

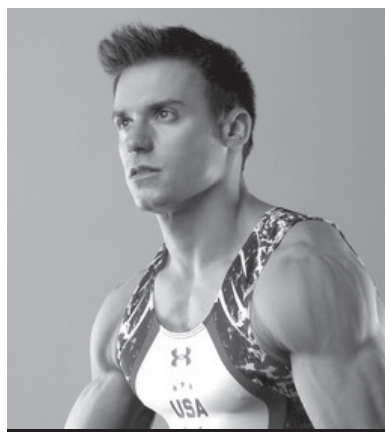
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**MIKULAK WINS
RECORD-TYING FIFTH U.S.
ALL-AROUND TITLE
PAGE 16**

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

**POLISHING THE POLISH IMAGE • MARIE CURIE TOPS BBC HISTORY POLL • RIGHT ANGLES — A DELIGHTFUL PLAY
15TH CENTURY BARGE UNEARTHED • BASIA'S KRÓWKI POLISH CREAM FUDGE • CENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS
THE PERSONAL ACCOUNT OF A POLISH SLAVE LABORER • BISHOP ENDORSES DOCUMENT ON EX-CARDINAL MCCARRICK**

Newsmark

RESOLUTION SEEKS RETURN OF ARTWORK. LeMoyne College in New York owns seven paintings and four tapestries that were part of the Republic of Poland's national exhibit at the 1939-1940 New York World's Fair in Flushing Meadows, Queens. These works remained in the United States after the September 1939 German and Soviet invasions.

Now Poland would like the artwork back, and the American Council for Polish Culture is trying to help.

At its August national convention, the ACPC passed a resolution supporting an ongoing effort by Poland's Minister of Culture Piotr Gliniski to have the work return home to the new National Museum of Polish History in Warsaw.

The paintings, which depict important moments in Polish history, were created under the direction of Professor Tadeusz Pruszkowski of the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw by artists in the village of Kazimierz southwest of the city. The tapestries, designed by Mieczyslaw Szymanski, depict the life of Poland's King Jan Sobieski. The college's library has displayed the works since 1958, according to its website.

HELP FOR FAMILIES. Poland's government expects to offer special pensions for mothers of four or more children, said Poland's minister for family, labor and social policy, Elzbieta Rafalska.

Law and Justice, Poland's ruling party, is striving to get the bill through Parliament in time for the law to take effect in 2019. Minister Rafalska announced that the 2019 budget includes funding for the government's "500-plus" ("Good Start") children's benefit program including subsidized school supplies for the nation's children to be distributed at the start of each school year. In addition, in an attempt to ease the cost of raising children, families having two or more children will receive about \$133.00 (USD) a month and poorer families will receive the stipend even if they have only one child.

NEW BALTIC CANAL FREES NAVIGATION FROM RUSSIAN CONTROL. A five meter (17 foot) deep, 1.3 kilometer (.8 of a mile) canal linking the Vistula Lagoon to the Baltic Bay of Gdańsk will turn the semi-landlocked coastal town of Elbląg into a full-fledged seaport. Created by digging through the Vistula Spit, a thin strip of land separating the port from the bay, the canal will allow deep-draft vessels to enter Poland's Port of Elbląg without passing through Russia's Strait of Baltiysk. On more than one occasion, the Russian-held strait was closed to Polish navigation when political disagreements between Warsaw and Moscow occurred. The project is expected to cost Poland 880 million złotys (\$246 million) and be completed by 2022.

BILLIONAIRE AMBASSADOR ARRIVES IN WARSAW. The new U.S. Ambassador to Poland, Georgette Mosbacher, 71, arrived in Warsaw and presented her credentials to the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. A personal friend of President Donald Trump, Mosbacher made a fortune in the cosmetics industry and has also been a political activist and author. She serves on the U.S. Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy, to which she was appointed by former President Barack Obama. She is also known in the media as a Fox News contributor. Mosbacher greeted Polish TV audiences with a somewhat mispronounced "Cieś Polska" (properly: "Cześć Polsko" or "Hi Poland"), and said one of her priorities would be to learn the Polish language.

Mosbacher makes her home in a palatial \$27 million Fifth Avenue New York suite. Richly fitted with art works and antiques, it has played host to presidents, kings, Hollywood celebrities and business tycoons. It has only three bedrooms but all of five bathrooms and an entrance way whose ceiling is lined with gold tiles.

Mosbacher has also engaged in charitable activities benefiting indigent New Yorkers as well as war veterans and their families.

A Noble Soul



"GRATITUDE IS THE SIGN OF NOBLE SOULS," said Aesop, and no one was more grateful than Joe Macieląg (center) on his election to the International Polka Association Hall of Fame. The highly-respected band leader and vocalist has been performing for over 60 years on radio, television, and in person. A native of Niagara Falls, N.Y., Macieląg was introduced to Poland's music by his father, who came to the United States from a village near Rzeszow.

Over the years, Macieląg's orchestras have performed with countless Polish and Polish American artists, including Marisha Data, Frank Wojnarski, Ray Henry, and Gene Wisniewski. His "Pic-A-Polka" television show on NBC affiliate WGR was a weekly mainstay of Western New York broadcasting for four years.

In addition to his time on the stage, Macieląg was a five-term president of the Western New York Division of the Polish American Congress, Inc. (PAC) and the former treasurer and membership chairman of the PAC. He served as a member of the National Polish American-Jewish American Council, the Polish American-Jewish American Council of WNY; Professional & Businessmen's Assn.; Polish Arts Club; Chopin Singing Society; and many fraternal, academic, and arts groups.

Macieląg thanked God, his parents, his wife and children, the Polish nuns who taught him, and his musicians and fans for the blessings he has enjoyed throughout his life.

Pictured with Macieląg are Hall of Fame Chairman Fred Bulinski (left), and IPA President Rick Rzeszutko (right). For more on the International Polka Association's Hall of Fame and its convention, see page 21.

ON THE CENTENNIAL OF POLAND'S REBIRTH

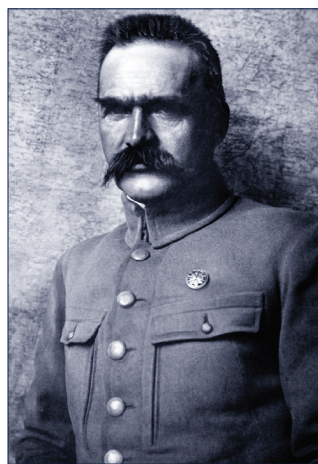
Piłsudski, Dmowski, and the Rebirth of Poland

Editor's note: Morgan A. Szukalowski, a health services administration major at Davenport University, was awarded a \$1000 scholarship from the Polish American Journal Foundation (PAJF).

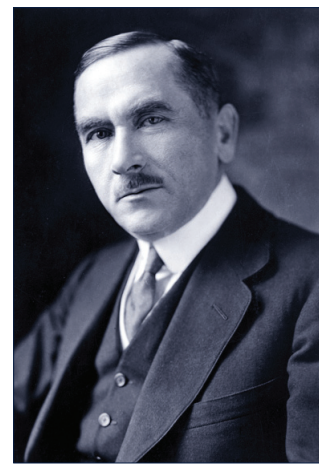
This is the second year the PAJF awarded college scholarships. This year's prize was available to any undergraduate and graduate student submitting an essay on the 100th anniversary of Poland's rebirth.

Here is Morgan's award-winning essay.

In 1918, Poland celebrated the restoration of their country's independence after 123 years of uncharted political territory. This year, Poland celebrated their 100th anniversary of independence within Europe. The road to such



PIŁSUDSKI. Commander in Chief of Polish forces was entrusted with creating a national government for the newly independent country.



DMOWSKI. Represented Poland at the Paris Peace Conference following World War I, and was a signatory of the Versailles Treaty.

freedom was grueling, difficult, and slow in its progression. The results of such freedom would not be possible without the influence and occurrence of World War I. The political and military developments of Poland between 1914 and 1921 brought about many contributing factors towards Poland's declaration of an independent nation.

PRIOR TO WORLD WAR I, Poland was a divided population with no sense of nationalism or clearly defined boundaries. What is now Poland was previously divided into three territories, all differing in political, social, and economic conditions. The three territo-

Duda Visits White House

Talks closely followed in Poland

by Robert Strybel

WARSAW — The talks held with President Donald Trump during Polish President Andrzej Duda's first official White House visit dominated the Polish media, but each side of country's political divide gave the event its own particular twist.

Commentators sympathetic to Poland's conservative government hailed the visit as a victory for Poland's shared values with the world's No. 1 super-power. The liberal opposition emphasized it had taken over three years for the White House to finally agree to the visit, and some complained Poland was overpaying for American military hardware.

There was general media agreement, however, that the two countries had signed a declaration renewing their 10-year-old strategic partnership, and that Warsaw was keen on having a permanent U.S. military base in Poland for which Warsaw was willing to pay. Trump told a press conference he agreed with Duda's arguments that Russian actions — especially the seizure of parts of Georgia and Ukraine — warranted a tough response. He particularly noted that Warsaw was

See "Duda ...," back cover

See "Rebirth of Poland," page 2

Rebirth of Poland

continued from cover

ries were known as Russian-Poland, Austrian-Poland, and Prussian Poland, the latter of the three with the worst living conditions. In Prussian-Poland, the Polish language was outlawed and their citizens suffered greatly compared to their Russian and Austrian counterparts. Before the outbreak of World War I, there were two primary political camps in Poland—pro-Russian and Pro-Austrian. The frontrunner of the Pro-Russian political group was Roman Dmowski, who was a famous member of the National Democracy party and whose ideologies will be further analyzed. On the other end of the spectrum, there is socialist

Josef Piłsudski, who deemed to be Pro-Austrian. Both Piłsudski and Dmowski's roles in the time of Poland's civil unrest play a meaningful part in Poland's establishment as a nation. The division between Poland during this time – although Poland did not technically exist in 1914 – led to indecision and division amongst the political camps. These revolutionary groups couldn't agree on methods, policies, and even what side to be on when the first World War began in 1914.

THE ONSLAUGHT OF WORLD WAR I was brought upon by the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand, in which Austria-Hungary declared war upon Serbia for their

actions. When the war broke out, this left Poland's three revolutionary groups at a loss on how to proceed. Poles tended to display their loyalty to their home state – Russia (Russian-Poland), Austria-Hungary (Austrian Poland), and Germany (Prussian-Poland). Some Poles saw this as the path to their independence and were considered pro-Russian, such as Dmowski. Others, partially in fear, believed that Germany and the Austrians would win the war due to their sheer amounts of power. Despite the social unrest amongst the Poles, the pro-Russians mobilized and easily transitioned into the war with no intentional sabotage or resistance. This easy transition led to a deep resentment from the Ger-



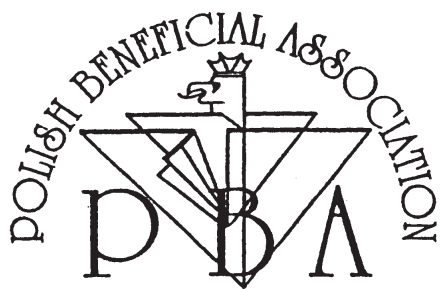
*Heritage Month
Greetings to
Polish Americans
Across the Country*



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"IF WE DON'T HELP OUR POLISH CHILDREN, WHO WILL?"



Please contact us for further information
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www.polishchildrensheartline.org

Thank You! Last year, your donations totaled almost \$130,000, which supplied this much aid to these children's hospitals in Poland:

Suwalki \$56,500; Bialystok \$42,400; Lodz \$9500; and Ostroleka \$20,000



A patient at the Children's Hospital in Bialystok.



PADEREWSKI'S INFLUENCE. Head of State Józef Piłsudski (saluting) and Prime Minister Ignacy Jan Paderewski, 1919.

At the end of the World War, two governments claimed to be the legitimate governments of Poland: Dmowski's in Paris and Piłsudski's in Warsaw. To put an end to the rival claims of Piłsudski and Dmowski, the composer Ignacy Jan Paderewski met with both men and persuaded them to reluctantly join forces.

Both men had something that the other needed. Piłsudski was in possession of Poland after the war, but as the Pole who had fought with the Austrians for the Central Powers against the Russians, he was distrusted by the Allies. Piłsudski's newly reborn Polish Army, formed from his Polish Legions, needed arms from the Allies, something that Dmowski was much better suited to persuade the Allies to deliver upon.

Beyond that, the French were planning to send the Blue Army of General Józef Haller — loyal to Dmowski — back to Poland. The fear was that if Piłsudski and Dmowski did not put aside their differences, a civil war might break out between their partisans. Paderewski was successful in working out a compromise in which Dmowski and himself were to represent Poland at the Paris Peace Conference while Piłsudski was to serve as provisional president of Poland.

mans among Poland, also known as Prussian-Poland. The pro-Russians, despite their vigor, were never publicly recognized by the Russian Tsar at the time. This lack of support caused many pro-Russians to abandon Russia and head to France, with Dmowski functioning as the appointed leader.

Dmowski, the main ideologist of the Democratic Party, was one of the strongest supporters for Polish liberation. Being pro-Russian, he believed that Germany was Poland's main enemy and his actions centered around his support of Russia. Dmowski was knowingly and openly hostile to all methods of liberal democracy, as he believed that upcoming wars would have racial character and that the battles would be fought primarily between Germany and Russia. Dmowski believed that Poles should actively support Russia because in the future Russia would work to unite all ethnic Polish lands and grant Poland their independence from the Russian Empire. However, Dmowski did go on to modify his beliefs as Russia did not acknowledge Po-

land's efforts for independence. Dmowski's belief was that it is important to protect yourself before becoming exploited, and this is a belief he held true to in his efforts towards Poland's independence. Dmowski has been referred to as anti-Semitic — prone to being hostile or prejudiced against Jews. This perception definitely played a factor in the outcomes after the First World War's end, as Piłsudski, Dmowski's arch-rival, was an advocate for Jewish people.

Dmowski, being a politician and well-versed advocate, toured Europe vouching for Poland and essentially begging other countries to help Poland declare themselves as a country. Nearing the end of World War I, Dmowski facilitated the creation of the Polish National Committee (PNC). Dmowski and

continued on page 3



"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*

**REGINA
WNUKOWSKI
Philadelphia**

Rebirth of Poland

continued from page 2

the PNC moved to Paris to develop fighting forces to aid the Western allies, who Dmowski believed to be the key to Poland's independence. It was this action that led him to combining forces with France, who were so short manned that they allowed him to participate in the development of a French-trained army – the *Błękitna Armia*, known as the Blue Army or Haller's Army. The Blue Army played a significant role throughout the war and had accumulated interest and respect from neighboring countries of Europe, especially from the Western Allies. When the ceasefire was signed on November 11th, 1918, Dmowski's PNC was fully recognized as a "legitimate government of Poland."

AFTER THE END OF THE WAR, Dmowski's PNC was set to become Poland's national government, if it were not for Piłsudski and his developed national activist forces. Piłsudski felt no security in a Russian victory at the beginning of the war and believed that Russia would become knocked out in their efforts. Austria-Hungary had displayed the most waver towards Polish independence thus far, and Piłsudski believed that they would be successful in the upcoming war. The conflict began for the Pro-Austrians when Germany declared that the Poles would fight for them during World War I. A movement began, led by Piłsudski, to deny Germany and to remain loyal to their country. This group of liberals was arrested and imprisoned in Siberia, although Piłsudski managed to escape to reside in the Austrian-controlled area of Poland, also known as Galicia. Piłsudski was partially pro-Austrian due to their beliefs. Austria-Hungary was more accommodating toward ethnic minorities than Russia was and was more open-minded regarding immigration into Poland. When Piłsudski arrived in Austria, due to the growing tensions between Austria and Russia, Austria allowed Piłsudski to plot against the Russians. Piłsudski worked as a spy to provide the Austrians with information regarding Russia's military actions and developments within Poland. Upon his initial success, Piłsudski was granted the ability to raise a small military force in Austria, which was deemed The Society, or also known as the Riflemen of TIR. This limited military force went on to become the heart of the Polish Legion in World War I and had a profound impact on Poland's independence near the ending of the war.

PIŁSUDSKI'S RIFLEMEN of TIR spent most of the war imprisoned in the German POW camps, where they remained until Germany admitted defeat in November of 1918. Despite being locked up, Piłsudski proved that his political influence was extraordinarily powerful. Poles around the nation demanded Piłsudski's freedom, and Piłsudski's refusal to let go of his anti-Germany policy inspired the Socialist Party



General Józef Haller

DMOWSKI, PARIS, AND HALLER'S BLUE ARMY.

Dmowski and the PNC moved to Paris to develop fighting forces to aid the Western allies, who Dmowski believed to be the key to Poland's independence. It was this action that led to Dmowski combining forces with France, who were so short manned that they allowed him to participate in the development of a French-trained army – the *Błękitna Armia*, known as the Blue Army.

The Blue Army (or Haller's Army) name came from the French-issued blue military uniforms worn by the soldiers. The symbolic term used to describe the troops was subsequently adopted by General Józef Haller himself to represent all newly organized Polish Legions fighting in western Europe.

The army was formed on June 4, 1917, and was made up of Polish volunteers serving alongside allied forces in France during World War I. After fighting on the Western Front, the army was transferred to Poland where it joined other Polish military formations fighting for the return of Poland's independence.

The Blue Army played a pivotal role in ensuring Polish victory in the Polish-Ukrainian War, and later Haller's troops subsequently took part in Poland's defeat of the advancing Bolshevik forces in the Polish-Soviet War.

and a desire for Polish independence. Piłsudski's resilience and silent strength throughout this time period improved the Western Allies' opinion of him, and in doing so Piłsudski became the symbolic icon for Polish independence. This portrayal of Piłsudski as a martyr for Poland played a key role in the Poles' opinion of him and set up Piłsudski nearly perfectly to become the sole national leader of Poland.

While Dmowski was developing his Blue Army, Piłsudski and his men were able to create a Polish administration, despite their older weapons and their poor organization. Regardless of Dmowski's success in France, he was pushed out of politics due to Piłsudski's success in implementing a tentative government power in Poland. This success is due to Piłsudski's involvement and enabled him to craft a "Piłsudski-shaped Poland." Both Dmowski and Piłsudski's participation in garnering Polish indepen-

dence had a massive impact on Poland's reestablishment as a country, eventually leading to the implementation of the Treaty of Versailles.

While the Treaty of Versailles was a great accomplishment in which both Dmowski and Piłsudski participated, Dmowski was heartily disappointed with the outcome. Dmowski, sitting far to the right of the political spectrum, favored more of a "national state" within Poland. Dmowski believed that the Minorities Treaty imposed on Poland was dangerous and that all minorities should be slowly assimilated into Polish communities as opposed to placing them there outright. Dmowski thought that too many minorities in Poland would lead to weak security and integrity. Piłsudski, on the other hand, was classified as a socialist and his beliefs were more open-minded. Piłsudski looked to "historical multi-ethnic state based

on the example of the old Commonwealth of Poland and Lithuania." It was Piłsudski's belief that minorities should have the rights as any standard citizen in Poland, and Dmowski thought that this opinion was foolish and could potentially lead to a slippery slope of Poland's principles. The disparity between these two individuals in their idealism and opinions made it only natural for the two to be arch-rivals.

In the years following the end of the first World War, Dmowski and Piłsudski still proved to be polar opposites in their policies and actions, while Piłsudski proved himself to be far superior in the eyes of the Poles. Upon Poland's establishment as an independent country, the Regency Council declared Jozef Swiezynski as the leader of the new Polish central government. Despite his title, much of Poland did not see him as their true leader, and they eagerly awaited for Piłsudski's arrival to Poland. When Piłsudski finally returned to Poland, the Regency Council handled over all responsibilities and dissolved their government powers. This action led to Piłsudski becoming the head of state, or the *Naczelnik Państwa* of Poland. Now that the country was independent and secure, this left Poland to enjoy their long-lived freedom at last.

Dmowski and Piłsudski were two individuals who both contributed largely to the establishment of independence within Poland. While their policies and beliefs differed drastically, both fought for the freedom of their nation. Without their sacrifices and great efforts, along with the significant contributions from the Blue Army and the

Riflemen of TIR, the independent country of Poland might not exist today. Poland is a country whose people have suffered tremendously throughout history, but in 1918 Poland's freedom was restored after over a hundred years of civil unrest and uncertainty. The countless years of suffering amongst the Poles and years spent fighting for independence is all part of Poland's great history story — Poland today would not be the same without such suffering. The years spent fighting for the independence of their nation ingrained the exceptional work ethic and resilience among the Polish community, and these traits have been passed down from generation to generation.

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*God Bless Poland
for Another 100 Years
Sto lat*

**DAVEY &
UNCLE TADZ**



Children from Warsaw's General School No. 11, many of them barefoot, prepare for the parade in honor of Herbert Hoover, August 14, 1919. Photo: Hoover Institution

We wish the great nation of Poland and this great paper, the PAJ, continued success for the next 100 years!

