

# POLISH AMERICAN JOURNAL

ESTABLISHED 1911

www.polanjournal.com

PROMOTION AND CONTINUANCE OF POLISH AMERICAN CULTURE



NATIONAL TRUST MEETS  
POLONIA — PAGE 11

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

# 100

CELEBRATING A  
CENTURY OF SERVICE  
TO AMERICAN POLONIA

THE UNITED STATES MUST RESPECT ITS ALLIES • PILSUDSKI COMES HOME TO SULEJOWEK  
BLESSED JOHN PAUL II ON ETHNIC IDENTITY • HONORS FOR SIEMIONOW AND ROSENSTIEL  
ADAMEK STOPPED • DO ZOBACZENIA, POLSKA! • HOW ABOUT A GIFT OF HERITAGE?

## NEWSMARK



PRIME MINISTER  
DONALD TUSK

**POLAND'S RULING COALITION GETS RE-ELECTED.** The center-right party of Prime Minister Donald Tusk has become the first pre-war and post-Soviet-era political grouping ever to win re-election in Poland which up till now has been functioning in a backlash mode. Right-wing rule has normally ended in victory by the left which in turn got swept away by a rightist group, only to be replaced by resurgent leftists and so on. What's more, all previous coalition govern-

ments in the past 22-year post-communist period fell apart even before the end of their four-year-term.

*Continued on page 5*

### ON-LINE VISA LOTTERY REGISTRATION OPEN.

The online registration period for the 2013 Diversity Visa Program (DV-2013) began October 4, 2011, and will conclude Saturday, November 5, 2011, at noon, Eastern Daylight Time. For details, see the Diversity Visa Lottery webpage at: [http://travel.state.gov/visa/immigrants/types/types\\_1322.html](http://travel.state.gov/visa/immigrants/types/types_1322.html).

This is the first lottery open to Poles in six years. Luck is needed in the quest for a Green Card, as out of 50,000 issued to people from all over the world, only 3,500 are allocated to Polish citizens. The card provides U.S. legal permanent residence and work permits.

According to authorities, migration to the United States from Poland is not as sought after now as it was in the past.

**AWAITING RULING.** A judge has yet to issue a ruling in the case of parishioners of Springfield, Massachusetts' closed Mater Dolorosa Church, who refuse to leave the building.

The Diocese of Springfield brought suit to force the protestors to leave the church. Protestors have been holding an around-the-clock vigil inside the former parish since June. The Diocese says that according to reports of two engineering firms, the building's steeple is unsafe, and that the presence of protestors inside is preventing them from taking it down. The protestors say that they do not believe the steeple is unsafe, and say that an engineer they hired agreed with their conclusion.

Neither the steeple nor the church suffered any damage in August when Hurricane Irene passed through the area.

The Vatican Congregation for the Clergy rejected Mater Dolorosa parishioners' appeal in late September.

The parish has been merged with the former Holy Cross Parish to form Our Lady of the Cross Parish, which is located at the Holy Cross church building.

### ISRAEL DONATES TO AUSCHWITZ PRESERVATION.

Polish officials say Israel has pledged \$1 million to help preserve the former death camp of Auschwitz, which is in a serious state of deterioration.

The Auschwitz-Birkenau state museum said Friday that it received a pledge from Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of 3.6 million shekels (\$1 million) for a "Perpetual Fund" that will pay for preserving barracks, gas chambers and other evidence of German crimes at the site in Poland.

Officials aim to raise \$163 million for the fund, which would generate annual interest of \$5-6 million for preservation.

Earlier, Poland pledged \$13 million, joining Germany, the United States and others as donors.

With the Polish and Israeli announcements, the fund has more than \$120 million pledged.

## Walesa Supports Occupy Wall Street Movement

WARSAW — Poland's former President Lech Walesa says he supports the Occupy Wall Street movement in New York that protests corporate greed.

The Nobel Peace laureate told The Associated Press that he is planning either a visit or a letter to the protesters.

"I am weighing now how and when to best support them, without doing any harm," Walesa said.

Since mid-September, the protesters have besieged a park near Wall Street to rally against corporate greed, saying that is the main cause for the U.S.'s failing economy. Similar protests are planned across Europe this weekend, including in Poland's capital, Warsaw.

The 68-year-old Walesa said the global economic crisis has made people aware that "we need to change, reform the capitalist system" because we need "more justice, more people's interests, and less money for money's sake."

"We cannot accept a situation when capitalism is making huge money and then does not know what to do with it," Walesa told the AP. "It should invest in new jobs."

"People are most important," he said.

The legendary freedom leader said employees, employers and representatives of state and local governments should get together to work out solutions that would best serve the people and the societies.

"For now, capitalism is working to produce more money but does not see the people," Walesa said. "This problem is getting worse across the world."

## Under World Monuments Watch



The late 16th century St. Paraskewa Church in Radruż, located in the Subcarpathian Voivodeship's Lubaczów County, is one of the oldest surviving churches of its kind.

by Staś Kmieć

NEW YORK — The World Monuments Fund announced their 2012 Watchlist of 67 sites, representing 41 countries and territories. Included is one of Poland's oldest Orthodox churches, St. Paraskewa Church in Radruż, located in the Subcarpathian Voivodeship's Lubaczów County.

The late 16th century Greek Catholic Church dedicated to St. Nicholas Paraskewa is among the oldest surviving buildings of its

kind. Constructed of hewn logs laid horizontally, it is clad with wooden shingles, and capped with a steeply pitched roof. With the abundance of high-quality timber in thickly forested regions, these rural wooden churches are widely recognized as important features of Eastern European built heritage.

The church, along with a timber bell tower, the stone house of the diak (cantor), an ancient arbor, and an old Ukrainian cemetery are an

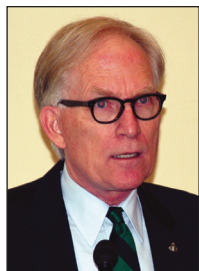
*See "Historic Church," page 5*

## Katyń Massacre is Topic on Capitol Hill

by Geraldine  
Balut-Coleman

WASHINGTON, D.C. — An important conference took place on September 15 in the Rayburn Congressional Office Building of the U.S. House of Representatives. The conference, "Katyń – Unfinished Inquiry" was cosponsored by numerous educational and civic organizations including the Polish American Congress-Illinois Division, the Kresy-Siberia Foundation USA, the Polish Army Veterans Association in America, and organizations representing Katyń victims' families, just to name a few. This one-day event was co-organized by the Libra Institute and The Institute of World Politics. It was supported by Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur of Ohio.

Opening and closing remarks were made by Maria Szonert, President of the Libra Institute, John Lenczowski, President of the Institute of World Politics, Congressman Dennis Kucinich of Ohio, Marcy Kaptur, and Wesley Adamczyk, the son of a Katyń victim.



CRANE

Presentations were made by Frank Spula,



(l. to r.): Spula, Judge Pucinski, Senator Kirk, Mary Sendra Anselmo

president of the Polish American Congress on "Katyń in the Polish American Community," by David M. Crane on the "Expert Report on Katyń," and by John Van Oudenaren, Director of the Word Digital Library of The Library of Congress, on "2011 Warsaw Declaration on Culture, Memory and Identity." The Honorable Aurelia Pucinski, daughter of the late Congressman Roman Pucinski and Judge on the Illinois First District Appellate Court, presented an impassioned report on the U.S. Congressional Investigation of the Katyń Forest Massacre. Roman Pucinski was the Chief

*See "Katyń," page 5*

## Standing the Test of Time

A Survey of Polish Christmas Eve Customs  
by Claire Anderson

In an online survey conducted from November 2010 to February 2011, 666 respondents provided information on their Polish Christmas Eve customs. The responses were evenly balanced numerically among the demographics of age and generations from Poland.

The survey found that, with some exceptions, higher rates of keeping Christmas Eve customs were among adults under 30 (the Millennial Generation), attendees of a Christmas religious service, and first and second generation Polish Americans.

The opłatek, for example, is typically shared by 95% of respondents under 30 and by 83% of respondents 65 and over (Brokaw's "Greatest Generation"). Similarly 97% of Polish-born respondents share the Christmas Eve wafer

*See "Christmas," page 5*

POLISH AMERICAN JOURNAL BOOKSTORE • SELLING BOOKS AND POLISH HERITAGE ITEMS SINCE 1988

# Are You Ready for Your Polish Christmas?

USE FORM ON PAGE 9 FOR ALL ITEMS ON THIS PAGE • If you have questions, PLEASE CALL! If ordering OPLATEK ONLY, please note lower shipping cost on form.

## OPLATEK • Polish Christmas Wafers



A MUST FOR YOUR CHRISTMAS TABLE

**IF ORDERING OPLATEK ONLY, ADD ONLY \$3.00 SHIPPING CHARGES!**

Keep this beautiful tradition alive in your family! Practice the ancient Polish custom of sharing the Christmas wafer with family and guests. Many people place a piece of oplatek—a thin wafer, made of flour and water—in each Christmas cards to family members and friends. Each Polish Christmas Wafer is embossed with religious scene.

**SMALL** (2 x 3½ in.) individual wafer w/glassine envelope—**5/\$3.00**

**LARGE** (6¼ x 3½ in.). Three white and one pink oplatki. Comes with decorative envelope (shown) depicting wigilia with history on back — **4 /\$5.00**

Learn more about this tradition from our website: [www.polamjournal.com](http://www.polamjournal.com)

Follow Library Holidays link to the Christmas Listings

## WOOD EGG ORNAMENTS



**NEW!** Sister Faustyna Kowalska Divine Mercy Christmas Ornament Egg Item 2-253 **\$14.95**

Our Lady of Czestochowa Christmas Ornament Egg Item 2-250 **\$14.95**

John Paul II Christmas Ornament Egg Item 2-251 **\$14.95**

A beautiful heirloom gift. Made in Poland.

Reverse design on ornaments.



## STICKERS



### Wesolych Swiat / Merry Christmas

Shown actual size

Proceeds to benefit Catholic Orphanage in Bialoleka, near Warsaw, Poland and Polish American Journal Press Fund. 1" x 2". 20 stickers to a sheet. Perfect for presents, our line of Christmas cards, etc.

**\$5.00 per sheet.** (If ordering stickers only, shipping is \$1.00 per every four sheets.)

## WYCINANKI-STYLE BIRTHDAY CARDS

Designed by Doris Sikorsky

**CARD 400** ("Sto lat") (right) 4¼"x5½" with envelope Full color design with Polish and English greeting inside.



**CARD 401** ("Candles") (left) 5½"x4¼" with envelope with Polish and English greeting inside

**\$2.50 each • 10 or more cards: \$2.00 each**

SHIPPING & HANDLING

1-5 cards: \$1.00 | 6-10 cards: \$2.00 | 11 + cards: \$4.00

## KOLEDY CDs



**POLISH VILLAGE CHRISTMAS VOLUME I** **\$15.00**

Preview samples of each CD available on line at [www.polamjournal.com/Bookstore/Christmas\\_Store](http://www.polamjournal.com/Bookstore/Christmas_Store)



**POLISH VILLAGE CHRISTMAS VOLUME II** **\$15.00**

## BUTTER / CHOCOLATE MOLDS

Easy to use! To make with butter, simply coat the mold with vegetable oil (spray type works best), press in softened butter, clamp halves together, place and refrigerator until hardened and you're done. For chocolate, just pour and let harden. It's that easy! Give your table some Polish flair!



**MINI POLISH FOODS MOLD. \$8.95**

Six all-time favorites. Mold is 6"x6". Each food app. 2" x 1" x 3/8" deep.

Includes:

- Rye Bread • Pierogi
- Kielbasa • Golabki
- Pisanka
- Mini Butter Lamb

## CHRISTMAS CARDS — 75¢ each — 50 or more 50¢ each — 10-pack \$6.00

Greetings in Polish with English translation! Designed exclusively for the Polish American Journal by renown folk artists Doris Sikorsky (cards 301-304), Basia Frackiewicz (cards 201-206) and Daniel Haskin (cards 102 and 103), these 4¼" x 5½" full-color cards



CARD 102



CARD 103



CARD 201



CARD 202



CARD 203



CARD 205



CARD 206



CARD 301



CARD 302

Send Christmas greetings in Polish and English to friends across the miles!



CARD 303



CARD 304

Christmas Card Assortment Available 24 Cards (2 each + random) for \$13.95

## KOLEDY SING-ALONG BOOK

With Music and Lyrics in Polish and English Published by the Fr. Justin Rosary Hour

Now you can sing-along to 37 of the most popular Polish Christmas Carols.

This 90-page spiral-bound book contains the words and music plus English translations that can be substituted for Polish. Published by the Fr. Justin Rosary Hour in 2003, the book also contains a message from the Rosary Hour director, an explanation (in Polish and English) of Polish Carols by the late Msgr. John R. Gabalski of St. Stanislaus Parish in Buffalo, N.Y., plus Pope John Paul II words about the importance of koledy to the Polish nation. Thirty-seven songs in all.

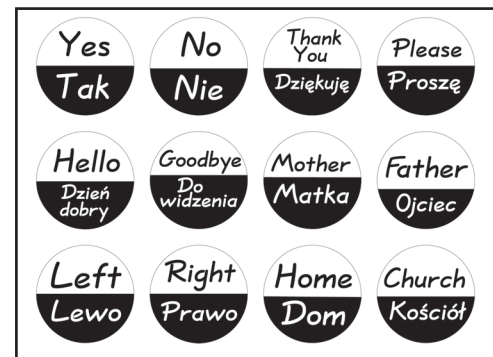
Published at \$7.00, available now for only **\$5.00**



Includes: Merry Christmas, Wesolych Swiat, Christmas, Boze Narodzenia, Midnight Mass, Pasterka, Saint Nicholas, Swiety Mikolaj, Christmas Eve Supper, Wigilia, Manger Scene, Szopka, Christmas Wafer, Oplatek, Christmas Carols, Kolędy, Christmas Tree, Choinka, Star, Gwiazda, Christmas Play, Jaselka, God is Born, Bóg się rodzi, Christmas Play and more!

## LET'S LEARN POLISH CHRISTMAS WORDS MOLD. \$8.95

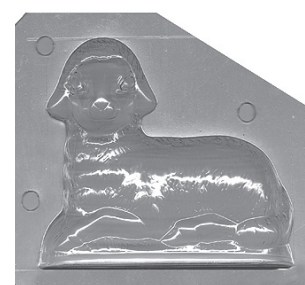
12-coin mold. Each coin is 1-inch across x 1/4" deep.



Includes: Yes and No, Thank You, Please, Hello, Goodbye, Mother, Father, Left, Right, Home, Church

## LET'S LEARN POLISH EVERYDAY WORDS MOLD. \$8.95

12-coin mold. Each coin is 1-inch across x 1/4" deep.



**EASTER BUTTER LAMB MOLD** Small 3-1/2" width by 3" tall # 1-600 **\$4.95**

Large 5" width by 4" tall # 1-601 **\$7.95**

VIEWPOINTS / Alex Storzynski

# The United States Must Respect Its Allies

Polish Americans marched up Fifth Avenue on Sunday in honor of Gen. Casimir Pulaski, a hero who saved George Washington's life at the Battle of Brandywine. Yet ironically, if he were alive today, Pulaski would not be allowed to march in the parade without paying \$140 and applying for a visa.

Poland is one of America's closest and most steadfast allies, sending its soldiers to shed their blood for freedom in Iraq, Afghanistan, Lebanon and other war zones. Polish troops have fought side by side with American troops, going wherever the United States asks them to go.

Many Polish soldiers have served with distinction at the behest of the U.S. military. When Gen. Roman Polko, former commander of the

Polish Special Forces unit, GROM, (Thunderbolt), got invited to attend an event at the Kosciuszko Foundation in the spring, he told me that he could not come to New York because he did not have a valid American visa.

While Polko and other Polish soldiers can fight for American freedom, they cannot come see the Statue of Liberty without a visa.

Is this how America treats its allies?

Poland meets all of the criteria for the VWP, except one — the number of citizens denied visas after they pay the \$140 fee. Its visa refusal rate is too high.

The arguments for including Poland in the VWP are strong. In addition to being one of America's greatest allies, a productive member

of NATO, and the European Union, the notion that Poles need to come to America to work is just flat out wrong.

Those Poles who do want to seek employment elsewhere can work in various countries across Europe. Poland is part of the "Schengen Area," an area comprised of 25 European countries which operates very much like a single state for international travel with border controls for those travelling in and out of the area, but with no internal border controls. Poles do not need to come to the U.S. to work.

It's estimated that 7,000 Poles will be denied visas to the United States this year. Many more don't even apply because the process offends them.

Poland presently holds the ro-

tating Presidency of the European Union, but incredibly, its president, had to apply for a visa prior to his trip to the United States.

Allowing Poles to visit the United States as tourists would encourage international trade and pump tourism dollars into our economy. It would add to our security and enhance law enforcement and crime-fighting efforts through data-sharing agreements between our respective countries.

For too long, the United States has treated our friends and families in Poland as second class citizens requiring them to pay fees to apply for visas to visit this country, while Europeans from other countries travel here without visas.

*Alex Storzynski, president of the Kosciuszko Foundation, is a Pulitzer Prize winning journalist, a former member of the New York Daily News editorial board, and founding editor of amNewYork. He is also author of Thaddeus Kosciuszko, The Peasant Prince.*

## Erroneous Phrase Brings Protest

NEW YORK — Members of America's Polish community took to the streets of Manhattan to protest against the use of the term "Polish concentration camps" by international media.

The campaign to eradicate the phrase was originally set up by the Kosciuszko Foundation last year and signed by President Bronislaw Komorowski, Foreign Minister Radek Sikorski and former president Lech Walesa. It has been widely followed in Poland, where the implication that Poles created notorious World War II death camps such as Auschwitz or Belzec regularly draws angry responses.

The protesters were angry that headlines and phrases often describe Auschwitz, for example, as a "Polish death camp" when they mean a German Nazi death camp situated in occupied Poland.

Many non-Poles have backed the Polish campaign, including the American Jewish Committee, which stressed that it was a matter of "historical integrity" to make clear that the camps were built by "Nazi Germany and its allies."

Alex Storzynski, chairman of America's Kosciuszko Foundation noted that such sloppy editing amounted to "Orwellian double-speak" that "distorts history." (PAP)

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

American Polonia's fraternal benefit societies were founded as mutual aid societies for the newly arrived. Over the past 100-plus years, these organizations have helped millions of Poles and their descendants by providing both financial assistance and guidance in assimilating to the American way of life.

Today, fraternal benefit societies offer more than financial benefits. Community and human needs, not always met by governmental bodies, are often addressed by fraternalists. Through hands-on charitable and patriotic work, fraternalists make a difference in the lives of individuals, communities and the nation.

When you join a Polish American fraternal benefit society, you contribute to a way of life that has sustained our people for generations.

1. Money, should something happen to you.
2. It's a supplement to your retirement.
3. To provide a way to peace of mind and security in old age.
4. It's a savings plan.
5. It's a way to borrow money.
6. You are contributing to the continuation of our Polish traditions and heritage.
7. Academic scholarships and grants for members and their children.
8. As a new outlet for social activities such as organized tours, trips, language classes, theater parties, golf outings, picnics, and children's parties, to name a few.
9. A subscription to the monthly publication, the *Polish American Journal*.

## 10. A way to give back to your community by participation in volunteer efforts.

11. A way to support organizations that promote our shared Polish heritage.
12. To help pay for your children's education.

**Call a Polish American fraternal near you and see what it has to offer. You will be surprised to find out all that you are missing.**

### ASSOCIATION OF THE SONS OF POLAND

Over 108 years of Service to the Community

**333 Hackensack Street  
Carlstadt, New Jersey 07072**  
**Phone: (201) 935-2807**  
**Fax: (201) 935-2752**  
**sonsofpoland@yahoo.com**  
**www.sonsofpoland.org**

### POLISH BENEFICIAL ASSOCIATION

The Only Polish Fraternal Domiciled in Philadelphia

**2595 Orthodox Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19137**  
**Phone: (215) 535-2626**  
**Fax: (215) 535-0169**  
**polishbeneficialassoc.com**

### THE UNION OF POLES IN AMERICA

A DIVISION OF THE POLISH NATIONAL ALLIANCE

*The Oldest Polish American Fraternal Organization in the State of Ohio*

**9999 Granger Road  
Garfield Heights, OH. 44125**  
**Phone: (216) 478-0120**  
**Fax: (216) 478-0122**

# POLISH AMERICAN JOURNAL

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

USPS 437-220 / ISSN 0032-2792

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

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

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

INTERNET: [www.polamjournal.com](http://www.polamjournal.com)

IGNATIUS HAJDUK • Founder 1911-1920  
JOHN DENDE • Publisher 1920-1944  
HENRY J. DENDE • Publisher 1944-1983

**Editor in Chief** Mark A. Kohan  
*editor@polamjournal.com*  
**Senior Associate Editor** Larry Wroblewski  
**Associate Editors** Holly Chmil, Florence Waszkelewicz-Clowes, Benjamin Fiore, S.J., T. Ron Jasinski-Herbert; Michael Pietruszka, Stas Kmiec, Steve Litwin, Jennifer Moskal, Walter J. Mysliwicz, James Rygelski, Thomas Tarapacki  
**Contributing Editors** Thad Cooke, Sophie Hodorowicz-Knab, Eugene Obidinski, Edward Pinkowski, John Radzilowski

**BUREAUS.** Binghamton Steve Litwin; **Chicago** Geraldine Balut-Coleman, **Miami** Lydia Kordalewski; **Milwaukee** John Przybylski; **Toledo** Margaret Zolkiewicz-Dramczyk; **Warsaw** Robert Strybel; **Washington** Richard Poremski  
**Columnists** Stan Bednarczyk, Basia Frackiewicz, Jadwiga Urban-Klaehn, Mary Ann Marko, Martin Nowak, Barbara Pinkowski, Ed Poniewaz  
**Newsclippers** Edward Dybic, Mr. & Mrs. Jacob Dwornicky, Anthony Guyda, C. Kanabrodzki, Henry J. Kensing, Jerry Mazuchowski, Walter Piatek, Edward H. Pietraszek, Leopold A. Pociadło, John A. Riggs, John Yesh  
**Agents** Joseph Brozeski, Robert Czubakowski.  
**Art Director** Christopher F. Misztal  
**Administrative Assistant** Kathy Misztal

**Proofreader** Larry Trojak  
**Circulation Manager** Scott Ozimek  
**Advertising Manager** Arlene Stamer

**DISCOUNTS.** For non-profit and organization subscription discounts, call 1 (800) 422-1275.

**REFUNDS and CANCELLATIONS.** Request for subscription cancellations must be made by calling (800) 422-1275. Refunds will be prorated based on one-half of the remaining subscription balance plus a \$5.00 cancellation fee. There is no charge for transferring remaining subscription balances to new or existing accounts.

[www.polamjournal.com](http://www.polamjournal.com)  
[www.pajtoday.blogspot.com](http://www.pajtoday.blogspot.com)  
Visit us on Facebook

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

POSTMASTER—Send address changes to:

**POLISH AMERICAN JOURNAL, P.O. BOX 328, BOSTON, NY 14025-0328**

TO ADVERTISE IN THE PAJ CALL 1 (800) 422-1275

National editions: \$12.50 per column inch • Non-profit rate: \$10.00 per column inch  
The Polish American Journal does not assume responsibility for advertisements beyond the cost of the advertisement itself. We are responsible only for the first incorrect insertion of an advertisement. Advertisers are advised to check their advertisement immediately upon publication and report at once any errors. Claims for error adjustment must be made immediately after an advertisement is published.

### SUBSCRIPTIONS

#### UNITED STATES

	Regular Mail	First Class
1-year	\$21.00	\$34.00
2-year	\$39.00	\$65.00
3-year	\$54.00	\$93.00

#### FOREIGN (except Canada)

1-year	\$28.00	\$46.00
2-year	\$52.00	\$89.00
3-year	\$75.00	\$132.00

#### CANADA

1-year	NA	\$45.00
2-year	NA	\$87.00
3-year	NA	\$129.00

### ALMANAC



Follow us on Facebook or visit us on the internet at: [www.polamjournal.com](http://www.polamjournal.com)

### November ❖ Listopad

*Wszystko, co najważniejsze, staje się tylko raz w życiu.*

*The most important things in life happen only once.*

— Jerzy Zawiejski, 1902-1969

- 1 **ALL SAINTS DAY**  
*Wszyscy święci niezgoda, wiatry z śniegiem zawioda. All Saints in discord, winds with snow will disappoint.*  
1777. **Casimir Pulaski** joins U.S. forces.
- 2 **ALL SOUL'S DAY**  
*Dzień Zaduszny or Zaduszki.*  
A national holiday in Poland to memorialize the deceased.  
1788. Piotr Stadnicki loans United States \$15 million and forms the Holland Land Company.
- 3 1930. First regular broadcast of the weekly **Fr. Justin Rosary Hour**, now the oldest Polish language radio program in America.
- 5 1904. Death of poet **Karol Brzozowski**, whose work influenced Turkey's Constitution.
- 6 1860. Birth of **Ignacy Jan Paderewski**, pianist, statesman and prime minister, in Kurylowce, Poland (d. 1941).
- 7 1867. Birth of Polish chemist and physicist **Marie Sklodowska Curie**, in Warsaw, Poland.
- 11 **ST. MARTIN**  
*Goose is traditional meal of the day in Poland. A winter weather forecast is then made according to the color of breastbone-white (much snow); mottled (variable); black (light); black and white (mixed).*
- 12 1892. Birth of **Stefan Pawel Mierzwa**, founder and first director of the Kosciuszko Foundation.
- 13 **ST. STANISLAUS KOSTKA**
- 16 1916. Death of author **Henry Sienkiewicz**, first Pole to win Nobel Prize.
- 18 1655. Swedes besiege the Jasna Gora monastery.
- 21 1920. Birth of **Stan Musial**, famed baseball star with the St. Louis Cardinals.
- 23 1227. Assassination of **Leszek I the White**
- 25 **ST. CATHERINE**  
*A day of fortunetelling for young men.*  
1795. Abdication of the last king of Poland, **Stanislaw August Poniatowski**.



- 26 1855. Death of Polish poet and author **Adam Mickiewicz** in Constantinople (b. 1798).
1961. "Pic-a-Polka" live television show premiers on WGR TV Channel 2 in Buffalo, N.Y.; with host **Joe Macielag** (past president of the Western New York Division of the Polish American Congress). It would air Sundays at 5:00 p.m. for four years and become one of the station's most popular programs.
- 27 1815. Establishment of the Free Republic of Krakow.

1939. Death of **Gabriel Sovulewski** (b. 1866), builder of hundreds of miles of tourist routes in California's Yosemite National Park.
- 28 1058. Death of **Casimir I the Restorer**.
- 30 **ST. ANDREW**  
*A night of fortune telling in old Poland.*  
1926. Birth in Wilno, Poland of **Andrew Schally**, winner of 1977 Nobel Prize in Medicine.

This paper mailed on or before **October 28**. The December 2011 edition will be mailed on or before **December 1, 2011**.

**TOLL-FREE SUBSCRIPTION LINE 1 (800) 422-1275**

VANTAGE POINT / Rev. Leonard Chrobot, Ph.D.

## Blessed John Paul II on Ethnic Identity

The television phenomenon of the 60s, Alex Halley's "Roots," made many people aware of the importance of knowledge of one's ethnic identity in establishing one's character, personality, and value system. People without an awareness of their origins, the place they came from and the price their ancestors paid for them to be here, are subject to the most destructive ideologies and fads of our consumer and materialistic culture — drugs, gangs, crime.

A Black student in my class in sociology at Notre Dame several years ago decided to write his final research paper on his ethnic background. He did some preliminary work on Africa but found that he had little knowledge of where his ancestors came from, nor any way of finding out. I suggested that his background had more to do with Mississippi where his parents and grandparents came from than it did with Africa. There is a big cultural difference between people who come from Africa and those who lived through the slave experience of America in the south. His final paper proved my point.

In 1976, after the International Eucharistic Congress in Philadelphia, a delegation of some twenty Polish bishops, led by the then Cardinal Archbishop of Krakow, Karol Wojtyla, came to Orchard Lake, Michigan, for a workshop before setting out on visits to various Polish American centers in the United States. The first day the College and Seminary faculty lectured the bishops on the Church in America; the second day the bishops lectured us on the conditions of the Church in Poland.

I delivered a talk in which I stated that third, fourth, and subsequent generations of Polish Americans do not consider themselves "Poles living in America," as many Bishops considered them. They are Americans, of Polish heritage, proud of their ancestry but more concerned with American problems of poverty and race than Polish problems with communism. Several weeks later, Cardinal Wojtyla made reference to the distinction at a talk in New York at the Kosciuszko Foundation. Although he recognized that we are Americans, he reminded us that we have a twofold obligation: to know the price our ancestors paid for us to be here, and to tell the story of Poland to Americans. When I and my mother met with our Holy Father on a pilgrimage to Rome in 1979,

he remembered "that young Polish American priest sociologist from Orchard Lake."

