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Rev. Iwuc's Decades of Service Recognized— Page 16

NEWSMARK

Poland Defends Georgia Clinches Missile Deal

by Robert Strybel, PAJ Warsaw Correspondent

WARSAW—Poland recently found itself in the midst of a big-power stand-off between Russia and NATO, ostensibly over the territorial integrity of Georgia, a small, mountainous ex-Soviet Republic. Unexpectedly, the brief military conflict helped finalize protracted 18-month-long Polish-U.S. negotiations on installing an American anti-missile base on Polish soil.

The confrontation was triggered by the Georgians' attempt to re-assert their control over the break-away area of South Ossetia. Russia, which considers itself the region's "peacekeeper," retaliated by launching a military attack against Georgia. Poland was the first to react, and President Lech Kaczyński got the leaders of the three Baltic States to join him in issuing a harshly worded memorandum condemning Russia's aggression and calling on the European Union to forcefully oppose it. When Russian hackers silenced Georgia's Inter-



"We have crossed the Rubicon."

Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk

net portals, Kaczyński offered that country the use of his presidential Web site, enabling Georgians to get their side of the story across. Warsaw also lost no time in dispatching planeloads of humanitarian aid to the mountain republic and the return flights were used to evacuate Polish citizens and other stranded nationals from the war-torn country.

Kaczyński also mounted a five-nation solidarity mission to Tbilisi (Tiflis), the Georgian capital, to lend moral support to the beleaguered Georgian people and call the world's attention to their plight. Poland and the Baltics were joined by Ukraine which is also wary of the Kremlin's imperial ambitions.

At a massive rally outside the parliament building, some 150,000 Georgians gratefully chanted "Poland, Poland, friendship, Georgia," when the Polish head of state addressed the crowd. He condemned Moscow's armed incursion into Georgian territory, said that Russia



"The Russians should have been told that imperial times have ended and that if Russia does not want to find itself in international isolation, it must abandon such policy ... and that's that."

Polish President Lech Kaczyński, saying the European Union should have been more critical of Russia's military assault on Georgia.

had again shown its true face and called on NATO, the UN and other international bodies to mount a united front in defense of Georgia's sovereignty and territorial integrity. Since the 18th century, both Poland and Georgia have been repeatedly subjected to Russian aggression and domination.

Russia's armed intervention in the Caucasus spurred the Polish gov-
 See "Missile Deal ..." page 2

Whatever Lola Wants ...



JANE KRAKOWSKI, pictured here with Sean Hayes, recently played the sexy temptress Lola in the Encores! production of the musical *Damn Yankees* at City Center in New York. She appears in the summer film *Kit Kittredge: An American Girl* and will begin shooting the third season of the Emmy Award winning *30 Rock*.

Majcherczyk Leads Puru Expedition

Hopes to Answer How Colca Gorge Canyon and Valley Formed

NEW YORK—Renowned international explorer Jerzy "Yurek" Majcherczyk will lead an expedition to the Peru's Colca Gorge, recognized as the world's deepest canyon, on a trip that has been compared to the conquest of Mt. Everest. The group will depart from New York August 18, 2008.



The discovery of the canyon 27 years ago was recognized as one of the greatest geographic discoveries of the 20th century, and has generated much recognition and astonishment. By 2001 the canyon became the second most popular tourist attraction in Peru, only behind the
 See "Expedition," page 4

St. Stan's, Archdiocese Polish and American Genealogical Societies Begin Collaboration

ST. LOUIS—In a compromise with the Archdiocese of St. Louis, St. Stanislaus Kostka elected a new board, but put off a vote on new bylaws governing how the church will be run.

That compromise came after a court hearing on August 6.

Under the temporary agreement, the archdiocese withdrew its legal efforts to stop the church from electing a new board in return for the church agreeing to delay the vote on the bylaws.

Among other things, the proposed bylaws say the Polish-heritage parish is independent of the St. Louis archdiocese and authorizes parishioners to hire and fire their pastor. The parish's current bylaws say the pastor can be hired and fired only by a majority vote of the parish's lay board.

"The Concerned Parishioners of
 See "St. Stan's" page 4



KRAKOW, Poland— 24 of this year marked what is believed to be the first cooperative activity between a U.S.-based Polish American genealogical society and one based in Poland. Members of the Malopolskie Towarzystwo Genealogic-

zne (Polish Genealogical Society of Malopolska) gathered in Krakow to hear a presentation, in Polish, delivered by Prof. Jonathan Shea (standing) of the Polish Genealogical Society of Connecticut and the
 See "Collaboration," page 4

Christmas is just around the corner!

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Look for our special Christmas Bookstore pages in next month's PAJ. Three pages of Christmas and Holiday items to make your Christmas a Polish one!



ALMANAC

SEPTEMBER
WRZESIEŃ

*Jest to cnota nad cnotami,
trzymać język za zębami.
It is a virtue above all virtues
to keep one's tongue
behind one's teeth.*

- 1 **1939.** Without declaring war, **Nazi Germany attacks Poland**, which becomes the first country in Europe to resist armed aggression. World War II begins. In time, some 900,000 Americans of Polish descent would serve in the global counter attack.
1683. **John II Sobieski** led allied forces to victory over invading Turks at Vienna.
- 4 **1809.** Birth of poet and writer **Juliusz Slowacki**.
- 6 **1921.** Birth of **Korczak Ziolkowski**, American sculptor best known for beginning a monumental tribute to Crazy Horse in South Dakota.
- 8 **Birth of the Blessed Mother.** In Polish custom, today's birth of the Virgin is considered the best day for Fall planting.
- 10 **1897.** Seeking collective bargaining and civil liberty, immigrant miners on strike were marched in protest from Harwood to Lattimer, Pa. They were met by armed deputy sheriffs, who fire shots, killing 19 and wounding many others. Among the dead were Poles.
- 11 **1382.** **Jadwiga d'Anjou** crowned queen of Poland.
- 12 **1921.** Birth of science fiction writer **Stanislaw Lem** (d. 2006).
- 14 **1951.** Death of painter and illustrator **Artur Szyk**.
- 15 **1777.** **General Casimir Pulaski** appointed general in the American Army as result of his role in the Battle of Brandywine.
- 16 **1736.** Death of **Gabriel Daniel Fahrenheit**, German scientist born in Gdansk in 1686, and who identified himself as a Pole.
- 17 **1939.** **Soviet Russian troops** attack Poland on the east border, in violation of Nazi-Soviet non-aggression pact. Soviets begin occupation of western territories.
- 18 **ST. STANISLAUS KOSTKA.** **1900.** After a meeting in Scranton, Pa., several Roman Catholic church leaders decided to split from Rome and form the **Polish National Catholic Church**.
- 21 **1945.** **General Dwight D. Eisenhower** visits Warsaw.
- 22 **1980.** Workers approve the charter of the Solidarity Labor Union.
- 23 **1947.** Birth of **Fr. Jerzy Popieluszko**, pro-Solidarity priest murdered by Communist police in October 1984.
- 25 **BLESSED WLADYSLAW OF GIELNIOW**
- 26 **1944.** **Polish paratroopers** cover the retreat of British units from Arnhem.
- 27 **1942.** **Zegota**, an underground organization for rescuing Jews from the Nazis, formed in occupied Poland.
- 29 **1856.** Founding of **St. Mary's**, the first Polish church in America in Panna Maria, Texas.
1943. Birth of Polish labor leader, Nobel prize winner, and president **Lech Walesa**.
- 30 **1831.** A committee led by **James Fennimore Cooper** and **General Lafayette** was set up to provide aid for the Poles during the Polish Insurrection of 1830-31.

Next Edition
Will be Late

This paper was mailed on or before **August 30, 2008**.
The October edition of the paper will be mailed on or before **October 4, 2008**.

QUOTES / compiled from news sources

A Strikingly Familiar Invasion

"... Putin is putting Russia on a course that is ominously similar to Stalin's and Hitler's in the late 1930s. Swedish foreign minister Carl Bildt has correctly drawn an analogy between Putin's 'justification' for dismembering Georgia—because of the Russians in South Ossetia—to Hitler's tactics vis a vis Czechoslovakia to 'free' the Sudeten Deutsch.

"Even more ominous is the analogy of what Putin is doing vis-a-vis Georgia to what Stalin did vis-a-vis Finland: subverting by use of force the sovereignty of a small democratic neighbor. In effect, morally and strategically, Georgia is the Finland of our day.

"If Georgia is subverted, not only will the West be cut off from the Caspian Sea and Central Asia. We can logically anticipate that Putin, if not resisted, will use the same tactics toward the Ukraine. Putin has already made public threats against

Ukraine.

—**Zbigniew Brzezinski** on the *Russian invasion of Georgia*, from the THE HUFFINGTON POST, August 10, 2008.

◆◆◆
"I had similar problems with Russia in the '90s, but after Washington's plea, I restrained from making moves in that direction ... That game has to be played differently. President Saakashvili picked wrong strategy. When a president is making such a move, he has to consider the consequences before drawing the nation into war."

—**Former Polish president Lech Walesa**, criticizing *Georgian President Mikhail Saakashvili* for "irresponsibly drawing the country into war after being put up to it by Western politicians."

◆◆◆
"Well I don't think that this particular document is going to have any concrete influence on resolving

this issue within Poland. However there is no question that this has some significance on the political level."

—**Jim Yrkowski** from *TGC Corporate lawyers, on a U.S. Congress resolution urging Eastern European nations including Poland to make progress on legislation regarding the restitution of private property. The U.S. resolutions are nonbinding.*

◆◆◆
"Maybe an act of God or someone was looking over our shoulder at Holy Trinity that it wasn't worse than it currently is."

—**Elaine Kubik** of *Holy Trinity Polish National Catholic Parish in Lackawanna, N.Y. The church steeple was hit by lightning and was set ablaze. There was extensive damage to the choir loft and stairway, but the cross atop the steeple was undamaged.*

Missile Deal Angers Russia

continued from cover
ernment to agree to host elements of a US global anti-missile system after Washington consented to throw a battery of Patriot missiles into the bargain. The anti-missile shield, designed to prevent attacks by rogue states such as Iran and North Korea or groups such as al-Qaeda, is to include 10 interceptor missiles installed in northern Poland and linked to radar installation in the neighboring Czech Republic. Moscow angrily reiterated its allegations that the anti-missile shield was aimed against its national security and threatened to take retaliatory steps. The Russian foreign minister cancelled a planned visit to Warsaw, and one Russian general actually warned that his country would aim nuclear warheads at Poland. Nobody took the threats seriously, because an attack on Poland would amount to an attack on NATO, to which Poland belongs, and on the United States, the alliance's chief power.

But there seemed little doubt that the Georgian flare-up was but a symptom of Russia's resurgent imperial designs. The Kremlin once again seems to regard the former Soviet republics such as Georgia and Ukraine and to some extent former Soviet satellites such as Poland and the Czech Republic as its sphere of influence. Any of those areas has the potential of becoming a playing field in Russia's bid to resume

its former role of one of the world's two superpowers. And the strategic, energy-rich Black and Caspian Sea basins are an especially coveted prize.

As a result, Russian troops were in no hurry to withdraw from Georgia even though Moscow had signed as cease-fire, brokered by French President Nicolas Sarkozy. And all indications were that Russia would continue to stir up trouble by arming and backing separatist movements in Georgia's break-away regions of South Ossetia and Abkhazia, even though in the eyes of international law they constitute integral parts of the Georgian Republic.

The Russians had hoped the region's instability would prevent Georgia from being admitted to NATO—something they fiercely oppose—but that plan may have backfired. At NATO's April summit in Bucharest, Romania, "old Europe" gave Georgia and Ukraine only a vague promise of possible membership at some unspecified future date, while a Polish-led group of alliance newcomers forcefully lobbied for enlargement. But following the recent clashes, Germany's influential Chancellor Angela Merkel flew to Tbilisi and also echoed Warsaw's long-standing position that Georgia should join the North Atlantic Alliance. And Sarkozy has also begun talking tough to the Russians—according to the many, the only language they know.

Lech Walesa
Backs Missile Deal

GDANSK, Poland—Lech Walesa, whose Solidarity union co-ordinated strikes in Poland which sent shock waves through the Communist bloc, backed the U.S. weapons deal.

Walesa, who won the Nobel Peace prize for his defiance of Communist regime, told London's DAILY TELEGRAPH: "I have always supported the shield in Poland. I'm glad that the thing is finalized now. There are so many weapons on the planet that the Earth could be destroyed 10 times over.

"It's obvious we don't need a new arms race but in the end, I'm in favor of the shield. The pros for Polish security outweigh the cons. It's good that the Americans will be here."

Poland's negotiations with Washington have been guided by fears of a newly resurgent Russia, an anxiety that intensified with the military offensive in Georgia. Polish leaders argued that the fighting in Georgia justified their demands for additional security guarantees from Washington in exchange for allowing the anti-missile base on its soil.

Not all Poles are happy with the missiles. Professor Karol Sikora, medical director of CancerPartnersUK, whose Polish father came to Britain during the second world war, described the situation as "like a return to the Cold War again."

Boston Churches Find
New Life as Condos

BOSTON—Since the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Boston shuttered 65 parishes in a consolidation move in 2004, more than 30 of the vacated buildings have been sold. Many of those have gone to developers eager to turn the beautiful properties into housing. The transformations do not take place without thoughtfulness, though.

Developer Tony Pace sought the blessing of a parish priest before converting the 100-year-old former Sacred Heart Catholic Church, built by Polish immigrants in 1908, in Ipswich, Mass. "I needed to be sure it was OK," said Pace, 45, who was raised Catholic in Medford. "He told me that if I treated it with respect, there was nothing wrong with it." Catholic canon law requires that a church be stripped of religious items, including altars, statues, and crucifixes, before it is sold. And once all the items have found new homes the building is available for secular use.

In Ipswich, for example, Sacred Heart was divided to make room for two 5,000-square-foot condos. The back unit, where the altar and sacristsy once stood, was gutted to make room for a mahogany staircase. A side altar was turned into a kitchen, with a special wine refrigerator. "This was a 100-year-old church with a lot of space," said Mike Girouard, a Burlington developer who built the back unit. "We needed to define the space."

Assured by a priest he would not risk God's wrath, Pace agreed to develop one of two units at the newly renamed Bell Manor. The matching condos are on the market for just under \$700,000. "God knows," Pace said, smiling, "We've tried to do everything right."

Gypsy-Only
Classrooms to Close

WARSAW—Poland will close Gypsy-only classrooms after complaints that such classes are discriminatory. In 2004, the Council of Europe asked Poland and other countries with Roma (Gypsy) minorities to terminate segregated classrooms. It was revealed by Poland's DZIENNIK newspaper however, that separate Gypsy classes were maintained this year in five southern and eastern Polish towns. Those involved said that the Gypsy children were enrolled in separate classes because they did not speak Polish.

Deputy Minister of Education Krzysztof Stanowski said all children will be placed together regardless of ethnicity and lauded the newspaper for raising the issue.

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JUST BETWEEN US / Mark Kohan

Make Plans to Attend Jamestown Ceremony

The Polish American Congress is sponsoring a special event to pay tribute to the Polish presence in the New World.

The commemoration will mark the 400th anniversary of the October 1, 1608 arrival of the first Polish craftsmen to the Jamestown settlement. The PAC's ceremony will be held on Wednesday, October 1 at historic Jamestown, Virginia.

Polish craftsmen, skilled in the production of potash, soap, tar and glass manufacturing, arrived at the first English colony in the New World at the invitation of Captain John Smith, who had become acquainted with them in Europe and knew of their skills and industry. Eleven years after their arrival in 1619, the Poles successfully led the first strike in the New World for equal rights. They had contributed so much to ensure the survival of the colony that, when advised by the Governor that they would be excluded from voting in an upcoming election, said, "no vote, no work." Such was their value to the colony that they were granted the right.

To coincide with the commemorative ceremonies, the Polish American Congress will hold its Fall National Council of Directors Meeting and Elections in Williamsburg, Virg., on Thurs., Oct. 2, and Fri., Oct. 3, if needed. Rooms at the Marriott Williamsburg (50 Kingsmill Road, Williamsburg, VA 23185; (757) 220-2500) have been

reserved and the room rate will apply to Sept. 30 and October 3, as well as to the Oct. 1-2 dates: The hotel is ideally situated near Colonial Williamsburg, Jamestown, Yorktown and Busch Gardens.

Representatives of both the United States and Polish governments and Labor Union representatives are expected to attend this event, which will include: a wreath laying ceremony at the remains of the original glasshouse; placement of a commemorative plaque at the historic Jamestown site; indoor ceremonies with prominent speakers and musical selections provided by the Polish Singers Alliance of America; and a concluding reception. Publication of a commemorative journal is planned as well.

All Polonia is invited to participate in this historic event. For more information, contact Chairperson Debbie Majka at dziecko2@comcast.net or call the Polish American Cultural Center Museum in Philadelphia at (215) 922-1700.

BUS TRIP TO VIRGINIA. The Polish American Congress, South Jersey Division, is sponsoring a bus trip to the Jamestown Settlement commemoration. The bus will be leaving South Jersey on Sept. 30. Participants will stay at the Woodlands Hotel in Williamsburg, VA.

On Wed., Oct. 1, they will tour Colonial Williamsburg, and at 4:00 p.m. attend the ceremonies at

Jamestown.

On Thurs., Oct. 2, the bus group begins its return to South Jersey. For more information, or to make your reservation for the three-day trip, call Pat Kwoka at (856) 310-1783.

SPECIAL HERITAGE MONTH EDITION. In addition to the 400th anniversary of the arrival of Poles on our shores, next month's paper also pays tribute to Polish Heritage Month, a national celebration of Polish pride held each October and sponsored by the Polish American Congress. The PAJ is planning a special edition, which will feature stories about the Jamestown settlement. To help offset the cost of the edition, we are soliciting patron advertising. To show your support for a unified Polonia, we encourage you to be part of the October paper. Give Arlene a call today to reserve your ad! (716) 649-3188.

VETS! THE PMA MILITARY ARCHIVES WANTS YOUR STORY. The Polish Museum of America encourages all veterans to submit concise versions of their experiences for placement in the Military Archives of the PMA. One or two photos (scanned or copies are acceptable) and/or supplemental materials could be included. Send your information to: Polish Museum of America, "For Your Freedom and Ours" Project, 984 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL 60642-4101.

Stephen Morse to Speak at PGSA Conference

CHICAGO—Stephen P. Morse, Ph.D., co-recipient of the 2008 Wigilia Medal will also speak at this year's conference of the Polish Genealogical Society of America, Sept. 19-20.

Morse is best known as the architect of the Intel 8086, predecessor of today's Pentium Processor. In recent years, he has focused much of his energies on genealogical endeavors. Most of the 15,000 people who visit his website every day do so for his well known Ellis Island tools. More and more, however, are discovering his other gems, including one-step search forms for census records and the SSDI converters for 1920/1930 enumeration districts, and tools for converting dates of the Jewish calendar.

Morse will present three sessions: "One-Step Webpages: A Hodgepodge of Lesser Known Gems"; "From DNA to Genetic Genealogy: Everything you wanted to know but were afraid to ask"; and "What Color Ellis Island Search Form should I use?"

- Also at the conference:
 - Larry Mayka, administrator of the Polish Project, will be joining Robert Sliwinski in his talks. He will also explain more about the Polish Project, sponsored by Family Tree DNA, which attempts to help those of Polish ancestry understand the history of their families and their nation through genetic testing;
 - Mike Karsen's session has been revised to Jewish Genealogy—A Resource for the Jewish;
 - Polish Researchers Alike and Kris Rzepczynski will present an additional session entitled "Coming to America: Research with Passenger Lists."

The Friday Night Dinner/Gwiżdza Award Dinner will feature



Ted Pieczko, who was born in Poland, and will tell of his long and arduous childhood sojourn from Poland to Siberia, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Iran, Pakistan, India, Australia, New Zealand, California, Mexico, and once again to America, growing up at St. Hedwig's Orphanage in Chicago.

Saturday's Luncheon honors the PGSA's Wigilia Award winners. This year the honorees are Steve Morse and Virginia Hill for their contributions to genealogy in general and Polish genealogy specifically.

Other conference features include a Media Room, which will have a wide range of products from the numerous vendors, and a Research Area.

For more information, contact the PGSA at 984 Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL 60642-4101 or search for PGSA on the Internet.

NEW ZIP CODE FOR PGSA AND PMA. The Polish Genealogical Society of America and the Polish Museum of America, both located at 984 Milwaukee Avenue in Chicago have a new zip code as of July 1, 2008. The new zip is 60642-4101.

Commemorative Stamps Available on Zazzle

Polonian organizations are planning various events and celebrations honoring the arrival of the first Poles to America, Jamestown, Va, Oct 1, 2008.

To assure wide dissemination and long lasting historical impact of the events, special items have also been produced. Among those are the book marks mentioned on page 3 of the PAJ August issue and Zazzle Custom Stamps and mugs.

The Zazzle Custom Stamps were created under the sponsorship of the Polish American Journal and the PolishAmericanCenter.org, and readers who are interested may view and purchase them at the following links: (When the window opens click "view all products" on the left or click "View my gallery" on the right.) www.zazzle.com/earliestpoles and <http://www.zazzle.com/firstpolesusa>

These custom stamps were created using the facilities of Zazzle, an authorized US Postal Service vendor, and can be used for postage, gifts, or souvenirs and come in three sizes and prices.



