I. Ciepiela**, president of the LYPW, welcomed everyone attending this historic event. **Karolina Baran**, professionally known as **Kaeyra**, sang the national anthems of Poland and the United States. The invocation was led by **Aneta Ciepiela**, 2015 Queen, and **Francesca Rogowski**, 2018 First Runner-Up. After dinner, **Maria Bronny Ciesla**, 1966 Queen, presented 12 Legion members and their partners who performed the *Polonez*, the traditional opening dance of the Ball. Later, **Alexandra Ciesla Cornwell**, 1998 Queen and chair of this event, introduced this year's Mistress of Ceremonies, **Mary Sendra Anselmo**, 1974 Queen. She, in turn, presented each of the 2019 Debutantes: **Emma Baran**, **Katelyn Carlson**, **Barbara Makowski**, **Jessica Vignocchi**, **Julia Walczak**, and **Kamila Wilczek**.

Following this presentation, **Marianne Kobos Kozelka**, 2003 Debutante and co-chair of the Ball, explained the tradition of the Charity Rose Appeal. The evening continued with socializing and dancing to the music of the Anthony Kawalkowski Orchestra. At midnight, the Legion's president announced that the 2019 Queen would be **Jessica Vignocchi** with First Runner-Up **Katelyn Carlson** and Second Runner-Up **Emma Baran**. As is the custom, last year's Queen, **Nicolette Tukiendorf**, assisted by Ms. Cornwell and Ms. Kozelka, crowned **Jessica** the 2019 Queen. After the Queen's presentation to the Ball guests, a dozen of the Legion's recent debutantes dressed in red gowns performed the *Bialy Mazur*, a fiery and spirited dance, with their partners. **Richard Owsiany** choreographed the Debutante Waltz and Presentation, the *Polonez*, and the *Bialy Mazur*.

The first Ball was held in November 1939. In 1945 the Legion added the first Presentation of Debutantes — the first group presentation in United States history. **Helen Lenard Pielko** founded the Legion on September 2, 1939, to support Poland in its time of need. Since then, the LYPW has donated over \$2 million to many worthy causes in Poland, the United States, and elsewhere.

128TH POLISH CONSTITUTION PARADE PLANNED. Organizing Chicago's May 3rd Polish Constitution Parade has many facets. The two most important phases of the planning are determining the parade's grand marshal, vice marshals, and the queen and her court. On February 28 the Parade Committee of the Alliance of Polish Clubs of America, *Zwiazek Klubow Polskich* (APCA), held a



Bal Amarantowy I. to r.: Makowski, Carlson, Vignocchi, Baran, Walczak, and Wilczek.

secret ballot election. Following this election, the spokesperson for the APCA, **Dr. Lucja Mirowska-Kopec**, announced the grand marshal and vice marshals for the 128th Annual Polish Constitution Day Parade. Leading the parade up Chicago's Columbus Drive on May 4 will be the Parade's Grand Marshal, **Józef Cikowski**, president of the Polish Highlanders of America (*Zwiazku Podhalan w Pólnocnej Ameryce*). Marching along with him as vice marshals will be **Andrew Przybylo**, Mayor of Niles, Illinois, and **Dominic A. Pacyga**, Professor of History in the Department of Humanities, History, and Social Sciences at Columbia College Chicago. Next, the committee had the difficult task of selecting the parade theme. After much discussion and voting, the decision was made to give this year's parade the theme: "Polonia United – Polonia Strong."

Then, on March 23, the parade organizers finalized another important aspect of the parade — the election of the 2019 Parade Queen. A special jury composed of **Agnieszka Grot**, **Dr. Lucja Mirowska-Kopec**, **Małgorzata Ptaszyńska**, **Paweł Kawa**, **Marcin Krempa**, **Dr. Paweł Maciag**, and **Vice Consul Piotr Semeniuk** selected the Queen and her Court among 10 candidates. They selected **Żaneta Marcinik** as the Parade Queen; the First Lady of the Court is to be **Matilda Sojko** and the Second Lady of the Court will be **Natalia Salamon**. The audience had the opportunity to vote for the candidate who best exemplified Polish congeniality. **Alina Bosak** won the title of Miss Congeniality.

OAKTON COLLEGE CELEBRATES POLISH CULTURE. As part of the "Coming Together — Celebrating Polish Culture" community-wide celebration, Oakton Community College in Skokie, Illinois presented a Festival of Polish Culture, which offered an afternoon of Polish



Constitution Parade royalty, (l. to r.): Sojko, Marcinik, and Salamon.



Lira members (l. to r.): Doula, Kowcz-Fair, Migala, Saballus, and Krawczyk.

food, music, and art. The highlights of this event were a performance by the **Lira Ensemble Quartet**, a hands-on workshop in the art of *Wycinanki* paper cutting by **Grace Baczykowski**, and a luncheon of Polish cuisine. The Lira Quartet is comprised of **Katarzyna Dorula**, **Ewa Kowcz-Fair**, **Lindasue Gurtatowski Saballus**, and **Anna Mazur Krawczyk**. **Lucyna Migala**,

artistic director of the Lira, presented narratives in English giving insights into Polish American history, traditions, and the songs that were performed. **Marek Rachelski** served as piano accompanist. **Grace Baczykowski** has been a teacher of this form of Polish folk art for over 45 years. Her works have been shown in various museums, galleries, and public venues. She teaches both in English and Polish and to all age groups.



Vacant Jeffrey Plaza Dominicks.

Guest speakers included **Jakub Zajaczkowski**, associate producer at DDB Worldwide Communications Group. He spoke of his Polish birth, his original limited English language skills, and his continued Polish language education and participating in Polish folk dancing. He expressed his thanks to the United States for the privilege of becoming a U.S. citizen. Another speaker,

provide fresh, healthy food. The good news is that Polish-owned **Shop & Save** supermarket will be moving into an old Dominick's supermarket location in the underserved Englewood neighborhood and is scheduled to open by the fall of 2019. This empty site at 2101 E. 71st St. in Jeffrey Plaza is the last vacant Dominick's in Chicago.

SHOP & SAVE SLATED FOR ENGLEWOOD. Chicago's South Side has come to be considered a "food desert," lacking supermarkets to

provide fresh, healthy food. The good news is that Polish-owned **Shop & Save** supermarket will be moving into an old Dominick's supermarket location in the underserved Englewood neighborhood and is scheduled to open by the fall of 2019. This empty site at 2101 E. 71st St. in Jeffrey Plaza is the last vacant Dominick's in Chicago.

Shop & Save currently has six locations including Chicago's South Archer Avenue area, Nagle Avenue on the Northwest Side, and suburban locations in Niles, Des Plaines, Bridgeview, and Downers Grove. The owners of the **Shop & Save** chain, **Eva** and **Cezary Jakubowski** bought the entire 113,000-square-foot Jeffrey Plaza shopping center. They hope to attract the Stony Island Arts Bank and the Stony Island Starbucks to be part of the center.

Shop & Save is a well-known name among grocery chains in the Chicago area. Known for providing a large variety of Polish and European products that promote the tastes of Polonia. All these locations offer a huge daily selection of freshly baked breads and pastries, delicious and healthy fruits and vegetables, quality meats, poultry, and seafood, and a fine selection of liquor, beer, and wine.

All the stores feature excellent delis and made-to-order and ready-made meals prepared in each store's kitchen.

"Polish Diaspora in Europe" Topic of Presentation

CHICAGO — "Polish Diaspora in Europe" will examine the circumstances — political, religious, and economic — that propelled the migration of Poles to leave their homeland to establish communities throughout Europe from Iberia to Russia, beginning as far back as the 16th century and continuing through the 20th. The event will be held May 19, 2019, from 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Guest presenter will be **Tadeusz Pilat**, an accredited genealogist specializing in Polish research encompassing all partitions of the former Poland-Lithuanian Commonwealth. Pilat is fluent in Polish, German, and English, and reads Latin, Cyrillic Russian and Old German Scripts. His specialties include notary records, cadastral maps and 16th-18th century

manuscripts and administrative documents. He has lectured in Warsaw and Opole, Poland; at the 150th anniversary of Panna Maria in Texas in 2014, at the Polish Genealogical Society of Connecticut & Northeast, and twice for PGSA in our May 2017 webinar and again at our 2018 Conference.

In addition to open attendance at the Bolingbrook Fountaindale Public Library (300 W. Briarcliff Rd., Bolingbrook / (630) 759-2102), you can also participate via a webinar: The webinar is free to members and to defray costs, non-members will be charged a \$10 fee. Webinar registration for members (after signing in) and non-members are made at the PGSA website: <https://pgsa.org/product-category/webinars/>. Mail-in registrations will not be accepted.

MINNESOTA VOICE

Poland's newest music sensation: a Minnesota singer-songwriter

by Mark Dillon

Michael Shynes' personal heritage is mostly Swedish and Irish, but in less than a year the 31-year-old Minnesota singer-songwriter has gone to the top of the charts in Poland.

On New Year's Eve, Shynes played before a crowd of 72,000 in Zakopane and an audience of 50,000 in Gdansk at the port city's annual music festival last summer. The red-bearded, baseball-capped, flannel shirt-wearing father of two hails from the historically Polish town of Little Falls, Minn. — population 8,700.

Last year, Shynes' rendition of the 1986 song by Cutting Crew "I Just Died in Your Arms Tonight" propelled him to Polish stardom, with a music video version featuring a pole dancer that got 22 million views on YouTube and a #5 hit on Polish Radio. His Gdansk appearance was broadcast live on nationwide Polish television.

Now the self-taught musician is trying to reach out to both American and Polish audiences, releasing a new album recorded in Nashville called *The River the Current and the Undertow* and holding a concert at Minneapolis' Varsity Theater on April 12.

The lead song includes a tribute to his adopted daughter, Addie, 7, and talks about marriage, Minnesota snow, a St. Cloud home full of diapers and the joy he and his wife,

Mattie, have raising children. His son, Duke, is two and a half.

In early April, just three days after its release by the Polish music group Komodo on March 28, a new Shynes remix of the 1980s song "Is This Love?" by White Snake with had already gotten 1.21 million hits on YouTube, mostly from folks in the land of the White Eagle.

Shynes attributes his musical style and success — a unique blend of folk, 1980s cover music, country, pop and rhythm & blues to his upbringing, work ethic and values in a small city along the Mississippi River whose first settlers arrived in the wake of 1848 revolutions in Central Europe.

"I'm a family man," Shynes says. Shynes is actually a stage name. His surname is Hynes, which is primarily Irish in origin. Shynes suspects he may have a small bit of Polish or German ancestry in his family tree, but there has been no DNA test yet to confirm.

Attending Mary of Lourdes, a Roman Catholic parochial school in Little Falls originally affiliated with the historically Polish parish of Our Lady of Lourdes, may have also helped inspire Shynes' songwriting themes, too.

"I would like to think so," he says. Mary of Lourdes is where his mom, Shirley Hynes, now retired, taught middle schoolers. Other school alumni include Brian Kobilka, winner of the 2012 Nobel Prize in Chemistry.



After wooing crowds in Zakopane and Gdansk, Minnesota singer-songwriter Michael Shynes released a new album in April for both American and Polish audiences.

Working hard to seize an opportunity to air his music, however unusual, seems natural for Shynes, who holds a business administration degree from St. Cloud State University. Shynes didn't learn to play acoustic guitar or write songs until age 18, and didn't begin his

musical career in earnest until age 25, after his father died.

"At the time I was working in a residential treatment center for teens, playing the occasional show on the weekend," Shynes says on his website. "It was important work, and it shaped who I am today in lot of ways. But the stark reality of realizing how quickly life can change, made me realize how I wanted to devote my time."

The musical connection to Poland began last year when Shynes recorded vocals through a job-for-hire website for the Polish DJ group Komodo, not knowing how the Krakow-based organization would use it. The DJs wound up using Shynes' vocals on a remix they made for Sony Records, and now "Sony is very happy," he said.

Komodo describes itself on line as three band members: Alex Red, Yash and Tom Sanders, accompanied by Helena Panayi of Cyprus, who appears in several music videos featuring Shynes' vocals.

"They were so kind," Shynes said of the group's assistance and support as he prepared for his first four minutes of fame on stage in Gdansk, accompanied by a press tour. "It was truly unforgettable to

be able to travel to Poland with my wife," he added. Shynes says he came to especially admire Poles' deep awareness and respect for history.

Shynes' big break in Poland has in turn prompted Explore Minnesota, Minnesota's state tourism agency, to use Shynes' song "When You Are Older" as background for an advertising campaign promoting summer visits to Minnesota.

Putting family first, Shynes said, rather than "the idea that there has been some deep meaning in everything" in music has helped him develop as an artist. He added: "once it was simply about providing for my family, that's when things took off, as I was able to see everything through the lens of simply building our lives together."

Like Freehold, N.J., home of a 1980s singer-songwriter with blue collar appeal and roots, Shynes' Little Falls has a faded industrial heritage. Once home to a large lumber mill, in 2016 one of the largest remaining factories in the area shut down when Larson Boats moved operations to Pulaski, Wisconsin.

However, unlike New Jerseyan Bruce Springsteen's songs, including his 1980 "The River" and 1984 "My Hometown," Shynes' original compositions tend to be joyful and generally devoid of politics. That would seem to work for many young people in Poland, where Shynes' glory days appear to be just getting started.

ACPC to Recognize Women at 2019 Warsaw Convention

by Mark Dillon

Every year since 1985, **Marianna R. Eckel** has worked with the National Park Service to bring Polish culture to the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C. Each June, the Reflecting Pool on the National Mall opposite the memorial becomes home to a Wianki Festival of Wreaths.

This autumn it will be Eckel's turn to wear a proverbial laurel of honor, as she will be a recipient of a Founders Award from the American Council for Polish Culture (ACPC) at its 2019 convention in Warsaw, September 6-8.

Eckel, of Vienna, Va., is a past president of Polish American Arts Association of Washington, D.C., and currently vice president of the Friends of John Paul II Foundation, Metropolitan Washington D.C. chapter. A first generation Polish-American, she came to the United States to her grandmother's home in Utica, N.Y. from Krakow in 1961 as a teenager.

