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KOŚCIUSZKO: JOIN THE CELEBRATION! • **OUR LADY OF CZESTOCHOWA RECEIVES NEW CROWN** • **THE STORK DEPARTS**
DOCUDRAMA ABOUT FR. KOLBE PREMIERES AT CANNES • **OLS MISSION ESTABLISHES STANDARDIZED LANGUAGE TEST**
MORE OF BABCIA'S FAVORITE AUTUMN SOUPS • **"TASTE OF POLONIA" A SUCCESS** • **PULA TO DISCUSS KOSCIUSZKO**

OCTOBER IS ...
Polish American Heritage Month

A National Celebration of Polish History, Culture and Pride in Cooperation with the Polish American Congress and Polonia across America

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

Newsmark

WILL LARGE-SCALE POLISH TROOPS RETURN TO AFGHANISTAN? Poland's defense chief Antoni Macierewicz plans to hold talks at the Pentagon regarding Poland's possible troop contribution to the U.S.-led operation in Afghanistan. His visit came in response to President Donald Trump's diplomatic offensive to persuade allies to send more troops to that country. In August, a delegation of U.S. Congressmen visited Warsaw and met with Polish officials over Afghanistan, where the radical Islamic Taliban movement is once again posing a threat to that country's U.S.-backed government. Poland had fought in U.S.-led post-9/11 campaigns in Afghanistan with up to 2,600 troops stationed there in 2010-2012. At present, some 200 Polish soldiers are serving in Afghanistan in a training and advisory capacity. All told, Poland has suffered 44 war fatalities there since 2002.

REPARATION ISSUES DESERVE "CALM DISCUSSION" POLISH AND GERMAN PRESIDENTS SAY. Poland suffered the biggest losses in Europe during World War II, and its right to reparations has not expired, according to a study carried out by the Polish parliament. Under international law, the statute of limitations does not affect war crimes and crimes against humanity. German officials and media have been debunking Polish reparation claims, but a hopeful sign emerged during a recent meeting between the two countries top leaders. Polish President Andrzej Duda and his German counterpart Frank-Walter Steinmeier have discussed the political and legal aspects of the reparation issue and concluded that the matter requires "calm discussion."

HAILS SOVEREIGNTY, INDIRECTLY RAPS EU INTERFERENCE. Speaking at the 72nd United Nations National Assembly, Polish President Andrzej Duda thanked the 190 nations that had elected Poland as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council.

"Poland comes to the Security Council with values of social significance to Poles – above all our love of every nation's inviolable right to sovereignty and freedom," Duda said. He singled out "freedom of speech and the right of self-determination of sovereign national states."

Duda also warned against "manipulating political processes through propaganda or direct interference." Those remarks clearly indicated the Polish presidents' opposition to the muzzling of free speech under "political correctness," to attempts to turn the 27-nation bloc into a centralized bureaucracy and attacks on Poland for refusing to accept EU-imposed migrant quotas. "Our obligation is to eliminate the prime causes of migration and to restore everyone's right to live in their own homeland."

POLISH FRANCISCAN NUNS AMONG RECIPIENTS OF JEW-SAVING AWARD. Polish nuns belonging to the Franciscan Congregation of the Family of Mary were among this year's recipients of the "From the Depths Żabiński" award.

More than 100 nuns of that religious order had helped save over 750 Jews, mainly children and the elderly, but only a few were awarded the title of "Righteous Among The Nations."

Other recipients were the family of British Member of Parliament Daniel Kawczynski, whose uncle, his wife, and 10-year-old daughter were murdered by the Germans for hiding Jews in their home. This year's third recipient was Natalia Jakoniuk, whose family had concealed numerous Jews in their attic. Natalia, who was six when the war broke out, acted as a lookout to warn of approaching Germans. The award was set up to honor non-Jews who had saved Jews during the Holocaust but for technical reasons have not qualified for Yad Vashem's "Righteous Among Nations" prize.

On the Road with Lira



GREAT NEWS! The Polish American Journal is co-sponsoring the return to Buffalo of the renowned Lira Ensemble of Chicago in a concert titled: "A Polish Holiday – Carols, Song & Dance," on Saturday, December 9 at 7:30 p.m. at the Center for the Arts-University at Buffalo, 103 Center for Arts in Buffalo. Critics, both Polish-American and non-Poles, have raved about this show. For tickets, call (716) 645-ARTS or TicketFly (877) 987-6487.

Future of Orchard Lake Schools Topic of Public Discussion

ORCHARD LAKE, Mich. — The future of the Orchard Lake Schools – Ss. Cyril & Methodius Seminary, St. Mary's Preparatory – will be the subject of a public discussion, Saturday, October 28 at noon at the Shrine Chapel of Our Lady of Orchard Lake. The discussion was convened by the new Chancellor, the Very Rev. Canon Mirosław Król.

The "Orchard Lake Polish Pride Homecoming," with Mass followed by a public discussion, is intended to stimulate discussion of how "Orchard Lake" should continue to serve the needs of Polish-American Catholics in the twenty-first century. Founded in 1885 in Detroit to train clergy for the growing Polish American community, the Schools relocated to Orchard Lake in 1909. They include a high school level preparatory and a post-college seminary for training clergy and lay leaders. St. Mary's College, which served as the School's college, is now defunct and incorporated into Livonia University, which operates its second campus at Orchard Lake.

Fr. Król wants to focus on two questions: "how can Orchard Lake serve Polonia, Poland, and Poles?" and "What can Orchard Lake do to strengthen American Polonia and Catholic values?"

Declining numbers of seminarians has resulted in Orchard Lake focusing on preparing clerics from Poland for service in American dioceses. How best to serve the pastoral needs of American Polonia – from recent immigrants to an assimilating fourth and fifth generation – especially as the Polish American parish network is being shrunk by local bishops, poses questions Fr. Król wants Polonia, as the major stakeholder of the Schools, to address.

Russo-Belarusian Maneuvers Cause Concern along NATO's Eastern Flank

by Robert Strybel

WARSAW — Joint Russo-Belarusian war games code-named Zapad (West) 2017 near the borders of Poland and the Baltic States have caused jitters along NATO's eastern flank. The week-long maneuvers officially involved only 12,700 troops, since foreign observers must be invited only if more than 13,000 soldiers take part. But NATO sources believe that from 70,000 and 100,000 people could have been involved. It is widely remembered that in the past war games had preceded Russian invasions of Georgia and Ukraine. Top U.S. military officers feared the maneuvers could be used as a pretext to increase Russia's military presence in Belarus, a country that borders three critical NATO allies: Poland, Lithuania and Latvia.

Shh — Librarians Meet in Poland



Over 3,100 top-level library and information science and technology professionals met in Poland for the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions 83rd World Library and Information Congress. Opening ceremonies included performances by groups from the 122 participating countries.

\$31.1 Million Gates Grant Announced as Librarians from Around the World Unite in Poland around a Global Vision

WROCLAW, Poland — Nothing short of a unified global vision for the role of libraries around the world will satisfy the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), and a \$31.1 million grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation is now about to make that vision a reality.

Capping a 15-country \$13.5 million investment in the foundation's "Global Libraries" program, the grant to IFLA aims

to improve the lives of 1 billion "information poor" by positioning the world's 320,000 public libraries as "critical community assets and providers of information through relevant technologies" by 2030.

The grant was announced in Wrocław, where some 330 Americans registered for IFLA's 83rd World Library and Information Congress, August 19-26. The Congress is the world's largest such gathering, bringing together 3,100 top-level library and information science and technology professionals from academic, public, school, medical, technical, and government libraries from 122 countries. Bring-

See "Librarians ..." page 8

Almanac

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October  Październik

Polish American Heritage Month. Sponsored by the Polish American Congress, groups across America's Polonia celebrate Polonia's rich background in the United States.

Deszcz na Świętego Szymona i Judy. To Luty pełen śniegu i grudy. Ss. Simon and Jude (October 28) filled with rain, Snow and frozen ground through February remain.

- 1 1608. First Poles arrive in America to work as skilled craftsmen at Jamestown settlement.
- 2 1944. The **Warsaw Uprising** collapses after 63 days.
1412. **Union of Horodio** cements friendship of Poland and Lithuania.
- 3 1923. Birth of symphonic orchestra leader **Stanisław Skrowaczewski**.
- 4 1979. **Pope John Paul II's** first visit to United States begins.
- 5 **ST. FAUSTINA**
- 6 1873. Death of **Sir Paweł Strzelecki** (b. 1797), explorer of Australian continent who named its largest mountain after **Tadeusz Kosciuszko**.
ish National Catholic Church.
- 7 1960. U.S. stamp issued to honor **Ignacy Jan Paderewski**.
- 9 1435. Death of **Paweł Włodkowic**, model for Shakespeare's **Polonius** (Hamlet).
- 10 1733. France declares war on Austria over the question of Polish succession.
- 11 1779. Date traditionally observed in American Polonia as **Pulaski Day** in honor of death of **Casimir Pulaski**, 34, Polish-born American patriot.
- 14 1773. Poland creates the Commission of National Education.
1903. Birth of **Stefan Jarosz**, geographer who explored Alaska.
- 15 **ST. HEDWIG**
1582. Poland adopts the Gregorian calendar.
- 16 1978. Cardinal **Karol Wojtyła**, 58, named **Pope John Paul II**.
- 17 1777. Americans win crucial Revolutionary War **Battle of Saratoga**. Victory is credited in large to engineering feats of **Tadeusz Kosciuszko**.
- 18 1776. **Kosciuszko**, 30, Polish and American patriot, is given a commission in the American Revolutionary Army.
- 19 1466. **Treaty of Torun**.
- 20 1982. Death of **Korczak Ziolkowski**, sculptor.
- 21 1914. **Battle of Warsaw** ended with a German defeat.
- 22 1940. **Stan "Stas" Jasinski**, age 25, broadcasts his first Polish radio program in Buffalo.
- 24 1919. Birth of **Frank Piasecki**, inventor of the tandem-rotor helicopter.
- 25 1891. Death of **Paweł Stelmach**, writer and promoter of Polish heritage in Cieszyn, Silesia.
- 26 1940. Death of painter **Olga Boznanska**.
- 28 1824. Birth of **Father Leopold Bonawentura Moczygomba**.
- 29 1611. **Hetman Stefan Zolkiewski** returns to Warsaw from conquering the Muskovites brings with him the captured Czar.
- 29 1944. **Polish 1st Corps**, commanded by Gen. **Maczek**, takes Breda, Holland as part of the Allied invasion of Europe.
- 31 1940. Nazis declare this day as the deadline for Warsaw Jews to move into the Warsaw Ghetto.

This paper mailed on or before **September 29, 2017**. The November 2017 edition will be mailed on or before **November 1, 2017**

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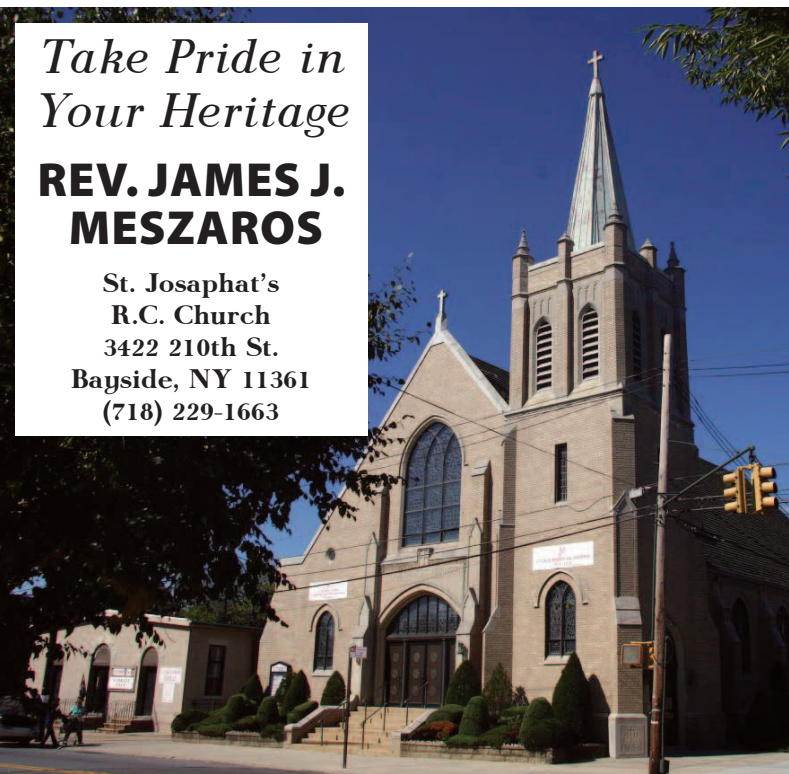
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Heritage Month

Kościuszko: Join the Celebration!

October 15th marks the 200th anniversary of General Thaddeus Kościuszko's passing. To celebrate this anniversary, the Embassy of the Republic of Poland invites *Polish American Journal* readers to participate in an initiative of the Embassy of Poland, "Find Your Kościuszko: Celebrate the Year of Kościuszko in Your Neighborhood."

It is believed that Polish and American war hero General Thaddeus Kościuszko has been honored with more statues, monuments and other memorials in the United States than any other Revolutionary War figure except, of course, George Washington himself.

"I invite all Polish Americans, friends of Poland and supporters of liberty to join in commemorating General Thaddeus Kościuszko" said Ambassador Piotr Wilczek, the honorary patron of Kościuszko 200 celebrations. "Thaddeus Kościuszko holds a special place in the history of Poland and the United States. He is a symbol of freedom and a model patriot who crossed an ocean to help the American people secure their independence."

General Thaddeus Kościuszko (1746-1817) is a hero of two nations who fought in the Continental Army for the independence of the United States of America. Kościuszko served seven years in the service of General George Washington and the American cause, proving instrumental in the American victory at the Battle of Saratoga and was responsible for overseeing the fortification of West Point. Described by Thomas Jefferson as "the purest son of liberty" Kościuszko was a strong proponent of universal liberty and human rights, who deeded his war-time pay to purchase freedom for American slaves.

There are Kościuszko namesakes all across America, reflecting the historic role he has played in the history of the United States. Find your local Thaddeus Kościuszko namesake and organize a Kościuszko 200 celebration on the weekend of October 14-15 in his honor.

LET US GATHER ALL ACROSS AMERICA to show that Kościuszko's legacy remains with us! Here are some tips on how to do that:

- Identify a Kościuszko namesake
- Invite community and regional

in your vicinity. Research online, visit your library, or ask around. See if there are any parks, streets, statues, memorials, plaques or other references to Kościuszko near you. If a statue is located in a park and is easily accessible, inquire whether any permits would be required to organize a gathering. If the object is not easily accessible (a bridge, for instance), see if there is a park or open space nearby that could be suitable for a gathering.

leaders to attend and speak about the contributions and legacy of General Thaddeus Kościuszko. For instance: mayors, historians, veterans, local and state representatives, clergy and others. See that proclamations are issued by your local governments to commemorate the 200th anniversary of Kościuszko's death.

- **Tag your photos and social media posts** with #Kościuszko200
- **Be sure to inform the Embassy!** "We want to know where events

Kościuszko Revelry



Detail of Kościuszko from *The Raclawice Panorama*.

NEW YORK — The Kościuszko Foundation will honor its patron with a gala, Sat., Dec. 2, from 7:00-10:00 p.m. at the State-room of Mayflower Hotel.

In addition to celebrating the great spirit of the freedom fighter and Renaissance man, the event will be the inauguration of the project "Wrocław in Washington."

Wrocław, named the European Capital of Culture in 2016, is home of one of Poland's greatest national treasures, the *The Raclawice Panorama*, a monumental cycloramic painting depicting Poland's most famous battle at Raclawice during the Kościuszko Uprising in 1794.

- **Reach out to local Polish American organizations**, veterans groups, local historical societies, religious groups, civic clubs, etc. Seek out others to help you organize a successful event. Spread the word once details have been finalized so community members can attend.

Guests for this historic evening include Rafał Dutkiewicz, mayor of the city of Wrocław, and the director of the National Museum where the Raclawice Panorama is located, Dr. Piotr Oszczanowski. In addition to a presentation on the Panorama, unique entertainment from Wrocław, short concerts, and performances, a silent auction, raffle, and a stylish delicious dinner will round out the evening.

Tickets are \$150.00 before Nov. 11; \$175 after Nov. 11. Student tickets are \$100.00.

Visit the Foundation's website for more information: thekf.org, or call (212) 734-2130.

are planned," said Ambassador Wilczek. "We will include your event on our Kościuszko 200 page, and your event will be part of a whole host of celebrations dedicated to Thaddeus Kościuszko occurring all across America. Email us at Washington.press@msz.gov.pl."

Take pride in your heritage, this month, and all year long!

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"Who doesn't respect and value his past, is not worth the honor of the present, and has no right to a future."
— Józef Piłsudski



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who will speak on the contributions of
General Tadeusz Kościuszko



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Lecture and films at 7:00 p.m.

Free admission for Musuem members

\$10.00 for guests

Honored on the 200th anniversary of his death by the United Nations Education, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Kościuszko (1746-1817) is recognized for his efforts for the sake of peace, independence, and democracy – the equality of people regardless of their skin colour or religion – he is considered a national hero in Poland and in the United States.

Religion

Cemetery Opens Doors to Unborn

by Benjamin Fiore, S.J.

Gate of Heaven Catholic cemetery in Lewiston, N.Y., recently dedicated space for the burial of children who died in the womb 20 weeks or younger through miscarriage.

Sr. Linda Lewandowski, OSF, chaplain of St. Mary's Hospital, and Aimee Gornak, vice-president of women's services for Catholic Health, were at the dedication ceremony of the burial space, a collaboration between Catholic cemeteries and Mt. St. Mary's Hospital in Lewiston, N.Y. Two other such collaborations are already in place in the diocese and they all aim to support "people in their most vulnerable period of their lives ... This allows them to have support for grieving and healing and to come back and reconnect with their loved one whenever they need to as a source of support."

UKRAINIAN GREEK CATHOLICS OPENS ACADEMIC INSTITUTE. The Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky Institute of Eastern Christian Studies is now located at St. Michael's College at the University of Toronto, Canada. The Institute has played a role in restoring the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church after the fall of communism. Founded in 1986 in Chicago, it moved to St. Paul's University in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, in 1990.

When Ukraine became free of Soviet communism, the Institute sent teachers to Ukraine to rebuild the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church there and, as a result of their and similar efforts, the number of priests has reached pre-World War II levels. Cardinal Thomas Collins of Toronto, a member of the Congregation for the Eastern Churches, noted that the institute's ministry reflects "the richness of the Catholic Church, the diversity

and the beauty."

Bishop Gudziak, president of the Ukrainian Catholic University, remarked that the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church has become "an unwilling expert" at "how to stand up to authoritarianism and totalitarianism."

He recalled how the Soviets tried to stamp out the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church and amalgamate them into the Ukrainian Orthodox Church.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO... Fr. Walter Werbicki, celebrating 60 years serving the Lord as a priest. Born in Toronto, Canada, he served in the Buffalo diocese as a prison Chaplain since 1983. Originally ordained in the Ukrainian Catholic Church, he served Byzantine parishes in Lancaster and Lackawanna, N.Y. Later he became bi-ritual and has served in prisons in Western New York.

STO LAT TO... Fr. Walter Grabowski on his appointment as pastor of St. Gabriel's parish in Elma, N.Y. to replace retired Fr. Daniel Palys. The native of Poland came to the United States in 1983 after he was ordained in the diocese of Przemyśl on the Ukrainian border. Most recently he has served two parishes in rural Western N.Y.: Immaculate Conception in Eden and Holy Spirit in North Collins ... **Fr. Daniel Serbicki** on his appointment as pastor of St. Maximilian Kolbe parish in Corfu, N.Y. ... **Fr. Jeffrey Nowak** on receiving an award for going above and beyond in service to the church, society and the diocesan (Buffalo) community as a whole at the annual Holy Name Societies banquet ... **Gerard Skrzynski** and **Paul Cygan** on their ordination along with two other seminarians to the transitional diaconate by Buffalo's Bishop Richard Malone. Their service as deacons for about a year will culminate in their eventual ordination to the priesthood.

Docudrama about Fr. Kolbe Premieres at Cannes

by Staś Kmiec

Dwie Korony (Two Crowns), a film about the life of Fr. Maximilian Maria Kolbe, a Polish Catholic martyr who died at Auschwitz concentration camp, received its world premiere in May at the Marché du Film – the annual distributor showing at the 70th Cannes Festival. It premiered in the United States on Sept. 12 at the Anthology Film Archives in Manhattan; followed with two weekends of showings at Film Noir Cinemas in Greenpoint, Brooklyn, along with select showings in New Jersey and Chicago leading up to the Polish premiere on October 13.

Shot in Poland, Italy and Japan, the cast includes prominent Polish actors Adam Woronowicz, Cezary Pazura, Artur Barciś, and Dominika Figurska.

Kolbe became an Auschwitz prisoner in 1941. The priest, who had German roots, refused an offer to be added to a list of "ethnic-Germans." He sheltered over 2,000 Jews in a Polish monastery, which German occupiers eventually shut down, and was imprisoned. At Auschwitz, Kolbe offered to take the place of a fellow prisoner randomly selected to receive the death penalty with nine others in retribution for the escape of three prisoners.



He spent two weeks without bread and water in the camp's starvation bunker, before being given a lethal injection. He was canonized in 1982 by Pope John Paul II.

The feature-length docudrama, directed by Michał Kondrat, depicts the life of Fr. Kolbe from childhood to his heroic decision. The storyline is depicted by acting scenes, interspersed with interviews.