Glasshouse at Jamestown.

Several designs of the stamps and mugs have been created in breathtaking color, usually in the American and Polish colors, some with an illustration of the first Poles to land in America, or the Polish

Eagle or both, and may contain both the Polish and English verse.

The PAJ October Polish Heritage issue will contain the illustrations of the recent art contest Grand Prize and Second Prize winners which will be available on the mentioned earliestpoles link for viewing as custom stamps and mugs.

The stamps would be great to facilitate knowledge of the important historical moment of the first Poles to arrive in America and its 400th Anniversary Oct 1, 2008. Relatives in Poland and elsewhere would be pleasantly surprised with a letter having one of the stamps affixed to the envelope! Coffee mugs would also be great souvenirs. These items would also be of philatelic interest.

Any commissions from the sales of the stamps or mugs will be donated to the Polish American Journal press fund and the PolishAmericanCenter.org, as appropriate.

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St. Stanislaus Kostka: More Excommunications Threatened

continued from cover

St. Stanislaus Kostka are overjoyed at the results of the hearing," said Richard Bach, spokesman for the Concerned Parishioners of St. Stanislaus Kostka. "The judge is not allowing a vote to occur on the new by-laws that Mr. Marek Bozek and his group had drafted to replace our existing by-laws."

Bach, referring to excommunicated Roman Catholic priest Fr. Marek Bozek as "Mr.," said Bozek took all references to a Roman Catholic Church out of the by-laws.

"That would allow them to affiliate with whatever church they would be interested in affiliating with," Bach said. "We want to stay Roman Catholic."

St. Louis Circuit Judge Bryan Hetttenbach approved the compromise after hearing arguments in a courtroom packed with 120 parishioners.

The parish, which has more than 500 registered families, has been at odds with the archdiocese since 2003, when it refused to conform to the same parish-governance structures as others in the archdiocese.

The archdiocese and six St. Stanislaus parishioners sued the parish, seeking to have the parish revert to its 1891 bylaws, which would give the Roman Catholic bishop authority to name the pastor and the parish corporation's board.

The lawsuit says the archbishop has the right to appoint the pastor and the board. It also would allow the St. Stanislaus corporation to maintain control of the building, finances and other assets.

HELLBOUND? However, at PAJ presstime, the Associated Press reported the archdiocese's interim leader warned parishioners running for the board positions at St. Stan-

islaus they face excommunication.

Bishop Robert Hermann issued the warning in letters to the eight parishioners. Some found the letter taped to their front doors.

Richard Lapinski and Janice Merzweiler were the two new parishioners voted onto the new board Sunday. According to Hermann's letter, they now face excommunication.

In the letter, Hermann noted that a Vatican decree in May said holding a seat on the St. Stanislaus board "constitutes an 'evident' act of schism," or refusal to submit to the pope.

Hermann asked all the candidates to withdraw their names from consideration for the election, adding "you are in danger of losing the eternal salvation of your soul."

—compiled from news releases

Expedition to Colca Gorge

continued from cover

famous Machu Picchu. In 1981 Polish kayakers ran 100 of the 120 kilometers of the canyon, leaving behind the first 20 kilometers untouched.

"As a member of the 1981 expedition it is time for me to come back to this first 20km segment, named 'Cruz del Condor,' which is unexplored to this day and remains one of the last wild fronts in our world," said Majcherzyk. "Its exploration may help answer questions on the many mysteries concerning the geology, hydrography and history of this region."

In order to make this exploration fruitful in all aspects of science and history, Majcherzyk organized a team of professionals from Poland, the United States, and Peru, which contains specialists of certain necessary disciplines; geology and hydrogeology, topography and hydrography. They will be joined by an electronic engineer, who will be recording all measurements into data using state-of-the-art technology, such as GPS, laser rangefinder, electroscope and electromagnetic equipment.

"We will also carry a small laboratory for initial analyses of water, air and rock," said Majcherzyk.

"Our team includes a professional rock climber and two world class kayakers/rafters. The progress of our expedition will be reported by two professional cameramen, a photographer and a professional journalist—a long time editor of paddling/kayaking magazines."

Additionally, an outside support team, which includes a radio/press correspondent and film director, will report the prog-

ress of the expedition to the world from the canyon-top. They will be in daily contact with us via two satellite phones, backed up by advanced land-mobile radios.

The prestigious Explorers Club recognized the importance of the expedition goals and awarded the group the Club's Expedition Flag. This is a very significant recognition, as the Flag has been taken on various famous expeditions, such as the moon landing, journeys to the deepest parts of the ocean, and the highest of mountains.

The results of the expedition can also be very useful and important to the future establishment of the Colca Canyon National Park, a project that has been undertaken by academia from Poland and Peru since 2003.

"In addition, our exploratory expedition may play a large role in establishing this part of the Colca Canyon's future, as Peru is yet unknown to "canyoneering," a discipline gaining much popularity throughout the world," said Majcherzyk.

The expedition is being sponsored by the Warsaw Stock Exchange, Classic Travel, Victoria Consulting & Development, and sponsors in the United States and Poland, including the POLISH AMERICAN JOURNAL.

Collaboration Begins Between Genealogical Societies

continued from cover

and the Northeast. Shea spoke about major American sources, both archival and those on the internet, to the Polish audience, many of whom were searching for lost relatives who emigrated to the United States nearly a hundred years ago. For some audience members, who ranged in age from 17 to senior citizens and included faculty members from Jagiellonian University, all the information was new and being heard for the first time. Others exhibited a great familiarity with certain of the on-line sources such as U.S. census returns, ships' passenger lists and the Social Security Death Index. New to most was Shea's explanation of the holdings of Polish American parish archives and the geographical information contained within to help researchers connect back to a specific point in Europe. Also a revelation for many, were records of fraternal organizations such as the PRCUA, which often contain certain biographical information and documentation about the policy holders.

Shea, whose maternal side of the

family comes from the Lomza and Bialystok areas of Poland, presented the Polish Society with a copy of his newly published genealogy textbook *Going Home: A Guide to Polish American Family History Research*. The 400+ page book provides Polish Americans with a comprehensive guide to tracing ancestry to Poland. It includes sections on language, using American archival sources such as church records, federal censuses, citizenship papers and immigration passenger lists. A portion of the work is dedicated to the historical geography of Poland and the many border and jurisdictional changes which took place over the centuries. Another major portion of the textbook covers sources in Poland and how to translate documents that family historians will unearth in the research process. Further information about this publication can be found on the website www.pgscetne.org.

The lecture was arranged by the Connecticut Society's European correspondent and researcher Aleksandra Kacprzak and the president of the Malopolskie Towarzystwo Ge-

nealogiczne, Mr. Zbigniew Szybka. Future activities include a possible genealogy teleconference between the two societies.

The Krakow-based society is one of several regional Polish genealogical societies which have emerged in the past few years. Interest among Poles about their roots, once a frowned upon topic under Communist rule, has been growing rapidly in the past decade.

Police Ban Facebook

WARSAW—Poland's police headquarters has banned officers from using Facebook-type sites during working hours because they were spending too much time chit-chatting on it instead of working.

Other Polish state agencies have also blocked usage of websites like YouTube at the workplace to ensure that workers focus on performing their professional duties.

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ON OCTOBER 1, 1608, the first Polish settlers arrived at Jamestown, Virginia, on the ship MARY & MARGARET. Well aware of the quality of imported glassware from Poland, the Virginia Company of London hired Polish artisans to establish a profitable glass production house in America. To insure the success of the new Virginia colony, additional workers from Poland and other countries were enlisted to produce soap, pitch, and wood building supplies. After their arrival, the Poles built a glass furnace, which became the first factory in America and

produced the first made-in-America products exported to Europe.

The Poles at the Jamestown settlement were the first of millions who came to America's shores. From Panna Maria to Chicago, New York to Los Angeles, our country owes a great deal to the brave men and women of

Poland, who left the land of their birth for better lives for themselves and their children.

This is but one of the many reasons we take time in October to pause and reflect on our Polish roots. It is a time to remember those who came before us. It is a time to teach those who will follow of the accomplishments, contributions, and sacrifices made by our Polish ancestors so that we may pursue happiness in the United States.

CAN WE COUNT ON YOU? All-too-often, we forget to find time to re-examine how much of a role our heritage has played in our formation, not only as a nation, but as individuals as well. This is the main reason behind Heritage Month. The fact that this year's celebration coincides with the 400th anniversary of the arrival of Poles in Jamestown makes Heritage Month 2008 one of the most important ones in recent years. We want everyone involved as a show of American Polonia's strength. That is why we ask for your help. By being part of this special edition, you are strengthening ties between all Americans of Polish descent. Through your patronage, we are able to bring American Polonia a paper it can be proud of.

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AMERICAN POLONIA AT A GLANCE

DELAWARE

WILMINGTON—St. Hedwig's Parish **Polish American Festival** (along the Riverfront in Wilmington, Delaware), will be held Mon., Sept. 15 to Sat., Sept. 20, 5:00-10:00 p.m. Parking, Admission & Entertainment are free. Under the giant tents enjoy Polish and American Food, the best polka bands and the Philly Horn Band. The festival also features carnival rides, games and the midway. Complete details on the Internet at www.PolishFestival.net. For more information call (302) 594-1400

MINNESOTA

MINNEAPOLIS—The Polish American Cultural Institute of Minnesota will bring Polish artist **Joanna Sulek-Malinowska** to Minneapolis for a showing of her work at the Northrup King Galleries, 1500 Jackson St. NE, September 19. The opening reception will be in Gallery 332 from 6:00-9:00 p.m. The gathering is open to the public. For more information, contact Irene at (612) 729-5911. ST. PAUL—The Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota has a program on Saturday, September 20, at the MGS Library, 1185 N. Concord St., South St. Paul, which will feature genealogist Danuta Jampolska, Foreign Exchange Co-coordinator for the Ochota Cultura Center in Warsaw. Information: Terry Kita (612) 927 0719 or terrykita@earthlink.net.

MINNEAPOLIS—The **Holy Cross Fall Festival** is looking for volunteers and donations for the fancy booth, mystery gifts, and theme baskets for its annual festival, September 20-21. Call the rectory weekdays (612) 789-7238. The Polish Rosary is looking for new articles that you perhaps received as gifts and didn't need. They will be wrapped up and sold at the Mystery Gifts booth. All of the profits made

go to the church.

MINNEAPOLIS—An evening of listening to **Polish poetry** in the original Polish and in English translations will take place September 21. Poems from Adam Zagajewski, Krzysztof Kamil Baczyński, Wiesława Szymborska and others at Gasthof Zur Gemutlichkeit Restaurant starting at 7:00 p.m. For more information, contact Irene at (612) 729-5911

MINNEAPOLIS—Local author **Anthony Bukoski** will be reading and signing his latest book Sept. 27 at the Polish American Library, 2514 Central Avenue NE, beginning at 7:00 p.m. For more information, call Steven at (612) 822-2322.

ST. PAUL—The **Chopin Society** presents 21-year-old Sara Daneshpour, who studied with Leon Fleisher at The Curtis Institute for five years. Her stunning virtuosity and intense musicality win the accolades of audiences and critics and have garnered her international awards as well, including Second Prize at the 2007 William Kapell Competition in Maryland and the Gold Medal and Audience Prize at the 2007 International Russian Music Piano Competition in San Jose. Since her early teenage years, she has been featured in solo recitals at Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center, and the Smithsonian American History Museum, as well as all over Europe.

The performance will be held Sept. 28 at 3:00 p.m. at the Janet Wallace Fine Arts Center 130 Macalester St., (1 block west of Snelling Avenue and 1½ blocks south of Grand Ave.). Free parking is available. Single tickets: \$20 / \$17 FCS member / \$12 student (with ID). All tickets are for general admission (open seating). To inquire about ticket availability or to make a ticket reservation, please leave a message at (612) 822-0123 or e-mail chopin-society@ymn@aol.com.

MINNEAPOLIS—The PACIM

will hold its **Annual Meeting**, October 5, at PACIM's headquarters and Library at 2514 Central Avenue NE at 1:30 p.m. There will be a review of the year's activities and an election of officers. If you are interested in becoming more involved with the organization, please call Steven Ukasick at (612) 822-2322 for more information.

MINNEAPOLIS—A bus trip is being organized for the **Sobieski Lions Annual Polish Meal and Dance**. October 11 in Sobieski. Twenty Polish dishes will be served from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. Dance from 7:00-11:00 p.m. to Dave Novak & the Polish Choice. Dinner, dance and bus ticket for \$30.00. Leave from the North Air Event Center (former Fridley KC Hall) at 6831 Highway 65 NE at 3:00 p.m. and return after the dance. It is necessary to make reservations. Call (763) 428-9649 or email: edbudzinski@embarqmail.com.

MINNEAPOLIS—October 26 is the date for the **Annual Polish Soup Festival**.

The location of the Festival has changed to Kolbe Hall, lower level of John Paul II School, Holy Cross Church complex. PACIM will be serving at least a dozen different Polish soups with bread and desserts from 5:00-7:00 p.m. If there is any soup left over at that time, it will be sold. Tickets are \$10 at the door. Dolina Polish Folk Dancers (gifts) and Sacred Heart Church (pierogi) will have tables. PACIM is looking for volunteers to make soup and also to work at the event as servers, greeters, kitchen help, table cleaners, etc. Please call Steven Ukasick at (612) 822-2322 for more information.

NEW YORK

NEW YORK—NBC "Today" anchor Ann Curry climbed Korczak Ziolkowski's Crazy Horse Memorial, and later set off a blast on the mountain that will be a carving of

the famed Lakota leader. The memorial celebrated its 60th anniversary in June.

PENNSYLVANIA

PHILADELPHIA—**Polish Language Classes** will be taught at the Polish American Cultural Center, 308 Walnut Street in historic Philadelphia for the fall/winter semester. Two levels of the Polish language focusing on conversation will be offered. Classes will be held on Wednesday evenings from 6:00-8:30 p.m. The cost of the twelve-week program is \$135 plus book fee. If you are interested, call for an application, Mon.-Fri. between 9:00 a.m. -5:00 p.m., (215) 922-1700.

PHOENIXVILLE—**Sacred Heart Parish Annual Festival**, 148 Church Street, Sat., Sept. 6. Noon to 8:00 p.m. Food, games of chance, chances for Eagles/Giants game tickets, silent auction and much more. Music by the Naturalistix. Rain or shine. Info (610) 933-3830 or SacredHeartPhoenixville.net.

PHILADELPHIA—St. Adalbert **Polish Language School** Registration will be held Saturday, September 6 at the Martyred Sisters' House, Edgemont Street & Allegheny Avenue, Port Richmond section of Philadelphia, 9:00 p.m. Call Maria Koleda (610) 368-1604 for details.

DOYLESTOWN—Our Lady of Czestochowa **Polish Language School** Registration will be held Saturday, September 13 at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa, Ferry Road, Doylestown. 10:00 a.m. Info call Jadwiga Kozdra (215) 429-6161 or Fr. Dominik (267) 885-8834.

ANDALUSIA—Sun., Sept. 14 is the day for **St. Valentine Parish Family Picnic** at Pulaski Park, 875 Mill Rd. 1:00-6:00 p.m. Music. For info call rectory (215) 535-4978. Everyone is invited.

PHILADELPHIA—Adam Mickiewicz **Polish Language School**

Another Busy Actress



In addition to Jane Krakowski (see cover), another busy Polish American actress is **Christine Baranski (in dress)**, who plays Tanya Chesham co-starring with Meryl Streep in the musical romantic comedy film—*Mamma Mia!* She is also currently on Broadway in *Boeing Boeing*.

—Staś Kmiec

Registration will be held Sat., Sept. 20 at the Associated Polish Home, 9150 Academy Road, Northeast Philadelphia, 10:00 a.m.-noon. Classes will resume Sat., Sept. 27. Info call Irene Ruczynska (215) 639-5148.

DOYLESTOWN—**Polish Falcons of America Day** at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa, Ferry Road, Doylestown, will be observed Sun., Sept. 28. Mass 12:30 p.m. All are welcome to attend. Info (215) 345-0600.

PHILADELPHIA—A Proclamation Ceremony for Pulaski Day and **Polish American Heritage Month** will be presented at noon on Wed., Oct. 1, at the Polish American Cultural Center Museum, 308 Walnut St. The same day, the 400th Anniversary of the First Polish Settlers in America, from 5:00-8:00 p.m. Admission is free and the public is invited to both events.

PHILADELPHIA—**Pulaski Memorial Parade** activities kick off with a Pulaski Dinner Dance, Sat., Oct. 4, 2008 at the Associated Polish Home Ballroom, 9150 Academy Road. Cocktails at 5:00 p.m. and dinner at 6:00 p.m. For info call PAC at (215) 739-3408.

On Sunday morning, a Pulaski Observance Mass will be held at 9:30 a.m. at the Cathedral of Ss. Peter & Paul, 18th and the Benjamin Franklin Parkway, Center City Philadelphia. This will be followed by a Tribute Ceremony. The Parade then steps off at 12:15 p.m. from 20th and the Parkway. Free seating at Logan Circle in the area of television coverage on WPVI TV-6, 12:30-2:00 p.m.

SOUTH DAKOTA

CRAZY HORSE—The Crazy Horse Memorial will observe the 100th anniversary of the birth of **Korczak Ziolkowski** and 1877 death of Crazy Horse with the Annual Ruth's Club Dinner on Sept. 5, and a traditional night blast on Sept. 6. Ziolkowski started the sculpture in 1948, and his work is being continued by wife Ruth and family. For more information, call (615) 673-4681.

SUPPORT THE PAJ PRESS FUND

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

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

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

A sincere "THANK YOU" for their donations to the **PAJ PRESS FUND: John Dylag**, West Hartford, Conn.; **A.J. Jankowski**, Erie, Pa.; **Rev. Martin Stillmock**, Minneapolis, Minn.; **Dean Yazak**, Pensacola, Fla.; **Adam Ziemba**, Utica, N.Y.; and two "**Friends of the PAJ.**" Dziękujemy! The PAJ thanks all who donated to the Press Fund.

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The Polish Gift of Life, Inc. would like to thank all of our generous supporters, who, for over 28 years, have made it possible for us to help sick Polish children. Many children have been brought to the United States for live-saving heart surgery, which was not available to them in their own country. This year, we sent therapy equipment and medical supplies to an Orphanage, also an EKG machine was sent to a rehabilitation center. We provided much-needed medical equipment and supplies to several hospitals in Poland. A 24-hour ambulatory blood pressure monitor with software, cuffs, battery charger and batteries, an ambulatory Doppler machine, and a pulsometer was sent so that more children can be helped. Your financial support will allow us to continue to give Polish children the precious "gift of life." Thank you.

RELIGION / Benjamin Fiore, S.J.

Following the Faithful

Rev. John Kowalczyk, Jr., pastor of St. Michael the Archangel PNCC church for the past eight years, is moving his parish 17 miles south of its original location in East Chicago, Ind., to Cedar Lake, where his congregation largely moved. Plans for the new church include a 150-seat church, a hall of the same size with five classrooms and offices. Despite the Polish origins of the church, Rev. Kowalczyk's congregation dropped the designation "Polish" from its title. He says the church is "open to everyone. We don't want people to think you have to be Polish to join."

PAPAL CALENDARS. The Vatican newspaper L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO has created two calendars for 2009: one from the pontificate of Benedict XVI and the other from the Servant of God John Paul II's papacy. Each calendar contains 13 close-up images of the two popes. They can be ordered by e-mail by contacting photo@ossrom.va and they cost 5 euros (about \$7.75).

POPE JOHN PAUL II NAME FOR NEW SCHOOLS. The RC Archdiocese of Philadelphia broke ground for a new high school in Royersford, Pa., to replace two existing high schools, St. Pius X in Pottstown and Kennedy-Kenrick in Norristown.

As part of the reconfiguration of the Catholic school system in the RC Archdiocese of Boston, a new regional school operating on five

campuses will replace seven existing parish schools in Dorchester/Mattapan. The school will be named **Pope John Paul II Academy** and expects to enroll about 1,500 students in September.

STEVEN SPIELBERG HONORED IN KRAKÓW. The Jagiellonian University has conferred an honorary doctorate on film director **Steven Spielberg** in recognition of his fundamental humanistic values, attachment to tradition and his contribution to the preservation of the memory of the Holocaust. He filmed part of his film "Schindler's List" in Kraków and is a founder of the "Survivors of the Shoah—Visual History" Foundation at the Univ. of North Carolina and the "Steven Spielberg Film and Video Archive of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum."

Spielberg was previously awarded Poland's International "Order of the Smile" for his film work bringing joy to children.

IRENA SENDLER INSPIRES AWARDS. Irena Sendler, the recently-deceased Polish World War II rescuer of thousands of Jewish children in Poland, was remembered in two awards given to teachers in the United States and Poland. The awards are given to teachers for whom teaching about the Holocaust and Irena Sendler's message became a mission in life. The U.S. recipient this year was Andrew

Beiter, a social studies teacher at Springville Middle School. Anna Kloza, the Polish recipient, is a high school teacher from Białystok in north-eastern Poland.