In the early 1990s, Eckel pioneered efforts with the Embassy of the Republic of Poland to host some of the first post-Communist era Polish film screenings in the United States, and has worked in many roles to build a stronger cultural dialogue between the embassy, Capitol Hill, the White House and the Washington community.

Working with the Embassy, she also helped develop a garden on the National Mall that has included red and white tulips.

The annual PAAA-sponsored Wianki festival includes Polish dance performances, live folk music, and wreath customs associated with the St. John's Eve festival, celebrated each June 24 on the banks of the Vistula River throughout Poland.

With fondness, Eckel recalls two incidents that illustrate the magic of an ancient Slavic fertility custom that involves young women weaving fresh flowers into wreaths and carrying them to the river to foretell the future.

One year, a single woman in the U.S. military cast her wreath upon the pool and came back the following year as a newlywed with her husband, also in the military, Eckel said. Another year a busload of women visiting from Poland by chance came upon the ceremony, surprised and delighted to see the tradition being honored in United States.

Eckel's work for the Friends of the John Paul II Foundation last year took her to the Vatican, where representatives

from affiliate and chapter groups across the world gathered to discuss work to continue the pope's legacy, led by Foundation Director Rev. Krzysztof Wieliczko, OSPPE.

"I was so impressed that people from 45 countries all spoke Polish," she said.

POLISH MUSICIAN AND FILM MAKER ALSO HONORED. In addition to Eckel, the ACPC — at its March 23 Spring meeting — named a musician and a filmmaker in Poland as recipients of cultural achievement awards that will be presented in September at Warsaw's historic Bristol Hotel. It was there in 1919 that the American Relief Administration set up headquarters to manage food, clothing and medical relief supply distribution in the aftermath of World War I.

ACPC will recognize **Marta Ptaszynska** with its Cultural Achievement Award.

Born in 1943 in Warsaw, she is a renowned Polish composer, percussionist and professor of music at the University of Chicago. In 1995 she received the Officer Cross of Merit of the Republic of Poland.

Since 2005 she holds the endowed chair of Helen B. & Frank L. Sulzberger Professor in Composition. Ptaszynska has also



Marianna R. Eckel

taught composition at Northwestern University, Indiana University in Bloomington, Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, University of California, and Bennington College in Vermont.

Jolanta Kessler Chojecka will receive the Janda de Rosen Award (for achievement in film and the arts). Currently first counselor of the Culture, Science, and Information Office for the Republic of Poland, she is an accomplished musician, former rock group

singer, French and Polish film director, journalist, and Polish diplomat in Switzerland. She worked for Radio Free Europe in Paris from 1982 to 1991.

With support from ACPC, in 2007, she created an authoritative documentary about U.S. Revolutionary War hero Kazmierz Pulaski, his role in the creation of the U.S. Cavalry, and his death on the battlefield in Savannah, Ga.

A TRIBUTE TO NURSE VOLUNTEERS OF 1919. As part of its September Warsaw convention, the ACPC will also recognize the **Gray Samaritans**, a group of several dozen Polish American women nurses who volunteered to go to Poland in May 1919 through 1922 to assist the American Relief Administration under Herbert Hoover with famine, health care, and clothing needs of the Polish people in the aftermath of World War I.

The ACPC plans to hold a memorial ceremony at Herbert Hoover Square, (*Plac Herberta Hoovers*) in central Warsaw — a green space at the widest section of Krakowskie Przedmieście, between the Mickiewicz Monument and the statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Passau.

16th Century Golden Age of Poland Renaissance to Be Celebrated

CHICOPEE, Mass. — The Polish Center of Discovery and Learning will mark its 20th anniversary by celebrating the Golden Age of Poland with dinner and entertainment typical of the period. Partnering with members and friends of the Five College Early Music Program, the evening will feature aristocratic music and dance as it was seen at the 16th century Polish court, performed in costume with period instruments.

The celebration will take place Sun., May 19, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. at the Castle of Knights, 1599 Memorial Dr., Chicopee.

The Renaissance movement, whose influence originated in Italy, spread throughout Europe, inspiring phenomenal growth in the arts, architecture and cuisine in Poland and Lithuania during the 1500s and 1600s—the Polish Golden Age.

"If the Middle Ages defined Poland as a state, it is the Golden Age that firmly established many of the familiar social and cultural characteristics — including the passion — of the Polish people today," says Stas Radosz, executive director of the Polish Center. "This event is reminiscent of the opening celebration of the Center 20 years ago and I thought it would be fitting to celebrate this milestone anniversary in a similar way," Radosz said.

Guests will enjoy a dinner menu created in the style of the Golden Age. Many will notice the absence of potatoes and tomatoes as they were not available in Poland at that time. Other previously lesser-known vegetables were introduced by Bona Sforza, an Italian Duchess of Milan, who became the queen of Poland, marrying King Zygmunt I. The Golden Age continued to flourish under the rule of his son Zygmunt August.

Music and historic period dance will be performed by members of the Five College Early Music Program. Period costumes will be worn by the performers and guests are also encouraged to join in the celebration by wearing period costumes or folk costumes.

Proceeds from the Renaissance dinner are tax deductible and go to support the Polish Center, a 501 (c)(3) non-profit ethnographic museum. It is a "living monument" safeguarding historical objects representative of the material culture of the Polish people in America.

For more information visit <http://www.polish-center.net> or call (413) 592-0001.

ACROSS AMERICAN POLONIA

CONNECTICUT

NEW BRITAIN — The S. A. Blejwas Endowed Chair in Polish Studies presents a **Moniuszko Bicentenary Celebration**, Fri., May 17, at 7:00 p.m., in Founders Hall, Davidson Building, CCSU.

This special concert will celebrate the music of Stanislaw Moniuszko, Father of Polish Opera. The program will feature famous arias, songs, and instrumental music of Moniuszko and his contemporaries. Performing will be: Monika Krawajska, mezzo-soprano; Peter Dzi-alo, cello; and Natasha Ulyanovsky, piano.

The concert is free and the public is cordially invited. For information, contact the Polish Studies Program at (860) 832-3010 or jacquesm@ccsu.edu. Public parking is available in campus garages.

FLORIDA

ST. PETERSBURG — The **American Institute of Polish Culture of Pinellas County** will observe the anniversary of Poland's May 3, 1791 Constitution on May 5, 2019 at 11:00 a.m. at the Kosciuszko Monument in the Northeast Corner in Williams Park, 350 2nd Ave N., St. Petersburg. The event is free and open to the public. For information, visit www.aipctampabay.org.

MARYLAND

BALTIMORE — Baltimore's **Ojczyzna Polish Dancers** will be among the groups featured at this year's Świątowy Festiwal Polonijnych Zespołów Folklorystycznych, the World Polish Folklore Festival, to be held in Rzeszow, Poland, July 17-25. Ojczyzna will be joined by members of

PKM Polish Folk Dance Ensemble from Philadelphia. The dance troupe has started a fundraising campaign to help offset the travel expenses for its members. For information, visit it at www.Facebook.com/OjczyznaDancers.

MASSACHUSETTS

NORTHAMPTON — Sponsored by the Polish Heritage Committee of Northampton and St. Valentine's Church, **Polish Constitution Day** will be observed Fri., May 3, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. with the celebration of a bilingual Mass at St. Valentine's Polish National Catholic Church, 127 King St. Following the Mass, all are invited for fellowship in the Community Room, where light refreshments will be served. Rev. Adam Czarnecki, pastor, will share informa-

tion on the importance of the Polish Constitution, noting similarities with the United States Constitution.

MICHIGAN

DETROIT — This October, the Piast Institute will host a **two-week trip to Poland**, visiting Wroclaw, Krakow, Warsaw, Torun, Malbork, Gdansk and surrounding areas. Information about the trip is available by calling Malgosia Tulecki at (313) 733-4535 x. 106, or via email at tulecki@piastinstitute.org.

The Piast Institute is a nonprofit organization that focuses on research, data analysis, publications and social services. It has served the Polish American community and other ethnic groups, nonprofit organizations, and governmental agencies through publications, consultation, and capacity building for the past 16 years.

NEW JERSEY

CAMDEN — Mon., May 27. St. Joseph Polish Apostolate **Memorial Day Mass**. St. Joseph Cemetery, Chews Landing, N.J. 10:00 a.m. Info call rectory (856) 963-1285.

NEW YORK

BUFFALO — The University of Buffalo School of Dental Medicine presented **David Miesowicz** with its Dental Student Association Staff Appreciation award. The honor is presented to a staff member who has shown dedicated and sincere interest in the education and welfare of dental students. Miesowicz has worked at the Main Street Campus for 30 years.

OHIO

CLEVELAND — 2019 marks the 71st year the Polish American Congress will host Constitution Day celebrations. The weekend of events takes place in the "Polish Village" in Parma, May 3-5, 2019.

In honor of his years of service, the 2019 parade grand marshal will be **Dr. Mitchell Bienia**. A retired teacher, counselor, department head and administrator in the Cleveland Public Schools and the former owner of the legendary Kniola Travel Bureau, Bienia fell in love with his heritage as a teenager and devoted



NEW YORK — Portraits of Holocaust survivors are displayed at the Museum of Jewish Heritage, where a vintage German train car — like those used to transport Jews, Poles, and others considered inferior by Nazi Germany to Auschwitz and other death camps — is uncovered on a temporary track outside the museum. The train car joins hundreds of artifacts from Auschwitz at the museum for an exhibit entitled "Auschwitz. Not long ago. Not far away," that opens to the public on May 8.

himself to exploring Polish culture, language and perpetuating this passion in others ever since.

Bienia has served Polonia on the national level as a national director of both the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America and Polish American Congress. He is also a dedicated and devoted leader of Northeast Ohio's Polish American community including the Cleveland Society of Poles, Polonia Foundation of Ohio, Polish Legion of American Veterans Post 30 and PolishYoungstown.

PENNSYLVANIA

CHESTER — Fri., May 3. **Polish Constitution Day Commemorative Program**. Historical 1724 Court House, Avenue of the States. 10:00 a.m. Sponsored by the Polish American Heritage Association of Delaware County. Info call Judy Kucinski (610) 494-6948. Guest Speaker: Richard Piascik.

DOYLESTOWN — Sun., May 5. Polish American Congress **Constitution Day Mass and Youth Program**. National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa, Ferry Road. Mass, 12:30 p.m., Youth Program. 2:30 p.m. Info call (215) 922-1700.

DOYLESTOWN — Sun. May 5.

Polish Heritage Society of Philadelphia **Annual Mass & Scholarship Awards Luncheon**. National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa, Ferry Road. Mass 11:00 a.m., followed by the luncheon. Info/reservations call Irene Musman (215) 914-2284.

SINKING SPRING — Sat., June 8. Polish American Heritage Association of Berks County 11th **Annual Polish Open Golf Tournament**. Manor Golf Club, 153

Pilgrimage Honors Blue Army Volunteers

NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE, Ontario — The 100th Annual Pilgrimage to the gravesite of General Haller's recruits will be held Sun., June 9, 2019. During World War I, over 300,000 Polish Americans served in the Armed Forces of the United States, and over 22,000 volunteers from America trained at Camp Kosciuszko — Fort George, Niagara-On-The-Lake, for service in General Haller's "Blue" Polish Army in France. During boot camp in Niagara, 43 recruits died from the Spanish Flu epidemic, 26 of whom are buried in the local parish cemetery in what has become known as a military cemetery of the Republic of Poland.

Bran Rd. 1:00 p.m. Info call Marilyn Wlazewski (610) 779-5523.

PHILADELPHIA — Thur., June 20-Sun., June 23. **St. Adalbert Parish Annual Festival**, Thompson St. & Allegheny Ave., Port Richmond section. 6:00-10:00 p.m. Thurs.-Sat.; noon-4:00 p.m. Sun. Music by: Polish American String Band (Thurs.); DJ and Alumni Night (Fri.); Continental Polish Music (Sat.); and DJ (Sun.) Games of chance, Polish food, refreshments, and more. Info call rectory (215) 739-3500. Rain or shine.

PHILADELPHIA — Mark your calendar for the city's **86th Pulaski Day Parade**, Sun., Oct. 6, 2019 at noon on the Benjamin Franklin Parkway in Center City. This year's parade will highlight "Firsts in Polish History," and the 400th Anniversary of the First Strike in America by the Polish settlers at Jamestown in 1619. The Polish craftsmen caused the first civil rights action in America in the form of a work stoppage demanding their participation in the legislative body in the new colony. This year's parade will also remember the Polish forces that fought against Nazi Germany, as it is the 80th anniversary of the Sept. 1, 1939 invasion of Poland. For information, visit pulaskidayparade.com; call (215) 922-1700, Mon.-Fri.; or write to info@pulaskidayparade.com.

The committee extends a special invitation to all veteran posts to participate in this year's parade and ceremonies. The parade marshal leading this year's ceremonies will be Krzysztof Tomczak, the national vice commander of the Polish Army Veterans Association of America.

The committee seeks and invites all descendants of General Haller's Army to attend. If you are aware, or may believe, that one of your ancestors was in the Polish Army in France during World War I, contact Stephen Flor, national director of the Polish American Congress, at (315) 374-2404; stephenflor.pacwny@yahoo.com.



Remember Dad

Share your memories of ojciec or dziadek with fellow readers

In honor of Father's Day, the June 2019 edition of Polish American Journal will dedicate a page to readers who wish to share memories of their dads and grandfathers with other subscribers.

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.

Support Polish Culture

Please enroll me as an individual member in the American Council for Polish Culture! Membership includes a subscription to the quarterly publication **Polish Heritage**.

___ \$10 One Year Membership
___ \$18 Two Year Membership

Name _____
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City/State/Zip _____

Please make checks payable to:
ACPC, c/o Florence Langridge,
Membership Chair, 78 Meadow
Lane, West Hartford, CT 06107

Was your dad a veteran? Perhaps he taught you his father's favorite song. Do you still use some of the same tools your grandfather used? We are asking readers to share a snapshot of their father's influence on their life. In return, we are asking for a small donation to cover the costs of producing the special page.