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Almanac

Editorial

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October Październik

*Kiedy październik
śnieżny i chłodny,
to styczeń zwykle łagodny.
Snow and cold, an October wild,
Brings a January usually mild.*

- 1 1608. First Poles arrive in America aboard the *Mary & Margaret* to work as skilled craftsmen at settlement in Jamestown.
- 3 1923. Birth of symphonic orchestra leader **Stanisław Skrowaczewski**.
- 4 1705. **Stanisław Leszczyński** crowned King of Poland, the first crowned in Warsaw.
- 5 **ST. FAUSTINA**
- 6 1882. Birth of **Karol Szymanowski**, Polish composer, in Timoshovka, Ukraine. (d. 1937)
- 7 1944. Founding of the **Marie Curie-Skłodowska Institute** in Lublin.
- 8 1982. All labor organizations in Poland, including **Solidarity**, were banned.
- 9 1435. Death of **Paweł Włodkowic**, model for Shakespeare's Polonius (*Hamlet*).
- 10 1982. Pope John Paul II canonizes **Fr. Maximilian Maria Kolbe** (1894-1941), Polish Franciscan friar, who volunteered to die in place of another inmate at Auschwitz concentration camp.
- 11 1779. Date traditionally observed in American Polonia as **Pulaski Day** in honor of death of Casimir Pulaski, 34, Polish-born American patriot.
- 12 1840. Birth of **Helena (Modjeska) Modrzejewska** (d. April 8, 1909), Polish American stage actress, in Krakow, Poland.
- 13 **ST. EDWARD**
*Na Edwarda jesień twarda.
On St. Edward's Day,
the autumn is hard.*
- 14 1943. Some 300 of 600 prisoners escaped from the Nazi's Sobibor death camp in occupied Poland.
- 15 **ST. HEDWIG**
- 16 1978. Cardinal Karol Wojtyła, 58, named **Pope John Paul II**.
- 17 1676. Signing of the **Treaty of Żurawno** concludes the Polish-Ottoman War
- 18 1776. **Thaddeus Kosciuszko**, receives commission in the American Revolutionary Army.
- 19 1984. Abduction and murder of pro-Solidarity priest **Fr. Jerzy Popiełuszko** (b. 1947)
- 20 1982. Death of **Korczak Ziolkowski**, sculptor of the Crazy Horse Memorial in the Black Hills of South Dakota.
- 21 1914. **Battle of Warsaw** ended with a German defeat.
- 24 1795. **Third Partition of Poland** which removed the country from a political map of Europe.
- 26 1910. Birth of **Cardinal John Krol**, Archbishop of Philadelphia, and Polish activist.
- 28 1824. Birth of the founder of the first permanent Polish settlement in the United States at Panna Maria, Texas, **Fr. Leopold Bonawentura Moczygomba**.
- 29 1611. Hetman **Stefan Żółkiewski** returns to Warsaw from conquering the Muscovites brings with him the captured Czar.
- 29 1944. **Polish 1st Corps**, commanded by General Maczek, takes Breda, Holland as part of the Allied invasion of Western Europe.
- 30 1939. USSR and Germany agree on partitioning Poland. Hitler deported Jews.
- 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 28, 2018**. The **November 2018** edition will be mailed on or before **October 30, 2018**

Polishing the Polish Image

by Robert Strybel

WARSAW—A Polish TV interviewer recently asked history majors on an American university campus about the Warsaw Uprising. Most drew a blank stare, several said they had heard the expression, but that was about all. A few confused the 1944 upsurge with the much smaller Warsaw Ghetto Uprising a year earlier.

And it's not just the millennials. To this day, there are many educated upper-middle-aged and elderly Americans who do not know that Copernicus, Chopin, Joseph Conrad, and Madam Curie had anything to do with Poland. The 60 Million Conference, subtitled Global Polonia Summit, was an attempt to do something about it.

Following two editions of the conference held earlier this year in Miami Beach and Buffalo, the Poland-side edition took place in August at an exhibition hall near the southeastern city of Rzeszów. It was attended by Polish representatives as well as successful business people, scholars, politicians and media personalities of Polish extraction from different countries. The panel discussions included how to convey a positive image of Poland, Polish heritage and Polishness to the outsiders world.

Polish Senator Andrzej Stanisławek said efforts to promote Poland abroad should reflect its long fight for sovereignty and its centuries-long history of tolerance and Christian identity. According to Investment and Development Minister Jerzy Kwieciński, Poland's image abroad "translates into real money and the value of the Polish brand."

LOBBYING NEEDED. The well-known Polish American TV journalist Rita Cosby (originally Kossobudzki) believes Poland needs stronger lobbying efforts to get its message across to international audiences. Another PolAm, Anna Maria Anders, daughter of Polish World War II commander General Władysław Anders, urged moves to ensure positive Polish lobbying around the

world; she now serves as the Polish government's official in charge of international dialogue.

How do other Polish Americans feel about this? "We need to promote knowledge of the role Poles played in World War II, the fact that more Poles than any other nation are honored by Jerusalem's Yad Vashem Institute for saving Jews," said Christina ("Krysia") Gutt, a lifelong Polonian activist originally from Brooklyn, now residing in Rochester. "Also that Poles cracked Nazi Germany's super-secret Enigma code and played a key role in the Battle of Britain."

"Things will not get better until Poland decisively and unambiguously stands up against all the falsehoods against Poland that emanate from Jewish circles in the West," said Chicago's Jan Peczkis, high school teacher, college lecturer and prolific book-reviewer. "We also need to enlighten people that Poland — for all its valiant efforts — was sold down the river by Churchill and Roosevelt because they wanted to appease Stalin."

Thomas Napierkowski, an English literature professor from Colorado Springs, points out that serious Catholics in the United States are becoming more aware of Poland because of John Paul II, Sister Faustina (Divine Mercy), Maximilian Kolbe, etc. Almost all serious scholarship dealing with St. John Paul the Great helps." As an example of good pro-Polish PR, Napierkowski recalled a video clip shown on American TV last Christmas. "It featured a Catholic priest, a Jewish rabbi, a Muslim cleric, and a Lutheran minister, all Polish, sharing holiday greetings and thanking the people of the United States for their help during the Solidarity period," he said.

THESE ARE ALL GREAT IDEAS, and those expressing them are concerned, dedicated, thinking people. Polonia was never short of ideas, lofty slogans and noble causes, but all too often what was missing was the answer to the key question: Who is going to bankroll such a campaign? What do you think?

Efforts to promote Poland abroad should reflect its long fight for sovereignty and its centuries-long history of tolerance and Christian identity, said Polish Senator Andrzej Stanisławek.

Tenth Annual Mass in Honor of Our Lady of Częstochowa



PITTSBURGH — Members of the combined choirs of Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish and the Karuzela Chorus, under the direction of Dr. Neil Stahurski, rehearse for the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass in Honor of Our Lady of Częstochowa, which was celebrated at Pittsburgh's Saint Paul's Cathedral, Aug. 27, 2018.

At this special mass, His Excellency, the Most Reverend David A. Zubik, Bishop of Pittsburgh was the principal celebrant and homilist. Remarks were given by Rev. Timothy F. Whalen, M.A., Polish Falcons of America National Chaplain.

This occasion marked the tenth mass at the cathedral honoring Our Lady of Częstochowa, as well as the 100th Anniversary of Polish Independence.

Guests of Honor included Dr. Thaddeus Massalski, Professor Emeritus of Materials Science, Engineering and Physics, Carnegie Mellon University, and Dr. Jak Napoleon Saykiewicz, Honorary Con-

sul of Poland.

Dr. Massalski left his native Poland at age 16 to fight in the Polish Second Corps in the British 8th Army during World War II. His journey to freedom and his subsequent involvement in the Polish resistance in General Anders' army is a real life war adventure. After the war, Dr. Massalski completed his college education in Italy and Great Britain, then moved with his family to Chicago.

Dr. Saykiewicz is a Polish and U.S. citizen, residing in Pittsburgh since 1987 when he began teaching at Duquesne University, where he is professor of economy and marketing. He was installed as Honorary Consul of the Republic of Poland in Pennsylvania in 2008.

The Marian celebration in honor of Our Lady of Częstochowa was an opportunity for the Polish community of Western Pennsylvania to express their devotion to their Patroness as well as their pride in

their Polish heritage. Hundreds of faithful participated in this moving event.

This event is sponsored annually by the Polish Falcons of America, the Polish Falcon Heritage Foundation, the Polish Clergy of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, Diocese of Greensburg and the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown.

Born and raised in Philadelphia, Pa., and a graduate of the Girls' High School. I lived in California for 18 years, and in Florida since 1968. I have been reading the PAJ all these years, and I just turned 92 on September 17!

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Religion

Bishop Paprocki Endorses Document on ex-Cardinal McCarrick

by Benjamin Fiore, S.J.

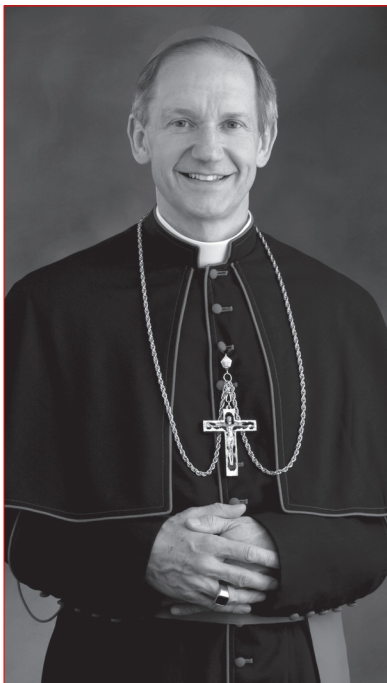
The Springfield, Illinois RC Diocese's Bishop Thomas Paprocki joined a chorus of other bishops insisting on the credibility of former Nuncio to the U.S. Archbishop Viganò's criticism of the pope's handling of the abuse allegations against then-Cardinal McCarrick. He asked that the Vatican officials make public the pertinent files related to the handling of McCarrick's abuse accusations and "provide the accountability that the Holy Father has promised."

He also concurred with Daniel Cardinal DiNardo of Galveston-Houston, head of the U.S. Catholic Bishops Conference, in calling for "a prompt and thorough examination into how the grave moral failings of a brother bishop could have been tolerated for so long and proven no impediment to his advancement."

BEATIFICATION IN KOSICE.

Anna Kolesarova, killed at 16 on Nov. 22, 1944 by a Russian military man who wanted to abuse her, was declared Blessed at a ceremony in Kosice, Slovakia, by Angelo Cardinal Becciu, Prefect of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints. He praised Blessed Anna as a "model of life for young people, so that they may rediscover the beauty of genuine love, as well as the value of purity."

Cardinal Becciu went on to recall the many other women who were victims of violence during World War II as well as today. "Sadly," he said, "rape is considered a weapon of war; it remains unpunished, without being recognized as a crime against humanity. But this violence is again perpetrated on women even



PAPROCKI. Supports call for "a prompt and thorough examination ... into the grave moral failings of a brother bishop ..."

in our civil Europe, where the murder of women continues to prosper and a woman's body is often the object of unworthy trade of the human person."

EUROPEAN BISHOPS MEET IN POZNAŃ.

The presidents of Europe's Bishops Conferences met in Poznań where they discussed Solidarity, making reference to Poland's Solidarność movement which led to the overthrow of communism in Europe. They also discussed the voluntary work of young people and adults as an evangelical commitment to the life of the Church and society that unites Europe. The meeting coincided with Poznań's 1050th anniversary as Poland's first diocese, as well as the 100th anni-

versary of Poland regaining independence.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES WITH-DRAWS FROM ADOPTION/FOSTER CARE SERVICES.

Mr. Dennis C. Walczyk, CEO of the Buffalo Diocese's Catholic Charities announced that the organization can no longer continue its adoptive and foster care placement services because of New York State's anti-discrimination laws that conflict with Church teaching on sexual morality. The immediate cause of the withdrawal was the application of a same-sex couple for services. Since New York "will vigorously enforce the laws designed to protect the rights of children and same-sex couples," as Monica Mahaffey of the Children and Family Services declared, the diocese saw no other way to avoid litigation than to withdraw from offering the services. The state law conflicts with the Catholic view of marriage as between a man and a woman only. Thus Buffalo joins the Boston Archdiocese and all the dioceses in Illinois in leaving the adoptive and foster care placement services.

YOUNG ADULT CHOIR HELPS PEOPLE ENCOUNTER GOD.

"Cantate Omnes" is the name of a new young adult choir in the RC Diocese of Buffalo, with St. Benedict parish in Eggertsville, NY as their home. Maria Chomiczka, music director at St. Benedict's, formed the group as a way for local young adult singers and musicians to share their musical talents. The daughter of

parents originally from Poland, she majored in music at the University of Buffalo and now leads the choir of some 30 people ranging in age from 22 to 35. Her goal and that of her choir is to "help others encounter God through music." The choir's programs include musical styles from sacred music, classical, Polish and even tunes by "The Who." They mix vocal numbers and instrumental pieces in concerts, each based on a specific theme.

STO LAT TO ... Fr. Michael Sajda, OFM Conv, on being named interim president of Hilbert College, in Hamburg, N.Y. He had been chair of the college's board of trustees. "One of the core Franciscan values of the Hilbert community is service," Sajda said. "I look forward to having the opportunity to speak and work with Hilbert's students, faculty, staff, donors, alumni, and community partners."

Fr. Peter Napierowski, MIC, on his appointment as administrator of St. John the Baptist Parish in Boston, N.Y. The native of Poland worked as head of the Congregation of Marian Fathers Publishing House in Warsaw for 14 years. He joined the Buffalo diocese in 2015 after serving in Palm Beach, Fla. and Helena, Mont.

Robert J. Owczarczak, Patryk G. Sobczyk, and **Aaron Kulczyk** on their ordination with four others as transitional deacons (on their way to priestly ordination) and **Ronald D. Adamczak** and **David M. Augustyniak,** on their ordination with six others to the permanent diacon-

ate for service in the RC Diocese of Buffalo.

PRIEST ASSAULTED IN INDIANA. After celebrating the Divine Liturgy in St. Michael Church, in Merrillville, Ind., **Fr. Basil Hutsko,** a priest of the Ruthenian Eparchy of Parma, was attacked and knocked unconscious in the sacristy. His attacker said, "This is for all the kids" as he assaulted the priest.

Fr. Hutsko has never been accused of any sex abuse. He was a random target after the release of the report on clerical abuse of minors in Pennsylvania.

God Bless Poland!

PHIL & DOROTHY SYMANSKI

In honor of my ancestors — rich, poor, religious, and those who did everything for their families — I honor you. Rest in peace.

ERICA ALESKA F. SNARSKI

Modlitwy

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

PRAYER TO ST. CLARE. Ask St. Clare for three favors, one business and two impossible. Pray nine Hail Marys once a day for nine days with a lighted candle. Pray if you believe it or not. Publish. "May the Sacred Heart of Jesus Be Praised, Adored and Glorified Today and Every Day." Request will be granted no matter how impossible it seems. Publication must be promised. J.K.

*God Bless Poland on its
100th Anniversary*

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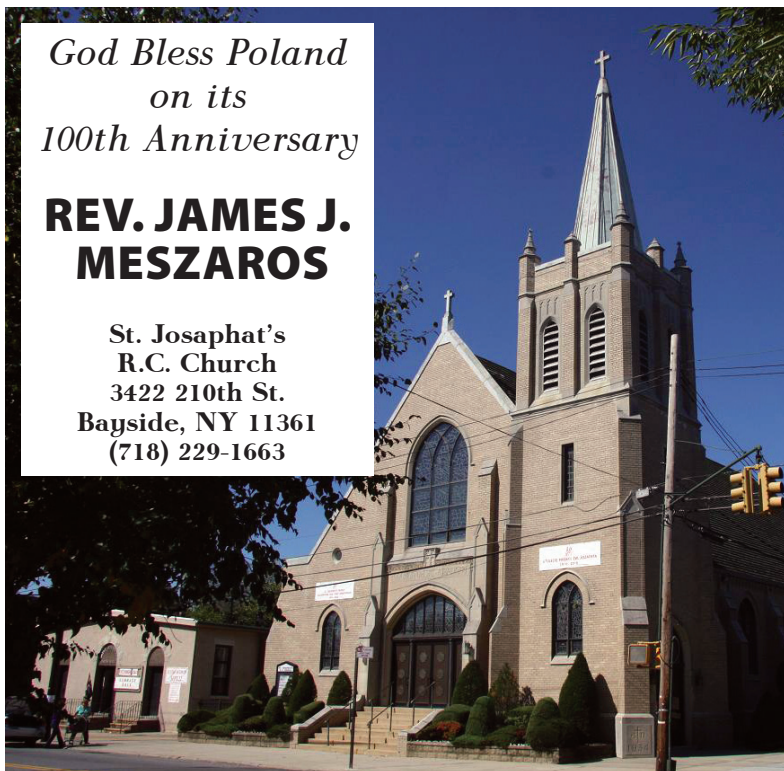
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Centennial Celebrations

Exhibit Will Celebrate Rochester Polonia's Role in 1918 Restoration of Poland



Rochester Blue Army volunteer Tadeusz Giedgowd and Grey Samaritan nurse Marta Graczyk.

ROCHESTER, N.Y. — “Under the Ancient Polish Flag,” an exhibit of images and artifacts, will celebrate the contributions that Rochester’s Polish community made to the restoration of a free, independent Poland at the close of World War I.

Sponsored by the Polish Heritage Society of Rochester, the exhibit features fifty images and artifacts documenting the dedication and sacrifice with which local Polish Americans supported the effort to liberate Poland from foreign rule. Vintage photographs and memorabilia from the Polish Community Archives will highlight the service of young men from Rochester in the Polish “Blue Army,” the humanitarian work of local Grey Samaritan nurses who assisted refugees in war-torn Poland, and home front fund-raising that yielded impressive amounts for Polish relief.

On display in the Patricia O’Keefe Ross Gallery in the Skalny Welcome Center at St. John Fisher College, “Under the Ancient Polish Flag” will open Fri., Oct. 5, with a reception at 6:00 p.m., followed by a presentation at 7:00 p.m. by Dr. James Pula, Professor of History at Purdue University and a leading scholar of Polish American studies. The exhibit, reception, and Dr. Pula’s presentation are free of charge

and open to the public.

The exhibit will be on view through November 9 during the gallery’s regular hours (Mon.-Fri. 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.). For more information, call (585) 899-3710 or email info@polishheritagerochester.org.

Polish Master Chef to Oversee Cuisine for Grand Gala



Chef Marcin Budynek

BUFFALO, N.Y. — On October 27, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency Buffalo Hotel an incomparable evening will take place featuring Executive Chef Marcin Budynek.

Chef Marcin Budynek is a culinary master, founder and owner of Marcin Budynek’s Culinary Academy. His specialty is Polish cuisine in an innovative fashion.

Budynek produces and performs television programs related to gastronomy, among others “Two Elements, Two Passions,” and “Recipe of the Day.” Host of the program “Coffee or Tea?” and “What’s for Breakfast?” Budynek participated as guest chef on Polish Radio, radio Zet and RMF FM.

A long-time chef at the Hotel Warszawa in Augustów and Hotel Bryza in Jurata, Budynek gained professional experience, in Spain, Italy, France, England, Chile and South Africa. He is the founder and member of the Chefs’ Club.

Reserve your tickets today for the Grand Gala and Ball Polonaise celebrating Poland’s jubilee of regaining independence. Call (716) 864-6110 or email pacwny@gmail.com.

Orchard Lake Schools Celebrates Poland's Independence

ORCHARD LAKE, Mich. — On Sept. 15, 2018, the Polish Freedom Celebration commenced on the grounds of the Orchard Lake Schools with the 2nd Polonia Summit, a Gala Concert, and monument dedication.

After a 9:30 a.m. Holy Mass, the Polonia Summit — a panel in the Adam Cardinal Maida Alumni Memorial Library — featured discussion between OLS leadership and the Polish American community. It was followed by a special exhibition and film presentation.

A Gala Concert featuring the Octava Ensemble from Kraków, Poland was held that evening in the Shrine Chapel. The vocal octet, regarded as “one of the most interesting vocal groups of the young generation,” is at the forefront of Polish chamber groups and specializes in sixteenth- and seventeenth-century music.

On Sun., Sept. 16, a 9:00 a.m. Holy Mass was followed by a procession to the dedication and blessing of the Sacred Heart of Jesus statue, a place that honors over 200 names of all the priests who have served the Orchard Lake Schools from its founding in 1885.



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Marie Curie tops BBC History Poll of Women who changed the World

LONDON — Marie Curie, the pioneering scientist who was the first person to win two Nobel prizes, has topped a poll asking which woman has had the most significant impact on world history.

BBC *History* magazine compiled a list of “100 women who changed the world,” chosen by 10 experts, and asked its readers to help rank them. Polish-born Curie, who undertook research into radioactivity in the early 20th century, was voted number one, followed by Rosa Parks, Emmeline Pankhurst, Ada Lovelace and Rosalind Franklin.

Patricia Fara, president of the British Society for the History of

Science, said Curie could boast “an extraordinary array of achievements.” She was the first woman to win a Nobel Prize in physics, the first female professor at the Sorbonne and the first to win a second Nobel Prize, awarded for chemistry in 1911, eight years after her first. She remains the only person to hold Nobel prizes in two sciences.

“The odds were always stacked against her,” said Fara. “In Poland her patriotic family suffered under a Russian regime. In France she was regarded with suspicion as a foreigner — and of course, wherever she went, she was discriminated against as a woman.”



Proud to be Polish American

ANTHONY C. PAKULA



All of my grandparents came from Poland (Pieniaszek / Struczewski). I was their first grandchild, and was raised in a Polish neighborhood in Rochester, N.Y., surrounded by Polish love, faith, and traditions. I shall always treasure and honor Poland — forever free!

RORI STUCZEWSKI-MURRELL

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Congratulations to our ancestral homeland on its 100th anniversary, and to all Polish Americans celebrating this historic occasion.