San Francisco philanthropist Tad Taube established the Irena Sendlerowa Memorial Award to remember Poland's "Righteous Gentile." The award is given to a non-Jewish Pole who has worked to preserve the Jewish heritage in Poland. The recipient this year is Janusz Makuch, the creator and head of the Jewish Cultural Festival in Kraków.

MATCHING GRANT FOR PLAZA. The Polish Roman Catholic Union of America agreed to match their members' contributions to the Cardinals Square, planned for the Felician Sisters' Madonna University. **Walter Knysz, Jr.**, PRCUA member and Chair of the Foundation Board at Madonna U. has pledged \$15,000 to the matching grant fund.

MACHALSKI TO CHAIR PAPA MEETING. The Polish American Priests Association named the **Rev. Canon Thomas Machalski**, pastor of St. Joseph's Church in Bay Side, Queens, as chairman of the 2009 convention, which will be held in New York. The next convention will be held April 20-24 in Brooklyn.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO...

Our Lady of Sorrows RC Church in Farmington, Mich., celebrating 80 years. Joining the anniversary ceremony with Adam Cardinal Maida were Deacon Clement Stankiewicz, Detroit Auxiliary Bishop John Quinn, Grand Rapids Bishop Walter Hurley, pastor Fr. Mark Brauer and Msgr. John Kasza.

Holy Cross PNCC parish in

Ware, Mass., celebrating 80 years. Fr. Senior Fryderyk Banas, the pastor, celebrated the anniversary Mass. ... **Msgr. A. Jaworowski** of Sacred Heart RC Parish in Swedesburg, Pa., celebrating his 64th year since ordination ... **Fr. Edward Kaczorowski**, St. Stanislaus Kostka RC Church, Wilmington, Del., on the 50th anniversary of ordination and his 80th birthday ... **Msgr. Bernard A. Przybocki**, pastor of St. Demetrius RC Church in Gallitzin, Pa., on his golden jubilee ... **Fr. Leo Engel, OMI**, celebrating the 70th anniversary of his ordination and the 75th anniversary as an Oblate of Mary Immaculate. Born in Manitoba, Canada, Fr. Engel was ordained in Odra, Poland. He currently resides at Mazenod Residence in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan after working in Toronto and in Rome.

STO LAT TO... Lois Wonsiewicz of Good Shepherd School, Camp Hill, Pa., on receiving the Golden Apple Award honoring teachers with a special devotion to Catholic Education ... **Kristin Lukowski**, a writer for Detroit Archdiocese paper THE MICHIGAN CATHOLIC, on receiving a third-place award for her feature writing.

MOSTLY CATHOLIC AT HARTFORD RADIO STATION. The Catholic-owned WJMJ-FM has decided to replace most of its non-Catholic programming with programming from EWTN Global Catholic Network, as archdiocesan spokesman Fr. John Gatzak explains. About 80% of the programming had been produced by Protestant organizations before the change. Despite the new Catholic orientation, not all the Protestant programming will be eliminated and Fr. Gatzak says that "truly ecumenical" programming is in the planning stages.

MONUMENT TO POPE JOHN PAUL II. A monument of the late Pope John Paul II commemorating

the 30th anniversary of his election to the papacy will be erected at the Wawel Castle cathedral in Kraków, Poland in October. His former secretary Stanisław Cardinal Dziwisz commissioned the work which is being created by **Gustaw Zemina**, a Kraków Fine Arts professor.

HOLOCAUST EXHIBIT AT MARYTOWN. Marytown in Libertyville, Ill., opened a mini-museum chronicling the life of **St. Maximilian Kolbe**. To arrange for a tour call (847) 367-7800, ext. 225. The Franciscan friary in Libertyville is the national shrine to St. Maximilian Kolbe.

ADAMCZYK RECOGNIZED. In recognition of her outstanding work in the Polish community, the South Brooklyn Pulaski Parade Committee selected **Bozena Adamczyk** as its Contingent Marshal. Adamczyk arrived in the United States in 1980. She currently sits on the board of the Friends of Pope John Paul II Foundation. This year's parade is October 5th.

VATICAN PAPER LAUDS FILM ON KATYN MASSACRE. The official Vatican newspaper has offered high praise for a film on the Katyn massacre.

The Oscar-nominated film, entitled simply "Katyn," is a story based on the historical realities of 1940, when Soviet troops killed thousands of Polish military officers and intellectuals. When the mass graves were discovered in the Katyn forest, the Communist regime made the claim that Nazi troops had committed the atrocity. That claim was never accepted by many Poles—including director Andrzej Wajda, whose father was among the Katyn victims.

L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO, saluting the Polish director for his tenacity in pursuing the story, said that Katyn carries a powerful message about the ultimate victory of truth over lies.



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With Church's Blessing, Polish Monk Preaches "Divine Sex"

More than 3,000 devoutly Roman Catholic couples in Poland have attended retreats since 2000 with Friar Ksawery Knotz, the priest, whom many have humorously dubbed the high priest of Catholic Kama Sutra. The celibate Friar's instructions on how to practice divine sex has the blessing of church superiors and an approving nod from secular therapists.

"I certainly encourage married couples to pray for a good and happy sex life—it's a way for them to become closer to God," the 43-year-old Roman Catholic monk said. Couples are so eager to attend that his weekend and six-day workshops are booked solid for the next year.

"If you believe in God, then you believe God is involved in life, in love, marriage and in sex and sexuality—it seems natural to talk about sex to remove taboos and the label of sinfulness," says the monk, who resides in a monastery of the Order of Friars Minor

Capuchin in Stalowa Wola, southern Poland.

"Love between a married couple expressed in sex, brings the human body closer to heaven. The ecstasy in the joy of sexual intercourse can be likened to the joy of eternal life," he says giving an unusual twist to the religious notion of eternal salvation.

The monk explains he was originally inspired by the open atmosphere of his family home and the early teachings of late Polish-born Pope John Paul II who broached the subject of sexuality in his book "Love and Responsibility," first published in 1960.

"The Holy Father's 'theology of the body' and other philosophical and theological works delve deeply into the divinity of sexual relations in marriage—I'm just making these complex ideas more accessible to average Catholics," he says.

MODLITWY

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

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

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

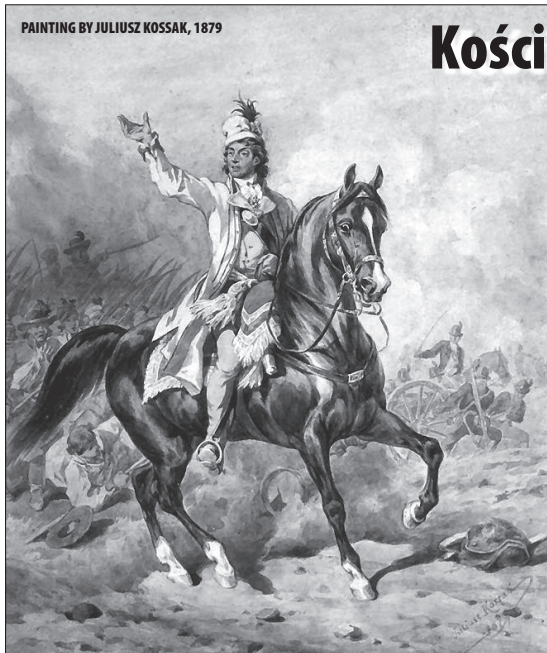


POLISH CHILDREN'S HEARTLINE. An ALL VOLUNTEER non-profit organization sending medical and surgical supplies to hospitals in Poland having Pediatric units. In 2007 over \$150,000 of specialized surgical equipment was sent to the hospitals. Requests for assistance in 2008 are already over \$160,000. Generous donations from Polonia and American supporters make this possible and much is still needed. Contributions may be made in memory of family and friends. Each donation is tax exempt and acknowledged. We thank you for your support and ask for your continued support. For information call 732-680-0680 or 732-341-5044.
"What one does for others, Lives forever"

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PAINTING BY JULIUSZ KOSSAK, 1879

Kościuszko: A Portrait of Love, Passion, and Patriotism

Ludwika Sosnowska sent a letter to Kościuszko:

"Cast an eye, dear friend on the date of this letter and you shall see that I am at a place of remembrance. I cannot leave it without sending you news of myself and not expressing that I wish to hear the same from you. I've been here for three weeks, cast in thought of the places which evoke such strong memories — both bad and good. There are more of

the former, as you know well, dear friend. My visits here always move me to tears, and I spend hours thinking about the past.

Now let me speak about you. Prior to my departure from Warsaw there was talk of you. The king recalled the print you once gave him and was much moved. He praised your accomplishments in America and said he absolutely has to arrange an army commission for you.

The present Princess Rozalia Radzwill often speaks of you. She reinforced the king's fine temperament by supporting your cause. I shall be content if you are convinced that no one under the sun cares about your fate as genuinely as I do. I never think of you without my soul and

heart being moved. It is a simple thing: my soul is not thankless, and it was you who evoked in me the first feelings of caring and love."

It was not until five years after returning to Poland, that the King, executing the law passed by the Great Sejm, enlarged the army to 100,000 and appointed Kościuszko to the position of Brigadier General.

The Russian Empress Catherine II was displeased with this increase. In 1792 the Russian Army crossed into Polish territory in order to force the King and the Sejm to bend to her will. The result was a clash of arms with a victorious battle in Zielence, lead by Kościuszko. He was awarded the first "Virtuti Militari" cross.

Kościuszko was a sensitive commander who knew how to take advantage of the terrain and fortifications in defensive battle—a method of resistance characteristic to him.

Following this conquest, the news that the King had agreed to join the Targowica Confederation and had ordered the termination of all military activities against the Russian Army came as a complete surprise. After making certain his soldiers were safe, Kościuszko resigned from his post. He left Poland under the pseudonym "T. Bieda" (poor)—which was how he signed his farewell letter to his friend, Princess Izabella Czartoryska.

He went to Leipzig to discuss strategy for a planned uprising with

Hugo Kollataj and Ignacy Potocki and then left for Paris to engage assistance. He received no backing from the Girondists, a political faction in France during the French Revolution.

Catherine II was displeased with increase in Polish military power. In 1792 the Russian Army crossed into Polish territory in order to force the King and the Sejm to bend to her will.

News from Poland and proclamations of him as a leader of the uprising obligated Kościuszko to make certain preparations. General Antoni Madaliński gave the signal for the uprising to begin. He refused to reduce his brigade and set off for Kraków. Russian army units followed.

Kościuszko arrived through a roundabout route on March 23, 1794. He brought with him the *Insurrection Act* that he had prepared with Kollataj and Potocki—the document that was to be the motto for the entire nation.

The following morning at 9:00 he attended mass, after which he pledged that he was ready to give his life for his country—for the insulted majesty of the republic—for liberty—for independence.

At approximately 10:00 the same morning, in Kraków's main market

square, Kościuszko and his battalion swore allegiance to the uprising in front of a large crowd:

"I, Tadeusz Kościuszko, swear before God and the Polish nation that I shall not use the power entrusted to me for private gain, but only in defense of our borders in regaining our independence, and in solidifying the general freedoms, so help me God!"

Besides the main motto "Freedom, Entirety, and Independence" (Wolność, Całość, Niepodległość), there arose another motto: "Death or Victory!"

On April 1, Kościuszko began a march to Warsaw and on route prevented two Russian armies under Generals Tormasov and Devisov from combining forces.

On April 4, 1794 the historic Battle of Raclawice was fought. Kościuszko was well aware the peasants, armed only with scythes were unbeatable in a fight against Russian artillery cannons, which could only fire once during an extended period of time. At Kościuszko's commands—"Capture those cannons" and "Faith to the fore," they began running and did not allow a second salvo to be fired. Wojciech Bartosz of Rządowic even extinguished a cannon's fuse with his own cap. The heroic unit of scythe bearing peasants earned the honorable title, "Kraków Grenadier Regiment."

Next month: The Insurrection and Final Chapter

Part III
by Staś Kmieć

THE FIGHT IN POLAND.

Kościuszko returned to Poland a richer man and swathed in glory. Most important, he returned with the experience of war, and the ability to profess his ideals of freedom and democracy. He reached Siechnowice on August 12, 1784 and would spend the next five years there. He received no proposition from King Poniatowski, and at his modest family estate awaited word of a commission in the Polish Army. He kept himself occupied by making his own tools and tending the garden.

On May 22, 1789, his beloved

KULTURA / Staś Kmieć

US Groups Participate in Rzeszów Festival

The XIV World Festival of Polonian Folk Ensembles recently took place in Rzeszow. Attending were song and dance groups from Australia, Belarus, Brazil, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Great Britain, Latvia, Lithuania, Russia, Romania, Sweden, Ukraine, a record twelve from Canada, and seven from the United States including: *Krakowiak* (Boston), *Krakusy* (Los Angeles), *Polanie* (Detroit), *Polonia* (Chicago), *Wawel* (Detroit), *Wesoly Lud* (Chicago) and *Wici* (Chicago).

This year's festival was very different for me, personally, said Andrea (Pierce) Haber, the director of *Krakowiak* of Boston. "It's the first time I've attended as the director of a group, with all the additional responsibilities that entails, and because I couldn't stop comparing it to the first festival that I attended in 1969. Going to Poland at that time was exotic, an adventure, a step into the unknown. People warned us that we'd be brainwashed by the Communists! Most of the *Krakowiaks* at that time were born in the USA. We had no idea what to expect when we got off the plane. This year it was a return to visit old friends, both from Rzeszów and from Polonia around the world."

The groups presented dances from various regions of Poland, along with a special program of dances from the homeland residence. Chicago's *Wici* Ensemble exhibited a stylized American *Cold Mountain Suite*.

"This is our second time to the festival, but our fourth visit to Poland," said Magalena Solarz, *Wici's*



Krakowiak Polish Dancers of Boston in an Opoczno Suite at the XIV World Festival in Rzeszow.

director.

"The groups have improved over the years and are now better technically and musically. It is gratifying to see the work of other groups."

At the festival a conference took place regarding aspects of Polish dance culture and its promotion. In addition to speakers from Poland, Sweden, and Russia, Misia and Richard Jamiński, directors of *Wesoly Lud* of Chicago spoke on "American Association - the popularization of folk ensembles." "How can we revive Polish folk dance," which addressed the eminent demise of Polish folk dance as a recreational activity, was presented by Andrea Haber.

"The festival is a colorful, hectic, exciting frustrating and exhausting week. One constant over the years has been the warmth of our Rzeszów hosts and audiences," said



Chicago's Wici Ensemble in an American Cold Mountain Suite in Rzeszow.

Haber. "Their hospitality inspires our dancing and makes us long for the next festival."

Comment: Upon viewing 4 hours of footage of the national and gala concerts on TV Polonia, I have concluded that there has been a noticeable and distinct evolution of the Rzeszów festivals. In 1971, when I first attended as a child spectator, ensembles presented Polish folklore with very limited resources. They were proud and eager to exhibit and share their work and to grasp any knowledge of authentic presentation offered to them by folk authorities and regional experts.

Later, when I attended as a director with my ensemble, Lubliniacy in 1986, presentations had advanced and authentically prepared suites that were carefully researched and

structured were the norm.

Today with unlimited resources (books, DVDs, CDs, and internet) available, along with Poland's promotion of folklore in highly modern techno terms, it appears there are many troupes that are now interested in stylization without substance, and present glossy imaginative renditions with disregard to valid source material; however there are still groups that cling to maintain true and original work.

It is an unfortunate trend. There had always been three levels of standards for stage presentations of Polish folk material: professional. Stylized, theatrical companies such as *Mazowsze* and *Śląsk*, regional and student folk companies, and Polonia ensembles around the world, which promoted Polish song and dance, as best as they could, and with the goal to educate audiences abroad of the beauty of Poland's true folk culture - a culture which was threatened with complete extinction during the periods of World War and Communism.

—S.K.

Polish Language and Culture Classes

COLUMBIA HEIGHTS, Minn.—The Columbia Heights Sister Cities Committee holds free informal Polish classes from 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the Gauvitte Room of Murzyn Hall on the second and third Monday of each month starting in September. Ania Antus will be teaching. This year, instead of starting at the beginning, there will be a couple weeks of review. Lessons will then continue with Lesson 9 in the *We Learn Polish* text by Barbara Bartnicka. The group expects that any new students will have some basic familiarity with Polish and will be able to start at that point.

For information call Gil Mros at (763) 571-1166.

MINNEAPOLIS—Polish 1101 Beginning Polish (5 credits) will be offered by the University of Minnesota in Folwell Hall on the East Bank on Tuesdays from 6:10-9:30 p.m. beginning September 2. The instructor is Professor Leonard Polakiewicz. Senior citizens 62 and older wishing to audit the class for \$10 per credit should attend the first class and get the instructor's permission to attend before registering. For registration information, call (612) 624-4000 or 625-1384.



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Polish Arts Club Hosts Artists



POLISH ARTS CLUB HOSTS ARTISTS. (l. to r.): Co-chair Jolanta Pawlowski, First Place winner Urszula Lelen, and president Vivian Walkosz.



"FIRE AND ICE" BENEFIT. (l. to r.): Alicia Dutka, PMA president Maria Ciesla, and Mary Anselmo.



PNA officers and honorees of 2008 "25 Club."

CHICAGO—On August 3, the Polish Arts Club of Chicago opened its 72nd Annual Fine Arts Exhibition and Sale at The Polish Museum of America (PMA). Approximately 250 patrons had the opportunity to view outstanding artwork of twenty-nine Chicago area artists as they exhibited over 80 paintings and sculptures.

A jury, comprised of Jerzy Kenar and Jan Brud, internationally known sculptor and artist, along with artist and scenographer Jan Sliwinski, awarded Urszula Lelen of Des Plaines, Ill. with First Place recognition, Antonia Radzieda of Chicago with Second Place, and Charlotte Sussar of Glenview Ill. with Third Place. Vivian Walkosz, President of the Polish Arts Club and Jolanta Pawlikowski and Lidia Rozmus,

Co-chairs of this event, presented monetary awards of \$500, \$300, and \$200 to the placed winners, along

with \$100 to numerous Honorable Mention artists. This collection of fine arts will be on exhibit at PMA until August 30, 2008.

"FIRE AND ICE" BENEFIT. The Polish Museum of America held its "Fire and Ice" soirée to benefit the Museum's Paderewski Room Renovation Project. On July 25, approximately 100 guests had the pleasure of tasting an array of Polish Vodkas donated by Stawski Distributors and enjoy desserts, also donated, by Eli's Cheesecake Company, both of Chicago. Additionally, guests had the opportunity to view and purchase outstanding Polish and Czech Republic crystal. Naturally, newly digitalized Paderewski recordings were played during the evening's event. The Museum hopes to raise \$250,000, the cost of renovating the Paderewski Room, as well as conserving its priceless artifacts

and collections. Kudos to Co-chairs Mary Anselmo and Alicia Dutka for making this benefit a success.

PNA EMPLOYEES JOINS THE 25 CLUB. On July 3, a special celebration for employees of the Polish National Alliance (PNA) was held at its national headquarters in Chicago to induct ten employees into the PNA's 25 Club, which honors employees who have served with the PNA for over 25 years. PNA Pres. Frank Spula, Vice-Pres. Paul C. Odrobina, and Treasurer Marian Grabowski, honored the following for their years of dedicated services: Halina Biezychudek (30 years), Anna Rylski (27 years), Maryla Slomski (27 years), Barbara Korytkowski (27 years), Joan Oskorep (27 years), Victor Modlinski (27 years), Maria Sloniec (26 years), Jadwiga Grcic (28 years), Sophie Gajda (28 years), and Robert Stan-

low (26 years). Each of the honorees received a certificate of appreciation from the national officers along with a special gift. They join other current employees who have already reached this 25-year milestone. They include Bozena Karkowski (29 years), Mary Srodon (30 years), and Robert Jadach (35 years), as well as Caroline Dybowicz and Halina Orzel Orlicz who have served the PNA for over 50 years. Congratulations to all.

CHICAGO POLONIA'S RARE CULTURAL OPPORTUNITY. On July 11, Chicago Polonia had a rare and wonderful opportunity to hear Karol Szymanowski's "Stabat Mater" performed by the Grant Park Symphony Orchestra and Chorus. What made the performance so special was the fact that this entire masterpiece was sung in POLISH. Again, on July 25, another outstand-

ing composition was presented to Chicago's classical music-loving public. The overflow crowd heard Rachmaninoff's "The Bells" sung by renowned Polish soprano Joanna Kozłowska along with American tenor and baritone Bryan Graffie and Darren Stokes. This performance, as are all Grant Park Music Festival concerts, was held in the Jay Pritzker Pavilion located in Chicago's Millennium Park. New since 2004, this state-of-the-art music pavilion, designed by internationally renowned architect, Frank Gehry, has been a popular summer destination for tens of thousands of Chicago area music lovers. First conceived in 1931, this music festival is the "nation's only remaining free outdoor classical music series." Each concert attracts about 5,000 to 8,000 attendees.

Grant Will Help Polish Immigrant Women in United States

CHICAGO—The Legion of Young Polish Women (LYPW) announced the availability of a \$5,000 grant in support of the Polish American Association's program to continue providing vital counseling services to Polish immigrant women.