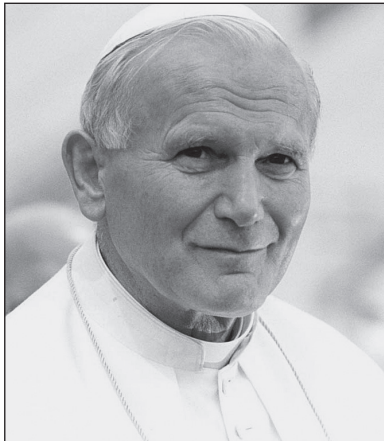
**AWARENESS OF IDENTITY** for Polish Americans has not always been easy. When Karol Wojtyla was elected Supreme Pontiff in 1978, I was so moved I wrote an article titled: "It Has Not Been Fun to be Polish in the American Catholic Church," published on the front page of the *National Catholic Reporter*, (November 24, 1978). It was a summary of our "bolaczki" (hurts) by the German and Irish hierarchy which little understood the importance of language to Polish Catholics.

In most other countries one's national identity is based on religion and language. In Poland, for example, if one speaks the Polish language one is considered to be a member of the "narod," or nation. In the United States to be an American does not depend on religion and/or language but on the acceptance of certain ideas contained in the Constitution. It has always tolerated many languages and religions. Belonging to the American "nation" has a different connotation and feeling than it does in other countries.

**ONE CANNOT UNDERSTAND** Poland without understanding the experience of the partitions (1795-1918), which left such a deep scar on its psyche and imprint on its culture. The political revolutions of the 18th century especially in France, with its bloody reactions against the monarchy, nobility, and upper Catholic hierarchy traumatized the autocratic governments throughout Europe. The French revolution and the Rights of Man, the American Revolution and its Bill of Rights, and the Polish Revolution of the Constitution of Third of May so frightened the monarchs of Germany, Russia, and Austria that they wiped Poland off the map of Europe by dividing it up into their own political states.

Certain attitudes emerged, especially in Prussian Germany. In 1855 there appeared a travelogue titled *Soll und Haben* by Gustaw Freytag, which depicted the Poles as barbarians—uncivilized, wild, ungovernable, tribal, much like Hollywood viewed native Americans like the Comanche, Sioux, Apache. Western movies portrayed the attitude that the only good Indian was a dead Indian. In Germany this gave origin to a German phrase *Polnische Wirtschaft*—the Polish way of do-

ing things—somewhat like the three Stooges. The travelogue again became popular in the 20th Century fed by the Nazi government and became the justification for the even-



"... the more you are aware of your identity, your spirituality, your history, and the Christian culture out of which your ancestors and parents grew ... the more you will be able to serve your country, the more capable will you be of contributing to the common good of the United States."

— John Paul II,  
*Hamtramck, Michigan, 1987*

tual enslavement of Poland in World War II.

There is some subtle revisionism of history in some of the documentaries that appear on television these days. A recent one about World War II seeks sympathy for the people of Berlin, Dresden, and Cologne but does not mention Warsaw, London, or Stalingrad. Few know that Poland lost more percentage-wise than any other country: six million Polish citizens—three million Gentiles and three million Jews—one-fifth of the population. Poland was also occupied for the longest time of all other nations. Afterwards, it was sacrificed at Yalta to the Soviet Union, while Germany and Japan were rebuilt with American aid. We still occasionally see reference in the media to "Polish" death camps.

In its beginning the American Catholic Church came into a profoundly militant Protestant culture, strongly against old world wars and religions. Catholics could not become Democratic or Republican because they gave allegiance to a monarchical papacy. The Ku Klux Klan was violently anti-Catholic. Indiana had the largest percentage of members of all our states.

The hierarchy of the Church was dominated by the Irish and Germans, whose principal aim was to show fi-

delity to our new country by Americanizing the immigrant. This was done by encouraging (sometimes forcing) people to forget their old world customs and languages. The Sociology Department of the Henry Ford Factory sought to Americanize its workers and their families with a vengeance. For the Poles, the key to their identity was Catholicism and the Polish language. The Irish substituted Catholicism for their Gaelic language at the insistence of the English. Germans did not emphasize their language because of World War I and II. For the Poles language was especially important in their cathedral-like churches—preaching, catechism, but especially singing. The Polish hymnbook *Spiewniczek Koscielny* has 372 separate and multi-verse songs, most known by heart. Long before permission to use the vernacular, Poles sang songs that paralleled the various parts of the Mass, to the dismay of Latin purists and some bishops. Their favorite song was "My Chcemy Boga," essentially saying "We Want God" in our families, books, schools, work, in our courts, military, and politics. It was a spectacular and tearful moment when the population of Warsaw sang this song gathered around John Paul II in the center of the city on his first visit, as the Kremlin looked on with dismay.

**MY EXPERIENCE AT NOTRE DAME UNIVERSITY** reinforced these attitudes. I began teaching a course in the Sociology Department in 1991, SOC 3087 Polish Americans. A course on Irish Americans was already taught. My purpose was to remind the University that it is not Irish, but Catholic. Some did not know the difference. The first written assignment was a brief anecdotal paper on what it means to be a Polish American. Those who were not Polish had to interview another

student who was. I have kept the papers, numbering in the 100s, someday to do an article on them.

Virtually all of the papers began negatively, often with Polish jokes. It was not an "in" thing to be Polish at Notre Dame. Those of mixed ancestry with Irish fathers and Polish mothers, hence an Irish surname, never identified themselves as Polish or Irish Polish. It was "in" to be Irish. Yet virtually all of the papers ended on a positive note, especially on the 3-Fs, Faith, Family, and Food. Many discovered that it may be a bad thing to be Polish, until you consider the alternatives.

In his talk to Polonia in Hamtramck in 1987, our Holy Father called for the integration of the Polish heritage with our American identity. He said:

"... the more you are aware of your identity, your spirituality, your history, and the Christian culture out of which your ancestors and parents grew ... the more you will be able to serve your country, the more capable will you be of contributing to the common good of the United States."

He then quoted the Polish poet Wyspianski: "There are so many strengths in the nation." He added: "And I wish to pray with him," "Make us feel the strength."

❖ ❖ ❖

Rev. Leonard F. Chrobot, Ph.D. is President Emeritus, Saint Mary's College, Orchard Lake, Mich., Adjunct Professor Emeritus, Department of Sociology, University of Notre Dame, Coordinator Emeritus, Department of History, American Polish Research Fellowship Program, and pastor of the Catholic community of Saints Patrick & Hedwig, South Bend, Ind.

Substantial sections of this paper were delivered as a sermon at a Mass celebrated on May 1, 2011, at Saint Hedwig Parish, South Bend, on the occasion of the beatification of John Paul II in Rome.

### Stolen Paintings Finally Return to Poland

NEW YORK — Two Polish masterpieces "Off to the Hunt" (watercolor) and "The Hunt" (oil) by 19th-century artist Julian Falat was returned to the National Museum in Warsaw. Falat is a celebrated painter of hunting and landscape scenes. The works, stolen by the Nazis during World War II, were seized in New York by U.S. Immigration and Customs enforcement after Polish authorities alerted United States officials that the paintings were about

to be sold at auction in New York City.

Polish Culture Minister Bogdan Zdrojewski returned the paintings to the Museum during a ceremony at his ministry saying: "I am happy to say that today the paintings return to the place from where they had been taken more than sixty years ago."

"Off to the Hunt" was put back into its original gilded frame which had been left behind during the theft.

Good Luck and Best Wishes  
on the  
100th Anniversary  
of the  
Polish American Journal  
**PEARL & RICHARD  
WILGOSZ**  
Hollywood, Florida

Blessings!  
**KSIADZ PRAŁAT  
BOLESŁAW ZIENTEK  
(RET.)**  
Houston, Texas

*Congratulations on your  
100th Anniversary!  
Many More  
Years of Success!*

**VERY REV. THOMAS N. RUDNY**  
Holy Cross Polish National Catholic Church  
P.O. Box 1077  
New York, NY 10009

*Proud to be Polish!*

**EDWARD MIKOLASKI**  
Saginaw, Michigan

## Katyń on the Capitol Hill

*continued from cover*

Investigator of the Madden Committee, which investigated the truth of the Massacre. After Judge Pucinski's remarks, Senator Mark Kirk of Illinois received the Roman Pucinski Outstanding Political Support of Polonia Award for his unrelenting support of Polish Americans and Poland.

Following the Katyń Conference, several representatives of Polonia, including Frank Spula, Mary Sendra Anselmo, President of the Polish American Congress-Illinois Division, Aurelia Pucinski, Maria Szonert, Wesley Adamczyk, Piotr Styrna of The Institute of World Politics, and John Brodtke of Congress-

woman Marcy Kaptur's office, met with the senior archivist of the U.S. National Archives. Interestingly, the group was shown eighteen boxes containing documents from the investigation of the Select Committee of the House of Representatives into the Katyń Forest Massacre during the 82nd U.S. Congress. Documents from the Foreign Affairs Committee deliberating on the recommendations of the Madden Committee were also in these boxes. All legislative documents from the 82nd U.S. Congress were declassified several years ago. However, even though this collection of Katyń-related documents is microfilmed by the National Archives, it has yet

to be digitized. Thus, this material is not available online. The archivist explained that "since the time these documents have been declassified, the public showed no interest in this collection whatsoever...and that the lack of public interest in the collection of legislative documents pertaining to the congressional investigation into the Katyń crime is the primary reason why this collection has not been digitized to this day."

❖ ❖ ❖

*Katyń on the Capitol Hill, a more detailed account of the meeting in Washington by conference participant Maria Szonert, will be published on the PAJ's website this month.*

## Historic Church

*continued from cover*

closed by a surrounding stone wall. The compact site also served defensive purposes. The church was frequently used as a refuge by the local population against Tartar attacks in the seventeenth century.

In 1648, the church was decorated with a polychrome. It was renovated in the 3rd quarter of the 18th century, and subsequently in 1832 and 1845. Following World War II, the borders between Poland and Ukraine changed and the Eastern Catholic Church lost its community and passed into the custody of the Polish state. The church was closed, but it received landmark protection and was restored between 1964 and 1966.

Visitors today often find the church closed and frequently trespass in their zeal to get close to this monument. The church is in need of protective measures against fire and theft, which would allow valuable treasures such as sacred icons to be returned from a nearby museum, where they are currently stored. The church, along with seven others, is part of a serial nomination to the Tentative World Heritage List for Poland.

Since 1996, The World Monuments Fund's biennial Watch has drawn international attention to cultural-heritage sites in need of assistance, helping to save some of the world's most treasured places. In addition to promoting commu-

nity cohesion and pride, heritage preservation can have an especially positive impact on local populations in times of economic distress, for example through employment and the development of well-managed tourism.

**AMONG THE ELEVEN** monuments in Poland previously promoted are: the 15th century St. Michael Archangel Church of Dębno, Nowy Targ, Kościół Mariacki (Our Lady's Assumption Basilica) in Kraków, Pińczów Synagogue, Vistulamouth Fortress in Gdańsk, St. Stanisław Church in Staroheciny, Tempel Synagogue in Kazimierz, and The Wislica Archeological Site.

## Christmas Customs Stand the Test of Time

*continued from cover*

fer, with a slight decrease to 88% in the third through fourth generations.

Those attending a Christmas religious service shared the opłatek at a rate of 92%, with the rate dropping somewhat to 80% among non-attendees. It should be noted that the opłatek custom is also kept by some non-Christians, as at least two respondents noted.

The survey found that, overall, 64% of respondents send or receive pieces of opłatek to or from others. Interestingly 82% of Polish-born survey respondents receive opłatki from family members elsewhere, but only 43% send them. Uncharacteristic of Millennials, a full 46% (the highest of all age groups) neither send nor receive opłatki. Per-

71% of respondents typically participate in the Christmas Eve meal, ranking it the third most popular Polish American Christmas Eve custom, after sharing the opłatek and exchanging gifts. Not surprisingly, participation in the Wigilia supper was higher among those more recently from Poland. About half of non-Polish respondents with an interest in Polish culture typically share a Wigilia meal, but the rate jumps to 80% among Polish-by-marriage respondents.

Little difference was found between genders (71% of women and 70% of men); however age did appear to be a factor: 87% of Millennials, 80% of Generation X, 68% of Baby Boomers, and 60% of the Greatest Generation.

Perhaps one of the most pronounced shifts in Christmas Eve food customs has been the advent of meat. The highest rate of Wigilia meat consumption was, perhaps understandably, among those interested in Polish culture but having no family connection, 43%, and the lowest was among Polish immigrants, 6%. The presence of meat on the Wigilia menu

tended to increase with age: 14% among those under 30, 20% among 30-49-year-olds, 22% among those ages 50 to 65, and 26% among those over 65. These data might suggest that the exigencies of family life in North America play a role in the decision to include meat, but we should note that on average, 78% of respondents typically keep a meatless Christmas Vigil.

The survey also found that the rest of the Wigilia menu shows af-

finities between young people and members of the first and second generations. The top four Wigilia foods for those demographic groups, for example, were pierogi, fish, cabbage, and soup. By the fourth generation and among adults 65 and over, the rates of "typical inclusion" decreased and pastries displaced soup in the top four.

The singing of carols on Christmas Eve typically occurs in 72% of immigrant households and in 43% of third through fifth generation households; caroling tended to taper off with age. Gift exchange rates were high (72% or higher) among all demographics.

Midnight Mass (grouped in the survey with Christmas Eve Mass or other religious service) continues to be more popular among survey respondents than Christmas Day Mass (or other religious service). While many factors contribute to Christmas liturgical participation, the demographics with the highest Midnight/Christmas Eve attendance rates were: respondents under 30 (80%), fourth generation Polish Americans (73%), adults 30-49 (71%), non-Polish Slavic Americans (69%), and first generation Polish Americans (68%). Women and men attended at rates of 67% each. Non-attendees were scattered among all demographics.

In conclusion, that the vast majority of those surveyed whose Polish ancestry dates back farther than a great-grandparent choose to share the opłatek and the Wigilia meal attests to the ability of Polish Christmas Eve customs to signify cultural identity, bring families together across generations, and perhaps feed deeper hungers that only each person can name.

❖ ❖ ❖

*Claire Anderson holds master's degrees in European history and Divinity Studies and currently works for a Catholic parish. She can be reached at klaraanders@yahoo.com.*

## Election Results

*continued from cover*

With 39% voter support, Tusk's pro-business, mildly conservative Civic Platform (Platforma Obywatelska = PO) party will be able to resume its tested and fairly tranquil coalition with its junior partner, the Polish Peasant Party (Polskie Stronnictwo Ludowe = PSL). The PSL won only 10% of the vote but together the two parties will have a slim majority in the 460-seat Sejm (lower house), enough to force government-backed legislation through parliament.

The PO's secret appears to lie largely in its cleverly worded propaganda which struck a respondent chord with many Polish voters. Relying heavily on political marketing experts, image consultants and makeup artists, Tusk's party told people what they wanted to hear but was always willing to backtrack whenever support began to wane. Although Tusk had pledged no tax increases, his government raised the VAT sales tax, sending up the prices of most goods and services. And his government's grandiose highway-construction program ahead of the 2012 European Soccer Finals, co-hosted by Poland and Ukraine, has fallen short of expectations.

But, as an unmatched expert in crisis management, the 58-year-old Tusk has been able to talk his way out of every failure, saying things like "We're not perfect, but we're doing our best!" After campaign posters bearing the portrait of his short and frumpy arch-rival Jarosław Kaczyński appeared all over the country and the moderately handsome Tusk was asked whether he had similar plans, he coyly replied: "No, I'm not good-looking enough."

A major theme of Tusks' campaign was continuity. Taking credit for the fact that Poland was the only European country which did not slip into recession during the ongoing global crisis, the prime minister pledged continued stability and warned against changing horses in midstream. He also warned of the dire consequences of a return to power of Kaczyński's national-conservative Law and Justice (Prawo i Sprawiedliwość = PiS) party which he repeatedly accused of advocating revenge, hatred and aggression.

The biggest surprise of the elections was the success of dark-horse Janusz Palikot, who broke off from Tusk's PO last year to set up his own group immodestly called the Palikot Support Movement (Ruch Poparcia Palikota = RPP). Although early surveys had shown the RPP to be below the five percent threshold required to win parliamentary seats, it ultimately won nearly 10% of the vote. A millionaire businessman, Palikot ran on a libertine-leftist anti-Church platform supporting homosexual marriage, abortion on demand and legalizing marijuana.

It won the support of some younger voters disenchanted with the mainstream political stage and siphoned off quite a few votes from the post-communist Democratic Left Alliance (Sojusz Lewicy Demokratycznej = SLD). Palikot is known for his street happenings which include downing tiny airline-sized bottles of vodka in the street to ridicule the alleged drunkenness of former President Lech Kaczyński. At present, RPP members pledge an oath to fight for "a modern, progressive, tolerant and friendly Poland," while raising a Hitler-like salute.

— Robert Strybel in Warsaw

## Spula, Komorowski Meet

NEW YORK — The president of Poland, Bronisław Komorowski, and Polish American Congress (PAC) President Frank J. Spula met Sept. 23 to discuss a wide-range of issues important to the Polish diaspora living in the United States, including the need to dramatically improve the U.S. Visa Waiver Program.

The approximately hour-long private meeting, which took place following President Komorowski's

address to the United Nations General Assembly, allowed Komorowski and Spula to exchange views on upcoming national elections in both Poland and the United States, as well as for Spula to express his gratitude to the Polish leader for his country's support for Polonia overseas.

Spula invited Komorowski to attend upcoming events organized by the PAC, including a conference scheduled for 2012 in Chicago.

## SUPPORT THE PAJ PRESS FUND

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

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

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

A sincere "THANK YOU" for their donations to the **PAJ PRESS FUND: Robert Doornek**, Portage, Wisc.; **Mr. & Mrs. L.S. Jacobs**, Duncannon, Pa.; **Joseph Kmiec**, Haverhill Mass.; **Frank Lepkowski**, Syracuse N.Y.; **Casmir Witkowski**, Parkland, Fla.; and three "Friends of the PAJ." Dziękujemy! The PAJ thanks all who donated to the Press Fund.

**MAIL TO: PAJ PRESS FUND  
POLISH AMERICAN JOURNAL  
P.O. BOX 328, BOSTON, NY 14025-0328**

I want to make sure the POLISH AMERICAN JOURNAL continues its service to American Polonia. Enclosed is my contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Please [ ] include [ ] do not include my name in your list of contributors.

haps a tech-savvy designer could create an e-opłatek to be shared in cyberspace.

Also curious are trends surrounding the display of a manger scene in the home on Christmas Eve. Despite the centuries-old szopka traditions, first generation Polish Americans ranked the custom ninth out of twelve, compared to third or fourth among second through fifth+ generations.

The survey found that, overall,

THIS PAGE OF NEWS BROUGHT TO YOU BY



**POLISH GIFT OF LIFE. Dla Zycia Dziecka.** We are a group of dedicated volunteers that comprise the Polish Gift of Life, Inc. With your support for the past 31 years, we have assisted in saving the lives of almost 400 Polish children (16 in 2010), who suffer from heart-related illnesses. Surgery is performed by Polish pediatric cardiologist Dr. Edward Malec. Sick children wait for our help to lead a healthy, normal life. Join in this mission. Together we can fulfill their dream. To find us: The Polish Gift of Life, Inc., P.O. Box 273, Albertson, NY 11507-0273, or call (516) 746-1532 or (516) 371-5156. Thank you! Dziękuję bardzo!



DR. MALEC AND INFANT PATIENT



RELIGION / Benjamin Fiore, S.J.

## Abuse Allegation Unfounded

The Beaver County, Pa. district attorney concluded that allegations of assault raised by a 45-year-old man against Pittsburgh's **Bishop David A Zubik** have no factual basis and that the bishop did nothing wrong. The bishop was then the vice principal of Quigley Catholic HS where the complainant was a student. The allegation was made to the man's pastor who passed it on to the diocesan victim assistance coordinator and Bishop Zubik ordered that it be handed on to the district attorney according to diocesan policy and an independent Diocesan Review Board is handling the accusation. The complainant did not answer the victim coordinator's subsequent inquiries. When the complainant made previous allegations against priests (who have since been dismissed from the priesthood) he did not agree to meet with the bishop for an appointment until nine months later. At that meeting he did not discuss his allegations against the two priests but rather asked the bishop to intercede for him to be cleared for ministry in his local parish. The accuser seems to have concluded that the bishop was behind the denial of clearance. Commenting on the allegation Bishop Zubik said, "I emphatically state that no such behaviour occurred nor any semblance of such behaviour." He also noted, "The fear of every priest is that someone, sometime, somewhere, somehow will level a false accusation against him. That nightmare has been realized for me."

The protocols designed by the U.S. bishops to handle allegations of abuse have all been followed meticulously, and independent investigations by public officials have found no basis for the complaint.

**POLISH PRIEST ON PILGRIMAGE. Fr. Lawrence Hoppe**, president of the Greensburg, Pennsylvania Fraternity of Polish Priests, announced the theme of the annual Pielgrzymka Wiary or Pilgrimage of Faith to be "The Influence on the World of Blessed John Paul II." The pilgrimage, held at St. Thomas Apostle church in Footedale, Pa., is popular among the tri-county area Polish Americans. Confessions in Polish and English, and Mass in Polish started the program. After a break for supper, the pilgrimage resumed with the recitation of the rosary, litany to Mary, homily, and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

**POLISH FOUNDATION CARRIES ON WORK OF JOHN PAUL II.** The Polish Foundation **Dzielo Nowego Tysiąclecia** is dedicated to support works of mercy for the homeless, imprisoned, poor, hospitals, etc. and also has supported over 800 university students with scholarships. This year on October 9, the foundation celebrated the Day of the Pope under the title of "John Paul II - Man of Prayer." For information about the foundation's activities see [www.dzielo.pl](http://www.dzielo.pl) and [www.dzienpapieski.pl](http://www.dzienpapieski.pl).

**WORLD YOUTH DAY BREAKS RECORDS.** **Stanisław Cardinal Rylko**, president of the Pontifical Council for the Laity, praised the record number of youth registered for this year's World Youth Day in Madrid, Spain. "It is an epiphany of the Christian faith on a truly global scale. And young people — especially in our old Europe, deeply secular and secularizing — have a special need for all this," he added. While Spaniards opposed to this gathering of the faithful protested the pope's presence and the expense Spain would entail for hosting the event, the events connected with the gathering were all paid for by the registrations and the city of Madrid alone gained over \$200 million from expenditures of the participants. Other places in Spain which hosted the delegates in the week prior to the events in Madrid saw comparable economic advantages. But more than economic was the spiritual gain for the people of Spain who witnessed a throng of over a million young people gathered in harmony and prayer, a witness to the power of faith to create community and bring peace.

**STO LAT TO ... Nathanael Edward Polinski** and **Francis Ehnat**, Benedictine monks at St. Vincent Archabbey in Unity, Pa., on their ordination to the diaconate. Deacon Polinski, of Duquesne, Pa., a graduate of Serra Catholic HS and the UPitt, serves as assistant novice master and assistant to the director

of archabbey finances and investments. He also served on the faculty of St. Vincent College.

**Bishop Stanisław Budzik** of Tarnów, Poland, on being named archbishop of the Lublin archdiocese whose archbishop, Mirosław Zyciński, died in February.

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO ...** The **Little Servant Sisters** of the Immaculate Conception who celebrated their jubilees at the provincial center in Cherry Hill, N.J.: Silver - Sr. Anna Lesniak and Golden - Sr. Frances Szymanska, Sr. Teresa Sawica. Also celebrating anniversaries were Fr. Zbigniew Majcher, silver jubilee of profession as a Salesian of Don Bosco; and Fr. Harry Jordan, director of the Sacred Heart Residence in Cherry Hill, golden jubilee of ordination to priesthood. Not present at the celebration was Sr. Eustace Trella, diamond jubilarian.

**St. Anne** RC parish in Davidsville, Pa., celebrating 100 years. The current pastor, Fr. Michael Lewandowski, welcomed Altoona-Johnstown Bishop Mark Barchak who was the main celebrant at the anniversary Mass. The parish actually began in the coal-mining community of Hollsopple, a mission of Holy Family Church in Hooverville. Two previous churches were destroyed by fire. The current sanctuary was dedicated in 1981.

**Very Rev. Fryderyk S. Banas**, pastor of Holy Cross PNCC Par-

ish in Ware, Mass. on his 61st anniversary of priesthood. He was ordained by the late Bishop John A. Misiaszek in St. Stanislaus Cathedral, Scranton, Pa. After ordination, Fr. Banas was assigned as assistant pastor of Holy Mother of the Rosary Cathedral in Buffalo, NY and the administrator of Holy Trinity Parish in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada.

Fr. Sr. Banas has been and continues to be an avid supporter of *God's Field* having written articles for the official organ of the Church for many years.

**CHAPELS DOT DOYLESTOWN GROUNDS.** The **National Shrine of Our Lady of Częstochowa**, Doylestown, Pa., comprises shrines of special devotion. These include: the first chapel, a barn dedicated to Our Lady in 1955; the shrine's main church with its 65-foot-wide bas relief of the Holy Trinity; St. Anne's chapel with its de Rosen mural of "Poland Always Faithful"; the chapel of Our Lady of Częstochowa, an exact replica of the chapel on Jasna Góra in Poland; the chapel of Divine Mercy, site of the annual pilgrimage on Divine Mercy Sunday; chapel of Mary of Nazareth, with a life-size statue of Mary as a young maiden which was blessed and crowned by Pope John Paul II; chapel of St. Paul, First Hermit, patriarchal patron the Pauline Order who oversees the shrines at Doylestown and Częstochowa. For information about pilgrimages and retreats at the shrine call (215) 345-0600.

## MODLITWY / Prayers

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

**PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN.** (Never Known To Fail). Oh, most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. Oh Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein you are my Mother. Oh Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart and succor me in my necessity (make request). There are none that can withstand your power. Oh Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (three times). Holy Mary, I place this cause in

your hands (three times). Say this prayer for three consecutive days and then you must publish and it will be granted to you. Grateful thanks, J.P.

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

## THE POLISH ROMAN CATHOLIC UNION OF AMERICA



984 N. Milwaukee Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60642-4101  
TEL.: (800) 772-8632  
FAX: (773) 278-4595  
[www.prcua.org](http://www.prcua.org)

2636-38 E. Allegheny Ave.  
Philadelphia, PA 19134  
TEL.: (800) 558-8792  
FAX: (215) 425-3961

6966 Broadway Ave.  
Cleveland, OH 44105  
TEL.: (800) 318-8234  
FAX: (216) 883-3172

6011 South 27th Street  
Greenfield, WI 53321-4804  
TEL.: (877) 690-5827  
FAX: (414) 281-6405

Life Insurance  
Annuity Plans  
Home Mortgages  
Student Scholarships  
Polish Language and  
Dance Schools  
Social and Sporting  
Events

## Is it Brazen Malice, Oversight, or Just Plain Holocaust Ignorance?

BROOKLYN, N.Y. — Polish Americans are getting sick and tired of the nasty little habit a lot of the media have in blaming Poland for the Holocaust.

One of the most frequent ways they do it is by describing the concentration camps the Germans operated to kill Jews, Poles and other victims as "Polish" instead of German, according to Frank Milewski of the Polish American Congress Holocaust Documentation Committee.

The Germans built and ran concentration camps throughout Europe in the countries they conquered. The media correctly identify them as "German camps."

But when they report on Poland, they prefer to say the German camps were "Polish," said Milewski. "When we contact them to correct it, they give us the lame excuse the camps are "Polish" because they were geographically located in Poland. That the Germans were killing people inside those camps seems less significant to them."

Is it brazen malice, an oversight or just plain Holocaust ignorance? "Sometimes it's sheer stupidity," said Milewski.

He cited a recent incident where a major American newspaper foolishly referred to the Sachsenhausen concentration camp as a "Polish" camp. The only problem was that Sachsenhausen was located in Germany, not far from Berlin.

The Germans built it and opened it in 1936 even before World War II began in 1939. It was run by the Germans and most of the prisoners

there were German.

One Polish American who got fed up reading this kind of "non-sense" was Anthony Miller of Dover, Delaware who immediately penned a rebuttal to *The Wilmington News Journal*. He also sent a copy of his complaint to the *Polish American Journal* as a point of information.

The Polish community has developed an information network to advise each other about anti-Polish bias when they come across it. This is the way Milewski says the Polish American Congress is kept abreast of anti-Polish incidents it has to deal with.

The article that stirred Mr. Miller's concerns also appeared on the newspaper's website so that the Congress was able to verify the mislabeling of the German camp as "Polish." It was a story about a student who collected names of Jewish Holocaust victims to be registered at Israel's Holocaust Memorial at Yad Vashem in Jerusalem.

Milewski immediately felt the misidentification of the concentration camp had to be an oversight without any evil intent. "Someone writing about Yad Vashem has to know what's inside the Memorial and would find it hard to express ill will against the Polish people."

The Yad Vashem Memorial is a place where the Polish people are held in high esteem. They are honored there as "Righteous Among the Nations" for rescuing Jews during the German occupation of Poland.