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Review

Right Angles – a Delightful Play

by Staś Kmiec

New playwright Brother Nicholas Divine, C.P has written a full-length comedy play about family, friends, and a culture that he loves. Entitled *Right Angles – a Polish American Christmas Comedy in Two Acts*, it is a charming and engaging work that should find its way onstage regionally and within Polish circles.

With reflection scenes presented in a bookend form, the story travels back to an earlier time when family matriarch Kasia Angielski prepares for her traditional Wigilia Christmas Vigil dinner. Everything is based in custom and the path is determined, stubborn, and “correct.” Her opinion and views follow in the same direction.

At the play’s center is the balance of Old-World traditions, values, idiosyncrasies and views in conflict with the quest for American identity and acceptance within the society of the 1960s. It is reminiscent of humorist Jean Shepherd’s “A Christmas Story” – a memoir of growing up in the Midwest in the 1940s that became a popular film, play and musical.

Set in a snowy New England mill town, the characters and relationships are established cleanly in the opening scenes and lead to the anticipated annual dinner. The First Act is the stronger of the two, where the plotline progresses quickly and neatly – basically introducing the audience to information that will come into play later. Here, it has the feel and buildup of Tracy Lett’s 2008 play with Polish themes – *Superior Donuts*, which was set in uptown Chicago.

All the elements of a beloved Polish family and Christmas celebration are here, and they play well within the storyline. The rhythm of the broken English rings true, and there are nice Polish accents with phrases, and anecdotes. My quibble is with some of the references and terms not being in sync with the time period being portrayed, and the



Brother Nicholas Divine, C.P has written a full-length comedy play about family, friends, and a culture that he loves.

pronunciation guide – adjustments that can be made in rewrites and re-issue.

Having not yet been produced on stage, Brother Nicholas offers clear and detailed staging concepts, ideas, and directions – wildly imaginative and sometimes fantastically choreographed.

As a theatrical work, the play needs the opportunity to grow and develop, and that process will further enhance its stage worthiness, audience appeal, timing and structure. As a director, I would love to get my hands on the work, in tandem with the playwright to tweak and adapt it for stage – as it has the potential to become a holiday perennial.

An actor’s reading of the play will take place in Massachusetts and there are plans to bring the play to the stage in an upcoming production at a local theatre in Birmingham, Alabama. Polish organizations and theater troupes should consider staging *Right Angles* – as a way of introducing cultural education through enjoyable entertainment. The cast size is 18; less actors doubling up on parts is a possibility.

The 78-page play is a good “at home” read and allows your imagination to “fill in the blanks” with perhaps your own colorful family members. The printed play is available online at www.Amazon.com and Barnes & Noble.

A graduate of Holy Apostles College and Seminary, Cromwell, Conn., Brother Nicholas is a member of the Congregation of the Passion, a Roman Catholic Congregation of priests and brothers – known as the Passionists. Nicholas was born, educated, and worshiped in Old Ward Four, a Polish American neighborhood in Holyoke, Mass. He served in the United States Army, taught in both public and Catholic schools, and served as a campus minister in Birmingham, Ala. He resides in the Passionist Community at Catholic Theological Union, Chicago, pursuing further studies.

The majority of profit generated from this endeavor will benefit the Passionist missions, a religious non-profit congregation.

For more information, visit www.outskirtspress.com/brothernickdivine, or contact Brother Nicholas at ndivine@passionist.org.

Books in Brief

A Proud Community

by Mary E. Lanham

POLISH HERITAGE:
A History of a Proud Community in Western Massachusetts
by Wayne E. Phaneuf and Joseph Carvalho III
The Republican, 2017, 448 pgs.

With more than 50 contributors, *Polish Heritage* is comprised of articles about the Polish churches, sports figures, food, and unique individuals that make up the western Massachusetts Polish community. The impressive tome also contains photos, historic postcards, newspaper clippings, and other ephemera.

Contained within is a reprint of a Polonia Places column by the *Polish American Journal*’s own Gregory L. Witul. In it Witul tells the history of St. Joseph’s PNC Church in Springfield, Massachusetts. It was founded and built in 1934 and sadly closed its doors later in the century due to dwindling membership. The building itself still survives, having been turned into the Holy Redeemer Cathedral in 1999.

Polish arts and music is another topic that is covered in detail in *Polish Heritage*. Individual artists and musicians are profiled including Sylvia Zeremba, a musical child prodigy from Chicopee who played with New York Philharmonic Symphony at age nine and was invited to the White House to play for President Harry S. Truman. The Sylvia Zeremba Collection at the Polish Center contains her correspondence, dresses, and dozens of other items.

For the sports-minded Pole, the book includes a number of biographies of leading sports figures from western Massachusetts. William Yorzyk from Northampton is one such figure, who in 1956 participated in the Olympics. When Yorzyk moved to Springfield as a teenager, he learned that he had to pass swimming tests in order to finish his freshman year. He had no idea how to swim as his old school didn’t even have a pool. He quickly learned, however and went with his swimming team to Melbourne to compete in the Olympics. He was the only one on his team to win a gold medal.

No book on Polish culture can be complete without mention of its food. Pierogi is front and center in a couple of the entries such as the article about Millie’s. Millie’s which



started out small, delivering their pierogi to about 50 grocery stores, slowly expanded throughout the northeast. For three decades they have sold their pierogi at the Eastern States Exposition in West Springfield. There are not only articles in the chapter; a few traditional Polish recipes such as babka and gołąbki are also included.

Make some room on your shelf for *Polish Heritage: A Proud Community in Western Massachusetts*, it is one that should not be missed.

Wayne E. Phaneuf is the executive editor at *The Republican*. Joseph Carvalho is co-editor of the Heritage Book Series at *The Republican*, a daily newspaper based in Springfield, Massachusetts. Other books in the Heritage Book Series are *The Struggle for Freedom: The History of African Americans in Western Massachusetts*; *Our Stories: The Jews of Western Massachusetts*; and *Nuestra Historia: A History of Latinos in Western Massachusetts*.

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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MISSING ANTIQUES FOUND IN SOPOT. Antique furniture from Poland’s Royal Łazienki Park, previously believed missing, has been found at an antique store and private home in the northern coastal resort town of Sopot.

The four 19th-century chairs, two armchairs and a table were marked with a Łazienki Palace stamp dating to the rule of Tsar Alexander I.

They were uncovered by Warsaw police and the Polish heritage and culture ministry.

The pieces were likely taken to Moscow during World War I and returned to Poland before World War II. They carry markings which show they decorated the Royal Castle, Senate and Council of Minister’s buildings in the interwar period from 1918-1939.

They are currently being stored at the National Museum in Gdańsk.

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Fr. Spencer Howe (in vestments) and Fr. Stanislaw Poszwa gathered with parishioners of Holy Cross Church and well-wishers at St. Mary's Cemetery in Minneapolis on Sept. 1 to bless a new grave marker for Krakow-born architect Victor Cordella. Cordella designed more than two dozen Roman and Eastern Rite Catholic churches in Minnesota during the early 20th century, including Holy Cross, which marked the 90th anniversary of its consecration in September. All but two of Cordella's churches are still operating parishes. He died in 1937.

Minnesota Voice

Archbishop Hebda Calls for Independent Review of Abuse Cover-Up Claims

by Mark Dillon

ST. PAUL, Minn. —On Aug. 31, **Bernard A. Hebda**, archbishop of the Diocese of St. Paul-Minneapolis called for a new, impartial review of ongoing cover-up allegations related to the global Roman Catholic clergy abuse scandal.

Hebda, a Harvard- and Columbia Law-educated lawyer of Polish descent, wrote on the diocesan website that: "Having had good reasons to place my trust in both Pope Francis and Archbishop Viganò, I am personally at a loss as to how to evaluate the claims that have been made by the Archbishop. Based on my experience in this Archdiocese, I believe that some form of an independent review led by credible outsiders is the only way to resolve such situations and restore trust."

Since being appointed archbishop in Minnesota in March 2017, Hebda, has won wide respect for his leadership, sensitivity and outreach regarding the diocese's own legacy of clergy abuse litigation and controversy.

The Twin Cities diocese emerged from federal bankruptcy court protection in May after reaching a \$210 million settlement with more than 400 abuse survivors, an agreement characterized by plaintiffs' lawyers at the time as the largest of its kind in the United States. A trust fund administered by an independent trustee will distribute settlement funds.

Hebda, who turned 59 on Sept. 3, is admired for his personal humility, candor and thoughtful, articulate manner. Three weeks before issuing his statement on the abuse scandal, the archbishop addressed delegates to the American Council of Polish Culture's 70th Convention in Minneapolis.

ACPC delegate Peter Obst later wrote on the group's website: "(Hebda) delivered an interesting talk about the significance of religion in Polish life at home and abroad. Though he apologized, stating that his audience was probably more knowledgeable about these matters than he, it turned out that he had some interesting observations to share and the session concluded with an interesting question and answer period."

HEBDA IS A THIRD GENERATION Polish American from Pittsburgh whose family roots are originally from Kombornia and Debno in the Carpathian foothills. He may be in a unique position to offer guidance on this current crisis to his fellow bishops. His faith career path since the late 1980s placed him in the path of the storm, given an August grand jury report about clergy abuse and a leadership cover up issued by the Pennsylvania Attorney General.

In an interview I had with Hebda last year for *PolAm* (a Polish American newsletter in Minnesota), he said after high school he decided against entering St. Paul Seminary in Pittsburgh. Instead he went to Harvard University, earning a BA

in political science in 1980 followed by a juris doctor degree from the Columbia University School of Law in 1983. Hebda hoped at the time to specialize in international law, and later he became an associate at Pittsburgh's largest law firm.

While Hebda said that while he found secular work enjoyable, the then-young lawyer said he missed going to daily Mass at school and began to reconsider religious life. Hebda went to Rome to earn degrees in canon law and sacred theology. He came back to Pittsburgh a few months before Poland was freed from Communism in 1989, to be ordained by then Bishop of Pittsburgh Donald Wuerl, and later he became Wuerl's secretary.

Working in multiple pastoral and legal roles both Pittsburgh and Rome over the next decade, Hebda first became a bishop for the rural Northern Michigan Diocese of Gaylord ten years ago. In Rome, Hebda was also an adjunct spiritual director at the Pontifical North American College. He lived at the Villa Stritch, a residence for American priests working for the Holy See.

Perhaps a new role in renewing the Church awaits.

SUPPORTS LAY LEADERSHIP.

In his Aug. 31 statement calling for an independent review of abuse and cover-up claims, Hebda said that "Regarding accountability for bishops around the world: I fully support engaging lay leadership. Church leaders must be judged by outsiders who have the independence, objectivity and expertise to be fair and credible.

"We need the assurance that any cleric — whether a newly ordained priest or a Pope — who abused minors or knowingly protected or enabled such abusers, will be held accountable" wrote Hebda. "The same is true for those who abuse their position to take advantage of vulnerable adults, persons receiving spiritual care or seminarians."

Hebda also wrote that "In the midst of this darkness, it is the Lord's promise that he will be with us always that he will never abandon his Church. That gives me hope. As the darkness of the past is brought to light, I am trusting in St. Paul's insight that what is illuminated will itself be light."

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Polonia of the Eastern Great Lakes

Polish Film Festivals 2018

by Michael Pietruszka

BUFFALO, N.Y. — The Skalny Center for Polish and Central European Studies will present its 2018 Polish Film Festival in two parts once again this year. The theme of Part One is “100 Years of Poland’s Regained Independence: Polish History in Film Masterpieces.” Part One will include screenings of Wajda’s “Man of Marble” on Oct. 13th and Komasa’s “Warsaw 44” on Oct. 17th in Hoyt Hall at the University of Rochester; Wajda’s “The Promised Land” on Oct. 20th, Polanski’s “The Pianist” on Oct. 24th and Antezak’s “Nights and Days” on Oct. 27th in the Dryden Theatre at the George Eastman Museum in Downtown Rochester.

Part Two will open with Kobiela and Welchman’s animated film “Loving Vincent” at the Dryden Theatre on November 6th. This part of the festival will continue from November 7th through the 11th at the Little Theatre in Downtown Rochester. More information will be available at www.rochester.edu/SKALNY. The festival will close with a concert of Polish Film Music performed by Dariusz Terefenko in Taylor Hall at the Hochstein School of Music on December 9th.

The 10th Annual Toronto Polish Film Festival will take place November 6th through 11th at the Revue Cinema in Toronto, and November 16th through 18th at CineStarz in Mississauga. The opening film will be Sokolowski’s “22 Chaser” at the Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema on the 5th. For more information, visit ekran.ca.

POLONIA TIDBITS. Recently, three academic institutions — Cazenovia College in Cazenovia, N.Y., LeMoyne College in Syracuse, and Ignatianum Academy in Krakow — embarked on a new joint venture of student and faculty exchanges ... Mary’s Fireside Inn in East Concord holds its “Polish Night,” featuring a menu of Polish foods, every Thursday ... The 27th annual “Farewell to Summer” benefit for the Orchard Lake Schools in Michigan took place at the Millennium Hotel on Sept. 6th ... The Polish Genealogical Society of NYS hosted its 10th annual “Genealogy Fair” in the St. Gabriel Parish Hall in Elma on Sept. 8th ... Also on the 8th, the **Msg. Adamski Polish Saturday School** opened its Fall 2018 semester at St. John Gualbert School in Cheektowaga; and **New Direction Band, Buffalo Concertina All Stars, and Buffalo Touch** performed at the 16th annual “Music is Art Festival” at Buffalo RiverWorks.

The Bialy Zagiel Polish Canadian Yacht Club and the Polish Consul General in Toronto hosted the 2018 Polish Independence Regatta in Port Credit Harbor in Mississauga, Ontario on the 8th. Competitors vied for the “Niepodlegla” and “Zawisza Czarny” Cups ... The **Polky Village Band** performed at the “Polish Heritage Day in the Park” in Toronto’s Dufferin Grove Park on the 8th as well ... **New Direction** played the Gazebo at Darien Lake as part of “Harvest Festival 2018” on three Saturdays during September.

On Sept. 9th, **Dom Polski 2000** in Breslau, Ontario held its “Dozynki Polish Harvest Food Festival” ... The General Pulaski Association honored the “**Outstanding Men of Polonia**” at its annual banquet at the Millennium Hotel on Sept. 9th ... The **John Paul II Polish Cultural Centre** in Mississauga presented



Purdue University Professor **James Pula** spoke on “The Fourth Partition and the Restoration of Polish Independence” at the Daemen College Center for Polish Studies

“Spotkanie z Historia: Sybiry - Wojna na Kresach” (Meeting with History: Siberians - War on the Borderlands”) on the 11th.

On Sept. 12th, the Permanent Chair of Polish Culture at Canisius College presented **Katrina Shawver**, author of “Henry: A Polish Swimmer’s True Story of Friendship from Auschwitz to America,” in the Richard Winter Student Center. Ms. Shawver also addressed the Professional and Business Women of Polonia’s Sept. 13th meeting at the Millennium Hotel ... Corpus Christi Parish in Buffalo’s Historic Polonia District held its “**39th Annual Dozynki Polish Harvest Festival**” on the parish grounds from Sept. 14th through the 16th. The 11th Annual **Buffalo’s Best Pierogi Contest** was part of the festivities.

The **Roncesvalles Polish Festival** in Toronto was held on Sept. 15th and 16th. As a prelude to the festival, Lenny Gomulka & the Chicago Push, Ed Guca & the Polish Canadians, and John Gora & Gorale performed at St. Casimir Parish on the 14th. More information is available at polishfestival.ca.

Agata Pilitowska and Maria Nowotarska appeared in Dr. Kazimierz Braun’s “**Pola Negri Stories**” at the Revue Cinema in Toronto on the 15th ... On the 19th, the band played at the **Buffalo Polka Boosters** meeting at the Polish Falcons’ Hall in Depew ... **Teatr Narodowy** presented “Garderobiany” (“Dresser”) at the Living Arts Centre in Mississauga on Sept. 21st.

The **Daemen College Center for Polish Studies** in Amherst and the **Polish Arts Club of Buffalo** sponsored a conference entitled “For Your Freedom and Ours: Polonia and the Struggle for Polish Independence” on Sept. 21st and 22nd. Purdue University Professor **James Pula** spoke on “The Fourth Partition and the Restoration of Polish Independence” and the **Chopin Singing Society** performed works by Ignacy Paderewski at the event ...

Central Hose Co. #4 hosted a Polish dinner at the Northside Firehall in Depew on the 22nd ... On Sept. 28th, the Skalny Center for Polish and Central European Studies presented celebrated Polish author **Olga Tokarczuk** to discuss her latest work, “Flights, Memory, Emigration: Polish Writing Now” in the Sloan Auditorium on the University of Rochester River Campus.

UPCOMING. The Polish Heritage Society of Rochester will sponsor an exhibit entitled “Under the Ancient Polish Flag” in the Patricia O’Keefe Ross Gallery at St. John Fisher College from Oct. 5th through November 9th ... The **Chopin Singing Society** will host its 119th Annual Concert at Buffalo’s St. Stanislaus Church on Oct. 14th ... **Dr. Andrew Wise** will speak on “Historic Preservation in Szamocin, Poland” at the Oct. 17th meeting of the Polish Arts Club of Buffalo at the Harlem Road Community Center in Amherst .

On Oct. 20th, the Mississauga Branch of the Canadian Polish Congress will host its “**Independence Ball**” at the John Paul II Polish Cultural Centre in Mississauga ... The 100th Anniversary of the **Polonia Civic Centre of Rochester** will be marked by a Banquet and Ball in the St. Stanislaus Kostka Auditorium on Oct. 27th ... Also on the 27th, **Andrzej Rozbicki** and the **Celebrity Symphony Orchestra** will present “Polish Pride - Przeboje Niepodleglej” at the Christian Arts Centre in Toronto ... The WNY Division of the Polish American Congress will hold its “**Grand Gala and Ball Polonaise**” to celebrate 100 years of Polish Independence at the Hyatt Regency in Downtown Buffalo on Oct. 27th ... The **Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra** will present “Paderewski’s Poland” at Kleinhans Music Hall in Buffalo, Oct. 27 and 28. The orchestra will be conducted by Piotr Sulkowski, and Warsaw born pianist Lukasz Krupinski will make his debut.

A special Mass marking Veterans Day and the **100th Anniversary of Poland’s Independence** will be celebrated at Assumption Church in Buffalo’s Black Rock neighborhood on November 11th. The Chopin Singing Society will perform at this Mass ... The “**Kosciuszko Camp: The Polish Army at Niagara Camp, 1917-1919**” exhibit at the Niagara Historical Society Museum in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario will close on November 15th ... Forgotten Buffalo is offering its “**Polish Tavern Christmas**” tours on December 14th, 15th, 21st and 22nd ... **St. Andrew’s R.C. Parish** in Sloan, N.Y. will hold a Polka Mass on October 28 at 11:00 a.m. Music will be by Special Delivery.

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Happenings: Chicago Style

Chicago Poles Make Pilgrimage to the Black Madonna

by Geraldine Balut Coleman

CHICAGO — For over 300 years, people from cities across Poland make a pilgrimage to the Shrine of Matka Boska Częstochowa in southern Poland. Similar pilgrimages are done in the United States. One such pilgrimage takes place from Chicago to the Częstochowa shrine in Merrillville, Indiana. For the past 31 years during the second weekend of August, Chicago area pilgrims walk to the shrine from the South Side of Chicago. This year, on August 11 and 12, all age groups participated in the pilgrimage - from babies and small children in strollers, to the disabled in wheelchairs, from teenagers and the middle age, to nuns, priests, and the elderly. This year's annual pilgrimage attracted approximately 10,000 people.

With its motto of "Under the Mantle of Mary" the pilgrims began their mission with a morning mass at St. Michael the Archangel Church on South Shore Drive in the South Chicago neighborhood. They began their almost six-hour march praying and singing songs in Polish. Many pilgrims carried crosses; others held banners. Carmelite Fathers greeted their early evening arrival at the "Our Lady of Ludźmierz, Queen of the Polish Highlanders," sanctuary in Munster, Indiana. The evening ended with a mass at the Grotto of the Blessed Mother celebrated by Most Reverend Donald J. Hying, Bishop of Gary.

On Sunday, August 12, the pilgrims started their four-hour procession by leaving early in the morning in order to reach the Merrillville destination around noon. They were greeted by more than 1,000 additional pilgrims at the sanctuary of Our Lady of Częstochowa. Father Mikołaj Markiewicz, SDS, the Salvatorian superior and caretaker of the shrine of Matka Boska Częstochowa, welcomed all and prayed for the ongoing success of this pilgrimage. A 2p.m. mass was celebrated by the Most Reverend Józef Kupny, Archbishop of Wrocław, Poland.

After mass, picnics began on the sanctuary grounds, and the air was filled with Highlander music. An added treat was Father Józef Zuziak, SDS, playing wonderful Highlander melodies on his harmonica, for which he received great applause.

Pilgrims were able to sign up for the pilgrimage through the many Chicago-area Polish-language parishes. According to official data, nearly 6,000 pilgrims took part in



For the past 31 years, Chicago area pilgrims walk to the Czestochowa shrine in Indiana.

the march, but unofficially the count was estimated at 10,000. The walking Polish pilgrimage honoring Mary is considered the largest of such religious events in the United States.

CELEBRATING THE HARVEST.