"Maximilian did everything for love of God and man, and his whole life was a beautiful story and adventure with God," said Kondrat. "I am glad that, through this film, the world and also Poland will have the chance to be re-acquainted with Father Kolbe's exceptional life."

The title was taken from the view Kolbe had in childhood. The Blessed Mary appeared to him and asked him to choose one of two crowns. He chose both — one white, symbolizing purity and the other red, symbolizing suffering.

Two prior films on the subject were: *Życie za Życie, Maksymilian Kolbe* (Life for Life) directed by Krzysztof Zanussi (1991), and Mariusz Walter's 1974 short film *Scena Zbiorowa ze Świętym* (Collective scenes with a Saint).

Information on showings of *Dwie Korony* can be found at: www.facebook.com/FilmDwieKorony.

Our Lady of Czestochowa Receives New Crown

CZESTOCHOWA, Poland — Three hundred years ago, the image of Our Lady of Czestochowa was crowned Queen and Protector of Poland by Clement XI.

Nearly 200 years after that, in 1909, the golden, bejeweled crowns of the image — one for Mary and one for the Christ Child — were stolen, along with a pearl "robe" also belonging to the image.

Following the theft, Our Lady was crowned again by St. Pius X in 1910, and later again by St. John Paul II in 2005, but the original crowns were never recovered.

In honor of the 300th anniversary of the first coronation and as a gift to the Blessed Virgin Mary, the original crowns have been replicated in gold diadems created by an Italian artist and goldsmith renowned for his religious art.



The creation of new crown for the icon of the Madonna of Czestochowa represents one of the highest moments for the master craftsman Michele Affidato (center, inspecting previous adoration).

This shrine was dedicated as a "sister" shrine during the process of creating the new crowns and an image of Our Lady of Capocolonna was gifted to the Jasna Góra sanctuary.

ANNIVERSARY MASS. Archbishop Salvatore Pennacchio, Apostolic Nuncio, offered the Mass of Thanksgiving. More than 100,000 people attended the outdoor Mass. The homily was given by Archbishop Wojciech Polak of Gniezno.

Polish President Andrzej Duda and his wife, the speakers of both houses of Polish parliament and the prime minister, as well as dozens of clergymen and hundreds of Catholics, gathered for the service.

The event three centuries ago drew a crowd of 200,000 Christians, a huge number for the time, and started a tradition of now annual pilgrimages to the site.

Although the truly first crowning of the image as Queen and Protector of Poland was done by King John II Casimir in 1652, its first canonical coronation was by Clement XI in 1717 and was the one being honored this year.

A canonical coronation is a pious institutional act, wherein the Pope,

through a bull, designates a crown or stellar halo be added to a Marian image under a specific devotional title in a particular area or diocese. The crowning of Our Lady of Czestochowa in 1717 was the first such coronation to take place outside Rome.

VIDEO MESSAGE FROM POPE FRANCIS. In a video message sent to Poland for the 300th anniversary, Pope Francis emphasized the relationship Poles share with the icon.

"If Czestochowa is at the heart of Poland, it means that Poland has a maternal heart; it means that every beat of life happens together with the Mother of God," the Pope said in a videomessage.

"To her you usually entrust everything: the past, present, future, the joy and sorrows of your personal lives, and of your beloved country. This is very beautiful," he said.

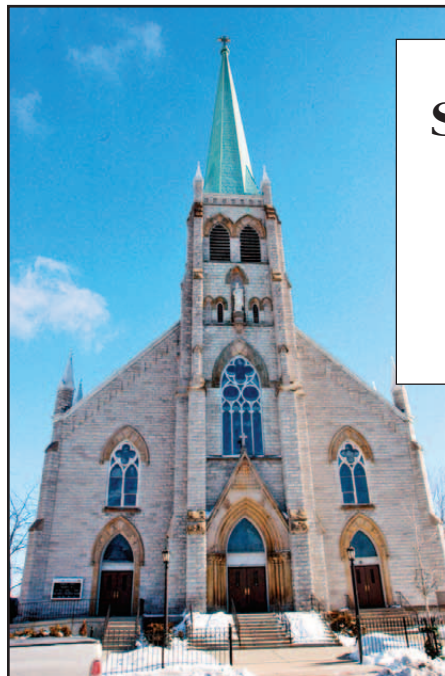
The image of Czestochowa, he said, shows that Mary is not "a distant queen that sits on her throne," but is rather "the Mother who embraces her Son and, with him, all of us her children."

"She is a true mother, with a marked face, a mother who suffers because she truly carries in her heart

the problems in our lives," the Pope said.

"She is a close mother, who never loses us from her sight; she is a tender mother, who holds our hand on the path of daily life."

— Edited from *Catholic New Service, Church Militant, and Radio Polskie* reports.



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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, A.W.

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Polonian Places

Polish American Veterans of World War II Building

Polish American Veterans of World War II Building
42 Green Street
Worcester, Massachusetts
Status: Closed

by Gregory L. Witul

Worcester's Polonia is marked with some impressive buildings, the most prevalent being Our Lady of Czestochowa with its unique bell tower, and the iconic White Eagle Polish Club in the heart of the Canal District. But of these historic buildings none is as startling as the woven steel clad former clubhouse of the Polish American Veterans of World War II.

The structure at 42 Green Street began its life as the single family of home of John T. Cahill. Designed by Elbridge Boyden and built in 1852, the building would serve as a private home from 1860 to the 1940s. As the Second World War ended, Msgr. Bojanowski at Our Lady of Czestochowa encouraged the returning veterans to meet and socialize. On December 9, 1945, 85 veterans met at Kosciuszko Hall and agreed to start a veterans post. With Charles S. Samborski as chairman, a Constitution and By Laws were

written and in January of 1946 the Polish American Veterans of World War II of Worcester was born.

At the first formal meeting, the membership had swollen to 128 men with the members electing Brigadier General Joseph T. Benedict as the first Post Commander. Having no place to call home, the Post met at halls across the city including the Our Lady of Czestochowa, the Polish National Alliance building and the White Eagle Hall. In 1948, Our Lady of Czestochowa offered the post part of the basement to meet and store their belongings. With this gesture the members saw how much space they really needed and served as a catalyst for them to find their own clubhouse.

The post began looking at buildings across Worcester, but when they were shown 42 Green they knew they'd found their home. While the post was looking for a home, they took on another mission, memorializing their fallen comrades by having intersections named after them. Known as squares, the Polish American Veterans dedicated a great number of intersections including Prusaczyk Square at Ward and Worth named after Sgt. John F. Prusaczyk, Sobol Square at Ward



and Dorchester in honor of Corp. Walter S. Sobol and Maciejewski Square at Seymour and Perry for Pfc. Frank J. Maciejewski. Each of these locations has a granite monument and street sign with information about the honoree that is still maintained by the city.

In the 1960s two major changes were made to the Polish American Veterans building. First, they added the brutalist-inspired steel casing to the front of the building and second they expanded the rear of the building due increasing membership.

Dedicated on October 12, 1968, the new part of the building, named the Memorial Ballroom, allowed the post to host larger parties, rallies, and events.

As members began passing away in the 1980s and early '90s, it no longer became feasible for the veterans to maintain the building. In time it would be purchased by the Ancient Order of Hibernians, St. Columille Division #36 and now it serves the Irish community as the Worcester Hibernian Cultural Centre.

Poland's Love Affair With The Piano

by Jan P. Muczyk

conclusion

MARIA SZYMANOWSKA. Szymanowska was born in Warsaw, Poland in 1789. The history of her early years with respect to her musi-

cal studies is uncertain. She appears to have studied piano with Antoni Lisowski and Tomasz Gremm, and composition with Franciszek Leszel, Jozef Elsner, and Karol Krupinski. Her first public recitals were in Warsaw and Paris in 1810. In the same year she married Josef Szy-

manowski (apparently unrelated to Karol Szymanowski, the esteemed Polish composer), with whom she had three children. Her daughter Celina married Adam Mickiewicz, the celebrated Polish bard. Her professional piano career began in 1815, with performances in England in 1818, and a tour of Western Europe from 1823-1826, including both public and private performances in Germany, France, England, Italy, Belgium, and Holland. She was among one of the first professional piano virtuosos in 19th century Europe. Critics gave her playing technique credit for a delicate tone, lyrical sense of virtuosity and operatic freedom. After years of touring, she returned to Warsaw for some time before relocating in 1828, first to Moscow and then to St. Petersburg, where she served as the court pianist to the tsarina. Her compositions included many solo piano pieces and miniatures, songs, and some chamber works. Stylistically, she was part of the "Stile Brillante" and "Polish Sentimentalism" movements. Because of her stature as a performer, and because of the salon that she operated in St. Petersburg, she developed connections with many notables, including Rossini and von Goethe. She died of cholera in St. Petersburg in 1831.

KRYSTIAN ZIMERMAN. Zimmerman was born in Zabrze, Poland in 1956, and studied at the Karol Szymanowski Academy of Music in Katowice, Poland under Andrzej Jasinski. His career was launched when he won the 1975 Warsaw International Chopin Piano Competition. He performed with the Berlin Philharmonic in 1976, and made his debut in the U.S. with the New York Philharmonic in 1979. He has toured and recorded extensively. Since 1996, he has taught piano at the Academy of Music in Basel, Switzerland, where he lives with his wife and two children. In 1999, he created the Polish Festival Orchestra to commemorate the 150th anniversary of Chopin's death. Zimmerman is best known for his interpretations of Romantic music, but has performed a wide variety of classical pieces;

as well as contemporary compositions. Witold Lutoslawski wrote his piano concerto for Zimmerman, who has been hailed as one of the finest living pianists. When not touring or building pianos, he has been editing piano editions of the works of Wladislaw Szpilman, and has also authored a treatise on aesthetics.

CONCLUSION. The question that needs addressing is: Why so many outstanding Polish pianists and piano composers (see table)? In other words, how does a tradition get started? The explanation rests with early role models setting expectations, an abundance of outstanding teachers, and domestic as well as international opportunities to display the talents to large audiences. Role models encourage parents to not only identify musical talent at an early age, but also to provide quality music teachers, and continuous encouragement. It is no coincidence that so many outstanding pianists were child prodigies. Role models also provide the students with the motivation to emulate their role models. Polish parents understood this, and European capitals such as Warsaw, Vienna, Paris, London, St. Petersburg, and Berlin (and subsequently New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, interalia) afforded highly regarded conservatories with an abundance of outstanding teachers. Also, European cities — and later, American ones — not only provided large and appreciative audiences, but were perceived by the performers and composers as desirable places to live and work. Polish pianists on the other hand showed little reluctance to becoming cosmopolitan celebrities. Musicians, out of necessity to augment their income and to prepare the next generation of musicians, become teachers themselves and recording artists, thereby putting the entire process on automatic. Hence, our gratitude goes out to all the key players who are responsible for the music that enriches our lives every day.

For a list of prominent Polish pianists visit the PAJ's on-line library at www.palamjournal.com.

Polish Singers Alliance of America

www.polishsingersalliance.org

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1917 - 2017

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Holy Mass of Thanksgiving and Concert
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Cocktail Hour, Dinner and Dancing
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The Polish Singers Alliance of America was founded in 1889 and is the oldest Polish American Cultural Organization in America

Kultura

Celebrate with “The Kościuszko Bridge”

by Staś Kmieć



After nearly three years of construction, New York City's new Kosciuszko Bridge opened in April and now the newest Brooklyn cocktail celebrates that event.

“The Kosciuszko Bridge” is a cocktail created for *The Vodka Contract* – a special event from the Spring Spirits series at Brooklyn's Museum of Food & Drink under the auspices of the Polish Cultural Institute New York. Joining the spirits of two nations, this aromatic concoction is a melding of the Polish herbal Bison Grass vodka, *Żubrówka* with New York's own *Dorothy Parker Gin* and a splash of *Doc's Draft Cider*. Created by Joel Lee Kulp of Grand Ferry Tavern in Brooklyn, it's the perfect drink for welcoming the newest New York bridge and for saying goodbye to the old one. As the engineer responsible for the fortifications at West Point - Tadeusz Kosciuszko would have certainly approved.

THE KOŚCIUSZKO BRIDGE

1oz - Żubrówka
1oz - Dorothy Parker Gin
1oz - Doc's Draft Cider
Combine all ingredients in mixing glass, stir over ice and strain into a chilled cocktail glass. Garnish with dry bison grass or rhubarb peel.

“The word “bridge” (“most” in Polish) is very beautiful and has many connotations,” said Magdalena Mazurek, who is responsible for historical events at PCINY. “Kościuszko blew up a number of bridges, but he built many more.

He tore down walls. He did his best to find common ground among people of different races and creeds. He addressed the least fortunate.” Kościuszko said: “Each of us is born equal. Only education creates a difference.”

For insights into the world of Polish spirits and cuisine, join the Polish Cultural Institute New York's Polish Culinary Event at the New School for Social Research on November 6. www.polishculture-nyc.org



Karen Ziemia is returning to Broadway for the 11th time in *The Prince of Broadway*.

ZIEMBA ON BROADWAY ONCE AGAIN Karen Ziemia is returning to Broadway for the 11th time in *The Prince of Broadway*. The musical is a celebration of the legendary career of director/producer Hal Prince and opened at MTC's Samuel J. Friedman Theatre in August. It will play through October 22.

The new musical features both biographical material and songs from many of the shows that earned Prince a record 21 Tony Awards, including *West Side Story*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Cabaret*, *Evita*, *Company*, *Follies*, *A Little Night Music*, *Sweeney Todd*, and *The Phantom of the Opera*, and is led by a nine-member ensemble cast

Born in St. Joseph, Michigan, Ziemia made her Broadway debut in *A Chorus Line* as Diana Morales. Later, she played the lead of Peggy Sawyer in *42nd Street*, Polly Baker in *Crazy for You*, Roxie Hart in *Chicago*, and Belle Hagner in *Teddy & Alice*. She has also graced the

Broadway stage in the companies of *Steel Pier*, *Never Gonna Dance*, *Curtains*, and *Bullets Over Broadway*. She won the Tony Award for “Best Featured Actress in a Musical” for her performance in *Contact*, playing the role of “the timid, abused mafioso's wife.”

POLISH TARTAN REGISTERED IN SCOTLAND. A tartan design celebrating the cultural partnership between Kraków and Edinburgh has been officially added to the Scottish Register of Tartans, one of only a handful of tartans representing districts outside the Commonwealth.

Designed by Edinburgh's Alex Imrie, Poland's first tartan, was selected by the residents of Kraków as one that “best represented the spirit” of Kraków. The tartan's pattern is large to represent Kraków's Old Town square and colors reflect the Polish and Scottish flags. It is being made in Scotland in one of its last remaining traditional weaving mills.



The competition for Kraków's tartan, which saw 26 entrants short-listed to five before Imrie's design won an online poll, was organized by the cities of Kraków and Edinburgh, the Scottish-Polish Cultural Association, and the Consulate of the Republic of Poland in Edinburgh.

Edinburgh's lord provost will present it to Kraków's mayor on October 1st, a day after a film of its production is screened in Kraków's Mały Rynek during the Scottish Tartan Festival in the historic Polish city.



PREVIEW: THE GOOD MAHARAJA. The film *The Good Maharaja*, an Indian-Polish production set for a 2018 release, tells the true story of how Maharaja Jam Sahib of Nawanagar sheltered 1,000 abandoned Polish children in his princely state in British India during World War II. It features Bollywood star Sanjay Dutt in the titular role.

Director Omung Kumar has been working on the big-budget period drama for over 1 ½ years, and intends for it to span across continents. “We have photographs of the Maharaja for reference. We will take certain creative liberties but are trying to keep things as authentic as possible,” said Kumar. “I wanted to direct this film because it's a superb story.”

Poland's parliament last year passed a resolution in honor of the Maharaja on the 50th anniversary of his death.

SISTERS LAUNCH POLISH PRIDE APPAREL. Anna and Patricia Lakomy have launched a modern and patriotic apparel line – *Apolonia*, for other Polish Americans. “It's not what you wear, but being proud of who you are” reads *Apolonia*'s slogan. Their original, top selling design is the Polish American Lips. These are white and red, just like the Polish flag and are available in many styles.

Originally from NYC, the sisters were raised by Polish immigrant parents who came into the country as political refugees. Currently, the family resides in Connecticut.



Anna is a graduate of the University of Connecticut and Patricia currently attends Southern Connecticut State University. Both sisters attended Saturday Polish schools – thanks to which they are bilingual.

The Lakomy sisters said: “No matter where life takes us, a piece of our hearts will always be in Poland. We celebrate that unique part of us with *Apolonia*.” Their designs can be seen on <https://teespring.com/stores/apoloniaapparel>.

In Brief

RIVERHEAD POLISH HALL, once the Riverhead Polish Independent Club, Riverhead, N.Y., will be celebrating its 110th Anniversary on Saturday, October 14, 2017. This Polish Hall was organized on April 13, 1903 and later incorporated on October 21, 1907 with a purpose to promote friendship, education, art and culture. The Riverhead Polish Independent Club was available to members only until February 1977, when the doors were opened to the public. A catering facility staffed with Polish American emigrants was established serving Polish American

food family style. Although it has been registered to do business as “The Riverhead Polish Hall,” it will always remain registered legally in Albany as the “Riverhead Polish Independent Club.” The Riverhead Polish Hall is an irreplaceable landmark in the town of Riverhead, and is considered the social capital of Polish Town. A gala Dinner Dance celebration will be held at the Polish Hall commencing at 7:00 p.m. with music by the Golden Tones polka band. Reservations and additional information call (631) 727-9200.

GENEALOGY NOTE. The 2017 Conference of the Polish Genealogy Society of Connecticut and the Northeast and the S.A. Blejwas Endowed Chair of the Polish and Polish American Studies/Central Connecticut State University will be held on Fri., Oct. 13 and Sat., Oct. 14. The two-part seminar, “Finding the Missing People of your Polish and Ukrainian Family History,” will be held at the downtown campus of the CCSU. Additional information visit: www.pgscne.org/conference or e-mail Diane Szepanski at Szepanski@cox.net.

COLUMBIA HEIGHTS, MINN./Lomianki, Poland—Sister Cities, International (CHLP/SCI) won the Sister Cities International (SCI) 2017 Best Overall Program Award for a city with a population under 25,000. The SCI Best Overall Program Award recognizes sister city programs that demonstrated outstanding accomplishments in 2016 in advancing the goals and mission of the sister cities movement.

In August, a delegation of dignitaries from Lomianki visited Columbia Heights to work with the local police department, visit the new public library, and meet with residents of Columbia Heights.

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A patient at the Children's Hospital in Bialystok.

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RATUJ SERCE DZIECKA
“SAVE A CHILD'S HEART”

Librarians: a rare opportunity for U.S. bibliothecaries to learn from Polish colleagues

continued from cover

ing the weeklong IFLA congress to Poland was something of a coup for the Congress organizers, providing an opportunity to showcase Poland's blossoming economy. The abundance of consumer goods evident in post-communist Poland belies the urgent need for information professionals in government and business to harness information technology in the service of education, economic development, and democracy.

"Where were you going, Poland, before you were so rudely interrupted?" asked Richard Butterwick-Pawlikowski during his keynote address. The professor of Polish-Lithuanian history at University College London summarized hundreds of years of Polish history during which the "interruptions" of war and foreign domination prevented Poland from "moving toward modernity without autocratic monarchs or violent revolution." He reminded the international audience that the democratic Polish Constitution of 1791 was the second such document in the world, preceded only by the American Constitution that went into effect in 1789.

DIGITIZATION OF RARE and unique library and archival material is accelerating in Poland at break-neck speed, said Krzysztof Szubert, a strategist for Poland's Ministry of Digital Affairs, who pointed out that Poland currently has the distinction of being the fourth fastest growing economy in the European Union and is looking toward a "digital data driven future" where "data is a catalyst for economic growth." Ensuring that information is freely accessible for public use in libraries and archives is one of IFLA's core values, but the ministry, like the library federation, must also support equitable copyright law that is fair to those who create the data in the first place.

Among the delegates from the United States were members of the Polish American Librarians Association (PALA), including President Leonard Kniffel of Chicago, Vice President and President Elect Ewa Barczyk of Milwaukee, Krystyna Matusiak of Denver, and Iwona Bozek and Krystyna Grell from the Polish Museum of America Library in Chicago. They helped staff

the American Library Association exhibition booth and disseminated material from Polish libraries and cultural institutions in the United States. Marek Sroka of the University of Illinois Library delivered a paper about his research into a little-remembered Rockefeller Foundation project that funded the rehabilitation of Eastern European libraries following World War II.

The congress began with country caucuses designed to give delegates an opportunity to strategize, and for seven-year-old PALA it was an opportunity to recruit members and remind American delegates that Polish people have lived in the United States for over 400 years, beginning in 1608 in the Jamestown Colony, and there are some 10 million Americans of Polish descent in the United States today, making it the largest diaspora of Poles in the world. One of the goals of PALA is to have a positive impact on library collections and services to the Polish American community and on the representation of Polish history and culture in the collections, programs, and services of our nation's libraries.

IFLA in Poland was a rare opportunity for U.S. librarians to learn from their Polish colleagues. A mere 20 years ago, a meeting of the library federation in Poland seemed like a pipe dream to many Polish and Polish American librarians, but change has been strong and steady. The library profession's most important international organization, IFLA has held its annual congress only twice before in Poland during its 80-year history. The other conferences occurred in 1936 and 1959, both in Warsaw.