Copy and photos must be received by May 10, 2019. Send email submissions to editor@polamjournal.com.

YES! I would like to share a story about my dad with readers of the Polish American Journal. Enclosed is my story and my donation to help the PAJ cover the costs of this special edition.

Suggested donations:

[] 1-100 words: \$25.00 [] 101-200 words: \$50.00
[] 201-300 words: \$75.00 [] 301-400 words: \$100.00
[] Add a 1 column (2" wide) photo: \$20.00
[] Add a 2-column (4" wide) photo: \$50.00

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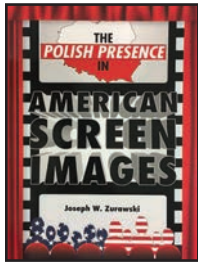
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POLONIA

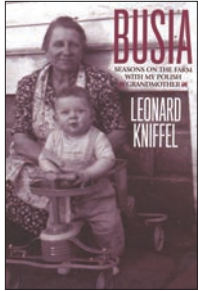


NEW! THE POLISH PRESENCE IN AMERICAN SCREEN IMAGES
by Joseph W. Zurawski
\$29.95
Item 2-682
Softcover, 355

pp., 6" x 9"; 2018
The most complete, objective and accurate analysis of the presentation of Polish Americans and their heritage as viewed on movie theaters and on television screens in America since 1894.

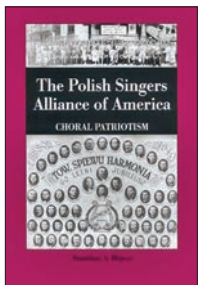
Prominent author, educator and Polish American activist Joseph W. Zurawski identifies and analyzes more than 1300 films shown in the United States that feature or identify a Polish American character or reference. Soft cover. Published by the Polish Museum of America.

BUSIA: SEASONS ON THE FARM WITH MY POLISH GRANDMOTHER



by Leonard Kniffel
\$15.00
hc. 59 pp.; 2017,
6.25" x 9.25"
Item 2-702

The book chronicles one year in the life of a young boy and his grandmother on a farm in Michigan in the 1950s, a time without telephones and televisions. Instead, they cook and garden and work together to keep the stoves supplied and the cupboards filled. They prepare for holidays while Busia tells stories about life in the old country, Poland. Kniffel is the author of "A Polish Son in the Motherland: An American's Journey Home." He is currently president of the Polish American Librarians Association, and a member of the Board of Directors of the Polish Museum of America in Chicago.

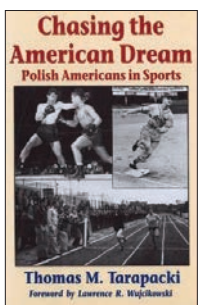


CHORAL PATRIOTISM: THE POLISH SINGERS ALLIANCE OF AMERICA, 1888-1998
by S. A. Blejwas
Item 1-660
Was \$22.50. Now \$14.95

Boydell & Brewer, 2005. 396 pp., ill. 6.20 x 9.30 x 1.20

This book examines the history of the Polish Singers Alliance of America as an ideological organization, documenting the extent to which the politics of the homeland engaged an immigrant and ethnic community over a century.

"A superb treatment of the formation and expansion of the oldest Polish-American cultural organization in North America." — Frances Gates



CHASING THE AMERICAN DREAM
by Tom Tarapacki
\$11.95 while supplies last
Item 1-701. h.c.; 151 pp.; 1995;
B&W ill.; 6.2 x 0.8 x 9.5 inches
New old stock.

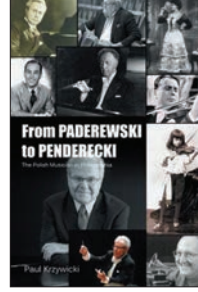
"Chasing the American Dream" provides an in-depth examination of the Polish American experience with sports: its impact upon their lives, the unprecedented economic and social opportunities it created, the enormous changes it brought to the Polish American community, and the athletes, coaches, and organizations involved.

350 Polish American athletes are noted from the worlds of baseball, football, hockey, basketball, track & field, boxing, wrestling, golf, swim-

ming, bowling, auto racing, soccer and more. Included are some of the greatest figures in American sports such as Stan Ketchel; Stella Walsh; and Stan "The Man" Musial.

Tarapacki is Sports Editor of the *Polish American Journal*.

FROM PADEREWSKI TO



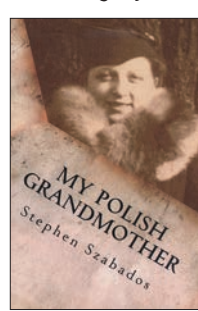
PENDERECKI The Polish Musician in Philadelphia
by Paul Krzywicki
\$24.95
Item 2-151
Lulu Pub. 2016;
pb. 396 pp., 6"x1"x9"

Extraordinary stories and accomplishments of 170 Polish musicians whose presence in Philadelphia influenced music in America. Paul Krzywicki, a native of Philadelphia, was a member of the Philadelphia Orchestra for thirty-three years, performing in over four thousand concerts, more than 60 recordings and presenting master classes throughout the world. He is currently on the faculty of the Curtis Institute of Music.

GENEALOGY

MY POLISH GRANDMOTHER:

From Tragedy in Poland to Her Rose Garden in America

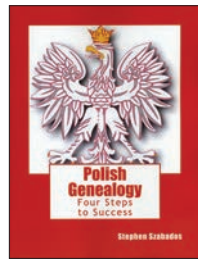


by Stephen Szabados
\$14.95 / Item 2-218
61 pp., b&w photos
2015

Anna was the youngest daughter of a Polish farmer and very small physically. However, she was always in command when she was in the room. This book describes the tragedies in her early life and the challenges she overcame to make a new life in America. It is different from many stories of immigrants because it is told from the perspective of a woman.

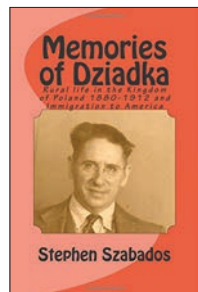
This book asks questions about her fears when growing up, immigrating to America, and making her new life. How did she face these fears? How did she overcome them? Szabados said by searching for answers, he found new insights about his grandmother.

As you read Anna's story, ask the same questions about your ancestors. If you do, your view of your family history will definitely change.



POLISH GENEALOGY: Four Easy Steps to Success
by Stephen Szabados
\$19.95 / Item 2-668
164 pp., pb.

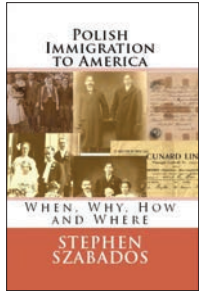
This book is designed to give the researcher the tools needed to research their Polish ancestors and find possible answers to the origins of their Polish heritage. The book outlines a simple process that will identify where your ancestors were born and where to find their Polish records. Traditional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



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

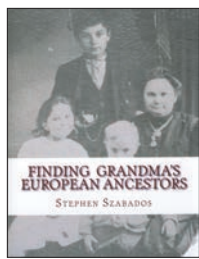
Item 2-670
pb. 134 pp.

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



POLISH IMMIGRATION TO AMERICA
by Stephen Szabados
Item 2-271
\$17.99

When did your Polish ancestors immigrate, where did they leave, why did they leave, how did they get here? This book discusses the history of Poland and gives some insights to possible answers to these about your ancestors' immigration. All three Polish partitions are covered and the material will hopefully clear up your confusion why your Polish ancestors listed that they were born in other countries on early U.S. documents. Brief histories of most of the ports that were used by Polish immigrants for departure and arrival; life in steerage; and the process of examination to gain admittance.



FINDING GRANDMA'S EUROPEAN ANCESTORS
by Stephen Szabados
Item 2-653 / 210 pp., pb.
\$19.95

This is a "must have" book for the family historian who wants to identify their European heritage. The author draws from his research experiences to describe how to find the resources available; first to find out where your ancestors were born in Europe, and then find the records. This revised edition covers genealogical research for most European countries and includes detailed steps that will help you find the records that you need. The author uses his experiences to give tips on what to avoid and what works; how to find and use critical records; and how to use translating guides to decipher the foreign-language records.

FOLKLORE



FAIRY TALES OF EASTERN EUROPE
Retold by Joanne Asala
\$12.95
Item 2-636
6 x 9 inches
157 pp., pb.

Many of the plots, motifs, and structural elements in these Slavic tales are found in other stories told around the world.

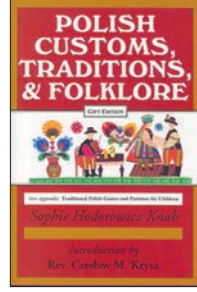
An apple tree in the Slavic tale, "The Fruit of Everlasting Youth," evokes the Tree of Life in the Garden of Eden. The ages of man described by the Fate Sisters are quite similar to the ancient "Riddle of the Sphinx." A snake impedes the function of the Tree of Everlasting Youth, again reminiscent of the Garden of Eden.



SEASONS OF THE SLAVIC SOUL: A QUEST FOR AN AUTHENTIC POLISH SPIRITUALITY
by Claire M. Anderson
Item 1-675

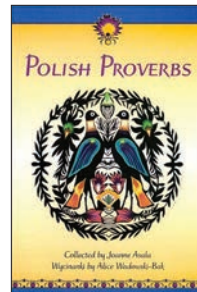
\$14.95
ACTA Publications
2017, p.b., 106 pp., 5x7 in.

What makes Slavic, and specifically Polish, spirituality unique and compelling today? The rich and long Slavic spiritual tradition holds that everyday holiness thrives on different seasons—through Spring, Summer, Autumn, and Winter and from consolation to desolation and everything in between. Claire Anderson, of Polish descent and currently the Director of Siena Retreat Center in Wisconsin, explores this tradition and expands it by connecting these seasons to the rhythms and practices in her own Polish cultural tradition and the physical world around her.



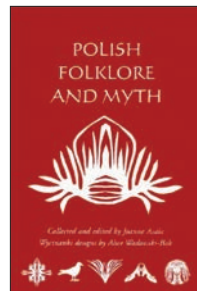
POLISH CUSTOMS, TRADITIONS & FOLKLORE
\$24.95
Item 2-643
by Sophie Hodorowicz Knab
340 pp., hc.

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



POLISH PROVERBS
by Joanne Asala
\$14.95
Item 2-681
6x9 in., 64 pp., pb.

Poles are gregarious, cheerful, hard-working, and earnest—qualities reflected in their proverbs, collected here by author Joanne Asala. Some examples: "Love enters a man through his eyes and a woman through her ears." "Without work, there is no bread." "Do not push the river; it will flow on its own accord." The back and front covers feature stunning illustrations of paper cuts by the late Polish folk artist Alice Wadowsky-Bak, with more of her work throughout the book.



POLISH FOLKLORE AND MYTH
by Joanne Asala
\$12.95
Item 2-679 / 6x9 in / 118 pp., pb.

This book of engaging folk stories includes such tales as "The Violin," "The Headache Cure," "Midsummer's Eve," "The Flower Queen's Daughter," "The Legend of the North Wind," "The Flaming Castle," "The Village Dance," and "The Unfinished Tune." The stories were collected by Joanne Asala, with wycinanki (paper-cutting) illustrations by Polish-American artist Alice Wadowsky-Bak.

HISTORY



POLAND: A HISTORY
by Adam Zamoyski
\$19.95
Item 1-659
pb. 426 pp., 5.5 in. x 8.5 in.

A substantially revised and updated edition

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

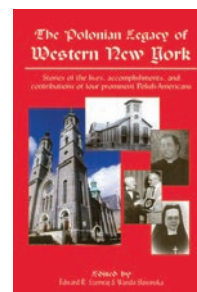
THE MAGNIFICENT 100



by Jaroslaw K. Radomski
\$24.50
2018, Buffalo Standard Printing
pb., 195pp., color illustrations.
Item 2-655

The Magnificent 100 presents — in an alphabetically organized lexicon — 97 illustrated vignettes popularizing the biographies and works of over 100 Polish artists and writers through the ages. It also contains numerous online links to galleries of the artworks of artists and books of writers described in it, so readers can significantly expand their knowledge through those sources. The idea of presenting artists and writers together shows the more complex picture of the connections and interactions among them that are often treated separately. The aspects of our Magnificent 100 are presented in this book to help understand the psychological "genesis" of their works.

THE POLONIAN LEGACY OF WESTERN NEW YORK



Item 1-605
\$12.95
156 pp., sc., ill., b&w photos.
5.5 x 8.5

Edited by Edward Szemraj and Wanda Slawinska, the book focuses on the lives of spiritual and community leader Rev. John Pitass; architect Joseph E. Fronczak; and Mother Mary Simplicita, whose dedication to vocation and superb leadership of the area's Felician Sisters spans generations. The book also examines the lasting friendship between Buffalo's renowned Dr. Francis E. Fronczak and the composer/diplomat Ignacy Jan Paderewski.



THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF FR. JUSTIN FIGAS, OFM CONV.
Famed originator of the "Fr. Justin Rosary Hour"
\$9.00, 82pp., pb., B&W photos

Fr. Justin's weekly message of spiritual guidance, encouragement, and hope was an influence on generations of Polish immigrants, their children, and grandchildren. His broadcasts, begun in 1931, continue today as the longest continually running religious radio program in the world.

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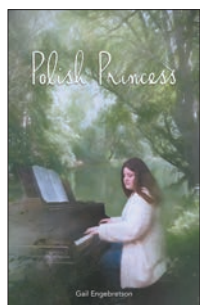
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LITERATURE

POLISH PRINCESS



by Gail Engebretson
pb., 334 pp., English
5.5 x 0.7 x 8.5 inches
\$18.95
Item 2-620

Tragedy and mystery surround the life of 14-year-old Anna Wisniewski. Ann is a gifted pianist growing up in middle America, yet her mother claims they are descended from Polish aristocracy. Anna struggles with insecurities that cripple her life until she meets a young Polish violinist. Together they find passion in their music and each other. When tragedy strikes Anna must find the courage to find face her past and her future.