For hundreds of newcomers trying to overcome cultural, language, and financial barriers, the PAA, a non profit human services organization located on south and north side of Chicago, is often the only place of hope and support they can

count on. Many of PAA's clients are troubled women, single mothers or domestic violence victims, trying to adapt to life in a new country while struggling with various personal issues. The grant from LYPW will be used to partially defray the costs of counseling services for 300 women this year.

By renewing their commitment to PAA's Women Services Program, the Legion demonstrates its strong ties to the Polish community and a fierce sense of social responsibility.

Since 1922, the Polish American Association has been providing a comprehensive range of bilingual and bicultural human services to the Polish community and others in need. Major program areas include Social Services, Education, Employment, Immigration, Information and Advocacy. Each month, more than 3,000 individuals receive assistance from the non-profit organization's 31 programs. For more information, please visit www.polish.org.

St. Stephen the King Celebrates Centennial

OSWEGO, N.Y.—Ethnic pride and a century-long commitment to God are the hallmarks of St. Stephen the King parish, Oswego, which celebrated its centennial in June 2008.

This milestone was commemorated with a special Mass of Thanksgiving on Sat., June 21. Rev. Arthur Hapanowicz, the last living former pastor of St. Stephen the King parish and present pastor of Holy Trinity, a large ethnic Polish parish in Utica, N.Y., was the celebrant. The Very Reverend James Moynihan, Bishop of the Diocese of Syracuse, hospitalized with an illness, was represented by his secretary, Rev. Andrew Baranski, who concelebrated and read the Second Reading in Polish. Fr. Hapanowicz delivered a homily in both Polish and English. At the conclusion, Fr. Baranski presented a personal message and blessing from Bishop Moynihan.

The Mass was followed by a reception in the church hall and a gala

dinner at the Oswego Country Club the same evening. At the dinner, the centenary was honored by a Papal Blessing from His Holiness, Pope Benedict XVI, presented by Rev. Amedeo G. Guida, parish Administrator, followed by a special proclamation read by the Mayor of the city of Oswego, Randolph Bateman. In his proclamation, the mayor honored the founders of St. Stephen's for their hard work, determination and strong faith.

Founded by Polish immigrants in 1908 in what was then a busy port and railroad center bustling with booming industries, St. Stephen's has grown into a cosmopolitan parish where people of all backgrounds are welcome. Newcomers are attracted by the strong faith community and its pious approach to religion coupled with the colorful Polish traditions which they find here.

Church founders were mostly of peasant stock, workers of the land,

who established an enclave here on the picturesque southwest corner of the city where they could build a new way of life in freedom. They came mostly from the southern part of Poland, the province of Galicia. Each family had their own vegetable and flower gardens and farm animals to keep touch with the land, while also working in the many factories and mills in Oswego. They also founded their own businesses as artisans, carpenters, masons and shopkeepers. Numerous groceries, two bakeries and many busy taverns crowded their neighborhood called Polska Gora, or Polak Hill, by which it is still known today in these "politically correct" times.

St. Stephen's present Administrator, Fr. Amedeo G. Guida, is of Italian descent and the first non-Polish pastor. He has been a champion of preserving the Polish character of the parish while welcoming newcomers into the parish family.

"Angels on Our Shoulders"

BRICK, N.J.—There are many angels among us. Each and every one of us has a guardian angel, but surely, there are those angels who watch out for the less fortunate, the sick, and those who need help.

And so, for the twenty-three years of its existence, the Polish Children's Heartline has accumulated many angels who care about the little angels in Poland who need help—the medical aid which will make them healthy.

From its humble beginning, this organization has sent shipments to several hospitals in Poland. Shipments which, at first, consisted of desperately needed surgical masks, gloves, and disposable syringes, all of which were repeatedly re-sterilized until they could no longer serve their purposes. Gradually, equipment such as heart monitors, defibrillators and infusion pumps were purchased (in some cases, donated) and shipped to Poland.

Word spread about the angels of Polish Children's Heartline and others wished to assist them. American hospitals, which were refurbishing their own equipment, donated items. Now, volunteers were needed to pick up the donated goods at the hospitals and a truck had to be rented for each pick-up. Again, more angels appeared to give aid.

Since all of these supplies had to be inventoried and packaged before shipment, a space was needed where this could be performed. A new angel appeared in the person of Mr. Ludwik Wnekowicz of

Doma Export, who offered a corner of his warehouse.

Eventually, after its entrance into the European Union, Poland had to adhere to the regulations concerning medical supplies and equipment as required by the European Union. This caused a change from purchasing from U.S. manufacturers to buying from Polish or European companies. Thus far, Polish Children's Heartline has been successful in providing the Polish hospitals with their needs through purchases made mainly in Poland, thus not only helping the hospitals, but also Poland's economy. And so, the angels continue to watch over us.

The success of the Polish Children's Heartline in providing a second chance to thousands of children in Poland was—and is—only possible because of the patronage it receives from Polonia and many generous individuals. It is estimated that over \$15 million dollars in medical and surgical supplies has been provided to the hospitals.

One of the major fundraisers for Polish Children's Heartline is its Annual Luncheon, held every September at the Robert B. Meyner Reception Center in Holmdel. This year the event will take place Sunday, September 14. Hopefully, many more angels will appear and join us at this event.

For more information please call Alexandria Patras at (732) 341-5044 or Ron Syslo at (732) 680-0680.

POLONIA OF THE EASTERN GREAT LAKES / Michael Pietruszka

Wrapping Up a Very Busy Summer

Lancaster attorney **Art Herdrik** was awarded the Robert J. Uplinger Distinguished Service Award by the New York State and Bermuda Lions Foundation ... Former Erie County Legislator **Ray Dusza** was recognized for his efforts in securing the funding for the Lt. Col. Matt Urban Memorial in Downtown Buffalo ... Corpus Christi Parish hosted the **Ychtis Girls' Song and Dance Ensemble** from Katowice on July 24 and 25, and celebrated **Matki Boski Ziejnej** (Blessed Mother of the Herbs) on August 15 ... Erie County Judge **Michael Pietruszka** has been endorsed by all five of Erie County's political parties and is running unopposed in his bid for re-election to the county court in November ... Ray Serafin's **Brass Magic** performed at the St. Stanislaus Kostka Polish Festival in Rochester on August 1 and 2 ... The Buffalo Bisons Baseball team honored **Jackie Schmid** as their Polish American of the Year for 2008 at the team's "Polish Festival Night" on August 5.

Hon. Diane Finley, the Canadian Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, was the keynote speaker at the Canadian Polish Congress' Annual Fundraising Dinner at the John Paul II Polish Cultural Centre in Mississauga, Ontario on the 7th ... The **Polka Variety Club's** monthly meetings have been moved to the Lily of the Valley Hall, located at 2379 Union Road in Cheektowaga ... On August 8 and 9, the **Queen of Peace** rectory on Buffalo's East Side held an estate sale. This is one of the parishes closed during the Buffalo Diocese's Journey in Faith and Grace ... The Polish Genealogical Society of NYS (PGSNYS) marked its 20th anniversary and the opening of the **Michael Drabik** Memorial Library Collection at the

Buffalo and Erie County Public Library in Downtown Buffalo on August 9. The collection, named for the founder of the PGSNYS, consists of reference materials concerning Polish Americans and their family histories ... **St. Adalbert's Parish** in Buffalo marked the centennial of its achieving "basilica" status with a Mass of Celebration on August 10 ... Also on the 10th, the **Kosciuszko Club** and **Dom Polski** in Dunkirk held their joint picnic at the East Town Firegrounds.

Jack and Carol Kopczynski and **Walter Wozniak** were granted Honorary Life Memberships in the North Tonawanda History Museum in recognition of their significant contributions to the museum ... WNY's Polish veterans marked **Polish Soldiers' Day** with a Mass at St. Stanislaus Church in Buffalo on August 17 ... **Holy Trinity Parish** in Erie, Pa., held its 15th Annual Polish Summer Festival, with the music of the Knewz and Dynabass, during the fourth weekend of August ... That same weekend, Buffalo's Corpus Christi Parish hosted its 29th Annual **Dozynki Polish Harvest Festival**. The festivities included a special Dozynki Mass of Thanksgiving and performances by Al Kania's Polka Smile Eastern Style, Those Idiots, Joe Macielag & the Pic-A-Polka Orchestra, Ivan Docenko, Mary Kate O'Connell and the Krakowiacy Dancers ... August 24th brought the **20th Annual Owl Family Picnic** to Williamsville's Lamm Post Grove. This benefit for local charities featured the Eddie "O" Orchestra, New Yorkers with CJ Luksch, Jerry Darlak & the Touch, Nickel City Notes, City Side, Buffalo Concertina All Stars, Rare Vintage, Tony Krew, Danny Neaverth, Accordion Bill, David

"Scrubby" Seweryniak and Johnny Karas ... Also on the 24th, Our Lady of Fatima Shrine in Lewiston marked the anniversary of the birth of St. Faustina.

Toronto's **Bialy Orzel White Eagle Song & Dance Ensemble** performed on the Pizza Pizza International Stage at the Canadian National Exhibition on the 25th ... On August 30 and 31, the **Broadway Grill Reunion II** took over the Lamm Post Grove. This year's installment provided the music of the Boys From Baltimore, Knewz, David "Scrubby" Seweryniak, Larry Trojak, Dave "Nigel" Kurdziel, Al Piatkowski, Tom Wanderlich, Tom Picciano, Mike Burka and Jerry Darlak & the Touch ... Anyone interested in joining the **Bishop Turner High School Alumni Association** should contact Tom Ahearn at (716) 681-2414 or Hank Stahl at (716) 822-2676 ... Ronald Brodowski of Elma has become the newest National Director of the Polish Union of America.

The **General Pulaski Association** will hold its 36th Annual Banquet at the Creekside Banquet Facility in Cheektowaga on September 7. This year's event will honor WNY Polish Americans involved in athletics: Hon. Ed Rutkowski, Hon. Henry Nowak, Thomas Tarapacki, Hon. Bill Stachowski, Dr. Edward Gicewicz, Bob Pacholski, Len Jankiewicz, Mike Buczkowski, Hon. Gus Franczyk, the White Eagle Soccer Team, Lauren Korniczky, Joshua Jesowowski, Carlene Sluberski, J.J. Pincoski and Gene Mruk ... The WNY Division of the **Polish American Congress** will hold its Fall 2008 General Membership Meeting at St. Stanislaus Kostka Church in Rochester on September 13.

If you have an item for this col-

umn, please send by the 6th day of the month preceding the month in which you would like the item to appear (i.e. September 6 for the October edition) at: POLEGL, P.O. Box 223, Niagara Square Station, Buffalo, N.Y. 14201-0223. My e-mail address is: pietruszka@verizon.net.

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

St. Stephen the King Celebrates Centennial

OSWEGO, N.Y.—Ethnic pride and a century-long commitment to God are the hallmarks of St. Stephen the King parish, Oswego, which celebrated its centennial in June 2008.

This milestone was commemorated with a special Mass of Thanksgiving on Sat., June 21. Rev. Arthur Hapanowicz, the last living former pastor of St. Stephen the King parish and present pastor of Holy Trinity, a large ethnic Polish parish in Utica, N.Y., was the celebrant. The Very Reverend James Moynihan, Bishop of the Diocese of Syracuse, hospitalized with an illness, was represented by his Secretary, Rev. Andrew Baranski, who concelebrated and read the Second Reading in Polish. Fr. Hapanowicz delivered a homily in both Polish and English. At the conclusion, Fr. Baranski presented a personal message and blessing from Bishop Moynihan.

The Mass was followed by a reception in the church hall and a gala dinner at the Oswego Country Club the same evening. At the dinner, the centenary was honored by a Papal

Stanek on Hilbert Board

HAMBURG, N.Y.—Bob Clerici and Janet Stanek have been named to three-year terms on the Hilbert College Board of Trustees.

Clerici is vice president and co-founder of Inergex, Inc., a Buffalo-based professional IT services company.

Stanek is president and founder of Stand Advertising.

Active in the community, here participation has included serving on the gala board for the Make-A-Wish Foundation, an organization for which she raised money by living on a billboard for 30 hours. In addition, she's on the UBMD Board of Directors and is artistic director of the Harmony Polish Folk Ensemble.

Blessing from His Holiness, Pope Benedict XVI, presented by Rev. Amedeo G. Guida, parish Administrator, followed by a special proclamation read by the Mayor of the city of Oswego, Randolph Bateman. In his proclamation, the mayor honored the founders of St. Stephen's for their hard work, determination and strong faith.

Founded by Polish immigrants in 1908 in what was then a busy port and railroad center bustling with booming industries, St. Stephen's has grown into a cosmopolitan parish where people of all backgrounds are welcome. Newcomers are attracted by the strong faith community and its pious approach to religion coupled with the colorful Polish traditions which they find here.

Church founders were mostly of peasant stock, workers of the land, who established an enclave here on the picturesque southwest corner of the city where they could build a new way of life in freedom. They came mostly from the southern part of Poland, the province of Galicia. Each family had their own vegetable and flower gardens and farm animals to keep touch with the land, while also working in the many factories and mills in Oswego. They also founded their own businesses as artisans, carpenters, masons and shopkeepers. Numerous groceries, two bakeries and many busy taverns crowded their neighborhood called Polska Gora, or Polak Hill, by which it is still known today in these "politically correct" times.

St. Stephen's present Administrator, Fr. Amedeo G. Guida, is of Italian descent and the first non-Polish pastor. He has been a champion of preserving the Polish character of the parish while welcoming newcomers into the parish family.



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Many people talk about leaving gifts to worthy causes, but don't have a will, and do not realize it requires a will to do so. The laws of most states make it quite clear that personal property goes automatically, by law, to your nearest relatives, even if they are quite distant ones, unless you have a legal will that says otherwise. If you have no relatives, it goes to the state. More than half of all adult Americans die without having made their wills. Most of them undoubtedly planned to do so, but never got around to it. Some had wills but didn't keep them current. When you have a will, you should update it every few years as conditions change. Also, always name an executor who will carry out your wishes. Besides money, non-cash possessions can also be used as contributions and various donation plans can be carried out. Be a philanthropist: leave your stocks, bonds, real estate, art, valuable collections or insurance to continue the Polish American traditions. Your will is the most important way of giving. When you are gone, it is a legacy that is not forgotten. In your will, you can specify what you would like your donation to be used for. For help in making your will, contact a competent lawyer. **The National Polish Center, Inc.** is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations that needs your help and legacy.

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HAMTRAMCK BEAT / Michelle Odrobina-Jiompkowski

It's Moving Day, Sooner or Later, for a Number of Groups Across Hamtown

The Piast Institute is in the process of moving to its new headquarters at the old Pieronek Studios in Hamtramck. The organization will have more space in which to house a library and conduct classes for children in art and other subjects. As a Piast board member, Joann Pieronek of Hamtramck facilitated the group's moving into what was her family's long-standing photography business.

AVAILABLE ONLINE. THE CITIZEN, Hamtramck's 74-year-old newspaper can now be viewed online at hamtramckcitizen.com.

HATCH HATCHED. Hatch, a Hamtramck Art Collaborative, is busy working on renovations to the old Hamtramck police station. The police department is located in the Hamtramck City Hall.

During a steamy July night at Cafe 1923, the president of the arts group, Chris Schneider and the group's secretary, Suzanne Baumann, spoke about the short and long-term plans for HATCH at their regular meeting spot. On the coffeehouse walls, an exhibit called "Cranbrook Moves South" spotlighted the varied and striking artwork by the instructors and staff at the Cranbrook Academy of Art's Summer Art Institute in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan. Schneider and a colleague, Tim Eads, taught a summer art course geared toward teenagers at institute.

Schneider focuses on photography while Baumann concentrates on cartoons. Eads, originally from Texas, studies full time at Cranbrook and specializes in design ceramics and screen printing. His artwork of two blue-colored zebras was on display as part of the exhibit. He taught art in high school while living in

Texas.

Founded in early 2006, HATCH plans for the renovation of the old police station are ambitious. Schneider said, "We would like to turn it into an art center." Art gallery, studio, kiln, printing press, all figure in his vision for the makeover. Baumann said that HATCH already has a purchase agreement with the city. Schneider added that the Hamtramck City Council already agreed to the purchase site option - this was in February of this year. Starting in June 2008, the HATCH board decided to start work on the rehabilitation of the building themselves and to work on funding through applying for grants, and other sources.

Schneider, originally from Nebraska, said, "The idea is to help Hamtramck develop a reputation as a hub for artists." Baumann, a Hamtramck resident for eight years since moving from Clarkston, Michigan, said, "We do (art) gallery crawls," and added that artists can sell their wares at different sites, including the Hamtramck Labor Day Festival. She showed a visitor an impressive example of her cartooning skills with a series of small sketches. "We would love to have new members," Schneider added. To contact HATCH, visit www.hatchart.org.

Incidentally, the St. Rose Quilters Club comprised of seniors, meets at the coffeehouse, according to Sean Kowalski of Cafe 1923. The club uses the backroom to work on their quilts on a weekly basis. For more about Cafe 1923, visit www.cafe1923.com.

H-CAT ANNIVERSARY. Hamtramck's cat rescue group, the Hamtramck Cat Assistance Team, H-CAT, marked its fifth year mile-

stone. Thanks to Heide Zdral and Chris Wilinski and other cat lovers, the group has secured the medical treatment the animals need, along with finding foster and permanent homes for the felines. H-CAT may be reached at hamcat.org.

STO LAT. Following the Centennial Observance Mass at 11:00 a.m., Sunday, Nov. 23, 2008, St. Florian's Centennial Banquet will be celebrated at the American Polish Century Club, 33204 Maple Lane Dr. in Sterling Heights. For more information, visit www.stflorianparish.org or e-mail the office@stflorianparish.org.

PNA YOUTH COURSE. Polish American youth came from eight states to the Orchard Lake St. Mary campus to study Polish history, culture and traditions, Polish song and dance, and crafts such as Pysanki from July 19-July 26 in the city of Orchard Lake.

Sponsored by the Polish National Alliance, approximately 150 youth studied and learned about their Polish heritage and customs. A PNA National Vice President Teresa N. Abick began the program over nine years ago, according to Michigan PNA Director Barbara Martin. This was the seventh PNA Youth Course offered since every fourth year a dance festival is presented instead of the course, Martin said. PNA Directors Martin, Art Trybek and Mary Srodon coordinated and supervised the week-long course which was capped by a program at the St. Mary's Athletic Complex/Dombrowski Fieldhouse, July 26.

Martin noted that Aleksandra Prochor and Allison Kramer officially opened the course with the singing of the Polish and American national anthems. Wanda Penar worked with the teachers and oversaw the books and classroom events. Anna Kokoszka and Mariusz Szajnert taught Polish history, culture and traditions. Szajnert serves as the president of the Polish American Congress, Michigan Division with Hamtramck headquarters. Sherry Cauchon and Wendy Chrobak taught Pysanki. Dorota Suchocka and Bozen Jedlinska taught singing. Dance teachers were Kazimierz Gorczak and Halina Misterka. Other assistance came from nurse Anna Wierzbicki, sports coordinator Leszek Jedlinski and assistant Suzanne Mierzejewski.

FROM HAMTOWN TO HAWAII. Professional magician Al The Only

and his wife Lori Ulman moved from Hamtramck to Hawaii several years ago and recently paid a visit to the area. A professional magician, Al The Only performed his magic act for the crowd at the Orchard Lake Schools Founders Day and at the OLS alumni association picnic.

GRANT WIN. According to Matthew Baka of the Polish American Historic Site Association, on May 28, 2008, the association was awarded a \$7,500 grant by the National Trust for Historic Preservation from its Cynthia Woods Mitchell Fund for Historic Interiors. This seed money will be used for the St. Albertus Historic Site Interior Restoration Plan. Founded in 1872, St. Albertus is Detroit's oldest Polish Catholic parish.

The Polish American Historic Site Association is a 501-c(3) non-profit organization established to preserve the St. Albertus Historic site. St. Albertus Church Parish was closed in 1990 and now operates as a museum of cultural history.

PAHSA is excited and believes that this money will actively ensure that the heritage and architecture of

the St. Albertus National Historic Site is preserved for future generations.

PERSONAL MUSINGS. I had a chance to take in the July 26 performance of the youth who attended the week-long Polish National Alliance summer course at OLS. Among the 154 students who attended was my niece Katrina Odrobina of Chicago, formerly of Hamtramck.

I remember attending a PNA Jamboree at Alliance College one summer years ago, and meeting many new friends, with whom I still keep in touch like Kasia (Sosnowski) Fogarasi of Philadelphia. It was a wonderful experience.

Back to this summer and OLS: Praise goes out to all who pass on their love of Polish heritage and traditions to the youth.

Also, if you're in Michigan on Labor Day, Monday, September 1, come out to watch our annual Polish Day Parade that begins at 1:30 p.m. at Joseph Campau and Holbrook.

Until my next column, Happy trails to you from Hamtown!

HISTORY

Kosciuszko's Aide, Agrippa Hull

by Ed Dybic

General Thaddeus Kosciuszko, a Polish engineer officer in the American Revolutionary Army, designed the fortifications of West Point, now the United States Military Academy, among others.

