

POLISH AMERICAN JOURNAL

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DEDICATED TO THE PROMOTION AND CONTINUANCE OF POLISH AMERICAN CULTURE



TAKING A STAND FOR "STAN THE MAN" PAGE 17

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

"RADIO PRIEST" MARKS TENTH ANNIVERSARY • ST. LOUIS VS. ST. STANISLAUS KOSTKA • PMA'S "HIDDEN TREASURES" HELP! MY KIDS DON'T SPEAK ENGLISH • DROBOT ELECTED PRCUA PRESIDENT • LOOKING TO ORCHARD LAKE A CRASH COURSE IN POLISH HERALDRY • A CROSS CULTURAL OPPORTUNITY • AUTUMN PLUM COOKERY

NEWSMARK

PART OF NAZI CAMP GOES UP IN FLAMES. A wooden barracks at the former German Nazi concentration camp Majdanek in present-day eastern Poland was nearly completely destroyed by fire. The building was full of shoes of the victims of the forced labor camp.

The State Museum that takes care of the site estimates the damage at 1 million zlotys, or some \$330,000. It took firefighters three hours to extinguish the flames that consumed two thirds of the construction, according to RMF FM radio.

Initial reports say a short circuit was the most probable cause of the fire.

At least 79,000 people, including 59,000 Jews, died during nearly three years of the camp's operation. The camp, formally known as Konzentrationslager Lublin, was originally created for prisoners of war.

BRAVERY AGAINST ODDS REMEMBERED. The 66th anniversary of the Warsaw Uprising against the Nazis was observed in various ways as sirens were heard all over the city, candles were lit, wreaths and flowers were laid at the monument in Pilsudski Square, a "Let us Remember that in 1944" concert and changing of the guard ceremony was held in front of the Warsaw Uprising Monument. President Bronislaw Komorowski laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and participated in ceremonies at the *Gloria Victis* monument.

A five-minute 3D film premiered at the Warsaw Rising Museum which shows in realistic detail the ruins and rubble of Warsaw after it was destroyed in 1944. The film presents aerial views of ruined houses, collapsed bridges and took a group of over thirty historians two years to put together. You can view the Polish-language trailer on the internet at www.miastoruin.pl.

The Warsaw Uprising began on August 1, 1944 and ended after sixty-three days of heavy fighting. It was the largest armed operation of resistance movements in Nazi-occupied Europe. Almost 18,000 fighters lost their lives, 25,000 were wounded, civilian losses exceeded 180,000 and over eighty percent of the capital was left in ruins. The insurgents were poorly armed and vastly outnumbered.

Their valiant fight symbolizes the struggle for independence against impossible and cruel odds.

TRAGEDY BEFALLS CANADA'S POLISH AMBASSADOR. The Polish Embassy in Ottawa confirmed that the two children of Zenon Kosiniak-Kamysz, Poland's Ambassador to Canada and his wife, Katarzyna, were killed in an automobile and truck accident in Łagow, Poland.

Polish sources report that the fatal accident occurred on August 9, 2010 at approximately 5:00 a.m. Michael, 19, and Maria, 15, along with their 20-year-old Polish Canadian cousin, Sylvia Maka, were entering an intersection. The Renault Megane, in which they were driving, apparently did not stop at the designated stop sign and collided with a semi-trailer truck. The auto burst into flames and only the truck driver survived. One of the females was pulled from the wreckage, but despite all means available, she died. DNA tests will be used to positively identify the victims.

The three young family members were on a family vacation and were scheduled to meet up the Ambassador and his wife at the end of the week. Michael was studying at the University of Ottawa; Maria was a student at Colonel By Secondary School in Ottawa; and Sylvia attended York University in Toronto.

Memorial Masses are scheduled throughout Canada, Poland and Chicago. The funeral will take place in Poland.

Łagow is located in the Lubuskie region of western Poland. (G.C.)

Battle Lines Drawn



POLISH HUSSARS PREPARE FOR WARFARE at the largest historical battle re-enactment of its kind, which took place in Warsaw, Poland, July 4, 2010, during the 400th Anniversary of the pivotal Battle of Kłuszyn. Story on page 4, courtesy of Rik Sulima-Suligowski Fox, founder Suligowski's Regiment of Sobieski's Command, who participated in the event.

Another Cross War in Poland

by Robert Strybel

WARSAW—Another cross war erupted in Warsaw this August, when the authorities attempted to remove a tall wooden cross from outside the Presidential Palace. It had been placed there in April by boy scouts to honor the victims of the April plane crash in Smolensk, Russia. President Lech Kaczyński, his First Lady and 94 others, including many senior political, military and religious leaders as well as war veterans, perished in Poland's worst such peacetime disaster.

Hundreds of thousands of Poles from all over the country and Polonia as well flocked to the site and waited in night-long queues to file past and pay their respects to the Presidential couple. Many of the mourners said they regretted believing the country's mainstream left-leaning liberal media which had heaped scorn and ridicule on the late president. "Now these same hypocritical journalists have put on black ties

and mournful faces, although a few days ago they were defaming our President Lech Kaczyński," was a frequent comment. "Now the media have published file pictures of a warm, kind and smiling president, but when he was alive they preferred less flattering photos that showed a frowning face or disheveled coat," mourners noted.

A TV documentary entitled "Solidarni" (the solidarity-minded ones) convinced people across Poland that they were not alone and that not everybody supported the anti-Kaczyński Warsaw elites led by Prime Minister Donald Tusk's Civic Platform (Platforma Obywatelska) party, the leftist-liberal daily "Gazeta Wyborcza" and all-news channel TVN24. In many ways, that documentary and the memorial cross became the nucleus of a new grassroots political movement which favored traditional religious and patriotic values and opposed the hard-nosed, pro-

See "Cross," page 8

Rostenkowski Dead at 82

CHICAGO — Dan Rostenkowski, an old-style Chicago ward boss who became one of the nation's most powerful legislators during the Reagan era before a fall to corruption, died at 82 from cancer at his Wisconsin summer home.

His command of the tax-writing House Ways and Means Committee made him a key player in Washington, but at home he was most celebrated for using that influence to steer billions of dollars in federal aid to Chicago.

Rostenkowski thrived during an era in Washington when hardball politics was tempered by compromise. During his 36-year tenure in Congress he relished his role as a dealmaker with the likes of Democratic Speaker Thomas P. "Tip" O'Neill and Republican Presidents Ronald Reagan and George H.W. Bush.

But he lost his House seat



Rostenkowski

just months after being indicted on federal charges of accepting kickbacks and diverting taxpayer dollars for personal use. He was later pardoned by President Clinton.

The first President Bush issued a statement calling Rostenkowski "a forceful leader who was also exceptionally fair. Everyone in the Congress respected him."

Polish American Pilot and Crew Found 66 Years Later

by Geraldine Balut-Coleman

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The remains of seven Airmen, missing in action during World War II, were buried with full military honors, on July 15, 2010, at Arlington National Cemetery.

The Airmen were Captain Joseph M. Olbinski, Chicago; First Lieutenant Joseph J. Auld, Floral Park, N.Y.; First Lieutenant Robert M. Anderson, Millen, Ga.; Technical Sergeant Clarence E. Frantz, Tyrone, Pa.; Private First Class Richard M. Dawson, Haynesville, Virg.; Private Robert L. Crane, Sacramento, Calif.; and Private Fred G. Fagan, Piedmont, Ala..

On May 23, 1944, Captain Joseph M. Olbinski and his crew, members of the United States Army Air Force (USAAF) of the 4th Troop Carrier Squadron, departed from Dinjan, India to airdrop supplies for allied troops near Myitkyina in the Himalaya Mountains of northern Burma (today known as Myanmar). Captain Olbinski piloted a Douglas C-47A cargo aircraft, affectionately called the "Skytrain," to support the Merrill Marauders which, in turn, conducted long range attacks from behind Japanese lines. The circumstances surrounding Olbinski and his



Capt. Joseph M. Olbinski

crew's disastrous flight are not known and may never be known, according to Lt. Col. Christopher Aycock, USA, of Fort Sheridan in Highwood, Ill. In 1948, Olbinski and his crew were officially declared "missing in action." It was not until 2003, that a Burmese citizen brought a dog tag to a Catholic priest. The tag had Joseph Olbinski's name, serial number and "C" on it. The fallen airmen were identified by their dog tags, and other forensic identification tools were used to help in identifying the remains.

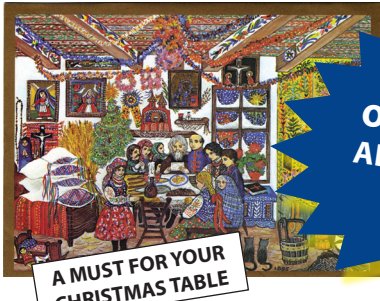
Olbinski was born March 28, 1916, baptized at St. Veronica Parish in Chicago's Avondale neighborhood, worked for the Chicago Transit Authority (CTA), and in the spring of 1941 enlisted in See "Olbinski," page 4

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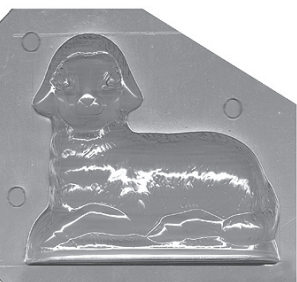
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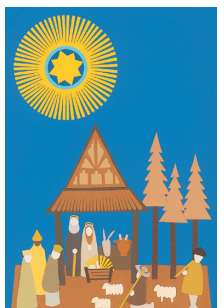
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CARD 202



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



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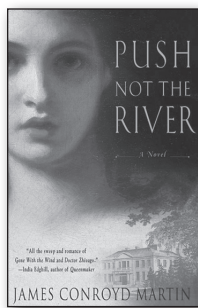


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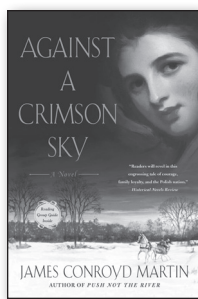
PUSH NOT THE RIVER

by James C. Martin

\$15.95

St. Martin's Press. 496 pp.pb. Maps & wycinanki illust. Reading Group Guide
AUTOGRAPHED! This book club favorite is based on the real diary of a Polish countess who lived through the rise and fall of the Third of May Constitution years, a time of great turmoil. Vivid, romantic, and thrillingly paced, the novel paints the emotional and memorable portrait of the metamorphosis of a nation—and of Anna, a proud and resilient young woman, and Jan, her soldier-husband. Critics have called the story Poland's *Gone with the Wind*.
 The author is the winner of the 2007 Gold Medal for Literature from The American Institute of Polish Culture.

"The story is well paced and compelling, the historical detail plentiful yet not overwhelming, and the characters engaging and true to the period." — *The Historical Novels Review*.

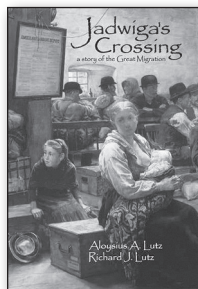


AGAINST A CRIMSON SKY

by James C. Martin

\$15.95

St. Martin's 369 pp.pb. Map & wycinanki illust. Reading Group Guide
AUTOGRAPHED! "You don't have to read *Push Not the River* to get the most from this sequel," says Suzanne Strempek Shea. The award-winning author picks up where *Push Not the River* leaves off, taking the characters 20 years into the fascinating Napoleonic era, highlighting the exploits of the glorious Polish lancers. Having narrowly escaped death amidst the chaos caused by the violent dissolution of their homeland, Anna and Jan struggle to raise a family in uncertain times. When Napoléon Bonaparte comes calling, hinting at independence one day for the country, Polish legions form up—Anna's friends and family members among them—and accompany Napoléon as he battles his way across Europe in an effort that culminates in the doomed 1812 winter march to Moscow.
 "A sprawling epic... entertaining." — *Publishers Weekly*.



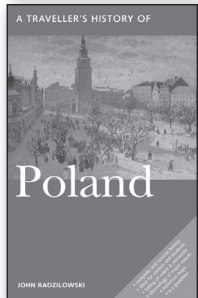
JADWIGA'S CROSSING:

A story of the Great Migration

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348 pp., pb.
 A perfect gift of heritage... The experience of late 19th Century immigration, as seen through the eyes of Paul and Jadwiga Adamik and what they went through to make America their new home. Appropriate for all ages 12 and up.

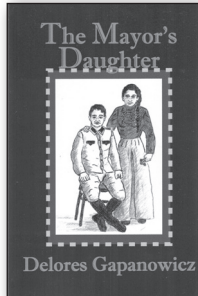


A TRAVELLER'S HISTORY OF POLAND

by John Radzilowski

\$14.95

312 pp. ill., maps. pb.
 A comprehensive historical survey guides travellers through a general history of the people and places of Poland from pre-history to today. Includes a full chronology, a list of monarchs and rulers, a gazetteer, historical maps.



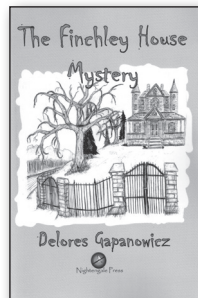
THE MAYOR'S DAUGHTER

by Delores Gapanowicz

\$12.95

Edition illustrated

Nightingale Press, 2007. 176 pp., pb.
 Readers will discover what life was like in rural Eastern Europe before World War I, a way of life that has changed forever. This book retrieves one family's heritage and allows us all to connect with our own. The stories were told to the author by her parents before they passed away. These tales show that young people on farms didn't spend all their time milking cows and picking potatoes.



THE FINCHLEY HOUSE MYSTERY

by Delores Gapanowicz

\$13.95

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

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



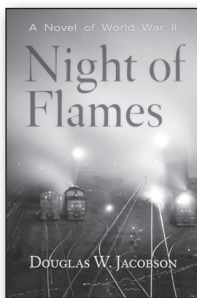
THE FORGOTTEN FEW

by Adam Zamoyski. hc. 239 pp.