Gail Engebretson is a native of Wisconsin and the granddaughter of Polish immigrants. She has been working in Early Childhood Development, teaching music for over 40 years.

AGAINST A CRIMSON SKY (Book 2)

\$15.95
Item 2-610
369 pp.pb. Map & wycinanki illust.
"You don't have to read Push Not the River to get the most from this sequel," says Suzanne Strempek Shea. The award-winning author picks up where Push Not the River leaves off, taking the characters 20 years into the fascinating Napoleonic era, highlighting the exploits of the glorious Polish lancers.

THE WARSAW CONSPIRACY (Book 3)

\$17.99
508 pp., pb.
Item 2-611

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

the clandestine Underground Army by his Scoutmaster and begins training in military tactics and weapons handling. At age 13, he meets with leaders of the Jewish Resistance. Arrested by the Gestapo at 14, he is rescued and at 15 fights in the Warsaw Uprising of 1944.

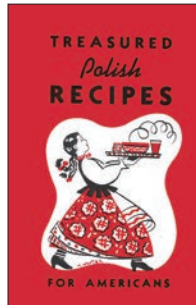
TWO TRAINS FROM POLAND



by Dr. Krystyna M. Sklenarz
\$19.95
Item 2-604
183 pp., pb.

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

RECIPE BOOKS



TREASURED POLISH RECIPES FOR AMERICANS
\$19.95
Item BK2364
hc 5.5" x 8.7" x 0.50"; 172 pp.; English language version with U.S. measurements
475 Recipes

Edited by Marie Sokolowski and Irene Jasinski; Illustrated by Stanley Legun

First published in United States in 1948, this book was the first complete book of Polish cookery in the English language. Chapters on Appetizers, Soups, Meats, Poultry and Game, Fish, Vegetables, Mushrooms, Dairy Dishes, Pastries and Desserts. Recipes are included for famous Polish barszcz, for bigos, czarnina, pierogi, naleśniki, paszteciki... and hundreds of other interesting Polish foods.

It contains brief stories of Polish festivities and customs such as Christmas Eve (Wigilia), Harvest Festival (Dożynki) and others.

PLEASING POLISH RECIPES

by Jacek and Malgorzata Nowakowski
\$8.95
Item 2-678
5.5 x 3.5 inches / 160 pp., spiral bound

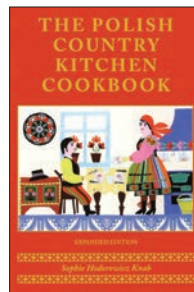
This little cookbook features a great variety of regional foods, such as hot beer, vegetable soup, leek salad, graham bread, bigos, potato pancakes, dill pickles, nut roll, gingerbread, and royal mazurkas. Readers also will find a table grace and information on dyeing traditional brown Easter eggs.

POLISH CULINARY DELIGHTS

\$24.95
Item BK 2572
by Ania Zaremba
sc., 6.5" x 9.25" x 0.5"; 224 pp., color photographs, index; English language version with U.S. measurements.

Polish Culinary Delights was written to bring authentic Polish recipes of the past few generations to the North American kitchen. Besides finding the usual "traditional Polish" fare, this book includes unique recipes created by Ania and others in her family (grandma, grandpa, uncle, etc.).

More than 175 recipes, from soups, appetizers, entrees and side dishes to desserts. Easy-to-follow instructions with helpful tips make it simple to prepare such traditional Polish favorites as pierogi, blintzes, sauerkraut, cab-



POLISH COUNTRY KITCHEN COOKBOOK
by Sophie Knab
\$19.95
Item 2-632. 337 pp., sc;

From top-selling author Sophie Hodorowicz Knab comes an expanded edition to a best-selling book that combines recipes for favorite Polish foods with the history and cultural traditions that created them. Arranged according to the cycle of seasons, this cookbook explores life in the Polish countryside through the year. The *Polish Country Kitchen Cookbook* gives its readers priceless historical information such as the type of utensils used in Poland at the turn of the century, the meaning behind the Pascal butter lamb, and many other insightful answers to common questions asked by descendants of Polish immigrants.

The over 100 easy-to-follow recipes are all adapted for the modern North American kitchen. Illustrations and pearls of practical wisdom ("Household Hints") complement this book.

POLISH RESTAURANT COOKBOOK

\$10.00
Item 2-302
by Jonathan Becklar, 44 pp., sc.

This unique cookbook actually replicates recipes taken from menus of Motor City and surrounding area restaurants. It shows you how to make an entire menu right that tastes and smells just like the restaurant. Soups, salads, dressings, sandwiches, stuffed cabbage, and more.

POLISH PIEROGI

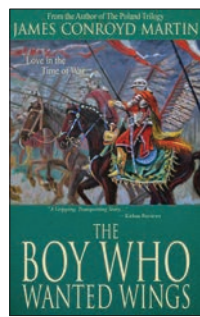
\$10.00
Item 2-303
by Eva Gerweck, 48 pp., sc.

A collection of "secret" recipes, tips, and more by Eva Gerwecki. Fillings, toppings, and a variety of dough recipes as well. Over 150 recipes with regional variations, from New York to California!

POLISH GIRL COOKBOOK

\$10.00
Item 2-301
by Eva Gerweck, 44 pp., sc.

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

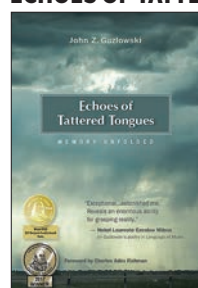


THE BOY WHO WANTED WINGS
by James Conroyd Martin
Author of "Don't Push the River"
\$14.95
paperback / Item 2-612 pb
\$25.95 hardcover / Item 2-612 hc
398 pp.

Aleksy, a Tatar raised by a Polish peasant family, holds in his heart the wish to become a hussar so that he could battle the Turks at Vienna (the first 9/11, in 1683). As a Tatar and a peasant, this is an unlikely quest. When he meets Krystyna, the daughter of a noble, winning her love seems just as unlikely a quest. Under the most harrowing and unlikely circumstances, one day Aleksy must choose between his dreams.

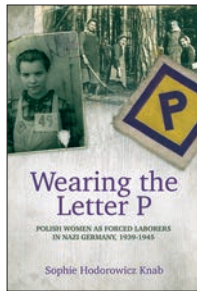
WORLD WAR II

ECHOES OF TATTERED TONGUES



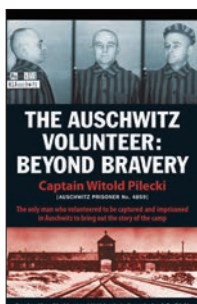
by John Guzowski
\$21.95
Item 2-667
hc., 6.2 x 0.8 x 9.4 inches
200 pp.
Aquila Polonica / Language: English

Guzowski born in a German refugee camp after WWII, recounts the horrible atrocities enacted upon his parents during the war in these straightforward, gut-wrenching narrative lyric poems. These snapshots of Nazi German rule illustrate that hardship didn't end with German surrender; the aftershocks radiated through successive generations. "Guzowski's simple language highlights the violence without offering any comment or consolation." — *Publishers Weekly*



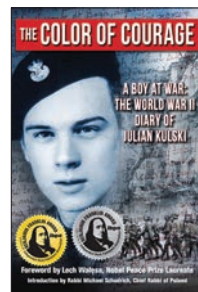
WEARING THE LETTER "P"
Polish Women as Forced Laborers in Nazi Germany, 1939-1945.
by Sophie Hodorowicz-Knab
\$19.95
Item 2-642
pb. 304 pages. 6 x 9 inches

An unflinching, detailed portrait of a forgotten group of Nazi survivors. Written by the daughter of Polish forced laborers, *Wearing the Letter P* gives a voice to women who were taken from their homes as young as 12 years old and subjected to slave labor conditions, starvation, sexual exploitation, and forced abortions and child separation — all while Nazi propaganda depicted them as well-cared-for volunteers. Knab provides an important contribution to World War II history, based on archival and family records, war crime trials, and victim accounts.



THE AUSCHWITZ VOLUNTEER
by Witold Pilecki
\$34.95
Item 2-673
Aquila Polonica Publ., 2014
460 pp., pb. / 6x9 in.

In 1940, the Polish Underground wanted to know what was happening inside the recently opened Auschwitz concentration camp. Polish army officer Witold Pilecki volunteered to be arrested by the Germans and report



THE COLOR OF COURAGE
by Julian E. Kulski
\$19.95
Item 2-674
Aquila Polonica Publ., 2012. pb.
496 pp., 6" x 9"

"If there is going to be a war, I do not want to miss it." So wrote Julian Kulski a few days before the outbreak of World War II, in this remarkable diary of a boy at war from ages 10 to 16. Kulski wages his own private war against the Germans with small acts of sabotage. At age 12, Kulski is recruited into



PUSH NOT THE RIVER
Book 1 of Martin's Poland Trilogy
\$15.95
Item 2-609
496 pp.pb. Maps & wycinanki illust.

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

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SPORTS

Dombrowski Gets Another Honor

by Tom Tarapacki

Dave Dombrowski has been named the sixth recipient of the Excellence in Sports award presented by the National Polish-American Sports Hall of Fame (NPA-SHF). The special award was created to honor active sports figures for their contributions and achievements. Previous winners are Joe Maddon



Dombrowski earns a special award.

(2017), Gary Kubiak (2016), Frank Kaminsky (2015), Liz Johnson (2014) and Brad Keselowski (2013).

Dombrowski is president of baseball operations for the World Champion Boston Red Sox, and one of the most distinguished executives in Major League Baseball history. Over his 40 years in baseball, Dombrowski's teams have earned well over 2,000 wins as well as numerous trips to the postseason and four pennants. This past fall, the Red Sox team he constructed earned him his second World Series title. Previously he led the Florida Marlins to the 1997 World Championship. He is one of the few executives to build World Series winners in both the National and American Leagues.

The Chicago native started off working in the front office of the White Sox. In 1988, at age 31, he became Montreal's general manager — the youngest in MLB at the time. Throughout his career with the White Sox, Expos, Marlins, Tigers and Red Sox, "Deal' Dave" has received numerous awards for his achievements in baseball, including *Baseball America's* Executive of the Year award in both 2006 and 2018. Many consider him a shoo-in to one day be inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame.

Dombrowski will be honored, along with the Hall of Fame inductees, at the 47th Annual Induction Banquet on Thursday, June 20, 2019, at the American Polish Cultural Center in Troy, Michigan. Tickets for the banquet, which begins at 5:30 p.m., are \$125 and can be ordered by calling (313) 407-3300.

A GREAT CHOICE. Dylan Osetkowski tallied 19 points, 11

rebounds, five assists and three steals as Texas beat Lipscomb 81-66 to win the men's National Invitation Tournament in New York. The 6'9" forward came up big in

the five games of the NIT, averaging 15.6 points and 6.4 rebounds. An outstanding shooter, he shot 53% from the field and 45% from three-point range.



Osetkowski

Osetkowski has a number of tattoos, including the Polish word "wybór," which means choices, on his wrist. The San Diego native made an important choice to transfer from Tulane when the coach there was fired, and things have worked out well for him at Texas. (PAJ January 2018). A skilled inside-outside player, Dylan has been starting since he joined the Longhorns.

Osetkowski comes from an athletic family, and his older brother Cory played basketball and baseball for Columbia. The senior will graduate in May with a degree in American Studies and a minor in communications.

KUBA TO THE RESCUE. *The New York Times* had an interesting article on the near-collapse of the Polish soccer team Wisła Kraków, and the efforts of one of Poland's greatest players to save the club. **Jakub "Kuba" Błaszczykowski** has faced many challenges in his career, but this may be one of the biggest — and he's doing it for free!

Błaszczykowski, a 33-year-old midfielder, started his pro career at Wisła Kraków. He went on to play in the Champions League as a member of Borussia Dortmund, and in the World Cup with Poland's national team. He was named Polish Footballer of the Year in 2008

and 2010.

In 2016 Wisła Kraków's longtime owner, Boguslaw Cupial, decided to sell the club, an eight-time league champion, after he suffered some financial losses. A group of soccer hooligans called the Sharks ended up getting control.

"Almost every club in Poland has a problem with hooligans," said Szymon Jadczyk, an investigative reporter for the Polish television network TVN. "But in Wisła, the hooligans were the club."

The Sharks were led by Pawel Michalski. He had served more than six years in prison for throwing a knife from the stands at an Italian player during a UEFA Cup match. Michalski put people with close ties to the Sharks in charge of the club, and they entered into contracts for everything associated with the team with friends and as-



"Kuba" Błaszczykowski

sociates at inflated rates.

Eventually an arrest warrant was issued for Michalski, charged with heading a criminal group and being involved in the drug trade. Poland's Central Bureau of Investigation undertook a series of raids in which they arrested dozens of hooligans. After Jadczyk ran a TV expose, the club's top officials resigned. Michalski fled Poland but was eventually arrested in Italy and will stand trial later this year.

An apparent savior then arrived in the person of a French-Cambodian businessman named Vanna Ly. He signed a contract to buy the team with much fanfare, but then suddenly disappeared. "By then, Wisła Kraków had bigger problems than a missing investor," according to the article. "European soccer's midseason transfer window would open Jan. 1, and with the club's license to play suspended because of its grim financial state, and with its unpaid players likely to depart, Wisła Kraków, had only a few weeks to stabilize its affairs."

To the rescue came Błaszczykowski. He, along with two investors, provided cash to pay the back wages. The payment, along with the sale of eight players, helped solidify the club. Kuba surprised many by saying that he would again play for the team he got his start with if Wisła's license was restored. When that happened, he was in.

Rafal Wislocki, who had successfully run the team's youth academy, was appointed club president. Despite the uncertainty, having a revered Polish icon in the lineup gave fans and players confidence. Wislocki announced that the club was selling five percent of its shares to fans, and 4 million zloty (over \$1 million) was raised in less than



FATHER AND SON TEAM. The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers recently did an excellent piece entitled, *Like Father, Like Son: Two Generations of Broadcasting Excellence*. It told the story of **Jay Willis** and **Alex Wieloszynski**, a rare father/son broadcast audio team.