The Harvest Festival, organized by the **Alliance of Polish Clubs in the USA** (Związek Klubow Polskich, ZKP), is a customary Polish celebration of the harvest. This year's Chicagoland version was held August 19 at St. Rosalie's spacious outdoor location in the northwest suburb of Harwood Heights. Approximately 1,000 gathered to enjoy a day of reflection and fun.

It was a perfect day for a picnic; the weather was wonderful. There was plenty of parking along with an abundance of delightful Polish food, piwo, and music.

In her official capacity, **Łucja Mirowska-Kopec**, ZKP corresponding secretary, addressed the audience with an old Polish proverb: "You cannot live without bread." These were appropriate words to express the theme of this harvest time picnic.

The festivities opened with the presentation of traditional Polish harvest gifts by **Jan Kopec**, president of ZKP, **Łucja Mirowska-Kopec**, and this year's Polish Constitution Day Parade Queen, **Magda Tolwińska**.

An outdoor Mass was celebrated by **Rev. Ryszard Milek**, chaplain of ZKP, **Rev. Tomasz Jarosz**, who came from the Vatican, **Rev. Marcin Mikulski OSPPE**, pastor of Saint Rosalie, and **Rev. Marek Wojnarowski** from Brzeziny, Poland. The **Choir Frederic Chopin** provided a beautiful musical setting, giving the mass a festive note. On the altar, there were



(l. to r.): Mirowska-Kopec, Kopec, and Tolwińska

blessed wreaths decorated with boxwood, grains, flowers, and red and white ribbons. After the service, the **Rzepicha Theater** group presented an interesting harvest skit based on folk tradition. The Harvest Festival hosts, **Maria Majchrowska**, president of the 100-year-old **Klub Brzeziny**, and **Władysław Szara**, third vice president of ZKP, treated the audience with bread baked with flour from this year's harvest. **The Gora Band** added to the festivities.

This festival was a great family event that recalled beautiful traditions and customs from a Polish culture rich in history and patriotism.

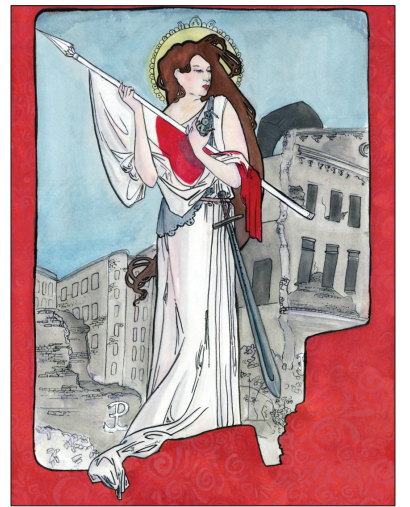
POLONIA GOES TO WAR: 100 YEARS OF POLAND'S INDEPENDENCE! A Polish Museum of America (PMA) exhibit not to be missed is "Polonia Goes to War: 100 years of Poland's Independence!" which examines a period in American Polonian history from the early 1900s through 1923 by presenting American Polonia's part in Poland's struggle for independence.

It highlights the roles of Polo-

nian organizations and Polish Army recruits. This World War I period of Polish American history is shown through posters, drawings, photographs, uniforms, documents, and rare film footage.

Poles in America and Polish Americans had long dreamed of an independent Poland. With the United States declaring war against Germany in April 1917, and with France signing a decree creating France's Polish Army in June 1917, Americans began to volunteer. The U.S. government agreed to permit Poles, who were still not American citizens under the age of 21 and over the age of 31, to enlist. So, in October 1917, this recruitment of volunteers provided an additional 38,000

Chair, Arts Club, Legacy Project to Present "Uprising"



Uprising poster

BUFFALO, N.Y. — The **Permanent Chair of Polish Culture** and the **Polish Art Club of Buffalo**, with assistance from the **Polish Legacy Project**, will present "Uprising" on Sat., Oct. 6, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the Marie Maday Theatre, 2068 Main Street, Buffalo on the Canisius College Campus.

"Uprising" is an original play by Grace Alberti, Lale Davidson, and Catie LeCours about the 1944 Warsaw Uprising, presented by the Ad Astra Theatre Troupe Ltd. The Troupe is organized, staffed and directed by high school students, who wrote the play in response to a presentation on the women of the Warsaw Uprising by Alina Nowobilska. After some 5000 hours of research and creative interplay, and with a review and support from Sophie Hodorowicz Knab, author of "Wearing the Letter 'P': Polish Women as Forced Laborers in Nazi Germany," this play was first performed in Saratoga Springs.

"We are fortunate to have this troupe of talented and historically-minded young people join us in Buffalo for this performance which is presented in memory of Stanley Blake, a Polish and American Veteran," said the Chair's Mary Lou Wyrobek.

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 Chicken-egg size.



STRAW STAR

In Poland, making ornaments with straw dates back to the time when the only available materials for decorations were those that were found on the farm. During the beginning of the Christmas season, village folk would decorate homes using straw, paper, yarn, and cloth ornaments. This 12-sided, 11-inch star/snowflake ornament is based on traditional Polish straw ornaments held together by string. In order to offer at an affordable price, these are manufactured in China.
 Item 660-112 — **\$12.95**

OPŁATEK POLISH CHRISTMAS WAFERS

KEEP THIS BEAUTIFUL TRADITION ALIVE IN YOUR FAMILY!

Practice the ancient Polish custom of sharing the Christmas wafer with family and guests. Many people place a piece of opiatek—a thin wafer, made of flour and water—in each Christmas cards to family members and friends.

Each Polish Christmas Wafer is embossed with religious scene.

IF ORDERING OPŁATEK ONLY, SHIPPING CHARGE IS \$4.00. SEE FORM ON PAGE 14

Learn more about this tradition from our website: polamjournal.com. Follow Library Holidays link to the Christmas listings.



A MUST FOR YOUR CHRISTMAS TABLE

SMALL (2 x 3 1/2 in.) individual wafer in glassine envelope
 Item 1-500
5/\$5.00

LARGE (6 1/4 x 3 1/2 in.) Three white and one pink opiateki, with decorative envelope depicting wigilia with history on back
 Item 1-501p
4/\$5.00

FREE WESOLYCH ŚWIAT / MERRY CHRISTMAS STICKERS WITH ALL ORDERS

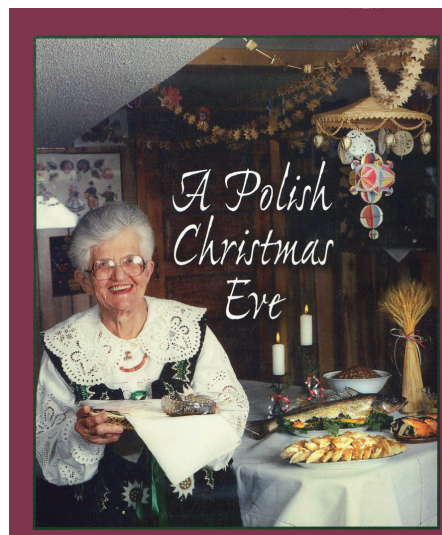
For over 25 years, the Polish American Journal has sold these colorful stickers to benefit Catholic Orphanage in Bialoleka, Poland. The PAJ Press Fund will donate \$1.00 for each sheet mailed this Christmas season to the home near Warsaw. (You may purchase additional sheets of 20 decorative stickers/stamps at \$5.00 per sheet).



A POLISH CHRISTMAS EVE

Traditions and Recipes, Decorations and Song
 by Rev. Czesław Michał Krysa, S.L.D.

Everything you need to know about a traditional Polish Christmas, from the Christmas Eve Vigil Supper to the kulig by one of the world's top scholars on Polish holiday traditions, Bi-lingual carols with musical notation, Wafer sharing messages, heritage photos, ornaments, and ritual decorations, the origins of Wigilia, poetry, literature, etc.



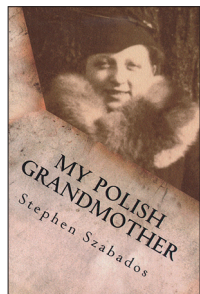
Traditions and Recipes, Decorations and Song
 by Rev. Czesław Michał Krysa

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.
 Item 2-648 / **\$26.95**

GENEALOGY BOOKS

MY POLISH GRANDMOTHER:

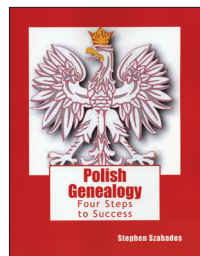


From Tragedy in Poland to Her Rose Garden in America
 by Stephen Szabados
\$14.95 / Item 2-218
 61 pp., b&w photos
 2015

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

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

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

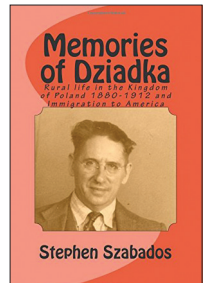


POLISH GENEALOGY: Four Easy Steps to Success
 by Stephen Szabados
\$19.95 / Item 2-668
 164 pp., pb.
 This book is

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

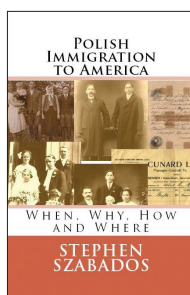
book covers the most up-to-date collection of sources for Polish genealogy.

MEMORIES OF DZIADKA



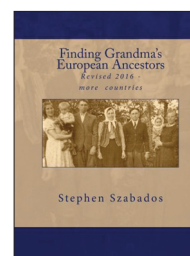
Rural life in the Kingdom of Poland 1880-1912 and Immigration to America
 by Stephen Szabados
\$14.95
 Item 2-670
 pb. 134 pp.

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



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

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



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

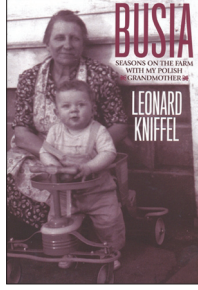
This is a "must have" book for the family historian who wants to identify their European heritage. The author draws from his research experiences to describe how to find the resources available; first to find out where your ancestors were born in Europe, and then find the records. This revised edition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

PAJ BOOKSTORE CHRISTMAS GIFTS

TO ORDER BY MAIL: Use form on page 14 and for all items on pages 11, 12, 13, 14, and 17
TO ORDER BY PHONE, CALL: (800) 422-1275 or (716) 312-8088. MON.-FRI., 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
TO ORDER ON LINE: www.polamjournal.com

POLONIA

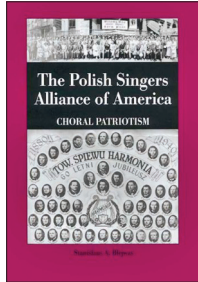
BUSIA: SEASONS ON THE FARM WITH MY POLISH GRANDMOTHER



by Leonard Kniffel
\$15.00
hc. 59 pages
2017
6.25" x 9.25"

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

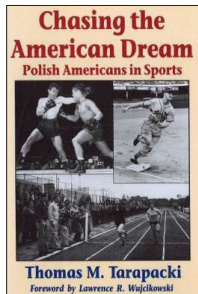
CHORAL PATRIOTISM: THE



POLISH SINGERS ALLIANCE OF AMERICA, 1888-1998
by S. A. Blejwas
Item 1-660
\$22.50
Boydell & Brewer, 2005. 396 pp., Ill.
6.20 x 9.30 x 1.20

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

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



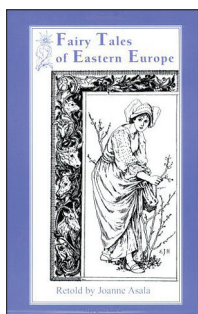
CHASING THE AMERICAN DREAM
by Tom Tarapacki
\$11.95 while supplies last
Item 1-701. h.c.;
151 pp.; 1995;
B&W ill.; 6.2 x 0.8 x 9.5 inches
New old stock.

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

350 Polish American athletes are noted from the worlds of baseball, football, hockey, basketball, track & field, boxing, wrestling, golf, swimming, bowling, auto racing, soccer and more. Included are some of the greatest figures in American sports such as Stan Ketchel; Stella Walsh; and Stan "The Man" Musial.

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

FOLKLORE

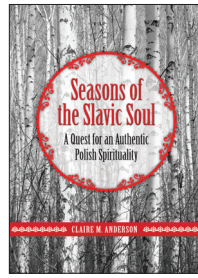


FAIRY TALES OF EASTERN EUROPE
Retold by Joanne Asala
\$12.95
Item 2-636
6 x 9 inches
157 pp., pb.

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

An apple tree in the Slavic tale, "The Fruit of Everlasting Youth," evokes the

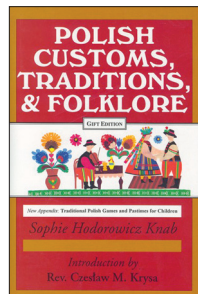
Tree of Life in the Garden of Eden. The ages of man described by the Fate Sisters are quite similar to the ancient "Riddle of the Sphinx." A snake impedes the function of the Tree of Everlasting Youth, again reminiscent of the Garden of Eden.



SEASONS OF THE SLAVIC SOUL: A QUEST FOR AN AUTHENTIC POLISH SPIRITUALITY
by Claire M. Anderson
Item 1-675
\$14.95

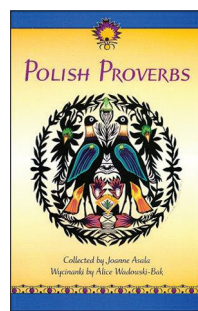
ACTA Publications
2017, p.b., 106 pp., 5x7 in.

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



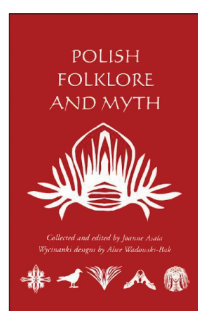
POLISH CUSTOMS, TRADITIONS & FOLKLORE
\$24.95
Item 2-643
by Sophie Hodorowicz Knab
340 pp., hc.

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



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

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



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

This book of engaging folk stories includes such tales as "The Violin," "The Headache Cure," "Midsummer's Eve," "The Flower Queen's Daughter," "The Legend of the North Wind," "The Flaming Castle," "The Village Dance," and "The Unfinished Tune." The stories were collected by Joanne Asala, with wyci-

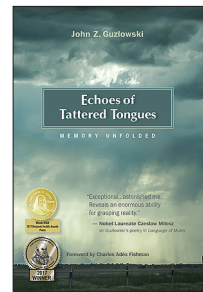
nanki (paper-cutting) illustrations by Polish-American artist Alice Wadowski-Bak.

HISTORY

POLAND: A HISTORY
by Adam Zamojski
\$19.95
Item 1-659

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

WORLD WAR II



ECHOES OF TATTERED TONGUES
by John Guzowski
\$21.95
Item 2-667
hc., 6.2 x 0.8 x 9.4 inches
200 pp.

Aquila Polonica / Language: English

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



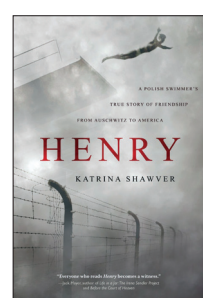
303 SQUADRON
The Legendary Battle of Britain Fighter Squadron
by Arkady Fiedler
\$21.95
Item 2-603
pb. 6 x 9 inches
368 pp.

Aquila Polonica English. Includes nearly 200 black and white photos, maps and illustrations.

The summer of 1940 and the Battle of Britain—the darkest days of World War II. France, Poland, Denmark, Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg and Norway had all been crushed by the powerful Nazi German war machine. Great Britain stood alone, fighting for its life.

Thrilling action story of the celebrated squadron of Polish fighter pilots whose superb daring and aerial combat skills helped save England during its most desperate hours. The 303 "Kościuszko" Squadron flew with the RAF, downing three times the average RAF score, while incurring only one-third the average casualties during the Battle of Britain. Underdog heroes who rose to defend against the deadliest German Luftwaffe attacks, the pilots of 303 Squadron were lionized by the British press, congratulated by the King and adored by the British public.

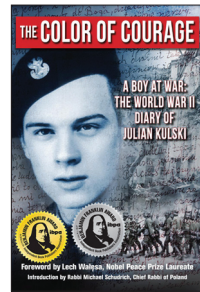
HENRY. A POLISH SWIMMER'S TRUE STORY OF FRIENDSHIP FROM AUSCHWITZ TO AMERICA



by Katrina Shawver
\$19.95
Item 2-678
Koehler Books, 2017
pb., 6 x 0.7 x 9 inches
324 pp.
\$19.95

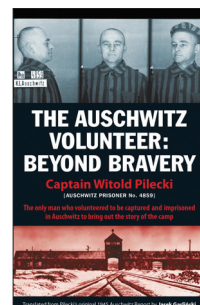
When Katrina Shawver met the eighty-five-year-old Henry Zguda, he possessed an exceptional memory, a surprising cache of original docu-

ments and photos, and a knack for meeting the right people at the right time. He relates in his own voice a life as a champion swimmer, interrupted by three years imprisoned in Auschwitz and Buchenwald. Henry's path of resiliency and power of connection are as relevant today as they were in World War II.



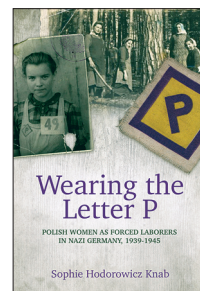
THE COLOR OF COURAGE
by Julian E. Kulski
\$19.95
Item 2-674
Aquila Polonica Publ., 2012. pb.
496 pp., 6" x 9"

"If there is going to be a war, I do not want to miss it." So wrote Julian Kulski a few days before the outbreak of World War II, in this remarkable diary of a boy at war from ages 10 to 16. Kulski wages his own private war against the Germans with small acts of sabotage. At age 12, Kulski is recruited into the clandestine Underground Army by his Scoutmaster and begins training in military tactics and weapons handling. At age 13, he meets with leaders of the Jewish Resistance. Arrested by the Gestapo at 14, he is rescued and at 15 fights in the Warsaw Uprising of 1944.



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

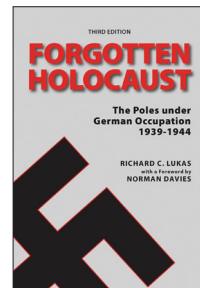
In 1940, the Polish Underground wanted to know what was happening inside the recently opened Auschwitz concentration camp. Polish army officer Witold Pilecki volunteered to be arrested by the Germans and report from inside the camp. His intelligence reports, smuggled out in 1941, were among the first eyewitness accounts of Auschwitz atrocities. Pilecki's story was suppressed for half a century after his 1948 arrest by the Polish Communist regime as a "Western spy."



WEARING THE LETTER "P"
Polish Women as Forced Laborers in Nazi Germany, 1939-1945
by Sophie Hodorowicz-Knab
\$19.95
Item 2-642

pb. 304 pages
6 x 9 inches

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

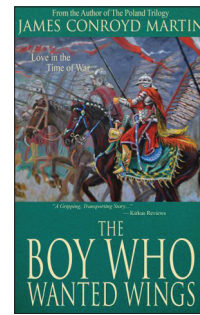


FORGOTTEN HOLOCAUST: THE POLES UNDER GERMAN OCCUPATION, 1939-45. THIRD EDITION
\$19.95
Item 2-647
358 PP. PB.

Forgotten Holocaust has become a classic of World War II literature. As Norman Davies noted, "Dr. Richard Lukas has rendered a valuable service, by showing that no one can properly analyze the fate of one ethnic community in occupied

Poland without referring to the fates of others. In this sense, *The Forgotten Holocaust* is a powerful corrective." The third edition includes a new preface by the author, a new foreword by Norman Davies, a short history of ZEGOTA, the underground government organization working to save the Jews, and an annotated listing of many Poles executed by the Germans for trying to shelter and save Jews.

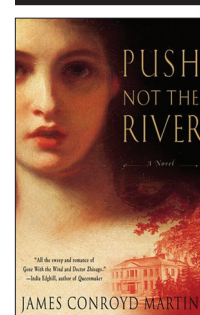
THE BOY WHO WANTED WINGS



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

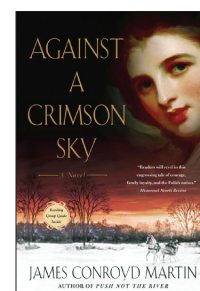
Aleksy, a Tatar peasant family, holds in his heart the wish to become a hussar so that he could battle the Turks at Vienna (the first 9/11, in 1683). As a Tatar and a peasant, this is an unlikely quest. When he meets Krystyna, the daughter of a noble, winning her love seems just as unlikely a quest.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

MARTIN TRILOGY



PUSH NOT THE RIVER
Book 1 of Martin's Poland Trilogy
by James Conroyd Martin
\$15.95
Item 2-609
Hussar Quill Press. 496 pp.pb. Maps & wycinanki illust. Reading Group Guide

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



AGAINST A CRIMSON SKY
Book 2 of Martin's Poland Trilogy
by James Conroyd Martin
\$15.95
Item 2-610
St. Martin's Press
369 pp.pb. Map & wycinanki illust.

"You don't have to read Push Not the River to get the most from this sequel," says Suzanne Strempek Shea. The award-winning author picks up where Push Not the River leaves off, taking the characters 20 years into the fascinating Napoleonic era, highlighting the exploits of the glorious Polish lancers.