\$14.95

Fleeing to Britain after the Germans captured their homeland, the pilots of the Polish Air Force played an important role in the Battle of Britain and the air war in the European theater. They shot down 745 enemy aircraft, with another 175 unconfirmed, and 190 flying bombs targeted at London. A story of the life and times of these airmen stationed in Britain. The story concludes sadly with an account of the development of anti-Polish feelings in Britain at war's end. Photos.

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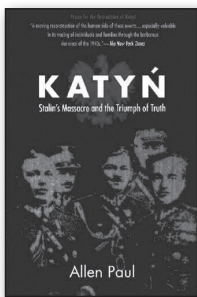
A Novel of World War Two

by Douglas W. Jacobson

\$16.95

384 pp. pb., McBooks Press
"The most powerful weapon on earth is the human soul on fire."
 In 1939 the Germans invade Poland, setting off a rising storm of violence and destruction. For Anna and Jan Kopernik the loss is unimaginable. She is an assistant professor at a university in Krakow; he, an officer in the Polish cavalry. Separated by war, they must find their own way in a world where everything they ever knew is gone.

Through the long night of Nazi occupation, Anna, Jan, and ordinary people across Europe fight a covert war of sabotage and resistance against the overwhelming might of the German war machine. The struggle seems hopeless, but they are determined to take back what is theirs.



NEW! KATYN: STALIN'S MASSACRE

AND THE TRIUMPH OF TRUTH

by Allen Paul

\$24.95

Northern Illinois University Press
 2010. 430 pp. pb. 9"x6.5"

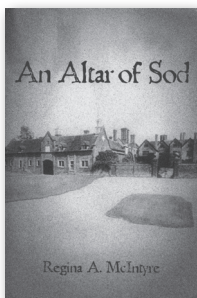
Marking the 70th anniversary of the Katyn Forest massacre, this edition exposes the crime and its cover-up. Twenty years ago, Allen Paul wrote the first post-communist account of one of the greatest but least-known tragedies of the 20th century: Stalin's annihilation of Poland's officer corps and massive deportation of so-called "bourgeoisie elements" to Siberia. Today, these brutal events are symbolized by one word, Katyn.

Paul's richly updated account covers Russian attempts to recant their admission of guilt for the murders in Katyn Forest and includes recently translated documents from Russian military archives, eyewitness accounts of two perpetrators, and secret official minutes published here for the first time that confirm that U.S. government cover-up of the crime continued long after the war ended.

Paul's masterful narrative recreates what daily life was like for three Polish families amid momentous events of World War II—from the treacherous Nazi-Soviet invasion in 1939 to a rigged election in 1947 that sealed Poland's doom.

"Not only a riveting human drama but a powerful historical exposé." — *Zbigniew Brzezinski*, former U.S. national security adviser

"Allen has given us the complete story of Katyn... a wonderful companion to my film!" — *Andrzej Wajda*, Academy Award-winning Director of Katyn.



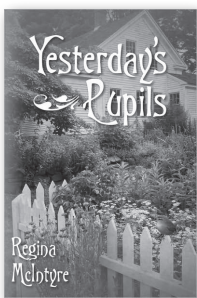
AN ALTAR OF SOD

By Regina A. McIntyre

\$19.95

Hats Off Books, 2001, 2010, 304 pp., pb

In 19th century Partitioned Poland, the village of Miska sits almost unchanged on the banks of the Vistula. This is the story of three families who are unforgettably joined by love, pain, struggle and hope. Rich in tradition, the story builds to a far-reaching conclusion.



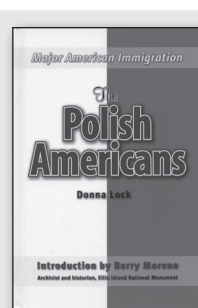
NEW! YESTERDAY'S PUPILS

By Regina A. McIntyre

\$17.95

Create Space Books, 2010, 208 pp., pb

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



NEW! THE POLISH AMERICANS

from the "Major American Immigration Series" by Donna Lock

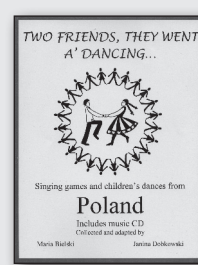
\$22.95

Full color illustrated. Ages 9-12
 Mason Crest Publishers. 2008. 64 pp. hc. 9"x6"

Polish emigrants left their homeland for many of the same reasons as did other ethnic groups: poverty, religious intolerance, hardship, and a strict government. Yet in America's melting pot, the Polish have maintained a stronger hold on their traditions and customs than most of the other immigrant groups that arrived in North America during the 19th and early 20th centuries. This is due in part to the closeness of the ethnic Polish neighborhoods that grew up in the industrial cities where many immigrants settled.

Today, prominent Polish American associations work to ensure that people with Polish ancestry will never forget their proud heritage.

"A good overview of mainstream European American experience..." *Booklist*.



TWO FRIENDS, THEY WENT A' DANCING

by Maria Bielski and Janina Dobkowski

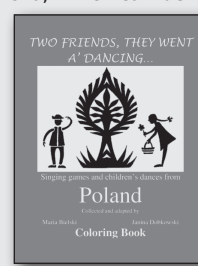
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The book contains lyrics (in both English and Polish) of ten popular singing games, and a vocal music score with chords. Clear step-by-step movement and dance instructions are outlined precisely with the text. In addition, a CD of the recorded songs with accompaniment is included, so that parents, grandparents, teachers, and children can immediately enjoy the songs and games. Each page has an original "wycinanki" (Polish cut-out style) illustration, designed by the artist, Joanna Bielska, which can be reproduced for coloring or craft projects.



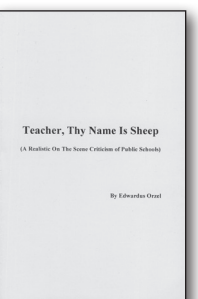
TWO FRIENDS, THEY WENT A' DANCING COMPANION

COLORING BOOK

\$4.00

by Maria Bielski and Janina Dobkowski

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



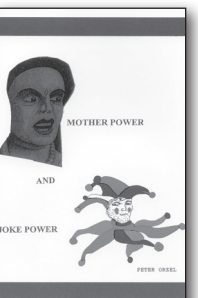
TEACHER, THY NAME IS SHEEP

by E.J. Kalinowski (NDP Edward Orzel)

\$9.95

Kalski Books, 2004. 132 pp., pb.

Why are American high school students so undisciplined? Read this book and judge for yourself. The author, a retired high school and junior high school teacher, first wrote his opinionated discourse in 1968, and updated it in 2004. Among his views are "Give me a Principal with Principles." "It takes good parents, and good teachers, not a village, to raise good students," and "TV is today's mother, father, and teacher" among others.



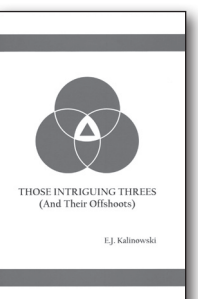
MOTHER POWER AND JOKE POWER

by E.J. Kalinowski (NDP Peter Orzel)

\$9.95

Kalski Books, 1998. 142 pp., pb.

Mother Power is a compendium of psychobiographical sketches on personalities in various fields: politics, military, medicine, theater, and religion, written in a pertinent, pithy manner pointing out how mother influence determined the success of the famous and infamous. *Joke Power* stresses the deleterious effects jokes have in individuals and groups targeted for derision. The author is a retired high school and junior high school teacher, who has penned numerous polemic observations in community and regional newspapers.



THOSE INTRIGUING THREES

(and Their Offshoots)

by E.J. Kalinowski

\$9.95

Self published / Kalski Books, 2009. 166 pp., pb.

Why are there so many threes in the Bible — both the Old and New Testament? Creation abounds in threes? Have you noticed the amount of triadic construction in nature? The premise of this book is the prevalence of threes in our world and how apparent these triadic aspects are if one takes the time to observe them.



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TIME TO SHOW OFF OUR CHURCHES. As part of our 100th year observations, we would like to reflect on the great houses of worship built by Polish Americans since our arrival here. The only way to do this successfully is to ask our readers to provide us with a photo and a paragraph or two on the parish. While we appreciate full histories, we do not have space to print them. Please provide us with a photo or two of the interior and/or exterior. We can accept digital photos via e-mail if they are of high resolution (300 dpi or greater). Please include: Name of church, year opened (year closed if no longer open), street and city, any identifiable people in the photo, and any special memory you may have of the church. Additional information may include: pastor, school status, or, if

closed, name us last pastor, name of new merged parish, etc. All denominations welcome.

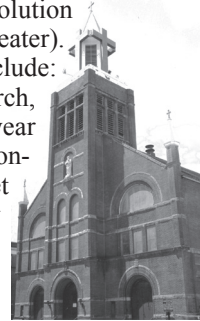
POLISH CLUBS AND PICNIC GROUNDS, TOO. How many of you remember picnics at the PNA Polanka in New Jersey? Or De-



troit's Warsaw Park? Or dances at St. John Kanty's Lyceum in Buffalo?

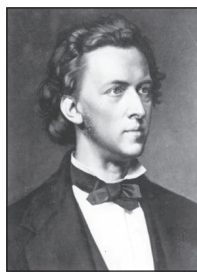
If you have photos from Polonia's past, we'd love to reprint them throughout our anniversary year. In addition to the photograph (We can accept digital photos via e-mail. See above), please include: Name and location of club, park, etc., year, church, year opened (year closed if any identifiable people in the photo, and any special memory you may have.

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OCTOBER IS POLISH HERITAGE MONTH!

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CHOPIN. Famous French pianist?

Kościuszko. Wojtyła. Wałęsa. These are the names of famous Poles everyone recognizes.

But do you know we once had a high school math teacher tell us "I didn't know Copernicus was Polish"? Many people think Fryderyk Chopin and Madame Curie are French, or that Joseph Conrad was born in England.

For every Kościuszko or Wałęsa, there are thousands Kuklińskis and Malinowskis. Everyone knows Mike Krzyzewski, but what can they tell you about "Red" Mihalik? Do you know Kevlar - the material used in bullet-proof vests - was invented by Stephanie Kwolek, a Polish American chemist? Or that the Internet would not be possible without the work of Paul Baran? When you take your vitamins every morning, think of Kazimierz Funk, who was the first to formulate the concept of these organic compounds.

How many of our war heroes are household names? Many will probably say Kosciuszko and Pulaski, but what about Matt Urban, or the Ripkowski Brothers? With the passing of generations, the names and contributions of

great Poles and Polish Americans will fade into history unless we teach our children and grandchildren about them.

And we offer a simple way to do that. Printed on the pages of the Polish American Journal are stories and accounts about these great people. For almost 100 years, the PAJ and its Polish-language predecessors have brought you news from every corner of Polonia and Poland. News made by not only the Kościuszkos, Wojtyłas, and Wałęsas, but the Kozłowskis, Wisniewskis, and Arctowskis as well.

You can help us continue doing just that by supporting the Polish American Journal with patron advertising. Every October, National Polish American Heritage Month, we publish an edition dedicated to keeping the good name of Poland and Polonia alive here in the United States. The October edition contains greetings from friends, businesses and organizations that recognize the importance of promoting Polonia and Poland's standing among other ethnic groups. Furthermore, it provides us with funds to continue publishing throughout the year.

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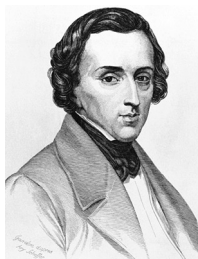
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SEPTEMBER • WRZESIEŃ



Hats off, gentlemen — a genius!
— Robert Schumann in 1831, about Chopin.

- 1 Without declaring war, Nazi Germany attacks Poland.
- 2 1833. Birth of Polish scientist **Rudolf Weigl**, who discovered the typhus microbe.
- 5 1936. Birth of 8-time Golden Glove winner Pittsburgh Pirate **Bill Mazeroski**, considered to be the greatest second baseman of all time.
- 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.
- 9 1881. Birth of Blessed **Aniela Salawa**.
Gadał dziad do obrazu, a obraz do niego ani razu. A beggar talked to a picture, but picture answered nothing.
- 10 1897. Immigrant miners on strike 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.
- 12 1683. **Jan Sobieski III** defeats Turks besieging Vienna.
1977. Death of musician and conductor **Leopold Stokowski**, first conductor of the Hollywood Bowl.
- 15 1777. **General Casimir Pulaski** appointed general in the American Army as result of his role in the Battle of Brandywine.
- 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.
- 24 1963. **John Gronouski** (d. 1996) appointed Postmaster General by President Kennedy—the first Polish-American to serve in the Cabinet position.
- 25 **BLESSED WLADYSLAW OF GIELNIOW**, patron saint of Warsaw (1505).
- 26 1912. Polish National Alliance opens **Alliance College** in Cambridge Springs, Pa.
- 27 1942. **Zegota**, an underground organization for rescuing Jews from the Nazis, formed in occupied Poland.
Kuj żelazo, póki gorące. Strike while the iron is hot.
- 29 1856. Founding of **St. Mary's**, the first Polish church in America in Panna Maria, Texas.
- 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.
- 31 1918. Austrian Forces are removed from Krakow.

This paper mailed on or before September 1, 2010. The October 2010 edition will be mailed on or before September 30.

VIEWPOINTS

Orchard Lake Anniversary: Time to Rejoice, Time to Resolve

2010 marks an important double anniversary for the Orchard Lake Schools. 125 years ago, in 1885, Father Józef Dąbrowski founded the "Polish Seminary" in Detroit. Just about 100 years ago, in 1909, Father Witold Buhaczkowski moved the growing school out of Detroit to its present location at Orchard Lake, about 35 miles northwest of the Motor City.