While dad Jay has used the last name Willis, son Alex goes by the family's given last name, Wieloszynski.

Jay was ready to work an NFL telecast in 2012 when he got word from his CBS bosses that the scheduled audio assistant couldn't work the game. It was two days before the game, and no other union sound personnel were available.

Fortunately, the game was in the Buffalo Bills' Rich Stadium, just a few miles from Willis' home in Hamburg, N.Y. Willis turned to his son, Alex, a junior at the State University of New York at Fredonia who was majoring in sound recording technology.

Willis borrowed a booth kit — the audio gear used to complete the build of a network broadcast booth — to see if Alex knew how to set it up the day before the game. Alex went into the family basement and put it together with relative ease. Jay had his assistant.

The next day father and son worked side-by-side in the production truck during the game, and it went very well. Alex then started working telecasts in Western New York, mostly hockey and college basketball. In 2014, he worked for CBS during a grueling NCAA Tournament regional in Buffalo. After that, CBS began hiring Alex

a day.

Błaszczykowski wanted to play for free, but it was not allowed by league rules. Instead he'll donate his 500 zloty minimum wage (\$130) to a local children's home.

PERKOSKI'S NOTEBOOK. **Nick Muszynski** of Belmont, a 6' 11" center, was named Ohio Valley Conference Freshman of the Year after averaging 14.7 points, 5.8 rebounds, 2.2 blocks and 2.7 assists. He led the Bruins to a share of the OVC regular season championship, 25-4 overall record, and an NCAA Tournament berth.

Margo Dydek, the 7' 2" Polish basketball player who starred for Poland and in the WNBA, was posthumously named to the International Basketball Federation's (FIBA) Hall of Fame.

Coach **Adam Nawalka**, released by the Polish team after the World Cup, now has been sacked as manager of Lech Poznan ... Poland's

on a regular basis.

Interestingly, Alex said he never seriously considered working in television until he did that emergency job with his father. Jay's main interest in sound was as a musician. After graduation from SUNY-Fredonia Jay went to Los Angeles to work as an audio mixer for recording studios, but, after seven years in southern California, he and his wife, Donelle (nee Ziemba), returned to the Buffalo area to start a family.

Alex often works with his dad on network coverage of the Masters and other golf tournaments. "Alex sometimes assists his father," said the article, "But often works as the critically important A1 — the primary sound mixer — at the uncommonly young age of 27."

Alex also works for the NHL Buffalo Sabres as an audio mixer. He's also worked college basketball and the NCAA Tournament in addition to golf and the NFL for CBS, including Super Bowl LIII.

Jay isn't surprised to see his son do so well at such a young age in what can be a difficult occupation. "There's an old saying that when one person teaches, both people learn," Jay said. "When he stepped into audio, I kind of had to figure out how his mind worked and how he learned, having to explain and teach that."

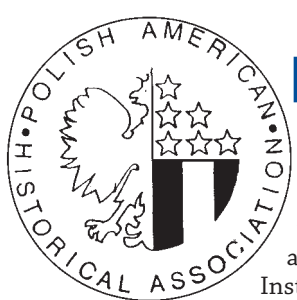
While Alex's future is bright, he's enjoying the present that he's sharing with his father.

"When we're both working the same event out of town, it's sort of like being at home," he said. "We get along extremely well. We're too similar not to."

Gosia Rdest is one of the drivers in the first women-only single-seater six-race championship series starting at Hockenheim in Germany on May 4.

Polish boxer **Jan Dydak**, who won the Welterweight Bronze medal at the 1988 Summer Olympics, died of cancer at 50 ... **Jerry Schypinski**, a Detroit native who played shortstop for the Kansas City Athletics in 1955 after serving in the Korean War, died at 87 ... WWE Hall of Famer **Beth (Kociański) Phoenix** returned to the ring for the first time in six years ... **Rob Gronkowski**, considered by many the greatest NFL tight end of all time, announced that he is retiring after nine seasons.

Michal Oleksiejczuk ended his light heavyweight bout against Gian Villante 94 seconds into the first round. The 24-year-old Oleksiejczuk has compiled a 10-0 record with one no-contest in his last 11 appearances.



Become a member today

Polish American Historical Association

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

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

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ON LANGUAGE

Words that look the same in Polish and English but have totally different meanings

by Olga Mecking

BUT. In English, you have “but” and “butt,” and they’re very different things. In Polish, *but* is pronounced “boot” and means simply, “shoe.”

JEST. In English, “jest” is an old-fashioned word for joke. In Polish, pronounced “yest,” it’s the third person singular of the word *być* (“to be”).

PAN. In English-speaking countries, a pan is used for cooking. In Polish, you can say, for example, *Pan Kowalski* or *Pan Nowak*. In this language, it simply means “mister.”

MOST. In English, this word is used to form superlatives (the most important thing, for example). In Polish, *most* is “bridge.” Just keep in mind that the “O” is pronounced like “aw” in “awesome.”

BRAT. We all know who “brat” is: an unruly, loud, badly behaved child. In Polish, *brat* means “brother.” And while the meanings of these two words can definitely overlap, not all brothers are brats and not all brats are brothers.

WINDY. In Polish, this word has nothing to do with the weather. The Polish word for “elevator” is *winda*, pronounced “veenda.” The plural form is *windy*, making it look similar to the English word describing a certain kind of weather.

HERB. In English, herb is something that you use in your cooking. In Polish, it means “coat of arms.” But if you ask me, I find the culinary herbs much more interesting.

CHART. Pronounced in a similar manner to the word “heart” but with a rolled R, it actually refers to a certain breed of dog, a sighthound to be exact. It has nothing to do with an actual, English “chart.”

PROM. There is no connection whatsoever between the “prom” that all American secondary school children are looking forward to and the Polish word *prom*, which is actually a ferry

— matadornetwork.com

Z języka hiszpańskiego ...

A Warsaw secondary school student has been named as the Polish winner of a translation contest held by the European Commission. Krzysztof Warzocha, 17, has been praised for translating a text from Spanish into Polish. He was one of almost 240 teenagers from 51 Polish schools who entered the *Juvenes Translatores* (Young Translators) contest. Warzocha will join winners from the 27 other EU countries on a visit to Brussels to collect the award and meet some of the European Commission’s professional translators.

The Young Translators contest was launched in 2007. It is organized by the European Commission’s Directorate-General for Translation.

Pierogie Kitchen Begins Full Shipping Service

PHILADELPHIA — The award-winning Pierogie Kitchen of Philadelphia (648 Roxborough Ave.) has been making homemade pierogi from scratch since 2003. Led by owner and founder Marie Thorpe, The Pierogie Kitchen proudly preserves the old-world tradition of pierog-making. What once was a thriving tradition, especially during the holidays, in which pierogi are an extremely popular food item, is now a dying art as churches close and older generations pass. Dying, but not dead thanks to Thorpe and her loyal team of pierogi pinchers.

“I’m extremely proud that we’ve been able to serve Roxborough, the city of Philadelphia, and the entire Delaware Valley over the years,” said Thorpe, whose shop has been featured on the Food Network and has won a number of accolades, including Best of Philly (Best Pierogie, *Philadelphia Magazine*). “Food is such a big part of the culture and we want to keep this culture alive. To share a family tradition and recipe that I learned from my grandmother with so many people over the years truly means the world to me. I’m proud to uphold this old-world family tradition and pass it along to others.”

Thorpe transformed her ice cream parlor into the Delaware Valley’s most popular source of homemade and hand-pinched pierogi back in November 2003 and is now shipping her products all over the country through a new shipping program.

The Pierogie Kitchen, which is opened Tuesday-Saturday, sells over 30 varieties of pierogi as well as its popular stacker sandwiches, homemade soup, stuffed cabbage, *haluski*, *chrusciki*, *kielbasa* and *kraut*, *babka*, and other baked goods.

Pierogie Kitchen pierogi are pre-

boiled and feature light, thin dough that is hand-pinched (every single one of them!) and filled with traditional and gourmet fillings, The Pierogie Kitchen’s pierogi are nothing short of perfection.

“Making delicious, wholesome food doesn’t happen quickly,” said

Thorpe. “That’s why we don’t skip any of the 16 steps in our family recipe—and yes, every single pierogi is made by hand every day with fresh, high quality ingredients.”

Visit www.pierogiekitchen.com to see the full menu, or to send or receive pierogi in the mail.

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READER'S RECIPES / Barbara Betlejwska

Quick n' Easy Rye Bread

Ingredients

1 1/8 cup whole rye flour
3/4 cup whole wheat flour
1 1/2 cup all-purpose flour
1/4 cup wheat germ
3/4 cup oat bran
1 1/2 tbsp gluten
1 tsp baking powder
2 tsp baking soda
3/4 tsp salt
2 Tbsp caraway seeds
2 Tbsp vinegar
2 cups milk

Grease a 10"x5" loaf or bread pan. Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Add all dry ingredients to a large bowl and mix well by hand. Mix the vinegar with the milk. Add to dry ingredients and stir until evenly moist. Place dough in pan and smooth top. Place a shallow pan or cup with boiling water in the bottom of the oven for an even crustier loaf. Bake about 50 minutes in middle of oven until golden and crusty. Remove from pan and cool on wire rack. You may need an extra 1/8 cup milk if you use wheat bran. Recipe is easily doubled to make two loaves.

Since baking powder and baking soda are used in this recipe, no yeast or kneading or rising is required and the bread is oven-ready in about 10 minutes! Most commercial “Polish rye” breads have very little rye flour because rye alone lacks gluten and produces a very dense, heavy bread. This recipe, on

the other hand, has a high percentage of rye flour and a surprisingly high percentage of whole-grains. Enjoy a fragrant, crusty loaf every time!

Sernik makowiec
Poppyseed Cheesecake

Ingredients

Crust
2/3 cup flour
1/4 cup confectioner's sugar
1 1/2 Tbsp cornstarch
2 Tbsp butter
2 Tbsp canola oil.

Poppyseed Filling

1/4 cup poppyseeds
1/2 cup sugar
3 Tbsp honey
1/2 cup milk
1/4 tsp almond flavoring
or
1-2 cans of Solo poppyseed filling
2 eggs, separated.

Cheese filling

1 lb. ricotta
or
your own home-made Polish *twaróg* cheese
or
two 8-oz packages of Neufchatel (or cream cheese), softened
2/3 cup sugar
1 Tbsp cornstarch
2 eggs
1/4 tsp almond flavoring

Preparation

Crust: Lightly grease spring-form pan. Melt butter. Mix all in-

gredients together and press into bottom of pan. Add a little more oil if needed. Bake 10-12 min on lower mid rack at 300 degrees. Set aside.

Poppyseed

Filling:

Grind poppyseeds in a poppyseed mill (*młynek na mak*, available on line) if available. Or use a mortar and pestle — 1/4 cup unground seeds produces about 1/3 cup ground seeds. Have all ingredients at warm

room temperature. Mix poppyseed ingredients together and cook until smooth and moderately thick. If using canned filling, mix well in bowl. Add egg yolks and stir until blended. Beat egg whites until stiff and fold into poppyseed mixture. Set aside.

Cheese filling: Beat cheese in mixer, add sugar and blend. Add eggs, cornstarch and flavoring and beat until smooth.

Spread poppyseed filling evenly over crust. Pour cheese filling evenly over poppyseed filling. Bake in 300-degree oven with a glass of hot water to help prevent cheese from cracking on top. Bake about 55 minutes until center is slightly set but still jiggly. Turn off oven, bake

Visiting Professor Offers Perspective on Civil War



VALDOSTA, Ga. — Valdosta State University students are gaining unique insight into one of America’s biggest wars through the teachings of Dr. Piotr Derengowski, a visiting professor for the Spring 2019 semester.

Derengowski, an assistant professor of history at the University of Gdansk in Poland, is teaching a course on United States history from 1850 to 1877, with the focal point being the Civil War. Derengowski has been studying the Civil War for more than two decades, and his course explores the conflict from a European perspective.

Derengowski has published a book on Poles in the Civil War, and he is now looking into African-American troops who fought in the Civil War and other American military conflicts.

Derengowski is teaching at VSU through the Louie A. Brown Visiting International Scholars Program, a grant program coordinated by VSU’s Center for International Programs that enables colleges and departments to bring recognized international faculty to campus for an extended period of time.

five more minutes. Then open oven door a tiny crack and very slowly let heat escape to avoid cracking. Let cool slowly over about an hour. Then remove from oven and let cool



completely. Chill at least four hours before slicing. Makes 10-12 or more slices.

Poles love cakes of all sorts and cheesecake is a popular favorite. Poles also love poppyseeds, so this is a great combination. Poles like their cakes mildly sweet and use far less sugar than Americans. Ricotta is very similar to *twaróg*, and the result will be more authentic than using cream cheese.

It is thought that cheesecake was originally invented by the Greeks and refined by the Romans, who increased the domestication of chickens so that larger amounts of eggs were more readily available for recipes like this. Cheesecake recipes from Italy eventually appeared in Poland.

Smacznego. (Bon appétit.)

PIONEERS OF POLISH CULTURE

Tribute — Stanisław K. Smardz

Polish immigrants and their offspring have long played a role in the history of the United States. Various waves of immigration have drawn these men and women to many Polish neighborhoods. The first before the Civil War included refugees from Poland's insurrection. The later migrations transformed and created the largest Polonia or Polish immigrant communities in the United States.

To meet community needs, these pioneers established a socially viable network and a strong church foundation. When World War II ended with a Soviet regime in power in Poland, and with another wave of Polish migration to the United States, these "displaced" persons rejuvenated the Polish communities — breathing new life into ethnic institutions.