IFLA in Wrocław was also an opportunity to raise awareness outside the Polish community. Members of the American delegation began the congress by trying to learn how to pronounce Wrocław, which invariably led to laughter and then into a serious exploration of the city's history and architecture and pre-World War II life as the German city of Breslau. A narrated interpretation of Wrocław's checkered history through dance and music — as well as a cultural evening with a light show and an elaborate array of Polish food, from peasant to haute cuisine — made Wrocław's historic and technologically well-equipped Centennial Hall (a UNESCO World



President of the Polish Librarians' Association Elzbieta Stefanczyk welcomes attendees at the Opening Session.

Heritage Site), the ideal venue the Congress, which convenes annually in a different spot around the world. Next year's congress will meet in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

THE EXHIBITION BOASTED some 60 exhibitors — high-tech companies, university presses, and professional associations, including the Polish Library Association, which is headquartered in Warsaw. Around its periphery, 248 sessions involved the delegates in seminars, meetings, and presentations that fostered discussion of the similarities between libraries, no matter where in the world they are located.

Rafał Dutkiewicz, mayor of Wrocław; Tomasz Makowski, director of the National Library; and Elzbieta Stefanczyk, president of the Polish Library Association greeted the delegates, and IFLA President Donna Scheeder of the Library of Congress in Washington D.C. presided over the general sessions. PALA members met with Stefanczyk and mapped out a strategy for cooperation that will benefit Polish and Polish American librarians and library patrons. The Polish Museum of America Library in Chicago, for example, holds many books and materials that are not available in Poland because of the destruction that occurred during World War II. The Polish Library Association, on the other hand, has Polish genealogical and historical resources and connections that American librarians could use to help their patrons with genealogical and scholarly research.

At the closing session, Mayor

evident throughout the event, but he warned that the wave of "nationalism" that seems to be sweeping over the world is quite another matter, and librarians seem to know the difference. "Nationalism is like a sweaty man who needs to take a shower," he asserted. "Take a shower Europe. Take a shower Poland," he said." Having just launched the quest for a unified vision for libraries, the audience cheered Dutkiewicz with a standing ovation.

Librarians and library supporters alike can learn more about the Polish American Library Association on its website at PALALib.org, the American Library Association at ALA.org, the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions at IFLA.org, and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Global Libraries at GatesFoundation.org.



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Polonia on Display

The International Festival of Polonia Folk Ensembles returns to Rzeszów

Part II of II

by Staś Kmieć

Over 1100 participants of thirty-seven groups representing 14 countries and 5 continents were a part of one of the largest events of its kind in the world – the 17th International Festival of Polish Folk Ensembles (*XVII Światowy Festiwal Polonijnych Zespołów Folklorystycznych*) in Rzeszów, Poland between July 19-26, between July 19-26. Among them were eight ensembles from the United States.

WESOŁY LUD – CHICAGO. *Wesoły Lud Polish Folk Dance Company* of the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America celebrated its 40th Anniversary in 2017 with a Gala Concert in April and continued its celebration in Rzeszów.

They presented an *Opoczno* suite, originally choreographed by Sławomir Mazurkiewicz, and adapted by Artistic Director and Choreographer Richard Jaminski, who also choreographed the fun-filled “Fiddlemania” – A Polish American Chicago Polka. The Founder, Manager and Honorary Artistic Director/Choreographer – Micheline Jaminski is a product of Alliance College and its folk group – *Kujawiaki*; she is currently Vice President of PRCUA. Richard was a dancer with the *Bandoska Ensemble* of Rzeszów and had been sent by his director Bożena Niżańska to be the choreographer of *Rzeszowiaczy* in Chicago in 1985.

“The Rzeszow Festival is the

Olympics of Polish Folk Dance Culture,” said Micheline Jaminski. “It is an honor to qualify, a privilege to participate, and an amazing experience for the participants, as well as the audience.”

OJCZYŻNA-BALTIMORE *Ojczyzna Polish Dancers* of Baltimore, Maryland attended the festival for the first time. At the final concerts they performed a *Texas Two Step* to Mary Chapin Carpenter’s “Passionate Kisses,” and *Dances from Sącz*. Choreographer Dennis Klima, a graduate of the *Studium Folklorystyczne* in Lublin wanted to make sure the presentation was polished and authentic – down to how the women tied their kerchiefs. He wanted to honor his instructor in this region – Michalina Wojtas, who he knew would be in attendance.

“The Festival was lots of fun, but also long hours of practice. The majority of our group had never experienced anything like it, therefore they weren’t sure what to expect,” said Malgorzata Bondyra, *Ojczyzna*’s Managing Director. “For some, the hardest were “noisy” nights, while others rather enjoyed that. Dozens of dancers from around the world gathered each night in front of our residence to listen to the *Olza kapela* folk band play mountain style tunes. Very often, their music didn’t end until 4:00 or 5:00 a.m.!”

DOLINA-MINNESOTA. The *Dolina Polish Folk Dancers* of Minnesota has attended the Festival 9 times and presented a *Kurpie Suite* choreographed by Director Edward Rajtar – also a Lublin Course graduate, and an Appalachian Mountain Suite. Choreographed by Donald La



Jarek Luiken from the Dolina Polish Folk Dancers of Minnesota jumps in a heel-click in the *American Appalachian Suite* at the Rzeszów Festival.

Course and utilizing Clogging technique, the suite was most authentic depiction of American folk dance to be presented.

“As always, it was a great experience meeting new people, re-connecting with old friends, choreographers and instructors” said Rajtar. “It’s a justification for the years of doing this, and rekindles the passion to continue.”

THE TALE OF TWO LEMKOS. *Lemkowie* are an ethnic sub-group inhabiting a stretch of the Carpathian Mountains known as Lemkivshchyna, but are also situated throughout Poland, due to relocation after World War II. Lemkivshchyna became part of Poland in medieval Piast times. Lemkos became an ethnic minority as part of the Austria province of the Polish partition of Galicia in 1772.

As in history, the Lemko path is varied. Two ensembles paid tribute to this unique culture. *Wisła* from Kurytyba, Brazil showed a slick, polished, styled and stylized Ukrainian-ese dance – borrowing more from Russia’s overly imagined *Moiseyev Dance Company* than traditional dance. It was brilliantly entertaining.

The *Karolinka Polish Folk Song and Dance Company* of London translated the

Lemko culture into an artistically prepared stage presentation. It rang true and was an honest representation of the Lemko people.

“Every few years *Karolinka* takes on a new project. We choose a lesser known region and start to prepare a new suite to present especially at the Festival,” said Artistic Director Jola Kutereba. “We made use of the knowledge of Lemko ethnographer Jerzy Starzyński – who we invited to London to teach *Karolinka*.”

They picked the Nowy Sącz area of Lemko to concentrate on, and Starzyński helped them research the costumes to be specific to that locale. Aneta Ormanczyk, one of the ensemble’s upcoming instructors took the task of assembling the information and transferring it into choreography.

Jola continues the legacy of the

ensemble’s founder, her mother – Pani Maura; she is a graduate of *Studium Folklorystyczne* and continues at other training courses in Poland. “It is really important for *Karolinka* to be authentic in its presentation of regional and national *Polskie tańce*,” she said. “The social history of dance plays just as important a role as the technical and folk aspect in the recreation of dances.”

GOLDEN JUBILEE. 2017 marks 48 years since the first festival and in order to celebrate its golden 50th jubilee, there is talk to move up the triennial festival to 2019 – just for this occasion.

The festival has attracted a particularly older generation of emigrants, according to which the event has become an element that motivates Polish youth to take over national and folk traditions. Besides religion, it is one of the few factors that unites Poles on foreign soil.

The Festival has raised the need for organizing folk festivals in North America. It was in Rzeszów that in 1974 the idea of organizing Polish festivals in the United States of America was born. In July 1983, during the next festival, the *Polish Folk Dance Association of the Americas* (PFDA) was founded. Polonia festivals in England, France, Canada, Lithuania, Russia, Sweden and Ukraine have also had similar inspirations.

Danny Pogoda summarized: “After attending the Festival and seeing over 1100 dancers performing together, it is easy to appreciate the words to the contemporary song “Bo wszyscy Polacy, to jedna rodzina” (because all Poles are one family).

Travelogue – 5 Days in Poland

The Stork Departs

by Staś Kmieć

With less than five weeks’ notice, my 16th trip to Poland came together quickly. The purpose was an invitation by the *Mazowieci Teatr Muzyczny* and director Włodzimierz Izban (also *Mazowsze*’s director) to present the award for “Best Choreographer” at the *Jan Kiepura Musical Theater Awards* in May of 2013. The program to a large degree was planned for me with some free space, and I was able to wander off and make it my own. In only a five-day period and with little time to sleep, I managed to create a new adventure in the country I cherish so dearly.

I prefaced this *Travelogue* with an anecdote about the Polish stork. One in five storks in the world is Polish. There is no other country which can boast the nesting of so many birds of this species. I equate my relationship with Poland much to that of the *bocian biały*. There is a bond with the home of my ancestry which continues to draw me back. In 1931, LOT Polish Airlines utilized the stork – as a symbol of safe flight under the skies, as its logo and emblem. This black and white wading bird, with red beak and legs is the unofficial symbol of Poland.

In the 26 installments, I have had the pleasure of reliving and sharing with the readership of the PAJ not only the day-to-day happenings, but an expansion on the background and

history of places you may never see or may be intrigued to see in the future.

PART XXVI - CONCLUSION. I left the *POLIN Museum of the History of the Polish Jews* and proceeded directly to the train station. I wanted to fit the visit into my schedule and the final day was the only time to do it. I had an afternoon flight, so everything was working according to plan. I boarded the computer train to *Mazowsze-Otrębusy* and stamped my ticket. The bright-yellow validation machine is the newer system versus the hole-punch method in older train. The machine appeared to “eat” my ticket and mangled it; I pulled it out and stuffed it in my wallet, which was in my carry-bag, then proceeded to find a seat in the relatively empty train.

“Proof-of-payment” is an honor-based fare collection approach used on many public transportation systems. Instead of checking each passenger as they enter a fare control zone, proof-of-payment requires that each passenger carry a ticket or pass proving that they have paid the fare. Ticket controllers make periodic checks to deter fare evasion.

I was two stops away from my destination when two ticket controllers entered my car. They were asking to see everyone’s validated tickets. I sat silently, pretending not to understand Polish. Visions of a detention center and missing my flight rushed through my head. Travel without a valid ticket is not usually considered a crime, but a penalty fare is charged.

They approached and inquired and I answered “I don’t understand

...English, please.” They said “ticket” and I replied “hold on.” I started rummaging through bag in an effort to stall for time, but figured out I would have to explain the culprit was the machine and demonstrate what had happened. I also thought I would show them my earlier ticket to show I had validated my trip in. The man across from me was being questioned; it appears he got on the previous stop, was only traveling one stop and didn’t have a ticket. The train stop and the controllers took him off the train, and forgot about me. Sigh of relief!

I made my way back to the *Mazowsze* compound and over to the palace ground – the site of the old headquarters to check in with my friend Krzysztof Kurlej, the executive manager about the timing of the ride to the airport. Krzysiek was busy on the phone arranging an upcoming tour and told me to meet Włodek at the *Karczma Restaurant* in a half-hour for a good-bye lunch.

When saying “good-bye” to the old ballet and choir rehearsal rooms before they were headed for destruction, I had noticed a display of Pani Mira Żimińska-Sygietyńska’s wardrobe that I wanted to see. I popped in a saw an array of elaborate hats dating back to her early days of theater and cabaret and continuing through the ages. There were also her dresses and necklaces. Pani Mira was first and foremost a consummate artist, but she was always a Madame. From her demeanor to how she spoke and extended her hand to be kissed in greeting, she was a “Pani.”

The display featured several of the antique Polish dolls that were



part of the collection of gifts from Poland and around the word to the company. Two dolls drew my attention a Żywiec City couple in a dancing *Polonez* position and a trio in Central Poland *Sieradz* costumes. The dolls had fine-crafted expressive faces.

I proceeded to the *Karczma* and was greeted by Włodek and proprietor Andrzej Chlebowski. I relayed my tale of the train ticket to them and placed my order – *naleśniki* (sweet farmer’s cheese-filled crêpes) – comfort food, as a main course and a *wódka* to toast and relax my frazzled nerves after the train ride. Conductor Jacek Boniecki and Krzysiek joined us and placed their orders. Over the lunch I was greeted by several *Mazowsze* members saying their good-byes, and soon it was time to get my luggage and go.

Włodek said his “do widzenia/do zobaczenia” and gave me a wrapped gift and instructed me not to open it

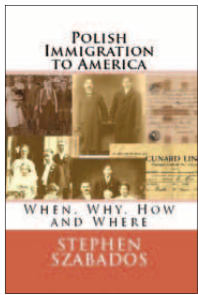
now. As Krzysiek left to get his car, I went to my room in the *Mazowsze* hotel to retrieve my luggage and pack the gift. I figured I should open it, so I could know if it was fragile and should be placed in my hand luggage. I removed the *wycinanki*-printed paper to find a sturdy wooden folk-figurine of a stork in its nest. I let out a sigh! What an appropriate gift for my return to my nest in Poland! 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

POSTSCRIPT. Włodzimierz Izban has moved on and is no longer the director of *Mazowsze*; he is the author of a book on instruments and is promoting other artistic projects. The position of director is now assumed by Conductor Jacek Boniecki. Krzysztof Kurlej remains a stabilizing force and continues as the executive manager; he is planning a North American tour for the fall of 2018. In 2014, I returned to Poland – invited as the “American judge” for the International Song and Dance Festival in Konin. I am eager to share with you that adventure ... perhaps in the future.

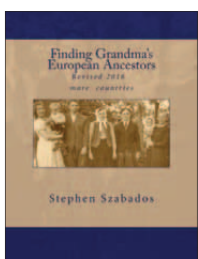
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POLISH IMMIGRATION TO AMERICA
by Stephen Szabados
Item 2-271
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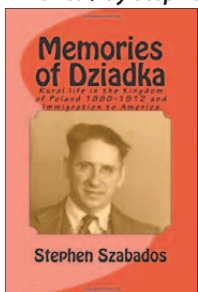
When did your Polish ancestors immigrate, where did they leave, why did they leave, how did they get here? This book discusses the history of Poland and gives some insights to possible answers to these about your ancestors' immigration. All three Polish partitions are covered and the material will hopefully clear up your confusion why your Polish ancestors listed that they were born in other countries on early U.S. documents. Brief histories of most of the ports that were used by Polish immigrants for departure and arrival; life in steerage; and the process of examination to gain admittance.



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

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

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



\$14.95
Item 2-670
pb. 134 pp.

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

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



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

Genealogy and Your Polish Heritage

by Stephen M. Szabados

Now is the time for us to celebrate our Polish Heritage and I feel one of the best ways to do this is through researching our family history (genealogy).

To best explore our Polish heritage, we begin by finding where our Polish immigrant ancestors were born. After we find the place from which they left, we can study the history of the surrounding area where our ancestors lived. Reading accounts that describe Polish life in areas close to where they lived is another great source for this information. Was it a rural or urban area? Try to find vintage pictures of the town, church, and homes. Find accounts that describe the daily lives of the villagers.

What challenges did they face on their journey to America?

What port did they go to for their voyage to America?

How did they get to the port? Was there a train station near their village?

How was life onboard the ship? How large was the ship? How many decks?

Review the passenger manifest to see if there were many Polish men. What were the occupations of the other Polish immigrants? Who did

your ancestor talk to during their voyage?

What port did they arrive at in America? What were their experiences when they went through immigration examinations? Research how the immigrants were processed at this port. The requirements were the same at each port, but the facilities were different.

Their destination was usually listed on the passenger list. Who was at their destination in America? What was the relationship to the person listed on the passenger list? This information is part of the chain migration story. How did they get from the port to their destination? Train, trolley, or by foot?

Why did they come? If you do not know, explore some possible reasons. Do not assume that the reason was economic or to avoid the military draft. Did other siblings emigrate? Did their parents emigrate? What was the status or occupation of your ancestors in Poland? Multiple factors forced the migrations from Poland, and your immigrant may have been affected by more than one cause.

Try to describe their lives in America. Look through early pictures in family albums and also history books of the local area and neighborhoods. Pictures of their homes, neighborhood, and their church are very important.

Identify where they worked because this would have been a significant part of their lives. The growth of America needed the immigrants who worked in the factories or on a farm in the late 1800s, or early 1900s. Without their labor, America would not have grown as quickly. Do not sell them short.

Look at their overall life in America. How did they enjoy their new life? Did they do anything outside of work? Did they have a hobby? Were they active in a fraternal group? Did you find pictures of family gatherings? How was their life here better than what they would have had in Poland?

You will not find answers to most of these questions. However, asking the questions and researching for the answers will give you a perspective of what your ancestors experienced and give you a better understanding of their character and your Polish Heritage.

Now sit back, read, and enjoy what you find.



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

Orchard Lake Mission Establishes Standardized Polish Language Test

ORCHARD LAKE, Mich. — The Polish Mission of the Orchard Lake Schools (TPM) has entered into an agreement with Avant Assessments LLC to establish and distribute a Polish language proficiency exam. The program was generously supported by the Polish Consulate in Chicago, the Polish Teachers' Association, and other organizations and individuals.

The test is a formal measure of language proficiency, allowing Polish language students to be formally recognized for their bi-literacy, in cooperation with the Seal of Bilitracy.

"Polish is one of Europe's great languages, and Polish Americans are the fifth largest ancestry group that built America. Why wouldn't their kids have the opportunity to take Polish exams and earn credit for them at American schools?" said

Konrad Zieliński, vice consul at the Polish Consulate in Chicago, who originally introduced the idea to the staff of The Polish Mission.

The test is a STAMP (STAndards-based Measurement of Proficiency) format, designed for grade 7-to-adult speakers. Currently, STAMP tests are offered in 11 languages, and utilized around the world by schools, colleges and universities.

According to TPM Polish Language Coordinator Marzanna Owinski, "Even though there are about 10 million Polish Americans, Polish speakers in the United States have never been acknowledged for language proficiency in their own schools, nor even by national language organizations."

"It was quite surprising to learn there was no such test offered by any American test developers," said Owinski.

Owinski is a member of a Michigan Department of Education workgroup in Lansing assigned with implementation of the Seal of Bilitracy to Michigan schools, and teaches the only high-school Polish language program in Michigan at St. Mary's Preparatory.

Although the test will be offered across the country, it is expected that the three states with the largest Polish American populations — New York, Illinois, and Michigan — will see the most usage.

"We are proud to have undertaken this," said TPM Director Marcin Chumiecki. "It is a symbol of the vibrancy of Polish culture and heritage in the United States, and it is part of the mission of our founder that goes all the way back to 1885."

Fr. Józef Dąbrowski (1842-1903) founded the Orchard Lake Schools with a Catholic Seminary in Detroit

in 1885. Still in operation today, the seminary was the first institute of formal higher education for Polish speakers in the United States.

"The mission of our founder is alive and well; we do this in his honor, and in honor of all Polish Americans across our great country," said Chumiecki. "And, there is a special reason we do it on September 1: It's the official first day of school in Poland. There was no better time to announce such a program."

The exam will be ready in Spring 2018. Please visit www.polishmission.com for more information.



The Polish Mission organizes programs, courses and events that highlight Polish and Polish American culture and accomplishments, and ensures a repository for artifacts, archival materials, works of art, and publications.

A Unique Gift

This Christmas, consider surprising a loved one with a unique and memorable gift of Polish heritage.

A custom-researched surname analysis explains the origin of any Polish last name, its meaning, how many people share it, where they are from, and whether a coat of arms goes with it. Surnames such as **Andrzejczak** and **Janowicz** are the Polish equivalents of Anderson and Johnson. But **Andrzejewski**, and **Janowski** were from the localities of Andrzejewo (Andrewsville) and Janowo (Johnston), respectively. Still others described someone's occupation (**Piekarz** = baker), appearance (**Grubas** = fat) or trait (**Gwizdala** = whistler)..

For a custom-researched analysis of a Polish last name please airmail a \$19 personal or bank (cashier's) check or money or order (adding \$13 for each additional surname to be researched) to: Robert Strybel, ul. Kaniowska 24, 01-529 Warsaw, Poland. You will also get a bonus contact sheet, which will put you in touch with genealogical groups and professional researchers who can help tack down family records, photograph or videotape ancestral homesteads and/or graves and possibly even turn up long-lost relatives in Poland. Please provide your email address if you wish to receive the surname analysis online.

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

FamilySearch Digital Records Access Replacing Microfilm

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah — September 7, 2017 marked the closing of an 80-year era of historic records access to usher in a new, digital model. FamilySearch is discontinuing its microfilm circulation services in concert with its commitment to make billions of the world's historic records readily accessible digitally online.

FamilySearch is leader in historic records preservation and access. It began microfilming historic records in 1938. Advancements in technology have enabled it to be more efficient, making an unbelievable tide of digital images of historic records accessible much quicker online and to a far greater customer base.

FamilySearch released a list of helpful facts and tips to help patrons better navigate the transition from microfilm to digital.

If customers need access to a particular film yet to be digitized, they can express interest to have it added to the priority digitization list by contacting FamilySearch Support (toll free: 1-866-406-1830).

The remaining microfilms are being digitally scanned at a rate of 1,000 films per day and are projected to be complete by 2020.

New digital images are available as they are scanned in the FamilySearch.org Catalog.