When Kosciuszko came back to the United States in 1797, he wrote a will pertaining to the freeing of blacks, a first recorded instance. The will written May 5, 1798 in part read:

"I do hereby authorize my friend, Thomas Jefferson, to employ the whole thereof in purchase of Negroes from among his own, or any others, and give them liberty in my name, giving them education, in trade and otherwise, and in having them instructed for their new conditions in the duties of morality, which will make them good neighbors, good fathers and mothers or husbands and wives, and in their duties as citizens, teaching them to be defenders of their liberty and country. I make said Thomas Jefferson my executor of this will."

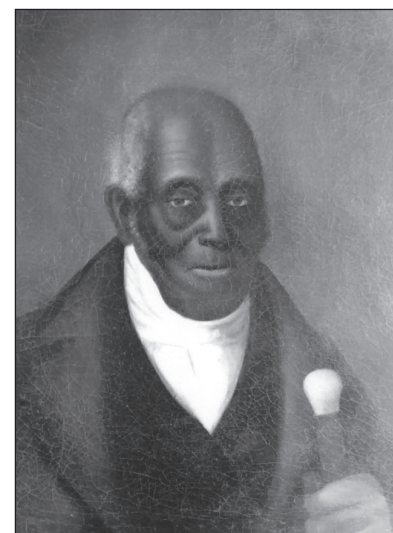
The will provided for the education and emancipation of the blacks, a first such action. Thomas Jefferson filed the will in Albermarle County Circuit Court. The matter of adjudication was eventually transferred to the Orphan's Court of the District of Columbia.

An administration paper was later issued by the Orphan's Court in Washington, D.C., to Benjamin L. Lear, an attorney, who made an agreement with a group called "The African Education Society" by which he would turn over to them funds left by Kosciuszko if they would raise an equal amount.

This never came about and litigation continued for many years. Kosciuszko's proposal to "purchase the Negroes and give them liberty in my name" was never carried out.

In connection with Kosciuszko, there was an interesting story about his aide, a black man, named Agrippa Hull, a soldier. Hull was a butler to the distinguished Sedgwick Family of Stockbridge, Mass.

Born a freeman in 1759, Hull



An 1840s oil painting of Agrippa Hull, based on a March 18, 1844 daguerreotype by Anson Clark.

was patriotic and joined the American Revolutionary Army when Gen. John Patterson of Lenox, Mass. called for volunteers. Hull went with Gen. Patterson to West Point where he was named an aide to Kosciuszko and to Washington and Lafayette when they visited there.

After the American Revolution, Kosciuszko returned to Poland to fight for that country's freedom. He took Agrippa Hull with him. In the Philadelphia Gazette, dated June 8, 1796, the following news item appeared: "Kosciuszko and his friends remain prisoners at St. Petersburg, Russia. In his misfortune, one companion remained with him, and that is a Negro who came with him from the United States of America and has been an inseparable companion."

Agrippa Hull returned with Kosciuszko to Philadelphia in 1797 where they received a hero's welcome. Hull then went to his native Stockbridge. Records show that in 1825 in Stockbridge, Agrippa Hull was included in the company invited to the great ball held on Washington's birthday. General Lafayette also was a guest.

♦ ♦ ♦

Ed Dybic is a member of the Historical Society of Montgomery County and the Valley Forge Historical Society.

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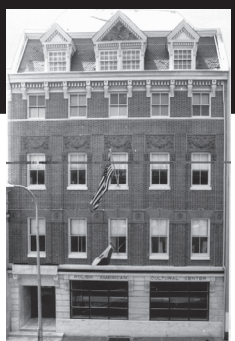
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The Polish American Historical Association was established in December 1942 as a special commission of the The Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences in America to collect, compile and publish information about Polish Americans. In October 1944, it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



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Polka MAGAZINE

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Rounder Records Releases Sturr's "Let the Whole World Sing"

BURLINGTON, Mass.—Seventeen-time Grammy award winner, polka bandleader and entertainer Jimmy Sturr & his Orchestra return with a new album on Rounder entitled "Let the Whole World Sing!" It was released on August 5, 2008.

"Let the Whole World Sing!" is a varied collection that features Sturr's orchestra both on its own and in support of such special guests as Ray Price, Raul Malo, and Charlie Prose. Showcasing the full range of Sturr's musical interests are songs such as the traditional polka song, "Wojenko," sung by Sturr band member Johnny Karas; two polka-tempo covers of classic country songs "Heartaches by the Number," featuring a rousing vocal from progressive country star Raul Malo, and "I Love You Because," offering a tender vocal performance by country music legend Ray Price. There are also more recent songs deserving wider exposure, such as "The Wedding Song," written by Australian songwriter Ian Betteridge.

Two versions of instrumental standards on this album are characterized by imaginative arrangements: a stunning rendition of the big band composition "Manhattan Spiritual" and a charming version of Floyd Cramer's popular instrumental hit, "Last Date."

It's Polka Time! Expands to North Dakota!

It's Polka Time! with Craig Ebel makes its debut in North Dakota on July 27, 2008. The show will be heard every Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to noon. CST over AM 1470 KHND in Harvey, North Dakota. KHND is a 1,000-watt full service radio station that covers a large area of Central North Dakota. Known as "The Mix," KHND's signal reaches the people of Wells, Sheridan, McLean, Benson, McHenry, Kidder, Pierce, Foster and Eddy Counties.

Thomas Miniszewski Passes Member of Several Popular Buffalo-area Bands

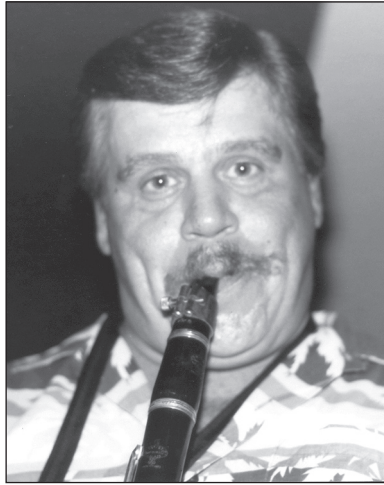
BUFFALO, N.Y.—Musician Thomas J. Miniszewski died Mon., Aug. 11, 2008 at a hospice facility in Cheektowaga, N.Y.

A long-time Buffalo-based clarinet and saxophone player—known to his friends as "Peanut"—Miniszewski was the member of many bands in his career that spanned over four decades. Among them were Richie Kurdziel's Hi-Notes, Happy Richie's Polka Band, Jerry Darlak & the Touch, and Nickle City Notes.

He was a member of Happy Richie's band for almost 20 years.

Miniszewski recorded on over a dozen singles and albums. These include the popular "Strike it Happy, Strike it Rich," with Happy Richie's Polka Band, and "For Our Friends," with the Touch.

His clarinet work on Li'l Wally's "Drunk in the Garden" oberek, re-



recorded with the Hi-Notes, defined his straight-forward style.

He is survived by two sons, and was laid to rest from Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Lakeview.

Celebrating Seven Years of "All Things Polish"

ALBANY, N.Y.—The Albany area's premier celebration of Polish/American culture, PolishFest '08, steps off on Friday, Sept. 19 through Sunday, Sept. 21. This year's honorees, The Rymanowski Brothers Polka Band, start up the music on Friday at 5:00 p.m.

The festival, in its 7th year, features free polka lessons, craft vendors, cooking demonstrations, a number of contests and competitions, a wooden dance floor, and of course, plenty of good food.

The Rymanowski Brothers are well known in music circles in the Capital District. The band was formed in 1947 by Al and John Rymanowski of Cohoes N.Y., first as a trio, then gradually growing to nine men. The original band played polka dances and hundreds of weddings throughout the 1950s and '60s, and went on to record songs for the Lamb, Decca, and Stella labels.

John started private accordion lessons at age 21, playing with some local trios. He was drafted into the Army during World War II, playing accordion in the Army Band at Ft. Oswego. He filled in as the company bugler and eventually mastered that

instrument as well. After his discharge from the military, he studied and taught at the Troy (NY) Conservatory of Music during the '50s.

Brother Al, fifteen years younger than John, was interested in becoming a clarinet player. While at Oswego, John won a clarinet in a dice game, and sent it home to his little brother, Al. In addition to taking lessons locally, Al received money from John, enabling him to travel weekly to New York for private instruction. John returned home, Al was ready and waiting, and the Rymanowski Brothers took the stage.

Today, the band continues, with John's sons Dennis and Gerry at the helm. The band is probably playing at golden anniversary parties for couples who danced to John and Al's music at their weddings.

In addition, the Brothers host their weekly "Polka Spotlight" radio show (Sundays 9 AM till noon; WVCR, 88.3 FM). Their efforts to preserve polka music and Polish heritage are being duly recognized at this year's Polish Fest.

Friday's activities also include free polka lessons, vendors, ethnic crafts, and Polish and American

Ethnic Jazz Has "A Bright Idea"

CLEVELAND—Jimmy K & Ethnic Jazz announce the release of their latest recording, which is now available on CD.

"A Bright Idea" features fourteen songs, including thirteen vocals, with original songs sprinkled throughout the project.

Led by veteran Jimmy "K" Krzeszewski (accordion & vocals), the recording features plenty of veteran talents, including Jason Uzl (trumpet and vocals), Joe Rosinski (drums), Verne Maddie (concertina and bass), Rich Benkowski (concertina), and some great guest work by Dave Pietrzak (sax and clarinet).

The CD offers a mix of Polish & English vocals—even a song in Finnish. From the first song, an original titled "Not So Much," each track adds its own distinct personality to the recording.

This CD will be available at all Ethnic Jazz performances, and through Jimmy K Polkas. (www.jimmykpolkas.com)

DJs and IJs can contact Ethnic Jazz for a promotional copy at: Jimmy K Polkas, P.O. Box 360855, Strongsville, OH 44136, call toll free (866) 454-6695 to order by phone, or e-mail at info@ethnicjazzohio.com.

Ethnic Jazz's web site is www.ethnicjazzohio.com.

food favorites: kielbasa, golabki, pierogi, international desserts, and Polish beer to name a few.

Saturday's music starts at noon. DJ Mark Ives, Maestro's Men, the Mass Brass Polka Band, and the Matt & Elaine Dance Duo grace the stage under the big tent. A pierogi eating contest will hopefully stimulate your appetite; there's plenty of treats to eat all day.

Sunday begins with a Polka Mass in Blessed Virgin Mary of Czestochowa Polish National Catholic Church at 10:00 a.m. with the Eddie Forman Orchestra; They will also close out the day's music at 6:00 p.m.

Winners of the annual Chopin competition will present a piano recital in the church. The grand prize of \$5000 will be drawn for the Cash Bonanza raffle. Children's activities, genealogy lectures, cooking demos, an auction, a polka contest, crafts, and vendors will fill the day for Fest attendees throughout the weekend.

Visit PolishFest '08 at 250 Maxwell Rd., Latham N.Y. For more info call (518) 453-2258, or check out www.polishfest-ny.org.

POLKA PATTEN

Prepared and Distributed by the Polonia Media Network

- The "Polka Party Express" with Wackie Jackie Z and the Polka Crew on WMNF (88.5 FM) in Florida paid tribute to **Frankie Yankovic** on July 13, 2008. Ida Yankovic joined the show to celebrate and honor her late husband's music.
- A judge on "America's Got Talent," the TV show with no-talent judges, asked on the show's July 15, 2008, edition "what is worse than an accordion is two accordions?" A week earlier a polka dance couple, who had received numerous awards for prior performances, received the same treatment.
- It was "Christmas in July." **Keith Stras** invited listeners of his show on the Polka Jammer Network to sit back, relax on the patio and grab a nice ice cold bottle of piwo and enjoy four hours of holiday polkas. The program featured Charm City Sound, Polka Family, Versatones, The Touch, Maestro's Men and others for a Christmas Music Extravaganza on July 17.
- Longtime polka musician, promoter and DJ **Ed Potoniec** of Cleveland, Ohio, passed away in late July.
- The **Patrick Henry Show** disappeared from the airwaves, but is now heard on the Polka Jammer Network live every Tuesday from 9:00-10:00 p.m. (CT). All the current shows are archived and you can listen anytime you want. Go to <http://www.polkadj.com> and just click on the link.
- The **Boys From Baltimore** were together for a short eight years. Many recall their albums entitled "Boys are Back" (1980), "Polka Menagerie" (1982), "The Boys Just Want To Have Fun" (1984) and "The Boys Nite Out" (1988). They returned for appearances on August 30 in Williamsville, N.Y. and then on August 31 in Ludlow, Mass., with six of the bands original members.
- "It's Polka Time!" with **Craig Ebel** made its debut in North Dakota July 27, 2008. The show will be heard there every Sunday from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. CST over KHND (1470 AM) in Harvey. KHND is a 1,000-watt full service radio station that covers a large area of Central North Dakota. Known as "The Mix", the station's signal reaches the people of Wells, Sheridan, McLean, Benson, McHenry, Kidder, Pierce, Foster and Eddy Counties.
- **Polka Family's** brand new CD, "Hungry For More" was available in only a limited edition version of 200 at Pulaski Polka Days. General release copies will be available at the bandstand in the following weeks. Sample tracks can be heard at <http://www.polkafamilyband.com>.
- You don't expect polka music in Colorado? Well, think again. Claude Wiatrowski's **Planet Polka**, the only horn-based Chicago-style polka band in the Colorado Springs area, performed at the International Dance Club on July 26 and in concert at Soda Springs Park on July 31.
- **Steve Ostash** passed away July 10, 2008, at age 86. He was an inductee of the Michigan State Polka Music Hall of Fame and a founding member of the Michigan Polka Association. The *Bay City Times* published an excellent obituary to commemorate his life.

POLKA JUKEBOX / by Steve Litwin

Twin Cities Soundz Does it Brassy

Twin Cities Soundz does it brassy and "hot" on their latest CD "Time To Change" with the title tune and some dynamic arrangements of a few Randy Koslosky penned songs. The band easily shifts to Polish vocals on "I Love You Not" and a nice version of "Bandit" polka. With a great blend of drive tunes, honky, and excellent vocals, this Minnesota based group presents a well-produced musical package on this 11 track recording.

Now before you wonder why only 11 tracks, it should be mentioned that the first 10 tracks give the listener 31 minutes of music. The last track, "Women of Polka Music Docu-Medley," is a true gem highlighting 32 different women of pol-

ka music. Covering everyone from Marisha Data to Theresa Zapolska to Zosia, Kristine, Andrea and Erika Piotrowski to the Langners to Barbara Zielinski to Dee Dee Ogradny and many more, this extensive musical anthology will fill your heart and mind with grand memories and appreciation for the contributions of these polka stars. Robyn's vocals on this medley and throughout the recording easily demonstrate the need for more recognition of her talent in our industry.

Behind the drums is Peter Mrozinski while Robyn plays bass, violin and piano. The dynamic Craig Marsolek is "Mr Concertina." Dick Powell and Bernie Koslosky are amazing on trumpets as well as clarinets and

saxophones.

Produced by Peter and Robyn Mrozinski, Time to Change on the Aleatoric label was recorded by Hank Guzevich of Wizears Studios and mixed by Gary Rhamy of Peppermint Studios. Contact: Peter Mrozinski, 17325 Henna Ave. N., Hugo, MN 55038.

SPARE CHANGE. If you have some spare change you should consider spending it on "Spare Change" by the Nickel City Boys of Buffalo, NY. This group of veteran Nickel City musicians provide the listener with 14 tracks of backroom style polka music with everything from "Jedzie Boat" to Tu Lu Lu" oberek to "Wanda's" to "Congratulations"

polka.

The band is Frank Zeczak (clarinet, sax and trumpet), Dennis Paner (trumpet), Larry Chadwick (bass), Mike Kurdziel (drums), Casey Klizak (concertina) and Mike Nowakowski (piano/keyboard). All of these Nickel City Boys are all of the age to remember the Buffalo Nickel (see the CD label) and also remember when polka music in Buffalo could be heard seven days a week. "Spare Change" is a throwback to that time.

This one is on the Sunshine label. P.O. Box 652, West Seneca, NY 14221.

NOTES / Barb Pinkowski

Sturr and Maestro's Men Provide Great Entertainment



John Karas of the Jimmy Sturr Orchestra and Dennis Polisky of The Maestro's Men.



Two former G-Notes, Jerry Miesowicz and John Karas.



Members of the Sturr band jammed on stage with members of The Maestro's Men.

BUFFALO, N.Y.—Hi everyone! Summer is flying by and there just isn't enough time to do everything and go every place you wish you could. Hope you're enjoying every minute of my favorite season!

On July 12, the Misty Blues Show Band did a great job at Potts Hall. It was something just a little bit different. Many people told me how much they enjoyed their variety of music, singalongs, etc., and their showmanship.

PLAY BALL! On Aug. 5, it was **Polish Festival Night** at the ballpark. **The Knewz** did a great job playing in the tent pre-game party. The **Krakowiacy Dancers** from Eugenia's Dance Studio featured children from 2 to 22 dancing some traditional folk dances in their beautiful and colorful costumes. You've got to give both the children and the teachers credit for keeping up the Polish heritage. Polka promoter and writer **Jackie Schmid** was presented an award for her years of service to the Polish community. She is well-deserving of that acknowledgment as she has been active promoting polka dances and other events and has served on many committees.

Mary Beth Wrobel (the weather gal WIBV-TV) did a wonderful job singing the National Anthem. Unfortunately, after one inning, the rains came and the game was delayed for over two hours. Most of us had to leave and did not see the Bisons lose to Indianapolis.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ... Bob Krawczyk. Wife Sandy had a party for him at the Lamm Post on July 16 where everyone had a fun evening ... Also turning 50 this year is **Robin Pegg.** He celebrated in style with a rented limo and a night out on the town ... very happy belated birthday wishes goes out to **Brownie Wojcik,** dancer extraordinaire! Sto lat!

GET-WELL WISHES. We're glad **Art Gayler** (Bedrock Boys and Concertina All Stars accordion and keyboard player) is doing well after his unexpected surgery in July ... We are also happy to hear that **Big**

Al Bakowski is doing much better. He still has some medical problems but has really improved which is such a relief to his family and friends ... Get well wishes also go out to **John (Sonny) Zwawa.** Also to **Richie Szpara,** who for many years ran bus trips to polka events from St. Barbara's in Lackawanna. Please remember all of our sick polka friends in your prayers.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY. I would like to wish **Wanda and Frank Ziolkowski** a Happy 50th Anniversary which they celebrated recently with family and friends.

HERITAGE FESTIVAL. The Polish Fest at the Cheektowaga Town Park in mid-July featured some awesome Eastern Style polka music with some outstanding musicians: **Walt Wagner & the Polka Serenaders, Jimmy Sturr, Maestro's Men, and Bud Hundenski & the Corsairs** performed. Our local bands, **Jerry Darlak & the Touch** and **Cityside** also were great.

NA PIKNIKU. The **Polka Boosters Picnic** at the Lamm Grove on July 26 was a great time with super entertainment by **Jerry Darlak & the**



John (Sonny) and Barb Zwawa lent a helping hand at the Boosters' Picnic.

Touch. There was a gigantic Chinese auction, which was very well supported. Barb Zwawa did a fantastic job getting prizes and donations. Chris Tanski, President, and the entire committee worked hard to put together an enjoyable day!

AROUND THE TOWN. **The Knewz** did a fabulous job playing at the Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Lawn Fete at the end of July, and the Resurrection Lawn Fete the first weekend in August ... **Phocus** did an excellent job providing the music for the Potts Miss Buffalo Cruise on July 29th. An extra special treat was the appearance of **Scrubby** singing his hits with the band—"Zosia," "Dorotka," and "Town to Town"



Joyce McIntyre, Rich and Jenn Kurdziel, and Carol Marchelski at the Buffalo Polka Boosters' Picnic.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sept. 3. Polka Variety Club Meeting at the Lily of the Valley Hall, 2379 Union Rd., Cheektowaga, NY. Doors open at 7:00 p.m., music at 8:00 p.m. and meeting at 9:00 p.m. Tailgate Party with Quality Sound. Len (716) 896-1476

Sept. 13. Cityside presents Stas and Stella's Mostly Traditional Polish Wedding at the Knights of Columbus Hall on Broadway in Lancaster. Call Chuck at 675-6588

Sept. 18. Polka Boosters Club meeting at the Polish Falcons Hall, 445 Columbia Ave., Depew, N.Y. Doors open at 7:00 p.m. Music and refreshments. Everyone welcome!

Call Chris at 892-7977.

Sept. 20. New Phaze Polka Band (with Tony Blazonczyk, Jan Cyman, Timmy Okrzesik, Tim Jagodzinski, Al Jelinek, and George Borsuk) Harvey Moran Post, 965 Center Rd., West Seneca, N.Y. 8:00 p.m. to midnight. Call Dan at 826-6575

Sept. 20-21. 4th Annual Dozynki Fest at the Holy Mother of the Rosary Cathedral, 5776 Broadway in Lancaster, N.Y. 685-5766. Various entertainment, foods, crafts, children's activities etc. There is free admission this year! Hit and Run is on stage on Sat. Sept. 20 from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Phocus will play on Sun., from 3:00-7:00 p.m.