Three schools eventually emerged from Dąbrowski's "Polish Seminary." Ss. Cyril & Methodius Seminary still prepares men for the priesthood and confers graduate theological degrees on men and women. St. Mary's College, once the undergraduate liberal arts college, is now extinct. After a failed venture with Ave Maria—the baby of Tom Monaghan of Domino's Pizza, which eventually went south to Florida—the College became a satellite campus of Michigan's Madonna University. St. Mary's Preparatory offers a four-year academic college prep high school program.

Pope John Paul II, who twice visited the Schools before becoming Pope, once said that if the Orchard Lake Schools didn't exist, they would have to be created. Indeed, for more than a century, Orchard Lake has served America's Catholic Polonia, particularly by training over 3,000 priests. The Polish-English missalette *Pan z Wami* is a fixture in many Polish parishes.

In recent years, Orchard Lake has undertaken some projects to enhance its Polish identity. A Director of Polish Mission has been hired, the professional care of the Library's unique Polish collection is proceeding, a genealogy program is beginning, and the archives is working to preserve Polonia's rapidly disappearing heritage of ma-

terial culture. All these initiatives deserve praise.

On this anniversary, however, one must also ask just how strong Orchard Lake's intellectual leadership in American Polonia really is. Honesty demands admitting that it has been somewhat anemic for a good 35 years. Between the demise of St. Mary's and the Polish National Alliance's closure of Alliance College, American Polonia today has no institution of higher learning to call its own. During that period, there was a white ethnic revival, the fall of communism, Poland's re-emergence as a free country, and the quarter century pontificate of a Polish Pope. Yet Orchard Lake's central leadership never seemed to figure out how to capitalize on all that. The Seminary still ordains priests, but largely by importing seminarians from Poland who often wind up in priest-hungry dioceses where there is no Polonia. As the great achievement of the *emigracja za chlebem*—Polonia's numerous and beautiful churches—dwindles and faces consolidation and closure, we are counting on Orchard Lake to once again provide the leadership to make Dąbrowski's mission pertinent in the 21st century.

On the occasion of these two great anniversaries, "thank you" to the Orchard Lake Schools. For their labors on behalf of Polonia, we do not wish them *sto lat!*—they've already achieved that—but *dwieście lat!* At the same time, let this jubilee be an occasion to make some resolutions. Both the Schools and Polonia must resolve to get serious about the need for a strong, dynamic, and visible intellectual leadership for American Polonia, as well as the role of the Orchard Lake Schools in that task.

HISTORY

Pre-War Partition Signed



AUGUST 23, 1939 — Soviet Foreign Minister Molotov signs the Nazi-Soviet Non-aggression Pact while German Foreign Minister Von Ribbentrop and Soviet leader Stalin look on under a portrait of Lenin. News of the Pact stunned the world and paved the way for the beginning of World War II with Hitler assured the Germans would not have to fight a war on two fronts. Germany started that war on September 1, 1939, by attacking Poland. As German troops entered from the West, the Soviet army entered from the East and soon swallowed Poland.

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QUOTES / compiled from news sources

Russians Hand Over Reports

"I would like to give my thanks for this huge volume of material."

— **Gen. Krzysztof Parulski**, Poland's top military prosecutor, after Russia handed over thousands of pages of evidence on the plane crash in April that killed Polish President Lech Kaczynski and 95 other people.

Polish officials complained earlier about what they said was Russian procrastination in handing over evidence, crucial for Poland's own investigation into whether anyone in Poland is to blame. The Polish investigation is being conducted alongside the main Russian investigation, in which a Polish official is an observer.

◆◆◆
"Young people do not understand what it means that Warsaw was in ruins; they think it was just a few collapsed houses. Nor were we, at the museum, fully aware of what the city looked like."

— **Jan Oldakowski**, director of the Warsaw Uprising Museum, on the five-minute 3-D film "City of Ruins," created to give viewers a bird's-eye perspective of the devastation.

◆◆◆
"With all the legislation that I passed, with all the history that I've written with respect to the economics of the country, they're always going to say 'there's a felon named Danny Rostenkowski.' That's going to be the obituary."

— **Late Illinois Congressman Dan Rostenkowski**, in an 1998 broadcast interview with Robert Novak and Mark Shields, lamenting that his legacy always would be tainted by spending nearly 1 1/2 years in federal prison.

◆◆◆
"Indeed, Rostenkowski was a critical to some of the biggest deals of his time. He worked with the White House of Ronald Reagan in the early 1980s on tax cuts, and again at mid-decade on an overhaul of the tax code. In between, he

helped cobble together the compromise that saved Social Security for a generation."

— **Ron Elving** on the NPR news blog "Watching Washington," Rostenkowski's legacy.

◆◆◆
"One of the world's most-wanted Nazis could be tried as an adolescent — and he's almost 90 years old. The BBC is reporting that former death camp guard Samuel Kunz, whose age is given variously in news reports as 88 and 89, was charge [...] in Bonn, Germany, with helping from 1942 to 1943 in the killing of 430,000 Jewish prisoners at the Polish Belzec camp, as well as murdering 10 Jews on other occasions during the same period."

— **A July 29 in a story about a former Nazi death camp guard in The Washington Times.** The paper later edited to story to correctly state the German camp was in Nazi-occupied Poland.

◆◆◆
"The result is a consumer financial-protection agency that's prevented from overseeing one of the most common, and most important, financial products that consumers buy. It's like creating the F.D.A. and then denying it authority over pain relievers."

— **James Surowiecki** of The New Yorker, on the new financial reform bill that has no power to regulate automobile loans made by car dealers. Auto loans today total almost \$850 billion, eighty percent of which are brokered by car dealers.

◆◆◆
"I don't like to see the end of those glorious American brands. I hate to see them go. But it was time for this to happen years ago."

— **Auto industry analyst John Wolkonowicz**, on the fate of Ford's Mercury line. Wolkonowicz says part of the American auto's demise is too many repetitive models, with automakers selling essentially the same vehicle under different names.

Drobot Elected PRCUA President

CHICAGO — Joseph Drobot, Jr. of Bloomfield Hills, Mich. will be the next president of the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America. Drobot was elected at the Chicago-headquartered fraternal's 60th Quadrennial Convention, held at the Hilton Rosemont/Chicago O'Hare Hotel.

He will replace Walter Ozog, who has held the title since 1998.

Also elected were: Anna Sokolowska of Downers Grove, Ill. (Resident Vice Pres.); Robert Bielenda of Redford, Mich. (Vice Pres.); and Jim Robaczewski of Chicago, (Sec. Treas.).

Complete coverage in next month's PAJ.

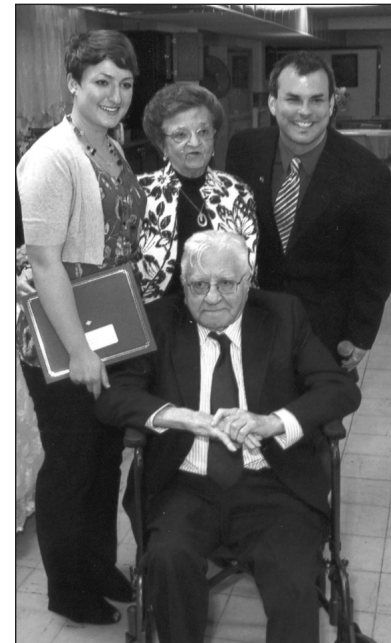
Founder of PHA Celebrates 100th Birthday

BALTIMORE—Stanley Ciesielski, founder and first president of Polish Heritage Association of Maryland, was honored at a celebration of the 35th Annual Scholarship Program. A scholarship was given in his honor for dedication not only to the organization, but also for promoting Poland's many causes during his lifetime.

In the thirty five years since its inception, the Scholarship Program has funded over \$215,000 in grants to further the education of Polish Students.

A lavish reception was prepared by the Hospitality Committee.

Pictured are: Ciesielski; Sylwia Surowiec, recipient of scholarship; Victoria T. Leshinskie, current PHA president; and Gordon Creamer, chair of the Scholarship Committee.



SPEAK UP / Letters to the Editor

Who's to Blame?

Dear Editor,

In the July 2010 issue of the Polish American Journal, Edward J. Kurzanski makes several accusations about President Obama I would like to question.

First, Mr. Kurzanski claims that President Obama has betrayed Poland just as FDR and Churchill did at Tehran and Yalta by withdrawing President Bush's proposed missile system. Mr. Kurzanski states that "the current U.S. administration, like their scheming predecessors," made this decision because they "considered Poland to be within the Russian sphere of influence."

I would like to respectfully question that assumption for a couple of reasons.

First, Bush's system was not designed to protect Poland from Russian missiles. Both Bush and Lech Kaczynski insisted the system was not aimed at Russia but was intended as a shield against European incursions by smaller countries like North Korea and Iran. (See "Missile Plan is a Go, Say Bush and Kaczynski," PAJ, Aug. 2007). Thus, Obama's decision to remove the system was not a betrayal, but rather an acknowledgement that the plan was, perhaps, not only diplomatically ham handed, but also strategically impractical. Moreover, subsequent military spending in Poland by the Obama administration would seem to indicate that his administration does not consider Poland a vassal of Russia but rather an extremely important ally.

Another point of Mr. Kurzanski's letter I take issue with is his statement that Obama is "the most anti-life president in our history." Evidently, Mr. Kurzanski has never read Obama's views on abortion. If he had, he would see that Obama campaigned to reduce the number of abortions.

In addition, Obama stated he wanted to develop health and educational programs for newborns so that they would not languish in poverty and neglect which is too often the current practice. Other than paying lip-service at election time to anti-abortion voters, no president so far has endorsed such a program. Indeed, once in office no previous president has lifted a finger to change our abortion laws even when they had control of both houses.

The final point I take issue with is Mr. Kurzanski's assertion that Obama is using deficit spending to perpetuate his power and burden "our children's children's children." Deficit spending began under the previous administration that granted unfunded tax breaks to the wealthy, started wars whose funding was not included in regular budgets, and initiated the bailouts of the banks and auto industries. As the country tanked into another Great Depression, Obama was forced, upon assuming office, to follow Economics 101, which states that in times of major depressions, government is usually the only agency that has the power to turn the situation around by embracing short term deficits to restore long term financial stability.

Obama has and will make his share of mistakes like any president, but it seems to me a monumental stretch to claim he is a perfidious, baby killing, power-mad ruler bent on destroying the future not only of our children but also of his own two daughters. Mr. Kurzanski has every right to disagree with political decisions, but little progress is made when the disagreement descends into vilifying and demonizing any opponent he disagrees with.

Walter Sobczak
Novi, Michigan

WHY JUST PICK ON SPECTER? I certainly didn't mean to imply that the situation of U.S. Senator Arlen Specter telling "dumb Polak" jokes at a public luncheon was comparable in significance to Duke University's Coach Mike Krzyzewski's telling Polish "jokes" in the locker room, as your response to my letter suggests. ("What's good for the goose ...," PAJ Speak Up, August 2010).

But for the Polish American Journal to thoroughly chastise Specter while at the same time fettering Krzyzewski, without ever mentioning his daily routine of telling "dumb Polak" jokes to his young charges, is notably inconsistent and is what I questioned.

I would not give Krzyzewski a pass because his "jokes" are told "at his own expense" as you state in your reply. Being Polish gives Krzyzewski no more right to degrade and slander Poles than Specter.

Tom Kiseleski
Pittsford, New York

Editor's Response: We did not "give Krzyzewski a pass." If he is foolish enough to make fun of his ancestors, how else would you define "at his own expense"? If Krzyzewski's "charges" think any less of Poles or Poland because of his self esteem issues, they have no one to blame but themselves. These are college students, not six-year-olds. Audience members spoke out at Specter's presentation.

Should Krzyzewski set an example? Surely. Should we take belittle his accomplishments as a coach because he has no regard for his roots? There's the rub. We choose to accentuate the positive.

PERHAPS A READER WILL KNOW.

Some years ago I was reading about certain leading German Nazi's, who, in the 1930s, studied British methods of ethnic cleansing and subverting local legal systems to more successfully loot whole nations. I did not take notice of which German Nazi it was nor the reference source. Now it becomes relevant to a paper I am doing and I am hoping one of your readers could enlighten/remind me, or tell me of anything similar?

Ray Watembach
24 Seymour St.

Waitara 4320 New Zealand
rayjos@slingshot.co.nz

DOCUMENTS HIS HERITAGE.

I recently had the pleasure of reading a copy of the Polish American Journal. I found many interesting articles that I added to my collection that I have posted in several loose leaf albums. My son-in-law gave me a subscription for my 85th birthday!

I am enclosing several articles you may find interesting, including a letter I sent to Jay Leno after he made several insulting remarks about Polish people. Of course, I never got a response.

Leonard "Sack" Owczarczak
Brooklyn, Michigan

Editor's note: Thanks, Mr. Owczarczak. Some of the information you sent will be used in upcoming editions of the PAJ!

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RELIGION / Benjamin Fiore, S.J.

“Radio Priest” Marks Tenth Anniversary

UNIONTOWN, Pa. — What began in response to a trial experiment led to over 520 prepared and aired weekly radio programs, now marking 10 years. It was in June of 2000 while the Reverend Joseph L. Sredzinski was serving as Pastor of St. Hubert Parish in Point Marion, Pa., that radio staff member Ron Dawson of WMBS 590 AM of Uniontown, approached Fr. Joseph about taking over the 15-minute religious weekly broadcast entitled “That You May Believe.”

Not schooled in radio broadcasting, Fr. Joseph backed off, but with the persistence of Dawson, the priest agreed to try two programs. And that was the beginning of what on June 15 of this year marked 10 years of weekly-aired radio programs.