Poland was the only country in all German-occupied Europe where

the Nazis gave the order to kill any Pole who gave any kind of help to a Jew, according to Milewski.

"Despite such a bone-chilling threat, more Poles are honored at Yad Vashem for rescuing Jews than anyone else. More Poles were killed for rescuing Jews than anyone else. If you write about Yad Vashem you would have to know that," he said.

Sure enough, he was correct in assuming the misidentification was an oversight. Before he could reach for a phone to discuss the problem with the *News Journal* the next morning, Miller's letter correcting the mistake was already published in the paper's Letters column.

"It's the first time we know of that a paper made a correction of an error in its next day edition. The *News Journal* told us they felt bad about it and understood our point of view. We personally thanked them for the correction and we commend Miller for his initiative to complain to the paper and advise the rest of the Polish community about the problem," he said.

Not all publications respond as positively as the *News Journal*. The Polish American Congress often confronts stubborn and arrogant editors who misinformed their readers about Poland.

"They know they were wrong but they just won't budge. We could even organize a protest demonstration in front of their offices and they'll just thumb their imperious noses at us."

— Polish American Congress  
Holocaust Documentation  
Committee

## Artist Motak Earns National Recognition

PITTSBURGH — The work of artist and graphic designer David Motak has been recognized by the organization promoting Polish and Polish American arts and culture in the United States. The American Council for Polish Culture (ACPC), has presented the Pittsburgh artist with the organization's Cultural Achievement Award in recognition of the artist's lifelong contributions to the promotion of Polish culture throughout the United States.

Motak is the only American artist practicing the "Szopka," a traditional folk art originating in Cracow, Poland. Szopkas, often called "Cracow creches" are architectural constructions that blend wood, cardboard, ribbon and foil paper into whimsical and ornate works of art. The Szopka tradition, which originated in southern Poland, was brought to the United States by Polish and Slavic immigrants during the industrial migrations. Motak's efforts to revitalize this art form in the United States has resulted in an increased awareness of the tradition and the establishment of a growing "Szopka community" in America.

Motak launched his Pittsburgh-based Cracow Creche Workshop/National Szopka Project as an educational initiative in 2003 and the project has since acquired a national scope. During that time, he has

taught Szopka making throughout the country and has shown his work at various prominent galleries in the United States and Poland and has produced projects for many Polish-American organizations.



**AT PRESENTATION** (l. to r.): Ewa Junczyk-Ziomecka, Consul General of the Republic of Poland in New York; Debbie Majka, president, ACPC; Cultural Achievement Award Recipient David Motak; Bernadette Wiermanski, ACPC first vice president and award presenter; and Timothy Kuzma, president and CEO Polish Falcons of America.

In presenting the Cultural Achievement Award, the ACPC cited Motak for his numerous contributions to Polish-American cultural life. In 2008, Motak developed "Poles in Pittsburgh: Yesterday Today and Tomorrow" a traveling exhibit that presents the contributions of Poles to the history and cultural life of Western Pennsylvania and the United States.

His educational projects have been underwritten by the Penn-

sylvania Council on the Arts, the Pennsylvania Humanities Council; the Arts and Cultural Council for Greater Rochester. In 2008 he was awarded an Apprenticeship in Traditional Arts from the Institute for Cultural Partnerships to study in Cracow.

Motak is a graduate of Alliance College, where he majored in Slavic studies and Polish culture. He attended the Jagiellonian University in Cracow, for two years as a part of the Kosciuszko Foundation Academic exchange program. His professional career has taken him to several managerial positions at the University of Pittsburgh, Point Park University and Sweetwater Center for the Arts. He is currently Director of Communications for the Polish Falcons of America. Motak serves as editor and designer of the Sokol Polski. He is also curator and designer of the Polish Falcons of America Heritage Collection. In addition, he serves as a member of the board of directors of the Polish Cultural Council of Western Pennsylvania and a member artist of the Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council.

For additional information on the National Szopka Project, the history of the art form and to view szopka images, please visit [www.cracowcrafts.com](http://www.cracowcrafts.com). Motak can also be reached at [contact@cracowcrafts.com](mailto:contact@cracowcrafts.com).

**CIEKAWOSTKI** / Martin S. Nowak

## Poland Influenced Constitutional Convention

At the U.S. Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia in the summer of 1787, the delegates who had assembled in Independence Hall used the experiences of various forms of European governments, both past and present, to support their arguments. These great men, presenting, accepting, and rejecting ideas to shape the future of our country were learned people who had studied the history of world governments. They were determined to avoid the mistakes made in the past by other societies.

In the steamy building that summer, the name of Poland was invoked at least three times in the debates. On June 18, Alexander Hamilton of New York proposed electing a president for life. Opponents of this idea called it an elective monarchy and brought forth the examples of Rome, the German Empire, and Poland, which at various times had elected their chief magistrates under the most corrupt circumstances. But Hamilton called these three bad exceptions to the generally sound principle of election for life. He acknowledged that "in Poland the election is made by great rival princes with independent power, and ample means of raising commotions," but he argued such would not be the case in America.

**SOME DELEGATES ARGUED** against direct election by the people, thinking the general population would not make a wise choice and would be corruptly influenced, as had been the case in Europe.

On July 17, delegate James Wilson of Pennsylvania said that the negative example of Poland should

not be used against the idea that the president should be directly elected by the people. Gouverneur Morris of New York was surprised that an election by the people should be likened to the Polish election of her kings. Instead, he argued, an election of the president by a national Congress, and not the people, would bear a likeness to the tainted elections of the Polish king by the Diet (Sejm) of Poland, because Congress would inevitably consist of aristocrats forming corrupt cabals, as had happened in Poland.

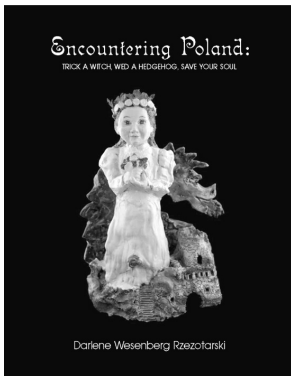
Finally, on July 25, James Madison of Virginia argued for election of the president by the several state legislatures. A national legislature, or Congress, given this power would be subject to the influence and bribery of foreign powers. Poland was a main witness to this danger, he warned. Members of the Sejm who elected the king readily sold their votes to foreign powers in exchange for personal enrichment. This gave foreign rulers, namely those of Russia and Germany, effective control of Poland's government. Madison believed that state lawmakers, being more localized, would be less vulnerable to such intrigues.

**IN THE END**, it was agreed that the American president should be elected for a period of four years, and not for life. A compromise was molded over the method of choosing this president. He would not be elected by state or national legislatures, nor directly by the people. Instead, an electoral college consisting of persons chosen solely for the purpose of electing the president would be assigned this duty.

Indirectly, then, the sad state of affairs in Poland in the late eighteenth century helped determine in part the shape of the Constitution of the United States, especially the length of the president's term and the method of choosing him.

**LIMITED EDITION BOOK OF POLISH STORIES NOW AVAILABLE**

**ENCOUNTERING POLAND:**  
TRICK A WITCH, WED A HEDGEHOG,  
SAVE YOUR SOUL



By Darlene Wesenberg Rzezotarski

This unique book is a poetic and artistic journey into the world of Polish folklore and culture through original versions of tales and over 20 full-color illustrations.

Numbered copies are signed by the author/illustrator. This quality work is destined to become a family heirloom.

**MAKES A GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFT!** \$30 + \$3 shipping  
Send payment to:  
**D.W. Rzezotarski**  
Wecker Press  
2019 N. Newhall Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53202

-or-  
Purchase this book with Paypal at  
[www.Lollyclay.net](http://www.Lollyclay.net)

## BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

### Superior Die Set Corporation

OAK CREEK, Wisconsin — One of the country's largest tool and die makers was founded by a Polish immigrant in 1923, and today does business in the country of his birth.

In 1910, Kasimir J. Janiszewski, at the age of 23, came to the United States "za chlebem" to im-

ers worldwide.

In the 1960s, Janiszewski's sons Alphonse, Casimir H. and Edward were all key executives of the firm. The middle son, like his father nicknamed Casey, became president in 1968 and served Superior for a total 55 years — longer than any other family member



prove his personal lot, as well as that of his mother and father, who remained in Poland. Ten years later, he arrived in Milwaukee, the home of his new bride, and soon established Superior Die Set Company.

Over the years, Janiszewski's son and his grandsons have served as key executives of one of the nation's oldest family-owned corporations, now with a customer base and increasing worldwide attention following the establishment in 1992 of a wholly owned subsidiary in Poland.

Superior Die Set Corporation, headquartered in the Milwaukee suburb of Oak Creek since 1965, is a major manufacturer of die sets for the local metal stamping industry and mold bases for the plastic injection and die cast mold industries. A provider of employment for more than 500 people in the United States and overseas, the company is also a regional source for plate products, weldments and a variety of metalworking services; has a forging division for the repair and replacement of forging equipment; and produces ejector pins and components for die and mold builders at its Poland-based subsidiary, FCPK Bytow, for buy-

— until his retirement in 1991. His own sons, Casimir J. and Frank J., took executive positions at Superior in the mid-1980s. In 1991 they were named CEO and President, and Executive Vice-President, respectively.

After three earlier Milwaukee-area locations, Superior is based today at 900 West Drexel Avenue, Oak Creek, with a 130,000 square foot plant and offices. In addition to its subsidiary in Poland, the company also has a component manufacturing facility in Greendale, another Milwaukee suburb; a Cleveland Division based in that Ohio city, with sales office and warehouses for standard die sets, mold bases and components; and a manufacturing plant in Indianapolis.

Industry leadership over Superior's nine decades in business is exemplified by many patents obtained on products developed by the founder and his son and the many unique products and services the company offers customers.

From Poland, to Poughkeepsie, to Chicago, to Milwaukee, and eventually back to Poland, the story of a Polish blacksmith, tool and die maker, and entrepreneur, is one all can take pride in.

## SPEAK UP / Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

On behalf of the Officers and Members of the Polish Heritage Club of Uniontown, Pa., I wholeheartedly congratulate and most of all thank you on the occasion of the Centennial of your noble publication.

Truly, you all deserve the popular ancestral greeting of "sto lat."

Your publication not only informs us of many activities across the Polonia, but keeps very alive the

customs, traditions and history of our valuable and noble Polish heritage, of which so many are so proud.

While you do spend a lot of hours and talents, it has to be a "labor of love," and I can offer you my heartfelt prayers and priestly Blessing.

Niechaj Pan Bóg wynagrodzi stukrotnie!

Rev. Canon

Joseph L. Sredzinski  
Club Chaplain / Secretary  
Uniontown, Pennsylvania

## POLISH HERITAGE • www.zazzle.com

**ZAZZLE CUSTOM STAMPS**, (valid for postage), mugs, and postcards honoring the 400th Anniversary of the Arrival of the First Poles to America, Jamestown, Virg., on October 1, 2008, are still available at:

[www.zazzle.com/earliestpoles](http://www.zazzle.com/earliestpoles)

and

[www.zazzle.com/firstpolesusa](http://www.zazzle.com/firstpolesusa)

**DESIGN YOUR OWN.** You can also make your own souvenirs, such as Zazzle custom stamps with pictures of your children, grandchildren, parents, great-grandparents, or whoever you please, as well as mugs, hats, t-shirts, caps, etc., to celebrate special occasions, such as birthdays, anniversaries, etc.

Contact Zazzle.com today and begin your new venture. You will not be disappointed. Remember that Zazzle Custom Stamps are valid for postage.

**Leopold A Potsiadlo, CW4, USA, (Ret)**  
[panpoldek@cox.net](mailto:panpoldek@cox.net)

*Polak z krwi i kości i amerykańskich z urodzenia i obyczajów*

U.S. Army veteran of 30 years service, having served in World War II in North Africa, Sicily, and Italy; Korea (twice); and Vietnam during those conflicts. Retired as Chief Warrent Officer, W4





# Honors for Siemionow and Rosenstiel



PALM BEACH, Fla. — (l. to r.): Thomas M. Pikarski, Chicago Land Use attorney and president of the National Advocates Society, Dr. Maria Siemionow, world-renowned plastic surgeon and the first person to perform a full facial transplant in North America, and Blanka Rosenstiel, president of the American Institute of Polish Culture, pause for a photo at the National Advocates Society / National Medical Dental Association convention at the Breakers. Siemionow and Rosenstiel were honored by the two Polish American professional affiliation societies. The Advocates have been together for over 75 years, and the Medical Dental Society has a 100-year history.

# Amber Artist's Murderer Sentenced

by Wieslaw Gierlowski

The court proceedings in St. Petersburg lasted over a year and a half, and in May 2011 ended in sentence for the murderers of Alexander Zhuravlev, an outstanding amber antiques conservator, reviver of the Amber Chamber and creator of an entire range of contemporary pieces of art; as well as an unfailing friend for Polish amber makers.

On the night of December 21, 2009 he was coming back home from this workshop, where he had just finished an amber portrait of Tsar Alexander II (photo, right), which he preserved on the last photo he managed to take. He had taken about 22 pounds of amber from the workshop and on the way home he did shopping at a supermarket, in a housing estate of tower blocks, where he had lived with his family for 30 years.

Unfortunately, while he was doing the shopping he attracted the attention of two young drug addicts. They had known the artist since they were children, as they lived in one of the block of flats in the neighborhood. When he entered his staircase and stood in front of the lift with heavy bags full of shopping and amber, one of the attackers — Vasilij Ladov — struck him in the temple with brass knuckles. Zhuravlev lost consciousness as a result of the initial blow; a dozen or so following killed him. He died after six days of unsuccessful hospital treatment.

The perpetrators were caught quickly, on December 30. The amber loot thrown out of the window of their flat, into the snow, was crucial for their identification. It is not

clear whether the men wanted to get rid of the evidence of their crime, or if they had not recognized amber. Nevertheless, finding amber on the neighboring area by the police and previous crimes committed by the men, had instantly drawn the suspicion on them.

During the trial the killers asked Lena Zhuravlev, the widow, and Zhuravlev's daughters to forgive them. Lena replied to that: "we cannot be sure if Alexander is the last person to be killed by you." The

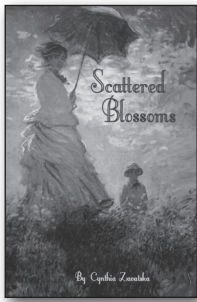
jury sentenced the main perpetrator to nine and a half years of imprisonment, and his helper, Vitalij Bielenkov, to three years. It is not much compensation for the damage they have done to society and the amber industry all over the world. Surely though, the murderers have not managed to lessen Zhuravlev's role in the society, or limit the warm feelings of many amber makers from various countries, especially Poland — who will never forget his great personality and his lifelong devotion to amber.

Wieslaw Gierlowski is the oldest amber maker from Gdansk and has been in profession since 1957. An expert of amber and author of many publications about the material, he was awarded the title of the Amber Maker of the Century.



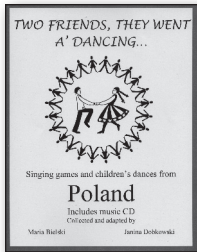
Zhuravlev was a friend of Polish amber makers.

# Are You Ready for Your Polish Christmas?



**NEW! JUST RELEASED!**  
**SCATTERED BLOSSOMS**  
by Cynthia Zavatska  
**\$12.95**

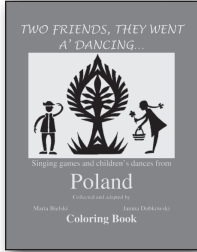
500 pages, softcover.  
Scattered Blossoms is story of a girl's journey to womanhood. It happens often in very difficult times and in two worlds, worlds very different in both circumstance and national character. Therein lies the challenge! How can this young Polish woman weave together her life as a child of nobility, born to a great country manor in a nation whose rich culture and thousand-year-old traditions have enveloped her throughout her early years, with her life in a new, vital, and often cruel and incomprehensible new world — America? There is romance and loss, sadness and joy, spring, winter, and summer, and a richness of spirit which binds her to her life in both worlds, to the earth and her destiny. Appropriate for all ages.



**TWO FRIENDS, THEY WENT A' DANCING**  
by Maria Bielski and Janina Dobkowska  
**\$20.00**

Singing games and Children's Dances from Poland  
**INCLUDES MUSIC CD, LYRICS, AND MUSIC**  
Spiral bound, softcover

Lyrics (English and Polish) of ten popular singing games, and a vocal music score with chords. Step-by-step movement and dance instructions. Includes CD of the recorded songs with accompaniment. Each page has an original "wycinanki" (Polish cut-out style) illustration, which can be reproduced for coloring or craft projects.



**TWO FRIENDS, THEY WENT A' DANCING**  
**COLORING BOOK**  
**\$3.00**

Using these "wycinanki" icons, you can draw the story of each song, color the enlarged full page cut-out, or reproduce any of these icons for educational purposes. Some craft ideas are included.



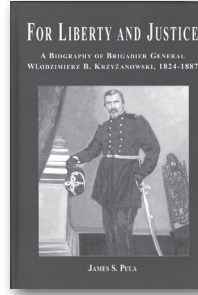
**TWO FRIENDS, THEY WENT A' DANCING**  
**COMPANION DVD**  
**\$10.00**

22-minute video demonstrates dances and games, some performed in Polish folk costumes!

**MORE TITLES from the PAJ BOOKSTORE**  
**(800) 422-1275**  
(716) 312-8088 • www.polamjournal.com

**USE FORM BELOW FOR ALL ITEMS ON PAGES 2, 8 and 9**

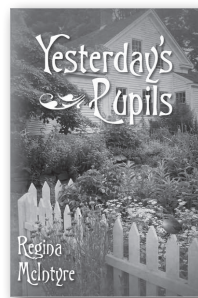
Use form on back cover for items on that page.



**FOR LIBERTY AND JUSTICE: A Biography of Brigadier General Włodzimierz B. Krzyzanowski, 1824-1887**  
**\$29.95**

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

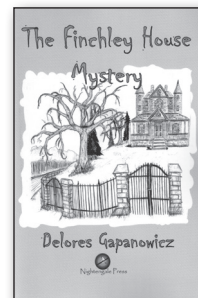
A lavishly illustrated biography of a major Polish American figure of the 19th century, For Liberty and Justice tells the story of a Polish revolutionary exiled to America where he rises from private to general during the Civil War.



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

Create Space Books  
2010, 208 pp., pb

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



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

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

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

**POLISH AMERICAN JOURNAL BOOKSTORE**

# ORDER FORM

**USE THIS FORM FOR ALL ITEMS ON PAGES 2, 8 and 9**

Use form on back cover for items on that page. Forms may be mailed together.

### HOW TO ORDER

1. **MAIL IN FORM** with check or money order payable to: "Polish American Journal," P.O. Box 328 Boston, NY 14025

2. **CALL, MON.-FRI., 8:00 A.M.-3:00 P.M. EST**  
**1 (800) 422-1275**  
or (716) 312-8088

3. **On-line at:**  
[www.polamjournal.com](http://www.polamjournal.com)

### SHIPPING CHARGES

NOTE! If ordering OPLATEK ONLY (and nothing else!) shipping is only \$3.00.

Total order.....	Charge
OPLATEK ONLY.....	\$3.00
\$ .001 - \$20.00.....	\$6.95
\$20.01 - \$35.00.....	\$8.95
\$35.01 - \$65.00.....	\$9.95
\$65.01 - \$95.00.....	\$12.95
\$95.01 - \$125.00.....	\$14.95
\$125.01 - \$200.00.....	\$18.95
Over \$200.00.....	Call

ITEM / TITLE PRICE QNTY. TOTAL

ITEM / TITLE	PRICE	QNTY.	TOTAL

**SUBTOTAL (all boxes)** ▶  
**NY & FLA residents - add sales tax** ▶  
**S&H (See chart below)** ▶  
**TOTAL TO SUBMIT TO PAJ** ▶

**PRINT CLEARLY OR ATTACH ADDRESS LABEL. THIS IS YOUR SHIPPING LABEL.**

**From:** POL-AM JOURNAL  
P.O. BOX 328, BOSTON, NY 14025

**To:** NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_  
STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

[ ] CHECK or M.O. ENCLOSED  
[ ] AMEX [ ] DISC [ ] MC [ ] VISA

CARD NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
EXP. DATE \_\_\_\_\_ SECURITY CODE \_\_\_\_\_  
DAYTIME PHONE ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

# Amberjewelry.com

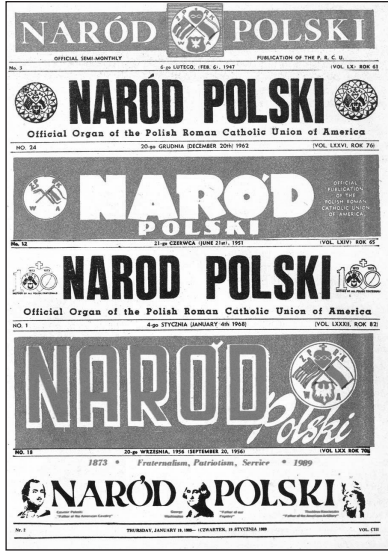


**GEM QUALITY CERTIFIED AUTHENTIC BALTIC AMBER & STERLING JEWELRY FROM POLAND SINCE 1995**

**VISIT US ONLINE FOR SALES & SPECIALS**  
**the amber authority**

## HAPPENINGS: CHICAGO STYLE / Geraldine Balut Coleman

## Narod Polski Celebrates 115 Years



## Narod Polski Mastheads

On September 9, the Sabina Logisz Great Hall of The Polish Museum of America was filled with over 100 guests celebrating the 115th anniversary of *Narod Polski*, the official newspaper of the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America (PRCUA). An exhibit highlighted photocopies of numerous newspaper articles, the history of the newspaper and its association with the PRCUA, mastheads, ten rare photos from prior to 1929, as well as old newspapers. The biographies of twenty-four editors of the newspaper and their photographs were there for the viewing. Prior to its present day name of *Narod Polski*, this privately-owned newspaper of the PRCUA had several names: *Pilgrzym*, *Gazeta Polska Katolicka*, *Gazeta Katolicka*, and *Wiara i Ojczyzna*.

*zyczna*. This exhibit was co-curated by *Narod Polski*'s executive editor, Kathryn Rosypal, its first female editor, a position that she has held for twenty-two years and the newspaper's eighteen-year tenured Managing Editor, Lidia Kowalewicz. Additionally, the Polish Museum's archivist, Halina Misterka, prepared the extensive exhibit materials. The President of the PRCUA, Joseph Drobot, Jr. referred to the *Narod Polski* as the "lifeblood of the organization (PRCUA)." Twelve-year-old Daniel Szefer entertained the audience with selections from his repertoire of Liszt and Chopin. Jazz soloist, Marley Dzis, accompanied by her father, pianist/accordionist Mieczyslaw Dzis, sang favorites from 1890s America. Mr. Dzis played the "Heel and Toe Polka," composed in 1890 by E. Oweczka from the Polish Museum's Archives. Monsignor Stanley Milewski, the PRCUA's Vice Chaplain from Orchard Lake, MI, gave the invocation, and Rev. Anthony D. Iwuc of Providence, RI, gave the benediction. Everyone was treated to an outstanding array of delectable Polish delights.

**"POLES AND STALINIST TERROR" LECTURE.** The Institute for the Humanities at the University of Illinois in Chicago (UIC) presented its first Annual Hejna Lecture in Polish Studies. It was jointly sponsored by the College of Liberal Arts and Science Dean's Office, the UIC's Jewish Studies Program, and its Department of History. The lecture, "Poles and Stalinist Ter-

ror: Remembrance and Oblivion" was presented on September 26 by Professor Timothy Snyder of Yale University. As an author of several prize winning works on East Central European History, including the New York Times' bestseller, *Bloodlands*, he still has time to teach undergraduate and graduate courses in Modern East European Political History at Yale. Professor Snyder presented a lecture on the totality of Stalin's ethnic mass murders. He offered a slightly different perspective on the Katyń Massacre as the last of a series of tragedies which involved far more than Poles, but also Soviet citizens murdered by the NKVD (People's Commissariat for Internal Affairs, i.e. the Soviet Union's secret police). A reception following this lecture was hosted by the Polish Consulate.

**CELL PHONES FOR SOLDIERS.** Illinois comptroller, Judy Baar Topinka, joined a national campaign to connect U.S. soldiers serving aboard with their loved ones at home through old and new cell phone donations.

The *Cell Phones for Soldiers* program turns old phones into minutes on prepaid calling cards for U.S. troops overseas. Donated phones are sent to *ReCellular*, which pays *Cell Phones for Soldiers* for each donated phone, with each phone usually having an hour of talk time, so that soldiers can talk to their families.

"I am proud to be a part of this wonderful outreach program," Topinka said. As the mother of an Army Major, she understands the

enormous cost our soldiers incur trying to place overseas telephone calls to loved ones in the States. Families of U.S. troops worry, not only about our soldiers, but they also worry about the expense in calling home.

Comptroller Baar Topinka encourages all citizens in Illinois to donate their old and used phones before November 18, 2011. But everyone throughout the United States can donate. Just go to [www.cellphonesforsoldiers.com](http://www.cellphonesforsoldiers.com) and put in your zip code. There you will find over 3,000 collection sites across the United States.

Founded in 2004, the *Cell Phone for Soldiers* Program is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. In seven years, this organization has collected more than 7.5 million cell phones which have provided more than 90 million minutes of free talk time for our troops aboard.

**A TOTAL LOSS: LANDMARK PASIEKA BAKERY.** For more than 75 years, Pasieka Bakery offered a taste of Poland for Polish immigrants, non-Polish residents, and Polish Americans, who drove in from the suburbs to purchase the best charka, kolacky and babkas. The doors were always open at 6:00 a.m.



**LANDMARK LOSS.** Pasieka Bakery, a Chicago and Polish landmark, was destroyed by fire on September 12.

On September 12, this popular Polish bakery was destroyed by fire. It took approximately 150 fire fighters and paramedics nearly four hours to control the bakery fire. The firefighters had to bulldoze the rear of the bakery in order to control the flames.

The bakery, located in the Avondale Polish community on Chicago's Northwest Side, was a neighborhood institution and a landmark. The storefront itself was an important part of Chicago's architectural history with its art deco display window. This gemstone of the community will be a great loss not only for Chicago Polonia, but also for the cultural presence it provided.

Since 1998, John Ligas, a native of southern Poland, had been its owner. He kept the bakery's name Pasieka, because it was an important part of the community.

The cause of the fire is still under investigation.

## Pilsudski Comes Home to Sulejowek

by Jacek Galazka

"Nearly 170 million zlotys to build the Pilsudski Museum in Sulejowek" was the headline in the *Gazeta Wyborcza* announcement on September 6, 2011. The article went on to say that the Polish government decided to build the museum because of the importance of creating an institution showcasing the historical achievements and contributions of one of Poland's greatest heroes.

The museum will highlight and promote Poland's pride in being a free country and an important part of Europe, as well as remind Poles of the struggles and sacrifices of earlier generations fighting for independence. The museum will be a research and educational center to make better known Pilsudski's contributions and to show Poland as the nation that saved Europe from Communist oppression in 1920. Most importantly, the museum should also help settle once and for all the recent controversy about the best location for the collections of the Pilsudski Institute in New York.

**THE STORY BEGINS** earlier, in 2007, when the Pilsudski family regained its house and grounds in Sulejowek and began to plan a Pilsudski museum. In August of that year, the Polish Government announced its plan to build the Pilsudski Museum in Sulejowek to commemorate the life and achievements of Józef Piłsudski (1867-1935). There was great rejoicing at the Józef Piłsudski Institute in New York, which was founded in 1943 by veterans of the Pilsudski legions in World War I, some of whom had later emigrated to the United States. Others fought in Poland in September 1939 and later escaped to the West.

The purpose of the institute in New York was to continue the struggle for independent Poland by collecting historical documents to help historians fight for the liberation of Poland from the Germans and the Soviets. The dream of Polish exiles and veterans was to return to Poland after the war and help the homeland in the work of re-establishing universities and libraries, and to continue historical research in the modern history of Poland.

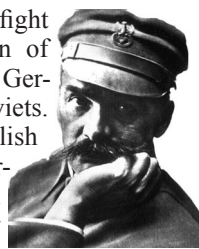
When the World War II ended in 1945, the Soviet takeover of Poland delayed its liberation by 45 years. From 1990, barely free and much impoverished, the country was unable to help the Institute resume its work in Poland. From 2002, the Institute received valuable help from visiting archivists and librarians sent by the Polish government. The meager funds of the Institute and the high cost of renting its premises in New York, now holding quite substantial archives and a library, stretched its resources to the limit. At one point in the 1990s the Institute had to give up its quarters in the face of a rent hike and warehouse its files for a year until Polish National Alliance generously came to its rescue by providing space in their building in Manhattan at a very low cost. The Institute is still there today. It could not afford similar space at the going rates in New York.