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More of Babcia's Favorite Autumn Soups

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continued from last month

DUCK OR GOOSE SOUP (*czernina z kaczi lub gęsi*). Place the cleaned giblets (make sure to cut open the gizzard and remove any semi-digested grain lodged therein!), neck, wings and rump of 1 duck or goose and in pot containing 7 c water and cook 1 hr, skimming off scum. (Stuff and roast the carcass separately.) To soup pot add 1 portion soup greens, 5 peppercorns, 3 bay leaves, 3 cloves and 5 grains allspice and cook until vegetables are tender. Strain. Remove any meat attached to bones, dice giblets and return to stock. Add chopped, raw duck or goose liver, ½ c or more pitted prunes, ½ c diced dried apples and (optional) ½ c raisins and cook until fruit is tender. Remove from flame. Fork-blend blood of duck or goose (mixed with several T vinegar) with 1 T flour and stir into soup. Simmer briefly. Adjust to taste with a little salt, sugar, vinegar. Serve over egg-noodle squares (*lazanki*) or other egg noodles, potato dumplings or diced cooked potatoes.



POTATO-MUSHROOM SOUP (*kartoflanka z grzybami*). Cook 4-5 diced potatoes in 5 c vegetable stock together with 3-4 rehydrated, cooked, dried mushrooms, sliced or diced, and the mushroom stock until done but still firm. In 2 T butter, margarine or oil sauté 2 med. chopped onions until tender and slightly browned. Add onions and 2-3 c ryemeal-sour to pot and bring to boil. Remove from heat. Cream with ½ c sour cream fork-blended with 1 T flour. Salt and pepper to taste. Garnish with fresh or frozen chopped dill.

DILL-PICKLE SOUP (*zupa ogórkowa*). Peel ½ lb brined dill pickles (*ogórki kiszzone*), grate coarsely and simmer in 1 T butter 5 min or so until tender. Add to 6 c meat or vegetable stock together with 1 c dill-pickle brine and bring to boil. Cream soup with ½ c sour cream fork-blended with 1 heaping T flour. Simmer briefly, salt & pepper to taste and garnish with a little chopped fresh dill. Variation: 2 c peeled, diced potatoes may be cooked in soup until tender. Note:

Bottled dill-pickle purée is available at Polish markets and delis.

TOMATO SOUP (*zupa pomidorowa*). Wash, hull and quarter 1¼ lb fresh vine-ripened tomatoes and simmer covered on low heat with several T stock and 2 T butter 15-20 min. Sieve into 6 c meat or vegetable stock and season to taste with salt, pepper and a little sugar. Cream with 1/2 c sour cream or 1 c milk fork-blended with 1 heaping T flour. Simmer briefly and serve over

cooked egg noodles or rice. Variation: When fresh vine-ripened tomatoes are out of season, simply stir 4-5 T tomato concentrate directly into hot stock and proceed as above.

FRESH MUSHROOM SOUP (*zupa ze świeżych grzybów*). Trim, wash well and slice 1 lb fresh mushrooms (the common white variety or the darker Portobello or a little of both). Brown lightly in 3 T butter, margarine or oil with 1 diced onion until tender. Add 5 c vegetable stock

(or a mushroom bouillon cube dissolved in 5 c water). Cook 10 min. On the side, prepare a golden roux with 1 T flour and 1 T butter, stir in several T cold water to form a paste and add to soup pot. Cook another 10 min or so on low heat. Season to taste with salt, pepper and about 2 t vinegar. Optional: A heaping T sour cream may be stirred in after soup has been removed from flame and has cooled down slight. Garnish with fresh chopped dill and/or parsley or a dill-parsley-chive combination.

thin or chop. Add barley, 3 med potatoes, peeled and diced, and the mushrooms and their stock to 6 - 7 c meat or vegetable stock and simmer until potatoes are done. Make a roux from 2 T flour and 2 T butter or margarine and fry until golden. Dilute with a little water to form a smooth paste and stir into soup. Simmer 3 - 4 min. Season with salt, pepper and about 1 t lemon juice and garnish with a little chopped fresh parsley.

“Bo słuchajcie i zważcie na siebie: Kto nie dotknął ziemi ni razu, ten nigdy nie może być w niebie.”
“So listen to them, heed them: Who never touch the earth, can never be in heaven.”
 — Adam Mickiewicz, *Dziady (Forefathers' Eve)*

MUSHROOM-BARLEY SOUP (*zupa grzybowa z kaszą perlową*). Soak ½ c pearl barley in 2 c cold water 2 hrs, then add 2 T butter and cook in same water until tender. Rehydrate and cook 1 oz dried mushrooms (preferably boletes), slice



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 by Robert Strybel
 Item 2-644
 248 pp., pb., Hippocrene Bks.
 Polish Holiday Cookery acquaints readers with traditional

Polish foods associated with various occasions and furnishes countless cooking tips and serving suggestions. This "instruction manual for the culturally aware Polish American" offers more than 400 recipes, along with a lexicon of basic foods and culinary concepts, ingredients and procedures, and sample menus. The clearly-written recipes facilitate the preparation of the dishes and their incorporation in the Polish American mainstream culture.

Polish Holiday Cookery covers holidays such as Christmas and Easter, as well as celebrations year-round. Ideas for banquets, picnics, dinners, and family favorites abound throughout, ensuring that cooks have a selection of dishes for any occasion.



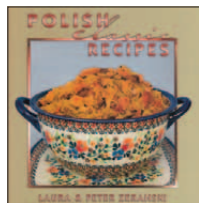
POLISH COUNTRY KITCHEN COOKBOOK
 by Sophie Knab
 \$19.95
 Item 2-632
 337 pp., sc;
 From top-selling author Sophie Hodorowicz Knab comes

an expanded edition to a best-selling book that combines recipes for favorite Polish foods with the history and cultural traditions that created them. Arranged according to the cycle of seasons, this cookbook explores life in the Polish countryside through the year.

The Polish Country Kitchen Cookbook gives its readers priceless historical information such as the type of utensils used in Poland at the turn of the century, the meaning behind the Pascal butter lamb, and many other insightful answers to common questions asked by descendants of Polish immigrants.

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

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 by Laura and Peter Zeranski
 Item 2-656
 2011, 96 pp., h.c., index, 100 color photographs by Matthew Aron Roth

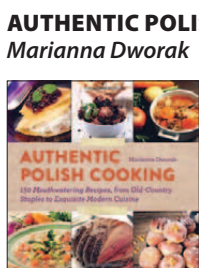


Designed for the modern kitchen yet retaining traditional roots, each heritage recipe in *Polish Classic Recipes* has been tested to perfection. Accompanied by notes on Polish holiday customs, history, and menu pairing suggestions, these dishes offer a flavorful sample of the Polish dining experience, as passed down from generation to generation.



POLISH CLASSIC DESSERTS
 \$16.95
 By Laura and Peter Zeranski
 Item 2-654
 2013, 96 pp. 8½ x 8½. Index. 100 color photos

Organized by type and with titles in both Polish and English. From mazurekas and babas to pastries and beverages, these recipes are designed for the modern kitchen but retain their traditional roots. Each of the forty-five desserts are tested to perfection and paired with mouthwatering photographs and notes on Polish history and customs.



AUTHENTIC POLISH COOKING by Marianna Dworak
 Regular price: \$15.99
WHILE SUPPLIES LAST: \$7.95
 Item 2-677.
 7.5x7.5 in., 176 pp., p.b.

Polish cuisine is hearty and filling, and though some may think the Polish diet is all meat and potatoes, that is far from the truth. With its rich soups, innumerable salads and side dishes, tasty fish and vegetar-

ian meals, colorful and delectable desserts, and yes, meat and potato fare, this cuisine consists of a wide variety of dishes incorporating a broad selection of cultural and regional influences that will have you licking your lips.

Organized by course, this cookbook features more than one hundred recipes, including beet soup, cucumber salad, potato pancakes, Hunter's Stew, pork and rice stuffed cabbage leaves, traditional "babka" cake, and of course, pierogi! Numerous recipes for veal, chicken, kielbasa sausage, pork, and beef dishes make this a great and thorough cookbook that is a fantastic addition to any kitchen.

With easy-to-follow instructions for simple as well as more intricate dishes, a section on traditional holiday meals, estimated cooking times, and suggestions for healthy ingredient substitutions, this cookbook will teach anyone how to cook delicious Polish food. For those wishing to re-create their grandmother's favorite recipe, or those wanting to experience a new cuisine, Authentic Polish Cooking will bring a bit of Eastern Europe to your home.

PLEASEING POLISH RECIPES
 by Jacek and Malgorzata Nowakowski
 \$8.95
 Item 2-678
 5-1/2 x 3-1/2 inches
 160 pp., spiral bound



This cookbook features a great variety of flavorful regional foods, such as hot beer, vegetable soup, leek salad, graham bread, Polish hunter's stew, stuffed baked turkey, potato pancakes, dill pickles, nut roll, gingerbread, and royal mazurekas.

Readers also will find a table grace and information on dyeing traditional brown Easter eggs.

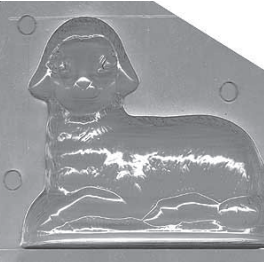
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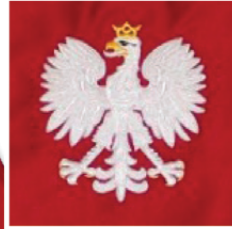
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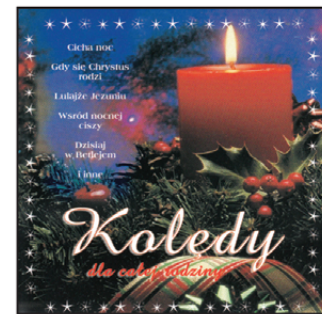
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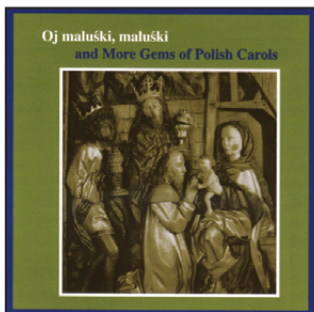
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Extraordinary Christmas Carols performed by contemporary Polish soloist artists: Urszula Sipińska, Krzysztof Krawczyk, and Krystyna Giżowska!
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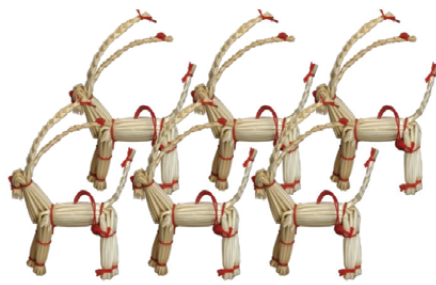
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A MUST FOR YOUR CHRISTMAS TABLE

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This book is a quick and easy reference, step-by-step guide and international collection of folklore, stories, recipes, carols and decorations with never before published photos and black and white illustrations, glossary, pronunciation guide, and a regional map of Poland. This is a wonderful book and a must for every Polish-American family.

300 pp., sc., illustrated, 8.25 x 10.75. **\$26.95**



KOLEDY SING-ALONG BOOK
With Music and Lyrics in Polish and English
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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. Published 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. Published at \$7.00, available now for only **\$5.00**

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CUSTOM CHRISTMAS CARDS. A beautiful way to say "Merry Christmas" in Polish! Designed exclusively for the Polish American Journal by renown folk artists Carla Hazard Tomaszewski (cards 310-315), Stacey Olexy (cards 305-309), Doris Sikorsky (cards 301-304), Basia Frackiewicz (cards 201-206) and Daniel Haskin (cards 101 and 103), these 4¼" x 5½" full-color cards—with greetings in both Polish and English—will brighten up everyone's home. Envelopes included.

Polish Christmas Wafers for your Cards

In Poland and in Polish communities across the United States and Canada, Poles place a small piece of the Christmas wafer (opłatek) in Christmas cards they mail to loved ones across the miles. To help keep this tradition alive, you can purchase wafers at a discounted price with the purchase of your Christmas cards. These prices only apply to wafers purchased with cards.

1-9 wafers: \$.90 each — 10-49 wafers: \$.85 each — 50 or more: \$.70 each

These are the small (2" x 3.5" inch) wafers individually wrapped in a wax-paper envelope. No addition shipping charge for wafers purchased with cards.

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ALL CARDS 50¢ each
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CARD 306



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CARD 202



CARD 205



CARD 301



CARD 304



CARD 307



CARD 312



CARD 315



CARD 308



CARD 309



CARD 310



CARD 311

Books in Brief

A Polish Swimmer's True Story

by Mary E. Lanham

HENRY: A Polish Swimmer's True Story of Friendship from Auschwitz to America by Katrina Shawver Koehlerbooks 2017, 308 pgs.

Drawing on numerous interviews, primary documents, and photographs, Katrina Shawver presents the harrowing experience of Henry Zguda, a seemingly ordinary man with an extraordinary past. Shawver first met Henry when he was eighty-five, first interviewing him in the hopes of writing an article for a newspaper. She saw that his story was far deeper than one article could ever encompass. What resulted was the book, *Henry: A Polish Swimmer's True Story of Friendship from Auschwitz to America*, a true story about a survivor of the most notorious Nazi concentration camps, Auschwitz and Buchenwald.

Henry grew up in Krakow and as a young man joined the YMCA. Zguda was first drawn to basketball, but when he learned that members of the swim team had their fees waived he switched sports. In doing so he immersed himself into the world of competitive swimming and water polo. To earn a living, Henry took a job working for a seed company, doing everything from hauling seeds to supervising a team of women. This simple blissful of life came to an end September 1, 1939, with the Nazi invasion of Poland. Despite the oppressive regime Zguda was able to continue working to support his mother. For three years Henry lived like this until 1942 when he was arrested on suspicion of being part of the Polish Underground. After being interrogated and not producing any useful information, Zguda was sent to Auschwitz. Through smarts and luck, Henry managed to survive in the death camp, rising from a potato peeler to one of the camp's cooks.

Interspersed with Henry's stories are Shawver's descriptions of her research and her own discov-

ery of Polish history. On her own, she visited the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum to go through archival records and tour the former concentration camp. She also delved into the National Archives in College Park, Maryland searching the original photographs from Dauchau and Buchenwald to further Henry's story.

Wisely, Shawver chose to not guide Henry in the interviews. This leads to interesting side stories, at times jumping through the years and touching on various topics from the boxing matches that the Germans organized in the camps and a secret murder plot.

He also described being able to send letters from Auschwitz.

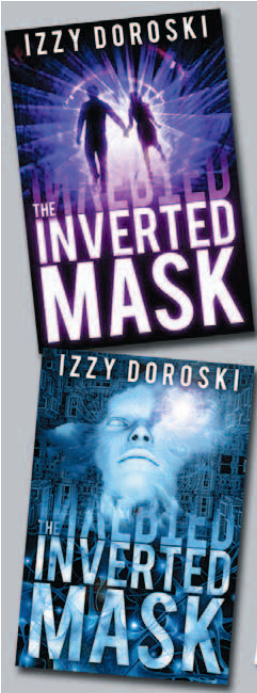
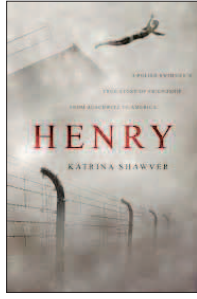
"Once a month, or every six weeks, you could write a letter.

These were official letters on camp paper. They gather us all in one room and give us like ten pencils for three hundred guys. You cannot write whatever you wanted to. Every letter had to begin with: *I feel good. I am very glad I am here ... I have to figure out what to say. How are you? How is the uncle? I had many uncles, but 'the uncle' was the phrase I used to refer to the underground.*"

After liberation, Henry would move to the United States where he met and married his wife in New York. In 1963 he became a citizen.

Through all his hardships Henry Zguda never lost hope or his sense of humor which is present throughout the book. This is a much-needed addition to your library.

Katrina Shawver has a B.A. in English/Political Science from the University of Arizona. She has written hundreds of newspaper columns for *The Arizona Republic* as well as various other occupations. She lives in Phoenix with her husband.



THE INVERTED MASK

The Inverted Mask is a bold new science fiction book by Polish American author Izzy Doroski. Mystery, Suspense, Action and Romance. The story involves an attractive Polish psychiatrist who always remembers her Polish heritage and a missing top physicist who disappeared from a National Laboratory. The Inverted Mask explores the realms of perception, consciousness, reality and good and evil.

"The world that we see and feel is just an illusion and doesn't exist at all at least the way we think it does."

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Classical Outings



Members of the Polish-American Cultural Society of Northwest Indiana chatted over lunch with pianist Adam Zukiewicz (second from left) following his Aug. 30 concert in Chicago. They were also joined by Alexandre Tsomaia (far right), pianist and assistant music director of St. Barnabas Parish in Chicago.

CHICAGO — The Polish-American Cultural Society of Northwest Indiana enjoyed two recent performances by Polish-born musicians at the Chicago Cultural Center's Preston Bradley Hall.

On August 23, Wroclaw native and New York City-based virtuoso violinist Kinga Augustyn performed *Polonaise de concert, Op. 4* by Henryk Wieniawski; *Violin Sonata No. 2 in D Major, Op. 94a* by Sergei Prokofiev; and *Three Old Viennese Dances* (Liebesfreud, Liebesleid, Schön Rosmarin) by Fritz Kreisler.

Accompanied by Kalina Mrmevska on piano, Dr. Augustyn played on a 1734 violin made by Antonio Zanotti, on generous loan to her by a private collector. Her latest CD with the Janacek Philharmonic Orchestra (Jakub Klecker, conductor) - released on Sept. 1 by Centaur Records - features works by Max Bruch, Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy, and Jules Massenet. More information is available on www.kingaagustyn.com.

Pianist Adam Piotr Zukiewicz,

who also hails from Wroclaw, was the featured performer on Aug. 30th and performed *6 Variations on 'Nel cor piu non mi sento' WoO 70* by Ludwig Van Beethoven; *Scherzo in B-flat Minor, Op. 31* and *Polonaise in A-flat Major, Op. 53* by Frederic Chopin; *3 Preludes for Piano* by George Gershwin; and *Piano Sonata No. 4, Op. 30* by Alexander Scriabin.

Dr. Zukiewicz currently resides in Greeley, Colo., and is an assistant professor of piano at the University of Northern Colorado. He is also a resident faculty pianist at the International Music Festival of the Adriatic in Duino, Italy.

The performances were part of the Dame Myra Hess Memorial Concert series presented by the International Music Foundation of Chicago, and were broadcast live on the WFMT 98.7 classical music radio station.

The Polish-American Cultural Society of Northwest Indiana has chapters in Portage and Michigan City, Ind.

PLEASE HELP US HELP OUR OWN COMMUNITY. JOIN THE...

Polish American Journal Foundation

The PAJF is a non-profit 501c3 organization established to promote Polish and Polish American culture and traditions among members of the public and other Polish and Polish American groups. It does this by organizing and supporting special events, networking, and providing consultation to individuals and groups, which seek to learn more about the Polish community in the United States.

As a national newspaper serving Polish immigrants and their descendants since 1911, the Polish American Journal has a unique perspective on the shortfalls — primarily funding — that have prevented many great projects from getting off the ground. We also have grown increasingly frustrated to see students — future leaders, who are passionate about Polonia — seek other areas of study because they could not secure something as simple as airfare to study in Poland or abroad. Likewise, we see so many talented academicians, scholars, artists, folk groups — the list goes on — whose special projects or areas of study have been dropped for lack of funds. In many cases, state or federal arts or cultural funding is available, but these groups cannot afford processing fees to meet application requirements. It is time to start helping our own.

MEMBERSHIP. Donations are accepted in any amount. All donations will be acknowledged and may be used as charitable contributions on your tax return. As a member, you can suggest any worthwhile cause: a donation to a local Polish American museum; veteran's group; scholarship fund; dance group, etc. Our board reviews these suggestions and creates a ballot of the most-requested causes/recipients, which will then be voted on by current mem-



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bers. (Membership is yearly, starting with the date of your most recent donation). All members reserve the right to abstain from being a voting member.

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Happenings: Chicago Style

38th Annual "Taste of Polonia" is a Success

by Geraldine Balut Coleman

CHICAGO — It was Friday, September 1, and Lawrence Avenue traffic was backed up as far as the eye could see. The line to get into **Taste of Polonia** was halfway down the block. Why? The 38th annual Taste of Polonia Festival was about to begin. With the Labor Day weekend weather being pleasant and festival-friendly, it was no wonder that the Taste of Polonia had close to 40,000 visitors. As soon as 5 p.m. arrived, the gate and ticket booth opened. It appeared as though the attendees' first objective was to purchase Polish culinary delights or Polish beer. However, the polka music could be heard in the background. Within a half hour, the audience filled almost 200 chairs to hear and dance to the music of the ever-popular **Ampol Aires** polka band.

The four-day festival featured four music stages with over 30 bands to satisfy polka, pop, jazz, and reggae enthusiasts. There was a gambling casino inside the Copernicus Center, and carnival-style rides and games for the children. The Mitchell Kobelinski Theater (formerly the Gateway Theater) featured concerts by the Lincolnwood Chamber Orchestra, the Chopin Music Society, the Paderewski Symphony Orchestra, a Sunday Polish Mass featuring the Chór Chopina, the Whispers Dance Ensemble, Amy Maniak, (a 17-year-old singing wonder specializing in pop and k-pop music, a South Korean pop music that uses audiovisual elements), and the Polonia Ensemble.

However, a must-see was the 16-panel exhibit on the history of Chicago's Polish heritage. This Polish Museum of America traveling exhibit, "**Polish Past in Chicago, 1850-1941**," was on display in the Copernicus Center's Annex during all days of the "Taste of Polonia" after opening in May at the Thompson Center, the State of Illinois Building. Julita Siegel, the Museum's photography collection curator, expertly curated this exhibit. Also, a special documentary film focusing on Tadeusz Kościuszko, a Revolutionary War hero and the engineer who helped build military fortifications at West Point during the Revolutionary War, was shown in the inside theater on Saturday at 3:15 PM.