The format aired Sundays at 6:05 p.m., includes an opening hymn, greeting, reading of the Sunday Gospel, a prepared message, announcements, special prayers and closing hymn. In Advent and Lent the Reverend Doctor Lawrence Hoppe has assisted with talks appropriate to the Liturgical season on spiritual development. Fr. Joseph has also been a guest on “Let’s Talk,” hosted by Bob Foltz also of the WMBS radio staff, and addressed such issues as Lent, the priest abuse issue, the “Divinci Code,” and the Pro-Life Cause with the annual D.C. March for Life.

Recognized as an instrument for evangelization, Fr. Sredzinski, a Fayette County native, likewise makes use of the radio air with special segments for Polish melodies with Christmas in Polish style, and explanations with music for Easter and Polish Heritage Month. Grateful for his constant sponsor, the many listeners, the WMBS radio staff and management, Fr. Joseph hopes he has sustained others in Faith and uplifted those who listen with convictions and a deeper appreciation of his rich Polish ethnicity.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO ... St. Joseph National Catholic Parish, Westfield, Mass., on its 90th year.



Reverend Joseph L. Sredzinski behind the microphone.

Rt. Rev. Thomas J. Gnat of Manchester, N.H., bishop of the Eastern Diocese, celebrated the anniversary Mass. The parish’s first pastor in 1921 was **Rev. Joseph L. Soltysiak** and the pastor since 1994 is Very **Rev. Joseph Soltysiak**, his grandson. His great-grandson **Rev. Jason Soltysiak** celebrated his first Mass at the church in January 2007.

PEACE BRIDGE HONORS BLESSED MOTHER TERESA. Bishop Edward U. Kmiec of the diocese of Buffalo and Msgr. Wayne Kirkpatrick, administrator of the Diocese of St. Catharines, Ontario, jointly requested that the Peace bridge between Buffalo and Ft. Erie be illuminated blue and white on August 26, Bl. Mother Teresa’s, which would have been the blessed’s 100th birthday. Mother Teresa’s work for the poor is carried on by the Missionaries of Charity throughout the world. Bishop Kmiec said, “This is symbolic in that Blessed Mother Teresa’s light continues to shine around the world.”

POLISH PILGRIMAGE. Supreme Knight **Carl A. Anderson**, of the Knights of Columbus, joined some 100,000 pilgrims at the annual Pilgrimage of Men and Youth to the Shrine of Our Lady of Piekary Śląskie in southern Poland.

Six Polish-American Knights from Phoenix formed the Fourth Degree Honor Guard. Anderson remembered the words of **Pope John Paul II**, “To be human is to be a pilgrim, constantly drawn to the Father, by the Father’s love.” While in Poland, Anderson met with more than 150 new Third Degree Knights, the first class of candidates to take their Third Degree in Poland.

MICHIGAN SHRINE HONORS OUR LADY. The idea came to **Fr. Hubert Rakowski**, a young itinerant country priest in Mio, Michigan, to build a shrine in honor of the Virgin Mary at St. Mary’s Church. Our Lady of the Woods Shrine began with the donation in 1954, by a Lutheran woman, of a white Italian marble statue of Our Lady of Lourdes. Over time, many individuals, businesses and civic groups contributed their time and donations. Twenty-five thousand tons of Onaway shale created the massive walls, honeycombed with grottos and niches. The first Mass was celebrated in 1955. The niches, steps, waterfalls, and statuary all celebrate aspects of its location in the Michigan woods.

CATHOLIC DAD AGAINST ABUSE. **David Spotanski**, a Catholic layman and vice-chancellor of the Diocese of Belleville, Ill. wrote a ten-page memo which he gave to his bishop on Feb. 22, 2002. Bishop Wilton D. Gregory, who had just become president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, scanned the document with its declaration that the bishops were not doing all they could to stop the sexual abuse of minors by their brother priests. Spotanski also included pictures of his daughter and two sons, which Bishop Gregory had in his briefcase at each important meeting, including one with Pope John Paul II. David Spotanski and Bishop Gregory’s persistence on the issue led to a crucial Vatican summit on the abuse crisis and tougher policies to protect children in the U.S. church. A *New York Times* columnist called Spotanski the “man who saved American Catholicism.” His blunt, personal tone emphasized the damage done to the lives and faith of ordinary Catholic children and their parents. He asked what would Jesus say to a cardinal who has “shown himself to be dishonest about his knowledge of the forcible anal rape of children?” Most of all, he argues that Catholic bishops had to think about their own vows and the church’s future and stop treating victims like “lepers, sinners, nuisances or threats.”

St. Louis vs. St. Stanislaus Kostka

ST. LOUIS, Mo. — On August 8, in a 257 to 158 vote the members of St. Stanislaus Kostka Church rejected the Archdiocese of St. Louis’ offer to return to communion with the Roman Catholic Church. **Fr. Marek Bozek**, the pastor — excommunicated along with the church’s Board members since 2005 — noted the vote “that most don’t wish to go back to the diocese.”

At the August 8 meeting, parishioners discussed Archbishop Robert Carlson’s drafted settlement. With their vote, the proposal was rejected and the lawsuit continues between lawyers from the Archdiocese and St. Stanislaus.

This all stems from two issues. First, in a highly publicized dispute, St. Stanislaus Lay Board of Directors refused to transfer its financial assets, estimated to be approximately \$8 million and its property, to the control of the Archdiocese. Fear that the Archdiocese may have planned to close the church and use its assets to fund the sexual-abuse caldron, St. Stanislaus said “No,” transforming it into an isolated congregation with no priests, and no holy sacraments.

Secondly, a July 2008 lawsuit filed by the Archdiocese and a few former St. Stanislaus board mem-

bers created mayhem. To date, the Archdiocese’s proposed settlement would allow St. Stanislaus to own its own property and financial assets. However, the church building and rectory would be leased to St. Stanislaus through a “Parish Corporation,” staffed and run by priests selected by the Archdiocese. The present St. Stanislaus Board of Directors would still be elected by its parishioners, but the Archdiocese must give final approval.

It is already known that Raymond Burke, former Archbishop of St. Louis, proclaimed in December 2005 that Bozek and the Lay Board of Directors were *persona non-grata*. Burke warned Bozek and the parishioners that their continued schismatic actions could result in excommunication. In 2009 and true to his word, Burke ordered the excommunication of Bozek and some members of the Board. With Pope Benedict XVI’s approval, Bozek was formally laicized, defrocked. But a defiant Bozek came aboard and continues to preside over the sacraments to approximately 500 families.

— Geraldine Balut Coleman

Józef Cardinal Glemp Presented Fidalitas Medal at OLC Ladies Day Dinner and Gala

ORCHARD LAKE, Mich.— Guests at the 41st Annual Ladies Day Gala for the benefit of the Orchard Lake Schools, held Sun., August 29, enjoyed a delightful afternoon — rich in meaning for an excellent cause — supporting the academic and cultural mission of the students attending Ss. Cyril & Methodius Seminary and St. Mary’s Preparatory in Orchard Lake.

The Gala, one of the OLS’ most popular annual events, is sponsored by the 2010 Ladies Day Committee and the OLS Women’s Council. Held on the school campus, it began with Sunday Mass in the Shrine Chapel of Our Lady of Orchard Lake, and was then followed in the St. Mary’s Athletic Complex with cocktails, hors d’oeuvres, a delicious dinner, raffles, a grand drawing and prizes.

Most notably for the 2010 Gala was the presentation of the 2010 Fidelitas Medal to Józef Cardinal Glemp, Primate-Emeritus of Poland.

The Medal, which is bestowed annually, is the highest honor and most prestigious award given by the Orchard Lake Schools. Since its inception in 1949, it has been presented in recognition of one’s fidelity in serving God, country, and the Orchard Lake Schools. Fidelitas Medalists are considered for

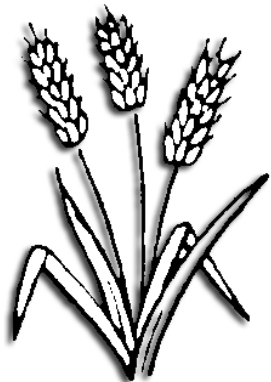
their realization of the religious and cultural ideals of OLS founder, Rev. Joseph Dąbrowski, a Polish missionary priest, who established the original educational institution in Detroit in 1885, and his successors. Previous recipients include: Dr. Zbigniew Brzezinski; John Cardinal Krol; Senator Edmund Muskie; Dr. Czesław Miłosz; Judge Frank G. Schemanske; His Eminence Adam Cardinal Maida; and His Eminence Stanisław Cardinal Dziwisz of Kraków.

The end-of-summer fundraiser provides vital funding for the seminarians of Ss. Cyril & Methodius Seminary, the students of St. Mary’s Preparatory, and the Orchard Lake Polish Mission.

The Orchard Lake Schools, a private, Catholic center of formation and education, are located on the eastern shore of Orchard Lake, 25 miles northwest of Detroit and five miles southwest of Pontiac in Orchard Lake, Michigan. The 115-acre campus, which encompasses Ss. Cyril & Methodius Seminary, St. Mary’s Preparatory, the Orchard Lake Schools Polish Mission, as well as Madonna University’s Orchard Lake Center, has been designated a Michigan Historical Site and placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

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11:00 a.m. Dozynki Ceremony
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2:00 p.m. Polish Heritage Dancers of Western New York
3:30 Chopin Singing Society
4:30-8:30 p.m. Bedrock Boys (Polka Music)

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PRAYERTOTHEBLESSEDVIRGIN. (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.

PRAYERTOTHEBLESSEDVIRGIN. (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.N.



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Polish Living History Comes to Life

Battle of Kluszyń Re-enactment
Warsaw, Poland, July 3-4, 2010

by Rik Sulima-Suligowski Fox

"The Russian and German forces were upon the field, reinforced by foreign mercenaries from many western European nations... Due to Hetman (Commander) Żółkiewski's daring strategy and tactics, the Poles were in a far superior position to accomplish the impossible;



EAST MEETS WEST. The re-enactment in Poland provided the opportunity for the author (left) and wife Tara (center) to meet with Eric Jadaszewski (right) and the Czarniecki's Division members of his "Husaria Tour." Fox lives in California and Jadaszewski lives in New Hampshire.

utilizing nearly 2,700 soldiers and cavalry (and lots of psychology) to surround and defeat nearly 35,000 enemy opposition forces and decisively win. The daunting and dangerously renowned winged husaria cavalry were sent in several times, horses' chests breaking through field fencing fortifications, trouncing wave after wave of enemy opposition, eventually overcoming and

scattering the enemy in a rout!"

Such was the set up and delivery for the largest historical battle re-enactment of its kind that took place in Warsaw, Poland on July 4, 2010, during the 400th Anniversary of the pivotal Battle of Kluszyń, also known as Klushino.

Sitting atop a fully-wooded palisade fort and narrated in a live, play-by-play action by Dr. Radosław Sikora and Polish actor Olgierd Łukaszewicz, upwards of 130 horsemen (80 of which were winged hussars!) and some 600 or more re-enactors from all sides engaged together at this most spectacular event held along the Wisła (Vistula) River in a huge period encampment in Zoliborz Quarter Park.

Re-enactors included: Germans (also representing Swedes); Russians; Ukrainian Kossaks; Czechs; French Reiters cavalry; Husaria cavalry and infantry from all over Poland; assorted sundry infantry forces representing foreign mercenaries; and Polish Americans.

The amazing repeated charges through the musket-fire and cannon-smoke by the winged hussar cavalry were breathtaking and astounding; one could now imagine what it must have been like to see and feel an actual thunderous charge by this spectacular heavy cavalry!

There is nothing that can compare to it in America. Also set up was a stage which featured Jacek Kowalski, who performed many period-themed tunes from his new album *Wojna i Miłość*. All this was coordinated by the exhausted host, Bartosz Siedlar of the Winged Hussar Foundation of Warsaw, Poland.

Although other Polish American re-enactors from the east coast had been to Poland previously and returned again, this event marked not only the significant, first-time visit and participation of America's first established winged hussar presentation of myself and my wife, Tarrah, of Suligowski's Regiment, from the west coast of Los Angeles, California. It was also the first time meeting with Eric Jadaszewski and the Czarniecki's Division members of his "Husaria Tour."

Advance press had preceded us, and many were acquainted with our name and anticipated our arrival. Suligowski's Regiment documenter, Jan Połubinski, was busy fielding questions and doing his best PR work to all the media and other participants (in Polish), and had secured several interviews for us. Winning hearts and minds, I was both overwhelmed and swamped with excited photo-takers, who wished to pose with me in my "American-made" Polish Hussar armor.

One could easily see that all the American re-enactors felt a unanimous sense of pride in being able to collectively touch our roots during this exciting event. As I rode up to the battlefield to join Hetman Żółkiewski's command staff, my loaner horse, unfortunately, become very nervous, and for safety's sake, I was forced to dismount and remain on foot. Additionally, while conducting an interview with the Polish History Channel, we missed



our place in the Pass-in-Review before the crowd, and missed our opportunity to be filmed with the other American participants.

Historical details of the battle in English, by Dr. Radosław Sikora, can be found at: www.radoslawsikora.republika.pl/materialy/Kluszyń.pdf. Additionally, more photos of the event can be seen here: <http://ilovewargameing.21.forumer.com/viewtopic.php?t=2844>, and <http://picasaweb.google.com/awesela/KUzyńInscenizacja20100703#>. Videos begin here: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TtJ_aaTPYI&feature=player_embedded.

This writer was in touch with his noble ancestral roots, strongly feeling my late father looking on with pride. There was also a planned concert with Poland's top rock band, TSA, in the works with myself as a guest performer, but budgetary constraints prevented that from taking place.

Much thanks and appreciation goes out to Bartosz Siedlar of the Winged Hussar Foundation (www.hussar.com.pl/) for making it possible to host both the event, and for having us there as his guests. We thank Mr. Siedlar's wonderful grandmother, who graciously

opened her 17th century apartment in Krakow for us, and for the gift of the commemorative coins of both the Kluszyń and Grunwald events.