On April 8, 2008 the Pilsudski Institute was invited by the Pilsudski Family Foundation in Sulejowek (300 meters from Warsaw) to bring its archives and the library as the foundation of the future Museum's

educational outreach. It should be noted that 20% of the Institute's archives in New York came from Poland during the war, evacuated from Warsaw shortly after the German attack in September 1939. Known as the Belvedere Archives, these priceless state documents represent the crown jewels of Polish heritage and belong to Poland. The rest of the documents in the Pilsudski Institute in New York were deposited by hundreds of members, veterans of World War II and their families who hoped that their documents would reach a free Poland after the war.

**DIFFERENCES IN OPINION.** On April 12, 2008, a small group of six younger Polish immigrants on the Board of Directors (13 persons) took over the Institute in order to keep it in New York, wishing to use it as a cultural center for the new Polish-speaking immigrants. The more senior members on the Board, many of whom were experienced businessmen, strongly counseled against taking this new direction, believing that the Institute would use up all its resources and endanger the priceless records hundreds had saved and entrusted to the Institute for return to Poland.

On May 1, 2008, the Polish minister of culture personally invited the Institute to come to Sulejowek, with all expenses associated with the move and future upkeep to be covered by the state. The invitation was ignored. The government continues to help the Pilsudski Institute



Józef Piłsudski



984 N. Milwaukee Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60622-4141  
(773) 384-3352  
PMA@PolishMuseumofAmerica.org  
[www.PolishMuseumofAmerica.org](http://www.PolishMuseumofAmerica.org)  
501(c)(3) non-profit organization

either stay and produce fine Americans of Polish origin or return to Poland. Their preferences should not decide the fate of the Polish language archives gathered by Polish patriots in World War II and its aftermath for their native land robbed of its historical treasures. English speaking Polonia does not know and therefore does not support the work of the Institute. Given a chance to join the American Council for Polish Culture some five years ago, as an important associate member, the Institute declined the invitation. The sooner the Institute accepts Poland's invitation to join the Pilsudski Museum, the better it will be for all concerned.

✦ ✦ ✦  
*Jacek Galazka was president of the Pilsudski Institute in New York from 1999 to 2008 and publisher of Polish interest books at Hippocrene Books for over 20 years.*

*To get future information on the Pilsudski Museum in Poland, please write to [jmgalazka@optonline.net](mailto:jmgalazka@optonline.net)*

## POLISH-ENGLISH TRANSLATOR

- Official documents, letters, e-mails, etc.
- Reasonable rates.
- Fast, reliable service by e-mail or regular mail.
- Translation to/from other languages available as well.
- Over 20 years experience working with genealogists, attorneys, businesses, film-makers, government, medical professionals, etc.

**ANDY GOLEBIOWSKI**  
109 Rosemead Lane  
Cheektowaga, NY 14227  
(716) 892-5975  
[andyg81@hotmail.com](mailto:andyg81@hotmail.com)

POLONIA OF THE EASTERN GREAT LAKES / Michael Pietruszka

## Buffalo's East Side Polonia Highlighted During National Trust Conference

Buffalo's Historic Polonia District was the subject of a field session during the 2011 National Preservation Conference held in Buffalo during October. "Local and national interest in the Polonia District is at an all time high," said Marty Biniasz, a founding member of the Despensata Corporation and co-Founder of Forgotten Buffalo & Tours.

"The Polonia District is home to some of Buffalo's most important religious, cultural, civic and architectural landmarks. It is this critical mass of unique, authentic attractions that is becoming the foundation for development on the Eastside."

The session titled, "Historic Polonia: Re-Visualizing an Ethnic Neighborhood," took place on October 20. Buildings visited during the field session included the Buffalo Central Terminal, St. Stanislaus Church, Corpus Christi Church, St. Adalbert's Basilica, Adam Mickiewicz Library and Dramatic Circle, the former Schreiber Brewery, the Union Stock Yard Bank, Dom Polski Hall and neighborhood taverns.

Learn more about Buffalo's Historic Polonia District at: <http://www.forgottenbuffalo.com/historicpolonia-district.html>.

**POLISH FILM FESTIVAL SEASON BEGINS.** The autumn has once again brought Polish cinema into the forefront in our area. This year's local Polish film festival season began during October in Toronto and will continue through mid-November in WNY.

The Third Annual **Ekran Polish Film Festival** was held at the Revue Cinema in Toronto's Roncesvalles Avenue neighborhood October 21 through 23. This year's offerings included Ryszard Brylowski's "Wonderful Summer," Piotr Uzarowicz's "The Officer's Wife," Rafal Sokolowski's "Three Mothers," Feliks Falk's "Joanna," Dorota Kedzierzawska's "Tomorrow Will Be Better," Anna Kazejak's "Flying Pigs," Marek Lechki's "Erratum," Jacek Bromski's "Entanglement," Julia Kolberger's "Jutro Mnie Tu Nie Bedzie," Bartosz Kruhlik's "Vanishing," Grzegorz Jaroszk's "Frozen Stories" and Kuba Cuman's "Konkurs." Directors Ryszard Brylowski, Rafal Sokolowski and Piotr Uzarowicz were special guests at the festival.

The **Skalny Center for Polish and Central European Studies** in Rochester and the **Permanent Chair of Polish Culture** at Canisius College in Buffalo will be presenting their Polish film festivals the second weekend of November. The Rochester Polish Film Festival will open with a screening of Feliks Falk's "Joanna" at the Little Theatre in Downtown Rochester. For more information on the Rochester festival, please visit [www.rochester.edu/college/psc/CPCES/events/fall11/pff11.html](http://www.rochester.edu/college/psc/CPCES/events/fall11/pff11.html)

The final lineup of the Canisius College festival was not available as this is being written, but further information should be on [www.canisius.edu/polish/default.asp](http://www.canisius.edu/polish/default.asp) by the time of publication.

**POLONIA TIDBITS.** Due to programming changes at its host, the Polonia of the Eastern Great Lakes (POLEGL.) website which contained a Polonia calendar and directory for Western and Central New York, Northwest Pennsylvania and Southern Ontario can no longer be



Adam Mickiewicz Library and Dramatic Circle

updated ... WNY Polonia lost two leaders during September. Retired NYS Supreme Court Justice **William Ostrowski** passed away on September 13 and **Stanislaw Lukaszewicz** died on the 14th ... The **Polish Villa II Restaurant** on Harlem Road in Cheektowaga is now open for lunch and dinner six nights a week. For more information, please visit [www.thevilla.biz](http://www.thevilla.biz) ... The **Harmony Polish Folk Ensemble** has moved its rehearsals to the Polish Cadets Hall at Grant and Amherst in Buffalo's Black Rock neighborhood ... Canadian author **Eddie Zawadzki** of Toronto, whose book, "The Poles in the New World," is now in its fourth printing, has established himself as a fixture at many Polonia events across western and central NYS during the last few months ... Students of the **Msgr. Adamski Polish Saturday School** and the **Polish Heritage Dancers of WNY** participated in Assumption Parish's Third Annual International Harvest Festival in Buffalo's Black Rock neighborhood on October 2 ... The **Skalny Lecture and Artist Series** at the University of Rochester presented Professor Marek Hendrykowski of the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan on "The Photograph: Unknown Early Masterpiece of Krzystof Kieslowski" at Hoyt Hall on the university's River Campus on October 1, and Dr. Kathleen Parthe on the topic "For Their Freedom and Ours: Alexander Herzen and the Liberation of Poland" on October 13 ... NYS Senator **George Maziarz** was presented the first Mary Lucariello Legisla-

tive Award by the WNY Youth Bureau Association recently ... On October 2, the Permanent Chair of Polish Culture at Canisius College, Polish Arts Club of Buffalo, Kosciuszko Foundation (WNY Chapter) and Buffalo Hadassah hosted a lecture by **Dr. George Alexander**, author of "Generations," on "The Co-Existence of Poles and Jews Over the Centuries" . The lecture coincided with the opening of a photographic

exhibit, "Polish Heroes: Those Who Rescued Jews" in the Canisius College Library ... The **Polish Cultural Foundation** held its annual meeting at the Butler Library on the Buffalo State College campus on October 8. The group discussed the possible translation and publication of Dr. Kazimierz Braun and Zosia Braun's "Brothers Adamowicz: Emigrants: Aviators. First Polish Conquerors of the North Atlantic" and co-sponsoring a lecture by Professor Marek Chodakiewicz, holder of the Kosciuszko Chair in Polish Studies at the Institute of World Politics, with the Polish Chair at Canisius College ... **St. Stanislaus Kostka Church** in Rochester was the site of a Pulaski Day Commemoration Mass on the 9th ... October 12 brought **George Weigel**, Pope John Paul II's biographer, to Canisius College to address "The End and the Beginning: Pope John Paul II; The Victory of Freedom, the Last Years, the Legacy" ... Buffalo Common Councilmember **Joseph Golombek**, and **Bogdan** and **Janice Fundalinski** were honored for their contributions to the Black Rock Community at the Grant-Amherst Business Association Awards Dinner at Niagara Frontier Legion Post #1041.

If you have an item for this column, please send me the information by the 6th day of the month preceding the month in which you would like the item to appear at POLEGL, P.O. Box 223, Niagara Square Station, Buffalo, NY 14201-0223; E-mail: [pietruszka@verizon.net](mailto:pietruszka@verizon.net).

TOLEDO POLONIA / Margaret Zotkiewicz-Dramczyk

## Historic Ohio Theatre Announces Major Fund Raising Effort

TOLEDO — Nestled in the heart of the Polish Village, the Ohio Theatre has stood as a Toledo city landmark for well over ninety years. The theatre was built in 1921, and has the distinction of being Toledo's oldest operating neighborhood theatre. Best remembered as a neighborhood movie house, the Ohio Theatre has been the venue for many notable events in entertainment history.

The first movie feature was a Douglas Fairbanks film called the *Mark of Zorro*. It opened on February 28, 1921 and at that time, the Ohio theatre was the largest neighborhood theater in the country. In the 1950s, when westerns were all the rage, Roy Rogers, Dale Evans, and Trigger graced the stage. John F. Kennedy's presidential campaign made a stop at the Ohio Theatre in 1960. Throughout the 70s, 80s, and 90s, as movie theatres became removed from cozy neighborhoods, the Ohio was the site of live stage plays, world-renowned choirs, and events such as the quirky, interactive "Rocky Horror Picture Show." A special live highlight was Jamie Farr and William Christopher reprising their M\*A\*S\*H partnership, starring in the acclaimed stage production of the "Odd Couple."

Along with plays, movies, and concerts, the Ohio Theatre has been the headquarters of the Toledo Area Theatre Organ Society since 1997, and since 1985, it has been the home of the former Rivoli Theatre's Marr & Colton theatre pipe organ.

Not forgetting the neighborhood connection, The Ohio has hosted the Echoes of Poland dance group, which performed annual spring concerts there for many years, and the Polish-American Concert Band, whose annual Fall-winter concerts were a holiday tradition for many years.

Fate caught up with the theatre in 2004, when lightning destroyed the 1950s-era marquee. In recent years, structural concerns culminated in the closure of the theatre to public performances, which has since reopened for limited performances.

The theatre retains several original features, including the deluxe red brick façade with Greek columns, a loading dock with overhead doors, wooden seats with aisle lighting, side wall sconces, and the original projection booth with a newsreel work bench. But many updates are needed to keep the theatre vital to the neighborhood and the city.

In 2011 the committee overseeing the renovation of the Ohio The-

atre kicked off a major campaign during the Lagrange Street Festival. "Raise the Curtain" was the kick off to several events planned to raise the funds necessary to complete a major renovation of the theatre. United North is the merged neighborhood organization created from the Lagrange and North River Development Corporations at the helm of this effort.

"The entire project cost for all phases of renovation is estimated at \$4 million. United North should be able to secure about \$2 million through public and private sources but we will need to raise about \$2 million to complete all the phases," said Kim Cutcher, chief operating officer of United North.

"The first phase of construction is slated for the beginning of 2012. Currently the theatre is open, however, there are some ADA accessibility issues that will be addressed in the first phase as well as some code-related items to make it more accessible and functional for multiple users. The goal is to upgrade all mechanical systems, update the restrooms, repair the roof, and reconfigure the stage for more flexible uses. Architectural plans were drawn up by Westlake Reed Leskosky located in Cleveland, Ohio. The firm is a full architectural and engineering firm who worked with the theatre in the past and has an excellent reputation with renovating historic theatres."

Future renovations dependent on additional fund-raising, will enhance the aesthetics of the theatre and patron comfort, replace the marquee, rebuild the brick and stone façade, repaint the interior, replace the carpeting, update all seating, add a multi-purpose facility for community use, and add more parking.

For more information, visit [www.unitednorth.org](http://www.unitednorth.org).

**ARE YOUR COUCH AND CHAIR CUSHIONS LETTING YOU DOWN?**

Add years to your Furniture with

**NEW CUSHION FOAM**

We Also Do Boats and Campers

Foam Cut To Your Size While-U-Wait

**OUR FOAM IS 100% AMERICAN MADE**

**COLONIAL FOAM**

1470 HARLEM RD. HARLEM & WILLIAM CHEEKTOWAGA, NY

**894-1818**

Polish Union of America's

5 Days 4 Nights

Nov. 14-18

**Christmas at the Biltmore**

This trip includes: •Deluxe Accomadations •4 Breakfasts, including 3 Deluxe Continental breakfasts & 1 Buffet Breakfast at the Grove Park Inn •4 Dinners including Deepark Restaurant & Wheeling Island Casino •Visit to Cabela's Wheeling, WV •Oglebay Festival of Lights •Daytime Visit to the Biltmore Estate, including the Winery Tour, and Riverbend Farm Village •Candlelight Christmas Evening Tour of the Biltmore House •Heartwood's Celebration of Lights •Rivers Casino •Deluxe Motorcoach Transportation (Which includes: Luggage Handling, snacks, games, prizes, and movies) •All Taxes & Meal Gratuities.

745 Center Road, West Seneca, New York 14224  
Phone: (716) 677-0220 or 1 (800) 724-2782 / Fax: (716) 677-0246  
E-Mail: [punion@verizon.net](mailto:punion@verizon.net) / Web Site: [www.polishunion.com](http://www.polishunion.com)

**69 Scholarships Awarded to College Bound Students!**  
**Join Our Fraternal Today!**

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 \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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

## PONDERING POLE / Edward Poniewaz

## Thank You for Being a Friend

One approach: Man, married to a Polish lady, when asked if he was Polish, replied, "hell no I'm not Polish!"

Now an alternate approach: Woman, married to a Polish man, working at the church festival, commented, "This is the way we make the kraut because that is how our Polish people like it."

The vast majority of us at the least tolerate other members of the human race that are not a part of our tribe. We may not really care for those folks but we let them live. Then there are those of us that understand how to be respectful of other people not a part of our community. Don't dislike 'em but don't necessarily like 'em either. No matter how exotic and mysterious the costumes or customs, with these glasses it is all vanilla and when the occasion presents itself we naturally say something complimentary.

Then there is a last group that has an affinity or affection for others that are not part of the tribe. They genuinely like the culture, country, and people of a particular place not their own: of Africa for instance; or a Latin country; or Asia. For whatever reason, they are drawn to them and if you ask them why, many times the answer is simple and unassuming. There is nothing scientific about the process. They speak highly of the group and will defend it. They feel like they are part of it and they naturally belong.

There are examples of the last type in St. Louis that I am familiar with. A grade school teacher with no formal Polish connection specifically uses Poland for her geography and history project each year. A number of the hole-watchers at the Polish Heritage Open golf tournament are non-Poles. The Thomas Jefferson School gives a scholarship to a Polish boy or girl every year because a board member has a great admiration for Poland ("We offer a core classical curriculum to students from St. Louis to Shanghai, Little Rock to Nowy Sacz." www.tjs.org). The chair of the music department at Webster University conducts a jazz symposium every year in Krakow. He speaks highly of the Poles for their interest and love for jazz. He and his wife have adopted a couple of Polish children.

This month, for Thanksgiving Day, I want to focus on the third type, to all of our "friends," those non-Poles who have taken a liking to us, give us more respect and praise than we probably deserve, and gen-

uinely seem to enjoy who we are, where we came from, and enjoy being with us. To the husbands, wives, neighbors, work associates, teachers, school administrators, professors, hole-watchers, and sour kraut ladies, a sincere dziękuję bardzo, and as the Andrew Gold song goes, thank you for being a friend. If you know a type three person, think of them, say a prayer for them, be kind to them, and thank them for being our friend.

**OUTSTANDING FINDS.** At the Polish Falcons Nest 45 Polish Festival this summer, I saw two amazing polka dancers. **Jeremiah and Laurie Maleug** brought pizzazz and a touch of *Dancing with the Stars* to St. Louis Avenue on the old North side that night. Nice technique and a sexy looking couple. If you need demo dancers at your social or corporate event, forget Max Smirkovsky and Edyta Sliwiska. Couple number jeden is Jeremiah and Laurie.

I asked them to send me a few words about their bio. Their story is inspiring as much for their love of dance as for their love for one another. You can sense it. About the dance:

We hope to inspire the younger generation. It's fun watching them watch us. They think it's neat and want to try what we do. So many times we have had couples come up to us asking us to show them the basic steps and even some moves. The younger generation have a tendency to think that all polka music and dances consist of are "old" people dancing to "old" polka music - only because there aren't enough young people keeping it young and new. Those "old" people used to be young as well! Most importantly, as much as we try to keep the older traditions alive and strong, we need to introduce the new sounds of polka music and the new styles of dancing as well so we can keep the polka music, dances, and traditions going strong for many years to come.

What a wonderful sentiment and tribute to an art form that is special to our community. If you want to contact Jeremiah and Laurie for a possible engagement, their phone number is (608) 209-0530.

Another great discovery, new to me but a fixture for many years in the twin cities of Minneapolis/St. Paul is **Kowalski's Markets**. Please visit the web site at kowalskis.com. Jim Kowalski and his wife Mary Anne began their adventure by opening up

their own grocery store in 1986 and now there are nine "markets" in the Kowalski Enterprises, Inc. family. From the Kowalski history page:

In August 2000, the Kowalskis vision for what a grocery store could be was unveiled in Woodbury. It was the first Kowalski's Market built from the ground up. Designed to look like a European village, it featured a glass-walled bakery oven, three restaurant concepts, a department store-quality gift shop, an educational and meeting area, a full service JUUT Salonspa, and a Natural Path department offering organic and natural foods and homeopathic remedies. People waited in line to see it. Grocery industry people came from all over the world to see it. It was heralded as the next level in grocery stores and copied throughout the world.

Thank you Jim and Mary Anne for your impressive success and progressive ideas.

**AND IN CONCLUSION...RAZ, DWA, TRZY ... Debbie Majka** was a guest at the Polish American Cultural Society Ball in St. Louis in October. Thank you again, Debbie, for all of your hard work and dedication with the American Council of Polish Culture and on behalf of all of Polonia. She is a Polish woman with a great smile and enthusiasm to match her great heart.

Panera Bread (www.panerabread.com) in St. Louis is offering a **chocolate babka!** Jerry and Elaine and the rest of the Seinfeld gang would be ecstatic to hear about it. Hold that thought especially as Thanksgiving and Christmas are right around the corner.

**QUESTION** for Pondering Pole readers: John Staskavitch of Roscoe, Pa. is interested in finding a Polish organization or company that offers a charitable annuity. If you know of a Pol-Am charitable annuity, let me know and I will share it.

**WSZYSTKIEGO NAJLEPSZEGO Z OZKAZJI ŚWIĘTA DZIĘKCZYNIENIA!** I want to wish all readers a very pleasant Thanksgiving. Sometimes this holiday in particular can be hard emotionally for a number of reasons but I think no matter how dire your circumstances are, there are usually a few glimmers of light you can acknowledge and be grateful for. I am thankful for you and the fact that there is a Polish American Journal. I can't wait to read it each month myself.

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

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

**PAINTING RETURNED.** A valuable 19th century Polish painting that went missing during World War II has been returned to Poland after being removed from auction in Germany. Poland's culture minister Bogdan Zdrojewski revealed Aleksander Gierymski's "Jewish Woman Selling Oranges" to reporters and said the painting was returned to Poland after many months of on-and-off negotiations with lawyers representing a German individual.

## BABA JAGA'S CORNER / Jaga Urban-Klahen

## Marie and Pierre: First Years of Marriage, Birth of Irene

Pierre was so much in love with Marie, so captivated by her family, her father and Dluskis family (Marie's sister's family) that he made an effort to learn Polish. Some of his letters to Marie were written in Polish, they are intimate and romantic.

After the honeymoon Pierre and Marie found a little flat with three tiny rooms, with almost no furniture except one long table. They lived off the 500 francs per month salary of Pierre,

who was a teacher in the School of Physics. Marie was finishing her diploma as a fellow of the university. Pierre arranged for her to have some space in the same building where he was working. Marie continued to work on measuring and quantifying magnetic properties of various steel products. She usually spent eight hours daily working in the laboratory, the rest of the time she had to devote to household work. Cooking, doing laundry or washing dishes was not that easy at the end of 19th century like it is now. There was no electricity, running water or laundry machines available. Marie had help from a woman who came in for an hour daily to help wash dishes and do some heavy work.

Marie had to learn how to cook almost from scratch. Her sister and mother in law were a great help, but she also studied her cooking book very diligently—many of her annotations are still preserved on the page sides. Marie wanted to be as efficient and well-organized in cooking as she was with her science. She classified the meals into those that needed "little preparation" or those that can "cook themselves" while she was at the university. Marie also started to record all expenses in so called "expense book" in order to make sure that they did not overspend.

During the second year of marriage, Marie became pregnant. Although she felt really ill and dizzy, she kept working as much as she could. In the same time Sophie-Claire, Pierre's mother became seriously ill with breast cancer.

Pierre and Marie had much in common. They liked working and discussing science together but they also loved the outdoors and bik-



Marie, Pierre, and daughter Irene.

ing. They spent not only their honeymoon biking through the French countryside but went biking as much as they could. Even when Marie was in the last weeks of her pregnancy, they went biking, but this time they had to cut their trip short.

Marie gave birth to a six-pound baby daughter, Irene Curie on September 12, 1897. Dr Eugene Curie, Pierre's father, delivered the baby and from that moment, attached himself passionately to the young Irene. Irene compensated the loss of his wife, who died shortly after her birth. Dr. Eugene Curie came to live with Marie, Pierre and a small Irene. He became Irene's first teacher and the best friend, according to Eve Curie's "Madame Curie" biography.

With the birth of Irene, Marie started yet another journal where she recorded such facts as Irene's head size, her skills (grasping the objects, nursing) and each new growing tooth. Marie was exhausted and depressed, since she wanted to be a good mother but she did not want to neglect her professional development. So, in order to be able to continue her laboratory work, Marie hired a wet nurse.

Now Marie was ready for her doctoral thesis, which would contribute greatly to the development of the modern science.

Read more about scientific achievements of Marie and Pierre in the next article.

Baba Jaga Corner: Visit Jaga Polish Culture Website at: www.polishsite.us

References:  
Eve Curie "Madame Curie"  
Barbara Goldsmith: "Obsessive Genius"

## PAHA

www.polishamericanstudies.org



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

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

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL TO: PAHA, Central Connecticut State University, New Britain, CT 06050

## POLISH AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER

308 WALNUT STREET  
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19106  
(215) 922-1700

When You're in Philadelphia's Historic District, Visit The Polish American Cultural Center Museum Exhibit Hall

Featuring Polish History and Culture

OPEN 10:00 a.m. TO 4:00 p.m. • FREE ADMISSION

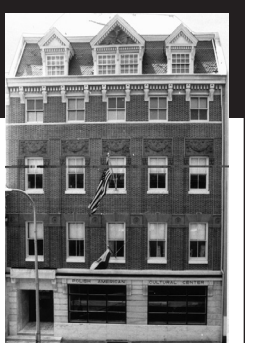
January through April • Monday to Friday

May through December • Monday to Saturday

Gift Shop is Open During Regular Exhibit Hall Hours

Closed on Holidays

Visit Us on the Internet: www.polishamericancenter.org



# Polka MAGAZINE

POLISH AMERICAN JOURNAL

DEDICATED TO THE PROMOTION AND CONTINUANCE OF POLISH AMERICAN MUSIC

## The End of an Era: The Legendary Versatones to Retire

by Steve Litwin

After forty-seven years, over 6500 appearances, 60 albums, and tours throughout the United States, Canada, Europe, and Mexico, Eddie Blazonczyk's Versatones are retiring.

All of us look at retirement as the prize at the end of the work road. Retirement allows us to move on to something else, another phase of life, a time to break from the constant routine of the work that occupied our lives for so many years. Everyone deserves a retirement.

The impact, influence, and dominance of Eddie Blazonczyk's Versatones on polka music is unequalled. They set the pace and established a level of excellence that others still follow today. They are Eddie Blazonczyk's Versatones and always will be.

It would be difficult to gather past and present members of the Versatones in one location, but we can bring them together virtually to share their feelings, their experiences, their personal memories about those years of being a Versatone on stage and off.

### A VERSATONES VIRTUAL ROUNDTABLE

"Ed Blazonczyk and the Versatones have had their first single 45 rpm released. It is also the first time the Bel Aire label has recorded polka music. The recording consists of two Polish vocals, "In the Forest" polka backed with "Wedding Gown" waltz."

— *Polka Guide*, November-December 1963



**POLKA PARADE.** Bel-Aire 3001, the first record album by Eddie Blazonczyk's Versatones.

"I did not start the Versatones, Chet Kowalkowski did. I knew Chet because his parents and my parents were Gorale (Polish Highlanders) and friends for many years. They came from the same Village in Poland. Chet and I hung together as little kids. We both marched in the annual May Day Parades, dressed in our Polish Goralski outfits. My dad played cello and Chet's dad played the fiddle on the floats."

— **Eddie Blazonczyk, Sr.**

"As being one of the original Versatones, and asking Eddie, Sr. to just come on out and sit in with us, never anticipated that the band would take off to such great heights. It was beyond my wildest dreams. We were producing two albums each year. History was being made in 1963."

— **Chet Kowalkowski**

"Chet invited me to sit in with the Versatones in 1963 — that first time we played together was at Club 505. After that job, I encouraged Chet and the Versatones to start recording some albums. They booked studio time at Sound Studios in Chicago, and asked me to play bass on the album. I joined the band shortly

played our wedding" or "you played our Anniversary" and then vividly relate the enjoyment the Versatones brought to their special day — captured forever in their special memory bank."

— **Rich Sendra**, original Versatone, 1959-1969 "Bel-Aire Polka Day, Sunday,



**PRE-1963 VERSATONES.** (l. to r.): Jerry Choholek, Chet Kowalkowski, Rich Sendra and Bob Sendra Photo taken at the Club 505 in Chicago (Hegewisch), Illinois.

after that, and we went on to record fifty-three additional recordings."

— **Eddie Blazonczyk, Sr.**

"Record Session: The Bel-Aire Record Company has release a new LP titled "Polka Parade" with the Versatile Versatones. It consists of 12 snappy polkas, obereks and waltzes with Polish vocals by Chet Kowalkowski and Eddie Blazonczyk on Bel-Aire Records.

— *Polka Guide*, January-February 1964

"I started with the Versatones in August of 1965. Rich Sendra got drafted so Eddie Sr. asked me to take his place. The Versatones always had an accordion, so I was the first concertina player in the band. All I had was an 'A' box (a concertina tuned to play in multiple sharp keys), and the keys these guys were playing in were all over the map, so Eddie goes out and buys three concertinas (A,G and B-flat) so I could grab all the keys. You talk about a challenge! I hoped I would pick up the right box for the tune Eddie called."

— **Wally Maduzia**

"Eddie Senior and I go back almost 50 years. He has always been my idol and a great personal friend and I consider him more of a brother. He took me and my band. The Musical Aires, under his wings in 1963 after we won at the Polka World's Fair beating out 30 other groups. He liked our unique sound and could not believe we were in our teens, between 15-17. We would go on the road with him as the opening act."

— **Rich "Polka Suds" Cerajewski**

"What the Versatones had, worked! The fans knew it, the fans loved it and the fans remembered it! To this day, people come up to me and say "I remember you, you were with the Versatones and you

June 6, 1965. Eleven hours of continuous polka entertainment starting at 2:00 in the afternoon at the Polonia Grove. Five polka bands - Eddie Blazonczyk's Versatones, The Casinos, Musical Aires, Bal-Aires, Paliga Polka Dots. First 100 people will receive a free polka record."

— *Polka Guide*, May-June 1965

"We started performing out of state early on. Our first band vehicle was my green Pontiac station wagon. We had many vehicles, trailers, motor homes and buses after that. All of which caused me big headaches! I can't say we ever had good luck with any Versa-mobile."

— **Eddie Blazonczyk, Sr.**

"Polka music was at the height of popularity during my years with The Versatones (1957 to 1967). Playing with the band gave us the opportunity to travel, to record our unique style of music and to showcase that music on T.V. and radio."

— **Bob Sendra**

"Eddie Sr. always had great musicians both musically and personally. To this day, all of the members are friends and maintain friendships. There were no egos, just some really great guys who took their music seriously."