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POLISH CHEF / Robert Strybel

Cooking with Prunes and Apples

POLISH APPLE PANCAKES (racuchy z jablkami): Beat 2 c sour milk (zsiadłe mleko) or buttermilk with 2 eggs until creamy, adding 2 c flour, 1/2 t baking powder, 1/2 t baking soda and 1/2 salt and beating until smooth. Stir in 2-3 peeled and cored cooking apples, coarsely grated or thinly sliced. (Optional: 1/2 t grated lemon zest may be added to batter.) Heat 4 T butter, lard or oil in skillet, spoon in batter and fry pancakes to a nice golden-brown on both sides. Add more fat as needed. Drain on absorbent paper and serve at once. Dust with confectioner's sugar or serve with jam or fruit syrup of choice.

POLISH PRUNE PANCAKES (placuszki z suszonymi śliwkami): Soak 6 oz pitted prunes in 2 c warm water 1 hr. Drain well, pat dry and dice. Add to batter prepared as in preceding recipe (apple pancakes) and proceed as above.

PLUM-FILLED POTATODUMPLINGS (knedle ze śliwkami): Peel and cook 1-1/2 lbs potatoes until tender, drain well and run through ricer or mash very thoroughly until lump-free. Add 1-1/2 c flour, sifted, 1 egg and 1/2 t salt and work into a uniform dough. Divide into 3 parts. On floured board form each part into a 1-1/2" roll, flattening top with flat of hand into a small patty, place a whole pitted plum (ripe wegierki or Italian plums are best!) thereon, fold dough over it and roll snowball-fashion into a ball. Drop dumplings into boiling salted water, stir gently with wooden spoon and cover. When boiling resumes, uncover and cook 2-3 min. Remove with slotted spoon and serve at once. Toppings can include granulated sugar, sugar and butter-browned bread crumbs or sour cream sweetened with granulated or confectioner's sugar (1 c sour cream fork-blended with 1 heaping T or more sugar).

NOODLES & APPLE CASEROLE (kluski zapiekane z jablkami): Combine 4-6 c cooked egg noodles (cooked and drained or pre-cooked leftovers) with 4 peeled and cored, coarsely grated apples, 1/4 to 1/2 c sugar, and about % T

butter, diced. Transfer to buttered, breadcrumb-sprinkled baking dish and bake 30 min in 350° oven or until apples are fully cooked. (Optional: Before baking flavor with a pinch or 2 cinnamon or sprinkle with 1/4 t vanilla extract.) Serve straight from the oven, plain, drenched with sour cream fork-blended with powdered sugar (as above) or with fruit syrup of choice.

BEANS & PRUNES (fasola ze śliwkami): Dice 8 - 10 pitted prunes, place in bowl, cover with warm water and let stand 1 hr. Dice 3 slices thick-sliced bacon and fry up with 1 chopped onion until tender and nicely browned. Cook prunes in the water they were soaked in until they fully disintegrate. Add the bacon and onion plus their drippings, 1 T vinegar or more to taste and season with salt, pepper and marjoram. Heat 5-6 c canned navy beans, drain, transfer to serving dish and drench with hot stewed-prune mixture.

ROAST DUCK WITH APPLES (kaczka pieczona z jablkami): Wash a 4-5 lb duck and pat dry. Rub inside and out with salt, pepper, marjoram and (optional) 1 bud crushed garlic. Let stand in covered roasting pan at room temp 2 hrs. Stuff tightly with unpeeled, cored quarters of tart cooking apples. Cut off protruding fat at neck end and sew up neck and tail openings. Place duck on rack in roasting pan and roast in preheated 450°-500° oven 10-15 min, turning over to sear on all sides. Reduce to 350°-375°, sprinkle with 2 T water, prick with fork to release fat and roast 90-120 min or until fork tender. Baste with pan drippings frequently. To get a crisp skin, briefly turn heat up to 450°-500° towards the end of roasting. Since the apple stuffing shrinks considerably, prepare additional apples on the side. Place 2-3 additional, peeled apple quarters in pan, drench with several T duck pan drippings, sprinkle with marjoram and bake in same oven the last 45 min. Mix separately cooked apples with those with which the duck was stuffed and serve in serving dish. If making up portions, dish out a heaping spoonful of hot apple mixture on each dinner plate and place a portion of roast duck on top. Variation: Mix about 3/4 c whole-style canned

cranberry sauce into the apple quarters with which the duck is stuffed.

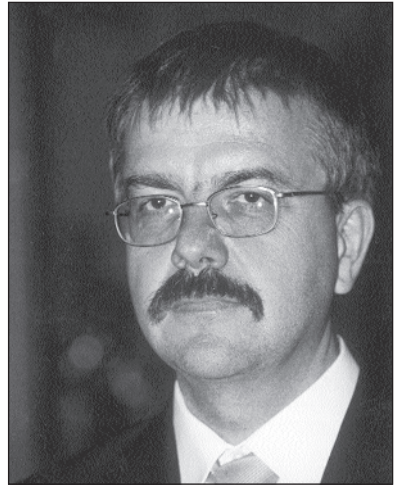
ROAST PORK LOIN WITH PRUNES (schab pieczony ze śliwkami): Rub a 4-5 lb pork loin with salt, pepper, marjoram and 1-2 buds crushed garlic, place in roaster, smother meat with 2 sliced onions, cover and let stand at room temp 1 hr. Remove loin, pat dry, sprinkle with flour and brown on all sides in hot oil or lard to seal in juices. Return to roaster. Brown onions in the pan drippings and return to roaster. Add 1 c water and bake in 375° oven 1 hr. Meanwhile, soak 2 c unpitted prunes in water to cover 20 min and add to roaster. Bake another 90 min or until tender but not overcooked. Cut the loin in 2 to see if it is no longer pink inside. Serve with rice (for an Old Polish touch—make it saffron rice!) and a green salad or (during autumn and winter) a grated carrot, apple, horseradish salad.

ROAST PORK WITH PRUNES (pieczeń wieprzowa ze śliwkami): This is a more economical version, since pork shoulder costs less than pork loin. Rub a 4-5 lb tied, rolled, boneless pork shoulder roast all over with salt, pepper, marjoram and 1-2 buds crushed garlic. Place on rack in roasting pan and roast in 325° oven about 25 min per pound, basting occasionally. To drippings in pan add 3 quartered onions and 1-2 c unpitted prunes, and baste meat with 1/2 c dark beer. Bake until meat is fork-tender. Serve with rice, mashed or boiled potatoes and a crispy green salad.

Polish Astronomers Follow Copernicus ...

by Robert Strybel

WARSAW—Although far less publicized than sports heroes, pop stars, movie directors or car designers, astronomers continue to make a major contribution to our knowledge of the universe. There discoveries can affect a wide array of issues from space travel to global warming. Polish scientists have been in the forefront of these developments in the spirit of their great predecessor, Mikołaj Kopernik, better known in English as Copernicus.



Andrzej Udalski

of the most remote worlds ever discovered. **Dr Maciej Konacki** of the Copernicus Astronomical Center was the discoverer of the first planet functioning within a three-star arrangement. That overturned the theory that planets orbit around a single star. Working together, Konacki and

The Optical Gravitational Lensing Experiment (OGLE) being conducted at Warsaw University's Astronomical Observatory has made a significant contribution to the recent discovery of a new solar system and a planet only three times larger than our earth. "The star around which it revolves is of record small size and forms part of the Sagittarius constellation which is about 3,000 light years away," explained Professor **Andrzej Udalski** who heads the OGLE team. "It takes the newly discovered planet three years to make a complete orbit around its star," he added.



Aleksander Wolszczan

The discovery caused a sensation when it was presented at the convention of the American Astronomical Society by Dave Bennett of Notre Dame University. It was also written up in THE ASTROPHYSICAL JOURNAL.

Gravitational micro-lensing was the brain child of the late Polish astrophysicist, Professor **Bohdan Paczyński**. It enables astronomers to study distant celestial bodies by registering their changing brightness caused by other objects passing in front of them. According to one of Einstein's theories, the gravitation of such an object bends a star's light like a lens and its changing brightness can be observed. This was the 14th solar system discovered by his OGLE team which works closely with astronomy centers from New Zealand to Chile and many points in between.

The discovery of exotic planets has become a Polish speciality. In 1991, astronomer **Aleksander Wolszczan** discovered first three planets outside our Solar System revolving around a pulsar or spinning neutron star in the Virgo constellation. A decade later, Prof. Udalski built a mosaic camera which has enabled him to discover three planetary systems located the farthest from our Sun. The method makes it possible to simultaneously observe up to one million celestial objects.

In 2005, OGLE-linked scientists discovered in the Sagittarius constellation a rocky planet which most closely resembles the Earth—one

Wolszczan managed to discover yet a fourth planet revolving around the pulsar mentioned earlier.

And earlier this year, the OGLE team found a miniature

version of our Solar System in the Scorpio constellation some 5,000 light years away. At this point, it appears all but certain that fresh discoveries will be forthcoming shortly. Polish astronomers, astrophysicists and collaborating scientists in many different fields appear to be following in Copernicus' footsteps helping to unlock many mysteries of our vast and still little-known universe.

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BOOKS IN BRIEF / Florence Waszkelewicz Clowes

The Several Lives of Joseph Conrad

THE SEVERAL LIVES OF JOSEPH CONRAD
by John Stape
Pantheon Books, 2008
index, bibliography, notes, photos, maps, family trees, \$30.00

Many biographies have been written about Joseph (Korzeniowski) Conrad. Each appearing to be the final tribute to Conrad, until yet more information is discovered and new writings appear. Stape certainly must know Conrad better than the man knew himself, having edited The Cambridge Companion to Joseph Conrad and co-edited two volumes of "The Collected Letters of Joseph Conrad."

Conrad transformed himself from a homeless orphan to a merchant seaman in England, to a writer and family man. At the time he was fluent in French, German and Polish, but chose to learn and write in English.

Dependent on his uncle for financial and moral support in his early days, he continued to seek support from others most of his life. After obtaining his first officer certificate in the British Merchant Service, he sought passage on ships sailing to the Congo. His three years of working the rivers of Africa provided much of the material for his writing.

He met Jessie George at the same time his first book, *Almay's Folly*, was being considered for publication. He was fortunate to have Edward Garnett as his editor, providing wise guidance. He and Jessie were married in 1896 and later she bore him two sons. They moved to France and he settled down to writing, still uncertain of life's journey and where he belonged. Although he had a caring wife and two sons, and many influential friends and writers, he considered himself alone in the world.

Joseph Conrad was a dark and moody man, swinging into episodes of depression, illness, nervousness, and emotional ups and downs his entire life. In spite of it all, he and his work have been a source of study for many years.

TKO
A Duffy Dombrowski Mystery
by Tom Schreck
Midnight Ink, 2008
278 pp., \$14.95

If you can ignore the foul language and the slandering of body parts, you will enjoy the story of Duffy, a pro-boxer, karate instructor, and a social worker who always is for the underdog.

Howard has just been released from prison for killing his classmates 25 years ago. Duffy is his assigned counselor. Howard claims he is not responsible for the recent copycat murders, but the police are ready to nail him. When Howard fails to show up for his counseling session, they are even more convinced.

Frustrated with his superiors, Duffy pounds away with his boxing gloves to prepare for a forthcoming match. In addition, he coaches Billy, a young fellow who is set on earning his black belt.

When Duffy is suspended from his job, he decides to find out who is behind the copycat killing, ignoring the warnings of his police friends. He delves deep into the crowds of drug users and sellers, learning why Howard is used to cover their activities.

GHETTOSTADT, LODZ AND THE MAKING OF A NAZI CITY
Gordon J. Horwitz
Harvard/Belknap
index, notes, photos, maps
395 pp., \$29.95

In the summer of 1941, German filmmakers from Berlin arrived to document the transformation of Lodz into the German city of Litzmannstadt. The first transformation was benign, enhancing a small lake, creating beauty and a healthy environment. It was to become a model Nazi city, and that meant a city without Jews.

Over a third of its citizens were Jewish and soon they were banished from the city, forced into remolding their own city for the Germans. Some Jewish leaders, to save their

own life or position in the community, helped in this shuffling. But Jews were banished forever, into ghettos. It was all the more difficult because the Jews had long developed their own cultural life, with a Yiddish and Polish language daily press, music, art and middleclass establishments. But the residents were basically a community of the poor.

Horwitz, an associate professor in history at Illinois Wesleyan University, worked with primary sources, and outlined the ghetto management. Unable to earn their livelihood, and forced into labor for the Nazis, it soon became apparent that the Jews must go. By August 1944 the destination for many was Auschwitz. The eyewitness accounts and photographs make the reality even more powerful. Horwitz has provided insight to a tragic episode that had been buried in the enormous amount of material on World War II.

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THE PONDERING POLE / Edward Poniewaz

Odwaga

A teacher in a recent class spoke about the four levels of learning:

1. What is going on?
2. I understand. (This makes sense.)
3. I can do it myself.
4. I can explain it (teach it) to others.

Those of us born into Polonia (as opposed to wives, husbands, friends, or co-workers) have a good grasp of the first three. We learned at an early age that we are Polish and can identify the places, the sounds, the smells (#1). We are familiar with those same places, sounds, and smells and are comfortable being around them. They make sense to us (#2). Finally, in some ways we can do the things that pertain to what is Polish. We can pray or speak the language, dance to or sing the music, and make or enjoy the food (that would be #3). In the total scope of things concerning the four levels, it is the fourth one that most challenging. It is probably a good bet, in the total scope of things, that most of humanity will forever be engaged and mastering the fourth level as well.

The folks who get into teaching as a vocation and profession do so because they want to contribute to society in a special and direct way. The problem the rest of us face is, whether we like it or not, we are required to teach as well. At various times throughout the day, the week, and in life we are presented with occasions for conveying our thoughts and desires to those we come into contact with. Parents know this, bosses know this, policemen, janitors, and housekeepers know it too. Sometimes the lesson is small such as instructing our children good manners; sometimes the agenda is great such as protecting the planet against pollution. Communication is one part of the equation. Making a lasting impression or impact is when the idea is comprehended and is learned.

A Sunday in August provided three examples of how circumstances required a teaching platform along the lines of the fourth level of learning.

1) The cover story in the July 27th issue of *Parade* magazine featured Marilyn Monroe entitled "The Marilyn you don't know." According to the author Liz Smith, "What the public didn't see was a blazing ambition, a genuine toughness, native intelligence, and a desire that was never quenched—not even in her final frantic year of life—to lift herself up. Marilyn's intellectual curiosity, her desire to be an actress worthy of respect, was considered hilarious... 'Please don't make me a joke,' she said in her final magazine interview in 1962."

2) "The Last Conquistador" is a PBS P.O.V. (Point of View) documentary production (<http://www.pbs.org/pov/pov2008/lastconquistador/about.html>) about the El Paso, New Mexico City Council's project to commission the largest bronze equestrian statue in the world. The problem with the project is that the

statue of the Spanish conquistador on the horse is Juan de Onate, someone involved in massacres, slavery, and terror. The documentary focuses on the efforts of Native Americans in El Paso to communicate how much in bad taste it was to raise that statue.

3) The "Prayer for Evangelization" in the back of the church misalette spoke of the importance of *courage* in spreading the Word of God.

So what do these three examples have to do with teaching and with *odwaga*? The film actress and the Indians of El Paso could not make the people they interacted and dealt with understand why they felt the way they did and what they wanted. Marilyn Monroe tried repeatedly to change the perception others had of her from dumb blond to serious actress and businesswoman. The Indians of El Paso tried desperately to make the City Council members understand the hurt they felt seeing Juan de Onate raised high on his horse in an honorable and majestic pose when in reality he was a cruel oppressor of humanity. It might take a lifetime to get someone to understand what you are trying to say and they still might not understand. In the end, like the evangelist, taking the initiative, speaking up, and making the effort to connect is the real point.

If we really want to teach those with whom we interact, encounter, or confront, on what it means to be Polish, we need a little compassion, patience, and organized thoughts along with the courage, gall, or gumption to just do it. In a small village by the name of Moj Wyobraznia in Southeastern Poland they call it having odwaga. Call it what you want in whatever language.

- ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS**
- 1) Anna Grzebien, LPGA golfer, Polish or not?
 - 2) Ryan Newman, NASCAR driver, Polish or not? (Ryan commented that "he is Polish.")
 - 3) Still looking for an answer on how the Catholic Church selects the name of a new parish. How many new churches have been named St. Maximilian Kolbe?

READERS RESPOND TO THE PONDERING POLE
Dziękuję bardzo to Joseph Falkowski for the information on the history of the St. Maximilian Kolbe Church in Toms River, N.J.

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

Please note: If you e-mail, put a reference in the subject line about the *Polish American Journal* or the *Pondering Pole*. I will not open an e-mail if I do not recognize the subject.

What Does Your Polish Last Name Mean?

If it is Kowalczyk, someone once called some distant ancestor of yours "the blacksmith's kid," and it stuck. Dąbrowski was "the man from Dąbrowa (Oakwood), Rybak was a fisherman, Baran was stubborn as an old ram and Nowak was "the new guy in town."

For a custom-researched analy-

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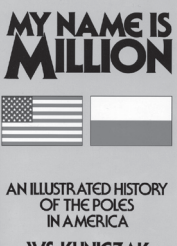
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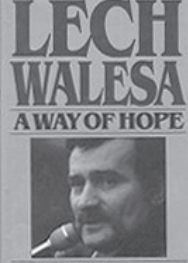
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SPORTS / Tom Tarapacki

Scott Kazmir Picks Up the Win at All-Star Game

Scott Kazmir of the Tampa Bay Rays was selected for the Baseball All-Star Game, but wasn't expected to play. That's because he had thrown 104 pitches the day before the All-Star break. However, in what turned out to be the longest game in All-Star history, Kazmir was called on to pitch. He not only pitched, but he picked up the win after throwing a scoreless top of the 15th inning.

Kaz missed the first month of the season with inflammation in his left elbow. He returned to the mound on May 5, and did not pitch all that well. But since then, the 2007 strikeout leader went 6-1 with 49 Ks in seven games started, making him a shoo-in for the All-Star game.

Not making it to the All Star game was A.J. Pierzynski. The White Sox catcher was hitting .291 and doing an excellent job handling the Chicago pitching staff. However, the players voted in Boston's Jason Varitek, who was hitting .220.

Look at A.J.'s offensive and defensive numbers, and you can see he's been one of the top catchers in

the game for some time. However, opposing players don't like him because he'll do anything to win. When he's behind the plate he talks constantly to disrupt a hitter's rhythm and focus. He may not have been an All Star this year, but there's not denying that he's one of the best.

BOROWSKI ISN'T FINISHED. Joe Borowski, the Cleveland relief pitcher who led the American League with 45 saves last year, was cut by the Indians after struggling this season. As the PAJ went to press he had talked with several teams but had not yet signed a contract.

Borowski said his trainers in Arizona found some damage caused by a triceps injury that put him on the disabled list in April. "They found what they said felt like a big knotted rope under my right lat muscle," said Borowski.

"It was in my right armpit. After they massaged it and dug in there, they finally broke it up a little. It released my arm. I felt like it wasn't even attached to my body."

After 3 bullpen sessions Borowski commented: "I feel like I'm 23 again." I can see life and break on the ball when it comes out of my hand," said Borowski. "It's the first time I've seen it this year."

MR. WEIGHTLIFTING. It was 60 years ago that **Norb Schemansky** won his first Olympic medal, on his way to becoming the first weightlifter ever to win four Olympic medals.

Schemansky won silver as a heavyweight at the '48 London Games. However, the achievement didn't change his life materially. He returned his home in Detroit, where his young family shared a house with his sister, and his job at Briggs Manufacturing

Norb kept lifting and won at the state, national and international level over his 27-year weight-lifting career, including three world championships and nine national heavyweight championships.

He also went on to win gold as a middle heavyweight in 1952 (Hel-

sinki), bronze as a heavyweight in 1960 (Rome) and bronze as a heavyweight in 1964 (Tokyo). He did not compete in the 1956 games because of a back injury.

Perhaps his greatest achievement came at the Tokyo Olympics in 1964. He came back from crippling back injuries, at the age of 40, to win bronze. As usual, Norb was one of the smallest lifters, and lifted the most in relation to his body weight. "I was the first heavyweight to lift double-body weight," he pointed out. "When I won the Gold Medal I weighed 194, 195, and I did 399."

Schemansky was the third generation of Polish immigrants, the original family name (Szymaniński) changed to phoenetical spelling somewhere along the line. Norb's



Scott Kazmir of the Tampa Bay Rays was selected for the Baseball All-Star Game, but wasn't expected to play.

mother, Josephine (Idalski) Schemansky, died when he was a child.

"Mr. Weightlifting Norbert Schemansky, History's Greatest Olympic & World Champion Heavyweight Lifter," written by Richard Bak and published by Immortal Investments Publishing, details his story. To order a copy, go to www.immortalinvestments.com

NEXT MONTH: Be sure to check out PAJ sports for a complete recap of the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

PRCUA Honors Rev. Iwuc of Rhode Island

CHICAGO—On Sat., June 21, the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America (PRCUA) held its quarterly board meeting at its headquarters in Chicago. On behalf of the organization, President Wallace Ozog presented a plaque to PRCUA National Vice Chaplain Reverend Canon Anthony D. Iwuc of Providence, R.I., in honor of his 55 years in the priesthood and his long and dedicated service to the PRCUA and Polonia.