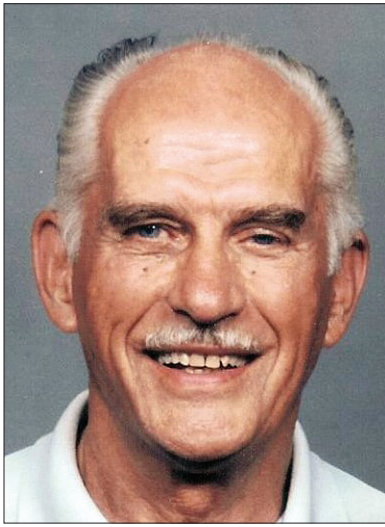
Polonia today is a far cry from the Polonia that existed in the 19th century, or for that matter, even the Polonia of 20 years ago. With the recent closing of multiple Polish parishes — the core of yesteryear's Polonia, and congregations being directed to merge, our Polish identity is in jeopardy.

There are pillars of culture and patriotic pride — who instilled a sense of appreciation and inspiration in our ethnic heritage. One such mentor to generations of Polish Americans was **Stanisław K. Smardz**.

A leader in the post-war Polish émigré community of Massachusetts — and especially the city of Haverhill — Stanisław K. Smardz died April 1 at the age of 99. He was buried at the Shrine of Our Lady of Częstochowa in Doylestown, Pa.

Like most Europeans of his generation, he was irrevocably shaped by the events of World War II, which forever altered his future. He was born of Polish parents on September 18, 1919, in Recklinghausen, Germany, where his father had found work in the civil service at a time when Poland was partitioned. Polish independence was formally declared later that same year, and the family soon moved to the town of Kolomyja, in eastern Poland, now part of Ukraine.

Smardz was a mechanical engineering student at the University of Lvów when World War II broke out in September 1939. The Soviet Red Army marched into eastern Poland on September 18, his 20th birthday, and after living several months un-



Smardz spoke five languages. He was a talented artist, illustrator, writer and speaker; an avid gardener, amateur bookbinder, car mechanic, stamp collector, and a fervent believer in the benefits of daily exercise.

der occupation, he fled to France via Romania and Italy to join a newly forming Polish army in exile. When that effort foundered for lack of funds and weapons, he made his way to Toulouse, where, with the help of the Polish Consulate and the émigré community, he enrolled in the university to continue his studies. This quiet period lasted until 1944, when he was rounded up in a Gestapo raid on his student residence and transported to the Buchenwald concentration camp in Germany, and then to a series of smaller satellite camps, finally ending up in the Harzungen camp in central Germany.

After the Allies entered Germany in 1945, the Nazi guards marched the prisoners out of the camp and abandoned them in a field in the middle of the night. Picked up on the road by an American convoy, Smardz was taken to a field hospital, where he met his future wife, Krystyna Szyszkowska, a Polish national, who had been taken into forced labor in Germany after the 1944 Warsaw Uprising. Unwilling to return to a Poland now under Communist rule, the couple spent five years in German DP camps before receiving political asylum, emigrating to the United States in 1950 and settling in Haverhill with their three small children — Ania, Krzysiek and Zosia (a fourth, Elżunia was born in America) and the possessions that fit in a single wooden trunk.

As a refugee, Smardz had few resources, no money, no job and no English, to start a completely new

and unforeseen life halfway across the world. He worked a series of menial jobs while learning English at night and taking correspondence courses in radio and television repair. Eventually, he took the civil service exam and landed a position as a draftsman with the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, where he worked for more than 25 years.

Surpassing his professional accomplishments was his devotion to the homeland he'd been forced to leave behind and which he longed to see free again. A Polish patriot to the core, he worked tirelessly to promote and preserve the Polish language, culture, history and traditions among the Polish families that, in the mid-20th century, clustered in the Mount Washington neighborhood of Haverhill, worshipping at St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church (now closed) and socializing at the old Polish National Home.

A gifted, though largely untrained musician, he was the longtime director of the St. Michael's choir, and composed or arranged much of the music the group performed every Sunday and at various appearances, celebrations, as well as at annual Polish choir conventions held throughout the state for many decades. In 1976, the choir issued a record of Polish folk and patriotic songs on one side and Christmas *kolędy* carols on the other. The arrangements of these carols, many of them pre-war and handwritten, were unique and not to be found, even in Poland. They were honored to perform for Cardinal Karol Wojtyła, who would later be Pope John Paul II.

There was rarely an evening in the Smardz home when he wasn't seated at the piano, working out the chords for his latest folk song medley. He organized countless festivities marking Polish holidays and special occasions, including Polish Constitution Day (May 3, or *Trzeci Maj*).

Beyond his musical skills, he spoke five languages and was a talented artist, illustrator, writer and speaker, an avid gardener, an amateur bookbinder and car mechanic, a stamp collector, and a fervent believer in the benefits of daily exercise.

For many years, Smardz taught Polish and music lessons to the parish children. For his work with the Polish and Polish American community, he received numerous

awards and commendations from state and local government, including from the governor of Massachusetts, as well as from national Polish American organizations such as the Polish National Alliance and the Polish-American Congress

He brought the old-fashioned pursuits of his Polish boyhood to the New World, and of course, we hated them. Actually, we dreaded them. Yet, even as kids, I think we knew there was something about those days we'd recall later."



Smardz was the longtime director of the St. Michael's choir, and composed or arranged much of the music the group performed every Sunday and at various appearances, celebrations, as well as at annual Polish choir conventions held throughout the state for many decades.

In her eulogy to her father, daughter Zofia remarked on his role in promoting Polish culture in the community and at home: "His future had changed, but what couldn't change was his devotion to his beloved *Ojczyzna*, his Polish homeland. The word "patriotism" is a little controversial in our time, but "Tat" (as we called him) never doubted what it meant, and he wore the cloak of Polish patriot with pride. And he was determined to keep the flame alive in the post-war Polish community that sprang up here in Haverhill ..."

"It was great fun for everyone, but for our father it was more, a serious business — it was all about preserving our Polish culture and traditions, our own little Polish world here on American shores. My father was far from Poland, but Poland was never far from him. At home, it was drilled into us that we were Poles first and foremost. Polish was our mother tongue and the language we were to speak at home. 'Mówcie po Polsku,' he would rumble if he caught us in corners whispering to each other in English. 'Speak Polish.' This was tough for young kids, who just want to be like everybody around them, but we knew there was no bucking our father's will.

"Pan Smardz has touched the lives of so many. Who he was helped make us who we are today. Even though his passing marks the end of era within Polonia, his legacy lives on in the minds he shaped and the interest he sparked in Poland's culture, language and history. *Dziękujemy z całego serca i do zobaczenia.*"

— Compiled, edited and adapted by Staś Kmiec; based on eulogy and obituary by Zofia Smardz

In the December 2011 issue, PAJ featured an article — *The Ghosts of Midnight Masses Past* (available on the www.polamjournal.com website, that featured Mr. Smardz, who at age 92, was still leading the singing of *kolędy* before *Midnight Mass* at a merger parish in Haverhill, Massachusetts.

I Love Poland Wins Her First Regatta

PHILIPSBURG, St. Maarten — The yacht *I Love Poland* won the St. Maarten Heineken Regatta, when Polish yachtsmen led by skipper Jarosław Kaczorowski finished first in their class in real-time, outpacing its competition.

The yacht is a part of a project of the same name created by the Polish National Foundation.

The crew had been training intensely to reach top efficiency for their first race.

"Our sailors trained hard. It's a great privilege to be a part of the team, which managed to take line honors already in its racing debut. *I Love Poland* is a training project, so the very participation in the race was already a huge challenge. I'm happy that the Polish National Foundation decided to carry it out. The effects of the trainings are already visible in the form of our first victory, which we will bring home," said Darek Pękala, sailing projects adviser of the Polish National Foundation.

Upcoming races will soon take place in Havana and Miami. On their way back from America, the crew will visit New York.

Rhode Island Polonia Scholarship Foundation 2019 Awards

PROVIDENCE, R.I. — On April 6, 2019, the Rhode Island Polonia Scholarship Foundation awarded two high school seniors \$1,000.00 grants toward their college education. The award ceremony took place at St. Adalbert's Parish Center, Providence.

This year's recipients are **Vanessa A. Szulc** and **Klaudia Gajda**. The awards were presented by Dr. Dorothy Pieniadz, scholarship selection chairperson.

Applicants are chosen based on academic excellence, extra-curricular and athletic accomplishments, personal character, and community service. In addition, applicants have to submit a research paper on a selected topic pertaining to Polish culture, art, music, or history. This



(l. to r.): Foundation President Gregory Malec, scholarships recipients Vanessa A. Szulc and Klaudia Gajda, and Dr. Dorothy Pieniadz.

year's research paper focused on the significance of the centennial of the restoration of Poland's independence and the roles of Jozef Pilsudski, Roman Dmowski, Ignacy Jan Paderewski, and U.S. President Woodrow Wilson.

Since its founding in 1978 the Foundation has awarded 349 grants totaling over \$306,000.00. These grants are made possible through the support of private individuals, businesses and Polish American organizations. In addition to providing financial support, the Foundation strives to promote an appreciation of Polish culture and create an awareness of contributions made by Poland and Polish Americans. Information about the Foundation can be found on Facebook.

IN MEMORIAM

Maria Quas de Penno, Deportation Survivor

WASHINGTON, D.C. — **Maria Quas de Penno** (nee Pryjomko) 81, passed away, March 28, 2019 at her home in Chevy Chase, Md.

As a child she was deported together with her family from their home in Chotow, near Nowogrodek by the Soviets to a labor camp in Wologda, Siberia.

In 1942, after two years of starvation and hardship, the family was allowed to leave following the German invasion of Russia.

Her father and uncle joined the Polish "Anders" Army and the rest of the family went from Krasnovodsk, (Turkmenistan) via Persia,

Pakistan, and Kenya to a deportee camp in Masindi, Uganda where she remained until 1948. She settled in Washington, D.C. in 1968 and was involved in the Polish-American Arts Association, the Friends of the John Paul II Foundation and the Polish American Congress Washington Metropolitan Division. In 2006 she received the Siberian Exiles Cross.

She was a patriot of her native country, a member of Our Lady Queen of Poland parish, and an enthusiastic supporter of Polish emigres and culture in the United States.

Christine Przybyła Long, Polish Activist Served Her Ancestry Above and Beyond

Christine Long, nee Przybyła, 87, born in 1931, passed away on March 10. The daughter of Polish immigrants and a lifelong Chicagoan, Long spent her entire life promoting a multitude of humanitarian, civil rights, immigration, and political causes. She expressed pride in her Polish heritage by her activities in the Polish American community.

She felt her greatest and most personal achievements were helping an estimated 4,000 people become U. S. citizens. She even worked with the Polish Sejm (Congress) during Poland's transition from communism to democracy.

She was active in many civic groups, including the City Club of Chicago, the Warsaw Committee of Chicago Sister Cities International, the National Polish American-Jewish American Council, the Polish American Economic Forum, the U.S. - Poland Chamber of Commerce, and the Illinois Ethnic Coalition. Long was the recipient of the 1995 Edwin Cudecki American Pluralism Award and was appointed by President Jimmy Carter

to be a member of the National Advisory Commission on Vocational Education. Her family will plan a commemorative service. Long was a 1953 graduate of Milwaukee's Alverno College.

She is survived by her husband, Jerome, and three children, , and five grandchildren.

— *Geraldine Balut Coleman*

Walter Olszowy, Veteran, Scuba Diver

Walter F. Olszowy, of Buffalo, N.Y., 87, was a scuba diver who retrieved thousands of items underwater. Among his finds were cannonballs from the War of 1812 he had taken from below Fort George, jewelry, bags of cash, scores of discarded guns and hundreds of bottles. Olszowy served in the Korean War as an engine room machinist and mechanic aboard the tanker ship *USS Chemung* and the aircraft carrier *USS Valley Forge*.

Born in Poland

by Ed Poniewaz

Cop: Oh, yeah. Who the hell are you? Where you from?

Max: The Bronx

Cop: And you give away watches... and who gave it to you?

Max: My uncle Nathan...

Noodles: My little brother.

Cop: Tell your uncle to stop by the precinct.

Max: He's dead. Alcoholic. Ketrzyn, Poland.

Cop: Hmm. Then he don't need it no more. It's been requisitioned.

— *Once Upon a Time in America* (1984).

"Noodles" is David Aaronson and "Max" is Maximilian Bercovicz, and this scene is about a stolen watch which has been "requisitioned." You can decide what "requisitioned" means here and it would not be surprising that a bunch of rascals of Jewish background roaming the streets in the lower East side of Manhattan at the turn of the 20th century in this country would reference Poland as their uncle's (real or not) place of birth. At the start of the Second World War about 3.5 million Jews were citizens of Poland and many others lived in Lithuania and Ukraine, two countries — if not always controlled politically by Poland — were influenced by her socially and culturally for hundreds of years.

CONSIDERING HOW MANY JEWS called Poland home at one time or another, it probably would not be surprising how many successful and important Americans of Jewish descent trace a generational home to Poland — some were even first-generation immigrants from that nation. There are different list categories for Jewish Americans in Wikipedia. The list designates those who were born in a country other than the United States. I did not add up how many have the "Born in Poland" tag but I am guessing it is at or near the highest number. Some of these folks you are most likely familiar with and others not so much. Here are a few of those "not so much" you might be interested in learning about:

Leo Gerstenzang. We start with Leo because he is the inventor of the Q-Tip! I write a lot about Poles who create or invent things because I am impressed with this ability and now we have another. "Gerstenzang was born in Warsaw...and he emigrated to Chicago, Illinois in 1912." In case you are wondering, the "Q" in Q-Tips stands for quality.

Maksymilian Faktorowicz. He is best known as Max Factor and along with Helena Rubinstein, his name was another that I was most familiar with as a child from cosmetics advertisements on television. Faktorowicz was born September 15, 1877 in Zdunska Wola in pre-independence Congress Poland to Abraham Faktorowicz and Cecylia Wroclawska. He "popularized the term 'make-up' and was known for giving 'signature looks' to actresses such as Jean Harlow, Clara Bow, Lucille Ball, and Joan Crawford."