— **Roger Malinowski**

"Working with my friend, Eddie Blazonczyk, in the past was a great ride for me. I enjoyed playing in the band with my fellow musician colleagues. I'm happy to be part of the "Blaz Boys" or Eddie's Versatones. I'll always remember the good times, traveling to different states, recording and performing those polkas and waltzes on stage."

— **Max Kawa**

"As a long time band member of the Versatones I'm saddened to see this band come to a close. The polka field just can't afford to lose any

### New Year's Eve – Last EBV Performance

Eddie Blazonczyk's Versatones will make its final performance, New Year's Eve, at the Glendora House, 10225 S. Harlem Ave., Chicago Ridge, Ill. Tickets are now available in advance at Bel-Aire Enterprises 7208 S. Harlem Ave, Bridgeview, Ill. on a first-come / first-serve basis.

Only \$75 per person includes dinner, open bar, dancing, and more. Many Versatones from the past are expected to attend.

The tickets for the New Year's Eve show have been flying out the door. Please give Bel-Aire a call at (708) 594-5182 for the current availability.

more dynamic bands or fans. (Eddie Blazonczyk) Junior gave it his best efforts since Eddie, Sr. retired ten years ago and he deserves our congratulations."

— **Lenny Gomulka**

"As you can imagine, we spent many long hours travelling from place to place in the bus. Eddie would love to play cards, and because of my lack of skill, I was a familiar target. I'll never forget hearing him say, "How 'bout a friendly little wager, Kalhoun?"

— **Kevin Adams**

"As the years went on, I added different instruments to band, and that's how the sound of the Versatones evolved. In 1964 we added Jim Bagrowski and a clarinet to the band. In 1965 Chet and I wanted to record a Po Staro Krajsku (old country) album. We asked Junior Wozniak to record violin on the album. At the time he was playing with Marion Lush. We liked the recording and the sound and the style of music so much, we then asked Junior to join the band, which he did."

— **Eddie Blazonczyk, Sr.**

"I will always treasure those years, but treasure even more the friendships that came after. There will never be anyone or any polka group like Eddie Blazonczyk and the Versatones. They just got better and better and better. God only made one Eddie Blazonczyk and that we need to treasure."

— **Jerry Mytych** 1966-1969, 1971-1972

"I've had the pleasure of being a Versatone under both Eddie, Sr. and Eddie, Jr. One of the things I admired about both of them was their deep commitment to the people, whether it be playing a request or making it a point to acknowledge them individually."

— **Al Piatkowski**

"My thanks to Eddie Nowak for introducing me to Bob and Rich Sendra and Jerry Choholek. The four of us had three wonderful years performing as the original Versatones. Eddie Sr. was a great asset to the band, a leader, song writer,

a good business man, and a gentleman. Thank you, Eddie Sr. for continuing on with the Versatones, for your friendship and fond memories which I will cherish forever. Thanks!"

— **Chet Kowalkowski**

"There is nobody better in the business to work for than Eddie. He's a straight-shooter, and he's a lot of fun. We laughed constantly. When you're on the road as much as we are, you've got to keep things going and it's just a ball with Eddie. He's got this band, the business, the promotion, anything possible in the polka business. Eddie's got it down to a science. Eddie rolls his own ball of wax."

— **Jerry Darlak**, *Polish American Journal*, November 1983.

"Nothing before and no experience since, can compare to the outstanding sixteen years spent with Eddie Blazonczyk's Versatones. It was both an honor and privilege to have worked with some of the finest musicians ever to play polka music. Eddie was not only a premier vocalist and musician, but he was also a great bandleader and friend. I will forever be grateful that Eddie took a chance on an east coast trumpet player."

— **Ed Wolinski**

"Our biggest selling CD was *Polka Celebration*. If I had to pick a favorite recording, that would be it. Our fans/friends loved the catchy melody and words to the song. It was an easy one to remember and sing along to. We won a Grammy for that recording, and I can't tell you the excitement that whole experience brought to us."

— **Eddie Blazonczyk, Sr.**

"When we went on the road Eddie and Chet were pranksters, anything to get a laugh. We traveled with six guys in a station wagon so you had to sleep with one eye open hoping you weren't the brunt of the joke and the majority of what went on isn't printable."

— **Wally Maduzia**

*continued next month*



**VERSATONES 1967.** (l. to r.): Chet Kowalkowski, Eddie Blazonczyk, Lenny Gomulka, Wally Maduzia, Bob Sendra, Jim Bagrowski.

NOTES / Barb Pinkowski

## Urbanczyk Inducted into Hall of Fame

Hi everyone. On Sept. 10, **Old School** played at the Lamm Post Grove. They were just fantastic. Dave Walter, Frankie Liszka, Jimmy Weber, Ron Marcissuk and Steve Hayest put out some dynamite music. There with her grandparents Julie and Gus Siuta, Jennifer Smith was out dancing even though she had casts on both arms due to a bicycle accident. She's a real trooper and great little dancer.

On Sept. 24, **The Knewz** drew a big crowd for their Football Dance at Potts Hall. Wearing their football jerseys, the band scored a touchdown with their music and the fans. There were lots of people out in their Bills shirts supporting our team; it was a fun-filled night.

The next day on Sept. 25, the Holy Mother of the Rosary Cathedral in Lancaster held their Dozynki fest. The **Bedrock Boys** provided the polka entertainment for this event. There were plenty of activities and demonstrations for all ages. A big variety of homemade food and refreshments were available.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ... Chris Palka and Dan Pocziwinski** who were married on Sept. 17. A celebration of their marriage took place at the Central Terminal in Buffalo, N.Y. where guests were wined and dined graciously throughout the evening. This is a unique and interesting place—a Buffalo Landmark. Dan is the owner of Potts Deli and

Potts Catering and many dances are held at his hall on South Ogden St. in Buffalo, NY.

**GET WELL WISHES...** for a speedy recovery go out to **Ron Moscoe**, vice-president of the Polka Boosters Club, who had surgery on Sept. 23. Hope he is feeling much better now ... Also, wishes for a quick return to good health go out to **Lynn Halter** who had surgery on Sept. 30. Lynn is the daughter of Arlene Krzeminski. Hope all went well and she is getting better each day.

**OOPS.** I made an error in my article in the September edition and I want to correct it. I had mentioned that Big Joe Siedlik was at the Polka



**INDUCTION GALA.** Ron Urbanczyk (second from right) performs with band members (l. to r.) Robert Krupka, Frank Zeczak, and (far right, background) son Brian Urbanczyk at his induction into the Buffalo Music Hall of Fame, October 6. Urbanczyk is leader of the New Direction band, and is known around Western New York for production of "Stas and Stella's Wedding," a Polish American adaptation of the popular "Tony and Tina's Wedding." He is the fifth polka musician voted into the 230-member hall. During his induction speech, Urbanczyk thanked his family and fellow musicians for their support over the years.

You can find more information about the Buffalo Music Hall of Fame at [www.buffalomusic.org](http://www.buffalomusic.org).



**FRANK LISZKA** (left) and **RON MARCISSUK** of Old School at the Lamm Post.



**CHRIS CHOJNACKI** and her brother **RON KLACZYK** had a great time at the pre-football game party at Potts.



**JENNIFER SMITH** — with both hands in a cast — and grandma **JULIE SUITA** loved the music of Old School.



**BARBARA BAKOWSKI** and daughter **RAYANN** think polkas and football make a great combination.



**RAY J** of Ray J & the Carousels belts out a vocal, while **JIM "CHAINSAW" KUCHARSKI** plays upright bass at the Honky-style polka festival at the Lamm Post over Labor Day weekend.



**BRIAN TOS** and **ED GUCA** play a duet at the Honky-style polka festival at the Lamm Post American Legion 622 in Williamville. The event brought in bands from across the United States and Canada.

Boosters Picnic on Aug. 7 taping there for future shows. But, it was Polka Joe Trzeciak who was there filming for his future polka shows that are aired in this area on Thursday evenings at 7:30 p.m. on Channel 20. I apologize.

**HAPPY THANKSGIVING.** I would like to wish all a very Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving. In spite of many problems we all encounter, there is still so much for which to be thankful. Enjoy the holiday!

### UPCOMING

**Nov 5.** The New Direction Band plays at Polish Night at the Fr. Justin Knights of Columbus Hall, 2735 Union Rd., Cheektowaga, N.Y. Music from 7:00 to 11:00 p.m. \$15 includes a Polish platter — Call Jim for more information (716) 668-1714.

**Nov. 17.** Polka Boosters Meeting at the Polish Falcons Club, 445 Columbia Ave., Depew, N.Y. Doors open at 7:00 p.m. Music and refreshments. Everyone welcome. Call Chris at 892-7977.

**Nov. 20.** The Buffalo Touch play at the Sportsmen's Tavern, 326 Amherst St., Buffalo, N.Y. 4:00 p.m.

**Nov. 23.** The Knewz. Pre-Thanksgiving day dance at the Polish Villa II, 1085 Harlem Rd., Cheektowaga, N.Y. Music from 8:00 p.m. to midnight.

**Nov. 27.** Holiday Dance at the Club Lorelei at S5895 Southwestern Blvd., Hamburg, N.Y. Doors open at 2:00 p.m. Music from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. with the New Direction Band and also the Auslanders. German and Polish food will be available — Admission is \$7 in advance or \$8 at the door.

# 24/7 Polka Heaven.com

OVER 40 SHOWS WEEKLY

IF YOU'RE NOT LOGGED ON

YOU'RE NOT LISTENING TO POLKA

[www.247PolkaHeaven.com](http://www.247PolkaHeaven.com)



Polka Music on your computer  
24 Hours a Day  
plus many LIVE and  
pre-recorded shows!

[www.polkajammernetwork.org](http://www.polkajammernetwork.org)

## Drivetime Polkas

with "RONNIE D"

WESTERN NEW YORK'S ONLY SEVEN-DAY-A-WEEK POLKA SHOW

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



**WXRL 1300AM**  
MONDAY-SATURDAY  
5:00-7:00 p.m.

**WECK 1230AM**  
SUNDAYS  
8:00-11:00 a.m.

FOR INFORMATION or  
ADVERTISING RATES, CALL  
(716) 683-4357

## POLKA JAMBOREE

with your host

**SCOTT CLEVELAND**

**SUNDAY**  
NOON 'till 3:00 p.m.

**WXRL**  
1300 AM  
LANCASTER-BUFFALO

## ROCKIN' POLKAS

with

**MIKE & GEORGE PASIERB**

**WXRL**

**1300 AM**  
LANCASTER-BUFFALO  
SAT. 2:00-3:00 p.m.  
SUN. 9:00-10:00 p.m.

Listen to the

## BIG TONY POLKA SHOW

**WJL 1440 AM**

Niagara Falls / Buffalo, NY  
SUNDAY EVENING  
5:00 p.m.

Send all promotional material to  
**Tony Rozek**  
78 Cochrane St.  
Buffalo, NY 14206

For advertising information, call  
**(716) 824-6092**  
[bigtonypolkashow@yahoo.com](mailto:bigtonypolkashow@yahoo.com)

## POLKA JUKEBOX / Steve Litwin

## POLKA PATTY / Prepared and Distributed by the Polonia Media Network

## More Than a Great Band

When you put together solid instrumentation, a unique variety of music that identifies the band and appeals to their audience, and Polish polka vocals, you have a winning formula. Darrell Weltin and the Michigan-based New Brass Express is more than a great polka band. They are entertainers, a band that can play a mixture of tunes that keeps a live audience glued to the front of the stage.

In *This Game Together*, their latest 14-track CD offering, covers the entire musical map with Cash's "Ring of Fire," "Banjo" polka (with, of course, a banjo), the superb Pitney-Nelson "Hello Marylou" done polka style, a "Polish Waltz Medley" that includes Polish classics, and "Ziwiiec," and a mix that makes me think I'm standing stage-front at Seven Springs. "Should Have Asked her Faster," a slick country-swing number fits perfectly in this package. The infectious "After Dark" could be a CD on its own with the instrumentation, the flirtation with minor, and the changes in musical direction. I'm hearing this one in my sleep and often find the CD player repeat button stuck on Number 5.

There is also no doubt that the addition of the ageless Eddie Siwiec

gives the band another avenue in its music, just like Bob Douglas does with his infiltration of the polka guitar and banjo in the sound. Each musician brings only the best to the musical array in this project and they are definitely, "In This Game Together."

As for the answer to their tune, "Who's Gonna Fill Their Shoes?" you can put money on The New Brass Express. They've already tried on those golden musical loafers and they fit perfectly.

Darrell Weltin controls the accordion, concertina and keyboards, with Bob Douglas on "polka" guitar and bass. Clarinet, sax and trumpet belong to Eddie Siwiec, Bill Kalinowski is on trumpet, and John Ryzak takes care of trumpet, clarinet and sax. Jason Maurer is the bass man and Jeff Ryers is behind those solid drums. They definitely are *In This Game Together*, and know how to play the game and win.

Recorded at Backroads Studios and mixed by Peppermint's Gary Rhamy, *In This Game Together* is the third studio recording by Darrell Weltin and the New Brass Express.

Visit: [www.newbrassexpress.com](http://www.newbrassexpress.com) for more information.

## Polka Show Takes Nielsen Rating High

**THE NIELSEN RATINGS** for the "Mollie B Polka Party!" in August were the highest ever for the Wednesday and Saturday polka programming in the 11-year history of RFD-TV, a primarily satellite network. It wasn't only TV viewers who thronged to the show, as Patriot Hall in Rothschild, Wisconsin, in September was packed with over 800 polka fans for filming of the show. According to Mollie, RFD-TV continues to work hard to expand and improve its polka shows.

Video from the "Mollie B Polka Party!" in Rothschild was briefly available on YouTube, posted by audience members who filmed the event, but almost all of it was voluntarily removed by the end of September. Although unconfirmed, it is assumed by some that the video was voluntarily removed at the request of the RFD-TV producers who object to it being made public without authorization and prior to broadcast.

### MUSICIAN JIM SIERZEGA

is getting weekly chemotherapy treatments and doctors are getting the pain under control. Reportedly, he is slowly, but surely, gaining weight. A CT Scan was performed on September 12, 2011, and they found that the tumors are shrinking as a reaction to the chemo.

**THE 2012 EDITION** of the International Polka Association's annual Festival and Convention, August 2-5, will be moved to the Embassy Suites Cleveland-Rockside, in Independence, Ohio. It is located just a short distance from the Doubletree Hotel, where the festival has been held for the past several years. The IPA is currently finalizing the band line-up.

**ALEX MEIXNER** appeared in Franklin, Wisconsin, near Milwaukee, on September 26, and then appeared at Fitzgerald's Nightclub in Berwyn, Illinois, with Gus Guzevich of Polka Family in an event arranged by Patrick Henry Cukierka. It seems that nationalities are mixing a bit more among polka musicians and promoters. And, as Patrick Henry says, "Sometimes people lament that 'Polka' is a dying genre. Maybe I'm delusional, but when I watch Alex and his band perform, I think no, we're not going anywhere!"

**THERE IS A CHANGE** in the Ultimate Polka Cruise sponsored by Full Circle. They are now going on the Norwegian Cruise Line's "Epic," instead of the Carnival ship originally planned. Likewise, there is something new being adopted in the cruise industry as they now offer a single studio cabin, so you don't have to pay the single supplement if you are traveling alone. The cruise still leaves from Miami on February 4, 2011.

### THE STEVE DRZEWICKI BAND

played a Saturday night away at Bemo's Bar in Bay City, Michigan, on October 15, 2011. The spot usually hosts rock 'n roll bands, so polka music is finding new and unusual venues, bringing it, hopefully, to a new audience.

**MANY POLKA FANS** are bemoaning the fact PolkaLegacy is no longer online, but some of the shows have moved elsewhere. In one case, however, it wasn't a move, but an addition. The "IPA Polka Show" is now not only heard on WPNA Radio (1409 AM) in Chicago, as well as on the station's website, but has also joined the PolkaJammer internet network. Even better, they are two completely different shows, a half hour on WPNA and a full hour on PolkaJammer.

**DARYL WELTIN'S** New Brass Express had a CD release party on September 24, 2011, for their new CD entitled "In This Game Together." The event took place at the Ugly Heights Golf and Country Club in Ugly, Michigan.

### IN MEMORIAM

## Theresa Joan Webb, Popular Musician

One of Muskegon's best-known polka musicians will be remembered for the joy she took in performing and life.

Theresa Joan Webb, who played the accordion in the Grabinski Orchestra for decades, died at age 73. She and her husband, Charles Webb, played together from the early 1960s until their last performance on New Year's Eve 2010.

"She loved entertaining people. It was really in her soul," Charles Webb said.

"Everybody loved her and she loved everybody. She had a wonderful smile and a wonderful laugh."

The family band played together throughout Michigan and at polka festivals in Minnesota and Wisconsin. Sometimes, they would even play while they crossed Lake Michigan on the S.S. Badger, Charles Webb said.

"She played with such feeling. She kind of danced with the accordion," he said.

She was born Theresa Grabinski in 1937 in Muskegon and gradu-

ated from Muskegon Catholic Central High School. Her father, Edward Grabinski, founded the Polka Swingsters in the 1930s.

She married Charles Webb in 1961 and took over her father's band after Edward Grabinski died the next year. The Webbs renamed the group the Grabinski Orchestra, and under their leadership it became the first polka band in Muskegon to make a recording.

She was inducted into Michigan State Polka Music Hall of Fame in 1977. Edward Grabinski also was inducted posthumously in 1972, and Charles Webb was inducted in 1999.

The Webbs chaired a Polka Fest for years, and their band even recorded a theme song, "Seaway Festival Polka." The polka party was part of three larger music festivals, starting with the Western Michigan Seaway Festival in the 1970s. The Seaway Festival had its last run in 1984 before its name was changed to the Lumbertown Music Festival, which then evolved into Summer Celebration.

## KEYL Radio Welcomes It's Polka Time!

LONG PRARIE, Minn. — On October 1, 2011, *It's Polka Time!* with Craig Ebel began broadcasting every Saturday, 5:00-6:00 a.m. over AM 1400 KEYL.

Known as "Home Town Radio," KEYL (1,000-watts) is a Real Country music affiliate and offers its listeners a wide variety of programming from Garage Logic to Minnesota Twins Baseball. KEYL also provides polka music in its daily program schedule from 5:30 to 6:00 a.m., Monday through Friday. KEYL's signal covers a large area of Central Minnesota including the cities of Albany, Aldrich, Alexandria, Browerville, Glenwood, Little Falls, Melrose, Motley, Pierz, Sauk Centre, Sta-

ples, Swanville, and Wadena.

*It's Polka Time!* is produced from the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minnesota, and is also heard on 25 other radio stations across the United States. Information regarding the show and these radio stations can be found on the Internet at [www.itspolka.com](http://www.itspolka.com).

Radio stations interested in broadcasting *It's Polka Time!* can request a demo of the show by sending an e-mail to [itspolkatime@hotmail.com](mailto:itspolkatime@hotmail.com). Polka bands and record labels interested in having their recordings considered for airplay can send their material to P.O. Box 32757, Minneapolis, MN 55432-0757.

## Bill Shibilski's Polka Party is Back on Radio

TEANECK, N.J. — After a ten-year absence from the NYC Metro area airwaves as well as the internet, Bill Shibilski's Polka Party recently returned to radio on Sunday evenings, 6:00-7:00 p.m. EST, over the Farleigh Dickinson University radio station WFDU-FM 89.1 from Teaneck, and on the internet at [www.wfdudm.com](http://www.wfdudm.com).

The over-air radio signal covers Northern New Jersey, parts of New York City, Nassau, Westchester and portions of Orange, Putnam, Rockland and Sullivan Counties.

Listeners may find it more convenient to listen on the internet at [www.wfdudm.com](http://www.wfdudm.com) and as a bonus will

be able to hear an archived recording of the show for two weeks following each broadcast date. Email Bill Shibilski at [PolkaWFDU@gmail.com](mailto:PolkaWFDU@gmail.com).

FREE CATALOG!  
HEAR ALL THE POLKA STARS  
on  
**SUNSHINE**  
SEND FOR A FREE CATALOG  
SUNSHINE  
PO BOX 652  
W. SENECA, NY 14224  
CDs \$12 each  
\$2.00 SHIPPING & HANDLING

**Polkas!** Free Catalog  
Contact us  
today!  
**PolkaConnection.com**  
Your connection to polka music  
from around the world.  
Call Toll Free (866) 901-6138



We will ship  
anywhere in the USA

## SALT LAMPS ETC.

5274 Broadway, Lancaster, NY 14086 • (716) 564-9286

*Can't sleep? Need relief for asthma? Allergies? Sinuses?*

*Now available beautiful Polish salt lamps that clean and ionize air for your health and well-being.*

*Laboratory tested for ionization and quality.*

*For information and flyers call:*

*Joyce (716) 860-0828 • [divineintent@roadrunner.com](mailto:divineintent@roadrunner.com)  
Arlene (716) 649-3188 • [PAJadlady@aol.com](mailto:PAJadlady@aol.com)*

THE PERFECT GIFT FOR THE POLISH CHEF IN YOUR FAMILY ...

2-200  
2-211  
2-210  
2-212

## POLISH CHEF APRON

100% Cotton Apron with 2 pockets. Red cloth with embroidered lettering and cooking utensils design. One size fits all! ..... \$20.00

**Also available:**

**Hanging Kitchen Towel.** Available in three designs (Polish Chef, I Love Pierogi, and I Love Kielbasa). Useful as well as attractive. Red with white towel. (Red fabric may vary)..... \$8.50 each

Add \$5.00 shipping plus \$2.00 for each additional item to:

Polish American Journal Bookstore  
P.O. Box 328, Boston, NY 14025  
1 (800) 422-1275 • (716) 312-8088  
or order on-line at: [www.polamjournal.com](http://www.polamjournal.com)

All items will be shipped  
directly from the  
Polish Peddler®  
in Hinckley, Ohio

## GENEALOGY

## This Year, How about a Unique Christmas Gift of Polish Heritage?

If you have run out of gift ideas and don't want to do a re-run of the shirt, tie, bottle, costume-jewelry, perfume or boxed chocolate routine, why not consider a unique, different and unusual gift of Polish heritage. A Polish surname analysis fits the bill to a T.

Every Polish last name means something and came into being for a specific reason, usually as a nickname. It may have identified someone as Kowal (blacksmith) or Kołodziej (wheelwright) or maybe their offspring: Kowalczyk (blacksmith's son) and Kołodziejczyk (wheelwright's boy). Many nicknames were based on people's characteristics: Gwizdała was the whistler, Ciemięga was the clumsy oaf and Dubiel – the village idiot. Others were based on where someone lived: Zaleski came from the other side of the forest, Podgórski made his home at the foot of a hill, Brzeziński was from Brzezina (Birchville) and Mazur hailed from northern Poland's forested, lake-

studded Mazowsze region.

For a custom-researched analysis of the derivation of a Polish surname, how many people share it, where they live and whether it is accompanied by a noble coat-of-arms, please airmail a \$19 check (adding \$10 for each additional surname you wish researched) to: Robert Strybel, ulica Kaniowska 24, 01-529 Warsaw, Poland.

Also included free of charge is a genealogical contact chart (root-tracing websites, data bases, organizations and firms) which has helped many Polish Americans get started in their ancestral exploration. The list includes professional genealogists qualified to track down family records, photograph or videotape ancestral homesteads and graves and possibly even turn up living long-lost relatives in the Old Country.

Whoever you order such a gift for will surely be in for a nice surprise when his or her surname report arrives direct from Warsaw!



**PGSGC PAYS TRIBUTE TO RETIRING PASTOR.** The Polish Genealogical Society of Greater Cleveland recently had a little party to honor retiring Rev. Roman Misiewicz, Pastor of St. Mary's PNC Church in Parma, Ohio.

Fr. Roman and his wife, Jolanta, will be moving to Columbia, Missouri to join their daughter there.

The group has been meeting for a number of years at St. Mary's Church and has enjoyed a great relationship with Fr. Roman. A cake and other refreshments were provided at the farewell get together.

The PGSGC celebrated its 20th Anniversary with a dinner at its October meeting.

Picture above (l. to r.), are: Jolanta Misiewicz, PGSGC President, John F. Szuch, and retiring pastor, the Rev. Roman Misiewicz.

## CD REVIEW

## Ushering in a New Age

by Mark Kohan

I am a great fan of Polish Christmas music, and a great fan of guitar music, but never thought the two should meet. Being a traditionalist, I like traditional music played on traditional instruments.

At the same time, however, I often felt Polonia could expose its music to a larger audience if it was done the right way. Being that most koledy have an "other world," almost ethereal air to them, they would naturally adapt themselves to the New Age music so popular today.

Rob Johnson, an outstanding musician and Polonophile from Rochester, New York, has — whether he knows it or not — married two very popular yet distant music styles on new CD, "Graj, Panu Graj," [Polonia Music].

I must admit, it took a few minutes for me to accept the sound. I know there are hundreds of artists in Poland who have released guitar versions of popular Polish Carols, but these are often over-produced, polished, studio productions that rely more on digital wizardry than genuine feel when it comes to execution. Johnson, who is not only an outstanding guitar player, but equally adept at keyboards and accessory instruments, has a real feel for the songs and for his instruments. The result is a new and pleasant sound that will be enjoyed by those who grew up with these songs, as well as those hearing them for the first time.

While the guitar is the main instrument on almost every song, there is a careful balance of instrumentation to keep the CD interesting. Accessory sounds are provided by keyboards, bells, drums, and a handful of synthesized tones that compliment each selection.

"Jezus malusienki" (my favorite song on the CD) is simple and pure. The harmonies and counterpoints are balanced and tasteful. Johnson's arrangement of "Bóg się rodzi," places you in the choir loft in any Polish American parish.

Johnson knows his Polish folk music. He respects the essence of each song, be it a touching ballad to the newborn Jesus, or a happy-go-lucky caroling favorite, such as "Cieszmy się," which sounds like it would fit on a Christmas edition of the popular Christian cartoon show "Veggie Tales." (I hope the show's producers are reading this).

There are twenty three cuts on the disk, all instrumental. Other highlights include: "Dnia jednego o północy," "Do szopy, hej pastersze," "Dzisiaj w Betlejem," "Gdy się Chrystus rodzi," "Jam jest dudka," "Oj! Maluski," "Pójdźmy wszyscy do stajenki," "Północ już była," "Przybieżeli do Betlejem," "Śliczna Panienska," and "Wśród nocnej ciszy."

"Graj, Panu, Graj" is available at: [www.PoloniaMusic.com](http://www.PoloniaMusic.com). To order by mail, send check or money order payable to Robert Johnson in the amount of \$14.95 (No charge for shipping) to: Robert Johnson, Polonia Music, 4 Canterbury Rd. #1, Rochester, NY 14607.

❖ ❖ ❖

Mark Kohan is editor of the Polish American Journal and a member of the Buffalo Music Hall of Fame. He has produced numerous recordings, including Polish Village Christmas Vols. I and II, Polkas for Children, and Polish Picnic Favorites.

## Lira Ensemble to Present Polish Holiday Concert at Symphony Center's Orchestra Hall

CHICAGO — The Lira Ensemble, which specializes in Polish music, song and dance, brings a new holiday production to Symphony Center: "Celebrate! Polish Carols, Song and Dance," Sunday, December 4, 2011 at 3:00 p.m.

Orchestra Hall at Symphony Center is located at 220 South Michigan Ave.

This event celebrates not only Christmas, but also the Polish presidency of the Council of Europe, a title that confirms Poland's coming of age as a free and responsible European nation. The Chicago consuls general of many European nations will be in attendance to honor the Polish presidency. In tribute, the Lira Singers, Lira Dancers, and Lira Symphony will perform some of the most beloved and most popular Polish holiday music.

This concert offers the rare opportunity to

hear Polish carols in arrangement for symphony orchestra. The Lira Ensemble will also perform works by Polish master composers such as Chopin and Lutoslawski, in addition to folk song and dance from various regions of Poland.

The concert features guest artist Zofia Holowka Glashauser, a young Polish American violinist who is concertmaster of the South Bend Symphony in Indiana. She will play works by composer Henryk Wieniawski.

"Celebrate! Polish Carols, Song & Dance" will be conducted by Lira conductor Mina Zikri who was born in Cairo, Egypt and came to the United States in 1999. He is a guest conductor for the Cairo Symphony Orchestra in Egypt and is founder and music director of the Oistrach Symphony Orchestra of Chicago.

As with all Lira performances, the concert

will be narrated in English by Lucyna Migala of WCEV/1450 AM, who is artistic director and general manager of the Lira Ensemble.

The Lira company is artist-in-residence at Loyola University Chicago and is the nation's only professional performing arts company specializing in Polish music, song and dance.

The concert is co-sponsored by the Consulate of the Republic of Poland in Chicago and by the Lira Society-Group 816 of the Polish Women's Alliance of America.

Tickets are from \$25 to \$75, with discounts for groups of 20 or more and half-price tickets for children under age 16 in all price ranges

Tickets may be purchased by calling the Lira Ensemble at (773) 508-7040 or from Symphony Center at (312) 294-3000 or by visiting [www.cso.org](http://www.cso.org).