For myself—and undoubtedly the other American re-enactors—this was the Superbowl of re-enactments, which I will never forget!

◆◆◆

Photos by permission, courtesy of Lukasz Wojtczak & Bartosz Siedlar/The Winged Hussar Foundation

Fox lives in Los Angeles on a ranch with his wife and their eight horses and eight cats. Having been a rock star in the '80s and worked as a property master and weapons-handler in the film industry, he is the pioneer of the current Polish winged hussar movement in the United States, and founder of the first group of its kind, Suligowski's Regiment of Sobieski's Command: America's First 17th century Living History, re-enactment Group of Polish winged hussar knights and military nobility of the Mighty Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. A historian and researcher of the winged hussars and recipient of dozens of accolades and awards to the fact, Fox's directive has been to raise Polish historic awareness and culture in this area.

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Another Cross War in Poland

continued from cover

business orientation of Warsaw's ruling camp.

Soon after narrowly defeating Jarosław Kaczyński, the twin of the deceased president Lech, Bronisław Komorowski said he wanted the cross moved to a nearby church. The Warsaw city architect issued a statement that the cross could not stay because that contravened the city's urban development plans. That made mourners all the more intent on gathering there, leaving flowers, lighting votive lamps, praying and singing religious and patriotic hymns. Some have kept a round-the-clock vigil to prevent the police removing the cross under the cover of night.

When an attempt was made to move the cross to nearby St. Anne's Church, hundreds of defenders prevented its removal and clashed with police. Teenagers and young adults as well as war veterans an old "babcia" types were shoved, beaten and sprayed with tear gas, but refused to give up. Ultimately, a presidential spokesperson said the cross would remain where it was at least for the time being.

Father Stanisław Małkowski, who back in the 1980s narrowly missed being murdered by the communist secret police along with Father Popiełuszko, supports the cross defenders and is critical of those demanding its removal. "They got high on beer and starting hurling vulgar insults at the defenders," the pro-Solidarity priest told this reporter. Opponents contend that the entire controversy has projected an image of Poland as a backwater of religious fanatics and made it the laughing stock of Europe.

BUT THE BOTTOM LINE of the recent cross war was not about religion but exclusion. The cross defenders are mainly ordinary, patriotic, tax-paying and God-fear-

ing Poles who feel marginalized by Warsaw elites and Tusk's ruling camp. They are defending the memory of the late First Couple and agree to the cross's removal the moment a permanent memorial in their honor appears in its place. A recent opinion poll showed that 57% of those surveyed agreed with that solution.

Some political analysts have pointed out that whatever motives individual combatants on both sides of the cross war may have, for the government the dispute has conveniently diverted attention from a recent tax hike. During the August off-season it also has provided a colorful topic for the media which have eagerly whipped up the controversy. Probably the majority of those gathering near the cross on recent nights were curiosity-seekers interested to see what was happening.

Whatever the case, this was not Poland's first cross war. In 1960, steelworkers planted a large cross in Kraków's industrial suburb of Nowa Huta, the communist regime's godless, Marxist showplace, to demand a church of their own. Street fights erupted when the police tried to remove the cross, and only after a prolonged political tug-of-war did the regime allow a church to be built in 1966. That victory was largely attributed to then Bishop Karol Wojtyła, the future pope, a tough negotiator in defense of people's right to worship.

The cross together with pictures of Our Lady and the Polish Pontiff figured prominently in the peaceful Solidarność revolution that ultimately led to the collapse of the Soviet bloc. A large floral cross laid out on the pavement of then Victory (now Piłsudski) Square in protest against martial law was systematically removed by the police, only to re-appear the next day.

Also in the 1980s, teenagers staged school strikes when principals were ordered by the regime to remove crucifixes from classrooms.

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See form on page 4 or call 1 (800) 422-1275

AMERICAN POLONIA AT A GLANCE

CHICAGO — For the fifth consecutive year, the Washington, D.C. office of the **Polish American Congress (PAC)** presented the interests and perspectives of the Polish American Community during the annual event “Taste America,” held on July 29.

During its 19 years on Capitol Hill, the “Taste America” event has drawn approximately 650-700 visitors annually, primarily members of the House of Representatives and Senate and their families. Traditionally, the reception is held in the Members Dining Room of the U.S. Capitol. It is the only public event that is authorized to take place in this historic setting.

The event, an elegant reception with an expo of approximately 12-15 exhibitors, invited the PAC to present its display, the only ethnic exhibit at the event.

This year’s theme was “Protect and Defend,” in which the PAC emphasized many Polish and Polish American military achievements throughout history, while also highlighting accomplishments in the health sciences and the preservation and transmission of cultural heritage.

BALTIMORE, Md. — The young adult **Polish Folk Dance Group**, formerly known as *Ojczyzna*, is being revived under the auspices of Holy Rosary Church in Baltimore.

A dance workshop will be held Sun., Sept. 12, at 4:30 p.m. in the church hall. The church is located at 410 S. Chester St. (off of the 2100 block of Eastern Ave.).

The workshop will provide an opportunity for you to learn both regional and national dances of Poland. A wide range of energetic dances will be presented, including fun regional polkas and the stately Polonaise. Traditional costumes

from several regions throughout Poland will be displayed during the workshop to demonstrate the diversity and beauty of Polish folklore. No prior dance experience is required.

The instructor, Dennis Klima, is a physical therapist who received a diploma in Polish folklore and dance at the Marie Curie Sklodowska University in Lublin, Poland.

For more information, contact Bill Krol at williamkrol@comcast.net.

BOSTON, Mass. — **Peter Parcek** is no youngster; the New England native is a contemporary of Eric Clapton, Jeff Beck and Peter Green. “The Mathematics of Love,” however, is the singer-guitarist’s first nationally-distributed album. For over four decades Parcek has been performing his blend of gypsy jazz, country, folk and the blues, which he calls “soul guitar.” Parcek’s new album contains ten songs performed with band mates, Steve Scully and Marc Hickcox as well as guest spots from the likes of Al Kooper and Ronnie Earl.

“This album represents the most focused, emotionally complex and complete artistic statement I’ve made under my own name,” Parcek says.

The set was produced by Ted Drozdowski, a blues critic and guitarist for Vizzitone Records, and is available online and in stores.

TROY, Mich. — The annual

seminar of the **Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan** will take place on Saturday, October 16, 2010. Tomasz Nitsch, noted genealogist from Poland, will be the featured speaker.

He will discuss connecting with Poland’s past (in all three partitions) and present, as well as genealogy in Poland today. The day’s activities will include a continental breakfast and full course Polish lunch. Bring your laptop—free Wi-Fi service available! The information will be useful for anyone interested in family history, from beginners to expert.

The fee is \$65 for early registration and \$75 after September 15.

The program will be held at the American Polish Cultural Center in Troy, Michigan and will begin with registration packet pick-up at 8:30 a.m. The program begins 9 a.m. and continues to 4 p.m. It includes a continental breakfast and a full course Polish lunch.

In addition, on Friday, October 15, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., the Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan and The Polish Mission of the Orchard Lake Schools will be offering research help at the Polonica Americana Research Institute (PARI), and on Sunday, October 17, Mass at the Orchard Lake Seminary Shrine Chapel, exhibit of the Polish Panorama, and use of the PARI library. More information is on the society web site, www.pgsm.org, or call (248) 650-8606. Tickets may be purchased online at: www.pgsm.eventbrite.com.

ST. PAUL, Minn. — Sept. 11. **Polish Genealogical Society Program:** “Breakthroughs and Unsolved Mysteries: Genealogy of Poland and Polonia.” Presented by Anne Klejment of the University of St. Thomas. MGS Library Board room, 1185 N. Concord St., South St. Paul. 10:00 a.m. Contact Terry Kita at (612) 927-0719.

Help Vision Habitat and the Homeless

CARLSTADT, N.J. — Each year the **Association of the Sons of Poland**, a Fraternal Benefit Society organized in 1903, assists those in New Jersey who have special needs. Throughout the month of September, your donations may be brought to the Home Office, located at 333 Hackensack Street in Carlstadt, between the hours of 9:00 to 4:00, Monday through Friday.

Needed are used eyeglasses and unused toiletries. All donations will then be brought to the New Jersey Fraternal Congress Convention. The Association of the Sons of Poland has been recognized as the most generous Fraternal in the state and we offer our gratitude to all our insured members, friends and neighbors.

For more information, call the Association of the Sons of Poland during business hours or leave a message at (201) 935-2807.

MINNEAPOLIS — Sept. 18-19. **Fall Festival.** Holy Cross Church parking lot, 18th & 4th Avenue NE. Saturday 5:30 – 9:00 p.m. Sunday 11:00 – 5:00 p.m. Polka mass at 10:00 a.m. with chicken dinner after.

ARDEN HILLS, Minn. — Oct. 1. Lunch and Festival Concert. **Benefit for The Rev Lewytzkij Seminarian Scholarship Fund**, which provides tuition, room and board each year for 30 financially needy young men to attend seminary in Ukraine, will be held at St. Katherine Ukrainian Orthodox Church Auditorium, 1600 Hwy 96, (one exit north of 694 on 35W) from 1:00 -3:30 p.m. So far we have the Ukrainians, EDT, Romanians, Russians, Latvians, Greeks and the Dolina Polish Folk Dancers.

ST. PAUL, Minn. — Oct. 3. **St. Casimir Fall Festival** and Polka Mass. 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. 10:00 a.m. Polka Mass featuring Joe Glowacki & the Nordeast 5. Pork roast dinner served until 3:30 p.m.. The cost of dinner tickets for adults are \$8, \$5 for kids ages 6-10, age 5 and under are free. Silent auction,

theme baskets, raffle, cake walk, familiar booths and games for the kids. 930 E. Geranium Ave. at Forest St. Call (651) 774-0365 for more information.

ST. PAUL, Minn. — Oct. 10. Kemal Gekic, featured artist performing **all-Chopin program** that includes the “Barcarolle,” “F minor Fantasy,” thirteen Etudes from Opp. 10 and 25, and more. 3:00 p.m. Janet Wallace Fine Arts Center, Macalester College, 130 Macalester St.. Tickets range from \$12.00-\$23.00. For more information, contact the Frederic Chopin Society at (612) 822-0123.

ST. PAUL, Minn. — Oct. 22. Mark Mazullo, Macalester teacher and author of a new book on Shostakovich’s Preludes and Fugues, discusses the influence of Soviet culture on that composer and performs selections from his Op. 87 cycle. 3:00 p.m. Janet Wallace Fine Arts Center, Macalester College, 130 Macalester Str. Free admission. For more information, contact the **Fred-eric Chopin Society** at (612) 822-0123.

MINNEAPOLIS — Oct. 24. **21st Annual Soup Festival.** PACIM’s popular soup tasting/sampling of a variety of Polish soups will be held from 4:00-5:30 p.m. Kolbe Hall, lower level of John Paul II School, Holy Cross Church complex at 17th Avenue and Fourth Street NE. Handicap parking and elevator entrance at rear of the building are accessed by the alley between the church and school. The event includes a dozen different soups, bread, beverage and dessert. Cost \$12 for adults, \$6 for children under the age of 12. Any soup remaining at 6:30 p.m. will be sold.

MINNEAPOLIS — Nov. 6. **Polish Genealogical Society** joint meeting with **P o m m e r n Group**. 10:00 a.m. in the auditorium, 1185 N. Concord Street, South St. Paul with a number of speakers from PGS-MN. There will be an optional noon lunch (approximately \$9). In the

afternoon Jim Nuenfeldt will talk about his experiences in teaching English in Poland and show slides. Please address questions to Terry Kita at (612) 927-0719.

BUFFALO, N.Y. — The **Polish Cultural Foundation**, Music Department at Buffalo State College, and the **Polish Arts Club of Buffalo**, in collaboration with the Miami-based **Chopin Foundation** of the United States, are pleased to announce that Rochester native, **Claire Huangci** (inset, left), will perform in the Performing Arts Center at Rockwell Hall on the campus of Buffalo State College at 4:00 p.m., Sun., Sept. 12, 2010. Huangci is the winner of the Eighth National Chopin Piano Competition of the United States, which was held in Miami during February of 2010.

A former child prodigy who received a grand piano as a gift for her 6th birthday, Huangci is now an internationally-acclaimed pianist. She



BUFFALO, N.Y. —The **6th Annual Dozynki** — Polish Harvest Festival — will be held Sun., Sept. 19, 2010, 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Holy Mother of the Rosary Cathedral Parish Grounds, 6298 Broadway, Lancaster.

Harvest Mass at 10:00 a.m. All are welcome. The Dozynki Ceremony will be held at 11:30 a.m. Polish Dinner will be served from noon until 6:00 p.m. Music and puppets with Alix and Matt at 1:00 p.m. The Polish Heritage Dancers will perform at 2:00 p.m.

A concert featuring the Chopin Singing Society will be held at 3:30 p.m. and the Bedrock Boys will be providing music from 4:30-8:30 p.m.

Vendors of Polish items, including salt lamps, amber jewelry, and more, will be on hand. Polish folk artists will be demonstrating their specialty. Farmers Market, games, food and Polish beer available.

There will be a theme basket and TV raffle and a dill pickle (ogorki) contest. Bring us a jar of your homemade dill pickles by 1:00 p.m., judging at 4:00 p.m., prizes will be awarding in the evening.

Admission is free. Check website for updates at www.hmrcnc.org. For info call the parish office at (716) 685-5766.

has given performances at Carnegie Hall and the White House. At only 20 years old, she has already garnered worldwide attention for her world-class interpretations of Chopin.

Reserved seat tickets for the performance with a post-concert “Meet the Artist” reception are priced at \$20.00 and will be available at the Performing Arts Center at Rockwell Hall box office, (716) 878-3005. Free parking is available on campus for this event.