Jack J. Grynberg. Jack Grynberg, born 1932, "is a Polish-born American businessman and developer in the oil and natural gas industry." He was "born to a Jewish family in Brest, Belarus, then

part of Poland." Mr. Grynberg, a survivor of World War II, moved to America shortly after the war, earned his first million dollars at age 30, and continued to be "engaged in several successful domestic and international oil and gas exploration programs."

Leo Melamed. Melamed was born in Bialystok, Poland in 1932. When Poland was invaded, his family fled to Lithuania and eventually across Siberia to Japan to avoid capture by the Germans. He immigrated to the United States in 1941 and settled in Chicago. Melamed is "a pioneer of financial futures. He is the chairman emeritus of CME Group (formerly the Chicago Mercantile Exchange.)"

Paul Kalmanovitz. Kalmanovitz (originally Kalmanowicz) "a millionaire brewing and real estate magnate best known for owning all or part of several national breweries and products, including Falstaff Brewing Company and Pabst Brewing Company. Most of the Kalmanovitz estate was left to create a charitable foundation for hospitals and universities." He was born in Lodz, Poland in 1905 and although he moved to the United States before World War II, his brother Joseph died at Auschwitz.

Benjamin Winter. Ben Winter, also born in Lodz, Poland, February 5, 1881, gained success as a real estate developer and "served as president of the American Federation of Polish Jews." He is known for creating Fifth Avenue in New York City as the shopping mecca we know today, and owns properties such as Hotel Delmonico, the Stanhope Hotel, Bretton Hall, the Gunther Building, and the Hotel Claridge, among others.

IN SPITE of what revisionists would like you to think, Poles and Jews have coexisted for over 1,000 years. For centuries, Poland was home to the largest and most significant Jewish community in the world. Poland was a principal center of Jewish culture, thanks to a long period of statutory religious tolerance and social autonomy. This ended with the Partitions of Poland which began in 1772, in particular, with the discrimination and persecution of Jews in the Russian Empire. Since the fall of communism in Poland,

there has been a Jewish revival, featuring an annual Jewish Culture Festival, new study programs at Polish secondary schools and universities, the work of synagogues such as the Nozyk Synagogue, and Warsaw's Museum of the History of Polish Jews.

POLISH OR NOT? The first-ever champion of the Augusta National Women's Amateur golf tournament is **Jennifer Kupcho**, a student and member of the Wake Forest University golf team. "The event was established to inspire greater interest and participation in the women's game by creating a new, exciting and rewarding pathway for these players to fulfill their dreams." Jennifer also was the individual champion in the 2018 NCAA Division I Women's Golf championship. Polish or not?

Broadcasting the inaugural Augusta National Women's Amateur was **Steve Burkowski**, "a reporter and producer for Golf Central, covering amateur events and the college golf ranks for the network." Whether Steve is Polish or not, I think it is really neat to have a "Burkowski" in the broadcast booth. Perhaps one day he will move on and be doing PGA events. Move over Dan Hicks!

Also pertaining to the Division I NCAA Golf Championship, I noticed the individual champion winner in 2005 was Duke University's **Anna Grzebien**. This four-time All-American in golf won many other awards during her college career. After a five-year stint in the Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA), she hung it up on the tour for employment in the private sector. I remember seeing the name in some LPGA tournaments but did not realize her prowess during college. Is Anna, Polish or not, and should Anna be included in the Polish American Sports Hall of Fame?

◆ ◆ ◆

If you have a thought about this month's topic, have a question, or have interesting facts to share, contact me at: Edward Poniewaz, 6432 Marmaduke Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63139; email alinabrig@yahoo.com. Reference the *Polish American Journal* or the *Pondering Pole* in the subject line. I will not open an email if I do not recognize the subject or the sender.

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GENEALOGY

Passenger Manifests: Problems with Names

by Stephen M. Szabados

Finding the passenger manifests for my immigrant ancestor was thrilling. Finding those first manifests was a factor in my addiction to genealogy and family history. The story of the arrival in America of my ancestors tells of a crucial event in my family history, and I found so much information that I developed a passion for passing what I found to my children, grandchildren, and future generations.

I found most of the documents after regular searches, but a few of the manifests were a challenge to find because of the spelling of the names. The name on my grandfather's manifest was correct but the indexer recorded with the wrong first four letters in the indexed record. Another set of grandparents dropped a few letters in their name once they arrived and this variation made the search very frustrating. I also had difficulty because first names were Americanized and I had to learn the Polish name that appeared on the manifest.

THE MYTH OF NAME CHANGES. Many families believe immigration officials changed family names when the immigrants entered America. However, this is a myth. Officials usually recorded the names on passenger manifests based on official documents presented by the immigrant to the ship line at the time of boarding. Changing their names would be illegal. Also, immigration stations were staffed with large numbers of translators to help ensure officials

recorded accurately the information that was given by the immigrants. If families changed the spelling of their surnames, they did it after arrival, and this was usually to make it easier for the people around them to pronounce and write their name.

NAME VARIATIONS AND SPELLING. Some instances of differences in names found on passenger manifests may have been caused when the ship's purser did not use the immigrant's documents as prescribed. Instead, he asked the immigrant and wrote the name phonetically. Immigrants may not have caught the misspelling of their name because the immigrant may have been illiterate. Also, the immigrant may have recognized their name written in the Cyrillic alphabet or Hebrew, but did not know what the purser wrote because he used the Latin alphabet.

Other problems were the given names found on the manifests. The immigrant may have preferred to use their middle name in their daily life, but their exit documents required the purser to list their first name on the passenger manifest. Another challenge we have is to identify the Polish spelling of the given names.

SEARCHING. Remembering that a manifest may list your ancestor's name as a variant should help you find your ancestor faster. Use the correct spelling first and if you cannot find your ancestor, use name variations and wildcards. First names are important in your search, and the record may list one of the

variations of a given name. Sometimes it is best to use the part of the given name with wildcards to reduce the problem with the given name variants. I have found two books that provide useful lists of given and surname name variants - *Polish Surnames: Origins and Meaning* and *First Names of The Polish Commonwealth: Origins & Meanings*. Both books are by William F. Hoffman.

Passenger manifests help document the arrival of your ancestors and will give you valuable information about where they left and where they were going in America. Who was with them? The story of their arrival in America describes a crucial event in your family history. We are descendants of immigrants, and our ancestors contributed to the tremendous growth in America. The industrial growth in the 1900s could not have happened without the immigrants.

Be patient and remember to have fun looking for your family history.

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Each order includes a genealogical contact sheet to help check your family records in Poland, track down ancestral homesteads and graves or possibly even turn up long-lost relatives. For more information please contact: resarch60@gmail.com.



THE KORWIN COAT OF ARMS was shared by the nobles of several dozen Polish families including: Bienkowski, Chrzanowski, Gałczewski, Gosiewski, Jagodziński, Joachimowicz, Karaczyński, Kossakowski, Krukowski, Lisowski, Materna, Michalski, Orzeszkowa, Piotrowski, Prendowski, Sakowicz, Seredyński, Terajewicz, and Wendrychowski.

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DANCE TIME

Fans Fall in Love with the Polski Chix

by Jennifer Pijanowski

BUFFALO, N.Y. — **Polski Chix** made the trip to Buffalo to be a part of a live taping of *Polka Buzz* for its April airings. Polka lovers arrived in droves to Potts Banquet Hall to enjoy the music of this talented all female group of musicians.

Many had never had the privilege of seeing this band perform live and anxiously waited for the band to begin the four-episode taping. Dancers grabbed their spot stage front on the dance floor while enjoying the beautiful harmonies and delightful personality of the band members. During a break after the first show taping, band leader Dawn Rosinski took some time to distribute white hankies with the band logo on them for a group participation song during the second show taping.

Polka Buzz fans love the group involvement and took no time wanting to grab a hanky and join in the fun. I would like to extend a huge thank you to Dawn, Debra, Rhonda, Emily, and Grace for making the trip to Buffalo. Thank you very much for sharing your talents and love of polka music with all of Western New York. *Polka Buzz* tapings are done once a month at Potts Banquet Hall and you can be a part of the show by attending and paying just \$5.00 admission.



Denise Skorik, Chris Tanski, Dorothy Barrett, Pat Mazur, Terri Pajak, and Pat Piosenka with their *Polski Chix* hankies during the band's *Polka Buzz* show recording.



John Stanczyk and family at a Buffalo Polka Boosters meeting. John is a member Buffalo's Rare Vintage band.

THE 8TH ANNUAL WHEELING POLKA FESTIVAL brought in record crowds who spent the weekend indulging in polka music provided by **Dennis Polisky & Maestro's Men, The Boys, The Versa Js, Pol-**

the polka world and reviews of the event have been stellar. Unfortunately, last minute plans kept me from attending but, I received unending rave reviews about the gor-



Brian Gawlak, Judy Stringhill, and Troy Gawlak having fun at the Wheeling Polka Festival.

ka Family, and the Nu-Tones. The festival is held at Wilson Lodge on the grounds of breathtaking Oglebay Resort. Plans are in the works for the 2020 festival so if you have not attended this festival yet, you will want to make plans to attend next year. Fabulous music accompanied by a beautiful hall, gorgeous surroundings, and the friendly folks of my hometown of Wheeling, W.V. make this event a must for your polka bucket list.

THE RETURN OF HOLY TOLEDO Days in 2019 has been the buzz in

geous venue, vast hall and dance floor, and magnificent service provided by festival organizers as well as the staff of the Renaissance Hotel.

Festival attendees enjoyed music by a show-stopping lineup including host band **DynaBrass, The Boys, Michael Costa & The Beat, John Gora & Gorale, Polish Connection, FreezeDried, Polka Country Musicians, The Knewz, and Squeezebox** featuring Ted Lange & Mollie B. We look forward to definitely attending next year and getting a firsthand perspective. I did listen in to the live feed provided

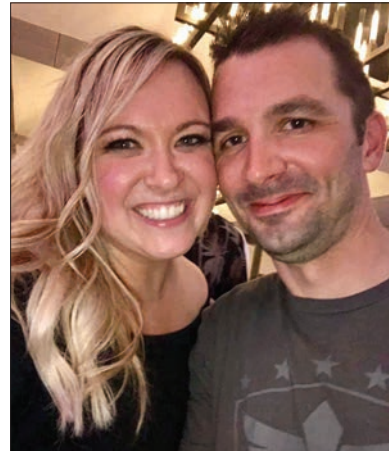
by the Polka Jammer Network and enjoyed seeing all of the pictures posted on social media.

EASTER SEASON DELIGHT at the Broadway Market is brought to life by the sound of polka music ringing out in the 131-year-old public market in the Polonia district of Buffalo. Local bands take turns lending their talents to encourage shoppers to partake in Polish traditions and the joy brought about by the Easter season. **Special Delivery, New Direction, Buffalo Touch, and Frank Z** took turns entertaining record crowds on weekends leading up to Easter Sunday.

We always make early morning trips to the market and while it is bustling with fellow shoppers, there is a definite upswing in the atmo-



Frank Zeczak and Jimmy Raczkowski at the Broadway Market on Palm Sunday.



Holly and J.D. Lashway at Holy Toledo Polka Days

sphere as the polka music begins around noon. I find so much joy in watching shoppers, with bags in tow, stopping to listen and dance along to the band. It is inevitable that there will be a group of young dancers mesmerized in front of the band dancing along to the happy polka music. Western New York polka fans can take pride in the growing demand for polka music in our area especially as Easter and Dyngus Day approaches. We are honored that Buffalo is the Dyngus Day Capital and polka lovers from all over come to Western New York to celebrate with us the Monday after Easter.

EASTER FEAST. John Gora showcased his fan savvy and musical gifts with members of Buffalo Polka Boosters at their annual Świąconka. Polish Falcons had a packed crowd for the annual Easter celebration with includes a traditional Easter breakfast and entertainment by polka fan favorite John Gora & Gorale. An ample sampling of desserts was provided by Booster members including eight Easter Lamb cakes and homemade butter lambs by Eleanor Mach and over five pounds of homemade chrusciki baked with love by Barb Oleksy.

COMING UP. The 51st annual United States Polka Association Convention will be held Memorial Day Weekend, May 23-26, 2019. Festivities will take place at the Holiday Inn Cleveland South.

The event starts on Thursday



Chester Kowalski and Barb Oleksy at Buffalo Polka Boosters.

night with a free lounge party featuring **Jimmy K & The All Stars.** Friday night's lineup includes music by **Lenny Gomulka & Chicago Push, DynaVersaStickToneAires, Gerry Kaminski's Polka Network, and The Music Company.** Saturday's schedule is packed, beginning with USPA 43rd Annual Polka Music Awards Banquet, then the Junior Miss USPA and Teen Miss USPA Pageant, while the lounge party entertainment features **The Kosmix.** There will be 12 full hours of polka music in the hall starring **Maestro's Men, The Project, Freeze Dried, and Box On** while **The NuTones** provide the evening entertainment in the lounge. The final day will be high energy as well, beginning with a Polka Mass featuring music by **John Gora,** and followed by Pro Am Jam in the Lounge.

The **Pro Am Jam** continues to grow every single year and seeing the future of polka music perform is an event you will not want to miss. Attendants then have another full 12 hours of polka music to finish out the star studded polka weekend with **Polka Country Musicians, The Boys, John Gora, and Polka Family.** As USPA kicks off the summer polka season, you can be assured that polka fans will be in full force in Cleveland for this stellar weekend.

Discounted three-day passes only \$47.00. Passes must be purchased by May 10.

GREAT MEADOWS, GREAT MUSIC. Saturday, June 8th is certain to be fun filled day of polka music at the Summer Hummer 2 which is being held at the Independence Fire Hall, 24 Cemetery Rd., Great Meadows, N.J. Music will be furnished by **Polka Country Musicians, Polka Family, and Stephanie & her Honky band.**

Tickets are available for \$17.00 in advance/\$20.00 at the door. You can contact Michael Puckowski (908) 209-9843 or email him at mpuco@optonline.net for additional information.