**This year, skip ...  
the crowds ...  
the parking ...  
the long lines ...**

**Get your Christmas shopping  
done 1-2-3 by giving  
POLISH AMERICAN JOURNAL  
GIFT SUBSCRIPTIONS!**

**1. MAIL IT IN.** Clip this form from the paper today and mail with check or money order! It's that easy!

**2. PHONE IT IN!** Just call (Toll Free) **1 (800) 422-1275**, M-F 8:00 a.m. -3:00 p.m.

**3. ON-LINE** at [www.polamjournal.com](http://www.polamjournal.com)

- Visa, MC, Amex, Discover, and PayPal accepted.
- Each person on your list will receive a letter announcing your gift of a POLISH AMERICAN JOURNAL subscription.
- You can interest a friend, or a relative in Polish American affairs if you give them a subscription to the POLISH AMERICAN JOURNAL as a Christmas Gift!

**MAIL TO: POLISH AMERICAN JOURNAL  
P.O. BOX 328, BOSTON, NY 14025**

### PLEASE ENTER THE FOLLOWING CHRISTMAS GIFTS:

For:  1-Year \$21.00  2-Years \$39.00  3-Years \$54.00

**GIFT  
SUB**

NAME

ADDRESS

**1**

CITY, STATE, ZIP

MY GIFT CARD SHOULD READ:

For:  1-Year \$21.00  2-Years \$39.00  3-Years \$54.00

**GIFT  
SUB**

NAME

ADDRESS

**2**

CITY, STATE, ZIP

MY GIFT CARD SHOULD READ:

For:  1-Year \$21.00  2-Years \$39.00  3-Years \$54.00

**GIFT  
SUB**

NAME

ADDRESS

**3**

CITY, STATE, ZIP

MY GIFT CARD SHOULD READ:

### TO BE FILLED OUT BY DONOR

I enclose \$\_\_\_\_\_ in payment for the above gift subscriptions.

Check or Money Order Enclosed

Charge to my:  VISA  MASTERCARD  AMEX  DISCOVER

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY, STATE, ZIP

CARD NO.

EXP. DATE

CSV CODE



## OBITUARIES

## Krystyna Skrowaczewski, Wife of Conductor-Composer Stanislaw Skrowaczewski

Krystyna Emma Skrowaczewski, age 78, of Wayzata, Minn., died on August 26, after a lengthy illness. She was the beloved wife of conductor/composer Stanislaw Skrowaczewski for 55 years. Krystyna was diagnosed with Progressive Supranuclear Palsy (PSP) in 2006.

Born in Kraków, Poland on April 26, 1933, she was the daughter of Roman and Jadwiga Jarosz. Her parents provided her with the finest education. By age six she was already fluent in French. After surviving the Russian and German occupations of her homeland during World War II, Krystyna graduated from Jagiellonian University in Kraków, majoring in Romance languages. One of her professors and acquaintances was Karol Wojtyła, who was elected Pope John Paul II in 1978.

In 1952 she met Stanislaw Skrowaczewski backstage after he conducted a concert by the Kraków Philharmonic. They met again by chance in 1956 while skiing in the Tatra Mountains, and were married that same year. Throughout

their lives they shared a passion for both music and the outdoors, and Krystyna became an extraordinary gardener and cook. The young couple's lives changed forever upon Stanislaw's appointment as music director of the then Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra (today the Minnesota Orchestra) in 1960, a position he held until 1979. They lived first in Minneapolis before moving to Wayzata, where they remained for more than forty years, and where Stanislaw continues to live as composer, guest conductor, and member of the community.

Along with raising their children, Krystyna was a keen administrative assistant to her husband throughout his career. She occasionally traveled the world with him, attending his concerts and the premieres of his compositions. In 2004 she accompanied him on one of his concert tours of Japan. Her unflagging support of his career was a lifelong inspiration to the distinguished conductor-composer. Friends knew Krystyna as an elegant hostess for numerous

dinner parties. In her younger years she kept pace with Stanislaw's appetite for mountain climbing, hiking, and skiing. She also planned adventurous vacations for her family to the Grand Tetons and islands in the Caribbean.

Krystyna was a lifelong animal lover and a strong supporter of the Humane Society of the United States. Her other charitable causes included the Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota, the Polish American Cultural Institute of Minnesota, and Habitat for Humanity. A woman of unlimited compassion, she was enormously generous and devoted to her family and friends. Across many decades, she sent beautiful care packages to relatives and friends in Poland and throughout the United States.

Donations may be made in Krystyna Skrowaczewski's name to the Foundation for PSP CBD and Related Brain Diseases (CurePSP), the Mayo Clinic, or any of the four charities listed above.

## Chester E. Taurence, Founder and Chairman of Painters Supply and Equipment

Chester E. Taurence, 92, of Grosse Ile and Port Sanilac, Michigan and founder and chairman of Painters Supply and Equipment Co. (PSE), of Taylor, Michigan, passed away on September 21, 2011. Born and raised in Wyandotte, Taurence graduated from Wyandotte's Roosevelt High School in 1937. After graduation, he began a career in the painting supply business by working as a truck driver for the then Mellin Moran, a company that produced Ditzler paints. In 1941, Taurence enlisted in the Army Air Corp and served as an engineer with the 440th Troup Carrier Corp and on its famous Douglas C47s. He received many medals and recognitions for his service. When World War II ended, he returned to Wyandotte and continued with Millen Moran as a store manager. In 1952, he opened his first PSE store in Lincoln Park, Michigan. Today, PSE is one of the largest distributors of paints and related supplies in North America, with more than twenty paint supply stores in Michigan and Ohio. The company supplies products to the automotive industry, as well as architectural and house paints. His company's expertise in architectural painting supplies produced custom-



Painters Supply and Equipment Co. (PSE), of Taylor, Michigan, passed away on September 21, 2011. Born and raised in Wyandotte, Taurence graduated from Wyandotte's Roosevelt High School in 1937. After graduation, he began a career in the painting supply business by working as a truck driver for the then Mellin Moran, a company that produced Ditzler paints. In 1941, Taurence enlisted in the Army Air Corp and served as an engineer with the 440th Troup Carrier Corp and on its famous Douglas C47s. He received many medals and recognitions for his service. When World War II ended, he returned to Wyandotte and continued with Millen Moran as a store manager. In 1952, he opened his first PSE store in Lincoln Park, Michigan. Today, PSE is one of the largest distributors of paints and related supplies in North America, with more than twenty paint supply stores in Michigan and Ohio. The company supplies products to the automotive industry, as well as architectural and house paints. His company's expertise in architectural painting supplies produced custom-

—Geraldine Balut Coleman

## Loraine P. Bernstein, Helped Young Musicians

Loraine P. Bernstein, a musical trust's administrator who assisted young musicians in gaining an audience, died of a heart attack at Good Samaritan Hospital.

Born Loraine Panek in Warehouse Point, Conn., she was the youngest of three children of Polish immigrant farmers.

"She was a child of the Depression and had lots of stories about the farm she used to her advantage during my childhood," said her son, Richard M. Bernstein of Freeland.

He described his mother as "an independent spirit." She left the farm after high school and took a job in New York City, where she

worked for a physician.

After several years, Mrs. Bernstein decided to further her education and pursue a career in music. She enrolled at the Peabody Conservatory, where she studied voice and piano. While there, an upperclassman, Malcolm E. Bernstein, saw her on the school's staircase. He told a friend, "That's the girl I will marry."

She earned a master's degree in speech pathology at Towson University and worked in the Baltimore City public school system for many years. She also taught piano and was a soloist for churches and synagogues.

She helped organize a 1995 ecu-

menical concert, *A Symphony of Psalms*, near the visit of Pope John Paul II to Baltimore.

"I'm of Polish descent. I speak the language. I wasn't born Jewish, but my husband is Jewish, and so I'm interested in Jewish-Polish relationships," she said in a 1995 *Sun* interview.

"She was adventurous, lived life fully, graciously made allowances for others' shortcomings, demonstrated unselfish love daily, and truly was a pleasure to be with," her son said.

—Information edited from  
The Baltimore Sun

## Joseph Krupa, Played for Pittsburgh Steelers

Joseph S. Krupa, Sr., 78, defensive tackle lineman, No. 75, for the Pittsburgh Steelers, died on September 18 of a heart ailment.

Krupa was the son of Polish immigrants, Stanislaw and Macjanna Krupa, and was born and raised in the Brighton Park area on Chicago's Southwest Side, where he attended Five Holy Martyrs.

He received a football scholarship from Weber High School, and then Purdue University offered him a four-year scholarship, where he started every game. As soon as he graduated from Purdue, the Steelers drafted him. He played for the Steelers from 1955-1964, playing in 110 consecutive games.

During his tenure with the Steelers, he started every game, but these were the years in professional football when players sought off-season jobs. So, Krupa taught and coached athletics at Chicago's Harrison High School. He later went on to earn a Master's Degree in History from Loyola University Chicago, in hopes of continuing in the teaching

profession.

After he retired from the Steelers, he returned to the Chicago area and began teaching at Oak Park-River Forest High School. Later, he taught history and driver's education, and coached football at Proviso East High School in Maywood. At the age of 60, he retired from Proviso.

He was a devotee of Polish food, especially pierogi and czarnina, and of the traditional Wigilia. He was a member of the Chicagoland Sports Hall of Fame and the Polish National Alliance.

He was buried clutching a blue rosary and wearing his Pittsburgh Steelers tie, his NFL alumni jacket, and his Polish National Alliance pin. He is survived by his wife, Connie, three children, six grandchildren, and two great grandchildren.

—Geraldine Balut Coleman

## Anne Ziolkowski Christensen, Director of Crazy Horse Operations

Anne Ziolkowski Christensen, the daughter of Crazy Horse Memorial founder Korczak Ziolkowski and his wife, Crazy Horse Memorial president and chief executive officer Ruth Ziolkowski, died unexpectedly of natural causes.

Ziolkowski Christensen, 55, was at her home on the Crazy Horse memorial grounds when she died.

She served as the director of operations for the memorial and was intimately involved in the Crazy

Horse visitor's complex and museum.

Born on the memorial grounds on Aug. 14, 1955, Ziolkowski Christensen grew up a part of the Crazy Horse memorial project.

Ziolkowski Christensen was the sixth of 10 children, seven of whom have been involved with Crazy Horse.

Embedded in the floor of Ziolkowski Christensen's office were 10 horseshoes, one for each of the

Ziolkowski children.

Ziolkowski Christensen graduated from St. Martin Academy high school in Rapid City in 1973, in the academy's final all-female class. She attended Black Hills State College, and worked both in law enforcement and at St. Joseph Indian School before coming home to work on the Crazy Horse Memorial.

Dobbs said Ziolkowski Christensen's death was a surprise.

She was the first of the Ziolkowskis' 10 children to die. She is survived by her mother Ruth Ziolkowski, her husband — a security officer for the memorial — and her two adult stepchildren, Doug and Crystal.

"A tradition of local & long distance service continues!"

**Stobierski Lucas  
Gardenview  
Funeral Home, Ltd.**  
Rita A. Lucas 161 Driggs Avenue  
Jude P. Lucas (Greenpoint) Brooklyn, NY 11222  
George J. Mueller (718) 383-7910 • (718) 383-2737

Completely Air Conditioned  
Aeration Flower Control Services  
Available in All Communities

(718) 383-8600  
A.K. No. 383-0320  
Peter Rago  
Lic. Mgr.  
Leslie P. Rago  
F.D.

**Evergreen FUNERAL HOME, INC.**  
131 Nassau Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11222

**JUREK-PARK SLOPE  
FUNERAL HOME, INC.**

728 4th Ave., Brooklyn, NY

**DORIS V. AMEN**  
LICENSED FUNERAL DIRECTOR  
NEWLY DECORATED CHAPEL FACILITIES  
OUR 24-HOUR PERSONAL SERVICES ARE  
AVAILABLE IN ALL COMMUNITIES  
AT-HOME ARRANGEMENTS  
INSURANCE CLAIMS HANDLED  
SOCIAL SECURITY & VETERAN'S BENEFITS  
PROMPTLY EXPEDITED  
MONUMENT INSCRIPTIONS ASCERTAINED

(718) 768-4192

## IN MEMORIAM / Jennifer Moskal

**ALEKSY KOWALIK**, 96, of Blachownia, Poland, was one of the three surviving heroes of Poland's first World War II battle. Kowalik was along the 205 Polish troops guarding the Navy's arsenal at Westerplatte peninsula, and on September 1, 1939, put up a fight against the German warship *Schleswig-Holstein*. He operated an antitank gun and was wounded. Cut away from munitions and food supplies, the troops resisted for seven days, and when they eventually surrendered, their clout prompted the German troops to salute them when taking them prisoner. As a POW, he worked on German farms, and returned to Poland in 1947, married and settled in Blachownia.

**FREDERICK A. LENCZYNSKI**, 83, was a retired sales manager who ran the electrical-engineering lab at Villanova University. Lenczynski graduated from St. James High School, where he was an All-Catholic football player. He studied engineering at what is now Drexel University. Over his career he worked at Shallcross, and Tektronix where he became the company's top salesman. He was also involved in numerous community organizations, taught night computer courses, and served in

the Army Air Force as a radar instructor.

**JOSEPH S. MOLS**, 96, of McKeesport, Pa. left his hometown twice, once during the Depression to help build roads and bridges through the Civilian Conservation Corps, and then during World War II to serve as a member of the Army Quartermaster Corps. Upon his discharge from the Army, Mols joined G.C. Murphy Co. where he rose to the position of foreman. He and his wife opened Cherry Lane Tavern in 1957. He was also the steward at the Polish National Alliance Lodge.

**CAPT. JEFFREY P. TOCZYLOWSKI**, 30, was a member of the elite Army Green Berets. Capt. Toczylofski was killed in Anbar province, Iraq and left instructions, in case of his death, for his family to spend his \$100,000 military death benefit on a huge party in Las Vegas. His mother, Peggy, said that despite early reservations about his request came to see the gift of joy that he had given her amid her grief. The remaining sum helped to establish a scholarship fund at Valley Forge Military Academy and College, where he earned his commission through the ROTC program.

SPORTS / Tom Tarapacki

## Adamek Stopped

**Tomasz Adamek** was stopped by Vitali Klitschko in the 10th round of their WBA heavyweight title bout at Stadion Miejski in Wroclaw, Poland in what has been called the biggest fight in Polish boxing history.

The much bigger Klitschko dominated from the opening bell and improved his record to 43-2. It was his tenth consecutive win in WBC title fights and his seventh defense of his current reign. Adamek dropped to 44-2.

Adamek, 34, has been well promoted by Main Events, particularly in U.S. cities that have a large Polish populations in states like New Jersey and Illinois. His aggressive style has made him a fans' favorite. After winning world titles at light-heavyweight and cruiserweight, Adamek's 1½-year campaign at heavyweight has seen him go 6-0. But Klitschko, 40, had a height and weight advantage and it was difficult for the smaller Adamek, to use his speed effectively.

Still, Adamek says he will return as a heavyweight and doesn't rule out a possible fight with Vitali's younger brother, IBO/IBF/WBO/WBA king Wladimir Klitschko. "This year I will not fight again, and early next I'll decide what's next," he said. "I'll probably fight in the United States, but I really want to come back to Poland because the atmosphere in the stadium was unique. Polish fans are the best in the world. If I fight again, it's only at the highest level."



**ADAMEK.** Will return to ring.

wasn't routinely asked to attempt very long field goals. If you took away his 50-yard-plus attempts, Janikowski would rank in the top ten on the league's all-time accuracy list, at 84.3 percent.

"I had a dream I broke the record, and it was here in Denver," Janikowski said. "The ball really carries here." Janikowski said he could probably kick a field goal as long as 74 or 75 yards in the thin air of Denver.

In college at Florida State and early in his Raiders career, Janikowski had a few "misadventures," but now seems to have settled down. Asked if he's stronger now at age 33, Janikowski said, "I work out more, take care of my body more. Just do more weights, work out with (teammates). Getting older, you have to do it ... I do feel stronger than in my 20s."

### MEANEST MAJOR LEAGUER?

I've gotten a ton of reaction from readers about of *Sports Illustrated* poll of 215 major league players, naming White Sox A.J. Pierzynski "the meanest player in baseball." The selection rankled a number of readers, including Ed Kwiatkowski of Detroit (and St. Petersburg). He wrote a letter to *Sports Illustrated* stating that "this is what happens when you are raised on Polish jokes."

A two-time All-Star and 2005 World Series champion, A.J. is known to be opinionated and sometimes an agitator. He's also a very intense but savvy competitor. One example of that occurred in Game 2 of the 2005 ALCS against the Angels. With two strikes on him and the score tied with two out in the bottom of the ninth, Pierzynski swung at and missed a low pitch. Angels catcher Josh Paul rolled the ball to the mound and left the field. Pierzynski, realizing strike three had been called but he had not been called out, raced to first base. The umpire had ruled that the ball hit the ground before it went into the catch-

er's glove, and Pierzynski was safe at first. A.J. was replaced at first by a pinch runner, who later scored the winning run.

Former Sox manager Ozzie Guillen famously remarked about A.J.: "If you play against him, you hate him. If you play with him, you hate him a little less." Guillen also said that Pierzynski is a valuable player, even though he can be "high-maintenance": "A.J.'s been great for me. He's worth the work because he always shows up for you."

So why was Pierzynski voted the "meanest?" That's doesn't seem to be clear to anyone, even A.J. himself. He told ESPN Radio that "I kind of laugh at this one — What does it mean to be mean? Does it mean I'm mean on the baseball field? Does it mean I'm mean off the baseball field? What does it mean exactly? ... I don't think I go out and hit kids or beat up old ladies. I play to win ..."

The colorful Pierzynski perhaps had the last laugh, as he was hired to be part of Fox's World Series pregame and postgame TV coverage.

**SPEEDWAY VIOLENCE.** After a fan was accidentally run over and killed by an unmarked police vehicle at a motorcycle speedway in Zielona Gora Poland, speedway fans attacked police and broke shop windows, demolished a fuel station and wrecked several police cars. Nine people were arrested. Two police officers were injured in the violence. One suffered a broken jaw after being kicked in the face and the other had a broken skull.

The overnight rioting occurred after the local motorcycle speedway club Stelmet Falubaz defeated rival Unia Leszno for the national championship.

Authorities have made a priority of fighting sports-related violence as the country prepares to co-host the Euro 2012 football championship. Riots marred the Polish Cup final in May, in which fans tore off stadium seats and had to be dispersed with a water cannon.

### THEY SAID IT

"To be honest, I didn't hit it that good. It barely got over the bar."

— *Oakland Raiders placekicker Sebastian Janikowski, on his NFL record-tying field goal. His 63-yard kick tumbled above the crossbar near the left upright as the first half expired, giving Oakland a 16-3 lead.*

❖ ❖ ❖  
"My mom said that for Highlanders like me, the fight is over when one man is on the floor, but it was a referee's decision I had to accept."

— *Tomasz Adamek, about the referee's stoppage of his fight against Vitali Klitschko.*

❖ ❖ ❖  
"Major League Baseball isn't a tea party. Pierzynski is doing what every fan who pays big-money to support his or her team wants. Deep down, we want them to win. Not only that, we want them to care about winning. A.J. Pierzynski cares about winning. Mean is firing a ball into the stands. Mean is throwing beer on an outfielder. Mean is being rude to kids waiting for an autograph before or after the game. The way Pierzynski conducts business on the field may be a lot of things. Mean is not one of them."

*Jon Fromi in a BleacherReport.com column.*

Give a gift subscription!  
www.polamjournal.com

## Two Native Sons Recognized



**TOASTING THE HONOREES.** Enjoying a champagne toast and glowing moment, are (l. to r.) medalists Jacek Soltys and Stanislaw Dziwak, with Deputy Chief of Mission Maciej Pisarski.

by Richard P. Poremski

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Family and friends assembled at the Embassy of the Republic of Poland, August 11, 2011, to witness Poland's recognition of two outstanding members of the American Polonia.

Officiating at the ceremonies, conducted in Polish, was Deputy Chief of Mission Maciej Pisarski in concert with Chief of Protocol Secretary Piotr Erenfeicht and Consul General Włodzimierz Sulgostowski, under the auspices of Ambassador Robert Kupiecki.

Stanislaw Dziwak, originally from Gromiec, was decorated with the "Knight's Cross, Order of Merit of the Republic of Poland." The citation read: "In September, 1980 Stanislaw Dziwak led a Solidarity inspired strike at Poland's Piast Coal Mine. At the conclusion of the successful strike, he was elected as an important leader in the Miner's Solidarity Union." ...

"But with the imposition of martial law in 1983, the communist regime took a hard stand with the people — and one was Stanislaw Dziwak, who was threatened, beaten and jailed. The communists wanted Stanislaw Dziwak to conspire with them, and also sign a loyalty oath. If he refused, Stanislaw Dziwak would be exiled from Poland. Stani-

slaw Dziwak refused to conspire or sign, and was expelled (with his family) to the United States." ...

"He became involved with the Polonia organizations in Baltimore, Md. as a very active and involved member, especially in the National Katyn Memorial Foundation. Polonia appreciates very much all the contributions he made in Poland and now in the U.S. It is also appreciated by the Polish government and Ambassador Robert Kupiecki, and that now he is contributing to the bridging between the old and new generations of the U.S. Polonia."

Jacek Soltys, originally from Krakow, was decorated with Poland's "Gold Cross of Merit." His plaque cited: "Soltys's extensive promotion of tourism and sailing in the Washington, D.C. and Baltimore areas. All of his organizations, from the beginning, were born of a spirit that inspired him while he was sailing and hiking." ...

"Jacek Soltys promoted international sailing club competitions and a Festival of Sea Chanteys. He promotes everyone's free spirit and healthy outdoor activities ... relaxation and the enjoyment of life." ...

"Thank you very much for your good relations with the Embassy, and your good work in the American Polonia."

## Mirecki is "Pride of Polonia"

by Jo Louise & Marion Winters

PHILADELPHIA — Each year, Polonia of the United States comes on a pilgrimage to Our Lady of Czestochowa in Doylestown. It has been a tradition to present the "Pride of Polonia" Award on this day to an individual whose involvement in the Polish-American Community is exemplary. It is the responsibility of Cardinal Maida to choose a person for this award. This year's choice is Thaddeus Mirecki "whose involvement in many charitable causes beyond his parish makes him uniquely qualified to receive this prestigious award."

Active in Polonian organizations and causes, Mirecki worked in the Polish Scouting Association, Polish Saturday schools, and Polish Parishes. Since arriving in the Washington area in 1987, he has continued to be active in the Polonia by being a member of the Executive Committee of the Washington Metro Area Division of the PAC and holding various positions at Our Lady Queen of Poland Parish. Mirecki has also assisted in the charitable fund-raising and serves on several Polish-American organizations.

Prior to his retirement, Mirecki was a member of the Consulting Services Division of Microsoft Corp. He conducted seminars and trainings throughout the United States, in Toronto, Warsaw and



Moscow. Yet, he still found time to assist, with computerization of organizations in the Polonian community.

Before coming to the Washington, Mirecki lived in Chicago where his family was actively involved in affairs of the Polish-American community. He and the whole family are members of Polish Scouting Organization. In fact, his work in the Polonia began with Scouting when at age 16 he became assistant Scoutmaster.

Mirecki was born in Poland, the son of a Resistance leader in the underground Home Army. The family survived the Nazi occupation, but had to flee the Communists. He left Poland at a young age, but he has never forgotten his heritage.



**PIERZYNSKI.** Meanest?

**A RECORD KICK.** Oakland Raider **Sebastian Janikowski** booted a 63-yard field-goal, tying the league distance record, even though he admittedly didn't hit it very well. The kick tied an NFL record that Janikowski now shares with Tom Dempsey and Jason Elam.

Janikowski kicked two 57-yarders off dirt in preseason games. Known for his tremendous power, Janikowski is also very accurate. His 78.7 percent career field-goal percentage would be higher if he



**SOKOLOWSKI'S**

**UNIVERSITY INN**  
**CLEVELAND, OHIO**  
**ESTABLISHED IN 1923**

Featured on the Travel & Food Network

Our Hours are:  
**Lunch**  
M-F 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.  
**Fri. Night Dinners**  
5:00-9:00 p.m.  
**Sat. Night Dinners**  
4:00-9:00 p.m.  
**Lounge open 'til 1:00**  
a.m. on Fri. and Sat.  
**Cleveland's Premier**  
**Polish American**  
**Restaurant**  
**Now in our 88th year**  
**in Business**  
**(216) 771-9236**  
**www.sokolowskis.com**

TRAVELOGUE / Staś Kmieć

## Do Zobaczenia! A Momentous Trip Behind Me

Part XXVII  
Conclusion

With two weeks' notice, my return trip, after a five-year absence, came together quickly. The purpose was to attend Mazowsze's 60th anniversary celebration, but it soon became apparent that this impromptu trip was to become a magical experience, an adventure with many unexpected surprises along the way – one I wanted to share with the readership of the PAJ.

### SERENDIPITY

*"The effect by which one accidentally discovers something fortunate, especially while looking for something else entirely; an aptitude for making desirable discoveries by accident"* – Serendipity

Walking the cobbled streets of Kraków, I reflected on this unexpected adventure in Poland. Recalling the fourteen trips I have taken to this country, this one was a reflective and personal experience filled with surprise, wonder and satisfaction.

According to folk wisdom – *Jak poznać drugiego człowieka? Że trzeba zjeść z nim beczkę soli* (How does one get to know another person? When you have eaten a barrel of salt with him). *A miasto? To jeszcze prostsze – wystarczy z nim mieszkać od trzech pokoleń* (And a city? That's even simpler – just live there for three generations).

Well, I may not have lived in Kraków or the other cities of my travels for that period of time, I know them to some degree. Kraków is an ancient city that is still full of surprises – rejuvenated and trendy. It has always had classic historical sightseeing value, but today from a museum through which one crept in protective felt slippers, speaking in only a whisper – a town full of laughter and brimming with energy has emerged. As far as my dear Polish friends and barrels of salt – though I do not get to see them regularly, our encounters are rich and pick up without a missed beat.

By day it is easy to drown in culture. As dusk settles the city becomes a haven for hedonists. It is all too easy to descend the stairs into one of the Gothic cellar bars, and emerge at daybreak missing both your memory and friends. Tonight, there was no time to explore the pulsing nightlife.

**HEAD FOR "THE HEAD."** Before exiting the misty glow of the *Rynek Główny*, I absorbed the oddity I had passed so many times in these last days – a new sculpture near the Town Hall Tower... a giant head lying body-less... *Eros Bendato* (Eros Tied).

Among Kraków's most well-known landmarks, this sculpture in



Among Kraków's most well-known landmarks, "The Head" in the western corner of the square is a popular meeting place and serves as a photographic backdrop for almost every tourist who visits.

the western corner of the square is a popular meeting place and serves as a photographic backdrop for almost every tourist who visits. Affectionately referred to as "The Head," the bronze body part, created in 1999, is the work of Polish artist Igor Mitoraj. A student of Tadeusz Kantor's at the Kraków School of Art, an exhibition of fourteen of the artist's monumental works decorated the *Rynek* from October 2003 to January 2004.

At this time the artist gifted this work to the city, sparking a controversy over what to do with it. Initially, the sculpture was designated for *Plac Kolejowy*, but the artist was indignant about having his work in front of the commercial *Galeria Krakowska*. Despite protest from historians and many locals, the sculpture eventually found its current place, where it has become an unexpected attraction, while other body parts are dotted in various other cities around Europe. A replica rests at City Garden in St. Louis, MO.

Along with the Adam Mickiewicz statue and *Kościół Mariacki* it is a very common and popular meeting place in the Market Square. Everybody knows what and where you mean if you say "let's meet by the head."

The trumpeter's lunar *hejnał* signals that it is time for me to depart. Kraków is nocturnal, and as the nights grow longer, the city drapes itself in a secretive, strangely beguiling mist as the leaves perform their miraculous chromatic transformation. As the moon slowly saturates the city in sepia on this mystical November night, I am reminded that it is the time of year for honoring ancestors, communing with spirits, and peering into the hot melted wax of the future.

**REFLECTION.** Navigating the grid of narrow streets where the cobble-

stones blink under a soft drizzle, I traveled the familiar path back to Hotel Cracovia.

I can never resist this magical city. Maybe it was the mysterious pull of the chakra stone, the powerful allure of the inhabitants, or the wild disorientation of the *halny* — that "mad wind from the mountains"



Kraków's airport, where I used charm and a friendly attitude with the attractive blonde clerk to flirt my way out of the jam.

which rips through Kraków at this time of year that many claim has an influence on one's mental state.

A city forged in battle, war, conquest and fate, Kraków is in many respects the most Polish of all this great nation's cities. The ancient seat of kings and intelligentsia comes steeped in legend and myth. Kraków's history is the stuff of fantasy. The city evokes the most fanciful of images – from dragons occupying the catacombs of Wawel, to Tartar hordes repelled at the gates, to an earnest Lenin plotting revolution while sitting in the city's cafés.