The Festival's volunteers made this four-day event a success. Proceeds of this festival benefit the Copernicus Foundation, a 501c(3) foundation. It also underwrites and sponsors local not-for-profit organizations, numerous community events, and performing arts groups.

POL AM AND HER WALLEYE.

This news item is for PAJ's fishing enthusiasts. It may not seem to be major news, but it is a real fish story: All **Jackie Wojciechowski Nishi** wanted was one last fishing excursion before the start of school on the Tuesday after Labor Day. So, very early Wednesday morning on August 23, prior to sunrise, there was Jackie along with her dad, Steven Wojciechowski, and sister, Danielle, at Montrose Harbor, a popular Lake Michigan fishing site for Chicagoans. This morning, the Wojciechowski family would catch only one fish- the rare walleye. Fishermen don't usually catch walleye on Chicago's lakefront. According to Jackie, after her third cast and with her line crossed with her sister's, they discovered that the fish had two hooks in its mouth. She feels as though the entire family



The Ampol Aires.



Jackie Wojciechowski Nishi

caught this fish. What kind of fish? A salmon? No! A bass? No! It was a walleye!

The 24-inch walleye weighed in at 5.5 pounds at Park Bait, Chicago's oldest continuous bait shop, just two blocks from Montrose Harbor. Walleye are such a rarity on Chicago's lakefront that when one is caught it becomes a story to tell.

There are a few reasons why walleye have disappeared from the Chicago lakefront. The last recorded walleye caught was on September 11, 2008, when Mike Osuch of Stickney, Illinois, caught one that weighed 7 lbs. 5.5 oz. off the southern tip of Northerly Island (formerly downtown's Meigs Field Airport). Ichthyologists believe the walleye may be coming from the shores of Indiana or southwestern Michigan.

Nishi, a native Chicagoan, lives in Chicago's Northwest Side Belmont Cragin neighborhood. She is a fourth grade teacher at Marvin Camras Grammar School. A Chicago Public Schools teacher for nine years, she will certainly have a story to tell her students when it's time for "What did you do during your summer vacation?"

WARSAW UPRISING REMEMBERED.

On July 30, surviving participants of the Warsaw Uprising and Polish World War II veterans living in the Chicago area gathered at the Polish Soldiers Monument at Maryhill Cemetery in Niles, Illinois. They were joined by members of Chicago's Polonia to celebrate a solemn Mass in memory of the **Warsaw Uprising**. The outdoor Mass was celebrated by **Father Marcin Zasada**, associate pastor of St. Thomas of Villanova Parish, Palatine, Ill.

At the monument, a siren was sounded to commemorate the 73rd anniversary of the Uprising, and, as has been the custom every year throughout Poland, a minute of silence was observed in memory of

the heroic Polish insurgents. The group then sang the Polish national anthem.

On August 13, the Chicago Chapter of the Polish Army Veterans Association, Post 90, gathered with its women's auxiliary corps to celebrate its anniversary. The festivities began with a Mass held at St. Ferdinand Church on Chicago's Northwest Side. The event memorialized the Polish Armed Forces which fought bravely during World War II and to honor its veterans. Also joining the Polish Army veterans were the Association of Friends of Polish Ulanow, its General Tadeusz Kościuszko Post, the Polish Historical Association, and members of other auxiliary corps. All were greeted by **Father Jason (Zdzislaw) Torba**, pastor of St. Ferdinand.

During Mass, prayers were offered for the fallen, especially those from the **Warsaw Uprising**, and for soldiers presently serving in the armed forces. Next to the altar were memorable posters of veterans, historical associations, and mountaineers. Among guests attending the Mass, in addition to the veterans, were Poland's Consul General Piotr Janicki, representatives from Polish organizations, and local politicians. **Grzegorz Dąbrowski** received the Cross of Merit from the Polish Army Veterans Association of America.

"ORANGE FLARE" BURNED UP

THE TRACK. On August 12, ComEd (formerly Commonwealth Edison) held its 4th annual Icebox Derby. This particular competition is only open to girls from 13-18 years of age. This year, there were 230 applicants, from which only 30 were chosen. Each of the six teams had five girls. Since diversity is ComEd's main focus, the teams are multi-ethnic and multi-cultural. Each team was given an old refrigerator from ComEd's Fridge and Freezer



Polish Soldiers Monument

Recycling Program to transform into an electric vehicle. Within three weeks and through team effort and with help from a ComEd mentor/engineer, each five-girl team transformed that old fridge into an electric vehicle. With only 24% of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) professionals being women, ComEd's goal is to increase that percentage.

The **Orange Flare** team was the winner with each of the five-team members receiving a \$2,500 scholarship. Among the Orange Flare participants was **Francesca Rogozinski**.

"Frenchy," as she is called by her family and friends, is a senior at Fenwick High School in Oak Park, Illinois. She is a member of Fenwick's varsity softball team, the National Honor Society, Student Council, and is a bass player in the school's orchestra.

She films, produces, and live streams Fenwick sports events, along with live-streaming various programs per the request of the school. They are posted through the Fenwick YouTube channel and Facebook.

Among the community service programs Francesca engages in, she is most active in recycling school supplies for children in need. In 2014, Francesca travelled with her church group to Kumasi, Ghana, to bring school supplies to a newly built school. In addition, Francesca will be a debutante in the March 2018 White and Red Ball hosted by Legion of Young Polish Women.

OUR LEGENDS, LEGENDY, LEY-

ENDAS. Through the efforts of the Chicago Culture Alliance, Polish, German, and Hispanic communities will join together to hold three multi-media workshops, on October 11 (**DANK Haus German American Cultural Center**), October 18 (**The Polish Museum of America**), and October 25 (**OPEN Center of the Arts**) to discuss **Ignacio Zaragoza, Friedrich von Steuben, and Tadeusz Kościuszko**. These three culturally diverse men had one common trait: they were all legends. The workshops will explore what happens when legendary figures come from real life. The workshops will discuss how these men are remembered and honored today, explore issues of cultural heritage, examine why communities need legends, and explore the differences between truth and fantasy among heroes.

It is interesting to note that Zaragoza led the victorious Mexican army that subsequently defeated the invading French forces at the Battle of Puebla (May 5,

1862). This defeat is celebrated in both the United States and Mexico as *Cinco de Mayo*, a holiday which symbolizes Mexico's determination to thwart foreign aggression. Von Steuben was George Washington's inspector general and a major general of the Continental Army during the American Revolutionary War. He is credited with teaching members of the Continental Army the essentials of military drills, tactics, and disciplines.

SMOLIGA TO DESIGN SWIMWEAR. FINIS, Inc., a worldwide leader in technical swimwear innovations, recently announced the



Elzbieta, Olivia (Gold Medal), Matthew, Tomasz Smoliga in Rio.

signing of 2016 Olympic Gold Medalist and World Champion, **Olivia Smoliga**, a native of Glenview, Illinois. Smoliga signed a long-term contract with this leading swim brand that extends through the 2020 Olympic Games.

"I am very excited to finally be joining team FINIS! They understand swimmers' needs above all else — it isn't 'just business.' They strive to make their athletes happy and a happy athlete is a successful one," said Smoliga. She's been working with FINIS for the past few months helping behind the scenes to develop the best technical racing swimwear on the market.

FINIS's CEO, John Mix, mentioned that she will be one of FINIS's familiar faces at Tokyo's 2020 Olympic Games. "We believe she is going to be a key player in the future development of our products and our company," he said.

Olivia is a graduate of Glenview South High School and the University of Georgia.

*Gdy Św. Marek,
z mrozem przybywa,
Babie Lato, Krótkie bywa.
If it is freezing on St. Mark's
(October 7), Indian Summer
will be short.*

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

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Toledo Polonia

Twenty Year Dream Becomes a Reality



Thanks to the efforts of brothers Jeff and John Nowakowski, Toledo now has another Great Lakes historical gem, former U.S. Coast Guard vessel, #44334.

by Margaret
Zotkiewicz-Dramczyk

As early morning cloud cover gave way to sunny skies on the banks of the Maumee River on August 19th, 2017, a group of onlookers anxiously awaited the arrival of a unique boat. At precisely 9:30 a.m., the 44-foot former U.S. Coast Guard vessel, #44334 docked in its new home port at the Toledo Yacht Club. MLB 44334 is coming by arrangement of The Last Patrol Museum with the goal of making Toledo MLB 334's permanent home. The boat will be painted and renumbered as part of its retirement and re-use as an educational ship.

Officially designated a motor lifeboat, MLB 44334 was built in 1965 for the U.S. Coast Guard and served many years on the Great Lakes with a primary mission of coastal rescue. The boat spent its entire working life on the Great Lakes, in ports such as Michigan City, Lorain, and Marblehead.

The crowd consisted of local dignitaries, and the U.S. Navy Sea Cadet Staff, joined by current and

retired U.S. Coast Guard personnel, members of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, as well as U.S. Navy Active duty, veterans and merchant marines, members of the press, and well-wishers.

Thanks in part to the efforts of brothers Jeff and John Nowakowski, Toledo now has another Great Lakes historical gem. The U.S. Navy Sea Cadets Commodore Perry Division will train aboard the vessel, allowing youth ages 10 to 18 years old hands-on, seagoing experience. Since the goal of the Navy Sea Cadets is to give young people a taste of military experience without any obligation to join the armed services, access to this ship gives a rare opportunity.

"This partnership will give our Cadets practical experience on the water," says Lieutenant Jeff Nowakowski, commanding officer of the local U.S. Navy Sea Cadets unit. "We can teach students military discipline, teamwork and lifesaving skills in a classroom, but the best way for anyone to learn these skills is to be part of a crew aboard a ship. Now we have that chance."

John Nowakowski, former commander of the U.S. Navy Sea Cadets and currently commanding officer of The Last Patrol, a local non-profit organization, sees this effort as a win-win for the community.

"We've been trying to arrange a U.S. military museum ship to be berthed here for decades. The MLB 44334's current owner has been kind enough to let us sail her here so we can work on developing sponsorships and funding to make her a permanent part of our community." After several previous attempts to secure a museum boat proved unsuccessful, the arrival of MLB 44334 marks a major milestone for the group.

Along with the Nowakowski brothers, the efforts of William Church, John Trumbull, Alan Harris, and Sandy Schwab made this donation possible.

A long-term goal is to expand and allow Navy Sea Cadet units from around the country and other youth groups, such as the Boy Scouts and Girls Scouts, to train aboard MLB 44334. With Toledo being the new home of the National Museum of the Great Lakes, as well as the Toledo Maritime Academy, having a working ship for youth will expand opportunities for young people to learn about life on the Great Lakes.

The U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps (U.S.NSCC) is a federally-chartered non-profit youth organization for young people, ages 10 through the completion of high school. U.S.NSCC is comprised of two programs: the senior program, the Naval Sea Cadet Corps (NSCC), is for young people, ages 13 through the completion of high school. The junior program, the Navy League Cadet Corps (NLCC), is for young people, ages 10 through 13. The U.S. Navy Sea Cadet Commodore Perry Division has 31 cadets and is open to any interested boys & girls.

More information is available at ToledoSeaCadets.org.

The Pondering Pole

Heritage for a Day, Month, or Lifetime

by Ed Poniewaz

On August 22, 2017 the Poniewaz family welcomed into the world a granddaughter, June Aniela. She is the second grandchild for *dzia dzia* Edziu Poniewaz, a.k.a. The Pondering Pole, and of course she is adorable. We love you Junie Aniela and are so glad you are here!

SEEN ON YOUTUBE was a 2005 interview of the famous actor Morgan Freeman on the television magazine 60 Minutes with Mike Wallace where Freeman said "he found the concept of Black History Month to be "ridiculous" and maintained the way to get rid of racism was to "stop talking about it." Mike Wallace was puzzled that he would say such a thing and so Freeman asked Wallace, "what are you?" Mike answered, "Jewish," and then Morgan asked him, "Do you celebrate Jewish history month?" Wallace said no, he didn't, as there isn't one.

So Morgan Freeman made the point about acknowledging something that from its basic sense or principle does not need recognition. If a person is secure in their own "skin," would they need specialized reinforcement that seems redundant or trite? We could say the same about the month of October which

is Polish Heritage month. At this point, do we need a month to realize what it means to be Polish? If you ask me, well, I think you need not just a month, but a lifetime to fully understand the length and breathe of our people's history and culture and that still wouldn't be enough.

I heard a wonderful homily by a priest at the Labor Day weekend Mass. He said at some point before or after the day off, the celebrating, and the relaxing to take time to reflect on the meaning and reason for the holiday. Considering the idea of labor, how many of us actually look at our hands, contemplate the sacredness of the employment and work that we do each day, with our hands, with our minds, with our hearts in many cases, and how lucky we are to be able and willing to labor when others don't or cannot.

Heritage is like that. I think for most of us the very thought that we have a month, whether we are the only ones that notice it or not, is a good thing. It is a great thing really. Hopefully we will use the month to not only to relish our history and culture in temporal ways (and those ways I like a lot!!) but to go deeper in our appreciation for what we have and how far we have come in our skin. An acquaintance had the idea for Polish Heritage month to forgo

the festivities at the bar and instead read a book written by a Polish author or watch a movie with a Polish actor, theme, or story. I found that pleasantly enlightening and a suitable companion to sloshing down a few *zywiec* beers. As with Christmas, you don't want to forget the reason for the season, or as we like to say, like Polish Heritage month.

LET'S START WITH A THOUSAND WORDS... Parents or grandparents looking for a heritage enhancing tool to hand down might want to check out the book *First Thousand Words in Polish*. The description of the book on the website states that there are "1000 everyday words illustrated with pictures and busy scenes to help children learn key vocabulary." You can find more information at Usborne Quicklinks, (<https://www.usborne.com>). I have ordered a number of copies already.

POLISH OR NOT? David Lawrence "Dave" Hlubek (born August 28, 1951, died September 3, 2017) was the lead guitarist and founding member of the rock band Molly Hatchet. Molly continued the Southern rock movement into the '80s and '90s and was known for the hit song "Flirtin' with Disaster." Dave, the Polish-looking Hlubek,



CONNECTICUT SCHOLARS. The Polish American Cultural Society of Stamford, Conn. awarded its 2017 scholarships. Pictured with recipients are (l. to r.): Treasurer John Zelinsky; Cassidy Colosi; President Jerzy Karwowski; Karol Suchowiecki; Mateusz Nowogrodzki; Alexandra Samelco; and Scholarship Chairman Patricia Koproski. Missing from the photo are: Dominika Brice; Jessica Koproski; Samantha Koproski; and Peter Pawelski. These students will all be attending school this fall at various colleges and universities.

INDIANA

PORTAGE — Greg Archer, an award-winning multimedia journalist and author of "Grace Revealed: A Memoir," will speak about his serendipitous journey uncovering his Polish family's odyssey during World War II, at 6 p.m. Oct. 11th at the Portage Public Library, 2665 Irving St., Portage, Ind.

Learn about the underreported story of Joseph Stalin's mass deportation of nearly one million Polish citizens in the 1940s, a mother's quest to keep her family alive, and how to heal the past by exploring it, exposing it, and sharing it.

Survivors of Stalin's deportations will speak and answer questions during the free program, which also features a video presentation.

Copies of Mr. Archer's books will sell for \$20 each (cash or personal check). The event is hosted by the Polish American Cultural Society of Northwest Indiana in conjunction with the library in recognition of Polish American Heritage Month.

For more information, call (219) 763-1508.

OHIO

TOLEDO — The 238th Memorial Observance of the death of General Kazimierz Pulaski will take place at the Gazebo of Lincoln Park, Tremont, Oct. 14, 2017 at 11:00 a.m.

The event is promoted by the Polonia Foundation of Ohio, Inc., the Polish Legion of American Veterans USA, and all Polish organizations comprising Polonia.

This year's observance moved to Lincoln Park in consideration of the Polish Veterans Posts located in Tremont, and also in remembrance of the Polish Organizations that were part of the fabric of Tremont in the near past.

Residents of Tremont are welcome to attend and learn about General Pulaski and the strong influence that Polish organizations had in the community.

PENNSYLVANIA

PHILADELPHIA — On September 17, 2017 the Polish Heritage Society of Philadelphia sponsored a poetry recital at the Associated Polish Home. Guest speaker was Anthony P. Krzywicki, board director of the Polish Heritage Society, and president of the Jagiellonian Law Society. Anthony's inspiration comes from his internal world of thought, meditation, prayer and speaking his truth on the power of intuition and passion.

MINNESOTA

MINNEAPOLIS — Polish language classes start in October at Polish American Cultural Institute of Minnesota (PACIM) Library, 43 Main St. SE, Suite 228, as follows:

- **Advanced class** (Oct. 2-Dec. 18): Monday 5:30-7:15 p.m.;
- **Beginner class** (Oct. 2 - Dec. 18): Monday 7:30-8:45 p.m., and;
- **Continuing Beginners** (Oct. 3 - Dec. 19): Tuesday 5:30-7:15 p.m.

The cost for 12 sessions is \$80 for PACIM members, \$90 for non-members. All classes use three books: *Hurra Discovering Polish, a Learner's Grammar*; *Hurra Po Polsku 1 — Zeszyt Cwiczen, Malolepsza, Szymkiewicz*; and *Hurra Po Polsku 1, Podrecznik Studenta, Malolepsza, Szymkiewicz*. All are available on Amazon.com.

To register, visit, www.pacim.org or call (612) 378-9291.

WASHINGTON, D.C.

The 2017 Rowny Paderewski Scholarship Fundraising Concert, co-sponsored by the Embassy of the Republic of Poland, was held Sept. 16. Pianist Solomon Eichner performed this year. He is a versatile, world-class artist, known for his vast piano repertoire.

Polish or not?

Sabina Gadecki is an American actress and model and quite a looker. She is from the great Polish enclave, Chicopee, Massachusetts, and both of her parents are Polish. She has appeared in a number of fashion mags and on some of the more popular movies and television shows. Check her out.

DENIED. We all know the sweet tenor voice of the half-Polish, half-Hungarian **Peter Cetera** from the rock group Chicago. Besides being the dominant sound for many of the group's hits, he wrote many of them as well. Many of the syrupy ballads for which Cetera is famous resulted from the collaboration with Steven Foster, quite a huge song-writer in his own right. Cetera was inducted into the Songwriters Hall of Fame in February 2017, but was later rejected because he could not attend the inductee ceremony. Seems like a silly rule. I am still counting him a Hall-of-Famer in that category.

IF YOU HAVE A QUESTION or have interesting facts to share, contact me at: Edward Poniewaz, 6432 Marmaduke Ave., St. Louis, MO 63139; email alinabrig@yahoo.com. N.B. If you send email, reference the Polish American Journal.

Polonia of the Eastern Great Lakes

Pula to Discuss Kosciuszko, October 10

by Michael Pietruszka

Former Polish Union of America National Vice President **Chester Korda** recently passed away ... For a third consecutive year, the **Kosciuszko Foundation** has not provided a teaching fellow for the State University of New York at Buffalo (SUNYAB) Polish Studies Program ... The **Polish Cadets of Buffalo Federal Credit Union** expanded into a second location on Transit Road in Elma ... On September 2nd, **Polish National Union of Canada Branch #1** hosted a reading and screening of Stanislaw Wyspianski's "Wesele" at its Etobicoke, Ontario clubrooms ... Polish singer-songwriter, actor, director and poet **Stan Borys** performed at Paderewski Park in Vaughan, Ontario on the 3rd ... The **New Direction Band and Harmony Polish Folk Ensemble** performed at the "Polish Night" in Gill Creek Park in Niagara Falls on the 6th. This event was co-sponsored by the Niagara Polish Cultural and Historical Society, Polish Nook Restaurant, and Niagara Street Business Association ... The 26th Annual **"Farewell to Summer"** benefit for the Orchard Lake Seminary in Michigan was held on September 7th at the Millennium Hotel in Cheektowaga.

The **SUNYAB Polish Student Association** held its first general meeting of the semester in Baldy Hall on September 7th ... St. Gabriel Parish in Elma hosted the **Polish Genealogical Society of NYS's** 9th Annual Genealogical Fair on September 9th. Julie Roberts Szczepankiewicz presented on "Grandma Said She was from Poznan: An Introduction to Polish Genealogy" as part of the event ... On the 10th, the **General Pulaski Association** honored 15 outstanding women of Polish descent at its 45th Annual Pulaski Parade Banquet at the Millennium Hotel ... The **Polish Scholarship Fund** hosted a "Thank You" picnic for the Syracuse Polish Festival volunteers and sponsors at Lakeland Park, and the **Polski Dom 2000** in Kitchener, Ontario held its "Dozynki" featuring the Polky Village Band, on the 10th as well.

On September 11th, the **Permanent Chair of Polish Culture** at Canisius College presented Dr. Karolina Krasuska from the University of Warsaw to speak on "Women in the Holocaust" in Canisius' Regis Room ... The Professional and Business Women of Polonia presented local author **Sophie Hodorowicz Knab's** lecture on her latest book, "Wearing the Letter 'P': Polish Women as Forced Laborers on Nazi Germany, 1939-1945" at its September 13th meeting at the Millennium Hotel ... The 2017 **Roncesvalles Polish Festival**, North America's largest celebration of Polish culture

in Toronto, took place Sept. 16-17. Photo galleries can be found at <http://polishfestival.ca> ... September 16-17 brought **Krzysztof Kaminski** to the stage at St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish in Mississauga, Ontario in "Milosc Jest Najwazniejsza," a spectacle of the poetry and music of Karola Wojtyla.