The plaque reads: "In Grateful Appreciation, Presented to Rev. Canon Anthony D. Iwuc, in recognition of his 55 years in humble service to God, the Church and all God's people through his priesthood which has uplifted and inspired many souls; for his 58 years of loyal membership in the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America; 12 years of dedicated duty as National Chaplain; 22 years of humble service as National Vice Chaplain; and for his lifetime commitment to honoring his Polish heritage through his lead-

ership roles in Polonia. Certified by Wallace M. Ozog, FICF, National President, Polish Roman Catholic Union of America."

Fr. Iwuc recently commemorated the 55th anniversary of his priesthood. He was ordained by the late Bishop Russell J. McVinney in Providence, on May 30, 1953. Fr. Iwuc was the principal celebrant of a concelebrated Mass of Thanksgiving on Sunday, June 1, at St. Joseph Church. A social hour and banquet followed.

From 1953-72, Fr. Iwuc was a curate, administrator pro-tem and pastor of Our Lady of Czestochowa Parish in Coventry. He then served as pastor of St. Joseph Parish, Central Falls, R.I., for 33 years—from 1972 to 2005 when he retired from active ministry. Since his retirement he has resided in Providence, R.I. and assists at various local parishes.

Fr. Iwuc is a regent of the Orchard Lakes Schools and a trustee of Ss. Cyril & Methodius Seminary,

both in Orchard Lake, Mich. He is also president of the Rhode Island Division of the Polish American Congress.

His activities within the Diocese include membership in the Diocesan Liturgical Commission, Commission for Clergy Renewal, Diocesan Marian Commission, Diocesan Council of Priests, the Diocesan College, Continuing Education of the Clergy of the Diocese, Executive Committee of the Clergy Benefit Fund, Priests Personnel Board, Dean of the Blackstone Valley Deanery #11, and Diocesan Director of the Holy Name Societies.

Fr. Iwuc has also served as a member of the Board of Directors of the Polish Museum of America and vice-president of the Polish American Priests Association.

In recognition of his dedicated service, Fr. Iwuc was the recipient the first Orchard Lake Schools National Alumni Association's "Man of the Year Award." The Schools



PRCUA President Wallace Ozog presents a plaque to Rev. Canon Anthony D. Iwuc in honor of his 55 years in the priesthood and his long and dedicated service to the PRCUA and Polonia.

Loyalty Plaque, and Fidelitas Medal, Polish National Alliance (PNA) Legion of Honor Silver Cross, PNA Certificate of Merit Award, Polish Apostolate Pride of Polonia Award, Honorary Canon of the Diocese of

Lomza, Poland, the Cavalier Cross Medal from the Republic of Poland, and the Polish American Historical Association's Certificate of Civic Achievement.



CIEKAWOSTKI / Martin S. Nowak

Joel Barlow: A Connecticut Yankee in Poland

became an honorary French citizen. He consorted with anti-monarchists and liberals at the time of the French Revolution. He became friends with Thomas Jefferson when the latter was U.S. Minister to France, and with Kościuszko, who lived in Paris for a few years. While in the French capital, the U.S. government hired Barlow as consul to Algiers, where he secured the release of more than 100 hostage American seamen in 1796. He and his wife returned to America in 1805, hoping to live out their lives in their homeland.

In 1811 President James Madison appointed Barlow American Minister to France to negotiate a commercial treaty with the Emperor Napoleon. With his wife and nephew Thomas he returned to Paris. But Napoleon was far away, pursuing his military conquest of Europe. Finally, in late 1812, Barlow was summoned to meet the Emperor in Wilno, Poland, recently "liberated" from Russian occupation by French troops.

A two week wait for a meeting was in vain. On December 5 with

the French army in retreat from pursuing Russian forces, his invasion of that country an utter failure, Napoleon bypassed Wilno to the south. Barlow and his nephew also fled south and west ahead of the Russians. On December 18 they arrived in Warsaw and rested for four days before heading toward Kraków.

Already from the start of the evacuation from Wilno, Ambassador Barlow suffered from weakness and fever. It was a rough coach ride in extreme cold and on the road to Kraków he developed pneumonia. Still, he stopped along the way to take a freezing Polish soldier, Adam Piwowski, into his carriage. During a stop in Żarnowiec on December 26, forty miles north of Kraków, a doctor was summoned. Joel Barlow was taken to the home of Mayor Jan Blaski, where he died in the presence of his nephew, and the French Minister of International Affairs Petry, who had also fled Wilno. Thomas Barlow wanted his uncle's body embalmed and taken to America, but was told it was inadvisable since the Russians were already in

the area.

A funeral for Joel Barlow was held on December 28 and he was buried in the churchyard. Adam Piwowski later paid for a marble tablet to be affixed to the wall inside the church entrance, commemorating the man who had saved his life. A few years later Barlow's widow had a gravestone set over his burial place at her expense. Decades later it had weathered away without a trace.

In the 1920s Polish American historian Mieczysław Haiman researched the death and burial. It was discovered that the graves in the Żarnowiec cemetery had been covered over with new earth many years earlier and new bodies interred over them. But with the help of older villagers, researchers determined the approximate location of Barlow's remains. There was some talk about exhuming the Ambassador's body and repatriating it to Connecticut, but finding it would have been very difficult. In 1995 the American Consul in Kraków helped raise funds for the restoration of the church tablet

and it was reinstalled the following May. A ceramic portrait of Barlow was affixed to the wall above it.

Through the efforts of the American Center for Polish Culture and the Diplomatic and Consular Officers Retired, especially Richard B. Parker who launched the campaign, a memorial stone was installed in the Żarnowiec churchyard. In June 1998 a dedication ceremony was held, which coincided with the 900th anniversary of the village. Bands and a chorus performed and speeches honoring Joel Barlow were given by regional dignitaries, the parish priest, Bishop of Kielce, the mayor, the American Consul in Kraków and Mr. Parker.

The memorial is six feet tall of pink rough-hewn limestone. Two biographical bronze tablets are attached to it, one in Polish and one in English. It is located in a nook along the cemetery wall. Two centuries later, Americans have not forgotten the sacrifice Joel Barlow made for his country.

BABA YAGA'S CORNER / Jaga Urban-Klaehn

Environmental Problems in Poland

In a previous column, I talked about a need to reduce the consumption of goods. As an example, I showed how we in Poland do not consume as much as people in United States do. To counterbalance this positive image of Poland and Eastern Europe, let's talk about environmental pollution in the article below.

How many of you know that the worst polluted part of Europe is the "black triangle" between southwestern Poland, eastern Germany (Eastern Saxony) and the Czech Republic (Northern Bohemia)? This area is shaped by the range of mountains, among them so called Giant Mountains (Karkonosze) of Sudeten chain. The mountains form a wind barrier which creates unfavorable conditions for the dispersion of pollution from three industrial centers, mainly brown coal mining. The mountains in the center of the triangle were affected by the acid rain from these industrial centers. It is estimated that 50% of the coniferous forest there disappeared between 1972 and 1989. Since 1991, all three countries of this region have tried to work together to alleviate this environmental disaster.

In the late '80s I was on a trip in Sudeten and unaware how bad the situation was. I remember the first time I encountered the strange moonlike landscape with leafless trees and twisted silver trunks. It looked amazing but scary. I was shocked; I was in a center of one of the worst natural disasters of 20th century!

When I was a child in the late 1960s and early '70s, the environmental pollution problems in Poland did not exist, at least officially. Our school books were illustrated with the pictures of the factory chimneys emitting grey smoke as a proud example of industrial progress. At that time, the industrial growth of Poland was measured in the amount of steel produced. A huge steelworks was built in late 1940s and early '50s in Nowa Huta (literally meaning "New Steel Mill") near Krakow. This plant was located there mainly for political reasons, to counterbalance "conservative, anticommunist burgeois" against a newly created industrial blue collar workers. Eventually these workers also turned against communism ... but it was 20-30 years later.

An even bigger steel mill was built in the 1970s in Silesia, a very industrial region, about 65 miles west of Krakow (the so called steelworks Katowice). This investment was never profitable and the decision to build it has been questioned almost since the beginning. It is said that that this investment was pressed upon Poland by the Soviet Union, since Poland's iron ore deposits are limited. A special broad gauge railway line adapted to the width of Soviet rail was built in Poland for the fast transport of ore from the Soviet Union. Investments like that contributed to the economic crisis in Poland in the 1980s.

My family comes from Upper Silesia. This region was a center of black coal mining for centuries. My

two grandfathers worked in mining industry. Since Silesia had a very dense and urbanized population the majority of the mining exploration is done underground. For instance, the house in which my mother lived is located on the surface above a coal mine, "Wujek" in Katowice. By the way, that mine, "Wujek," became a symbol of Solidarity resistance during martial law. Several miners died in the consequence of their strike after military law was imposed in December 1981.

IN ORDER TO REACH COAL from deeper, inaccessible deposits, blast mining was used. In the late 1970s and the early '80s the coal exploration became so intense that it caused local earthquakes. I remember the shaking of the floor, the trembling of the glass daily—as a result of the mining explosions or maybe ... a collapse of the mine shafts beneath my family's house. The mining accidents and the shafts collapses were quite frequent but the public was only informed about the more serious accidents, with human victims involved.

The landslides and the artificially induced "mining" earthquakes had a devastating effect on housing. Many Silesian regions and towns (for instance, Bytom) were completely devastated by the mining industry. The house where my family lived was also damaged. The mines paid for some repairs but the repairs were not sufficient.

Silesian people are very hard-working and disciplined people.

Since it was impossible to keep anything white in the center of black coal industry, the houses were painted in off-white colors. Typical industrial districts were built from red brick (see the photo from Nikiszowiec, Katowice's district). The window frames in Silesia's houses were painted either red or green, to keep them clean. But, I never saw such clean windows like those in Silesia! Women there used to clean their windows at least once a month. The windows in Silesia are cleaner than anywhere else in Poland in spite of the pollution around.

Ironically, the serious economic and political crisis of 1980s helped alleviate the worst environmental problems in Poland. Several plants and mines had to slow production, while others were closed due to environmental concerns and obsolete technology. People became more aware of the environmental problems around them. Mass media was more open to discuss it. For instance a big aluminum plant in Skawina near Krakow was closed as well as many black coal mines in Upper Silesia and almost all brown coal mines in Lower Silesia. This brought many other problems, like huge unemployment in these regions, but at least people could breathe better quality air!

The situation in Northern Poland,



Since it was impossible to keep anything white in the center of the Silesian black coal industry, the houses were painted in off-white colors. Typical industrial districts were built from red brick, as above, in Nikiszowiec, Katowice's district.

especially in lake area of Mazuria is quite different. This region was never industrially developed (except a few towns). I remember drinking water from lakes in Mazuria. It would be impossible to drink water from any of the rivers or lakes in Southern Poland (the rivers usually stink and do not have even fish in them, except the mountain springs of Southeastern Poland and the rivers which are close to their sources where no any industrial plant was able to pollute it yet).

Visit my Polish Culture website at: www.culture.polishsite.us.

POLISH-JEWISH RELATIONS

2008 Karski and Nirenska Prize Awarded to Szymon Rudnicki

WARSAW—Prof. Dr. hab. Szymon Rudnicki is this year's winner of the Jan Karski and Pola Nirenska Prize of the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research.

Endowed by Professor Jan Karski at YIVO in 1992, the \$5,000 prize goes to authors of published works documenting Polish-Jewish relations and Jewish contributions to Polish culture. The award ceremony will be held in October at the Jewish Historical Institute in Warsaw.

Prof. Rudnicki was born in Vilna

in 1938. He is Professor of History at the Warsaw University. He has taught for many years and occupied administrative positions at Warsaw University's History Institute (Deputy Director, 1973-1987). He has written monographs and published widely in scholarly and popular journals in Poland, Israel, Germany, Russia, and the United States.

Prof. Rudnicki's main focus is the history and ideology of Polish right wing movements in the 20th century. He has written extensively

on Roman Dmowski's National Democracy (Endecja), the ultrarightist National Radical Camp (Oboz Narodowo-Radykalny, ONR), and its extremist offshoot the ONR-Falanga—all known for their radically antisemitic stance.

A major topic in Prof. Rudnicki's output is the Jewish question in Poland and Polish-Jewish relations. His writings include essays on the national minorities, extremist antisemitism (antysemityzm totalny).

Prof. Rudnicki is member of the

Scientific Council of the Jewish Historical Institute and the Editorial Council of the Jewish Historical Institute Quarterly.

Professor Jan Karski, the founder of the prize at YIVO, was the envoy of the Polish government-in-exile during World War II who brought to the West firsthand testimony about the conditions in the Warsaw Ghetto and in German death camps. The prize is also named in memory of Professor Karski's late wife, choreographer Pola Nirenska.



Szymon Rudnicki

Holocaust Survivor, Rescuer, Live Like Sisters

WARSAW—Today Janina Pietrasiak, 74, and Maria Lopuszanska, 79, live like sisters just around the corner from each other in a Warsaw neighborhood shaded by chestnut trees. They see each other every day, tend to each other's needs, even finish each other's sentences.

Their story is a testament to how devotion born of deep adversity can endure for a lifetime and how the Holocaust survivors' exhortation "never forget" can find resonance as much in acts of great generosity as in those of unspeakable depravity.

Maria was the teenage daughter of members of the Polish anti-Nazi underground, who gave shelter in their Warsaw apartment in 1942 to Janina and her mother, Roza Feldman. Feldman soon died of tuberculosis, her strength depleted by the cold and hunger she had endured before escaping from the Krakow Ghetto. After that, Janina—not yet 8 when she joined the Catholic home—clung desperately to her new family and was baptized to fit in with them and increase her chances of survival under the Nazis. Her father died in

Auschwitz. Her only sibling, Ewa, survived the war but later committed suicide by inhaling gas. And the death of her beloved mother fills her with pain to this day.

After the war, she gave up the chance to live with an uncle in the United States—sealing a fate lived out for decades behind the Iron Curtain as Poland came under communist rule. "It was the family that raised me, that rescued me. I also didn't want to leave Poland—I thought it was the country that let me live." The bond deepened during the ill-fated Warsaw Uprising of 1944, when the girls had to fend for themselves because Maria's father was ill and her mother had taken up arms against the Nazis in the streets of the capital.

Despite her own ordeals, including a battle with leukemia now in remission, the main focus in her life is the woman she calls her sister. Maria lives on a pension so small that after paying her nursing home, she only has 300 zlotys (\$145) left over—most of which the breast cancer survivor needs for medicine.

Janina contacted the Yad Vashem Holocaust museum in Jerusalem, which then bestowed the title of "Righteous Among the Nations" to Maria and to her parents, Henryk and Janina Jetkiewicz. Thanks to her recognition as a rescuer, Maria receives \$1,200 per year from the New York-based Jewish Foundation for the Righteous, which helps with the medicine and a few extras such as this year's summer holiday to the Warsaw countryside.

Holocaust Memoir a Lie

DUDLEY, Mass.—The author of a bestselling autobiography that told the story of a young Jewish girl saved by wolves while hiding from the Nazis admitted that most of the story was made up.

Misha Defonseca's book "Misha, a Memoir of the Holocaust Years" and has just been made into a successful French film.

Contrary to her account, her family was not Jewish. Defonseca accused her U.S. publisher of pressuring her into writing a book she had never wanted to produce.



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Some Polish Contributions to the English Language

by Robert Strybel

Polish-born Joseph Conrad (1857-1924) was one of the greatest English novelists. About him it has been said that he changed his name (originally: Teodor Józef Konrad Korzeniowski), his country (in Britain from 1878) and the whole course of the English language. That is no exaggeration, because Conrad was known for the numerous polonisms with which he enriched his English. Studies have been written on the way Polish vocabulary, syntax and other linguistic features influenced his prose.

The Polish language has left its imprint on English in other ways, although their exact sources are usually more difficult to track down. These include both words incorporating the “Pol-” root for Pole, Polish and Poland, as well as other distinctly Polish words and cultural concepts. Here are some of them in no particular order:

PIEROGI: Dough pockets or dumplings (sometimes referred to as “Polish ravioli”) which may contain a variety of fillings, both savory and sweet. Sometimes spelled “pierogies” in America, although “pierogi” is already in the plural: one pieróg, two pierogi.

MEAD: This medieval honey wine, derived from the word “miód” (honey), traced its roots to heavily forested Poland, Lithuania and Ruthenia, where this was once the tippie of choice. Poland continues to produce some very fine meads (“miód pitny”).

KIELBASA: A garlicky sausage, containing mainly pork and seasoned with pepper and (sometimes) also marjoram. Often mispronounced in the US as “kabassa” or “kielbassy”.

MAZURKA (1): A folk dance of the Mazury region, made world famous by the compositions of Fryderyk Chopin. In Polish the dance is known as a “mazur” or (in the di-

minutive) “mazurek.”

MAZURKA (2): A flat filled cake known as “mazurek” in Polish and usually associated with Easter.

OBEREK: A lively Polish folk dance in 3/4 time – something like a very fast waltz.

BABKA: This tall, yeast-raised, egg-dough bread, baked for centuries in Poland at Easter time and for other festive occasions, is becoming increasingly popular and recognizable in America.

PAŃCZKI: Polish fruit-filled doughnuts have really taken off in recent years, after a nationwide launch took place a couple of decades ago Hamtramck, Michigan near Detroit. They are variously pronounced as PUINCH-key, PAUNCH-key or PONCH-key.

CHRUŚCIKI: Light, sugar-dusted pastry swirls whose name is quite a mouthful for Americans. That is probably why they are also known as angel wings, crisps, bow-knot pastries, bow-ties, favors, kindlewood pastries (that’s what chrusciki actually means!) and crullers.

SPRUCE: seamen shipping timber from northern Poland in the Middle Ages were asked in Britain what they were bringing. They thought they were being asked where they were from and replied “Z Prus” (from Prussia), and that is how the English name for the coniferous tree and timber is said to have come about.

GHERKIN: The Polish word “ogórek” and/or its close Russian cousin “orypet” (pronounced: aw-goo-rets), used to describe a fresh cucumber of a cured one (like a dill pickle) went into German as “Gurke” and into English and “gherkin.”

DROSHKY: an open horse-drawn carriage known in Polish as a “dorożka”.

VOIVODESHIP or VOIVD-SHIP: Polish province, from the Polish “województwo”. Poland is

currently divided into 16 voivodships.

VOIVODE or VOIVOD: Provincial governor; the official at the head of a voivodship.

VODKA: If this word had come into English from Polish, not Russian, it would have been spelled “wódka” and pronounced “VOOD-ka. But Poland once actually won a court case to prove the what we know today as vodka was originally distilled in the 16th century in Poland, not Russia.



Colorado Blue Spruce.

Words and expressions containing the “pol-” root include:

POLONIA (1): The personification of Poland, a symbolic female figure equivalent to France’s Marianne and America’s Columbia; Polonia may be seen in Jan Matejko’s painting of a kneeling woman being shackled to symbolize Poland’s enslavement during the partitions.

POLONIA (2): The Latin word for Poland has also come to mean Polish émigré communities, e.g. American Polonia, British Polonia, etc.

POLONIAN: An émigré Pole or his foreign-born descendant; a member of Polish community beyond Poland’s borders such as a

Polish American, Polish Canadian, Frenchman of Polish descent, a Brazilian of Polish ancestry, etc.

THE POLONAISE: A stately processional dance which to this day opens elegant balls. It always starts the “studniówka”, the senior prom held in Polish high schools 100 days before graduation.

À LA POLONAISE: From the French meaning “in the Polish manner”; may be applied to music and other cultural creations, food, styles and the general ambience.

POLONAISE TOPPING: This is the name given throughout the world to the popular Polish garnish made my browning bread crumbs in butter. The topping is spooned over vegetables, pierogi, noodles, etc.

POLONISM: a Polish cultural or a Polish linguistic influence.

(TO) POLONAISE: To make something Polish, to impart Polish linguistic or cultural influence to something.

POLONIUM: A radioactive element discovered by Polish chemist and physicist Maria Skłodowska-Curie (1867-1934), a two-time Nobel Prize winner, who named it after her homeland.

POLKA: The popularity of polka music across Polonia and the word’s “pol-” root has led many to believe this is something intrinsically Polish. But the Czechs vigorously protest, saying this is their national dance and in their language “polka” means “one-half” (like the Polish “połówka”) – a reference to the melody’s 2/4 beat.

POLISH NOTATION: A mathematical concept, also known as prefix notation, created in the 1920s by Polish logician Jan Łukasiewicz, which simplified sentential logic by eliminating the parentheses in mathematical formulas.

REVERSE POLISH NOTATION: In the 1960s, Łukasiewicz’s original concept was further developed into what became known as

“reverse Polish notation” or postfix notation. That concept in turn served as the basis of the modern calculator, particularly that developed by Hewlett-Packard.

POLISH STRIKE: The sit-in used by America’s civil-rights and anti-war movements in the 1950s, ’60s and ’70s, can be traced back to the Polish workers of the 1930s who downed tools but remained in their workplaces (more difficult to remove by police or security guards than strikers picketing outside the factory gate). The protest became known as the Polish strike.