Walking through Jagiellonian University's Collegium Maius, I reflected on all the nearby places I was not able to revisit – each at least a daytrip's commitment: the crushing Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camps that lie outside of the city

of Oświęcim – 50-miles west; the Wieliczka Salt Mine, a UNESCO World Heritage site which stopped churning out salt in 2007, but houses a museum of salt sculpture masterpieces; and Zakopane – the mountain retreat, where the region's unique culture continues to thrive.

### A TRIP'S WEIGHT IN LUGGAGE.

At the hotel's front desk, I confirmed my pickup arrangements for the early flight, and settled my bill. Back in my room, I donned the complimentary robe as I completed packing and the redistribution of items. With two pieces of luggage, a carry-on/camera bag and garment bag, I was within my allotment; however the weight of the check-in bags were cause for concern. At this point there were no post-offices to revisit, and I would have to deal with any consequences the next morning. My books had been sent, so how could my luggage be so heavy? Convinced that the gift bottles of Polish hospitality amounted for much of the weight; I started throwing out most of my toiletries, then set two clocks and went to bed.

With the inevitable alarm signal,

first to check in.

In an effort to avoid luggage fees, I used charm and a friendly attitude with the attractive blonde clerk to flirt my way out of the jam – speaking with her only in English. Just how much over one can be is often up to the airline employee, but at 10% you've got a pretty good chance and with some luck 20% isn't out of the realm of possibility. Clearly my baggage was overweight, but thankfully I did not have to pay.

### JOHN PAUL II INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT.

It was convenient for me to arrive in Warsaw and leave from Kraków. The airport is situated on the Balice outskirts of the city, about ten miles west from the center. The international airport is Poland's second busiest after Warsaw, and handles 2.4 million passengers a year. It consists of an International Terminal and a separate Domestic Terminal. In 1995 the airport's name was changed from Kraków-Balice Airport to John Paul II International Airport with regular direct air connections from and to major European and American hubs.

On the plane and nestled in my seat, the statuesque dark-haired stewardess opened my overhead compartment to place an item from another traveler. Before I was able to stop her from crushing the box of *pisanki* Easter eggs in my garment bag, she abruptly completed her action and I was certain I heard a crunch (*they did not break*). I took a deep breath, sat back and opened the *Kraków Post*. It was going to be a long day – to Vienna for a layover, and transfer to Austrian Airlines on route back to New York City.

As I put this momentous trip behind me, I thought about Poland's transition from a country of citizens standing in line to leave, to a country that visitors were queuing to enter. The atmosphere, distraction, dark magic, and timing hardly seem like a mystery: Poland's potent powers of attraction, enchantment and possession were in such full display on this visit. I have traveled the world, but there is nowhere else that makes my heart skip a beat, brings a tear to my eye, a smile to my face, and gives me such great joy and excitement than Poland.

... until the next adventure

### 22nd Annual Soup Festival

MINNEAPOLIS — The Polish Cultural Institute of Minnesota's popular soup tasting/sampling of a variety of Polish soups will be held Nov. 6, 2011 in Kolbe Hall, lower level of John Paul II School, Holy Cross Church complex at 17th Avenue and Fourth Street NE. Handicap parking and elevator entrance at rear of the building are accessed by the alley between the church and school. The event includes a dozen different soups, bread, beverage and dessert. Cost is \$12 for adults and \$6 for children under the age of 12. Any soup remaining at will be sold.

### CLASSIC TRAVEL IS:

#### A FULL RANGE OF TRAVEL SERVICES

AIR TICKETS IN THE USA, TO POLAND AND INTERNATIONAL

CRUISES, VACATION PACKETS, SERVICES FOR CORPORATIONS

50 EXCURSIONS AND PILGRIMAGES TO 40 COUNTRIES

PROFESSIONAL AND FRIENDLY SERVICE, EXPERT GUIDES



TRUST OUR REPUTATION and 27 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

Margaret Majcherczyk

1-973-473-3845;  
1-800-774-6996

www.classic-travel.com

TRAVELLING IS PART OF OUR JOURNEY THROUGH LIFE, AN INVESTMENT IN OURSELVES

SUPPORT POLISH-AMERICAN BUSINESSES AS WE SUPPORT POLONIA.

**Protect Your Financial Future**  
JOIN  
**Polish National Alliance**



A Fraternal Company since 1880  
Offering Term and Whole Life Insurance, IRA's, Annuities

**CONTACT**  
Teresa Struziak Sherman  
PNA SALES REPRESENTATIVE  
413-596-9578  
Terrysherm@aol.com

**STO LAT! STO LAT! POLISH AMERICAN JOURNAL!**



**pierogi Palace**  
of Oil City, Pennsylvania

*"Where You'll Remember Mama's...  
Gdzie Będziesz Pamiętać Mame"*

17 SPRING STREET • OIL CITY, PA 16301  
JOSEPH C. BROZESKI, Mgr.  
E-mail: pierogi@usachoice.net

**WWW.PIEROGIPALACE.COM**

TEL.: (814) 677-4090  
TOLL FREE: (877) 727-8359  
FAX: (814) 678-2221

SHIPPING AVAILABLE • VISA and MC ACCEPTED

Our pierogi are wholesome and fresh, made from only the finest ingredients. They're good and good for you.

Keep Alive This Heritage! Visit [WWW.POLISHHERITAGEPROJECT.COM](http://WWW.POLISHHERITAGEPROJECT.COM)  
Check out the Polish Heritage Project and PHP Memorial Park

## REFLECTIONS / OUR CHURCHES

## Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

418 WEST 15TH STREET, LORAIN, OHIO  
REV. ROBERT GLEPKO, PASTOR



Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary is known for its beautiful Gothic stained glass windows, the sanctuary's most impressive features. The pieces are characterized by highly-detailed pictorial designs, rich ecclesiastical meaning and deeply indebted to the Polish faith.

Here, in this beautifully detailed piece donated by the Society of the Apostleship of Prayer and Archconfraternity of the Heart of Jesus, Jesus comforts St. Margaret Mary. "Boze Zbaw Polskie," etched on the scroll in Mary's hand, translates from the Polish to "God Save Poland." This same expression adorns a stained glass shield above the main door.

In the middle of 1890, many Polish immigrants came to North Central Ohio. This was a very industrial region with ship building, a steel mill, a stove works, and many smaller industries. In 1895 the immigrants petitioned Bishop Hortzman for a Polish priest. It was January 11, 1898 when the bishop sent Fr. Adolph Swierczynski to serve as resident pastor. Services were held at various churches and in the basement of St. Joseph hospital.

In April 1899, real estate was finally procured at Lexington Ave. and 15th Street for the first Polish church. On Easter Sunday 1900, the congregation processed to the new wooden combination school and church.

Rev. Andrew Radecki pressed the bishop for a new church in 1912. In July 1914, Fr. Radecki again petitioned for a new church. This time it was approved. The diocese required that half of the necessary funds were in place before construction would begin. This was accomplished by August 16, 1914. A new church and

school were dedicated in November 1922. The new school was three stories tall with 12 class rooms, an auditorium, and two rooms in the basement. The school was staffed by the dedicated Sisters of St. Joseph, Third Order of St. Francis.

The school was closed in 1987, due to declining enrollment. It has since been reconstructed as an independent living facility.

In 2007, the parish was clustered with six other parishes. In 2009, a decision was made by the Diocese of Cleveland, and Nativity became a Personal Parish and would remain open. Nativity Church was blessed with many very fine and dedicated priests. The present pastor is Rev. Robert Glepko and Deacon Robert Dybo.

"My memories of Nativity are the 40-hour (3 day) devotions, procession at Easter Vigil and major Holydays," said Henry Zajac of Elyria, Ohio, who sent us this history. "I served as altar boy from third grade till I was 18 years old."

Would you like to see your parish featured in "Reflections"? Please send a photo and a few paragraphs about the parish. While we appreciate full histories, we do not have space to print them. Please provide us with a photo or two of the interior and/or exterior. We can accept digital photos via e-mail if they are of high resolution (300 dpi or greater). Please include: Name of church, year opened (year closed if no longer open), street and city, any identifiable people in the photo, and any special memory you may have of the church. Additional information may include: pastor, school status, or, if closed, name of last pastor, name of new merged parish, etc. All denominations welcome.

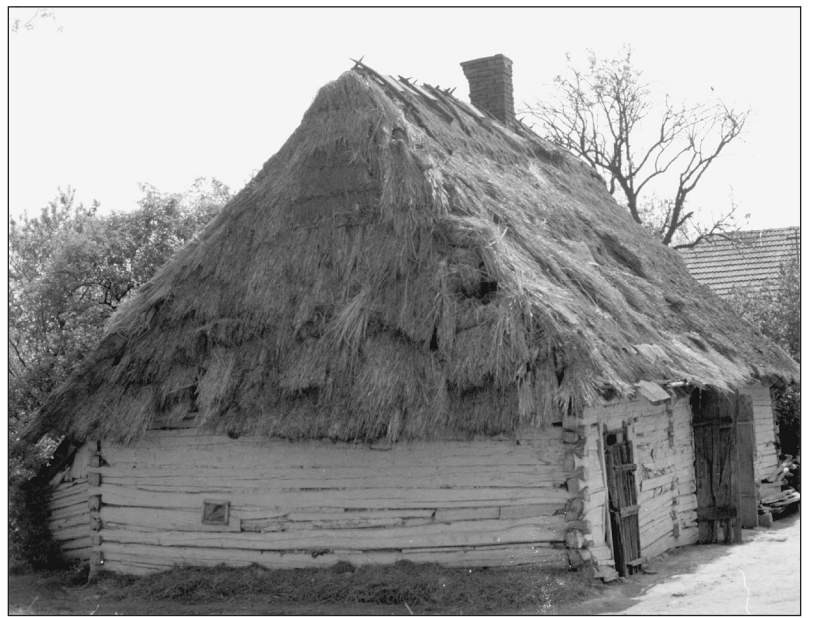
## TRIVIA TIME

1. Rzeszow's sister city is a. Erie b. Buffalo c. Cheektowaga
2. Refugees from Poland that fought in the United States Civil War, numbered approximately: a. 150 b. 2000 c. 6000
3. Biskupin was built on a: a. river bank b. mountain pasture c. lake island
4. A great ethnic and cultural shopping experience can be enjoyed at Buffalo's: a. airport lounge b. Broadway Market c. HSBC Arena
5. Galicia, in the late 1800s was: a. Austrian Poland b. Carpathia c. a Baltic state
6. Krystyna Chejnowska-Liskiewicz sailed around the world in: a. 1933 b. 1956 c. 1978
7. The first pope to meet with a rabbi in Rome was: a. Pius I b. John Paul II c. Benedict XVI
8. "Straz," a union newspaper, translates to: a. the Guard b. the Watchdog c. Fairness
9. Prince Adam Czartoryski offered employment to the then-destitute: a. Pierre Dupont b. John Jacob Astor c. Napoleon III
10. In meteorology, the wind-chill factor was studied in depth by: a. Casimir b. Bronislaw Malinowski c. Henryk Arctowski

**ANSWERS.** 1b. Buffalo; 2c. 6000; 3c. lake island; 4b. the Broadway Market; 5a. Austrian Poland; 6c. 1978; 7b. John Paul II; 8a. the Guard; 9a. Pierre Dupont; 10c. Henryk Arctowski.

— Ellye Shusarczyk

## THE OLD COUNTRY / Richard Poremski



STILL OF SERVICE. Dwikozy, Poland. May 19, 1976.

## Attention Baby Boomers: Get Off Your Dupe

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. — It takes physical activity, not just dieting, to shed pounds. That's especially important as people start to age and dieting alone could cost them precious muscle in addition to fat, says **Jack Rejeski** of Wake Forest University, a specialist in exercise and aging.

Whether you're overweight or just the right size, physical activity can help stave off the mobility problems that too often sneak up on the sedentary as they age. Muscles gradually become flabbier until people can find themselves on the verge of disability and loss of independence, like a canoe that floats peace-

fully until it gets too near a waterfall to pull back, Rejeski says.

He led a study that found a modest weight loss plus walking 2 1/2 hours a week helped people 60 and older significantly improve their mobility. Even those who didn't walk that much got some benefit.

"I don't think there's any question the earlier you get started, the better," said Rejeski. "If you allow your mobility to decline, you pay for it in terms of the quality of your own life."

At 63, Rejeski has given up running in favor of walking, putting in 30 miles per week.

## BRUSH UP / Prepared by the Polonia Media Network

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

## Job Hunting

Szukam pracy ..... (SHUH-kam PRAH-tsih)

**I am seeking a job.**

Gdzie najlepiej szukać pracy? ..... (Gjeh niy-LEH-pyay SHUH-kahch PRAH-tsih)

**Where is the best place to seek a job**

Mam kwalifikacje ..... (Mahm kfah-lee-fee-KAH-tsyeh)

**I have qualifications.**

Mam doświadczenie w ..... (Mahm dosh-fyaht-CHEH-nyeh v ...)

Co to za praca? ..... (Tsoh toh zah PRAH-tsih)

**What kind of work is it?**

Ile dostanę za godzinę? ..... (EE-leh dohs-TAH-neh zah goh-DGEE-neh?)

**How much will I get per hour?**

**I have experience in**.....

aktorstwie ..... (ahk-TOHR-stfyeh) **acting** pracy na budowie ..... (PRAH-tsih nah

fotografii ..... (foh-toh-GRAH-fee) **photography** buh-DOH-vyeh) **construction work**

nauczaniu ..... (nah-uh-CHAH-nyuh) **teaching** pracy na komputerze ..... (PRAH-tsih nah kohm-puh-

opiece nad dziećmi ..... TEH-zeh) **computer work**

(oh-PYEH-tseh nahd DJEHCH-mee) **childcare** projektowaniu ..... (proh-yehk-toh-VAH-nyeh) **Design**

pracy biurowej ..... (PRAH-tsih byuh-ROH-vay.) **office work** sprzątanii ..... (spshown-TAH-nyuh) **cleaning**

**office work**

## EXPLORING POLONIA'S PAST / James Pula

## Veteran Pilot Edward Joseph (Cichowski) York

Life was never easy for Eddie York. Born in 1912, he arrived at adulthood just in time to see the stock market crash and the relative prosperity of the 1920s evaporate into a crushing Depression that saw banks fail, savings wiped out, wages fall, and unemployment grow to over 26 percent. If you were 17 years old like Eddie, and fresh out of high school, finding employment was almost impossible. So, the new graduate did what many young men with no other prospects did, he enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1930. Assigned to the 7th Infantry Regiment, he was sent to Alaska, thousands of miles from his family in Upstate New York.

Despite the distance and the climate, military life seems to have agreed with Eddie, or perhaps it was just that there was little else available. Once he decided to make the Army his career, he set his sights on West Point with a successful application for admission

to the West Point Preparatory School in San Francisco. In 1934 he received an appointment to the U.S. Military Academy, graduating in 1938 and gaining in the process the nickname "Ski."

While he studied, the world was changing rapidly. Japan invaded China initiating a full-scale war between the two countries in 1937. In Europe, Mussolini consolidated his power in Italy while Adolf Hitler rose to become Chancellor with promises of restoring German honor and prosperity. With international tensions rising, Ski chose the Army Air Corps on graduation, training at Randolph Field in Texas where he received his pilot wings in 1939, just in time for the outbreak of war in Europe. With the expansion of the armed forces, Ski rose quickly to command of the 95th Bombardment Squadron by the time the Japanese brought war to American with their attack on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

In early 1942, Ski volunteered for a super-secret special duty project as operations officer for the training of bomber pilots at Elgin Field in Florida. It was Ski's responsibility to manage air operations for the entire training program of these select volunteer airmen. After completing a rigorous and highly dangerous regimen, Ski found himself sailing west across the northern Pacific Ocean, one of sixteen pilots selected to launch America's first counterstroke against Japan by flying large, bulky Army bombers off the small deck of the *USS Hornet* to bomb Tokyo and other Japanese cities under the command of Lt. Col. James Doolittle. Although never made for such short takeoffs, Ski and the other pilots wrestled their bombers into the air, attacked their targets, and brought a badly needed boost to American morale. His plane out of gas, Ski managed an emergency landing in Siberia where he and his crew were

interned by the Soviets.

But the story does not end there. Once it became obvious they were not going to be released, Ski led his men in a daring escape to Allied territory in the Middle East. After returning to the U.S., he volunteered for further combat duty and was assigned to Italy where he flew 24 combat missions. Following the war he was assigned as Air Attaché at the U.S. embassy in Warsaw where he flew Ambassador Arthur Bliss Lane on trips throughout Eastern Europe. He retired from active duty in 1966 after 36 years of service and a host of decorations including the coveted Distinguished Flying Cross.

But why the nickname "Ski"? His real name was Edward Joseph Cichowski, a Polish American hero from Batavia, New York.

THIS PAGE SPONSORED BY



**POLISH CHILDREN'S HEARTLINE begins its 26th year of helping children.** An all volunteer non-profit organization receiving generous donations from Polonia and American supporters makes it possible for over 2000 Polish children to be treated annually by cardiac surgeons and physicians in hospitals in Poland. As requested, equipment critical to pediatric care is provided to six hospitals in Zabrze, Katowice, Lodz, Suwalki, Bialystok and Grajewo. Contributions may be made in memory of and/or honor of family and friends. Each donation is tax exempt and acknowledged. We thank you for your support and ask for your continued support for much help is still needed. For information call 732-680-0680 or visit our website: PolishChildrensHeartline.org.

**"If we don't help our Polish children, who will?"**

Ronald Syslo, President

## POLISH CHILDREN'S HEARTLINE, INC.

A Non-Profit Corporation—State of NJ

177 Broadway  
Clark, NJ 07066

BOOKS IN BRIEF / Florence Waszkelewicz Clowes, MLIS

## Addressing the Dumb, Brute Stereotype

### BIEGANSKI: THE BRUTE POLAK STEREOTYPE, ITS ROLE IN POLISH-JEWISH RELATIONS AND AMERICAN POPULAR CULTURE

by Danusha V. Goska

Academic Studies Press, 2010

Index, references, 342 pps., \$65.00.

In this thought-provoking book, Goska makes the reader face an uneasy reality, with materials gathered for many years. Stereotyped as a dumb, dirty, poor, uneducated man, Bieganski stands for all this, in the public eye. Goska dwells into the source and reason for this image — from early Polish-Jewish relations to biased Hollywood films, literature, bad publicity, the Holocaust, and using quotes from newspapers, magazines and bigotry of American scholars. Poles were looked upon as uneducated, dirty and violent.

The negative image of Poles has been fueled by the news media by publishing such misnomers as World War II "Polish" death camps, and catch phrases like "crimes of the Poles against Jews."

It is a book I would rather not read, preferring to ignore the stereotype Goska so soundly presents. It is difficult to admit these images exist, even though I have encountered them.

Her book concludes with interviews in which forty-four Americans of Jewish descent provide a picture of modern prejudice and how it developed. They are from all walks of life, and from fourteen European countries and it shows prejudices travel across the ocean and continue to grow. The book recommends we all look at stereotypes and recognize how easy it is to let them control what we think and do. Will analyzing and discussing these stereotypes provide a means of making it go away?

### HAYWIRE, A NOVEL

by Thaddeus Rutkowski

Starcherone Books, 2011, 298 pp., \$18.00

Rutkowski's novel takes the reader through his life in the form of first person. We are never given the protagonist's name. His childhood memories were dominated by a strict unloving father who thought it was beneath himself to work, spending much of his time at the local bar. He takes the boy hunting, collecting nuts, mushrooms and berries so they could live off the land.

In school he is a brain, forced by his father to memorize pages of "Pan Tadeusz." Raised by this Polish American father, who considers himself a Pole, and a Chinese mother, he felt bi-racial and uncomfortable with others. He gets in trouble in school, setting off rockets and disrupting the chemistry lab. In college he discovers he has obsessive fetishes about tying girls up to give him a high. In his recovery meetings from sexual compulsion, he learns about romantic compulsion, self abusers and porn fiends, faggots and digital pornography. He and his partner move to a new apartment where they have a child and struggle to find meaning in their lives. He wonders if his daughter sees him as a father figure or a booty butt, a trusted advisor or a stupid head.

Rutkowski provides these forty-nine short stories

with words that are sparse, descriptive and full of meaning.

### MAPS AND SHADOWS

by Krysia Jopek

Aquila Polonica, 2010

illustrations, maps, bibliography, 155 pp., \$14.95

Jopek provides an interesting viewpoint in this ordeal of the four Jopeks during World War II. Each chapter carries the voice of a family member as they are forced from their home in eastern Poland to the frozen tundra of Siberia in 1940. Poland had been wiped off the map and for two years, the homeless barely exist with hunger, exhaustion and cold as their constant companions. They are forced to work if they want to eat. When amnesty is announced two years later, the Polish deportees are allowed to leave. This amnesty was granted when Russia needed more men to fight the Germans, and a Polish army was formed in Iran.

A camp was established in Tehran for the thousands of deportees and military soldiers who now had to contend with the heat instead of cold. Traveling from Tehran to Bagdad, to Tengeru, across Africa and France to their destination in London, each family member offers their view. Separated during this time, they finally find each other and attempt to make a life for themselves. They find work and attend school. In 1951 the U.S. grants forty thousand visas to the deportees and the family is able to travel to New York and Canada in separate ships. A final reunion takes place in Brooklyn at the home of a family relative. In 1952 part of the family joins another relative in Connecticut, where Henryk is drafted into the Army, which he serves for two years.

Jopek has provided a tender reminiscence of the trying war years and the horrible difficulties they experienced both in prose and poetry scattered throughout the book. The author, herself was adopted as an infant by a survivor of the Soviet labor camps and his Polish-American wife. This book is based on their life.

### TO KILL THE OTHER

by Danuta Hinc

Tate Publishing, 2010,

276 pp., \$18.99

Taber is a reluctant hijacker in a dilemma. He believes in his Islamic state and society, their religion, ideology and practices. In the process of learning to be a man and to serve God, he believes he has a right to kill, in the name of Allah. Beneath all his beliefs lies a doubt which nags at him.

Hinc provides a dreamlike atmosphere, imagery and descriptions of the Afghans who were betrayed by the Russians, and later the Americans, leaving destruction and havoc behind. When the United States occupied the Arabian Peninsula, the holiest of places, the Muslims felt compelled to rid the earth of all who did not believe in their God. Taber, in spite of his doubts, is willing to sacrifice himself, to die for his God.

An interesting look into the mentality of a some believers who will go to any means to serve their God.

## PCCGH Celebrates 35th

HARTFORD, Conn. — The art deco ballroom of the Polish National Home was the scene of the Polish Cultural Club of Greater Hartford, Inc.'s gala 35th Anniversary Celebration on Sunday, September 18th. It was an afternoon filled with 35 years of warm club memories, a delicious meal, a fabulous presentation of Polish-American accordion music, topped off with a Sing-Along of treasured Polish songs. An important part of the celebration was Club President Cliff Archie's presentation of a painting entitled "Warsaw Castle Square" to Stanislaw Radosz, director of the Polish Center of Discovery and Learning, Chicopee, Massachusetts. The painting was generously donated by Mrs. Eleanor (Lottie) Poznaniak, founder and first president of the Club, and will become part of the permanent collection of the Polish Center.

Celebration organizers paid tribute to the thirteen original founders of the Club and presented commemorative engraved lockets to the nine surviving founders. The event featured a "Walk Down Memory Lane" with posters showing photographs and memorabilia from Club events over the past 35 years. The featured performer, accordionist Gary Sredzienski, gave a colorful presentation on the history of



PHOTO BY FRANK PUDIC

**CLIFF ARCHIE** (right), president of the Polish Cultural Club of Greater Hartford, Inc. presents an oil painting entitled "Warsaw Castle Square" to Stanislaw Radosz, director of the Polish Center of Discovery and Learning, Chicopee, Massachusetts.

Polish American accordion music, complete with anecdotes on the acquisition of some of the over 70 instruments in his personal collection. Sredzienski's dynamic show filled the ballroom with bright smiles, tapping feet and hearts full of warm memories from years ago brought back by his passionate music. He played a variety of accordions seemingly effortlessly, even though they weighed up to 40 lbs. each! He performed non-stop for over an hour, giving the audience an unforgettable musical experience.

Sredzienski is clearly in great shape, due, in part, to the marathon swimming for charity he often takes on. He raised \$17,000.00 for the Krepels Brain Injury Foundation by swimming seven miles in the Atlantic during the month of February.

To learn more about the PCCGH, visit [www.polishculturalclub.org](http://www.polishculturalclub.org)

Need free help researching your Polish ancestors?

Want to provide help for those researching their Polish heritage?

Join **POLISH GENIUS**  
the Polish genealogy email list.

Over 750 members from all over the world. Our two moderators are from the USA and Poland. Check us out and ask the group a question.  
[http://groups.yahoo.com/group/polish\\_genius/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/polish_genius/)

HERITAGE / Ellye Slusarczyk

## A Polish Museum in Switzerland

Let us travel to Rapperswil, Switzerland and visit a Polish Museum.

Polish Count Władysław Broel-Plater founded the museum on October 23, 1870. Because of political unrest and the uncertainty of Poland's future, he felt there should be a refuge for his country's historic memorabilia. Why should Poland's treasures be dishonored and plundered? So the count took it upon himself to establish a place to promote Polish culture.

From 1870, the Museum was open to visitors, except for a brief hiatus from 1927-1936 and 1952-1975. Much of the culture of Poland now had a safe place in which to be displayed. Because of Switzerland's neutrality, generations of Polish refugees were not deprived of mementos of their own country.

Housed in Rapperswil Castle, built by Count Rapperswil, the property was leased for ninety-nine years from local authorities. Much needed restoration was paid for by Plater. Several librarians were employed by the Museum. A future noted novelist, Stefan Zeranski, was one of the librarians.

Then another novelist, Prus, visited for several months. Prus wrote that Rapperswil was a small village of brick. It impressed him that almost every house had a little garden. He described the village as being bathed in a sea of roses. From his experiences, he wrote that the Swiss were kind, honest, and industrious.

On the Museum's facade, in 1860, Plater had Etar columns built. These columns commemorated Poland's then-century long struggle for independence. An eagle rests on top of the columns. At their base is a Latin inscription, "Magna reslibertus" — "A great thing is history." Also their base is the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth Coat-of-Arms.

Its library has always been known to be chilly, temperature wise. Large and roomy, it still serves its purpose. Over the years it has received many valuable collections and archival pieces. At the turn of the 20th century, the Rapperswil Polish Museum had the largest Polish Library outside of Poland.

Visit Rapperswil, a showpiece of Polish culture.

## 14KT. GOLD JEWELRY



ALL SHOWN ACTUAL SIZE • All items are 14KT Solid Yellow Gold.

### Description

- A. Polish Princess
- B. #1 Babcia (Script)
- C. #1 Babcia (Block)
- D. Small Eagle
- E. Medium Eagle
- F. Large Eagle
- G. Large Heavy Eagle
- H. Extra Heavy Eagle
- I. #1 Mamusia (Block)
- J. #1 Tatus (Block)
- K. #1 Ciocia (Block)
- L. Tie Tacks of D, E, F, G

Some items available in sterling silver.  
Please write or call for pricing.

Golden Lion Jewelry  
P.O. Box 199  
Port Reading, NJ 07064  
(908) 862-1927

(Add \$6.00 Postage & Handling for each item)  
Prices subject to change

Please allow 10-14 days for delivery. If not satisfied, return for refund within 15 days.

New Jersey residents must add 7% sales tax.  
New York & Mass. residents add appropriate sales tax.

For information about our Fraternal, its history, and the kinds of plans that we offer, visit our website at

www.SonsofPoland.com

or call us at (201) 935-2807

Celebrating Our 2nd Century of Fraternalism

THIS PAGE IS SPONSORED BY

The Association of the Sons of Poland

333  
HACKENSACK  
STREET



CARLSTADT  
NEW JERSEY  
07072

Our plans of insurance include: Endowments, Single Premium Life, Five- and Twenty-Payment Life, Five-year Benefactor Plan with Beneficiary as a charity, and Children's Term. Benefits include scholarships for HS Seniors planning to go to college, the free ScriptSave Prescription card; Dental and wellness/health plans including LifeLine Screening.

## AMERICAN POLONIA AT A GLANCE

**MIAMI, Florida** — The **Polish American Club of Miami, Inc.**, 1250 NW 22nd Ave, Miami, (305) 635-2240, presents on Sunday, November 6, "Dzien Niepodleglosci, the 93rd Anniversary of Polish Independence Day." 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Special guests of honor will be Bishop Thomas Wenski and Deputy Supreme Allied Commander at NATO General Mieczyslaw Bienik. Admission fee \$25.00 adults, \$5.00 children. Program includes Dinner/Dance and an audio visual program of 1000 years of Polish history.

**BALTIMORE, Maryland** — PNA Council 21's **Henryk Sienkiewicz Polonia Library** announces *The Sky Is The Limit Theatre* (a program of the Baltimore County Department of Recreation & Parks' Office of Therapeutic Recreation Services) will present "SMOK - An Adaptation of the Wawel Dragon Myth," featuring Ojczyzna Polish Folk Dance Ensemble and selected piano pieces from Robert Pula on Sunday, November 13, 2011 at 2:00 PM at North Point Government Center, 1747 Merritt Boulevard (at Wise Ave.).