NEW YORK — A **memorial service** to honor victims of World War II, Katyn Forest Massacre, and the September 11, 2001 terrorist attack on the United States will be held Sept. 19 at noon at the Katyn Memorial, Exchange Place, Jersey City, N.J. There will be a laying of wreaths and flowers by U.S. and Polish officials. For more information, contact Chris Nowak at (908) 875-4179 or email krzysztofnowak@yahoo.com.

PORT WASHINGTON, N.Y. — The **Polish American Museum** recently held its Election of Officers for the year 2010 to 2012. The slate presented by the nominating committee was unanimously approved by the membership. The following were re-elected to their respective positions: President Barbara Szydłowski; Executive Vice Pres. Julian Jurus; First Vice Pres. Steve Szachacz; Second Vice Pres. Irene Wierzbicki; Rec. and Corres. Sec. Wilma Wierzbicki; and Fin. Sec. and Comp. Michael Levchuck.

Trustees are: Richard Brzozowski; John Grocki; Gerald Kochan; John Krol; Rosemary Krol; Al Novak; Victoria Ratkoski; Cynthia Stochla; Ed Smolenski; and William Wisniewski.

The museum is located at 16 Bellevue Ave. Museum hours are Wed.-Fri., 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., and weekends by appointment. Group tours are welcomed. Call (516) 883-6542

TOLEDO, Ohio —The **Toledo Polish Genealogical Society** is a non-profit support organization

for genealogists who are researching ancestors in Poland, or Polish Americans in the Toledo, Ohio area. The goal is to collect, disseminate and preserve information through education, research and discussions at member meetings.

TPGS started in 2002, when Marcia Brown Castro invited anyone of Polish descent to join others with similar interests in a monthly meeting. Since then, TPGS has grown into a commendable organization offering many benefits to its members, including a research library, access to computers, a collection of local records from the Polish neighborhoods of Toledo, many photographs and recordings, to name a few. In addition, TPGS hosts family events such as picnics, trips to the Toledo library and to the Polish Museum of America, and a presence at local events of Polish interest.

The TPGS will have its next monthly meeting September 18. More info is at www.TPGS02.org.

PHILADELPHIA — **Joe Batory** (inset, right), a lifelong resident of Philadelphia, was installed as president of the Rotary Club of Philadelphia in ceremonies at the Union League, July 15.

Of the 33,000 Rotary Clubs in the world, the Philadelphia club was the 19th to be formed, and in 2010-11, with Batory as its president, will celebrate its 100th anniversary.

Batory has been married for 43 years to the former Joan Trybala, who has just become the Rotary District 7450 Governor of 53 Rotary Clubs in Greater Philadelphia and,

in essence, is now Joe’s boss.

Joan Batory (left), was installed as the 2010-2011 Governor for District 7450 at ceremonies at Philadelphia’s Downtown Club, June 28th.



HAPPENINGS: CHICAGO STYLE / Geraldine Balut Coleman

PMA Exhibits "Hidden Treasures"

CHICAGO — After the PMA's Graphic Arts Curator, **Monika Nowak**, presented 120 of the Museum's valuable prints at exhibitions in the National Museum in Kraków (September–December 2009) and in the City Hall Museum of Wrocław (January–February 2010), "Hidden Treasures" made its way back home to The Polish Museum of America (PMA).

On July 30, approximately 100 attendees were delighted to be the first to view an array of prized PMA prints. All 120 works on paper from 1919–1995 by 65 well-known Polish artists are part of the Museum's permanent collection. For the first time in history, such an extensive graphic art collection from the PMA has been presented in Poland. This exhibit displays unique woodcuts from the Polish Pavilion at the New York World's Fair of 1939–1940, and, the lithograph, "Kopernik," by Stanisław Szukalski, an artist admired by film actor, Leonardo DiCaprio and his family. Interestingly enough, in 2000, the DiCaprio family sponsored a Szukalski retrospective exhibit, "Struggle," at the Laguna Art Museum (California). Ms. Nowak prepared this exhibition in cooperation with the National Museum in Kraków through its Treasures of Polish Culture Abroad Program and with financial assistance from Poland's Ministry of Culture and National Heritage. The PMA prides itself in its 250-page beautifully illustrated catalog which details not only the "Hidden Treasures" collection, but also the background of collections at the PMA. No other publication documents the entire collection of the Museum. This exhibit was listed in the trendy *Time Out Chicago* Magazine's "Critic's Picks" column. The column pointed out, "If avant-garde illustrations can be a 'tradition' anywhere, surely it's in Poland." This must-see exhibit is on display through the month of September.



KOPERNIK. 1940. Stanisław Szukalski (1893–1987)

BISHOP ABRAMOWICZ SEMINARY CELEBRATES. On September 12, the Bishop Abramowicz Seminary will celebrate its eleventh annual benefit dinner to be held at the Sheraton Chicago Hotel and Towers, 301 E. North Water Street. This event is to assist the Abramowicz Seminary Program. Since September 1999, seminarians from Poland have been annually recruited, with the approval of their respective



PRCUA SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS (l. to r.): Wallace Ozog, Anna Toltzman, Richard Duslack, Diane Little, Tom Zbikowski, Elizabeth Dynowski, Marley Dzis and Krystyna Kowalik.

bishops, to pursue the completion of their seminary training at the Abramowicz Seminary, followed by additional training at Mundelein Seminary of the University of St. Mary of the Lake, located in Mundelein, Ill. Priests as well as seminarians from this program serve parishes throughout the Archdiocese of Chicago. They serve where there is a need, regardless of their cultural background. Leaving their native Poland is a courageous ethnic and cultural step, and each deserves positive support from all members

of the Chicago Archdiocese community. Even though the Bishop Abramowicz Seminary Program is almost self-sustaining, there still is a need for additional outside supplementary financial help. Francis Cardinal George and Polonia's Thomas J. Paprocki, Bishop of Springfield IL, along with the auxiliary bishops of Chicago will be attending this celebration. For additional information, contact Camille Kopielski (847) 394-2520 or Father Marek Kasperczuk (312) 915-0598.

OUTSTANDING YOUNG POLONIANS HONORED. On June 23, the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America (PRCUA) and its Education Fund, Inc. hosted an awards dinner at Przybylo's House of the White Eagle to honor the accomplishments of young members of the PRCUA, who, additionally, were past PRCUA scholarship recipients. The honorees were Christine Frankowicz Burd, Richard Duslack, Elizabeth Dynowski, Marley Dzis, Dr. Ashley Gaughan, Theresa Hamblin, Kristina Knesting, Cecilia Kocinski-Mulder, Christian Kocinski-Mulder, Krystyna Kowalik, Diane Muszalski Little, Elizabeth Rosypal Miller, Elysabeth Kocinski-Mul-

der Reichmann, Lisa Sobilo, Anna Muszalski Toltzman, and Thomas Zbikowski. The guests were treated to performances by former scholarship recipients: violinist Krystyna Kowalik and vocalist Marley Dzis. Tom Zbikowski, the PRCUA's primary honoree, plays for the Baltimore Ravens of the American Football Conference of the National Football League.

COOK COUNTY TREASURER HONORS POLISH AMERICANS. On June 24, **Maria Pappas**, Treas-

urer of Cook County, took time out of her busy schedule to present the Award of Excellence to **Stan J. Novak**, vice president of the Polish American Chamber of Commerce. These organizations, Pappas mentioned, "help keep ethnic heritage alive by supporting companies owned by members of their communities and encouraging their people to do business with them...for a stronger Chicago, which we recognize and honor." On July 28, Ms. Pappas presented **Zig Sokolnicki** with a Senior Easel Award. Sokolnicki is a member of the Senior Citizens Lifelong Learning Center, located at the Oak Park-River Forest Senior Citizens Center. This program highlights the artistic skills of seniors. Pappas regularly displays the art work of area artists.

CHOPIN FOR JAZZ ENTHUSIASTS. On July 25, over 12,000 jazz enthusiasts and Chopin devotees literally packed the Jay Pritzker Pavilion in Chicago's Millennium Park and its adjacent lawn to hear internationally-acclaimed jazz singer, composer and Chicago Polonia's own **Grazyna Auguscik** pay tribute to Fryderyk Chopin.

The audience of this 200th birthday celebration, "Chopin 200: Grazyna Auguscik's World Sound" had the opportunity to hear and see fourteen acclaimed jazz and classical musicians from Chicago and from around the world perform new 21st century arrangements of Maestro Chopin's music. This was a perfect occasion for Chicago's Polonia to show its cultural pride. Zygmunt Matynia, Consulate General of the Republic of Poland partially sponsored this event, as did Auguscik



Stan J. Novak and M. Pappas



Zig Sokolnicki and M. Pappas

and a multitude of donors.

MUSEUM POLKA PARTY. For the first time ever, the Polish Museum of America will hold a benefit polka party on October 24 at the House of the White Eagle in Niles. This will be a family affair, young and old alike are invited for an afternoon of dancing and lively conversation. The Brighton Park Connection will strike up the music. Ken Gil and Chet Schafer are Co-Chairs of this event. For further information contact Ken at (773) 852-6757.

HONORS AND ACHIEVEMENTS / Jennifer Moskal

Puchala Heads Citrus Memorial Cardiovascular Recovery Room

INVERNESS, Fla. — **Barbara (Basia) S. Puchala, RN, MSN**, received her Master's degree in nursing from the Jagiellonian University, in Krakow, Poland, where she then worked as a registered nurse. At 26, she moved into management and became one of the youngest Nursing Directors in the University's history. In 1990, she served in a Critical Care Unit (CCU) as a Nurse Officer, with Polish coalition forces during Desert Storm.

Puchala came to the United States shortly afterward. She obtained an RN position in the CCU of Mercy Memorial Hospital in Monroe, Michigan, where she also gained supplementary skills in phlebotomy and lab procedures. Puchala moved to Florida in 2005. She obtained a position as an RN in the CCU at Citrus Memorial Health System and then later transferred to the Cardiovascular Recovery Room (CVR). After gaining extensive experience in the CVR at Citrus Memorial, Puchala's dedication and hard work was rewarded with a promotion to the position of Manager over the Cardiovascular Recovery Room and Cardiovascular Progressive Care Unit.

NAMES IN THE NEWS. A team from Penn Manor High School in Millersville, Pa., took first place at the Eighth Annual Team American Rocketry Challenge, earning the title National Champion. The first and second place teams belong to the same rocket club, Penn Manor Rocket Club, and were mentored by **Brian Os-molinski**, a physics teacher and director of the Rocket club.

Paul Wykowski plays guitar and is a vocalist in Waitin' On A Train, a three-member, York-based band that performs bluegrass in the New York/Pennsylvania area ... **Jean Solarczyk**, a Lilly, Pa. resident, is a volunteer for many local veterans organizations, civic groups, and nonprofits agencies. She has been honored with a Legion of Honor award from the Chapel of Four Chaplains, headquartered in Philadelphia.

Gary J. Lesneski has been appointed senior executive vice president/general counsel for Cooper Health System effective October 1, 2010 ... **Breanna Lincoski**, a California Area High School sophomore of Daisytown, Pa., was awarded the sophomore community service award from The Challenge Program, Inc.

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**: **Ester Boruszewski**, Columbus, Ohio; **Eva Fijewska**, Queen Creek, Ariz.; **Douglas Jacobson**, Elm Grove, Wisc.; **Mr. & Mrs. Ben Jankowski**, Glen Head, N.Y.; **Richard Nowakowski**, Philadelphia, Pa.; **Wally and Martha Piatek**, Berlin, N.J.; **Gregory Plunges**, Edison, N.J.; **Dean Yazak**, Pensacola, Fla.; **Mr. & Mrs. D. Zajackowski**, Woodbridge, Virg.; **Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Zawistowski**, Beecher, Ill.; **Gary J. Zielinski**, Canandaigua, N.Y.; **Adam Ziemba**, Utica, N.Y.; and three "Friends of the PAJ." Dziękujemy! The PAJ thanks all who donated to the Press Fund.

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

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Arts Enriched English Camp A Cross Cultural Opportunity for American Teachers and Students

KENT, Ohio — Residents of Northeast Ohio inaugurated a comprehensive arts enriched pilot program this summer in Załęcze, Poland.

Under the direction of Mary Kay Pieski, president of the Ohio Chapter of The Kosciuszko Foundation, this innovative three-week program received a \$4500 grant from the Delta Kappa Gamma Educational Foundation to purchase instruments and supplies. Additional sponsors were the Kościuszko Foundation New York City, Kościuszko Foundation Ohio Chapter, Polish Commission of UNESCO, and Związek Harcerstwa Polskiego, the Polish Scouting Organization. Kent State University and Woodsy's Music donated tee shirts and gifts for the students. During the fourth week, the American staff embarked upon a tour of the important historical and cultural sites in Poland including visits to Warsaw, Krakow, Częstohowa, Auschwitz, Zakopane, and the famous salt mine in Wieliczka, a UNESCO heritage site.

The Arts Enriched English Camp is an outgrowth of the Teaching English in Poland program, which has been in existence for 19 years. This year 44 elementary students and 48 high school students participated. An arts enriched education is inspired by the work of educational philosopher Maxine Greene, a pioneer in aesthetic education who continues to work at the Lincoln Center Institute of the Arts in New York City.

Director Pieski, a Ph.D candidate in Cultural Foundations at Kent State University, coordinated instructional activities with faculty and students from Kent State University, University of Akron, Syracuse University, and professional community members. From the Hugh A. Glauser School of Music is Dr. Patricia Grutzmacher, Professor of Music Education who directed the instrumental program; George Bachmann taught guitar. Community members include Nancy Warlop, collage art; Reverend Joseph S. Rudjak, Youngstown, dance and performance arts instructor. Photography and film instructor, Matylda Czarnecka from Colorado, Victoria Konarski, theater from Brooklyn, N.Y., and Alexandra Headley, a vocal performance major from Syracuse

University joined the group in Poland. Kent State University undergraduate students Samantha Childress, Aleksandra Peugh, Lauren Heuer and Elizabeth Stibens and Michelle Ondrick from the University of Akron served as teaching assistants.