THE WARSAW CONSPIRACY
Book 3 of Martin's Poland Trilogy
by James Conroyd Martin
\$17.99 Hussar Quill Press
508 pp., pb.
Item 2-611

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

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CHRISTMAS GIFTS

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TO ORDER ON LINE: www.polamjournal.com

Polish Apparel



Polish American Baseball Cap
Available in sizes S-M or L-XL, and colors Navy, Black, Red and Royal Blue
#8206CAP - \$19.95



Poland Flag Cap
Available in sizes S-M or L-XL, and colors Navy, Black, Red and Royal Blue
#8207CAP - \$19.95



Highly Detailed Embroidered Eagle

Embroidered Eagle - Adult Apron
Show off your Polish Pride with this ready to wear White Eagle embroidered apron. Ultra Club 2 Pocket 28" long Apron: 9 oz. 65% cotton twill, 35% polyester
#8204APR - \$24.95



Na zdrowie! Navy Adult Tee
Available in sizes S M, L, XL, XXL and 3XL.
#9316USS NAVY - Small to XL - \$19.95
XXL - \$21.95, 3XL - \$22.95



Edelweiss Wool Socks
Adult size. Fits approx. women's shoe size 7 - 10. These socks are hand wove by artisans in Poland. Because of that he ones you receive may be slightly different than what is shown.
A. #700161 - Gray - \$14.95
B. #700162 - Cream - \$14.95

Gifts Ideas



Traditional Polish Pottery 12oz Mug
#WZ054 - \$18.95



Unique Polish Pottery 12oz Mug
#WZ053 - \$31.95



Artistic Polish Pottery 12oz Mug
#WZ055 - \$28.95



Educational Wooden Puzzle - Fantastical Butterfly
Recommended age: 3 years and up
Measures approx. 10.5" x 7.5" x 0.6"
Imported from Poland
#700198 - \$16.95



Educational Wooden Puzzle - Backhoe
Recommended age: 3 years and up
Measures approx. 1.5" x 9.5" x 0.6"
Imported from Poland
#700199 - \$15.95

Polish Christmas



Foldable Christmas Square Butter Mold
This beautiful mold features popular Christmas motifs on each side: a Christmas tree, a shooting star, a candle with holly, and a fish. Measures 2.7" L x 2.7" W x 2.8" H
#KOR110 - \$49.95



Ornament Cards
Set of 4 Christmas cards each adorned with a usable ornament.
#PCS705 - \$11.95

Ornaments



Wycinanki, Roosters Folk Art Ornament
This gorgeous design is inspired by the art of Polish Paper Cutting),
#570525 - 4" - \$29.95



Kashubian Folk Art Egg Ornaments
Each blown glass egg ornament showcases Kashubian motifs of colorfully stylized flowers.
A. #570528 - 5.5" Tall - \$39.95
B. #570527 - 4" Tall - \$29.95



48 Pieces Set, Silver Finish
Straw Ornaments measure approx: 2.4"
#660123 - \$34.95

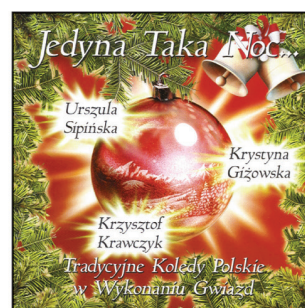


20 Piece Set with Basket
Straw Ornaments measure approx: 2.4".
#660127 - \$22.95

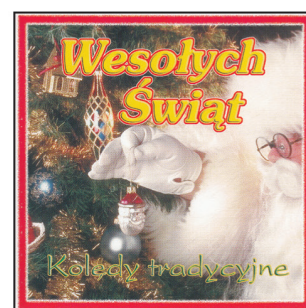
Christmas Carols on CD



Białe Świąta
15 Christmas carols performed by the musical group "The White Snow".
Songs Include: *Przybieżeli Do Betlejem, Bóg Się Rodzi, Jezus Malusieńki, Mizerna Cicha, Gdy Śliczna Panna, Lulajże Jezuniu & more.*
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Sports

Valtonen Replaces Ted Nolan

by Tom Tarpacki



After a year as coach of the Polish national ice hockey team, Ted Nolan is out and **Tomasz "Tomek" Valtonen** (above) is in.

The Polish Ice Hockey Association (PZHL) parted ways with Nolan and assistant Tom Coolen following the team's relegation to the third tier of the IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship. Nolan had come to Poland with strong credentials, having coached in the NHL with the Sabres and Islanders. He also led Latvia to its best-ever Olympic result, eighth place, in 2014.

Valtonen was introduced to the media in Nowy Targ and gave his first interview in Polish.

Valtonen, 37, was born in Piotrów Trybunalski, Poland, to a Polish mother and a Finnish father. The family moved to eastern Finland when he was four. He was drafted in the second round by the Detroit Red Wings in 1998, and played one year of junior hockey with the OHL's Plymouth Whalers before returning to Finland. He won a championship there in 2002 but retired in 2009 due to a shoulder injury. Later he coached in the top Finnish league.

After narrowly missing out on promotion to the top division in 2015 and 2016, the Polish national team was last in the 2018 IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship Division I Group A. As a result it was relegated to the third tier of world hockey. Polish hockey also suffered financial and administrative problems off the ice.

"I'm aware what hockey in Poland looks like, it absolutely doesn't frighten me. I know what to expect and I know that I can help," Valtonen said. "Coaching players is a 24/7 job. If someone is not ready for that, there's nothing to look for in this sport. My players have to be ready for this."

BY ANY OTHER NAME ... Major League Baseball followed up on last year's inaugural Players Weekend (PAJ Nov. 2017), an event that included colorful, non-traditional uniforms with nicknames instead of names on the backs.

Minnesota outfielder **Max Kepler** wore **Różycki** on his jersey. He was born Maximilian Kepler-Różycki, but shortened his name when he came to the big leagues. Max was born in Germany, the son of a Polish Solidarity refugee and an American mother. They were both ballet dancers. A rare major leaguer who was raised in Europe, in 2009 at 16 he signed with the Twins for \$800,000. The outfielder made his big league debut in 2015.

Here are some of the other back-of-the-jersey nicknames: San Diego's **Travis Jankowski**, who had "Fred" because of his love of TV's Mister Rogers; Toronto's **Troy Tulowitzki** was "Tulo," Oakland's **Jake Smolinski** was "Smo \$," Mi-

ami's **Drew Rucinski** was "Rusinski," Atlanta's **Mike Foltyniewicz** was "Folty," and the Mets' **Kevin Plawecki** was "Plaw Dog."



COACH KOOL GOES TO 'BAMA.

In what college football observers called a "massive" move, Nick Saban hired former Miami coach **Craig Kuligowski** (above) as Alabama's defensive line coach. This 49-year old known as "Coach Kool" has long been regarded as one of the nation's top defensive line coaches. Last season the Hurricanes ranked first nationally in sacks and were fourth in tackles for a loss.

Before Miami, Kuligowski spent 15 seasons at Missouri, where he helped five players develop into NFL first-round draft picks. During his playing days Craig was an all-conference offensive tackle under Saban at Toledo in 1990.

HE DOES IT AGAIN! Sam Mikulak

recently won his record-tying fifth U.S. all-around title by his largest margin of victory, 4.75 points, at the U.S. Gymnastics Championships. The 25-year-old is just the second man to win five U.S. all-around titles. Mikulak didn't do the all-around at worlds and nationals last year coming back from a torn Achilles that many thought would end his career.

The California native competed for the University of Michigan, and was on the U.S. Olympic team in 2012 and 2016. Though he's old for a gymnast, before he quits he wants to earn an individual Olympic or world medal; he's one of the best American gymnasts to never do so. Mikulak is likely to be named to the five-man team for October's world championships, his next chance for that first individual global podium. Tokyo 2020 would be his third and likely final shot at an Olympic medal.

NEW NAME IN PRO TENNIS. You can expect to hear a lot about a rising young tennis star with a unique name: **Thai-Son Kwiatkowski**. Thai-Son is of Polish and Vietnam-

ese heritage. His mother, Wendi Le, who has a bachelor's degree from the Commerce School and a master's in management information systems, is Vietnamese. His father, **Tim Kwiatkowski**, with a bachelor's in psychology and a medical degree from the University of Virginia, is Polish.

Thai-Son, like both his parents, graduated from UVA. There he won the NCAA singles title as a senior and led the Cavaliers to three straight NCAA team titles, from 2015-17. He was a three-time singles All-American, as well as a back-to-back ACC Men's Tennis Scholar-Athlete of the Year honoree. The 23-year-old turned pro after graduating last year.

POLISH POWER AT MSU. A pair of brothers, sophomore defensive end **Jacob Panasiuk** and junior defensive tackle **Mike Panasiuk**, are starting on the Michigan State defensive line.

When Jacob committed to the Spartans in 2016 MSU coach Mark Dantonio sent an interesting tweet:

"Gratulacje na Twoim Wielki Dzień!! Spartan Duma!! Goin to keep it Rollin! #V4MSU!" The basic translation of that tweet is: Congratulations on your Big Day! Going to Keep it Rolling! #V4MSU!

D'Antonio's father was Italian and his mother Polish, and he knew of Jacob's strong Polish connection. The parents of the Panasiuk brothers (Dariusz and Jolanta) are natives of Poland who came to the United States when they were 18. "They have been working their butts off to keep this family going, which me and my brothers are truly blessed to have great parents to come here from Poland and keep working," Jacob once said.

STILL DRIVING. **Jamie Sadlowski** is best known for his incredibly long drives, but last year the two-time long-drive champion made his PGA debut. The 29-year-old Canadian decided to give up on long drive competitions and focus on a professional golf career on the Mackenzie Tour in Canada.

Recently Jamie got a lot of social media attention when his equipment sponsor, Cleveland Golf, asked him to play Grandpa Jamie, a crotchety 80-year-old who roams the range offering tips to golfers and then shocks them by ripping 400-yard tee shots.

PERKOSKI'S NOTEBOOK. Pitcher **Scott Kazmir**, a three-time All Star, was released by Atlanta earlier this year and is currently a free agent ... Lefty reliever **Marc Rzepczynski** signed a free agent deal with Seattle, and has been pitching for Triple-A Tacoma ... Tigers pitcher **Artie Le-**

wicki was lost for the season due to arm surgery ... San Diego sent outfielder **Matt Szczur** to the Triple-A El Paso Chihuahuas ... Polish-born bowler **Daria Pajak** finished second at the Pepsi PWBA St. Petersburg-Clearwater Open.

POLISH AMERICAN NINJA.

Chris Wilczewski is a top American Ninja Warrior, but he's had to get past some roadblocks to get there. He's struggled with alcohol, but overcame

that. Chris has competed on every American Ninja Warrior on NBC TV since season 2 except last year. That's when a near-drowning during a storm on Lake Michigan set him back — temporarily, of course.

After enjoying great success as a competitor, Chris opened his own gym. That gym, The Movement Lab located in Hainesport N.J., is now one of the most recognized ninja training and parkour (obstacle course) gyms in the country.

TWO IN A ROW. Last month Tampa Bay's **Ryne Stanek** became the first rookie pitcher in 75 years to start consecutive games when he threw one inning for the second straight day against Toronto. He only pitched one inning each day.



SAM MIKULAK, 25, recently won his record-tying fifth U.S. all-around title at the U.S. Gymnastics Championships.

It was part of the club's unorthodox but rather successful pitching strategy to use a proven reliever to get the first three-to-six outs facing the hitters atop the opposing order. A St. Louis native, he's named after Cubs Hall of Fame second baseman **Ryne Sandberg**.

Despite having a good outing, Blue Jays starter **Ryan Borucki** took the loss. Called up from Triple-A Buffalo earlier this year, the 24-year-old has shown

great progress.

SISTER MARY BOBBLEHEAD.

Sister Mary Jo Sobieck's fame is verified: she will have a limited edition bobblehead offered by the National Bobblehead Hall of Fame and Museum. The bobblehead depicts the Sister's famous ceremonial first pitch made before a Chicago White Sox home game.

Sister Mary Jo was chosen by Marian Catholic administrators to throw out the first pitch on "Marian Catholic Night" at the ballpark. Her bobbleheads can be purchased through www.bobbleheadhall.com, and \$5 from every \$25 Sister Mary Jo bobblehead sold will go to Marian Catholic.

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Forced Labor in the Third Reich

The Personal Account of a Polish Slave Laborer

Katherine Graczyk was captured by the SS and shipped to Germany. She shared her story with author Catherine Hamilton

by Catherine Hamilton

Part I of III

It was like a bad dream. No, it was worse than a bad dream; it was like one of those nightmares a person never forgets. Except it was real. It was 1940, and I was eighteen years old. I was kidnapped while walking home from the market, but somehow I survived what followed. Many were not as fortunate.*

THIS IS MY STORY. When my father was a young man, before he and my mother married, he traveled to America to work. He returned to Poland with \$16,000 dollars in his pocket and purchased farmland in a small village in southern Poland. He married Mother, and they settled into a thatch-roofed house on their property.

The gifted seamstress and the broad-shouldered husbandman made a perfect match. They didn't wait long to till the field or start a family. First came my brother, Antony, then me, then Sophie, then Anna. Soon after their fourth child was born, father fell ill. He died when I was only six years old.

Things weren't easy on the farm. We lived on the income my mother made as a seamstress. Still, I didn't know anything different. And as soon as I could thread a needle, I helped mother with the sewing, especially with the button holes. I loved my life and my family. Looking back, I think the difficulties in my early life made me tough. I didn't know it at the time, but I was going to live through something much worse.

ON SEPTEMBER 1, 1939, Hitler invaded Poland.

Everything about my life changed. The sound of bombs and explosions broke into my village, bringing corpses and refugees. The horrors of the war followed; my fellow citizens were beaten, tortured, executed by firing squads, or hung in the streets. For a teenage girl, these things were unthinkable—yet they became my reality.

Living in constant fear of being dragged from our home and shot, simply because we were Poles, we spent most days hiding in the forest or the cellar. Polish soldiers arrived and told us to evacuate. But by the time we prepared to go, enemy troops had rolled into town. At gun point, they forced everyone back to their houses. "We'll shoot you!" they shouted. We went home.

Enemy "destruction troops" set fire to a nearby village. As soon as



Katherine Graczyk

we heard this we began the ritual of taking our belongings outside during the daylight hours; we'd stack everything in the yard. If the Nazis came to burn our village, at least we'd have our lives, and something to put on our backs. Night and day, one of us stood watch, while the Polish Army fought Hitler's men. After 28 days, the Nazis captured Warsaw and declared that Poland was a territory of the Third Reich. Again everything changed.

WE HAD NO FREEDOM. SS officers appeared everywhere. They closed the stores, arrested the owners, pulled big trucks up to the storefronts, robbed and ransacked and hauled what they wanted back to Germany. The Gestapo set up headquarters in every town. Everyone was ordered to report to the main office with birth papers. They searched us. They grilled us with questions. They called us names. Priests, teachers, doctors, bankers, and lawyers—they were all arrested. No one saw them again.

We couldn't stand by and do nothing. A new war began, an underground war, fought by citizens and the newly formed Polish Home Army. Unfortunately, I only witnessed and participated in the early phases of the resistance.

On New Year's Day, 1940, my mother received a notice that my brother and I were to report to the SS headquarters; from there we would be transported to Germany to work for "the Fuhrer." We didn't go. That was our way of fighting back. Every village, town, and city received a notice of the number of "heads" that had to report. But no one reported for "work."

My mother received a second notice. Fearing they would come after us, my brother and I escaped to another town to hide. When word spread that the parents of the youths who didn't report for work in Germany were being arrested, we returned home to protect our mother; but we didn't go to the headquarters.

We stayed on the farm. If the SS drove up the road near our house, we would run and hide in the forest beyond the potato field.

One day Antony, Sophie and I—Sophie was a close friend of ours—sneaked to the neighboring town of Dynow to buy salt. The Nazi soldiers had taken most of the food; even though a salt mine existed only kilometers away, salt was scarce. Not finding a grain of salt to buy anywhere, we headed home.

Suddenly, we noticed two SS officers walking behind us. We kept walking; maybe they didn't notice us. But they came closer and closer, marching stiff-legged. Before we had a chance to run, they grabbed hold of us and shouted, "Halt! Du kommst mit uns! Halt!" They were speaking German and I couldn't understand what they were saying. I only knew they were shouting and pushing and had a gun in my back.

We were taken to a schoolhouse and herded into a classroom along with 50 other kids the SS had captured. All I could think of was my mother. She didn't know where we were. If I could get to the window, I thought, maybe I could get someone's attention. I could ask them to go tell my mother that we'd been caught in a round-up. I scooted backward to the window. Slowly, I opened it. It would only open a crack, but that was enough. A man on a bike, who had watched as they pulled us from the truck, was still at the edge of the schoolyard. I waved him over. "My name is Katherine Ponczocha," I whispered. I told him my brother was there with me, and I gave him our address. He rode away. I didn't know the man. And I didn't know if he could help us.

WE WERE TRAPPED INSIDE classrooms empty of desks, the girls locked in one room and the boys in another down the hall. That first afternoon, they ordered us to take off our clothes. Threatening to shoot if we did not comply, they took every stitch of clothing we had on and prodded us like cattle into a single-file line. "For physical examination," the guard said, speaking in broken Polish. Forced to stand for hours in the hallway opposite the young men, who were also naked, I felt completely numb. Humiliation is not a strong enough word.

Then it was my turn. First, the barber cut off my waist-long braids; after that, he shaved my head. Since I had only seen the doctor on one occasion when I was very sick with a fever, this was to be my first physical examination. The doctors talked loudly. They laughed. There I was, naked on a table in front of four of them, and they had guns pointed at me. I didn't know what they were going to do. I heard a young man swearing on the other side of a curtain, and the doctor proceeded to examine my every centimeter and natural cavity. My mind went completely blank and I have no recollection of how long I was on the table.

They finally returned us to the c

Bondage? Slavery? How was I to survive this? I remembered Mama's parting words. I would not forget who I was. I was determined!

lassroom, still without anything to wear. I stared at the walls and pretended to be invisible. Several hours later, they brought me my clothes, but not my shoes. Wadded and wrinkled, my dress smelled of insecticide. Then I was made to sleep on old, bug-infested hay that looked like it had been piled in the classroom for months, possibly since the beginning of the round-ups.

In the morning, we received identification patches. A violet triangle with the capital letter "P" was issued to me because I was a Polish



Graczyk's drawing of her home town.

Catholic. I was ordered to sew the patch onto my sleeve. I learned all the girls were being transported to Germany.

As the military truck was about to pull away from the schoolhouse, I saw my mother walking quickly up the road. She walked faster and faster—the man on the bike must have told her where to find me. She started to run, holding her bag over her head so that someone at the rear of the truck might reach it. The truck suddenly slowed for the next corner.

I called out, "Mama! Mama!" pushing my way toward the back of the truck. I forced my hand outside the back railing.

MOTHER WAS DIRECTLY below me, lifting the bundle toward me with both hands, and I could see that she was crying. We were both crying when I took hold of the drawstring of the bag and felt Mama's fingers. The truck lurched forward, leaving

my mother behind in the street, her arms outstretched. "Remember who you are! You are a Pole!" she called.

The truck pitched and turned the corner. That was the last time I saw my mother. That was last time I touched her.

I WAS STILL CRYING when I looked inside the sack—a pair of shoes, a sweater, some bread. I had touched her fingertips. And I would remember who I was. The truck didn't stop until it reached the train station in Krakow. SS swarmed the trainyard like yellowjackets on trash. I looked everywhere but didn't see my brother or Sophie. Unloaded at gun point and crammed into a cattle car with eighty other young women, I somehow felt completely alone.

After four days on the cattle car, a trip that typically takes two days, we lurched to a stop at the Berlin station. A forced march brought us

to a market place. Between the food vendors and cloth merchants and flower-stalls, we slaves stood on display. There were hundreds upon hundreds of us. Armed guards patrolled the perimeter of the slave auction. A man in suspenders and work clothes approached me and pointed. He must have said, "I want that one." Because he gave the man in charge a few coins from his pocket. And that was it. I now belonged to a German potato farmer.

Later, I learned from a male prisoner who was

taken to the same work farm—a Polish POW who also spoke German—what the farmer had told the guards at the auction. He intended to treat his workers so badly they wouldn't last one year, and I was going to give him everything I had until I ended up six feet under.

Bondage? Slavery? How was I to survive this? I remembered Mama's parting words. I would not forget who I was! I was determined!

But I was so hungry. We had nothing but water on the train. Oh yes, at the station stops, they might give us a piece of bread and cold coffee. It wasn't actually coffee, but a substitute of some kind. One time while I waited in the bread line, something smelled so good, like bratwurst. I couldn't believe my good fortune—they were giving us meat. But my ration of bread held nothing but bread. It only smelled of bratwurst. I decided they must have cut the sausage for the guards and used the same knife to cut the bread for the prisoners.

Catherine Hamilton, a freelance writer in Beaverton, Oregon, recorded Katherine Graczyk's story during a series of interviews. Hamilton was honored to write the first-person account of these experiences; she and Katherine Graczyk are cousins. Part of Katherine's story was published in the anthology *Forgotten Survivors*, edited by Dr. Richard Lukas.

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Polish Chef / Reader's Recipes

Spotlight on Long Island

Basia's Krówki Polish Cream Fudge

by Barbara Betlejewska
West Salem, Ohio

I first tasted *krówki* (kroof-key / "cows" in English) in 1985 on a "Roots" visit to my paternal grandmother's girlhood village north of Warszawa. They were delicious. At that time, "private shop" products were scarce and we immediately joined the *kolejka* (koh-lay-kah / queue), upon seeing it before we even knew what we were waiting in line to buy. *Krówki* were supposedly invented by the Polish confectioners L. Pomorski i Syn in the eastern Polish city of Poznan. During World War II, Poznan was renamed Posen and came under Nazi rule. The family was forced to leave Posen and set up their confectionary in Milanówek, near Warsaw, where the main factory remained for many years.