This dance is filled with polka powerhouse bands that will make it worth a drive to New Jersey for a day of fun, dancing, and friendship.

POLKA CALENDAR

Compiled by John Ziobrowski

To list your event, please send date, band, location, times, and contact number to: ziobrowskijohn@gmail.com

MAY 4

- Joe Stanky. Alert Fire Hall Emigsville, Pa. 7-11 (717) 74-1148

- The Boys. Elks Lodge Schenectady, N.Y. 6:30-10:30 (518) 857-2331
- Randy Krajewski. Lyskawa Hall Dearborn, Mich. 7-11 (734) 422-1901
- Tony Blazonczyk / Maroszek Bros. Zielinski's Ballroom Pulaski 6-11
- New Direction. Firehouse Grille West Seneca, N.Y. 7-11 (716) 826-4259

MAY 5

- The Boys. PACC Ludlow, Mass. 2:30-6:30 (413) 519-7014
- Northern Lites. Polish Club Daytona Beach, Fla. 2-5 (386) 258-7059
- Jeannie Music. PASC Hudson, Fla. 2-5 (727) 868-9763

- Lenny Gomulka. Polish Cultural Foundation Clark, N.J. 2-6 (732) 382-7197

MAY 11

- Box On. St. Rita-St. Joseph Hall Maple City, Mich. 7-11 (231) 326-5255

MAY 12

- The Boys. Slovenian Hall Yukon, Pa. 3-7 (410) 629-9697
- Buffalo Touch. Clinton Bar & Grill Cheektowaga, N.Y. 5:30
- Joe Stanky. VFW Dupont, Pa. 2-6 (570) 472-1152
- Melotones. Polish Club Bellevue, Fla. 2-5 (352) 854-6193
- Jeannie Music. PASC Hudson, Fla. 2-5 (727) 868-9763

MAY 15

- DyversaCo / Music Connection. Sheraton Hotel Milwaukee, Wisc.

MAY 18

- Duane Malinowski / Randy Krajewski / DynaBrass. Club 16 Holland, Ohio. 12-10:30 info@polishfestival.org

MAY 19

- The Boys. Nativity BVM Church Reading, Pa. 2-6 (610) 914-5785
- Kielbasa Kings. Club 16 Holland, Ohio. 1-5 info@polishfestival.org
- DynaBrass. Polish Falcons Erie, Pa. 2-6 (814) 452-6146
- John Stevens. PLAV Pine Island, N.Y. 2-6 (845) 258-4168

MAY 18

- Dennis Polisky. St. Joe Polish Society Colchester, Conn. 6-10 (860) 537-2550
- Eddie Forman. WSKG TV Binghamton, N.Y. 1-4 (607) 729-0100
- Joe Stanky. St. Faustina Hall Nanticoke, Pa. 7-10 (570) 735-4833

MAY 19

- Jimmy K. Slovak Club Lorain, Ohio. 10 a.m.-2:20 (440) 245-5146
- Eddie Forman. Roselawn Ballroom, N.Y. Mills, N.Y. 3-7 (315) 736-5030

- Polka Classics. Polish Club Daytona Beach, Fla. 2-5 (386) 258-7059
- Jeannie Music. PASC Hudson, Fla. 2-5 (727) 868-9763

MAY 23-26

- USPA. Holiday Inn South Cleveland, Ohio. 9-1

MAY 25

- Eastern Sound. Seashell Stage Hampton Beach, N.H. 7-9:30 (603) 642-4234

MAY 27

- Eddie Forman. Pulaski Park Three Rivers, Mass. 2:30-6:30 (413) 592-0367

MAY 29

- The Knewz. Polish Falcons Depew, N.Y. 8-11 (716) 684-2373

MAY 31

- Polka Family / Don Wojtla. St. Mary's Johnstown, Pa. 6-10 (814) 535-4132

JUNE 1

- The Boys / Polski Chix. Falcons Grand Rapids, Mich. 6-11 (616) 813-1504
- Box On / Don Wojtla / Polka Family / Lenny Gomulka. St. Mary's Johnstown, Pa. 2-10 (814) 535-4132
- Eddie Forman. St. Stans Fall River, Mass. 5-9 (508) 647-6771

JUNE 2

- Special Delivery Band. Riverworks Buffalo, N.Y. 2-6
- The Knewz / Box On. St. Mary's Johnstown, Pa. 1-5 (814) 535-4132
- The Boys / The Project. Mohawks Picnic Grove Hammond, Ind. 12-6 (219) 677-3586
- Lenny Gomulka. Evergreen CC Fleetwood, Pa. 2-6 (610) 944-7501

JUNE 7

- Rymanowski Bros. BMV Church Latham, N.Y. 5-9 (518) 453-2258
- John Stevens. Pierogi Fest. Edwardsville, Pa. (570) 239-9594

MAY POLKA BIRTHDAYS

Birthdays courtesy Li'l John's Polka Show, WAVL Radio 910 AM and 98.7 FM, Saturday 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., and on the web at www.987jack.fm. Live streaming at www.PA_Talk.com. For information, write to: 121 Seminole Dr., Greensburg, PA 15601; (724) 834-7871; johnnalevanon@aol.com.

2	Dave (Nigel) Kurdziel	1968	Musician (Bass) / Vocalist	Grand Rapids, Mich.
4	John Stanky	1939	Bandleader / Musician / Vocalist	Nanticoke, Pa.
5	Erik Volek	1978	Musician (Drums)	N.Y.
6	Al Soyka	1922 4-5-13	Bandleader / Musician	Conn.
10	John Demerski	1935 6-2-15	Bandleader / Musician / Vocalist	Conn.
10	Lenny Zielinski		Bandleader / Musician	Chicago
12	Allen (Abe) Carrick	1948	Musician (Drums)	Pa. / Ariz.
13	Big Joe Siedlik	1934 1-1-15	Promoter / DJ	Omaha
14	Stacey Morris		Musician / Vocalist (Nutones)	Pa.
16	Gary Krupski (Krew)		Musician / Vocalist (Krew Bros.)	Cheektowaga, N.Y.
16	Eddie Korosa Jr.	1958	Bandleader / Musician / Vocalist	Chicago
16	Chris Bogdon	1971	Musician / Vocalist	Pa.
17	Ray Kovac	1936	Bandleader / Musician (Al Ray Combo)	Ohio
17	Dave Pietrzak	1945	Musician / Vocalist	Cleveland
18	Don Evans	1927 4-24-04	Polka DJ. (WEEP)	Pittsburgh
18	Eddie Swiderski	1939 4-19-71	Musician / Arranger (Naturals)	Chicago
18	Robyn Mrozinski	1976	Musician / Vocalist	Minneapolis
19	Karl Lukitsch		Bandleader / Musician	Pa.
20	Ryan Ogradny		Musician / Vocalist	Pittsburgh / Nashville
21	Mitch Biskup		Vocalist / Raconteur (Golden & New Brass)	Ludlow, Mass.
22	Ray Soyka	1924	Vocalist (Al Soyka Orch.)	Conn.
22	Greg Novak		Musician / Vocalist	Chicago
22	Tom Kula	1936 10-21-18	Musician / Vocalist (Ampol-Aires)	Chicago
22	Chet Schaffer	1922- 4-11-2018	DJ / Producer (Chicago Polka Records)	Chicago
22	Steve Fornek		Bandleader/Musician/Vocalist	Chicago
22	Henny Jasiewicz	1945 4-25-17	Bandleader Vocalist (Henny & Versa-Js)	McKeesport, Pa.
23	Vinny Horoschock		Musician (Stanky & Coalminers)	Nanticoke, Pa.
23	Matt Gregg Jr.		Bandleader / Vocalist	Pa.
24	Ann Golembewski		Promoter / DJ	Conn.
24	Rich Suckiel		I.J. (Polka Jammer)	N.J.
24	Jas Prasnyski	1925 1-4-96	Musician / Vocalist (Conn. Twins)	Conn.
24	Stas Prasnyski	1925 11-24-14	Musician / Vocalist (Conn. Twins)	Conn.
26	Marisha Data	1910 10-12-72	Musician / Arranger / DJ	Chicago
26	Jimmy Soldridge	1942 10-10-09	Bandleader / Musician / DJ	Pa.
27	Jersey Polka Richie	1958	Bandleader / Musician / Vocalist	Fla.
29	Louie Jedlowski	1947 7-30-07	Musician (Trumpet)	Chicago

PULASKI POLKA DAYS

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PULASKI, WISCONSIN

BAND SCHEDULE

Thursday

- New Generation
- Chad Przybylski / Polka Rhythms
- Maroszek Brothers
- Aaron Socha Livewire
- Polka Dynamics
- Nathan Neuman

Friday

- Norm Dombrowski & the Happy Notes
- New Generation
- Tekla Klebetnica (Direct from Poland)
- Michael Costa & The Beat
- Polish Connection
- Aaron Socha & Livewire
- Polka Country Musicians
- The Natural Talent (TNT)
- Stephanie
- Keith Stras & the Polka Confetti

- The Derrick Ziegenbein Band

Saturday

- Chad Przybylski / Polka Rhythms
- Box On
- Polka Family
- Michael Costa & The Beat
- DynaVersaStickToneAires
- Steve Meisner
- Polka Country Musicians
- Tekla Klebetnica (Direct from Poland)
- Jerry Voelker & Jolly Gents
- Gary's Ridgeland Dutchmen
- Music Connection

Sunday

- Box On
- Polka Family
- The Natural Talent (TNT)
- Maroszek Brothers

FUN FOR ALL AGES!

EVENTS

Community Events

- Community Night
- Fireworks
- Polish Food & Souvenirs

Saturday Events

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

Sunday Events

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

CONTACT

General Information

- Harold @ 920-822-3869 or 920-660-9126
- Mike @ 920-822-1290

Camping

- Nora: 920-619-5587
- Polkacamp@yahoo.com

Parade Information

- Wayne @ 920-822-5456



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Red Star Line Museum: The Final Stop Before America

by Matthew Stefanski

ANTWERP — Ellis Island is well known as the entry point for millions of European emigrants who came to America at the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries, but have you ever considered what was their last stop in Europe?

For those who traveled aboard the ships of the Red Star Line, it was Antwerp, Belgium. From 1873 to 1935 the Belgian-American shipping company transported over two million European emigrants from Antwerp to America, predominantly to New York but also Philadelphia. Today, the company's former warehouses along the Antwerp harbor house the Red Star Line museum, which opened in 2013.

"Chicago is Poland, but in perfection. You can hear Polish hymns in church" wrote Sophie Nadrowska to her parents in 1890. This letter, accessible through a digital touch screen, is part of the museum's permanent exhibit which focuses on the stories of emigrants, their travel aboard the Red Star Line and their reactions upon arrival to America, as well as on the broader theme of emigration itself. The artifacts and testimonials reflect the voices of people from all over Europe who traveled via Antwerp to America, including Poles. In addition to giving voice to the huddled masses, the museum also profiles some of the most well-known individuals that emigrated to America aboard the Red Star Line, such as Albert Einstein and Irving Berlin.

Visitors who tour the museum can take part in a virtual role-

playing game where they retrace an emigrant's journey from Warsaw to America. At each step of the way, decisions have to be made, including whether to attempt to cross the border between the Russian and Prussian empires at an official checkpoint and risk being turned away, or to sneak across under the cover of darkness. This simulation makes it clear that sailing aboard a transatlantic steamer was just one part of a many leg journey, filled with risks, uncertainty, and difficult decisions.

Although Antwerp, located on the Western coast of Europe, would appear to be a distant port for travelers from Polish lands, the city did have extensive train connections. Also, because Antwerp was competing for travelers

with other ports such as Hamburg, the Red Star Line offered attractive ticket prices, and had ticket offices in many Polish cities at the time. It is important to remember that over a third of emigrants had their tickets purchased by family members already in America, a practice known as chain migration, and therefore simply traveled to whatever port the ticket stated. For these reasons, many people from across Central and Eastern Europe traveled through Antwerp on their way to America.

THE MOST INTERESTING ELEMENT of the museum is the site itself. When the shipping company operated, the warehouses which now house the museum were used as medical and disinfection facilities. Prior to boarding the ocean liner, travelers underwent extensive



The Red Star Line Museum in Antwerp's harbor is housed in the shipping company's old warehouses. They were repurposed by Beyer Blinder Belle, the same architectural firm responsible for the restoration of Ellis Island.

medical examinations provided by the shipping company. It was in the interest of the Red Star Line to only transport passengers deemed fit to enter America, because anyone turned away at Ellis Island or other American ports of entry would have had to be taken back to Europe at

the expense of the shipping company.

"Everything for passengers is done free of charge in this building" read a sign translated into Polish, Yiddish, German and Slovak which was meant to calm nervous travelers about parting with their possessions in the warehouse. As passengers took hot showers, all their clothing and possessions were placed in large steel chambers where they underwent a disinfection procedure. As you walk through the museum, you can see where these facilities used to be located, and it is easy to imagine the hall bustling with people as they made their way to the nearby ship.

Today some 30 million people in North America can trace their family lineage to the Red Star Line, including Polish Americans and perhaps even readers of PAJ. Whether

a relative traveled via Antwerp or not, a visit to the Red Star Line Museum helps evoke vivid imagery of the emigrant experience from 100 years ago. It is part of a growing list of institutions which address emigration and the immigrant experience, such as Ellis Island, New York's Lower East Side Tenement Museum, and of course the Emigration Museum in Gdynia, Poland.

THE BELOW POEM entitled "For Kattyna Szysz" was written by the official city poet of Antwerp, Bernard Dewulf, and is on display at the Red Star Line Museum. It is dedicated to a 13-year-old girl from Galicia, who traveled alone to Canada in 1905:

*Something grand inside her stars
towards the end of the
extended water.
A Canada awaits her there.*

*She has folded up her Poland,
It will clothe her there.
For there she will
become a woman,*

*Mother in a strange language,
Gathered into two lives,
ever residing on the other side*

*and staring as it's getting later
in the rooms of Canada
something grand in her each day*

*towards the end of the
extended water.*

— Bernard Dewulf

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