The Kosciuszko Foundation, an American center for Polish culture, invites American teachers of the fine and performing arts, physical education and ESL in public, private, and parochial schools and in colleges/universities to apply for participation in a unique four-week summer Arts Enriched English and cultural exchange program in Poland. American college, university and high school students who are at least eighteen years of age may apply as teaching assistants. Polish ancestry and knowledge of the Polish language are not prerequisites. Participants must be citizens or permanent residents of the United States. The ZHP Polish scouting organization will provide American participants with room, board, and a modest stipend and tour. Airfare is at the expense of the participants. The Kosciuszko Foundation arranges group flights for participants. Teachers who are parents of teenagers can bring their children to serve as peer tutors and companions to our Polish students. Registration fees are \$200/teacher and \$150 teaching assistant for new and returning participants.

All staff members can earn undergraduate or graduate credits in Kent State's Family Life Studies Department, directed by Dr. Rhonda Richardson. All teachers and students pay their own travel expenses and donate their instructional time.

Faculty and students are invited to apply for the 2010 Arts Enriched English Camp in Poland. For further information and to download or print an application please visit our website at: www.thekf.org. Application Deadline: Postmarked no later than January 31, 2010. For more information, contact Dr. Patricia Grutzmacher at (330) 672-3871.

Dates for Informational meetings: October 29 at Kent State University, and November 15

New Britain Paper to Get Polish Section

NEW BRITAIN, Conn. — With nearly a quarter of the city's population, and even more in the communities surrounding it, the Polish community is, and has been, a major piece of the city's social and economic fabric.

Now, this group will have its own voice in the city's local daily newspaper.

The Herald will publish a weekly Polish-language section focused on the news, events and people in this community. It will offer both editorial features and advertisements that will make a difference in the lives of these readers.

"It's time for us to recognize the impact of the Polish people in town, both as residents and businesspeople," said Michael Schroeder, editor and publisher of the *Herald* and president of Central Connecticut Communications. "The paper needs to represent all

segments of the population, especially with one that historically been so important to the city."

Although the paper reports about Little Poland as a part of its overall editorial coverage, "we decided we had to do more," Schroeder said.

The paper already has seen substantial support from among Polish businesses, community and social groups. Bogumila Gladysz, vice president of both the Polish American Foundation of Connecticut and the New Britain Polish Business Association, believes the section will do very well.

The section will appear once a week initially, with hopes to expand into other days as readership and advertising grows.

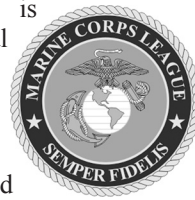
Additional retail outlets are being added in Polish areas to accommodate the new audience expected when the section debuts.

"Once a Marine, Always a Marine"

This truism is now the official motto of the Marine Corps League. The origin of the statement is credited to a gung-ho Marine Corps master sergeant, Paul Woysner. During a barroom argument he shouted, "Once a Marine, always a Marine!"

Woysner was born in Bialystok, Poland, in 1896. He came to the United States as a child with his parents in 1896. They settled in Pittsfield, Mass. He enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1916.

According to the Marines, Woysner was right: once the title "U.S. Marine" has been earned, it is retained. There are no ex-Marines or former-Marines, only active duty Marines; retired Marines; reserve Marines, and Marine veterans.



SCHOLARSHIPS

Fourth Annual Founders Scholarship



PORT WASHINGTON, Long Island, N.Y. — The Polish American Museum announced the recipient of the Fourth Annual Founders Scholarship.

This scholarship of \$500 was awarded to **Krystyna Oszkinis** of West Islip. The presentation was made at a piano recital featuring William Wisniewski on May 16 at the museum.

Oszkinis will be studying Environmental Science at Dartmouth College this fall.

Past recipients of the scholarship are: Christopher Osman of Glen Head; Natalie Sliwowski of Islip; Teresa Wierzbicki of Merrick; and Bartholomew Johnson of Port Washington.

In addition to the Scholarship program, concerts and lectures, the museum continues to serve the community with cultural exhibits featuring the contribution of Poles to America, also highlighting their heroic deeds in the fight for freedom.

The museum, staffed by volunteers, is located at 16 Belleview Avenue, Port Washington. Museum hours are Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., and weekends by appointment by calling (516) 883-6542.

Alliance College Alumni Association Announces \$1,500 Scholarship

The Alliance College Alumni Association (ACAA) is proud to announce the formation of the Alliance College Alumni Association Foundation (ACAAF), a 501(c)(3), tax-exempt organization.

To promote and encourage post-secondary education, the ACAAF is announcing the creation of an annual scholarship providing a \$1,500.00 award to an eligible student. Graduating high school seniors, as well as students enrolled full-time in post-secondary colleges, universities, or technical schools are eligible. This scholarship will be payable to the awarded applicant's school at the beginning of the second semester.

Eligible students must have a minimum 2.0 academic average. While all majors will be considered,

preference will be given to an applicant majoring in Polish language, culture, or history. Additional preference will be given to applicants of Polish heritage and/or related to an alumnus of Alliance College (or Alliance Technical School), Cambridge Springs, Pa.

Applications must be postmarked by September 30, 2010. The recipient will be selected in October 2010 and notified by October 30, 2010.

The scholarship application and requirements are available at the Alliance College Alumni Association website, www.alliancecollege.com.

Please direct questions to: Celeste Mickiewicz, president, Alliance College Alumni Association; (727) 656-3835 or email cmickie@aol.com.

Szczepanski Foundation Now National

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — The Mary J. Szczepanski "Never Give Up" MS Scholarship Foundation is now a national program, and is offered to every high school senior and college student in the United States. The first national recipient was Brittany Lombrana, from Christoval High School, Christoval, Texas, who was awarded \$1,000 towards college at Angelo State University.

In its 10th year now, the Szczepanski Foundation offers nine scholarships for high school seniors and one scholarship (\$1,000) for a student in college who raises funds for Multiple Sclerosis.

This year's state and national winner is Joya Nunn, graduate at Detroit School of Arts. Attending the University of Detroit Mercy in the fall, Joya will receive \$1,000 as

our state recipient and \$1,000 as our national recipient.

This year's first Annual National college scholarship recipients are Jackie Villegas (Grand Rapids Community College); Holli Dolici and Sabra Kinsley (Grand Valley State University); and Brittany Lombrana.

The Szczepanski Foundation is internationally known for its work with MS and its creative philanthropy. It has eight unique awards in Michigan, Maine, Indiana and

Louisiana, and is creating a new math and community service award at Notre Dame University this fall, and a new award at St. Joseph's Academy, an all-girl Catholic High School in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

For more information, visit www.msscholarship.org, or call (616) 791-2069.

Polish Union of America's
4 day - 3 night trip

**Dickens
Christmas Tour**
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Call or stop by our office for more information.



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POLISH CHILD HELD BY IMMIGRATION. A 10-year old Polish child was held overnight by U.S. Immigration officials upon her arrival at Newark Airport. Her visa was cancelled once immigration found out her father, living in New Jersey, had overstayed his visa, and was living here illegally. She was eventually released to her father, who arrived at the airport with an immigration lawyer.

Atlas Bank Opens First Branch in Staten Island



Pictured (l. to r.): Atlas Bank President/CEO Danuta Sieminski, United States Congressman Michael E. McMahon, Staten Island Borough President James P. Molinaro, and chairman of the board Alex S. Marchak, Jr. Congressman McMahon and Borough President Molinaro did the honors of cutting the grand opening ribbon.

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. — The community of Staten Island New York welcomed Atlas Bank to a new location at 339 Sand Lane. This full service office features three teller windows, two offices for management, a conference room, and ATM machine with 24-hour accessibility and is in near proximity to a boardwalk, local stores, hair styling salons and restaurants.

This facility marked Atlas Bank's first venture into Staten Island and first branch opening since Atlas Bank was established in 1900. Atlas Bank is celebrating an anniversary to mark 110 years of operating a branch office in the Park Slope section of Brooklyn for 110 years. A festive ribbon-cutting event and grand opening celebration was attended by Staten Island Borough President James P. Molinaro and Congressman Michael E. McMahon as well as other local dignitaries, local area business owners, Atlas Bank management, staff, board members, and the general public.

"The welcome we received from our neighbors in Staten Island has

filled our hearts with joy—we offer to share our hospitality with them," remarked Danuta Sieminski, president and CEO of Atlas Bank.

As part of the new branch marketing activities, anyone opening a new account through September 25, 2010 will be eligible to participate in a drawing for a Widescreen TV.

Atlas Bank is a United States federally chartered full service mutual savings bank dedicated to meeting the needs of all Greater New York City metropolitan area business professionals and individuals. Atlas Bank traces its New York origins back to 1900.

Established by a group of Polish immigrants, the bank is celebrating 110 years of service. It is a member of the FDIC and an Equal Housing Lender. Questions about products and services can be answered by calling (718) 768-4800 or by visiting www.atlasbank.com.

Eastern Europe? Let's Go!



Poland's scenery and architecture are a wondrous.

by Judge Thomas C. Warren, Ret.

When checking out travel opportunities recently, I was reminded that many destinations in Eastern Europe are now travel hot spots, and at some very reasonable prices. We have traditionally traveled in the fall, spring, and early winter for the reasons of reduced prices and fewer tourists. Our trips have included November in Vienna, Thanksgiving in Tuscany, and Poland in the spring.

Prices for such locations are so cheap you can hardly stay home. Checking on two different websites, I found that starting November 1, you can head for Budapest, Prague, Vienna, or Moscow for \$1,500 for two persons from New York City and \$1,900 for two starting from Seattle. These prices include airfare, hotel (usually for six nights), breakfast, and in some cases, transfers from and to the airport. Our travel pattern has been to often use these city destination city packages, and on occasion have added days when we wanted to stay longer. We always start with a city tour to get our bearings, and then explore on our own for the rest of the stay. My wife, Mary Ann, has enjoyed these vacations as you get to stay in the same hotel for the week, and you don't end up in a rat race of changing hotels each night with the unpacking and repacking that you sometimes find on a traditional guided tour that often tries to include too much in too short of time.

As I thought back about the trips we have made, I realized I have never written about our trip to Poland. That adventure included a week split between Warsaw and Krakow, connecting the two with a train journey. The two cities are completely different due to their experience in World War II. Warsaw was nearly completely destroyed by the Germans and the Russians. As a result, the current city was completely rebuilt since the 1950s. They have even rebuilt the Old Town as a replica of what was historically there. The Old Town and its con-



The author in Warsaw's Old Town.

nection with the "new town" are easily walkable and can be explored and enjoyed at a leisurely pace. There are a lot of tour opportunities (which we took advantage of) so you can visit the World War II memorial sites, the Royal Route connecting the very nice parks, and the public buildings to include the Parliament, Warsaw being the capital of Poland.

The train trip to Krakow was a real pleasure as it gave us the perspective of what the rural Poland was like, and the agricultural plains that tempted so many conquerors to overrun the country. Krakow is very different from Warsaw. It has the feeling of a small town. This city has become the new discovery tourist destination supplanting the lure of Prague, Czech Republic. Krakow is a university town so it is loaded with beautiful Polish young people. The city was never destroyed in the war so it is quite a delight to explore. The old town portion is ringed with the city wall, and the moat has been made into a walking park around the entire historic section. Inside and outside the old town are the historic markets, churches, squares, castles, cathedral and a lot to discover. We thoroughly enjoyed Krakow, and if you have to make a choice between Warsaw and Krakow, Krakow is the one to visit. Krakow is clearly one of the most beautiful cities in Europe. The region around Krakow, in the southern part of Poland, is one area we would definitely return to for a driving visit.

If you are contemplating a trip to Eastern Europe and I can provide any insight or help, please send me an e-mail to t.ma.warren@verizon.net. So many places to travel and so little time!



Thomas C. Warren is a retired judge from Wenatchee, Washington and a graduate of University of Washington, and the Law School University of Washington.

BABA JAGA'S CORNER / Agnieszka Raducka Lysiak

Help! My Kids Don't Speak English¹

Among many forms of communication, language seems to be the most sophisticated. My recent portfolio presentation, the final requirement of my M.A. graduation process, made me think of this phenomenon some more. In the United States, language has always been a political subject. In such a linguistically and culturally diverse society avoiding it would be both impossible and irrational.

At different times, public education in the United States followed different policies of classroom language instruction. It could be either inclusive or exclusive of languages other than English. As time went by

the subject has become more and more controversial. Starting with colonial period "the United States attempted to obliterate American Indian linguistic communities while showing more tolerance to European immigrants who were allowed to maintain and use their native languages for public and private education."² It was not unusual among French, Norwegian, German, Dutch and Polish people as well, to use the old language for the classroom instruction in community schools. The first Polish school in the U.S., in Panna Maria, Texas, required instruction in both Polish and English. By the end of 19th and early 20th century the situation changed — there emerged a strong tendency of elimination non-English languages from American classrooms. In 1906, the Nationality Act became the first legislation to require newcomers to speak English. Use of languages other than English in schools was prohibited. Miriam Ferguson, while governor of Texas in the 1920s, on a proposal to teach French in Texas schools, was reported to say "If English was good enough for Jesus Christ it was good enough for the children of Texas."

The '60s, along with the sexual revolution, brought to the United States various rights movements. The green light for first languages was shining again—in 1968 Con-

gress passed the Bilingual Education Act. It was, however, not automatic and it took time for teachers and administrators to treat non-native speaking students as equals. By "equal" I mean not only allowing students to use their native languages in order to support their learning process, but also responding to students needs, like appreciating their native cultures (e.g. by using the materials relating to students backgrounds).