The 12th Annual **Fulton Polish Fest** took place at the Fulton Polish Home on September 16th ... On September 16th, the **Jedliok Polish Academic Song and Dance Ensemble** from Wroclaw performed at the Syracuse Polish Home. The group then moved on to the Wick Center of Daemen College in Amherst for a concert on the 17th ... The Meeting House in Oakville, Ontario presented "Kabaret Moralnego Niepokoju," "Paranienormalni," "Kabaret Skeczow Mezczych," and Jerzy Krzyszak as part of **"Polish Cabaret Night 2017"** on September 22nd ... On September 26th, **Eva Doyle**, host of the "Eye on History" radio program, spoke to the Niagara Polish Cultural and Historical Society on "The Black Madonna of Czestochowa" at the Niagara Falls Public Library ... **Canisius College** hosted Dr. Graham Hodges of Colgate University for a lecture on "Kosciuszko in Celebration of the UNESCO Year of Kosciuszko" in the Student Center on September 28th ... The 38th Annual **Dozynki Polish Harvest Festival** was held on the Corpus Christi Parish grounds in Buffalo's Historic Polonia District, Sept. 29-Oct. 1. Music was supplied by Special Delivery. The 10th Annual Buffalo's Best Pierogi Contest was held as part of the festival ... The 5th Annual **Jackie Schmid Memorial Scholarship** Fundraiser was held at the Potts Banquet Hall on the 30th. PhoCus performed at the event.

UPCOMING. The Radose-Joy Song and Dance Ensemble of Toronto will hold a **Polish song and dance workshop** at Assumption Parish's International Festival in Buffalo's Black Rock neighborhood on October 1st ... **Dr. Karolina Krasuska** will speak on the "POLIN Museum of the History of the Polish Jews" at Daemen College on the 3rd ... Part one ONE of the **Rochester Polish Film Festival** will be a tribute to Andrzej Wajda, featuring "A Generation," Oct. 5, "Canal," Oct. 12, "Ashes and Diamonds," Oct. 19, and "Man of Iron," Oct. 26. The films will be screened at the Dryden Theatre in Downtown Rochester.

On Oct. 10, the WNY Chapter of the Kosciuszko Foundation and Polish American Congress WNY Division, Inc. will sponsor a reception at the Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society honoring American Revolutionary War hero General Thaddeus Kosciuszko. Historian **Dr. James Pula** will be the keynote speaker at the event.

The Skalny Center for Polish and Central European Studies at the

University of Rochester will present Polish author Wojciech Nowicki for a discussion and book signing entitled "Memory and Fiction: Wojciech Nowicki's Salki" on the university's River Campus on the 10th ... The **Permanent Chair of Polish Culture** at Canisius College, in conjunction with the Buffalo International Film Festival, will present its annual Buffalo Polish Film Festival Oct. 12-15. This year's screenings will include Marie Nolle's "Marie Curie: The Courage of Knowledge," Maria Sadowska's "The Art of Loving: Story of Michalina Wislocka," Maciej Adamek's "Two Worlds," and Anna Zamecka's "Communion" ... "Quo Vadis 2017 Nowa Fala," the latest installment of the Quo Vadis Conference which is designed to provide students and young professionals of Polish descent with the opportunity to network, exchange Polish Community experiences and develop leadership skills, will take place in Burlington, Ontario on October 13-14.

The **Polish Heritage Dancers of WNY** will host their 20th Anniversary Gala at Kloc's Grove in West Seneca on October 14th ... The **Chopin Singing Society** will present its 118th annual concert at St. Stanislaus Church in Buffalo on October 15th. The honoree for this year's concert is Eileen Koteris Elibol of WNE-D-TV. The Chopin Choir will perform, accompanied by the Amherst Chamber Ensemble ... **Sophie Hodorowicz Knab** will discuss her latest book, "Wearing the Letter 'P': Polish Women as Forced Laborers on Nazi Germany, 1939-1945," at Canisius College on the 18th ... On October 20th Canisius College will be screening "The Strategist," a biography of Zbigniew Brzezinski, in conjunction with the exhibition of "doodles - Drawings of Subconscious Amusement by Zbigniew Brzezinski" ... On October 24th, **Dr. Malgorzata Kolaczek** of the Jagiellonian University will address the "European Migrant Crisis and Minorities" as part of the University of Rochester's Skalny Lecture Series on the River Campus ... The **Canadian Polish Congress** will host "Polonia Night" at the Mississauga Grand Banquet Hall on the 26th. The event seeks to recognize the contributions of Polonia and Poles to Canada as that country marks its 150th birthday.

An exhibit of the artworks of **Wieslaw Skibinski** continues at the Karamoukian Gallery on the Daemen College campus in Amherst until October 27th. The exhibit is co-sponsored by the Polish Studies Program and Visual and Performing Arts Department at Daemen as well as the Polish Arts Club of Buffalo ... The Msgr. Adamski **Polish Saturday School** will host its Annual Banquet at the Millennium Hotel in Cheektowaga on October 28th ... The **Niagara Historical Society Museum** in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario will present an exhibit "Kosciuszko Camp: The Polish Army at Niagara Camp, 1917-1919" from November 1, 2017

Saint John Kanty Parish to Cap Anniversary Celebration with Mass and Dinner



BUFFALO, N.Y. — In November 1892, the cornerstone was set in place for **Saint John Kanty Roman Catholic Church**, located on Broadway between Brownell and Swinburne Streets. The new church was established to provide a third worship site for a growing Polish community on Buffalo's East side.

On November 19, 2017 at 1:00 p.m., Bishop Richard Malone, along with graduates of the church school, will celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving to commemorate 125 years as a parish community. Following Mass, dinner and dancing will take place at the Millennium Hotel in Cheektowaga. Dinner tickets can be purchased by calling the rectory (716) 893-0412 from 9:00-noon, Mon-Fri). Tickets will also be available in the church vestibule before weekend Masses (4:00 p.m. Saturday; 10:30 a.m. Sunday) until November 5, the deadline to purchase tickets.

The cost is \$40 and includes hors d'oeuvres from 3:00-4:00 p.m., followed by a family style dinner. Wine is included with dinner and a cash bar will be available. Rare Vintage will provide music for dancing. Group seating is available upon request.

Further information on the church can be found at www.saint-johnkanty.com.

through November 15, 2018 ... On December 3rd, the **Polish Singers Alliance of American District IX** will present its Annual Festival of Polish Christmas Song at St. Stanislaus Church in Buffalo's Historic Polonia District ... The **Polish Arts Club of Buffalo** will host its Wigilia Celebration at Kloc's Grove in West Seneca on December 17th ... The Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto continues to exhibit "The Evidence

Room," an examination of the role of architecture in the construction of Auschwitz, through January 28, 2018.



If you have an item for this column, please send the information by the 6th day of the month preceding publication month (i.e. October 6th for the November issue) to pietruszkaj@verizon.net.

Long Live the Kapla and
Dlubisz Families!

SANDRA V. KAPLA

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President

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POLISH CHILDREN'S HEARTLINE (a non-profit corporation, State of New Jersey) begins its 32nd 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. "If we don't help our Polish children, who will?" —Doreen Patras Cramer, President

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

Sports

J.J. Watt Goes All Out to Help Houston — with a Little Help from Mom

by Tom Tarapacki

J.J. Watt is an All Pro defensive end for the Houston Texans, but his achievements on the football field pale in comparison to what he's done off the field for his adopted home town. The Wisconsin native launched an on-line effort to raise money for Hurricane Harvey relief, setting a goal of \$200,000. Within weeks, his charity had collected more than \$18.5 million.

A key figure in that effort has been J.J.'s mom, the former **Connie Lynn Walczak**. She raised three very successful student-athletes: J.J. Watt was drafted 11th overall by the Houston Texans in 2011, and he's received the AP NFL Defensive Player of the Year Award three times in his first five seasons; Derek Watt, was taken in the sixth round, No. 198 overall, by San Diego last year; and T.J. Watt, who was taken in the first round of this year's draft by the Pittsburgh Steelers with the No. 30 pick.

Connie also had a 23-year career at Independent Inspections, Ltd. and served as both vice president and human resource manager. She's now vice president of her son's Justin J. Watt Foundation. When J.J. started his relief drive with a series of videos, she coordinated the collection efforts back in Wisconsin. With the help of volunteers she counted and recounted tens of thousands of dollars in small donations at her kitchen table. She also turned Pewaukee High School, the alma mater of the Watt boys, into a giant pantry for relief supplies. A second pickup location was eventually needed, however.

Now she is working on a plan to send the supplies to the people of Houston 1,000 miles away, and decide how to handle the money. The J. J. Watt Foundation's largest event every year is a softball tournament in Houston that usually raises a little



J.J. Watt and his mom, the former Connie Lynn nee Walczak.

over \$1 million, a far cry from what has been collected for Harvey relief. "I had no idea, obviously, what it was going to turn into," Ms. Watt said.

According to the website ethnicelebs.com, Connie is of Polish heritage. The father of her husband, John, was James Watt, who was the son of Scottish-born James Watt and Helen Pavlowski.

Already one of the most popular athletes in the state, J.J. Watt has risen to new heights in the hearts and minds of Texans. He also raised his fundraising goal from \$200,000 to \$20 million.

RISING STAR. Poland's **Daria Pajak** won her first Professional Women's Bowling Association championship by winning the 2017 PWBA Greater Detroit Open. Daria picked up \$10,000 with the victory.

The 24-year-old right hander dedicated the victory to her father, who encouraged her to come to the United States to pursue her bowling career. "My dad is a great man and has been my idol," Pajak said. "Coming to the States was something I always wanted, but if he didn't push me here, I don't think I would've ever made the decision."

With her intensity, exciting physical style and bubbly personality, Daria is widely regarded as one of

bowling's rising stars. A native of Pila in northwestern Poland, Daria was a champion in her homeland before she came to the U.S. and competed collegiately at Webber International University in Florida. She currently lives and trains in Florida.

After her win in Detroit, Pajak attempted to become the first international player since 1982 to win the U.S. Women's Open, but was defeated in the final by Polish American Liz Johnson. "I lost to the best bowler in the world, ever," Pajak said. It was the fourth consecutive Open win for Johnson, and sixth time overall. Pajak earned \$10,000 for the runner-up finish.

BELGIAN WINS POLISH TOUR.

Poland's **Rafal Majka** finished second in the seven-day Tour de Pologne cycling competition as Belgium's **Dylan Teuns** was the surprise winner. Teuns topped a strong field that included Majka, a 2014 winner, World Champion Peter Sagan and multiple Grand Tour winner Vincenzo Nibali. Top Poles included **Tomasz Marczyński** 16th, **Marek Rutkiewicz** 19th, and **Michał Golas** 57th. American **Joe Dombrowski**, in his first visit to Poland, finished 66th.

The TdP, as it is known, is a stage race which was started in 1928 by the newspaper *Pzegląd Sportowy* and the Warsaw Cycling Society, and has been organized annually since 1952. This year it featured short stages and no time trial. It has risen in prominence since 1993, when **Czesław Lang**, the 1980 Summer Olympics cycling silver medalist and the winner of the 1980 TdP, took over as director.

Meanwhile, Poland's **Michał Kwiatkowski**, who earned kudos for his role in Team Sky's Chris Froome winning the 2017 Tour de France, had his contract extended by Team Sky through 2020.



IT'S NEVER TOO LATE. **Stasia Kowalski** (above) didn't learn to swim until she was almost 40 because she was afraid of the water. Now, at age 92, she swims two or three times a week in the summer-time, usually completing as many as 30 lengths of the pool. During the 41st Annual Lakeside Masters Long Course Invitational, Kowalski's 4:08.80 for the 100-meter

backstroke shattered the 90-94 age bracket's previous record set in August 2002, of 4:19.03.

A feature in *USA Today* pointed out that Kowalski uses a cane to walk, but doesn't need one in the pool." Just because you're in your 90s doesn't mean life is over," Kowalski said. "There's always something exciting to do, if you want to."



DOBA COMPLETES SOLO TRANS-ATLANTIC TRIP. About 100 people in the northwestern Polish city of Police welcomed home **Aleksander Doba** (above), who completed his third solo kayak trip across the Atlantic.

Doba, who just turned 71, arrived in his home town in his specially adapted kayak, on a trailer and was greeted by city officials, residents, friends and family.

Doba said he was "very happy" to have crossed the Atlantic, adding that he would not attempt to cross the Atlantic again, after his most difficult trip yet.

Doba set off from the United States on May 16 to arrive at the northwestern coast of France, 5000 miles, and just two minutes shy of exactly 100 days later.

He said he ran into a "couple of storms."

"The strongest was between eight and ten on the Beaufort scale. No one has ever survived such a storm on such a small vessel. As you can see I am alive but the kayak is a little worse for wear."

In 2010, Doba crossed the Atlantic at its "easiest" and narrowest spot, between Senegal and Brazil, in 99 days, and kayaked from Lisbon to Florida in 167 days in 2013.

MR. CLEAN SHEET. **Brad Guzan** has been playing soccer for a long time, but he recently picked up a new nickname: "Mr. Clean Sheet."

He has a shaved head like Mr. Clean, and as a goalie he has a propensity for turning in clean sheets, or shut-outs.

Born in Evergreen Park, Ill, the U.S. national team goalkeeper played in his youth at the Chicago Magic Soccer Club and for the varsity soccer team at Providence Catholic High School. A college soccer second-team All-American for the South Carolina Gamecocks, Guzan was second overall pick in the 2005 MLS SuperDraft, signing with Chivas USA. He was the 2007 MLS Goalkeeper of the Year, and the following year he joined Aston Villa for a fee of \$1 million. He made over 100 English Premier League appearances.

Earlier this year Guzan returned

to the United States after signing a contract with recently-formed MLS team Atlanta United. On his return to the MLS he kept a clean sheet as Atlanta United beat Orlando City 1-0.

YOU CAN'T KEEP A GOOD MAN DOWN. Despite undergoing another knee replacement, it doesn't seem that Duke's **Mike Krzyzewski** intends to slow down in his quest for another national title. The Blue Devils' title hopes got a big boost when they signed Marvin Bagley III, a 6-11 power considered one of the top players in the nation.

Coach K is 70, and has undergone six different surgeries since April 2016: total replacements of both knees as well as back, hernia and a couple of ankle repairs. Krzyzewski said the condition of the knee would have impacted his ability to coach through the upcoming season had he not taken care of it now.

AMERICAN SPORTS WEEKEND.

The U.S. embassy in Warsaw and American Center in Warsaw recently held an American Sports Weekend in the Polish capital. Organizers provided various attractions, including American football and baseball demonstrations, hands-on training sessions, an obstacle course and contests with prizes. The activities were led by professional players from the Polish League of American Football teams such as Warsaw Eagles, Warsaw Dukes, Crusaders Warszawa and Warsaw Sharks. Softball and baseball activities were carried out by Warsaw Diamonds softball team and Warsaw Dragons baseball team. Marines from the U.S. embassy demonstrated a "Marine Challenge" fitness assessment.

The event was held in Warsaw City Hall's Vistula District Recreation Zone on the "Poniatówka" beach at the Poniatowski Bridge.

PERKOSKI'S NOTEBOOK.

The world record for the 24-hour marathon on all surfaces for women was set by **Patrycja Berznowska** of Poland in July 2017. She finished the event, in which a competitor runs as far as they can in 24 hours, with a total distance of 160.524 miles ... Polish sailor **Zygfryd Perlicki** who represented his country at the 1972 Summer Olympics, died at 85 ... Poland's **Pawel Fajdek** has won his third world hammer throw championship title, with a gold medal-winning throw of 79.81 meters at the athletics championships in London. Poland's **Wojciech Nowicki** won bronze ... **Anita Włodarczyk** also won gold, defending her hammer throw world championship title, and **Malwina Kopron** won bronze ... Poland's national soccer squad has moved up one spot to fifth place in a new FIFA ranking, its highest spot ever since the ranking was launched in 1992. Poland's lowest place was 78th, in 2013 ... Despite missing some practice with an undisclosed injury, New Orleans rookie left tackle **Ryan Ramczyk** appears to be the likely starter at left tackle. He was the Saints' first round pick, 32nd overall ... Ravens fullback **Kyle Juszczyk** left for the San Francisco 49ers as a free agent.

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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.

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Resistance

Induction To Secret Court

by Regina Szamborska-McIntyre

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

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

CHAPTER XIX. Kaminski dropped by Michael's office after lunch.

"Come with me Bednarek. A meeting of the magistrates of the Secret Court is scheduled for two-thirty."

"This is sudden. When did you learn of this meeting?"

"Early this morning. Information on clandestine meetings are not sent out ahead of time."

"Give me a few minutes to put my files away."

"Hurry!"

"Will we be taking a tram?"

"No, the meeting spot is in walk-

ing distance."

They walked along together until they came to Buxom Street.

Kaminski's eyes darted about, scanning the area.

"Okay, we'll separate here. I'll make a quick stop at the distribution center across the street, and you continue on your way to the stationery store." He searched Michal's eyes. "You know Potopski?"

"I know that he's been marked a suspect collaborator."

"Go in and tell him you have need of legal pads for depositions."

Michal's eyebrows raised; a quizzical frown pulled at his forehead.

"Remember that old adage? Believe nothing you hear and only half of what you see." He put his hand on Michal's shoulder. "You're safe. Follow Potopski's instructions. I'll see you later."

He left Michal standing on the corner, perplexed. Was he really ready to invest himself in this sort of espionage? Right from the start he was expected to announce himself to a man who was rumored to be in collaboration with the Nazis. There seemed to be too many twists and turns involved in this covert life style.

He made his way to the station-

ery store and went in. There was no one in the shop. After a few moments he felt self-conscious and started to inspect the shelves as if he were looking for something.

"Pan Bednarek."

The sudden call of his name startled him. He turned in the direction of the voice.

"Good afternoon, Edward, I am in need of legal pads."

"I have packages of six; how many will you need?"

"Just the one, thank you."

Potopski brought the package to the register. He smiled broadly as his eyes darted between the two large windows that provided a view of the intersecting streets outside of his shop. Continuing to smile, he addressed his customer in his business-like style.

"Welcome Michal. At the back of the store, you'll find a huge closet. Push the coats aside and you'll find another door that leads to the basement. The light is already on; they're waiting for you."

Too confused to respond, he followed the instructions.

Three sharp pings startled him when he opened the second door. He paused. He could feel the muscles of his neck stiffen in response to the eerie feeling in his stomach. He lis-

tened intently; he was sure he heard scuffling down below. He proceeded cautiously down the steps.

"Bednarek, good you could come." Judge Peter Butkowski filed into the room. Michal was impressed; the judge was held in high esteem within the courts. Two other figures appeared from behind the tall pillars that served to buttress the foundation of the building.

Michal walked toward the judge and extended his hand.

"You know the Honorable Judge, Anton Matewski."

Michal took his hand, "Your honor."

Butkowski went on with the introductions. "Advocate Albert Pierski. Albert was about to be sworn in as a justice of the lower court, when all hell broke loose."

"I am well familiar with Michal Bednarek and his compelling gift of delivering a well prepared defense."

Michal offered a modest smile.

Butkowski opened the meeting. "Attorney Bednarek, we will have a courier bring the document of the rules and procedures of our covert court to your office."

He motioned to Pierski to begin.

"The defendant is one, Lieutenant Lukorski, of the Blue Police. Complaints have been made charg-

ing him with brutal treatment of the citizens of Warsaw in the execution of his duties. Allegedly, he has been active in the surveillance and consequent arrest of individuals he suspects of committing acts of disturbance against the General Government. At this time, we have enough signed complaints against him to begin proceedings."

Pierski looked at Michal. "We have other cases running at this time, all in different stages of the process. If you could take on the depositions of the people who have signed complaints, we could move this case forward to a conclusion."

"Certainly, give me the list and I'll begin tomorrow."

Butkowski smiled up at him. "Good, as soon as all legal procedures are completed and the Chief Delegate approves the sentence, we'll turn the case over to the K-Division for his execution."

continued next month

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

Sybiracy

Chelyabinsk Visit, Unfortunate Death

"Sybracy" (Poles exiled to Siberia during World War II) is written by Stefania Borstowa.

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

PART XXIV. I left Kostanay in the afternoon in a train. In the evening I was already in Chelyabinsk. The train that would bring me closer home, already left two hours ago, so I sat down, with my bundles, on the bench located at the square in front of the railway station. A couple passes by, then the man approached me with the question whether I am Polish. We talked a while and it became clear that we have lots in common. They were originally from Łódź, just like me and my family, an industrial city located in Central Poland near Warsaw. While visiting their family in Vilnius (Eastern Poland, now a capital of Lithuania) – they were resettled to Kazakhstan. The couple offered me to spend a night in their apartment. They had a room with kitchen, outhouse with a hearth, but with a running water in the kitchen. They had two children, eight and twelve years old.

DURING THE CONVERSATION, I learned that he was working in the administration of city Lodz, when a father of my sister in law was Lodz's mayor. They offered me to use a soap, so I could wash myself much better than usual. I was given a supper, breakfast and lunch the next day. They were really unusually welcoming and friendly. I received several gifts: one kilo of sugar for my son, jar of marmalade, shorts and sweater for Jedrek from their son, since he outgrew it, and also a bar of soap. Both of them took me to the railway station and bought a ticket. Early evening I was

in Lubieża and since I did not know what to do or where to go I decided to walk to the high steppe, that was located about one km away from the railway station. I laid down and went to sleep, in spite of the fact that I was worried about 10 thousands rubles that I had from Union of Polish Patriots in Kostanay.