POLISH KONIK: A translation of the Polish “konik polski” (literally: little Polish horse) which refers to a primitive species of Polish wild ponies akin to the extinct forest-dwelling tarpan and Przewalski’s horse of Central Asia.

THE POLSKI: A name given in Britain to the Polski Fiat (4-door sedan and station wagon built in Poland under license from Fiat of Italy) which was exported in the 1970s.

POLAND IN AMERICAN LOCALITIES: Across America, there are localities called Poland, and including Poland Township, Ohio. Others with a Polish cultural or historical connotation include several places called Pulaski, Kosciuszko (often misspelled), Warsaw, Indiana, Czestochowa and Panna Maria, Texas, Posen (Poznań) and Livonia (Inflanty in Polish—a region of the old Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth) in Michigan as well as Sobieski and Polonia, Wisconsin.

POLAND SPRING WATER: Despite its name, neither this bottled water (now owned by Swiss food giant Nestlé) or the town of Poland, Maine, where it is produced, have anything to do with Poland. The town was named after an Indian chief named Poland, but nobody knows how or why he got that name.

STARE DOBRE CZASY / Stan Bednarczyk

Od Wódki, Rozum Krótki

Everyone should believe in something.

I believe I’ll have a drink. And with that drink some tantalizing, Polish toasts. No, not the edible kind, but the vocal kind. Not the traditional “na zdrowie” or time worn “sto lat,” kind but those of a humorously, memorable stature. I want these Polish toasts to focus, to have impact, to celebrate the art of light-heartedness and gleeful cheer.

Something like:

- **Piję by paść, Padam by wstać, Wstaję by pić, Piję by żyć.**
I drink till I fall, fall to rise, I rise to drink, drink to be wise.

OK, so the translation isn’t completely accurate, not to mention the

severe intoxication taboos, the cultural drinking indictments of today, and the avoidance of the political correctness cops. But listen: I discovered these Polish drinking toasts on the Internet and I’m forwarding them to Polonia the way they were written. If taken with a bit of humor and overlooking the precise translations, they can be quite amusing.

Not that apologies have to be rendered for lifting a *kieliszek* in the spirit of good will and Polish camaraderie. After all, it is no secret that our Polish genes are imbedded in hard work, unquestionable discipline, passionate, religious devotion and even remarkable soldiering. (“Jak to na wojence ładnie.”) With

all that dedication comes much responsibility and even more tension. Fortunately, those Polish genes have also been blessed with the ability of knowing how to imbibe to create a good time when the opportunity presents itself. While it may not always apply, there have been pressure relieving times when the bending of an elbow for a shot (or six) in the name of hospitality has not been uncommon. Verification of that account has been personally experienced at the kitchen tables of my relatives on my visits to Poland. Is it any wonder that Poland was the forerunner of vodka discovery and its progression?

Nevertheless, if my writing wits

seem a bit berserk, I have an explanation:

- **Od wódki, rozum krótki.**
From drink, wits shrink.

That’s not to say that whiskey glass therapy does not have its healthful side:

- **Kto pije, długo żyje**
Who drinks, lives long.

Of course, with excessive drinking there’s always the danger of concussions.

- **No, to spotkami się na podłodze.**
‘til we meet next, on the floor.

Then there’s the toast saluted just before the last call at bar closing time:

- **Nie ma brzydkich kobiet, tylko są trzeźwi mężczyźni.**
No such thing as ugly women, just sober men.

And how can serious drinkers be accused of disregarding funeral planning arrangements when they toast:

- **Każdy wypity kieliszek — to gwóźdź do naszej trumny — pijmy więc tak by trumna się nie rozpadła.**
Every shot we take is one more nail in our coffin — that’s going to be one well built coffin.

Sometimes, the need for drinking should be considered vital:

- **Człowiek nie kaktus, pić musi.**
Man’s no cactus, drink he must.

How about a bit of illogical logic

in regard to inebriation:

- **Pijany żyje dwa razy krócej, ale widzi dwa razy więcej.**
To the drunkard who lives half as long, but sees everything twice.

Certainly, honesty should also come into play:

- **Lepiej być znanym pijakiem, niż anonimowym alkoholikiem.**

It’s better to be a known drunk than an anonymous alcoholic. And yes, even the subject of drinking and driving is addressed with illuminating candor:

- **Nie pij gdy prowadzisz: za dużo się rozlewa.**
Don’t drink when driving: you’ll spill too much.

Along with all these topics, old age does not take a subordinate role:

- **Stare życie jest jak wino: kwaśniej, wszystko opada na dno**
I trudno się pozbyć.

Old age is like wine: it sours, everything separates and sinks, and difficult to get rid of.

In reviewing all these fine toasts, I find myself favoring this last one:

- **Zdrowie żon i kochanek — oby się nigdy nie spotkały!**
To the health of our wives and lovers —

and may they never meet!
Hey! Being the stary dziad that I am, I can still fantasize!

BRUSH UP / Prepared and distributed by the Polonia Media Network

Grocery Shopping IV

szparagi.....(shpah-RAH-gee) m, pl	seler.....(SEH-lehr) m
asparagus	celery
fasola.....(fah-SOH-lah) f	kukurydza.....(kuh-kuh-RIH-dzah) f
bean	corn
buraki.....(buh-RAH-kee) m, pl	ogórek.....(oh-GUH-rehk) m
beetroots	cucumber
brukselka.....(bruhk-SEHL-kah) f	cykoria.....(tsih-KOH-ryah) f
brussel sprout	endive
kapusta.....(kah-PUHS-tah) f	fasola szparagowa.....(fah-SOH-lah shpah-RAH-goh-vah) f
cabbage	green string bean
marchew.....(MAHR-hhehf) f	chrzan.....(hhshahn) m
carrot	horseradish
kalafior.....(kah-LAH-fyor) m	por.....(pohr) m
cauliflower	leek

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

THE OLD COUNTRY / Richard Poremski

Zamose, Poland, May 18, 1976



Attention! Beware the Beasts of Prey!

TRIVIA TIME / Ellye Slusarczyk

1. On St. Martin's Day it is a tradition to serve a) pork b) sausage c) goose
2. St. Stanislaus is the patron saint of a) miners b) youth c) farmers
3. Wit Stwosz was a a) sculptor b) writer c) humanitarian
4. The Eve of St. Katherine is a day of fortune-telling for a) boys b) girls c) married couples
5. Established in 1815, was the Free Republic of a) Poland b) Torun c) Krakow
6. The towns of Naleczow, Kazimierz Dolny, and Pulawy form the a) Spa Park Trio b) Polish Bermuda Triangle c) Triple Castle Complex
7. Herman Han, a famous painter, was from a) Lysa Gora b) Gdansk c) Susiec
8. To reach Puck from Gdynia, you travel a) east b) south c) north
9. King Ladislau IV Vosa built a fortress and war port at a) Puck b) Sopot c) Gdynia
10. "Sea Star" is a patron of a) fisherman b) sailors c) boat builders

ANSWERS. 1.c goose 2.b youth 3.a sculptor 4.a boys 5.c Krakow 6.b Polish Bermuda Triangle 7.b Gdansk 8.c north 9.a Puck 10.a fishermen

HERITAGE

Self-Made Entrepreneur

by Ellye Slusarczyk

She's a household name. She's a well-acclaimed author of several books. She's a well-known television personality. Hundreds of articles have been written about her.

Perhaps you have already guessed that we are referring to Martha Stewart, homemaker extraordinaire, born Martha Helen Kostyra in Nutley, N.J., August 3, 1941. Her parents were middle class Polish Americans with an extremely high work ethic. Martha's mother, from an early age, had instilled in her the proper way of running a household most successfully. This included home decoration, cooking, canning, baking, and gardening.

Martha was a straight student in high school. To supplement her family's income she modeled and appeared in several television commercials. She was awarded a partial scholarship to Barnard College in New York City, in 1961 she married Andrew Stewart, a lawyer, and later on he became a book publisher. Their marriage ended in 1989 and their only child is daughter, Alexis.

Martha honed her business skills by becoming a stockbroker, managing a lucrative catering business, and running a specialty food store.

A true animal lover, Martha raises Himalayan cats, Chow dogs, French bulldogs and Friesian horses. Martha's showpiece, meticulously restored 1805 mansion, is Turkey Hill in Westport, Connecticut.

IN MEMORIAM / Lydia M. Kordalewski

A Woman of Her Time: Harriet Irsay

Harriet Irsay was a Polish American woman of her time. Born to poor Polish immigrants in Chicago, Harriet Pogorzelski grew up to be the Matriarch of the Indianapolis Colts. She was also well known for her charitable work, which she carried out to an extraordinary degree. She was admired for her professionalism and creativity, as well as her leading role in promoting Polish organizations. Harriet passed away last month at the age of 87 of natural causes.

Harriet served on the Board of Directors of the American Institute of Polish Culture and established the Harriet Irsay Scholarship Fund for American students of Polish descent who are studying Communications and Journalism. She underwrote the first prize for the International Chopin Piano competitions and the lecture series for the Kosciuszko Chair of Polish Studies at the University of Virginia.

In 1977, her son Jim established the Harriet Irsay Endowment Fund at the NOBLE Foundation with a



gift of a million dollars. The NOBLE is an organization in central Indiana that serves more than 2,000 children and adults with disabilities.

She divided her time between three homes in Bal Harbour, Florida; Indianapolis, Indiana and Chicago. Over the years, she inspired and charmed us with her giving nature, boundless energy and generous heart. She never forgot her Polish roots and was very proud of them.

Polish Heritage Dancers Seeking New Members

BUFFALO, N.Y.—The Polish Heritage Dancers has been educating as well as entertaining the public on Polish fold dancing since 1997. It is under the direction of Michelle Michalski Kisluk.

New members are always welcome. As the ambassador's of WNY's Polonia, they represent the Polish American community at many events.

The group consists of a children's group and youth group, which meet Friday evenings and a teen/adult group that meets on Monday evenings. Practices are held at the Holy Mother of the Rosary Cathedral on Broadway in Lancaster. Costumes are provided by the group. Boys and men are especially needed to balance the group.

Back by popular demand, it will be once again be presenting "A Polish Christmas in Village" at the Lancaster Opera House, December 27-28. This show sells out, so get you tickets early.

On February 22, 2009 the PHD will host their 12th annual Paczki

Day, WNY's largest Polish pre-Lenten celebration, at the Hearthstone Manor.

The group can also customize a program on various customs and traditions for schools, libraries, meetings and events.

If you would like to be part of this dynamic group or would like more information on its upcoming events, call (716) 937-0032 or 681-3526.

If dancing is not your style, you can still be a part of the group by attending church functions, parades, manning display tables and to work behind the scenes with sewing, props, and fundraising. The PHD is also looking for those interested in starting an authentic folk band as well.

The group is a member of the Polish Folk Dance Association of the Americas, Polish National Alliance, Polish American Congress, and the Polish Cultural Foundation.

You can visit its website at www.phdofwny.com.

PGSC and CCSU Polish Chair Co-Sponsor Genealogical Conference, October 3-4

NEW BRITAIN, Conn.—The 2008 Polish Genealogical Conference, sponsored by the Polish Genealogical Society of Connecticut and the Northeast, Inc., and the Endowed Chair of the Polish and Polish American Studies Central Connecticut State University will be held Oct. 3-4.

On Fri., Oct. 3, a Beginner's Workshop, "Getting Started: Finding the Missing Pieces of Your Polish-American Family History" will be hosted by Prof. Jonathan D. Shea, A.G., and Matthew R. Bielawa.

On Sat., Oct. 4 sessions include: "A Potpourri of Genealogical Search Tools: One-Step Webpages" with Dr. Stephen P. Morse; "A Question of Identity: Polish Immigrants and Polish Americans, with Prof.

Romuald K. Byczkiewicz of the History Department, CCSU; and "From DNA To Genetic Genealogy: Everything You Wanted To Know But Were Afraid To Ask" with Dr. Stephen P. Morse.

The conference will be held at Central Connecticut State University Student Center, 1615 Stanley St.

The fee is \$40 Friday and Saturday; \$35 Saturday only, which includes a Polish American buffet lunch (Saturday only).

Jonathan D. Shea (Belarus and Lithuania) and Matthew R. Bielawa (Ukraine), are well-versed in genealogical research methodology in neighboring nations. They also hold advanced degrees in foreign languages. So bring your incomprehensible documents with you.

Throughout the day, a collection of books, maps and other materials will be available to all attendees for consultation. An officer of PG-SCTNE will be present to answer questions.

Contact the Polish Genealogical Society of Connecticut and the Northeast, Inc. at 8 Lyle Road, New Britain, CT 06053-2104; (860) 223-5596; www.pgscetne.org; e-mail pgscetne@yahoo.com.

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HONORS / Jennifer Moskal

ACADEMIA. STANISLAW IWANISZEWSKI is an archaeology professor at the National Institute of Anthropology and History in Mexico ... **MORGAN FIEREK** of Goetzville attended the Rural Electric Youth Tour in Washington, D.C. and met with U.S. Rep. Bart Stupak (D-Mich.). ... **JOHN M. KUCHINSKI** was salutatorian of Lancaster Catholic

High School's class of 2008 ... **KATHRYN MCINTOSH-CIECHANOWSKI** was awarded the "Best Dissertation of the Year" by the National Association of Bilingual Education ... **ANNA MAZURKIEWICZ** is a visiting historian from the University of Gdansk in Poland, working at the IHRC at the University of Minnesota.

ARTS. ERICA ROSLONSKI joined the Mountain Playhouse staff in Pennsylvania as Director of Development earlier this year ... **MATTHEW WOLACH** was hired as president of Freelance Design Group in Arizona.

AWARDS. FRED BANKOWSKI, an engineering consultant from Norristown, received a certificate of appreciation from Polonia Technica, the Association of Polish-American Engineers in Pennsylvania

MEDIA. ERIKA NIEDOWSKI is a journalist for *The Baltimore Sun* ... **MELANIE RADZICKI MCMANUS** writes for the *National Catholic Register* ... **GARY DYMSKI** writes for *Newsday* ... **P.J. BEDNARSKI**, former TV critic and en-

tainment editor of the *Chicago Sun-Times*, has been promoted to managing editor of Broadcasting & Cable.

DENNIS WOYTEK, assistant professor in the Journalism and Multimedia Arts Department at Duquesne, received a Telly Award for his outstanding work in documentary film, titled "A Journey in Faith," about a pilgrimage to Medjugorje ... **GREG A. SWISZCZ** was named president of Ad 2 Phoenix, an organization for advertising, marketing and communications professionals ages 31 and younger. **TANYA SUPENSKI** was also named to the board.

MEDICINE. JOAN M. GRZYBOWSKI, D.O., F.A.C.O.F.P., of East Norriton, was recently re-elected to serve on the board of trustees of the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association (POMA) ... **JOHN PAWLOWICZ**, a clinical instructor at the Las Vegas Institute for Advanced Dental Studies, earned a fellowship with the International College of Cranio-Mandibular Orthopedics ... **DR. RICHARD WOZNIAK** was named program director for graduate medical education at Memorial Medical Center in Pennsylvania.

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Poles Take First Place at Chicago's "Venetian Night"



Chicago's Venetian Night Winner: Joseph Conrad Yacht Club.

by Geraldine Balut Coleman

CHICAGO—On July 26, the City of Chicago held its 51st Venetian Night. Modeled after the traditions of Venice's boat parade, Chicago's oldest city-sponsored event featured 35 decorated boats sailing to this year's theme: "Summer's Favorite City."

While approximately 665,000 people attended Venetian Night festivities, the boats sailed from the Shedd Aquarium to the Chicago Yacht Club facility located at Montrose Harbor. The surprise of the evening was Chicago Polonia's Joseph Conrad Yacht Club entrance sailboat "Moonshadow", owned and crewed by Stanislaw Hryniewicki and son Wojtek. As this sailboat cruised close to shore and past thousands of clapping and singing spectators, who gave their standing ovation approval, it was no wonder that "Moonshadow" won the

2008 Venetian Night's coveted First Prize. Chicago area photographer, Marcin Chojecki, conceived the idea of a "children and summer fun" theme for "Moonshadow." In addition, Marcin and Elizabeth Chojecki along with Wojtek Hryniewicki decorated the boat. Youngsters from the Polanie Dance Troupe of Schaumburg Ill., under the direction of Ewa Tyrawa, danced to the recorded composition "LaGrange" of the Texas musical group ZZ Top. The young dancers performed a special dance routine which was choreographed by Margaret Skrzypkowski. Ms. Skrzypkowski created a lively dance filled with Texas-orientated dance routines and a bit of traditional Polish flare.

After the sun had set, the City of Chicago thrilled those hundreds of thousands in the audience with an hour of creatively beautiful and breathe-taking fireworks.

NEWSWIRE

MUSEUM CELEBRATES TWO DECADES. Saturday, August 9, 2008, marked the 20th Anniversary of the opening of the Polish American Cultural Center Museum at 308 Walnut Street in Philadelphia. On August 9, 1988, then Vice President George Bush, Sr., along with John Cardinal Krol, Archbishop of Philadelphia, Michael Blichasz, president of the Museum, members of the Cultural Center's board, elected officials, children from St. Adalbert's Polish Language School and a large crowd of Polish Americans gathered to cut the ribbon at the new Museum Exhibit Hall. The Museum is a focal point for Polish Americans and tourists visiting Historic Philadelphia.

From 1981 to 1986 the Center was located at 24th and Brown Streets in the Fairmount section of Philadelphia. In 1986 the search began for a building that would allow an exhibit hall and its related activities to function under one roof. In 1987 the Cultural Center acquired 308 Walnut Street in the heart of Philadelphia.

THE REMAINS OF T-REX ANCESTOR were found in Southern Poland by paleontologists digging in a brickyard. The fossilized dinosaur was excavated in Lisowice, a village about 125 miles south of Warsaw. Scientists declared the predator dinosaur a previously unknown ancestor of *tyrannosaurus rex* and estimate that it lived about 200 million years ago. Team member Tomasz Sulej of the Polish Science Academy described the dinosaur as having moved on two legs and as being five yards long with teeth up to two inches in length. Although given the

name "the dragon," paleontologists will continue examination of the bones and fully record the discovery prior to deciding what name will be given to the new dinosaur.

Also unearthed at the same site was a *dicyonodon*, a reptile known to be a direct predecessor of mammals.

"We are almost certain that "Dragon" hunted animals like this herbivorous dicyonodon, which looked like a hippopotamus but was much bigger," said Sulej.

GERMAN NUDISTS UPSET. German nude beachgoers in full view of Poles are upset with the Poles, who they claim are gawking at them. The beach near the Polish town of Swinoujscie on the Polish-German border, was once fenced in, but the fence was removed in 2007, following Poland's accession to the Schengen borderless zone.

Polish politicians calling the sight of naked bathers "offensive" have told the German nudists to cover up on the beach and have accused the Germans of being "perverts." The nudists countered by saying they will sunbathe as nature intended.

"It's a nudist beach. It's terrible that Poles come over, dressed, and stare," said a nude beachgoer from Germany.

"It's horrible, we would never bathe naked. We are Catholic," said a Polish beachgoer from Swinoujscie

A POLISH CLIMBER DIED closed to the summit of one of Kyrgyzstan's highest peaks, falling on the 7,000-meter high Khan Tengri mountain. Oleksi Mateusz fell while just short

of the summit. Climbers frequently fall because of avalanches and other harsh conditions in Kyrgyzstan. The ex-Soviet state is home to some of the world's highest mountain peaks but funding for mountain rescue operations is lacking.

AMERICAN SOLDIERS JOIN PILGRIMAGE. Five Americans were among hundreds of soldiers who set off on a ten-day march to Czechochowa and Jasna Gora, Poland's holiest Roman Catholic shrine.

Five members of the Illinois National Guard traveled to Poland to make the 150-mile trek. They hiked alongside Poles, Germans and other Europeans from Warsaw to the site of the revered Black Madonna icon.

Although the 300-year-old pilgrimage has deep religious and patriotic resonance in the mainly Catholic country, the main purpose of the U.S. contingent is to show solidarity with Poland.

Master Sergeant Roman Waldron of Springfield said it was a chance to come together and develop closer bonds with allies in a non-combat setting.

PRESIDENT SIGNS TAX ABOLITION FOR POLES ABROAD. (Polish Radio)—President Lech Kaczynski has signed into law tax abolition for Poles working abroad. Parliament had passed the legislation during the last week of July.

The law concerns taxpayers who obtained their income abroad and in Poland between 2002 and 2007. It mainly pertains to those countries with which Poland does not have an agreement on avoiding double taxation.

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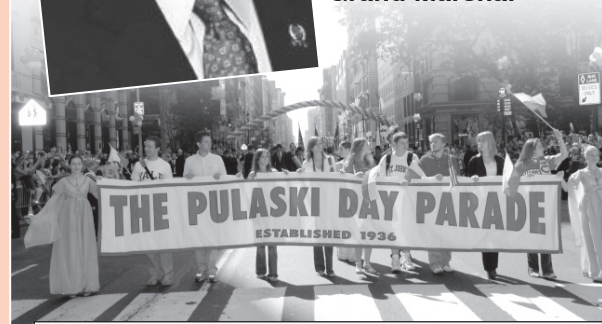
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