In 1985, *krówki* were made with whole milk, sugar, a little butter and vanilla. I was eager to try them again when I returned to Poland in 2010. A bit disappointing — now they were made with glucose syrup, shortening, and milk products. They were not quite the same. After trying several recipes that flopped, I thought I would have to do without the original *krówki* for life, until I perfected the recipe below. When they crystallize properly on the outside and are slightly caramelized on the inside, enjoy the exact taste of the original Polish *krówki*, the iconic Polish candy, which are wrapped in the signature yellow and brown

sides of the pan into crystals, or if you see 2-3 little streaks of caramel, then it is cooked enough. Immediately remove pan from heat and place in metal sink to decrease the temperature rise. If the temperature rises too much, you will get caramels only. If the mixture is setting, quickly add the softened butter (it will slow down crystals even more if salted) and vanilla and mix well and scrape into 9x13 pan. Smooth the surface evenly so candies are even in height. If the mixture is not grainy when it is cooling in the sink, then add vanilla and stir vigorously in the saucepan, scraping sides to start seed crystals. Only add butter if there are a lot of crystals. Too much stirring causes the mixture to seize up into huge big crystals. Too little means you have gooey caramels. If crystallizing a bit, then after 5-10 minutes, scrape into 9x13" pan. If not sugaring enough, then stir in saucepan and place in refrigerator. A cold, low humidity location promotes crystal formation. Check the pan in fridge every 2-3 minutes and re-stir. It may take 10-12 minutes for the fudge to start setting. Then scrape into 9x13" pan and let finish cooling on table.

When firm but still warm, pre-cut candy. Score pieces carefully to avoid cracking. Then finish cutting when nearly cool. When cold, wrap candy pieces in tiny pieces of waxed paper. Make on a low-humidity, 60% or below, no-rain day. For lower humidity, stir gently without touching sides of 1/2 humidity, add an extra 1/4 cup sugar. Do not make above 70% humidity. For 9x13" pan, 12 rows on the long side and 10 rows on the short side giving 70 pieces of candy. If not wrapping, then cut in bigger pieces, six on the short side and eight on the long side giving 48 pieces. These freeze well without wrapping on layers of waxed paper. Recipe may be cut in half for 8" square pan. The recipe is simple, really only two ingredients, milk and sugar, but finicky to make. Enjoy in moderation as they are very sweet. Cooking time is usually around 1 hour 10 minutes, but can be 50 minutes.



Do you have a recipe you would like to share? Send to editor@polamjournal.com.



- 9x13" pan
- 1 qt. whole milk
- 4 c sugar
- 1 T vanilla
- 1 T butter (optional)

Grease pan well. Stir the milk and sugar together with a long-handled spoon in a deep saucepan to avoid splatter. Cover and cook the mixture over high heat for the first 10 minutes until boiling. Watch carefully and do not overboil. Gradually lower heat to medium keeping mixture boiling while occasionally stirring for about 50 minutes. The color will turn golden as it cooks.

After 50 minutes, watch constantly for tiny streaks of brown caramel coming from the bottom as you stir. If the mixture starts "sugaring" on

Author Barbara Betlejewska has tried to capture the original taste of this classic Polish candy.

usual "traditional Polish" fare, this book includes unique recipes created by Ania and others in her family (grandma, grandpa, uncle, etc.).

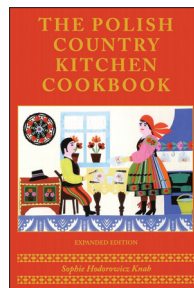
More than 175 recipes, from soups, appetizers, entrees and side dishes to desserts. Easy-to-follow instructions with helpful tips make it simple to prepare such traditional Polish favorites as pierogi, blintzes, sauerkraut, cabbage rolls, bigos, horseradish sauce, paczki, angel wings, mazurka cakes and many more.

PLEASING POLISH RECIPES



by Jacek and Malgorzata Nowakowski
\$8.95
Item 2-678

5.5 x 3.5 inches / 160 pp., spiral bound
This little cookbook features a great variety of regional foods, such as hot beer, vegetable soup, leek salad, graham bread, bigos, potato pancakes, dill pickles, nut roll, gingerbread, and royal mazurkas. Readers also will find a table grace and information on dyeing traditional brown Easter eggs.



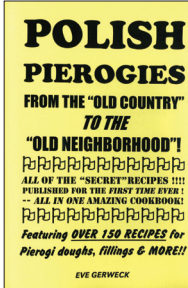
POLISH COUNTRY KITCHEN COOKBOOK
by Sophie Knab
\$19.95
Item 2-632. 337 pp., sc;

From top-selling author Sophie Hodorowicz Knab comes an expanded edition to a best-selling book that combines recipes for favorite Polish foods with the history and cultural traditions that created them. Arranged according to

the cycle of seasons, this cookbook explores life in the Polish countryside through the year.

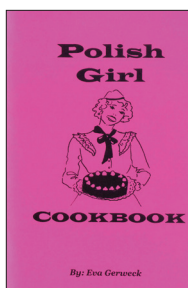
The Polish Country Kitchen Cookbook gives its readers priceless historical information such as the type of utensils used in Poland at the turn of the century, the meaning behind the Pascal butter lamb, and many other insightful answers to common questions asked by descendants of Polish immigrants.

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



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

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



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

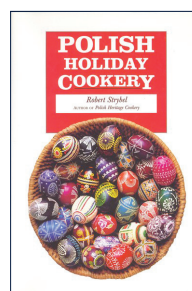
Another cookbook full of recipes from Detroit's Old Polish neighborhoods. The clearly-written recipes facilitate the preparation of the dishes and their

tries, potato salad, pastries, babka, breads, and more.



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

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



POLISH HOLIDAY COOKERY
Published at \$16.95
WHILE SUPPLIES LAST: \$9.95
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

A New Miss Polonia and Scholarships Presented

by Barbara Szydłowski

The Polish American Cultural Association of Port Washington held its annual cultural event, Miss Polonia and Scholarship Awards Dance on August 4.

The evening commenced with the presentation of colors by the midshipmen of the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy of Kings Point followed by the singing of the Polish and American Anthems by Kimberly Moisa.

There was the awarding of scholarships to Polish American students entering college in the Fall. President Leon Jankowski presented the Polish American Cultural Association \$1000 to Jack Wrobel entering St. John's University and the General Pulaski Memorial Foundation Scholarship of \$500 was presented to Natalia Krol entering the State University of New York at Geneseo. While the Polish American Museum Founders Scholarship of \$500 was presented to Jaclyn Desz entering Towson University by President Barbara Szydłowski. The highlight of the evening was the crowning of the 2018 Miss Polonia, Emily Agnieszka Patysiak by last year's Miss Polonia, Kimberly Moisa. Also there was the sashing of a parade marshal who will lead the Port Washington contingent on October 7 up Fifth Avenue, New York City in the

81st General Pulaski Parade. The 2017 marshal, Ed Hysyk relinquished his sash to Matt Condray, the new 2018 parade marshal. The emcee for this cultural event was Leon Jankowski and chair-lady for Miss Polonia was Carol Martin.

POLKA BROTHERS IN CONCERT. A Summer Concert was held at the Piazza Ernesto Strada, Westbury on Aug. 9 featuring the Polka Brothers. This four-man band of young polka lovers spreads the sound and joy of polkas. The Brothers performed classic polka favorites, pop and rock-gone-polkas and some originals. This diversified audience clapped their hands, stomped their feet, even danced and sang along with the band, which I found enjoyable. This concert of musical entertainment was one of many ethnic concerts sponsored by the Westbury Arts.

BRAVE COMBO IN NYC. Another Summer Concert that I attended was in New York City Bryant Park and the rare appearance in New York was the Texas-based band, Brave Combo. Carl Finch and the Combo entertained the crowd with their exuberant musical journey to the world of polkas, rock, merengue, salsa, zydeco and classical blues. The crowd danced the merengue, the twist and finally formed a congo line.

POLAND'S WILD BOARS HAVE MADE NEWS AGAIN,

as the country makes plans to construct a galvanized steel wall on its eastern border in attempt to rein in swine fever. The wall, slated for completion by 2020 and built along the borders of Russia, Ukraine and Belarus, will be one of the longest fences in the world, about 768 miles long, and aims to keep disease-infected wild boars from entering Poland. The fencing will be buried into the ground in order to keep the animals from tunneling under it. Hunting has failed to keep down the wild boar population since the animals have recently begun foraging for food under cover of darkness in order to avoid human contact.

Similar calls for action are heard in Germany and France, as wild boar populations increase, destroying pastures, impacting farming and as diseases carried by them become more prevalent.

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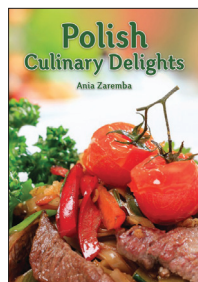
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Edited by Marie Sokolowski and Irene Jasinski; Illustrated by Stanley Legun

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

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

POLISH CULINARY DELIGHTS



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Polish Culinary Delights was written to bring authentic Polish recipes of the past few generations to the North American kitchen. Besides finding the

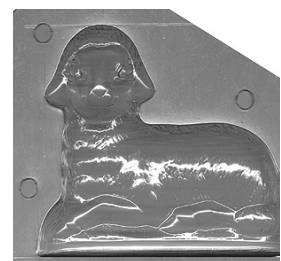
incorporation in the Polish American mainstream culture.

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.



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Baltimore's Polish Home Club Celebrates its Centennial

by Richard Poremski

BALTIMORE — This year is one of historic harmonic convergence for the Polish Home Club, Inc. and the Republic of Poland, since both are celebrating their 100th birthdays. On August 11, 1918 Polish Home was born, and on November 11, 1918 Poland was reborn after being partitioned out of existence for the preceding 123 years by Austria, Prussia and Russia.

The Polish Home celebrations began here on Saturday evening, August 19th, with a cocktail reception with music and dancing. The festivities concluded the next day, Sunday, with an afternoon black-tie-optional banquet with music during the cocktail hour and dancing after the dinner. Many of the gentlemen attendees did avail themselves of formal attire. Arriving guests were greeted at the door by members of the Ojczyzna Polish Dancers regaled in authentic folk costume — which proved to be a great heritage reminder as to why everyone was there, as well as the 'old country' familial culture being celebrated.

President Lewis Hubbard opened the celebration with welcoming remarks to the local Polonia, guests, and club members. Emcee Tom Rybczynski proved himself to be



OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS OF THE POLISH HOME CLUB who labored over the past year to make its Sto Lat! (100 Years!) a successful, memorable event. Standing (l. to r.): Mary Miller, Andrew Fury, John Gustin, President Lewis Hubbard, Robert Sova, Gerald Dicus, Robert Opiel and Richard Poremski. Seated: Sandra Placek, Dale Quisgard, Jane Kreider, Past President Theresa Giza, Nancy Mulcare and Rosanne Carter.

very capable and entertaining as he moved the program expertly along. Toastmaster Richard Poremski intoned that the Polish traditional

celebratory toast of Sto Lat! — 100 years! was now not quite appropriate since Polish Home has already achieved that salient point in time.

So, as the glasses of champagne were raised, he proposed a toast of “Dwiesciece Lat! - 200 Years! - to Polish Home into the future!”... which

was adopted and voiced by everyone.

Consul General Zygmunt Matynia, representing the Embassy of the Republic of Poland in Washington, D.C., was the guest speaker. He opened his remarks by lauding Poland's centennial and delivering a short — but very concise — tutorial of Poland's history from 1918 to 2018, which was sometimes very tragic, but ultimately triumphant as Poland progressed into a free and democratic country. Matynia also said that “Polish immigrants came to this country in great numbers. As we know, many of them settled right here in Baltimore, helping to build the greatness of this land which is the homeland of Senator Barbara Mikulski. They were hard working people whose effort and sacrifice has contributed in significant ways to the American nation.”

Before the banquet was thoroughly enjoyed by the guests, two annually-offered scholarships were awarded to a pair of deserving college students. The afternoon wound down into early evening with dancing accompanied by a convivial atmosphere among some very contented guests.

❖ ❖ ❖

“Dwiesciece Lat Polski Dom!” — “Two Hundred Years Polish Home!”

The Pondering Pole

Is There a “Need” for Culture?

by Edward Poniewaz

Poles, all over the world, wake up, get dressed, go to work, and tend to family and friends. When you get down to it, all of us have basic needs and are concerned first and foremost with what we require to survive. This is a given.

Culture adds another dimension to existence. When we talk about culture, we usually mean the way we communicate, what we eat, how we dress, and how we express ourselves in song and dance for religious or temporal occasions. It gives us enjoyment, a sense of belonging, and provides a method to solidify the group into which we were born. We understand and recognize it and it is part of us.

Can culture help the individual person though? This is the thought for the month. If someone says to you, what good is it, what is your answer? Except for “it makes me feel good” or “I am following tradition” or “it is a part of who I am,” what is the interior or transformative personal benefit of culture? Let me give a couple of examples of how Polish culture improved the lives of persons that were engaged in or presented with it.

THE FIRST EXAMPLE is about me. When I started college, like a lot of kids with heads full of mush, I went to class, partied, slept a lot, and relished the absence of parents telling me what to do. That included going to church. I skipped a number of Sundays because I was too lazy or unconcerned to go. Coincidentally, I was in the midst of exploring my Polish past and it occurred to me that the Poles, who were living under an oppressive communist regime, were only allowed to go to church as a government concession rather than as a privilege as I enjoyed in the United States.

That dichotomy finally clicked and had nothing to do with anything I learned in any class I had on my schedule. The line of reasoning went like this: Poland-Communism-religion / me-United States-freedom

-religion. An acknowledgement and understanding of Polish history mixed with a thoughtful reckoning of my American condition pushed me to be more responsible and regularly attend Mass. Polish culture shamed me and helped me get back on track.

Polish culture has plenty of heroes and available material you can use.

The second example is what I observed as a folk dancer a long time ago: I attended a workshop led by the great Polish instructor Ignacy “Igor” Wachowiak. For those not familiar with him, he was a big burly guy, who did a lot of yelling and stomping, and demanded a lot from his students. He wanted it done right, and did not hold back “correcting” a wrong step.

There was a young lady in our group who you could tell was in search of clear direction and meaning in her life, but knew the dance that was being taught. It is important to note that she was a reluctant participant rather than there out of love for folk.

Wachowiak was watching the group do the routine and then screamed “stop!” Then he had the young girl and her partner perform the step and turned to the rest of the group and said words to this effect: “That is how you do it!” He patted the young man on the shoulder and gave the young girl a big hug and a big smile. I could tell the praise and attention moved her in a way that made her a different person for the rest of the workshop. My understanding is she became a different person from that point on in her life as well.

There are other examples where culture provides a life-changing experience. You might remember my column on Stan “The Man” Musial, when I recalled my father saying to me, “Stan Musial wouldn't act like that,” and he wasn't talking about baseball. There is nothing wrong with wearing culture on your sleeve or having it in your heart but you

might also consider it a tool when other ways have failed or as another approach.

Polish culture has plenty of heroes and available material you can use.

POLISH OR NOT? Brooks Koepka is a PGA golfer who most recently won his third major tournament. This is huge! I have been praying for years for a Polish American to break through and win one (or more) of the top prizes in golf and Brooks is the answer to my prayers. Here is a line from an article in the Wiki Net Worth website:

Brooks Koepka was born on 3 May 1990 in West Palm Beach, Florida. Later, his parents Bob Koepka and Denise Jakows raised him in Lake Worth. Brooks, age 28, stands at the height of 1.83 meters (6') and has weight 186 lb (84 kg).

He belongs to mixed ethnicity as his parents belong to a Polish and German origin.

This seems to be good documentation but I would like another confirm on the “Polish” part of Brooks. So Brooks Koepka, Polish or not?

BAKE! You've heard her bark that word to start bakers scurrying to beat the clock (and eggs) in the BBC show *The Great British Bake Off*. **Melanie “Mel” Clare Sophie Giedroyc** has co-hosted *The Great British Bake Off* as well as *Light Lunch*, *Mel and Sue*, and *Let It Shine*, another BBC production.

From *Wikipedia*, she “was born in Epsom, Surrey, and grew up in Leatherhead. Her father, Michal, an aircraft designer and historian of Polish-Lithuanian descent from the Giedroyc family, came to Britain in 1947; he died in December 2017. Rosemary, or Rosy, her mother, is of English origin.” Love *British Bake Off* and Mel is a riot. Check that one and the others to see her overflowing personality.

MEATLESS. Buried deep in an article about vegetarianism, I discovered the name **Scott Jurek**. Scott Gordon Jurek is an American ul-



Melanie “Mel” Giedroyc

tra marathoner, author, and public speaker. According to *Wikipedia*, he was born October 26, 1973, raised in Proctor, Minnesota, and “is of part Polish descent. He is the son of Lynn (Swapinski) and Gordon Jurek.” Scott is the real deal as indicated on his website:

Named as one of the greatest runners of all time, Scott Jurek has become a living legend. He has claimed victories in nearly all of ultrarunning's elite trail and road events including the historic 153-mile Spartathlon, the Hardrock 100, the Badwater 135-Mile Ultramarathon, and—his signature race—the Western States 100-Mile Endurance Run, which he won a record seven straight times. Scott has also taken the running world by storm with his 2015 Appalachian Trail speed record, averaging nearly 50 miles a day over 46 days—and the United States all-surface record in the 24-Hour Run with 165.7 miles: 6.5 marathons in one day.

All this and he is a vegetarian. Please read more about him on his website as there are a lot of achievements too many to mention here.

GOVERNOR? Kris Kobach, born March 26, 1966 is the Secretary of State of Kansas and is the current Republican nominee for the Kansas Governor's race. Kris's key issue as Secretary of State was to implement “some of the strictest voter identification laws in the United States,” is an up-and-comer in the Republican

Party, and one to add to the Pol-Am political roster. He registers a 37% Polish ancestral background with ethnicelebs.com.

Kris's paternal grandfather was Joseph J. Koback/Kobach (the son of Thomas Leo Koback and Anna Wojciechowski). Joseph was born in Wisconsin. Thomas was born in Indiana, the son of Polish parents, Jacob Martin Koback and Apolonia “Polly”/“Pauline” Czybick. Anna was born in Wisconsin, also to Polish parents, Wawrzyniec “Lawrence” Wojciechowski and Marcyanna/Marciana/Marianna Mary Landowski.

Kris's paternal grandmother was Eleanore G. Schuweiler (the daughter of Louis Peter Schuweiler and Susan/Susanne Elizbaeth Daniel-ski/Daniels). Eleanore was born in Wisconsin. Louis was born in Wisconsin, to a Belgian father, Charles Schuweiler, and to a German mother, Margaret Sossong. Susan was born in Wisconsin, the daughter of Polish parents, Franciszek Daniel-ski and Franciszka Peck.

HAVE A WONDERFUL Polish Heritage Month and if you have a thought about this month's topic, have a question, or have interesting facts to share, contact me at: Edward Poniewaz, 6432 Marmaduke Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63139; email alinabrig@yahoo.com.

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

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Former Faculty to be Honored at Alliance College Reunion

ERIE, Pa. — The Alliance College Alumni Association will honor three former faculty members at its biennial weekend reunion, Oct. 5-7, 2018 at the Sheraton Erie Bayfront Hotel in Erie.

The Saturday evening dinner program will include special recognition of former soccer coach Michael Flick and professors Pete Mathews and John Wroblewski. This is in addition to 50th Anniversary of 1968 Graduates and 40th Anniversary of 1978 Graduates.

Often held at the Riverside Inn in Cambridge Springs, the Alliance College Alumni Association reunion is being relocated this year due to the 2017 tragic fire that destroyed the historic property. The Riverside at one time served as a dorm for Alliance students during the college's peak enrollment in the 1960s. The

Reunion Weekend features multiple events celebrating Alliance College. More information and reservations can be made through the Alliance College alumni website: www.alliancecollege.com

Opened in 1912 by the Polish National Alliance, Alliance College nurtured students on the bucolic hilltop campus in Cambridge Springs, Pa. for more than 75 years. As a crown jewel of higher learning, its mission was to offer Polish immigrants and Polish Americans children advanced educations during a time of widespread discrimination while encouraging the study of Polish language and Polish culture in America. In 1988, the school ceased operations and the property was sold to the state prison system.

For information, visit www.alliancecollege.com.

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Polish Heritage and 100th Anniversary

by Stephen M Szabados

Anytime is a great time to compile and save your family history but October 2018 means more than other years.

This year is the 100th anniversary of the reemergence of Poland to the map of Europe after 123 years of not being recognized as a Nation. The partitioning of Poland by Russia, Prussia, and Austria rule eliminated Poland from the map. The conquering powers were intent on the dissolution of Polish culture and language. Its spirit survived because of its deep Catholic faith. In 1918, Poland re-emerged in the aftermath of WW I. Polish Independence Day is celebrated on November 11, and marks the date Marshal Józef Piłsudski took leadership of Poland. The First World War was officially over when the Treaty of Versailles was signed on June 28, 1919.

Many of our immigrant ancestors, left their homes when their foreign rulers neglected their Polish subjects. Emigration started in the Prussian controlled areas about 1850 as the poor fled political oppression, severe economic conditions and losing Polish culture. About 1880, the poor from all partitions fled due to continued economic problems, lack of jobs due to no industrial development, and lack of farmlands available to the overpopulation of young sons.