In the morning, a warm sun woke me up. I stood up immediately since I realized that an athletically built man, who does not look like a local farmer, stands near me. He was an honest man, he just gave me an advice how should I walk, where should I try to find a car or horsecart, and hitch-hike to reach home as soon as I could. After I got to our region I visited a wife of a colonel in our village, after she signed the papers I gave her the money and packs of cloths. Then I went home and I made my family happy with extra white sugar, marmalade, white bread and cloths.

I REFLECTED ON MY VISIT in Chelyabinsk. I suspected that the Polish man joined the communistic Soviet party, since he had a good job in car plant as an accountant. In 1941 I was also given an opportunity to join the party, in exchange I was promised an apartment, twenty kilo of wheat and one kilo of sugar per month for the family. I rejected this offer and I never regretted it since.

Until the end of the year we had a plenty of work in the kolkhoz. We were also preparing supplies for winter – wood for heating, bread for exchange. We had to buy three cubic meters of wood to add to what we managed to bring from the forest. A man who was a forester, used to be a "pop" (orthodox priest), he visited us frequently. We always had a soup for him, sometimes some vodka. Thanks to our hospitality he was pretending that he does not see the wood, which was stored outside of our house. Once when it was really freezing outside he showed up already tipsy at our door. He insisted

that we give him vodka. He drunk two cups and became unconscious. We did not want to have any trouble, so we loaded him back to his sledge, covered with warm sheepskin coat and cut the horses to drive him off.

The next day we learned tragic news – the forester was found dead. People were commenting that he caused it himself since he covered his face with a skin blanket, so he was probably poisoned by alcohol's fumes and choked himself to death. We were horrified, for the next several months we trembled every time any governmental officials came to the village. Nothing happened to us, but we felt pangs of conscience for a long time. Then, the year 1943 came to the end with Christmas vigil, which was even more modest than before, but full of Christmas songs and prayer.

continued next month

— Reprinted courtesy of Jaga's Polish Culture Website at: www.polish-site.us

Growing Up Polish American

Surviving the Bullying

by Barbara Betlejewski

Overachieving is all about dysfunction.

Last month, I talked about how the upside (if there is one) to being an overachiever is these people have made great strides in technological breakthroughs.

Pacific Islanders, in contrast, make few scientific discoveries. They aren't damaged enough to become workaholics, because they have very loving, validating, child-rearing practices, and often live in a tropical paradise. They have nothing to prove. They are enough, just as they are. Only emotionally damaged children become overachievers. I know, because I was one.

And victimized children become victimizing adults. The child victim becomes the adult perpetrator. Our parents passed on to us what they could not give back to their parents. And we pass on to our children what we cannot give back to our parents, called the intergenerational transfer of abuse. Dysfunctional societies

breed overachievers with the emotional dis-ease of "never enough."


Overachievers frequently discover technological breakthroughs. Many of those breakthroughs, unfortunately, are used for aggression, violence, and war. But recovery is possible. Someone with the disease of "never enough" can learn that less is actually more, that we take nothing with us when we leave this earth except for our deeds and our memories, that we can release the frozen pain of childhood, and stop lashing out.

Sometimes I wonder how I survived the bullying of my childhood. Besides being Polish-American, I was raised Catholic in a Protestant area. We were poor, so my school clothes were always out of fashion. I was a brainy bookworm who wore glasses in a school where only jocks and cheerleaders were popular. And I was born with a rare skin condition called a giant congenital nevus that left me with substantial visible disfigurement. But since I grew up on a farm, I escaped frequently into the woods, into the beautiful, natural world of the Creator of the Universe, and I knew—somehow—that the fake, artificial world of my classmates and other humans was totally unimportant in the grand scheme of things.

I considered quitting school at age 16. However, I heard of the quote "The best way out is always through," by the poet Robert Frost in our English class, so I endured the misery for two more years until graduation.

continued next month

Barbara Betlejewska left her childhood farm in Ohio at age 18, and lived in many places throughout the United States and abroad for nearly 30 years. Her grandparents, who had emigrated from the partitioned areas of Poland in the 1910s, purchased the farm during the Great Depression to grow food to feed their family.



Become a member today

Polish American Historical Association

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

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

Polish American Historical Association
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1615 Stanley Street, New Britain, CT 06050
www.polishamericanstudies.org

Minnesota Voice

The Squeeze Facing Poland's Apple Industry

by Mark Dillon

Three years after the Polish government asked the United States to buy its apples in response to a Russian boycott, Washington still treats Poland's crop as forbidden fruit.

Polish farmers are shut out of the U.S. market even as other countries such as China are beginning to gain market share. Blame politics in top U.S. apple-producing states — the states of Washington and New York.

Two years ago the Obama Administration began to allow apples from China into the U.S. in the hope that it would spur a greater level of U.S. apple exports into China. That has occurred, especially from the State of Washington. However, since 2015, Chinese apple exports to the U.S. — mainly the Fuji variety — have increased more than expected, according to the USDA Foreign Agricultural Service.



Research Pomologist David Bedford manages apple and tree fruit breeding and evaluation programs at the University of Minnesota's Horticultural Research Center.

The open trade door with China also contrasts with some politicians' more recent call for a regulatory crackdown on Poland. On June 13, two Congressmen Dan Newhouse (R-WA) and Chris Collins (R-NY) asked the U.S. Department of Agriculture to "conduct a full disease and pest management risk analysis (PRA) for apples imported from Poland."

In a joint press release, the Congressmen said "we feel APHIS (Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services) systems approach proposal does not fully address key concerns raised by domestic apple growers about the potential risk from the importation of plant pests and diseases from Poland."

The Congressmen's request came even as India just two weeks earlier decided to ban imports of Chinese apples and pears for the same reasons — pests and disease. Indian government testing found 26 batches of Chinese apples infested with mealy bugs and fungus. Regulators said they had been warning China about the problem since January.

Only about 5% of all the apples on U.S. store shelves come from abroad, but the percentage has been rising, according to the U.S. Apple Association trade group. Most imports come in the fall, the peak demand season.

In Poland, the apple trade war with Russia since August 2014 — the fallout from Russian's takeover of Crimea and resulting global sanc-

tions — has been hard on farmers, especially in rural villages. Vladimir Putin's ban on imported apples meant the loss of Poland's largest export market at the same time that farmers were blessed with bumper crops. New export markets such as Vietnam and North Africa are starting to develop, but volume is low by comparison.

If Poland today had as easy access to the U.S. market as China, Chile, Canada or New Zealand, Polish farmers might still have to modify crops to fit American tastes. Europeans and Russians like their table apple texture soft while Americans prefer a crunchy and crispy apple, said David Bedford, an apple breeder in Minneapolis at the University of Minnesota's Horticultural Research Center (HRC). American apple tastes also vary by region, with northerners preferring tart and tangy while southerners tend toward the sweet.

The Minnesota center is a Silicon Valley of apple research. It has introduced 27 varieties of apples since 1908, including Honeycrisp, SweeTango, Zestar and Haralson. It is currently growing two Polish apples at its research orchards — more than 40 trees each of the tart Witos and Sawa varieties. It is part of a project to evaluate apple heartiness that began 17 years ago.

The Witos and Sawa immigrants, provided by researchers in Warsaw, are very disease resistant, requiring no herbicides, says HRC field fore-

man Leszek Miroslawski. However, no U.S. farmers have sought to grow them, something that would require special permission in the case of the patented Sawa variety, developed in the mid-1970s.

"Polish apples have not been commercialized anywhere in the U.S.," Bedford said.

In Poland, meanwhile, oversupply has driven down prices sharply. Last season, a kilogram (2.2 pounds) of dessert apples on the Polish market cost just 1 zloty, according to the trade journal FreshPlaza.com. Apples for juice, cider and processed foods fetched just 0.23 zloty per kilogram. That is about 20% lower than a year previously, and half the price of 2011.

THIS YEAR A NEW PROBLEM for Polish farmers has been frost, hurting output more than helping prices. Trade journals estimate apple crop losses could be severe in key growing regions northeast of Warsaw and in southeastern Poland. One Dutch trade monitor estimates only 2.5 million tons of apples will be produced in Poland this year, down from 4.4 million tons in 2016.

Historically, Poland has been one of the world's apple trade leaders. First introduced by Benedictine monks in the 11th Century at the Tyniec abbey in Krakow, the apple industry grew the under leadership of two women. In the 12th Century in Łącko, Saint Kinga, wife of King Bolesław the Chaste, set up apple orchards that floated fruit on barges down the Dunajec River to the Vistula River north to Gdańsk, where apples were exported by ship to the rest of Europe. In 1545, Queen Bona Sforza first planted orchards near Grójec, which is today one of Poland's biggest apple growing areas.

Through the centuries, Catholic priests popularized apple-growing among small farmers by starting a tradition whereby betrothed couples would plant apple trees before their wedding day to symbolize a fruitful union. However, in the 20th century, two world wars decimated Polish apple orchards. Industry globalization since the 1990s has also reduced the number of readily-available heirloom varieties. In fact, many apple varieties grown in Poland today have genetic roots from elsewhere in the world.

Kosztela Project aims to revive Polish heirloom apples

Amid hard times for growers, one group is attempting to revive Poland's heirloom apple heritage.

Over the past two years, the Kosztela Project has planted 4,000 trees representing 17 Polish apple varieties in 60 rural villages. The project's aim is to restore biodiversity by creating more traditional orchards and providing expertise to help Polish farmers (farms of less than 40 acres) build sustainable businesses.



Several thousand more apple tree plantings in Poland are planned for the 2108 season, says Emilia d'Avack, Project Manager Europe for the PUR Project, a French non-profit that has partnered with the Agrinatura organic farm in Mazovia for the endeavor.

Kosztela (photo, above) is named for a Polish apple variety that resembles Golden Delicious and was first grown in the 15th Century. It was a widely-grown apple when King Jan Sobieski saved Vienna — known in the Islamic world as the Golden Apple — from invasion by the Ottoman Empire in 1683.

However, most Polish consumers can't find Kosztelas in supermarkets today, according to PUR. Government policies in the second half of the 20th century encouraged Polish farmers to cut down old orchards, and replace them with homogeneous, densely-planted trees prone to disease, or apple varieties geared to Russian tastes, such as Idared.

The loss of the Russian export market for Poland since 2014 may be a catalyst for renewed apple diversity, as well as a rediscovery of both the cultural significance and the environmental benefits of organic farming and local sourcing.

"Consumers and the overall population are increasingly aware of the need for healthy and sustainable agricultural practices. The challenge is therefore to help farmers integrate and implement these practices efficiently" the PUR report says. Part of this effort includes planting heirloom apple trees in public spaces such as schools and parks to raise awareness on biodiversity.

PUR gets its financial backing from the Accor Hotel chain, which operates the Novotel, Sofitel and Fairmont chains in the U.S. Adds d'Avack "The Kosztela project is part of Accor Hotel's Plant for the Planet programme, which aims at planting 10 million trees by 2021." Polish heirloom plums, cherries, and pears are also on PUR's to-grow list.

Polish agriculture is much more of a small family farm industry than in the United States. Average farm size is less than 20 acres in Poland, says PUR, compared to 434 acres in the U.S. Poland has 1.8 million farmers in a country of 38 million people, whereas the U.S. has 3.2 million farmers and a population of 323 million.

Polish heirloom apple varieties Planted by Kosztela project



A SAVA variety apple growing at the University of Minnesota's Horticultural Research Center orchards. Polish apples have been studied in Minnesota for the past 17 years.

Witos	126
Cesarz wilhelm	(117)
Antonowka	
poltorafuntowa	(99)
Boskoop	(93)
Malinowka lutowa	(83)
Szara reneta	(69)
Ananas berzenicki	(68)
Landsberska	(59)
Papierowka	(41)
Ribstona	(37)
Grafstzynek	(35)
Kosztela	(26)
Glogierówka	(24)
Reneta złota	(21)
Boiken	(21)
Antonowka zwykła	(16)
Zorza	(4)

Source: PUR Project

20 Apple Varieties & Places Where Developed

Granny Smith	Australia
Pink Lady	Australia
Ambrosia	Canada
McIntosh	Canada
Idared	Idaho
Red Delicious	Iowa
Fuji	Japan
Crispin	Japan
Honeycrisp	Minnesota
Haralson	Minnesota
Zestar	Minnesota
SweeTango	Minnesota
Cortland	New York
Empire	New York
Jonagold	New York
Golden Russet	New York
Gala	New Zealand
Braeburn	New Zealand
Kosztela	Poland
Golden Delicious ..	West Virginia

Spotlight on Long Island

Are You Ready for the Pulaski Parade?

by Basia Szydłowski

New York City's Fifth Avenue will close Sunday, October 1, 2017, from Noon to 6:00 p.m. as Polish-Americans join together in honor of Brigadier General Casimir Pulaski. The parade will step off from Fifth Avenue at 35th Street at 12:30 p.m. with the Honor Guard of the New York City Police and Fire Departments leading the way up 5th Avenue to 56th Street.

President Richard D. Zawisny is extremely happy to announce that His Eminence Polish Primate Archbishop Wojciech Polak of Gniezno, Poland will be the main celebrant of the 9:00 a.m. Liturgy at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Fifth Avenue, New York, Oct. 1, 2017.

It is also announced that the Most Rev. Canon Bishop Witold Mroziowski, Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Brooklyn will celebrate the 9:00 a.m. Liturgy

The theme of the 80th Pulaski Day Parade in New York City is "General Thaddeus Kosciuszko; Thaddeus Kosciuszko Hero of Two Nations." The year 2017 marks the Two Hundred Anniversary of the death of General Thaddeus Kosciuszko who fought for American Independence and Poland Independence from Russian Czarist rule.

Honorable Sławomir Platta, Esq of New York City is the 2017 Grand Marshal of the tri state Pulaski Parade and he will lead the contingents of New York State, New Jersey, Connecticut and surrounding areas up Fifth Avenue. He invites all to attend the Parade and all of the events in honor of the Polish born Hero American Revolutionary General.

A breakfast will follow the 9:00 a.m. Mass Liturgy on Oct 1, 2017 at the 3 West Club on 51st Street. Contact David M. Kopala (908) 265-8165 for tickets and information.

"The Pulaski Day Parade has

been celebrated on Fifth Avenue since 1937 and is the second longest active parade in New York City history and marches rain or sun", said Pulaski Memorial Parade Committee President Zawisny.

For the first time ever, following the Pulaski Parade will be a Polish Concert to be held in Central Park. This concert will take place on the Summer Stage in Central Park East Side commencing at 5:00 p.m. and featuring some of the biggest names in Polish show business: Krzysztof Cugowski, Wilki, Kamil Bednarek, and others. Tickets are available at www.ticketfly.com/event/1522099-pulaski-day-festival-in-new-york. Additional information available at www.plattalaw.com

ANNIVERSARY RECEPTION. For the past 40 years, the **Polish American Museum** has been a center dedicated to history and culture with the focus on Poles and Pol-

ish Americans. The Museum, at 16 Belleview Ave., Port Washington, features the contributions of various notable persons, historic events, exhibits and collections of military memorabilia, including medals, uniforms, documents, and religious artifacts. To commemorate this event, on Sun., Oct. 15, 2017, the museum will hold a reception and luncheon at the Hofstra University Club, located on Hempstead Turnpike, Hempstead, starting at 1:00 p.m. For information and reservations please call (516) 883-6542.

CONGRATS. The following students were awarded scholarships by the Polish Scholarship Fund at the 2017 Syracuse Polish Fest: Emily Bak, Elizabeth DiGennaro, Mary Elizabeth Dristle, Noah Kotzin, Stefania Marzynski, Zuzanna Pocięcha, Sophie Popiel, Charvel Stanejko, Elizabeth Siok, and Nicolas Visconti.

POLISH AMERICAN JOURNAL

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Dance Time

IPA Showcases Talent at 49th Annual Convention

by Jennifer Pijanowski

I cannot think of a better way to end the summer than by enjoying some of the greatest bands in the polka industry with several hundred friends. The **International Polka Association** held its 49th annual convention at the Millenium Hotel in Cheektowaga over the Labor Day weekend. The hard work and dedication of the IPA, its board, directors, electors, and other volunteers was apparent as each part of the event was strategically planned. A prestigious facet of the weekend's events is always the awards banquet, held on Saturday morning. Honorees are inducted into the IPA polka Hall of Fame, and accolades are given to the year's favorite musicians, bands, songs, and individuals.

This year's Hall of Fame inductees included **Andy Fenus, Fred Ziwich, Marge Machay, and Elmer Schneid**, with the Pioneer award being bestowed upon Buffalo native **Ed Kutas, Sr.**

Kutas was a promoter in the Buffalo area who originally starting bringing live polka bands to Western New York. Being the proprietor of the Warsaw Inn, located on the

since has also become proficient at drums, saxophone, button box, & clarinet. His ability to play any type of polka is evident on over 1,200 recorded musical selections.

I would be remiss if I did not mention one other inductee. Marge Machay was one of the honorees in the deceased category. As dear friend Tish Blazonczyk spoke of her

Executive board, are just a couple of the things Marge did to strengthen the music. The IPA Hall of Fame is actually located on the second floor of Polonia Banquets, which is still operated by the Machay family. In accepting her award, Marge's twin grandsons did a spectacular job expressing their pride and happiness in a tribute to their grandmother. There

Polka music was the center of the celebration as **John Gora** and **Freeze Dried** kicked off the Friday night event. John, joined by a huge ensemble of musicians, kept fans dancing and entertained with his talent, quick wit, and charismatic personality. Freeze Dried and its unique style gave folks an opportunity to enjoy the not-so-traditional polka sounds for which they are well-known. These two bands set the tone for what was to be a spectacular weekend.

Saturday started off with a pool party featuring **Stephanie**. If you have been reading this column for any length of time, you will know that Stephanie is one of my favorites. Her honky beat and ability to crank those old Wanda and Stephanie hits always keeps polka lovers entertained. Afterwards, it was full-fledged polka time in the ballroom featuring **The Project, IPA Tribute Band, and Lenny Gomulka & the Chicago Push**.

The Project's new recording, which dropped in May, has created quite a buzz. Many were waiting with anticipation to watch this incredible band perform and they were well worth the wait. At

Many other hall of famers joined the band as well, including **Stephanie, Fred Bulinski, Randy Koslosky, Mark Trzepacz, Ed Guca, and Mike Nowakowski**.

Lenny Gomulka has maintained his spot as a favorite polka band for years — and with good reason. The band is extremely talented, entertaining, and appreciative of their fans. Song after song this band gave the crowd exactly what they wanted. The dance floor and the front of bandstand were constantly packed during their performances. Even with decades of performing at the biggest events worldwide, Lenny's sincerity and passion for the music hasn't tarnished.

Sunday kicked the last day off right with the Pro Am Jam which continues to grow in numbers, year after year. The future of polka music is bright when you see the exciting talent that is so evident. Congratulations to Randy Koslosky on having a vision for this youth jam and turning it into an event that both participants and onlookers enjoy equally. What a thrill for these youths to [play alongside musicians that many of them idolize. Later, the ballroom rocked with **The Boys, Music Company, The Knewz, and Polka Country Musicians**. The convention committee of IPA had a strategy in mind when booking this Sunday lineup, as it was a must-see for all polka lovers. Fans were in high gear into the wee hours of Monday morning after this spectacular lineup. The International Polka Association will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary next Labor Day at the Millennium, so make plans to attend. There's little doubt that they will have an impressive celebration planned for its golden anniversary.



2017 Hall of Fame Inductee Andy Fenus with former bandmate Robin Pegg, and brother Steve Fenus.



Ashley Styczynski and Kevin Mach from Wisconsin.



Jimmy and Paulette Grabowski thought the music was great.



Whitey and Bonnie Ryniec came home to Buffalo for the IPA.



Jimmy Weber of The Knewz and his larger-than-life facsimile.

East Side of Buffalo, gave him the opportunity to promote many bands including Marion Lush, Eddie B, and Lil' Wally — all of whom frequently jammed at his venue after their gigs. The Kutas family carries on that family tradition at Polish Villa I and II by offering warm Polish hospitality, delicious food, and showcasing polka music several times a year.

At the dinner, each inductee and award winner gets a chance to speak and each story underscores the passion these leaders in the polka world have for their trade. Andy Fenus humbly accepted his award giving much praise to his brother Steve, who has been playing and singing alongside him since the band's inception in 1954. I have very fond memories of making the trip to see the Trel Tones at Fiedors Grove to enjoy those sweet brotherly harmonies. Another inductee Fred Ziwich, a Cleveland native, took time to read every single bio from each inductee of the polka hall of fame before accepting his award. Fred started taking accordion lessons at age five and



Keith Pietranczyk, Pat Jayo, and Jimmy Pietranczyk.

commitment to polka music, it was clear that Marge was an incredible, selfless person who was committed to the continuation of polka music. Owning and operating first the landmark Polonia Grove and later Polonia Banquets, which showcased polka bands as well serving on the IPA

was not a dry eye in the house as one of the boys read a poem which was read at Marge's funeral — the comparison of our lives to a train ride that resonated with everyone in the room. It was a breathtaking moment which I was grateful that I got to witness.

one point, the band sang the Krew Brother's original "Judy Polka" and after finishing spotted **Tony Krew** in the crowd. They quickly gave him props and, bringing him onto the stage, performed the song once again with Tony singing lead vocals. That is a wonderful memory that will stay with me for years to come.