For more information, contact Larry Janowski at (410) 866-6419.

**BALTIMORE, Maryland** — U.S. Senator **Barbara A. Mikulski** (D-Md.) was inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame in Seneca Falls, New York.

Mikulski was the first Democratic woman Senator elected in her own right. On January 5, 2011, she became the longest serving woman Senator in American history. As a United States Senator, Mikulski puts her values into action to make a difference in people's lives, fighting for access to quality education, standing up for America's seniors, working on the side of cures and re-

search, leading on women's health, fighting for America's veterans and military families, and supporting volunteers and national service.

"Growing up in my ethnic neighborhood in Baltimore, I never dreamed of becoming a U.S. Senator." Said Mikulski. "Only in America would my story have been possible. Only in America do we have this incredible right to speak your mind."

**HAMTRAMCK, Mich.** — Representative **Marcy Kaptur** (D-OH) visited the **Piast Institute** at the close of its quarterly Board Meeting to discuss the development of a youth exchange between Poland and the United States through the scouting programs of both countries. The exchange will be initiated in honor of Marian Wojciechowski and his wife Zofia, both decorated heroes of the Polish Resistance in World War II. Zofia Wojciechowska worked through the Polish Scouting movement during the war organizing resistance at Nazi concentration camps such as Ravensbruck.

The program will be done jointly with the historic Polish Cavalry School at Grudziadz, Poland, which sponsors scouting activities. Representative Kaptur, who visited the Cavalry School with Colonel Wojciechowski in 2009, is the longest serving woman in the U.S. House of Representatives.

**MINNEAPOLIS** — The Polish American Cultural Institute of Minnesota's popular **Polish Soup Festival**, a soup tasting/sampling of a variety of broths and the like, will be held on Nov. 6, 2011 from 3:00 to 5:30 p.m. in Kolbe Hall, lower level of John Paul II School, Holy Cross Church complex at 17th Avenue and Fourth Street NE. Handicap parking and elevator entrance at rear of the

building are accessed by the alley between the church and school.

The event includes a dozen different soups, bread, beverages and dessert. Cost is \$12 for adults/\$10 for PACIM members, \$6 for children (little ones free). Tickets can be obtained at [www.pacim.org](http://www.pacim.org) or at the door. Any soup remaining at 5:30 p.m. will be sold.

**MINNEAPOLIS** — On December 1, there will be a Research in Progress Talk, 12-1:30 p.m., at 308 Andersen Library, University of Minnesota. The talk — **Polonia, Citizenship and Politics, 1944-1980** — will be given by Florence Vychytil-Baudoux, Fulbright Fellow at the IHRC, l'Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales (Paris).

Elmer L. Andersen Library is located at 222 21st Ave. S., Minneapolis, on the West Bank. Don't get it mixed up with Anderson Hall, which is also on the West Bank.

**MINNEAPOLIS** — The Polonie Club will host a traditional **Polish Wigilia dinner** at Jax Cafe, 1928 University Ave. NE, Dec. 4. For more information, contact [polonie@polonieclubmplsstpaul.com](mailto:polonie@polonieclubmplsstpaul.com).

**CARLSTADT, New Jersey** — The **Association of the Sons of Poland** is sponsoring a Heritage Tour to Poland, August 12 - 26, 2012. Warsaw, Gdansk, Torun, Wroclaw, Krakow, Zakopane, and Rzeszow are scheduled stops. All-inclusive cost from New York: \$3,360.

If your reservation is made before the end of this year, once the form is received by the ASOP agent with PAT Tours, she will contact LOT Airlines for the best deal. Then, you will need to pay the cost of the ticket at that time. The balance will then be due in June but by making reservations earlier, the cost of the trip may be less than advertised.

For more information and a flyer to be sent to you, contact Dorothy Kostecka-Wieczerek, Secretary of the Association of the Sons of Poland at [sonsofpoland@yahoo.com](mailto:sonsofpoland@yahoo.com) or (201) 937-2807 to have one mailed.

**GOSHEN, N.Y.** — The **Hudson Valley Polonaise Society** will hold its 2011 Wigilia Supper, Sun., Dec. 4, at 5:00 p.m. at the Pine Island PLAV Hall. For tickets and information, call Joan at (845) 325-9608.

This year, the organization, celebrating its 20th anniversary, will honor its founders and members who contributed to its success.

**NEW YORK** — Congresswoman **Nydia Velazquez** agreed to sign on as another co-sponsor of the new Visa Waiver bill H.R. 959 that would allow Polish citizens to finally travel to the United States on the same basis as those from so many other countries.

Frank Milewski, president of the Downstate N.Y. Division of the Polish American Congress, personally thanked the Brooklyn legislator for her support and for taking the extra step to be a co-sponsor as they prepared to march at the October 2nd Pulaski Day Parade in New York.

"What could be a better occasion than the Pulaski Parade to express our appreciation of her support," said Milewski.

**BUFFALO** — Violet Kolecki, widow of author John Kolecki, reminds all that copies of "Spy - Sz-

## Building Polish-Cuban Friendship



### ¡POLONIA LIBRE... CUBA PRONTO!

**PAJ SUBSCRIBER** Denis Mirek produced a series of bumper stickers, magnets, and window decals promoting Polish-Cuban friendship. Mirek, who lives and works with many Cubans in Miami, was amazed to learn how many of them looked to Poland as an example of found freedom after years of communist oppression.

"Like Poland, many Cubans feel they were forgotten, but realize that once they are rid of the oppression of communism, they, too, will prosper," said Mirek.

Besides years under government domination, both countries share Roman Catholicism as their major religion.

"Poland is a special country for Cuba and Cubans," said Mirek. "Miami is fifty percent Cuban. Lech Walesa visited the city twice, which gave them hope. They love him."

The bumper sticker above translates to: "Poland is free ... soon Cuba will be!"

**pieg - Spion**" are still available. The historical fiction takes places during the Revolutionary War and is about Sebastyn, a Polish knight who was Washington's linchpin in the decisive victory over the Hessians at the Battle of Trenton.

"It is a love story untold in unfamiliar circumstances, simple, beautiful, in historical backgrounds which encompasses the 18th and 20th centuries in Europe and America," says the publisher.

To order, call (716) 693-598, or send \$10.95 plus \$2.50 s&h to Violet Kolecki, 196 Warner Ave., N. Tonawanda, NY 14120.

Kolecki is also the author of "Hybrid Amerykaniec" and "On the Avenues."

**DUBLIN, Ohio** — The City Council voted to set aside 40 acres of Kosciuszko's former property as "**Thaddeus Kosciuszko Park**." Kosciuszko was awarded 500 acres on the Scioto River near Columbus for his service in the Continental Army during the American Revolution.

Fred Hahn, Dublin's Director of Parks & Open Space, wrote to Alex Storozynski, president of the Kosciuszko Foundation and author of "The Peasant Prince: Thaddeus Kosciuszko and the Age of Revolution," to say that his book inspired the naming of the new park in Kosciuszko's honor.

The park is to be dedicated in Spring 2012. Hahn said, "This winter we will be working on educational signage for the park, explaining who Kosciuszko was and why he was so important to American and world history."

**AVONDALE, Pa.** — Sat., Nov. 5. **AMPOL** (Americans of Polish Descent) 49th Annual Jesienny Bal (Harvest Ball). Hartefeld National Country Club. Music, five-course meal, open bar, silent auction. 6:00-11:00 p.m. Info contact Chris Podsiad (302) 547-4668 or [DelawareAmpol@AOL.com](mailto:DelawareAmpol@AOL.com).

**PHILADELPHIA** — Fri., Nov. 11 and Sat., Nov. 12. **Christmas Bazaar**, St. John Cantius Parish Hall, Almond & Orthodox Streets, Bridesburg section. Fri. 6:00-9:00 p.m.; Sat., 4:00-9:00 p.m. Games,

Polish food and much more. Everyone invited. Info call rectory (215) 535-6667.

**MANAYUNK, Pa.** — Sat., Nov. 12. **St. Josaphat Christmas Bazaar**. Parish Hall, 124 Cotton Street. 10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. Games of chance, refreshments and much more. Info call (215) 483-4470.

**PHILADELPHIA** — Sat., Nov. 12. **Polish Heritage Society of Philadelphia** honors Marie Sklodowska Curie on the 100th Anniversary of her Nobel Prize in Chemistry. Fishers Tudor House "Garden Room" in Bensalem. 6:00 p.m. Info / reservations call Teresa Wojcik (215) 752-9270.

**CONSHOHOCKEN, Pa.** — Sun., Nov. 13. **Christmas Bazaar**. St. Mary Parish, Oak and West Elm Streets. 11:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m. Games of chance, Polish kitchen and more. Info (610) 828-0260.

**PHILADELPHIA** — Sun. Nov. 13. **Polski Uniwersytet Ludowy Lecture in the Polish language**, Associated Polish Home, 9150 Academy Road. 3:00 p.m. Speaker: Spotkanie autorskie Tomasz Maslowski. Topic "Wielcy Polacy. Polonjna Witryna." Free. Info call (215) 624-9954. On Sun., Dec. 4, Ryszard Druch will discuss "100 Salonor Artystycznych Ryszarda Drucha. Oryginalna forma promocji polskiej kultury i sztuki w USA."

**PHILADELPHIA** — Nov. 19-20. **Holiday Bazaar/Flea Market**, St. Valentine Parish Hall, 2330 Margaret St. Sat., 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.; Sun. 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Refreshments, holiday crafts, and more. Everyone invited. Info call Fran Bonikowski (215) 632-1816.

**PHILADELPHIA** — Sun., Nov. 20. **Polish Movie Classic**. Movie in Polish with English subtitles, Associated Polish Home Ballroom, 9150 Academy Road, Northeast Philadelphia. Refreshments, 3:00 p.m. Movie at 4:00 p.m. Info call Debbie Majka (215) 627-1391.

**READING** — Sun., Nov. 20. **Christmas Bazaar**, St. Mary Parish, 12th & Spruce Streets. 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Crafts, games, rummage sale, Polish food, and more. Info call (610) 376-6321.

**PHILADELPHIA** — Sun., Dec. 4. **Christmas Bazaar**. St. Stanislaus Hall. 3rd and Fitzwater Streets, Noon to 4:00 p.m. Games of chance, food and much more. Info call rectory (215) 468-1922. Everyone invited!

## PAJ SUBSCRIPTION FORM

### NEW SUBSCRIBER

Fill out form. If **gift subscription**, please fill out address of recipient.

### RENEWAL

Please include address label from paper

### ADDRESS CHANGE

Enter new address below. Please include address label from paper.

KEEP OUR POLISH HERITAGE ALIVE!  
SUBSCRIBE TO THE PAJ TODAY!

1 YEAR—\$21.00

2 YEARS—\$39.00

3 YEARS—\$54.00

### PAYMENT ENCLOSED

**PLEASE BILL ME** Your subscription will not begin until your check clears.

### CHARGE TO MY:

MASTERCARD

VISA

AMEX

DISCOVER

**FOREIGN and CANADIAN RATES:** See prices printed on page 2. For library, institution, and bulk rates, please call 1 (800) 422-1275

CARD NO.

EXP. DATE

CSV CODE

NAME

NO. STREET

APT. NO.

CITY, STATE, ZIP

**MOVING? Please note the Post Office will NOT FORWARD SECOND-CLASS MAIL. If you move, you must notify our office.**

### THREE EASY WAYS TO SUBSCRIBE!

**MAIL TO:** PAJ SUBSCRIPTION DEPARTMENT  
P.O. BOX 328, BOSTON, NY 14025-0328

**CALL:** 1 (800) 422-1275 or (716) 312-8088  
M-F 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. EST

**ON LINE:** [www.polamjournal.com](http://www.polamjournal.com)  
SECURE SERVER (Amex, Disc., MC, Visa, and PayPal)

**www.SweetPoland.com**



**dedicated to bring the best Polish gourmet food products directly to your Thanksgiving table**

Traditional Polish cold cuts: kielbasy, hams, smoked meats, Polish pierogi, bread and cakes, sweet delights, soups and wild mushrooms, gift baskets

**Questions and Catalog Requests**  
**1-800-277-0407**

**POLISH CHEF / Robert Strybel** | **FUND-RAISING AND HERITAGE PROMOTION / Robert Strybel**

## Plan Ahead to Make this Year's Wigilia the Best Ever

Here are some of the best-known dishes of Polish Wigilia, Christmas Eve supper – the most important family meal of the year. Some recipes have been simplified somewhat and adapted to today's more convenient ingredients and less labor-intensive procedures.

**CHRISTMAS WAFER (oplatek).** Wigilia begins with the sharing of the white Christmas wafer (oplatek) during which best wishes are exchanged. The ritual is complete when everyone has hugged, kissed and shared oplatek with everyone else present.

**PICKLED HERRING (śledź marynowany).** Soak 4-6 Matjes herring fillets in cold water 1-4 hrs. Taste a small piece after an hr of soaking to see if it is not too salty. If still quite salty, continue soaking. (Unlike traditional salt herring require overnight soaking and changing waters), Matjes herring are lightly salted and come packaged. While they soak, in saucepan combine 1 c 6% distilled vinegar and 1 c water 1 bay leaf, 6 peppercorns, 2 grains allspice, 1 t mustard seed and from 1 heaping t to 1 heaping T sugar. Bring to boil and simmer covered on low 10 min. Switch off heat and let stand until cooled to room temp. Dry fillets well on paper towel, slice into 1-1/2" pieces and layer with wafer-thin small onion slices in a jar or crockery bowl. Drench with marinade and seal jar or cover bowl and refrigerate at least 24 hrs before serving. Serve with rye bread or boiled potatoes.

**CLEAR BEETROOT BORSCHT (czysty barszcz czerwony).** Soak 2-3 dried bolete mushrooms in 1 c warm water several hrs, cook in same water until tender and set aside. Peel and coarsely grate 1 lb beets, pre-baked in oven until fork-tender and cool enough to handle, and combine with 5 c vegetable stock. Add the mushroom liquid (reserve mushrooms for your sauerkraut dish below), 1 large, peeled, coarsely-grated apple. Bring to

boil and simmer 2 min. Add 1 bud crushed garlic and (optional) 1/4 c dry red wine. Strain, discarding contents of sieve. Season soup to taste with salt, pepper, lemon juice and a little sugar until you achieve just the right tangy taste you want. Serve in bowls with traditional uszka (ear-dumplings).

**LITTLE-EAR DUMPLINGS (uszka):** Save mushroom stock for clear mushroom soup (below). Soak 1 slice French bread in 1/2 c warm water. Chop and sauté 1 coarsely-chopped onion in 2 T butter until tender and lightly browned. Pass mushrooms, onion and squeezed-out pre-soaked bread through food chopper or process briefly. Add 1/4 c bread crumbs, stir in 1 egg white, salt & pepper to taste and mix well. Filling should be on the stiff side, so if it's mushy, stir in a little more bread crumbs and set aside. Sift 1 c flour onto bread-board, work in egg yolk and just enough water (roughly 1/2 c) to bind ingredients into a dough. Knead until smooth, roll out very thin and cut into 1-1/2" squares. Place a little filling on each square, fold 2 opposite points together to form a triangle and pinch shut. Gently pull 2 ends of the triangle, join into a ring and pinch them together. Cook in lightly-salted boiling water without crowding until uszka float up. Remove with slotted spoon and serve.

**CLEAR DRIED MUSHROOM SOUP. (czysta zupa grzybowa z suszonych grzybów).** If you have cooked bolete mushrooms for ear-dumplings (above), an easy way to prepare this soup is simply to combine the leftover mushroom stock with enough vegetable stock to make 5 c. Season with a little salt & pepper and (optional) a few drops of Kitchen Bouquet, bring to boil and serve over cooked egg noodles or cooked lasagna, cut into 1" squares. If you have no leftover mushroom stock, rehydrate and cook 1 oz dried boletes. When tender, slice into strips or dice and add, together with the mushroom stock to enough vegetable stock to make 5 c. Add a mushroom bouillon cube, bring to boil, simmer briefly and salt & pepper to taste. Garnish with a little freshly-chopped parsley if desired.

**FRIED FISH FILLETS (filety rybne smażone).** Rinse well and pat dry 2 lbs fresh or thawed freshwater filets. (Walleye, whitefish, pike, lake perch, catfish, cod, haddock, plaice, fresh herring, etc. are good.) Place in bowl, salt well and intersperse with 1 thinly sliced onion and 1 small sliced lemon. Cover and refrigerate overnight. Next day, discard onion and lemon, rinse filets and dry well on paper towel. Season with pepper and sweet paprika (the overnight salting may suffice), dredge in flour, shaking off excess, and fry in 1/2" hot oil to a nice golden brown on both sides. Drain on absorbent paper before serving.

*continued next month*

## Organize a Polish Christmas Fair or Bazaar

One reason PolAms drift away from their heritage is that its traditions are not being reinforced by America's mainstream media establishment, and the necessary artifacts are not always readily available. But, since many Polish Americans tend to become just a tad more nostalgic at holiday time and often think back to the customs and comfort foods of their childhood, this is a good time to encourage them to "come home for Christmas."

A Christmas bazaar, fair, bake sale or other such event provides a good opportunity to provide people with some of the ethnic goods that may be lacking in their immediate neighborhoods. This serves a two-fold purpose: it helps promote our beautiful Polish Christmas heritage, while raising funds for some worthwhile Polonian cultural, educational or charitable cause.

Your area's local market potential, popular interest, the size of the premises hosting the event and the availability of volunteer manpower should all be taken into account when planning to hold this or any other community affairs. The success of a bazaar could well depend on whether it is held in a rented hall or a church basement provided by the parish free of charge. The same goes for volunteers setting up tables and stands and helping to run the function as opposed to hired help, professional caterers, security guards and suchlike.

A Polonian bazaar may offer:

**CHRISTMAS ITEMS:** Oplatek, hay, books and DVDs on Polish Yule traditions, kolędy CDs and sheet music, greeting cards, St. Nick stickers, imported tree decorations, Christmas cribs and other holiday supplies and artifacts.

**GIFT ITEMS:** Books, maps, recording, folkcrafts, crystalware, amber, folk costumes, wood carvings, hand-carved toys, wall-hangings, paintings and ethnic novelty items (e.g. "Kiss me I'm Polish" T-shirts).

**IMPORTED SWEETS:** Ptasie Mleczko, Śliwki w Czekoladzie, Krówki ("little cow" Polish fudge), Torcik Wedlowski (chocolate-frosted Wedel wafer torte), Pierniczki, Delicje Szampańskie (chocolate-covered sponge biscuits with orange jam), assorted chocolate bars and other sweets.

**IMPORTED DELICACIES:** Dried mushrooms, mushroom bouillon cubes, soup mixes, heat & eat carton soups, smoked sprats (Baltic sardines) and other canned fish, fruit syrups, jams, honey, etc.

**BAKED GOODS:** Prepared by your club volunteers or outsourced from local Polish bakeries could include: Polish rye bread, chałka, babka, placek, makowiec, keks, sernik, piernik, kołaczki, etc.

**WIGILIA FOODS:** Home-made or outsourced soups (esp. mushroom and clear beetroot), uszka, pierogi, pickled herring, sauerkraut & mushrooms, cabbage & noodles, poppyseed noodles, etc.

**JOINING AN EXISTING**

**FAIR:** If your group lacks the experience, manpower or whatever to organize a bazaar of its own, another option is the rent a table at an existing Christmas bazaar, craft fair or other such holiday function in your area. That may limit things to just one Polish stand, but it's still a lot better than nothing!

Over the years, many PolAm groups have had good results by obtaining Polish goods on consignment. That means you pay for only the items you actually sell at your bazaar and return the rest. One supplier that provides good discounts on bulk orders is the Polish Art Center of Hamtramck, Mich., which will dispatch consignments of Polish goods to every corner of the United States. Check out what's available at: www.polartcenter.com.

**ADVERTISING IS A MUST!** Whatever form your project takes, like every event it needs to be publicized. Making extensive use of all available media – radio, TV and Internet community calendars, parish bulletins and posters – can make the difference between success or failure. Having kolędy recordings played softly in the background at your bazaar will help get people in a Polish Christmas mood. A craft and/or cooking demonstration may prove popular, and a visit from Święty Mikołaj will certainly perk up the interest of youngsters in the crowd.



**Help Us Promote Our Polish Heritage! Be Part of Our**

# CHRISTMAS 2011 EDITION

We cordially invite our readers to participate in the Christmas 2011 edition of the Polish American Journal. We are always proud to carry a message at Christmas from our readers and supporters to others of Polish heritage across the country. To us, it is not only financial assistance (we are not a profit-making venture), but a demonstration of the good will that exists between all Americans of Polish descent and the newspaper published solely in their interest.

We thank you in advance for your support. You make the PAJ possible!

**YES!** I want to do my share to keep alive our Polish traditions and customs by being part of the Polish American Journal's Christmas 2011 edition. Please find a contribution in the amount of:  \$10  \$20  \$25  \$50  \$75  \$100  \$250  Other \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ORGANIZATION (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR MESSAGE (Use additional sheet if necessary) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Print address in advertisement?  Yes  No      Print telephone number in advertisement?  Yes  No

**To guarantee placement of your patron ad in the Special 2011 Christmas Edition, clip form and return by NOVEMBER 15, 2011. Mail to:**  
**POLISH AMERICAN JOURNAL, P.O. BOX 328, BOSTON, NY 14025**  
**(716) 312-8088 • (800) 422-1275**

**NEW FOR CHRISTMAS 2011 — AUDIO CD FROM POLONIAMUSIC.COM**

**Graj, Panu, Graj!**  
23 Instrumental Kolędy i Pastorałki Treasures



Available for instant download at: **WWW.POLONIAMUSIC.COM** or send check or money order payable to **ROBERT JOHNSON** in the amount of \$14.95 (No charge for shipping) to:  
**ROBERT JOHNSON**  
**POLONIA MUSIC**  
**4 CANTERBURY RD. #1**  
**ROCHESTER, NY 14607**

**Are You Ready for Your Polish Christmas?** Order these products and more at [PolAmJournal.com](http://PolAmJournal.com) or call (800) 422-1275, Mon.-Fri., 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. EST  
 USE FORM BELOW FOR ALL ITEMS ON THIS PAGE. Use form on page 8 for items on pages 9 and 11. Forms can be mailed together.



**#9284 Lullaby Jesus Shirts and Hoodies**  
 These apparel items feature the lyrics to the popular Polish carol Lulajże, Jezuniu (Lullaby, Jesus) over a nativity scene. Long sleeve and short sleeve shirts are available in White, Black, Ash, Red, Navy Blue, and Green.  
**T-Shirts**  
 S-XL \$19.95  
 XXL \$21.95  
 XXXL \$22.95  
**Long Sleeve Shirt**  
 S-XL \$21.95  
 XXL \$23.95  
**Black Hoodie** S-XXXL \$49.95  
**Mocha Hoodie** S-XXL \$49.95



**Wooden Creches**  
 These Creches are hand made out of natural products by skilled artisans in Poland. The artist uses wood, plaster, paper, bark, moss and selected grass planted for hay. Each piece may vary slightly from what is pictured due to being made by hand.  
**A. #VA004 11" long \$39.95**  
**B. #VA003 8" long \$29.95**  
**C. #VA001 Large Jesus \$10.95**  
**D. #VA002 Small Jesus \$8.95**



**Free Shipping**  
 with an order of  
**\$120 or more**



**Large Wooden Creche**  
 Handcrafted in Poland, this wooden creche resembles a Polish highlander's shed. Inside the shed are non-moveable figures of Mary and Joseph standing over baby Jesus who is lying in the manger filled with hay. Measures approx. 10.4" Long x 6.6" Wide x 12.0" Tall.  
**#LA001 \$99.95**



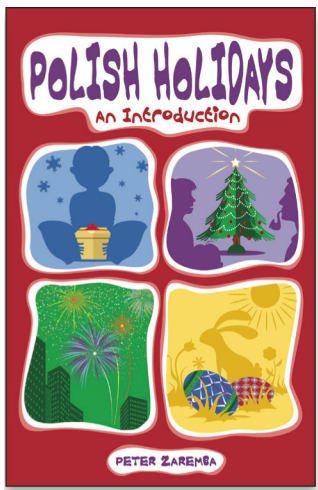
**Silver Plated Wall Hanging Crucifix #1**  
 Measures: 3.69" W x 5.9" H x 0.13" D  
**#ARP486 \$127.95**



**Silver Plated Wall Hanging Crucifix #2**  
 Measures: 3.0" W x 4.7" H x 0.13" D  
**#ARP485 \$66.95**



**Gypsum Figures - Nativity Set with Hay, 14 Pieces**  
 Pieces included are: Mary (2.8" H), Joseph (3.7" H), Baby Jesus in the manger (0.8" H), the Three Wise Men (3.0"-3.75" H), a Shepherd (3.6" H), two oxen (1.8" H), a pair of camels (2.4" H), and four sheep (1.0"-1.25" H). Figures measure approx. 0.8" - 3.75" Tall  
**#LA002 \$24.95**



**Book - Polish Holidays: An Introduction**  
 Contained within is information, pictures, recipes, and songs. Holidays include: the Harvest Festival (Dożynki), All Saints' Day (Zaduszki), St. Nicholas' Day (Mikołajki), Christmas Eve (Wigilia), Christmas (Boże Narodzenie), New Year's Eve (Sylwester), Three Kings (Trzej Królowie), Carnival (Karnawał), Fat Thursday (Tusty Czwartek), and Easter (Wielkanoc). Measures 5.5" x 8.5", 28 pages, English Language Version  
**#BK2573 \$9.95**



**Christmas Karaoke VCDs \$19.95 each**  
 Play this VCD on your DVD player and watch the lyrics to the song pop up before your eyes. This is Polish Karaoke at it's finest, fun for everyone! The lyrics are in Polish.  
**#RMVCD91 Vol. 1**  
**#RMVCD92 Vol. 2**



**Wawel Dragon Plush Toy**  
 Measures 10" H. Not suitable for children under the age of three. Made in Poland.  
**#PLU102 \$24.95**



**Pewter Keepsake Boxes**  
 These boxes are richly embellished with ornate floral designs, which revolve around centralized Polish White Eagles. All the designs are in relief raising up from the background. The box has a hinged lid and soft black velvet lines the inside of the box and the lid to provide gentle protection for the keepsakes.  
**#FAN102 Box - 3.4" L x 2.5" W x 2.0" H \$19.95**  
**#FAN101 Oval - 3.4" L x 2.75" W x 1.6" H \$19.95**



**Set of 5 Polish Christmas Cards with Cutouts**  
**#PCS701 \$14.95**

**Set of 10 Polish Christmas Cards**  
**#PCS207 \$9.95**

**HOW TO ORDER**

- MAIL IT IN.** Complete form. Send with check or money order payable to: "Polish American Journal."
- CALL IT IN.** 1 (800) 422-1275 (Toll Free) or (716) 312-8088, Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
- ORDER ON-LINE** at [www.palamjournal.com](http://www.palamjournal.com) SECURE SERVER!

• Orders for items not listed in this page will be returned.  
 • For deliveries to Alaska and Hawaii, add \$8.95 to shipping charges.

**From: POL-AM JOURNAL**  
**P.O. BOX 328, BOSTON, NY 14025**

**To: NAME** \_\_\_\_\_  
**ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_  
**CITY, STATE, ZIP** \_\_\_\_\_  
**PHONE** \_\_\_\_\_

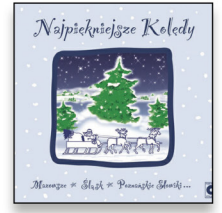
Item # & Description	Color	Size	Price	Qty.	Total

**Method of Payment:**  CHECK or MO enclosed  
 VISA  AMEX  MC  DISCOVER  
**Credit Card Account Number**  


**EXPIRATION**      **SECURITY CODE**

Merchandise Subtotal (US)
Sales Tax: NY residents 8.75%, FL 7%
Shipping & Handling (No charge for orders over \$120)
<b>Total to Submit to PAJ</b>

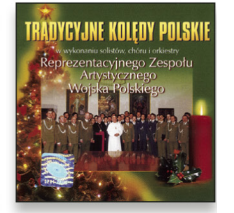
**Polish Christmas Carols on CD \$19.95 each**



16 Carols performed by Mazowsze, Śląsk, Nightingales, & Warsaw Choir - Koledy  
**#PNCD1230**



Jerzy Polomski, Irena Santor and Adam Zwierz. Legends of the Polish stage perform 16 Christmas carols.  
**#GM5550052**



18 beautiful Polish Christmas carols presented to Pope John Paul II by the Polish Army Choir.  
**#GM5550072**



15 popular Polish Christmas Carols performed by the Tatra Mountains Highlanders  
**#PM1692**



14 Carols performed by contemporary Polish soloist artists: Krzysztof Krawczyk, Magda Durecka, Urszula Sipinska, and more!  
**#GM5550032**



15 Christmas carols performed by the musical group "The White Snow".  
**#GM5550062**