Our ancestors immigrated to America because "Chain Migration" promised jobs because of the massive surge of industrial devel-

opment in the United States, cheap farmland in America and Canada due to Homestead Act in the United States and similar programs in Canada, and the introduction of low-cost Steerage passage

Now is a time for us to celebrate our Polish Heritage and I feel one of the best ways to do this is through researching and saving our Family History (Genealogy).

Start your research with family photos, family papers, and oral history. Move on to census records, naturalization papers, passenger records, and marriage records. Identify where your ancestors were born.

Study the history of the area and read accounts that describe Polish life in the areas where they lived. Try to find vintage pictures of the town, church, and homes. What port did they leave for their voyage to America? What challenges did they face on their journey to America? How large was the ship? How was life onboard the ship? Review the passenger manifest to see if there were many Polish men and women. What were the occupations of the Polish immigrants?

What port did they arrive at in America? Research how officials processed the immigrants at this port. The requirements were the same at each port, but the facilities were different. Who was at their destination in America? This information is part of the chain migration story.

Why did they come? If you do not know, explore some possible reasons. Do not assume that the cause was economic or to avoid the

military draft. Did their parents and other siblings immigrate? 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. Census records listed where they lived and where they worked. Look through early pictures in family albums and also history books of the local area and neighborhoods. Photos of family gatherings, their homes, neighborhood, and their church are significant.

Identify where they worked. 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 minimize the lives of your ancestors. They were important.

Look at their overall life in America. How did they enjoy their new life? Did they have a hobby or 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.

Have fun and enjoy your Polish Heritage.

We are preparing for Christmas and hope you are, too.

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We thank you in advance for your generosity. We wish you and your family a Merry Christmas, and a happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year.

Wesołych Świąt Bożego Narodzenia i Szczęśliwego Nowego Roku,

Mark Kohan
Editor



"In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) And everyone went to their own town to register. So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child."

— Luke 2:1-6

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Polonia Places

Polish Independent Church of Our Lady of Perpetual Help

by Gregory L. Witul

Polish Independent Church of Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Buffalo, N.Y.
45 Miller Avenue,
Buffalo, New York
Status: Closed



When the Polish National Church movement was getting underway in the United States at the turn of the twentieth century, righteous men and women broke away from the Catholic Church to worship the way they wanted. Leading these revolutionaries were men of good character, like Bishops Francis Hodur, Anthony Kozlowski, and Stephen Kaminski. But not all the religious who broke away from Rome were doing it for spiritual reasons. Some like Rev. Theophilus Semelka started their own congregations to further their own power and greed, giving birth to parishes like the Polish Independent Church of Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Buffalo, N.Y.

Born in Poland, trained in Rome, and ordained in Mexico, Father Theophilus Semelka became rector of St. John Kanty's Roman Catholic Church on Broadway in Buffalo in 1903. The former assistant at St. Adalbert's Basilica found himself priest of a poor parish in a rough and tumble neighborhood flanked by railroad tracks. He did what he could for not only his congregation, but the Catholic diocese as a whole and himself. In 1908, Father Semelka worked with other Roman Catholic priests to try and persuade members of the Polish National Church to return to the "Mother Church," to varying degrees of success. One area Father Theophilus found great success in was that of building his personal wealth. In 1908, Father Semelka circulated a letter amongst priests, soliciting investments for a new oil lamp invented by Mr. Joseph Misko. According to the letter, "Rev. Dr. Theophilus Semelka, Rector of St. John Kanty R. C. Church, is now fairly on his way to become a millionaire. He is anxious that his brother Catholic priests should share in his prosperity...I offer to make the lowest subscription \$5, and give you time to inquire by writing to Father Semelka or to any of my multi-millionaire friends whom I have given as references. I offer you a 30 day option to buy 3 times the amount of shares you may buy now, at the same price, namely at 33.3 cents on the dollar, even if the shares should become worth much more by that time." And on the back Father Semelka made sure to include his address for the mailing. Shortly thereafter the checks started to roll in, but even with all that money Mr. Misko never got around to patenting his idea.

With his newfound wealth, Father Semelka started getting involved with stocks and developing real estate around his church. He soon held deeds for lots on major

thoroughfares like Ashley, Swinburne, and Walden Avenues. But just like hundreds of confidence men before him, Rev. Theophilus had too many balls in the air, and soon they started to drop. In June of 1910, the priest was sued for failure to pay \$420

on a promissory note related to mining stocks. After a one day trial, with the jury out for less than five minutes, Semelka was found in breach of contract and forced to pay. Soon more suits were filed and Theophilus knew that, with his integrity now in question, his days as a Catholic priest were numbered. Not willing to go quietly, Semelka gathered a number of his loyal parishioners and started his own Polish Independent Church.

With the help of Peter Parucki a \$5,000 mortgage was secured and two lots were purchased, 45 Miller Avenue for the church and 43 Miller for the rectory. For the church a wooden frame structure 30 feet wide and 60 feet deep was built with a seating capacity of 300 and for the priest, a two-story home was built. In 1911, after dedicating the church to Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Rev. Theophilus began holding services for his gaggle of congregants. Unlike the Polish National churches, Father Semelka had no interest in joining a larger movement; he was running the show and that was the way he and his parishioners liked it. It is unknown who these parishioners were or whether there were any baptisms, weddings or funerals held at the little church, but what is known is that Semelka's cult of personality and an anti-establishment policy didn't draw in the crowds like he hoped.

The end for Perpetual Help came on May 22, 1913. With no money to pay their bills, mortgage holder Julius Butzek put the property up for auction. The winning bidder was a representative of Bishop Colton, who turned the building into a day-care. Semelka would hold some odd jobs until the defrocked priest and con man died in a boarding house in 1926. Today the former church is home to a motorcycle club.

thoroughfares like Ashley, Swinburne, and Walden Avenues. But just like hundreds of confidence men before him, Rev. Theophilus had too many balls in the air, and soon they started to drop. In June of 1910, the priest was sued for failure to pay \$420

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of Stanley Grociki
aka Stanislaw Grodzki

My parents moved from a fifth floor walk-up in the Bronx to Brooklyn where they bought a two family house in the Park Slope area. There were quite a few Poles in the area and we attended mass at Our Lady of Czestochowa Church just below 4th Avenue and 23rd Street. At about the age of five, mom enrolled me as a bugler and my brother Johnny as a drummer in the church's drum and bugle corps. We were the two youngest of mom and pop's eight children.

The practice sessions were held on Saturdays at the White Eagle hall on Fifth Ave. and 24th Street. Directly across the avenue was Greenwood Cemetery, the final resting place of the more wealthy persons of the city. It was filled with fancy mausoleums and huge granite headstones, obelisks and statuary. It was a scary looking place for a five year old.

In 1937 all Poles in our parish was elated. The city had issued a permit for a parade to honor Casmir Pulaski. There was a great deal of excitement when we were told the drum and bugle corps of Our Lady of Czestochowa would march in the parade. I was eight years old in 1937.

Prior to this time, the only ethnic parade had been the St. Patrick's Parade for the Irish. This would be an opportunity for Polish Americans to show their colors.

The uniform of the band was pretty much like that of the boy scouts in Poland, a drab sort of olive green color. The hats were four cornered like those of the Polish army. We had been paraded on different occasions, such as church functions and picnics. This would be a grand occasion for the Polish American community; a parade to honor the memory of a Pole who came to America to offer his services to General Washington in the colonies' fight for freedom from the British.

PULASKI WELL KNEW the meaning of freedom. He had to flee Poland after a failed attempt at insurrection against the Russian occupiers of his homeland. Pulaski received the approval of Washington. He raised and trained a cavalry corps mostly at his own expense. It was a welcome addition to Washington's army which was sorely in need of trained cavalry. On several occasions Pulaski's cavalry saved Washington's army from disaster; his exploits became legend. Pulaski would be killed in an ill-conceived charge against the British at Savannah, Georgia.

The parade to honor Pulaski's memory drew an enormous response from the Polish American



Before the Pulaski Day Parade, the only ethnic parade in New York City had been the St. Patrick's Parade for the Irish. The General Pulaski Memorial Parade "... would be an opportunity for Polish Americans to show their colors," said author Stanley Grociki, who marched in the first one. Above: Marchers step off at last year's parade.

community, not just in New York but throughout the northeast. There were many fraternal organizations such as the White Falcons, The Polish Sea League and the Queen Hedwig Society to mention a few.

Pop belonged to the Sea League and would be marching with them while mom marched with the Queen Hedwig Society. The whole family was involved in some way. Brother Frank was working on the *Nowy Swiat* newspaper. He had brothers Louie, Eddie and Teddy hawking papers on the parade route. Many New Yorkers bought papers they couldn't read as a show of support.

OUR BAND LEFT THE CHURCH and traveled by subway to Manhattan's 23rd St. station on the BMT. From there we were herded up to 26th St. east of Broadway; that would be our starting point. We arrived there about 10 a.m. and could hear the first bands starting up the avenue, drum booming, bugles blaring echoing off the tall buildings which only increased our excitement.

The band director and the drum major tried to keep us in line as we were scheduled to march very soon but groups of us raced off to the avenue to see the bands that were passing. At last we were rounded up by them yelling to line up as we were next. We would hear that cry all day long. We were all excited with anticipation of marching when suddenly a bus appeared and disgorged a band. The parade committee member had us move aside to allow them to march ahead of us as they had come a long way and had a long ride home.

Each time we lined up another bus appeared and we were put aside again. The buses came from communities with large groups of Poles from all over the northeast who

wished to participate in the first-ever parade to honor a Polish hero of the American Revolution. They came from upstate New York at Buffalo and other cities and states. Buses from Connecticut, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and even Ohio. This went on the whole day

It was perhaps 1:00 or 2:00 p.m. when an elegantly dressed couple who were passing stopped to ask us what the parade was for. Since it was the first Pulaski Day Parade many New Yorkers were unaware of just what the occasion was. We told them and then vented our frustration for having to wait so long to march. When they found we hadn't eaten since the morning this generous couple went off and returned with boxes of doughnuts and drinks for us. It was a wonderful gesture of kindness not often seen these days, unless it's a catastrophe.

IT WAS DUSK when we were lined up for the last time and marched out onto the avenue. The parade route was almost empty of spectators but that didn't inhibit us a bit. We played with all the fervor as if we were the only band. We were preceded by a large group of girls from our church playing their chrome xylophones. The sweet sound of The Bells of St. Mary's echoed in the canyons of New York before our bugles blared.

The parade ended about 1½ miles further near 50th Street where we took the subway back to Brooklyn and the church where our parents collected us. No one knows exactly how many people marched that day. It was probably the longest parade New York City has ever seen, full of colorful costumes of the young girls and Polish organizations which most New Yorkers probably never knew existed. It was Polish Pride on parade.

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Dance Time

IPA's 50th Anniversary a Most Remarkable Event

by Jennifer Pijanowski

After much anticipation, it was finally time to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the **International Polka Association** at the Millennium Hotel in Cheektowaga, N.Y. The International Polka Association works tirelessly to provide financial support for the improvement and expansion of polka music, and also houses the Polka Music Hall of Fame and Museum in Chicago. This organization, which was established in 1968, works diligently to expose polka music to the masses all over the United States. You can visit their website www.ipapolkas.com to look for upcoming events and see the incredible progress that has been accomplished by the IPA.

Friday kicked off the big celebration with music provided by **Special Delivery** poolside in the courtyard.



Recently installed Hall-of-Famer Gary Brueggen with wife Brianne, and children Mason, Matelyn, and Maverick.

As fans began to check in and get settled into their home-away-from-home for the weekend, they took time to come enjoy some welcoming music. The **Polka Jammer Network** broadcast **Special Delivery's** performance live, giving those who could not make it to the afternoon event a chance to feel like they were a part of the fun. The welcome party created the perfect beginning for a dynamic weekend.

Friday evening was filled with music featuring a rare appearance by **Jackie Libera & the Classix** alternating with fan favorite **Lenny Gomulka & Chicago Push**. Each band's set was stronger than their last as each group electrified the crowd filling the event hall to enjoy the music. As attendees filtered into the hall, they were treated to many exciting surprises celebrating the IPA's 50th anniversary. A museum was set up in a room off the main hallway which showcased pictures, archives, old dance and convention posters, as well as a constantly run-

ning slide show of pictures from IPA conventions over the years. The hallway displayed more pictures of past polka events, polka musicians, as well as past IPA queens. It was an incredible display of memories which so many had shared in over the years. Much time was spent reminiscing and honoring how far this annual convention and organization has come in the past 50 years.

Saturday's revelry kicked off with the 2017 music awards and induction of new members into the Polka Music Hall of Fame. The annual banquet pays tribute to those voted to be the very best in their specific categories in the polka field. In addition, four new inductees were welcomed into the prestigious company of past Hall of Famers for 2018. This year's inductees included **Gary Brueggen, Bud Hundenski, Molly Busta Lange, and Joe Macielag**. It was an emotional afternoon as the award recipients took turns sharing their individual stories with the many that were in attendance.

Niagara Fall's native Joe Macielag was inducted in the "Pioneer" category and joyfully accepted his well-deserved honor. *Polish American Journal* editor Mark Kohan offered a brief synopsis of his accomplishments before Joe took over expressing his deepest thanks. Known for his long standing *Pic A Polka* polka TV show, Joe shared many experiences he had over his lengthy and distinguished polka career. His poise, humility, and deep faith were apparent as he spoke from the heart about this tremendous honor. Congratulations to Joe as well as the other 2018 inductees.

AFTER THE BANQUET, I made it just in time to enjoy a few songs by Buffalo's **Phocus**, who provided music in the courtyard area during the ceremony. Convention goers relaxed and danced to the music as they were preparing for the transition to hear more music in the main hall. **The Project, The Boys, and IPA Tribute Band** rotated throughout the evening keeping up the high energy of the convention. Each band played to their loyal fans and showcased a seemingly endless amount of talent.

Just when I decided to take a break and head back to the room, I would hear another song that brought me back to the hall. I think many will agree that leaving was pretty tough to do with this lineup of fabulous bands. A centerpiece of Saturday evening at the IPA Convention is Hall of Famers taking the stage with the **IPA Tribute Band**. While it would be impossible to mention each musician who took the stage, I want to highlight some of my favorites. **Gary Brueggen** showcased his astounding talents on concertina mesmerizing the au-

dience playing "Red Raven" polka. **Fred Zwich** and **Walter Ostanek**, "Canada's Polka King," joined forces as well on stage with the band, performing as if they were frequent bandmates. **Stacy Morris**, who was awarded Female Vocalist of the Year, imparted her beautiful vocals belting out "Never Ending Love." As each performer stepped onto the

stage, the recording showcases many polka musicians and watching them perform it live was a once-in-a-lifetime event. Every musician sang with such fervor that it was obvious how much the song means to them and has impacted their lives. The polka world is lucky to have the gift of Randy Koslosky's talents that he gives of so freely. It was an incred-

brought younger musicians and members of **Polka Method** onto the stage to perform many songs with them. I enjoyed watching the faces of the younger musicians swell with pride as they played alongside of some of their polka heroes. I am sure it will be a treasured memory for all of them for years to come.

Of course, Polka Country Musi-



John and Christine Lesniewski, and Rhonda Lackowski got their fare share of dancing in at the festival.



Alicia Iwanczuk, IPA President Rick Rzeszutko, Christy Nowakowski, and Lindsay Mateja



Family time at the IPA: Andy Bojczuk with wife Michelle Bojczuk, and her brother, John Zelasko.

stage, the IPA Tribute Band members played along note for note, never missing a beat. The cheering was so loud; I can't even comprehend how the musicians were able to follow along.

I believe that most anyone who was there would agree that the most wonderful moment of the weekend was when Randy Koslosky assembled all of the Hall of Famers in attendance to join in singing the song he had written and recorded for the 50th anniversary. The song, entitled "Here's a Gift," will pull at the heartstrings of any polka fan who has grown up loving the mu-

creating a symphony of music. A circle of musicians from novice to accomplished played polka favorites together accompanied by many beautiful voices. There is no way to describe the comradery of the polka musicians unless you are there to witness it yourself.

THE FINAL NIGHT included music by some of the most sought after bands. **Ray Jay & the Carousels, Eddie Forman Orchestra, Polka Country Musicians, and The Knewz** spectacularly closed out the weekend



Madelyn, Lydia, and Dawn Rosinski entertained all the Polski Chix dance on Labor Day.

ible experience that I will never forget. (For more on this, see Margaret Dramczyk's article on page 23).

Sunday started off with a celebratory polka Mass, and **The Kosmix** provided the uplifting music for this year's liturgy. Afterwards, a jam session broke out in a relaxed atmosphere

that I will never forget. (For more on this, see Margaret Dramczyk's article on page 23).

convention. I had been anticipating hearing Ray Jay sing, as I have not had the privilege of seeing him in many years. His strong voice and vocal talents were sensational and his band offered a tremendous honky beat that had the dance floor packed. Eddie Forman Orchestra never fails to have a crowd in front of them cheering and singing along with the band. The Knewz

musicians can always enliven any crowd. A sea of fans always fights to be center stage even before the band takes their positions on stage. PCM has held on to their fan base which consists of the youngest of polka fans to the oldest. They know their strengths and continue to work hard to always be on top of their game.

It was a stunning weekend filled with surprises, talents, friends, and memories made. I would like to extend a huge thank you to the IPA board, officers, and all committee members who spent so much time organizing this incredible event. I cannot even comprehend the time it took to create these wonderful three days celebrating 50 years of IPA history. Western New Yorkers got magnificent news that the convention will be returning to Buffalo in 2019 and 2020, so mark your calendars now.

EVEN AFTER THREE DAYS of polkas, I had to visit Potts Banquet Hall to see **New Direction** and **Polski Chix**. I was grateful that I stopped by, as I had never gotten to see **Polski Chix** live and they are such talents. An all-female polka band, their vocals and harmonies will take your breath away. They even invited two special very young guests on stage to play some instruments and sing along to a few songs. I say kudos to the band members for giving young Lydia and Madelyn time to shine and promoting the love of polka music to the youth. The band has a great repertoire of music that includes wonderfully distinct arrangements. I truly enjoyed hearing them and look forward to their return for Dyngus Day 2019. Congratulations to **New Direction** for showcasing this awesome band in Western New York and adding your talents for a wonderful Labor Day celebration.

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September Polka Birthdays

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

1	Gil Ziemski	1939	5-9-15	Polka Promoter	Md.
1	Bobby Calvert	1951		Musician (Original TBC)	Pa.
1	Dave Miesowicz	1956		Musician (Special Delivery, Bedrock Boys)	Buffalo, N.Y.
1	Don Ptak	1937		Musician / Vocalist (Casinos)	Chicago
2	Ed (Whitey) Pawola	1931	6-29-81	Musician / Vocalist (Naturals)	Chicago
3	Jimmy Weber	1956		Bandleader / Musician / Vocalist (Sounds)	N.J.
3	Polka Patrick			Polka I.J.	
4	Joe Fedorchak	1935	8-28-12	Bandleader / Musician / Vocalist	Ohio
5	Eddie Skinger	1926	3-17-15	Musician / Vocalist	Conn.
6	Rich Zebrowski	1960		Musician / Vocalist / Emcee / Composer	Pa.
7	Andy Bozzarelli	1956	5-29-13	Musician (Accordion) Sounds	Pa.
8	Brad Turk			Musician (Drums)	Fla.
9	Joe Swiderski	1928		Musician (Accordion) Naturals	Chicago
9	Johnny Mikos	1971		Musician / Vocalist (Concertina)	Ohio
12	Rich (Sudsy) Cerajewski	1947		Bel-Aire Studio Musician / Bandleader	Chicago
12	Jimmy Mieszala	1952	11-7-11	Bandleader / Musician / Vocalist	Chicago
12	Greg Guzevich			Musician (Drummer) / Vocalist	Calif.
13	Ania Piwowarczyk			Musician / Vocalist / Composer	Canada
14	Joe (Zip) Lubovinski	1950	12-10-00	Polka Promoter (Fiedor's Grove)	Mt. Pleasant, Pa..
14	Butch Jasiewicz	1971		Musician / Vocalist / Versa Js	Pa.
16	Lenny Gomulka	1950		Bandleader / Musician / Composer / Vocalist	Mass.
18	Danny Mateja	1963		Bandleader / Musician / Vocalist	Chicago
19	Rich Kois	1963		Musician / Vocalist	Pa.
19	Jack Beachly, Jr.	1946		Musician / Vocalist (Dynasonics)	Pa.
19	Matt Rosinski			Musician	Mass..
21	Steve Drzewich	1956		Musician	Wisc.
22	Jerry Darlak	1946	9-8-10	Bandleader / Musician / Vocalist	Chicago
23	Gary Wawrzyniak	1951	1-25-09	Musician / D.J.	Erie, Pa.
24	Denny Dominick			Musician (Polish-All-Stars)	Pa.
24	Eddie Sienkowski	1948		Musician (E-Z Tones)	Indiana
25	Jimmy Sturr	1941		Bandleader / Musician / DJ / Promoter	Florida N.Y.
27	Roger Lichwala	1945	6-19-13	Musician (Drums) (Golden & New Brass)	Mass.
27	Rich Kurdziel	1946		Bandleader / Musician / Vocalist	N.Y., Fla.
27	Vince Aleandri	1941		Musician (Accordionist)	Ga.
28	Walt Solek	1911	4-1-05	Bandleader / Musician / Vocalist / D.J.	Conn.