IPA Tribute Band is created by talented musicians who pay homage to all of the polka greats. The second set of this band's performance at the IPA convention has become a showcase for old and new inductees into the hall of fame to come join the band for a song or two. Andy Fenus stepped up and brought his brother Steven as well to play a few honky songs with the band. There is much respect for these musicians who allow these Hall of Famers to shine on their special weekend. Next we were all in for a treat as Fred Ziwich took the stage, first performing a Slovenian song on the button box. For his second song, he showcased his own arrangement of clarinet polka playing his amazing arrangement both the clarinet and sax during the song.

Dennis Polisky & Maestro's Men at Associated Polish Home

PHILADELPHIA — On Sunday, November 5, 2017, 2:00-6:00 p.m., the Associated Polish Home will host a Polka Dance featuring the award-winning Dennis Polisky & the Maestros' Men.

The Associated Polish Home, where at one time polka music filled the clubroom every Friday, Saturday and Sunday, began this attempt to rejuvenate polka music in Philly last year, and it was hugely successful.

The dancefloor in the ballroom of Polish Home is comfortably large. There is ample parking in the club's lot, and in the school lot across the street — in addition to on street parking. Food and bar will be available.

The Polish Home is at 9150 Academy Rd., Philadelphia. For tickets, table reservations, or more information, call John Wisniewski at (215) 906-1825; email jrw153@comcast.net.

10 Questions With ...

Jackie Libera

1. What is your first memory of polka music?
My first memory would have to be my first trip to Chicago in 1963. We attended the International Polka Convention at Polonia Grove
2. What was the last book you read?
Gray Mountain by John Grisham. I love the law novels
3. What are your three favorite movies?
"The Sting", "A Few Good Men" and "Absence of Malice" ... hmm? Two out of three for Paul Newman ... and maybe all of the "Mission Impossible" movies.
4. Spring, summer, fall, or winter?
Are you kidding? Summer of course ... I was a teacher!
5. Besides polkas, what do you listen to?
Jazz, all types, but mostly big band, and some country
6. What historical figure would you like to spend a day with?
George Gershwin. What an innovative and original musical mind he was!
7. If shipwrecked on an island, what would you like an endless supply of?
Batteries
8. Where is your best place to relax?
My man cave during three seasons ... the beach during the summer
9. What one thing — that no one knows about — are you afraid of?
Heights ... let's just not go



Jackie Libera is a member of The Maestro's Men, and leader of the Classix. He plays piano, trumpet, clarinet, and saxophone.

10. What one thing about you would surprise polka fans?
I am a retired public school music teacher, having taught a total of 38 years, and some of my kids have gone on to be major players in music including one who performs with the cast and crew of "Stomp."

POLKA MUSICIANS: Share a little bit about yourself with your fans! Send your answers to these questions to: polameditor@gmail.com. Responses are printed in the order received. Please provide photo.

Compiled by John Ziobrowski

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

OCTOBER 1

- Special Delivery. Corpus Christi Dozynki (Polish Harvest Fest). Buffalo, N.Y. (716) 896-1050 1:30-5:30.
- Jody Maddie. Glendora House, Chicago Ridge, Ill. 1-5 (708) 594-5182
- Polka Country Musicians. Asbury Festhalle. Asbury Park, N.J. (782) 997-8767
- The Knewz. PACC Ludlow, Mass. 2-6 (413) 567-1961
- Jimmy Sturr. Tioga Downs. Nichols, N.Y. 2 p.m. (888) 946-8464
- Eastern Sound. St. Hedwig. Manchester, N.H. 11:30-3 (603) 623-4835
- John Stanky. VFW. Dupont, Pa. 2-6 (570) 654-5504
- John Stevens. Leiderkranz. Reading, Pa. 11 a.m. (610) 373-3982
- Mike Surratt. Fairgrounds. Frederick, Md. 12:30-5:30 (301) 663-5895

OCTOBER 6

- Dennis Polisky. Museum of American Arts. New Britain, Conn., 5:30-8 (860) 229-0257
- John Gora. Bayside Center Sarnia, Ontario. 8 p.m. (519) 336-6062
- John Stevens. VFW. Mifflinburg Pa 7-11 (570) 966-9254

OCTOBER 7

- Walt Wolansky. PACC. Akron, Ohio. 5-11 (330) 253-0496
- Polka Country Musicians. American Legion. Chicopee, Mass. 6-10 (413) 592-0367
- John Gora. St. Stan's. Cleveland, Ohio. 7 p.m. (216) 341-9091
- Eddie Forman. Dom Polski. Lowell, Mass. 1:30-5:30 (978) 452-8262
- New Direction. Let's Polka TV WSKG. Vestal, N.Y. 1 p.m. (607) 729-0100
- Jimmy Sturr. Hunter Mtn. Hunter Mtn., N.Y. (800) 486-8376
- Eastern Sound. Loon Mtn. Lincoln, N.H. 11-4:30 (603) 75-8111
- John Stevens. Marty Magee's. Prospect Park, Pa. 7-10 (610) 583-9880
- Mike Surratt. Carroll County. Westminster, Md. 4-7

OCTOBER 8

- Nickel City Express. Pulaski Club. Phoenix Ariz. 3-6 (602) 275-9329
- Special Delivery. Clinton Bar & Grill. 2460 Clinton St., West Seneca, N.Y. 5-8 p.m.
- Eddie Forman. Oak Ridge CC. Feeding Hills, Mass. 4-9 (413) 786-5886
- Polka Country Musicians. PACC Ludlow, Mass. 2-6 (413) 567-1961
- George Tarasek. VFW. Dupont, Pa. 2-6 (570) 654-5504
- Eastern Sound. Loon Mtn. Lincoln, N.H. 11-4:30 (603) 623-4835
- John Stevens. Mullally's Pub. Jeffersonville, N.Y. 2-6 (845) 482-5992
- Mike Surratt. Old Stein Inn. Edgewater, Md. 4-8 (410) 798-6807

OCTOBER 9

- Jody Maddie. St. Mary Byzantine. Fairview Park, Ohio. 6:30-10:30 (216) 906-3465

OCTOBER 10

- Jimmy Sturr. Aqua Turf. Plantsville, Conn., 12 p.m. (860) 621-9335

OCTOBER 13

- Lenny Gomulka. Owosso Oktoberfest. Owosso, Michigan

OCTOBER 14

- Lenny Gomulka. Owosso Oktoberfest. Owosso, Michigan
- Special Delivery. Polish Heritage Dancers 20th Anniversary Banquet. Kloc's Grove West Seneca, N.Y. (716) 674-9838
- Dennis Polisky. Ocean Mist. Matunuck RI 3-6 (401) 782-3740
- Eddie Forman. St. Joseph's. Bradalbin, N.Y. 6-10 (518) 883-3774
- John Gora. Radisson Hotel. Toledo, Ohio. (866) 238-4218
- Eastern Sound. St. Thomas. Peabody, Mass. 5:30-9:30 (978) 531-0224
- Joe Stanky. Monaghan Twp Fire Hall. Billsburg, Pa. 7-11 (717) 697-8012
- Mike Surratt. Fest Grounds. Winchester Va. 12:30-7:30

OCTOBER 15

- Special Delivery. Polka Mass. St. Andrews Sloan, N.Y. 11 a.m. (716) 892-

Polka Calendar

0425

- Dennis Polisky. Falcon Hall. Ansonia, Conn., 2-6 (203) 735-7788
- Buffalo Touch. Holy Spirit Church. Parma Oh. 3-7 (216) 228-1134.
- John Gora/Del Sichak. Avon Oaks Ballroom. Girard, Ohio. 2 p.m. (330) 783-2222
- Lenny Gomulka. St. Clement's Banquet. Dearborn, Mich. 2-6 (734) 422-1901
- Eastern Sound. Dom Polski. Lowell, Mass. 1-5 (978) 452-8262
- John Stevens. Festhalle. Ashbury N.J. 2-6 (782) 997-8767
- Mike Surratt. Old Stein Inn. Edgewater, Md. 4-8 (410) 798-6807

OCTOBER 17-19

- John Stevens. Best Western. Matamoras, Pa. 11:30-3:00 each day. (518) 491-2400

OCTOBER 19

- Robin Pegg's All Star Surprise Band. Buffalo Polka Boosters. Polish Falcons. 445 Columbia Ave., Depew, NY 8:00 p.m.

OCTOBER 20

- Polka Country Musicians. Moose Hall. Maplewood, Minn. 7-11 (651) 776-2830

OCTOBER 21

- Dennis Polisky. Elks Club. Middletown, N.Y. 7-11 (834) 591-8535
- Eddie Forman. Polish Hall. Grafton, Mass. 6-0 (508) 839-5903
- Buffalo Concertina Allstars. Misiuda Hall. Toledo, Ohio. 7-11 (419) 691-5684
- Polka Country Musicians. Rookies Sports Pub. Stevens Point, Wisc. 7-11 (715) 344-7026
- John Gora / Special Delivery. Polish Hall. Burlington, Ontario. (905) 639-3236
- Jimmy Sturr. Anthony Wayne Center. Bear Mtn., N.Y. 12:30 (845) 942-2560

OCTOBER 22

- Eddie Forman. PACC. Ludlow, Mass. 2-6 (413) 567-1961
- Swingmasters. VFW. Dupont, Pa. 2-6 (570) 654-5500
- John Stevens. Eagles Club. Stroudsburg, Pa. 1-5 (570) 424-1106
- Polka Country Musicians. Glendora House. Chicago Ridge Ill. (708) 425-3686
- Mike Surratt. Old Stein Inn. Edgewater, Md. 4-8 (410) 798-6807
- Lenny Gomulka. Rice's Bar. Commodore, Pa. (724) 254-2409

OCTOBER 25

- John Gora. Polka Variety Club. Leonard Post Cheektowaga, N.Y. (716) 684-4371

OCTOBER 28

- Eddie Forman. Italian Club. Middletown, Conn., 6:30-10:30 (860) 347-5788
- Mike Surratt. Saengerbund. Newark De. 7-11 (302) 366-9454

OCTOBER 29

- Dennis Polisky. PACC. Ludlow, Mass. 2-6 (413) 567-1961
- DynaBrass. K of C. Warren Mi. 2-6 (586) 754-7838
- Jimmy Sturr. Elks Club. Brick, N.J. 2-6 (732) 920-0750
- Nickel City Express. Sun City. Oro Valley, Ariz. 2-5 (520) 825-3711
- PA Villagers. VFW. Dupont, Pa. 2-6 (570) 654-5504
- John Stevens. 3G Fire Hall. Glenfield, N.Y. 2-6 (315) 348-4558.

Seniors Gather Once a Month for Dancing

CHICAGO — Seventy-eight senior citizens meet once per month for one simple reason: Because they love to polka.

"The social group keeps the music and dance alive," said the association's Northside president, Richard Kula of Park Ridge. "The origins of the dance are believed to have begun in the Czech Republic and followed throughout Europe."

The cultural music continued when families immigrated to America. Chicago residents in Polish neighborhoods kept the music popular in city dance halls and parks and polka's popularity prospered with radio personality Chet Gulinski.

Back in the 1950s and '60s, polka lovers would dance on Sundays in Bunker Hill Forest Preserve in Chicago. When people started moving down Milwaukee Avenue into Niles and Schiller Park, they wanted to dance closer to home.

"Our club, the Northside Senior Polka Association, started in 1982. Chet was the founder of the north and southside chapters," said Kula.

The group meets at 5:00 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month at Lone Tree Manor Banquet Hall, 7730 N. Milwaukee Ave. in Niles. Two musicians — Frank Behrendt and Dennis Smunt — play live music, including popular polka songs "Czyja ta dziewczyna" ("Tell Me Whose Girl You Are"), "Puka Jasiu" ("Johnny's Knocking") and "Zosia" polka. American music is also played.

After dancing from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m., the group has a meeting and plays bingo. Refreshments are available for purchase and a cash bar is open at the meetings.

The 78 members are from Des Plaines, Arlington Heights, Palatine, and Northwest Chicago.

Ninety percent have a Polish heritage, but those of Italian and German descent also participate, Kula said.

"We get new members almost every month. Even if you attend once, it's worth it. We'll try to seat prospective members with new members to meet new people," said Kula.

— Denise Fleischer
www.journal-topics.com

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NAME	BORN DIED	KNOWN FOR	CITY, STATE
2 Eddie Benbenek	1932 1997	Musician / Vocalist (Original Marion Lush Band)	Chicago
2 Jimmy Killian	1942	Bandleader / Musician / Vocalist	Chicago
4 Frank Wojnarowski	1907 8/24/94	Bandleader / Musician / Vocalist	Connecticut
5 Bruno Mikos	1946	Bandleader / Musician / Vocalist	Ohio
6 Casey Homel	1942 12/15/07	Bandleader / Musician	Chicago
6 Eddie Ogrodny	1951	Musician / Vocalist (Li'l Ronnie & Carousels)	Pa.
7 John Jeski	1953 8/19/07	Bandleader / Musician / Vocalist	Conn.
9 Andy Fenus	1944	Bandleader / Musician / Vocalist (Tel/Tones)	Pa.
9 Dave Morris		Musician / Vocalist	Pa.
9 Dave Zychowski		Musician / Vocalist	Pa.
9 Craig Ebel	1963	Bandleader / Musician / Vocalist / DJ	Minn.
9 Keith Stras	1961	Promoter / DJ / Vocalist	Ill.
10 Al Kania	1946	Musician / Vocalist	N.Y.
10 Michalene Korosa		Manager (Eddie Korosa & Boys From Illinois)	Ill.
11 Zennon (Zen) Esula		Accordianist	Ill.
11 Jimmy K. Krzeszewski	1959	Bandleader / Musician / Vocalist / Distributor	Mich.
12 Polish Bill Morano	1938	Polka DJ / Promoter	Johnstown, Pa.
12 Hank Marzuchowski	1949	Musician (Drummer)	N.J.
14 Chuck Pendrak	1954	Bandleader / Musician / Vocalist	N.J.
15 Larry Olson	1951	Musician	N.C.
15 Mike Ziemski		Musician	Md.
17 Fran Fierst		Polka Promoter (Fran's Polka Weekends)	N.J.
20 Tommy Kostek		Accordianist (Golden Brass, New Brass)	Mass.
23 Alvin Styczynski	1935	Bandleader / Musician / Vocalist / DJ	Wisc.
25 Paul Romanowski	1965	Musician / Vocalist / DJ	N.C.
25 Randy Koslosky		Musician / Vocalist / Arranger	Pa.
27 Sam Pugliano	1935 6/13/13	Bandleader / Musician / DJ	Pa.
28 Larry Szabo	1954 3/10/09	Bandleader / Musician / Vocalist	Toledo
29 Dave Walter	1969	Bandleader / Vocalist (Old School, TBC)	Ohio
31 Frank Powaski		Polka D. J. / Promoter	Pa.

Let's sing in Polish (and English)!

"Pije Kuba do Jakuba" and "Aaa kotki dwa"

"Jake drinks to our Jacob's health," and "Oo-oo kittens two"

by Robert Strybel

Pije Kuba do Jakuba

Pije Kuba do Jakuba,
Jakub do Michała,
Wiwat ty, wiwat ja,
kompanija cała,
A kto nie wypije,
tego we dwa kije.
Łupu cupu, łupu cupu,
tego we dwa kije.

Pili nasi pradziadowie,
każdy wypił czarę,
Jednak głowy nie tracili,
popijali w miarę.

Kto nad miarę pije,
tego we dwa kije
Łupu cupu, łupu cupu,
tego we dwa kije

Indyk z sosem barszcz z bigosem
jadły dawne pany
Dzisiaj raki i ślimaki
jedzą jak bociany.
Kto żabami żyje,
tego we dwa kije,
Łupu cupu, łupu cupu,
niech po polsku żyje.

Jake drinks to our Jacob's health

Jake drinks to our Jacob's health
and Jacob drinks to Michael.
Long live you, long live I,
and our gang delightful.
Who won't drink 'cause
he's abashed,
with two sticks he

should be thrashed.
Whack-slam thump-thud,
whack-slam thump-thud, yes
he should be thrashed..

Our great-granddads were well
known for their beloved libation
But they never lost their heads,
they drank in moderation.

Who drinks too much is
abashed, with two sticks
he should be thrashed.
Whack-slam thump-thud,
whack-slam thump-thud,
yes he should be thrashed.

Roasted turkey, barszcz and
bigos ate the lords of yore.
Snails and crayfish they now
munch just like a flock of storks.

Who on frogs feeds is
abashed, with two sticks
he should be thrashed.
Whack-slam thump-thud,
whack-slam thump-thud,
yes he should be thrashed.

Aaa kotki dwa

(Kohysanka – lullaby)

Aaa, kotki dwa,
szarobure obydwu,
Nic nie będą robiły,
tylko ciebie bawiły.

Oo-oo kittens two

Oo-oo, kittens two,
grayish-brown all through
and through.
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Kościuszko: A Portrait of Love, Passion, and Patriotism

by Staś Kmieć

2017 marks the 200th anniversary of the death of Andrzej Tadeusz Bonawentura Kościuszko (4 or 12 February 1746 – 15 October 1817), a military engineer and military leader in Poland, the leader of the Kościuszko Uprising against Russia and Prussia in 1794, and a key player in the American War of Independence. He is considered a national hero in Poland, Lithuania, Belarus, and the United States.

Kościuszko is also renowned for being a ferocious critic of slavery and a promoter of equality and social justice. A man of great character and conviction, he stood up for oppressed people: European serfs, American slaves, Native American Indians, Jews, women, and all other disenfranchised groups.

continued from last month

FORTIFICATIONS AND THE AMERICAN REVOLUTIONARY WAR. The project to fortify Philadelphia had been considered a very serious matter of concern in America's defense strategy, as the city feared an attack by the British from the Delaware River. At this very time Kościuszko, an expert in fortification methods, applied in Congress to join the Continental Army, and his fortification plan received approval. Fortifying Philadelphia was not a complicated procedure. Two palisades were driven into the bottom of the Delaware River; a narrow passageway was left on the side for ships, but it was defended by a gun battery. On October 18, 1776, when he had completed the first line of fortifications at Billingsport and Mercer, Kościuszko was promoted to the rank of Colonel.

In Philadelphia he developed a

close friendship with General Horatio Gates, which would endure for years.

October 1777: Kościuszko chose the location of the next battle. He hired a contingent of one thousand to build fortifications near Saratoga on the Hudson. The defenses designed by Kościuszko to take advantage of the terrain were decisive in the defeat of the British. The British army commanded by John Burgoyne, was completely beaten and submitted to surrender. Historians consider the Battle of Saratoga as one of the ten most decisive battles in the history of the world.

In a letter to Congress, George Washington wrote that "Kościuszko had most splendidly served the young republic."

During this time Ludwika Sosnowska, Kościuszko's true love, sent him a letter after having been married to Prince Józef Lubomirski for five years: "My thoughts are forever with you, for as my soul was beside you, so my heart belongs to you. I gave my person, but not my soul to the Prince. I told him this before the wedding and I'm telling you this now. In my heart I shall always and forever be your Ludwika."

Kościuszko's greatest and largest fortification was at West Point—a fortress on the Hudson River that blocked access to Philadelphia from the north. It was the project that brought him fame in the United States. He had met with Washington twice to review his work. The fortification was completed in two years—according to Kościuszko's specific design and under his complete supervision.

He remains guarding the Hudson to this day, as a statue was erected in his honor where he had marked the battlefield. Over 200 years have since passed, yet the landscape



Kosciuszko's Garden is a small retreat garden built by Kosciuszko on the side of a cliff overlooking the Hudson River at West Point. The site was first occupied as a military post during the Revolutionary War when in 1778 the Polish general directed setting up the defense there, including stretching a huge chain across the Hudson River to block the progress of the British fleet. The garden, first constructed in 1778, still offers visitors and cadets a place of quiet tranquility during the warmer months. The "General Edward L. Rowny Family Endowment" was established to further sustain perpetual care and maintenance of the Garden and to dedicate a plaque commemorating the occasion. Dr. James Thacher described it in his diary, "Colonel Thaddeus Kosciuszko, a gentleman of distinction from Poland ... amused himself while stationed on the point, in laying out a curious garden in a deep valley, abounding more in rocks than soil. I was gratified in viewing his curious water fountain with jets and cascades."

of this historic place has hardly changed. The fortress was expanded and the West Point Military Academy was established here.

The Revolutionary War ended on December 14, 1782; however, Kościuszko remained in America until 1784. His participation in the war reflected his positive traits. He never came into conflict with any American and avoided any quarrels with the French, despite being constantly criticized and attacked by them. He was humble and never demanded promotion in rank. General Nathanael Greene, with whom Kościuszko has spent two years, wrote to George Washington: "He

is an incredible person who accomplishes great things and is not aware he has accomplished them. He has no desire for promotions, to boast,

or exalt over others." In recognition of his service, Kościuszko was promoted to the rank of Brigadier General of the Continental Army. He also received land and a significant sum of money, which he used to buy the freedom of Negro slaves; slavery being a practice he could not tolerate. He was awarded the Cincinnati Order Medal, established to honor service in the War of Independence. He is one of only four foreigners who attained such recognition.

Kościuszko was one of the most outstanding — perhaps the greatest — foreigner to rushed to the aid of the colonists of America. The Army museum has a laurel wreath on display — a symbolic token of the acknowledgment of his service to the United States. His sabers are one of the most valuable exhibits at the museum. Another valued memento is his book, *Manoeuvres of Horse Artillery*. In it, he shared a vast amount of military knowledge and expertise. Americans have retained the memory of Kościuszko, built numerous monuments, and named many parks and streets after him.

Loved by his soldiers and valued by Washington, Franklin and Jefferson, he returned to Poland in July 1784.

next month: The Fight in Poland



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