Tribute Song "Here's a Gift" Highlights IPA Convention

by Margaret
Zotkiewicz-Dramczyk

Over Labor Day Weekend in Buffalo, the International Polka Association (IPA) celebrated a half-century of existence and by all accounts, it was a grand time. Perhaps one of the grandest aspects was the release of the IPA tribute song "Here's a Gift."

Earlier in the year, the IPA announced the release of this historic recording. "Here's a Gift" was penned by IPA Hall of Famer Randy Koslosky in 2015. The story of its beginning in 2015 to its live premiere this Labor Day weekend will no doubt become a legend in itself.

After writing the song three years ago, Randy looked for an opportunity to play it for the IPA Tribute Band since it seemed to fit their mission. He had that opportunity, when he met up with Danny and Laura Mateja at the Oglebay polka festival in Wheeling, West Virginia.

"Here was the scene," said Randy. "My computer sat on a washing machine and I played the song on my accordion and sang it for Danny and Laura Mateja and Jake Mikrut. Everyone was excited by the possibility of having many of the polka stars sing on the song."

It wasn't until this year that the commitment was made to undertake this monumental project.

IPA Director Laura Mateja acted as executive producer of the "Here's a Gift" project.

Among other things, she spearheaded the task of coordinating the singers and garnering the cooperation of the many contributing engineers and studio owners. The lead engineer was Kevin Altenburg, who had the daunting task of piecing together all the contributed vocals, mixing the music, and perfecting the overall sound. Randy referred to this accomplishment as the "Mount Everest of polka audio engineering."

"The scope of this project was very large, as 64 Hall of Famers were originally contacted regarding their interest in participating," Laura said. "Spanning the February through August time frame and encompassing over 600 emails, it

was completed ahead of schedule, just in time for our 50th Anniversary. In total, the number of people involved was just under 70! I was so overwhelmed by the cooperation I received from everyone, especially engineers who are not even involved with polkas. If not for their generosity, this project would not have been completed."

"Here's a Gift" tells of the greatness of polka music and discusses passing on that legacy to future generations. This perfectly reflects the mission of the IPA and the work that these polka stars have carried out during their careers.

At the convention in Buffalo, all Hall of Famers present were invited on-stage to sing a song during the second set of the IPA Tribute Band. At the end of that set, the song was performed, with Koslosky singing the lead vocal parts accompanied by the Hall of Famers who were present. While preparing to do the song and getting all the Hall of Famers in position, Koslosky told the crowd the story of how the song came to be. After the performance of "Here's a Gift" all of the Hall of Famers joined in the singing of "We Are Family," another polka legacy song penned by Randy.

"The live performance on Saturday evening during the Hall of Fame Show was spectacular," said Laura. It brought tears to my eyes."

In addition to the live performance, a slide show of the song was played periodically throughout the weekend in the hotel lobby. The slideshow, which can be seen at www.ipapolkas.com shows the participants (vocalists, instrumentalists, and engineers) in this project. In between the playing of the slide show with the song, there were video messages from many of the Hall of Famers telling some of their stories and congratulating the IPA on its 50th anniversary.

THE MUSIC WAS RECORDED by the IPA Tribute Band, which is made up of Rick Rzeszutko, IPA president (trumpet); Dan Mateja, IPA treasurer (sax and clarinet); John Krawisz, IPA financial secretary (accordion and keyboard); Ray Rzeszutko (drums); Mike Stapinski (bass); and

Kevin Altenburg (concertina).

Randy added these final thoughts about the project:

"From my perspective, it was such a humbling and awesome experience to have all of those polka legends there and singing along on this song, both on the recording and for all of those who performed it at the IPA Festival."

All participants gave their time and talent without compensation to present this song as a complimentary gift for the enjoyment of polka fans everywhere. To get a free copy, visit the IPA website at ipapolkas.com; "IPA Videos" on YouTube; or the International Polka Association Facebook page to download this special song.

An impressive 39 IPA Hall of Famers are featured on the tune, including: Kevin Adams, Chet Kowalkowski, Billy Belina, Mollie Busta Lange, Eddie Biegaj, Jackie Libera, Mitch Biskup, Frankie Liszka, Frank Borzymowski, Wally Maduzia, Florian Chmielewski, Mike Matousek, Wally Dombrowski, Bruno Mikos, Craig Ebel, Joe Oberaitis, Carl Finch, Stephanie Pietrzak, Eddie Forman, Dennis Polisky, John Furmaniak, Gary Rhamy, Stas Golonka, Eddie Siwec, John Gora, Keith Stras, Lenny Gomulka, Jimmy Sturr, Richie Gomulka, Mark Trzepacz, Ed Guca, Alfred Vrazel, Hank Haller, Larry Walk, Ray Jay Jarusinski, Jimmy Weber, Johnny Karas, Fred Ziwich, and Randy Koslosky.

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Polka Calendar

Compiled by John Ziobrowski

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

OCTOBER 1

• Chris & Ronnie. Fiddlers Elbow. Bedminster, N.J. 4:30-7:30 (908) 439-2123

OCTOBER 2

• Frank Berendt / Dennis Smunt. Lone Tree Manor. Niles, Ill. 5PM (847) 209-1385

OCTOBER 4

• Mike Surratt. Liederkrantz Reading, Pa. 6-10 (610) 373-3992

OCTOBER 5

• Lenny Gomulka. Naper Settlement. Naperville, Ill. 8-10 (630) 420-6010
 • Tony Blazonczyk. Falcons. Grand Rapids, Mich. 7-12 (616) 774-8494
 • Polka Country Musicians Moose Club Maplewood, Minn. (651) 776-7892

OCTOBER 6

• Dennis Polisky. Bold Point Park. East Providence, R.I. 1-3:30 (401) 435-7511
 • Lenny Gomulka. Glendora Banquets. Chicago, Ill. 5-9 (413) 374-9129
 • Tony Blazonczyk. Falcons. Grand Rapids, Mich. 1-3 / 7-12 (616) 774-8495
 • Mike Surratt. Danele Shipley Arena. Westminster, Md. 3-7 (443) 244-9789
 • John Gora. Polish Hall. Cambridge, Ont. (519) 623-2751
 • Eastern Sound Loon Mtn. Lincoln, N.H. 11-4:30 (800) 229-5666
 • Tonys Polka Band. Lake George Village. Lake George, N.Y. 6-10 (518) 668-5771
 • Chris & Ronnie Milleridge Inn. Jericho, N.Y. 6-9 (516) 931-2201
 • Jimmy Sturr Hunter Mtn. Hunter, N.Y. 1:30-6:15 (518) 263-4223
 • Tonys Polka Band. Lake George Vil-

lage, N.Y. 6-10
 • New Direction Firehouse Grill West Seneca, N.Y. 7-10 (716) 826-4259
 • The Boys Feshalle Biergarten Asbury Park, N.J. (782) 997-8767
 • Polka Country Musicians Bull's Eye CC Wisconsin Rapids, Wisc. (715) 423-2230
 • Box On St. Stan's Cleveland, Ohio. (216) 341-9091

OCTOBER 7

• Dennis Polisky / New Brass. PACC Ludlow, Mass. 2-7 (413) 592-0367
 • Lenny Gomulka Putt-Putts. Grand Rapids, Mich. 2-8 (616) 774-9129
 • Tony Blazonczyk. Falcons. Grand Rapids, Mich. 1-5 (616) 774-8495
 • Mike Surratt Old Stein Inn. Edgewater, Md. 4-8 (410) 798-6807
 • Eddie Forman. VFW Dupont, Pa. 2-5 (570) 472-1152
 • Eastern Sound. Loon Mtn. Lincoln, N.H. 11-4:30 (800) 229-5666
 • Chris & Ronnie. Bohemian Beer Hall. Astoria, N.Y. 2-5 (718) 274-4925
 • Chris & Ronnie. Our Lady Mercy. Park Ridge, N.J. 7-10 (201) 721-8888
 • Polka Country Musicians 115 Burbon St. Merrionette Park, Ill. (708) 388-8881
 • Box On Avon Oaks Ballroom Girard, Ohio. (330) 545-4882

OCTOBER 8

• Chris & Ronnie. Snapper Inn. Oakdale, N.Y. 12-4 (631) 589-0248

OCTOBER 11

• New Direction Potts Banquet Cheektowaga, N.Y. 6:30 TV Taping (716) 675-6588

OCTOBER 12

• Lenny Gomulka / DynaBrass. Downtown Owosso, Mich. 5-11:30 (989) -723-5149
 • Dennis Polisky Ocean Mist Matunuck, R.I. 2-5 (401) 782-370
 • Chris & Ronnie Zeppelin Hall Jersey City, N.J. 7-10 (201) 721-8888

OCTOBER 13

• John Gora / Knewz. Polish Hall. Burlington On. (905) 639-3236

• Chris & Ronnie. Lake Valhalla. Montville, N.J. 7-10 (973) 334-3190
 • Lenny Gomulka. Downtown Owosso, Mich. 5-10 (989) 723-5149
 • Tonys Polka Band Adirondack Pub Lake George, N.Y. 1-5 (518) 668-0002
 • Joe Stanky Firehall Dillsburg, Pa. 5:30-9:30 (717) 687-8012
 • Box On Timber Ridge Resort Traverse City, Mich. (231) 947-2770

OCTOBER 14

• Dennis Polisky Italian Center Poughkeepsie, N.Y. 1-5 (845) 451-4200
 • Eastern Sound. St. Hedwig. Manchester, N.H. 11:30-3 (603) 623-4835
 • Lenny Gomulka. Polka Boosters. Dearborn, Mich. (413) 374-7096
 • Chris & Ronnie. North Shore Rotary Staten Island, N.Y. 1-4
 • Chris & Ronnie K of C. Deer Park, N.Y. 7:30-10:30 (631-595-2012
 • Tonys Polka Band. PACC Ludlow, Mass. 2-6 (413) 592-0367
 • Joe Stanky VFW Dupont, Pa. 2-5 (570) 472-1152

OCTOBER 15

• Chris & Ronnie. Milleridge Inn. Jericho, N.Y. 9 p.m. (516) 931-2201

OCTOBER 16

• Dennis Polisky Mt.Snow West Dover, Vt. (800) 245-7669

OCTOBER 19

• Chris & Ronnie. St. Barnabas Livingstons, N.J. 11:30-1:30 (973) 322-2445

OCTOBER 20

• Dennis Polisky Elks Middletown, N.Y. 7-11 (845) 649-5307
 • John Gora. White Eagle Hall. Montreal, Canada. (514) 524-3116
 • Jimmy Sturr Bear Mtn. Bear Mtn, N.Y. (845) 786-2701
 • Tonys Polka Band. Silo Restaurant Greene, N.Y. (602) 656-4377
 • Joe Stanky St. Faustina Nanticoke, Pa. 7-10 (570) 735-4833

OCTOBER 21

• DynaBrass. K of C. Warren, Mich. 2-6 (586) 739-9063
 • Chris & Ronnie Ole Savannah Kingston, N.Y. 2-7 (845) 331-4283
 • Jimmy Sturr Elks Brick, N.J. 2-6 (732) 920-0750
 • Polka Country Musicians PACC Ludlow, Mass. 3-7 (413) 592-0367

OCTOBER 24

• John Gora. American Legion. Cheektowaga, N.Y. 8-10:30 (715) 684-4371

OCTOBER 26

• The Boys Moose Lodge Maplewood, Minn. 7-11 (651) 776-2830

OCTOBER 27

• The Boys Dale's Weston Lanes Weston, Wisc. 7-11 (715) 359-8488

OCTOBER 28

• The Special Delivery Band. St. Andrew's. Polka Mass. Sloan NY. 11 a.m. (716) 892-0425
 • Dennis Polisky / The Polka Dots PACC Ludlow, Mass. 3-7 (413) 592-0367
 • George Tarasek. VFW. Dupont, Pa. 2-5 (570) 472-1152
 • Stephanie. Polish Club. Connellsville, Pa. 2-6 (724) 628-6761
 • Chris & Ronnie Fishing Club. Belmar, N.J. 7-11 (732) 681-7622
 • New Direction The Nook Niagara Falls, N.Y. 3-7 (716) 282-6712
 • The Boys Polonia Banquets Chicago, Ill. 2-6 (800) 867-6552

NOVEMBER 3

• Dennis Polisky St. Joe Polish Society Colchester Ct 5:30-10 (860) 537-2550
 • New Direction Potts Banquet Hall Cheektowaga, N.Y. 7-12 (716) 675-6588
 • The Boys Alert Fire Hall Emigsville, Pa. 7-11 (717) 235-4667

NOVEMBER 4

• Dennis Polisky Polish Home Philadelphia, Pa. 2-6 (215) 906-1825
 • Joe Stanky. VFW Dupont, Pa. 2-5 (570) 472-1152
 • Eddie Forman PACC Ludlow, Mass. 3-7 (413) 592-0367

Dennis Polisky and Maestro's Men Remembering the 100th Anniversary of the Restoration of Poland's Independence

- Sunday November 4, 2018
- 2—6PM
- Associated Polish Home 9150 Academy Road Philadelphia PA 19114
- Ticket Donation \$15 per person
- Cash Bar and Polish Kitchen
- For information, table reservations and tickets: Call John Wisniewski 215-906-1825 or email jrw153@comcast.net

Fall Festival POLKA COUNTRY MUSICIANS Nov. 17 & 18, 2018

Saturday 6:00-10:00 p.m. / Sunday 2:00-6:00 p.m.
 Doors open 1 hour before event
 \$12.00 at-the-door, kids under 16 free
NO BYOB • POLISH KITCHEN WILL BE OPEN

Kick-Off Festivities Friday Night, Nov. 16
 6:00 p.m. • Free Admission
 "Meet & Greet" with the Variety Soundz of DJ Nickel City Dave
BAR FOOD, SNACKS, and DRINK SPECIALS ALL NIGHT LONG

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SUNDAY OCT. 28, 2018 • 1-5

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\$17.00 Advance each day • \$18.00 At-the-door

Information: Debbie Rymanowski
(518) 235-8356 or lilhruku@aol.com

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- Bavaria in Germany** - Berchtesgaden, Oberammergau, Füssen, Rothenburg, Wurzburg, Bamberg, Nuremberg, Munich

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Fred Ziwich

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Information about our trip to see the Passion Play in Oberammergau and Oktoberfest in Munich and so much more in 2020

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Christmas Preparations

Christmas Tree Ornament Quiz

by Barbara Frackiewicz

Now is the time to start preparing for your Polish Christmas. Below are directions for the Peacock Eye ornament. To learn more about them, take this fun quiz:

1. Who created the first set of handmade Polish Christmas tree ornaments?
2. Why did she make them?
3. Where did this take place?
4. When?
5. What was her purpose?
6. How are these ornaments made?

1. Pani Maria [Mrs. Maria Gerson-Dabrowska, 1864-1942.]
2. She was a painter, children's book author, and drawing instructor. On travels through the Polish countryside, she saw *wycinanki* (paper cutouts), decorated hanging Christmas trees, and straw mobiles. So, she was inspired by creative village artists, who are called folk artists.
3. Pani Maria decorated a Christmas tree in Warsaw, Poland, at the offices of the publication called "The Children's Friend"
4. 1911
5. To encourage others, especially

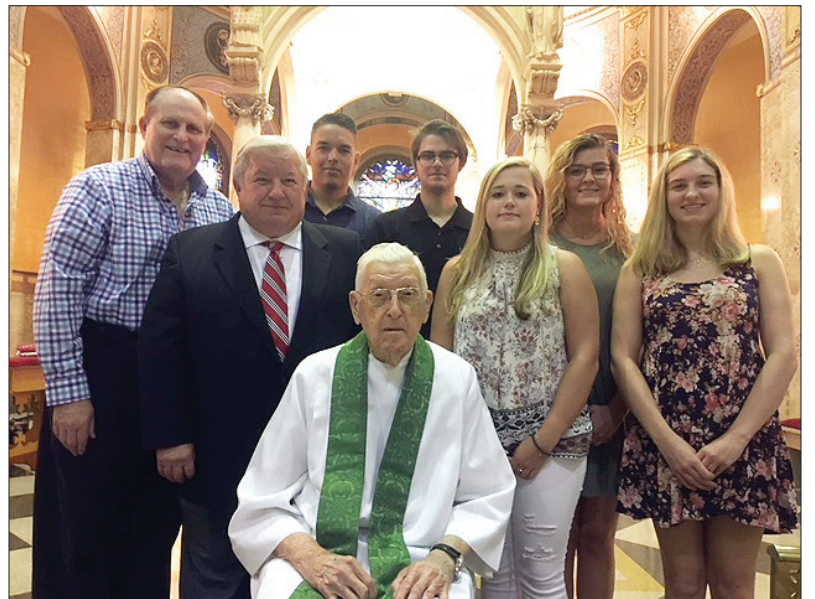
young people, to have fun and to make ornaments that had a distinctly Polish spirit. In 1922 she published her first Christmas ornament book. Lots of magazines and newspapers started printing patterns for the ornaments, too.

6. They are made with simple materials—scissors, glue, paper, needle and thread, straws, beads. Polish speakers may go to wolnelektury.pl for "dabrowska-boze-narodzenie" to listen to Pani Maria's voice in a most heartfelt description of a Polish Christmas. It even includes ornament making.

ANSWERS

American Polonia at a Glance

PACS Scholars



THE POLISH AMERICAN CULTURAL SOCIETY (PACS) and Msgr. Thaddeus Malanowski awarded several scholarships to students of Polish descent from the Stamford, Conn. area this year. Pictured are (l. to r.): Treas. John Zelinsky; Pres. Jerzy Karwowski; Mateusz Nowogrodzki (Binghamton University); Peter Pawelski (UMass); Alexandra Samelko (Sacred Heart University); and Jessica Koproski and Samantha Koproski (Central Connecticut State University). Seated in the front is Msgr. Malanowski. Missing from the photo is Karol Suchowiecki (George Washington University).

The Pol Am Club has awarded over 180 scholarships since 1973 and is happy to help support local students.

Polish Christmas Tree Ornaments © Barbara Frackiewicz

Peacock Eye...or...Persian Eye / Pawie Oczko...Perskie Oko

The male peacock (a bird of the pheasant family from India, Sri Lanka, South East Asia, and the East Indies) sports fancy greenish iridescent tail feathers that are marked with ocellated [eye-like] spots. These exotic birds were kept on some Polish estates. A male Polish folk dancer from the Krakow region sports peacock feathers in his cap!

Longer Instructions
It is very important to precisely cut the circles to the correct sizes, and also to choose the colors. Make patterns for the circles from thin cardboard or cardstock in the following sizes: the first largest circle with a 2 1/2 inch diameter, the second with a 2 inch diameter, the third with a 1 1/2 inch diameter, the fourth with a 1 1/8 inch diameter, the fifth with a 3/4 inch diameter. In centimeters: 6 1/2, 5, 3 1/2, 2 1/3, 1 1/2. The largest circle is made with two circles that are glued back to back. The smaller circles are cut in pairs. A loop of thread or yarn is added to the ornament as the second circle is being glued. Both sides of the ornament should be alike. Circles are positioned as shown. Note: These four peacock eye ornaments and colors were designed by Maria Gerson-Dabrowska. Her instructions, now in the public domain, were in her 1922 book "The Polish Christmas Tree" [Choinka Polska].

Shorter Instructions
Use papers with vivid colors, along with shiny or foil papers. Trace circles with a compass, or around coins, lids and kitchen glasses. Cut out. Glue them together as shown. Make two identical sides and glue these together back to back. Hang on a loop of thread.

Duda: Seeks U.S. Base in Poland

continued from cover

prepared to pay "billions" for the facility.

"We're looking at it very seriously," Trump told a joint press conference with his Polish counterpart at the Oval Office. "Poland is willing to make a very major contribution to the United States to come in and have a presence in Poland."

Duda had obviously done his homework before coming to Washington, and knew that Trump resented countries that view America as a bottomless "piggy bank." He also threw in a bit of flattery saying half-jokingly that the U.S. base in Poland could be called "Fort Trump."

During his triumphal 2017 visit to Warsaw, Trump praised the Polish nation for its patriotism, its solidarity, and willingness to fight "for your freedom and ours," as well as its fidelity to God, country, and family. He also reminded everyone he was a shrewd, cost-conscious, and profit-minded businessman, and Duda made sure to strike those respondent chords.

Both the United States and Poland are strongly opposed to the Russo-German Nordstream 2 pipeline now under construction, which will only increase European energy

dependence on Moscow. The Polish president stressed Poland's willingness to buy American Liquid Natural Gas (LNG), and pointed out that his country was also purchasing U.S. Patriot Missiles.

Trump has repeatedly stressed that Poland was one of the few NATO countries that spends the required two percent of GDP on defense.

Trump and Duda both support the Three Seas Initiative, a 12-country bloc of east and south central European countries within the 28-nation European Union, of which Poland is the largest member. Its purpose is to protect those countries' interests against the dominance and bullying of such old EU members as Germany, France and Benelux.

In response to a question, Trump was asked whether Poland would ever qualify for the visa-waiver program which has long been a bone of contention between Washington and Warsaw. The US leader said it would be considered, but gave no guarantees. Successive U.S. administrations have promised to look into it, but 29 years after Poland dumped communism, it remains one of the few EU countries that still have to apply for a visa to visit the United States.

The Kosciuszko Foundation is a lead sponsor of the North American premiere of the concert.

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