In the 80s, an English-only movement was on the rise again, hitting its peak in the '90s. During those years, new immigrant, non-English speaking students were allowed to participate in ESL classes for one year, and after that they were incorporated to the "regular" classes with English-only instructions. By the time the 21st century knocked at the door, it was obvious for policymakers that the subject needed to be revisited. The 2000 Census showed that the number of immigrants, and non-English speakers increased in all states, making huge changes in school demographics.

This tendency has raised questions not raised before: Is using native languages along with acquiring English productive, and if so, how can we make use of it in schools settings? According to research, learning a new language does not need to be at the expense of the first one. As

a matter of fact, doing so can ease the learning process.

The problem still exists, although an awareness among teachers, administrators and policymakers of how students acquire a new language seems to have increased. These days English as a second language is taught either as a separate pull-out class (especially when ESL students represent more than one language) or as a bilingual program (when ESL students' native language is the same, e.g. Spanish).

In the global era in which we live today, people usually realize the importance of English. It is almost trivial to say that, English today is like Latin in medieval times. Whether we like it or not, if we want to effectively access technology, research and business today the primary sources are in English.



Agnieszka Raducka Lysiak has a Masters in Literature from the Jagiellonian University in Krakow, Poland and recently completed her Masters in ESL and Reading from Dallas Baptist University.

1. The title of this article is an actual title of the book by Nancy Akhavan. Help! My Kids Don't Speak English. (How to Set up a Language Workshop in Your Linguistically Diverse Classroom). Heinemann. Portsmouth, NH, 2006.
2. Berta Perez. Sociocultural Contexts of Language and Literacy. p.7 Lawrence Erlbaum Associates. New York/London, 2004.

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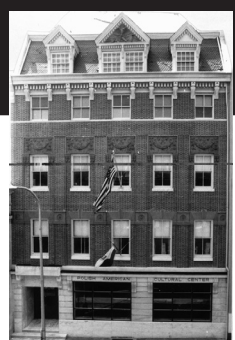
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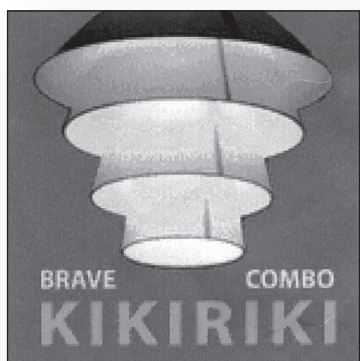
Brave Combo Releases "Kikiriki"

DENTON, Texas — In its 30-year headswimmingly remarkable career, Brave Combo has never flinched when it comes to doing things differently. *Kikiriki* (pronounced kee-kee-ree-kee), the band's latest release on Dentone Records, is certainly no exception to the group's always-evolving creative aesthetic.

Described by band founder Carl Finch as "an exciting hodgepodge of disparate sounds and moods huddled under the umbrella of polka—a 12-song realm where the Bee Gees, Beethoven, and 'Boli boli glowa' all become one," *Kikiriki* finds Brave Combo in top form, rattling the cages of convention from the downbeat onward.

Although polka's infectious enthusiasm underpins the proceedings, *Kikiriki* takes its cues from other world music as well. The title song whirls Serbian brass band sonorities with a well-known polka beyond the point of recognition, and "Beethoven Song" takes the "glorious 9th" from schottische to oberkrainer techno in just under three minutes.

Elsewhere on the disc, "Just Because" swings hard,



the haunting "Polish National Anthem" gets caught out in the rain, and a lounge-esque "Apple Blossom Time" brings the house down at a virtual banquet. And that barely scratches the surface—is it a big world after all, and is Brave Combo making it smaller?

Brave Combo is based in the musical mecca of Denton, Texas. Over the years, the band has won two Grammys, been animatedly memorialized on TV's "The Simpsons," provided the score for PBS's "As the Wrench Turns," and had songs placed in a variety of television series and movie soundtracks.

Band personnel are: Carl Finch, guitar, keyboards, accordion, vocals; Jeffrey Barnes on a dizzying assortment of woodwinds, harmonica, and vocals; Danny O'Brien, trumpet and vocals; Alan Emert on drums, and Little Jack Melody on electric bass and vocals.

Kikiriki is available now from Brave Combo at P.O. Box 233, Denton, TX 76202; (940) 387-0860; E-mail: office@brave.com.

POLKA INSIDER / Steve Litwin

Death of a Marvel

Lenny Maynard, concertina and accordion player with many bands over the years including The Dick Pillar Orchestra, Heavy Chicago, The Ray Mitus Orchestra, and others, died Tuesday, August 3, 2010.

Maynard's work on concertina was admired throughout the polka industry.

I first met Lenny Maynard when he was playing accordion with the Dick Pillar Orchestra. When he became a member of Heavy Chicago, the concertina became the tie we had together. It was a friendship that continued for many years. After buying my first concertina, Lenny encouraged me, sent music charts, and always made time for us to sit and "play some box."

It was Lenny that began a tradition when Heavy Chicago first stopped at our house before playing at the local Polish Home. Food, concertinas and music created times that are memorable to this day. Sitting in on concertina with Heavy Chicago made a great dance even more special.

Many of the younger musicians in polka music today never had the chance to see Lenny do his magic on the box. His fingers moved faster than the eye could see or sometimes the ear could hear. While with the Ray Mitus Orchestra at events like Polka Holiday in Watkins Glen, the

concertina duels with Lenny and Peter Dardzinski were musical times made for YouTube.

"He took special pride in his execution and speed," said Jackie Libera of The Maestro's Men, and a member of Heavy Chicago with Maynard. "Sometimes I wondered if he actually got lost in the middle



Lenny Maynard (left) and Polka Editor Steve Litwin on concertinas with Heavy Chicago. 1977.

of a solo, but there was absolutely no doubt he knew what he was doing at all times. What a master!

"He was also a pretty innovative artist. He listened to a lot of other genres and got many ideas from other sources," continued Libera. "The jazz riff he came up with for 'You'd Better Stay Single' by the Ray Mitus band was classic, and the 'Stradivarius Polka' off of *Heavy Chicago 5* came from a Swedish hambo. Great ideas."

"If Lenny Maynard was a role model for upcoming musicians, he was a role model for future concertina players, accordion players, singers and song writers," said Ed Wolinski, a musician with many great bands including The New Brass and Eddie Blazonczyk's Versatones, who performed alongside Lenny Maynard in the 1970s. "When he was on stage, I witnessed a very talented musician."

Maynard was born July 5, 1957. He leaves his beloved mother Oie Maynard-Murd, his children: Christopher M. Maynard and Catherine L. Maynard; uncles, aunts, and several cousins. Burial was Sacred Heart Cemetery, Wauregan. In lieu of flowers donations may be made in his memory to the Pet Pals NE, Inc., PO Box 182, Canterbury, CT 06331 or Friends of Assisi Food Pantry, 77 Water Street, Danielson, CT.

I invite all polka concertina players to join me in "squeezin" a tune for Lenny Maynard, a great box player.



Jimmy Sturr Tapes Shows for RFD TV

FLORIDA, N.Y. — Jimmy Sturr & his Orchestra returned from Branson, Missouri, where they taped twenty new shows for their weekly show televised nationally every Friday at 7:00 p.m. on the RFD TV Network. Each show pays tribute to different nationalities, and also features a special guest, including: Tommy Cash, Charlie Prose, Chris Caffery from the Trans Siberian Orchestra, and Doug Feron. Also featured will be tribute to the Beatles, The Eagles, the Calhoun Brothers, the Irish Step Dancers and more.

The shows will start airing the first week in September and can be seen on many cable outlets, Direct-TV's channel 345 and on Satellite Dish channel 231.

Accordionfest Comes to Holley, N.Y. this Month

BATAVIA, N.Y. — For all squeezebox aficionados and music lovers, a festival devoted solely to the melodious sounds of accordions and concertinas is coming to Holley, Sun., Sept. 12. Admission is free, thanks to support from the New York State Council on the Arts' Folk Arts Program.

The day's events will run from 1:00-5:00 p.m. on the grounds of the Hickory Ridge Golf and Country Club, 15816 Lynch Rd., Holley. The event will be held in the banquet center, and refreshments will be available throughout the day.

Accordions from around the world will start off the afternoon, featuring diverse music from Irish, Eastern European, Polish, Italian, and Cajun traditions. SUNY Professor of Music Jim Kimball will lead this session, which features musicians Ted McGraw, Alex Alexandrov, Casey Kliszak, Jerry Darlak, Pat Gambacurta, and Jesse Legé, each performing on their own finely

crafted and sometimes unique instruments. The performers collectively illustrate the extensive travels of the accordion through many cultures of our world.

Roxy's Music of Batavia will offer a demonstration at 2:15 of the Roland V accordion, one of the newest digital instruments with an impressive range of sounds and features. An open mike session immediately follows, with a second one at 3:45, giving everybody a chance to join in the fun.

Jesse Legé and Bayou Groove will perform at 2:45 with their high-energy Cajun dance tunes. Legé has performed at the Newport Folk Festival and the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival and is inducted into the Cajun Hall of Fame. Jesse, who splits his time between Louisiana and the Hudson Valley, will be joined by members of Redline Zydeco for the afternoon.

The Tom Monte Trio of Rochester will close

out the afternoon at 4:15 with Italian-American dance band music and Frank Sinatra songs. Tom comes from the musical Passamonte family of Mt. Morris, N.Y., and remembers, "Every Sunday at Grandma's, there was music," with father Gus and his uncles holding forth on accordion, mandolin, banjo and guitar. Monte began singing and playing the accordion at the age of 12, focusing more on jazz styles.

Attendees will have the chance to win a keyboard, ukulele and \$100 gift certificate, donated by Roxy's Music of Batavia. Raffle tickets will be on sale at the event only, with winners drawn during the day. Rose Caccamise of Roxy's will present a display of historical accordions and be available for questions about accordion resources, repairs and maintenance.

For more information contact the GO ART! office at (585) 343-9313; or folkarts@goart.org; or check out the website at www.goart.org.

POLKA MEMORIES / Jimmy K and Steve Litwin

If you have a special Polka Memory photograph to publish in the Polish American Journal, email: pajpolka@verizon.net. For more Polka Memories visit www.polkamemories.com.



Julcia, Happy Louie and Joey Sokol at Fountain's Pavilion, Johnson City, N.Y. 1983.



The Musicales of Buffalo, circa 1960s. (l. to r.): Jerry, Roger, Dennis, Danny, Tom



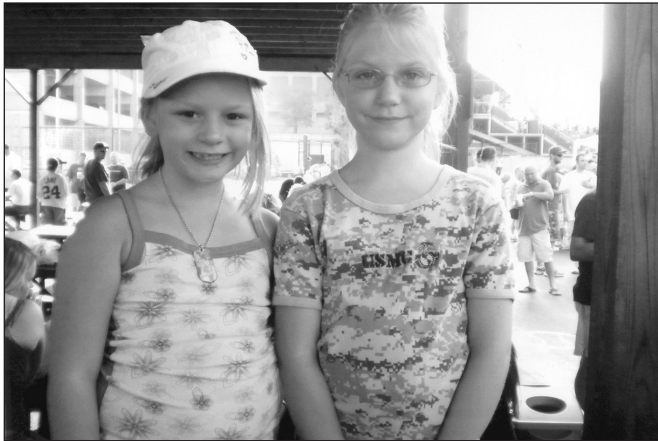
Ted Schubeck of The Musicalaires, New Jersey, 1977

NOTES / Barb Pinkowski

Boosters' 40th Annual Picnic a Smashing Success

BUFFALO, N.Y. — Glad to say we have had a warm summer so far. It is good for all the outdoor activities we all enjoy.

Speaking of good weather, it was there for the 32nd Annual Cheektowaga **Polish American Arts Fest** held in the Town Park July 15-18. There was so much first class entertainment by all the bands, dancers and singers. And the amazing part, is that it was all free—no admission or parking fees. The food tents offered delicious Polish



Bison (and polka) fans Madison and Abigail Baer.



The Kurdziel Family – Jennifer, Rich, daughter Sara and son Stevie — having a great time at the Bisons' Polish Nite.



Club President Christine Tanski, thanking everyone for their attendance.



Kathy and U.S. Attorney William Hochul being introduced by Mike Buczkowski at the Buffalo Bisons' Polish Nite, where William Hochul was named "Polish American of the Year."



Ray Barsukiewicz (left) added his talent to the sounds of Phocus aboard the Miss Buffalo. Also pictured in Bob Wroblewski (center) and leader Jim Nowaczewski.



Denice Finan and Scrubby Seweryniak. Scrubby is one of the Boosters' founders.



Past Booster President Andy Pilecki and wife Marian and son David.



Stella Zwawa (center) and daughters Sylvia (left) and Tina enjoyed the day at the Lamm Post.



Jane Machlowski, Ben Kaukus, and Norb and Helen Wojciechowski have been long-time supporters of the club.

and American food by Potts, Polish Villa and Ray's, who were kept busy catering to the crowds. Congratulations to the committee for another successful year.

On Aug. 3, it was **Polish Festival Night** at the ballpark. The Knewz did a great job playing for the pre-game tent party. We have to mention two special polka fans who had birthdays and were at Coca Cola Field: **Brownie Wojcik** celebrated his 80th birthday and **Bill Gonsiorek** celebrated his 90th. Best wishes and sto lat to these nice gentlemen!

U.S. Attorney William J. Hochul was chosen 2010 Buffalo Bisons Polish American of the year and was given a presentation at the ballpark.

On Aug. 4, it was the Potts Annual **Miss Buffalo Boat Ride** and a few more birthdays were celebrated. Happy 21st birthday to Rayanne Bakowski, daughter of Barb and Al.

Joanne Picciano and **Pat Mazur** also had birthdays that week and were on board having a good time. Phocus and Scrubby did an excellent job playing all the tunes we love to hear!

WOW! I'm still on a high after the **Polka Boosters 40th Anniversary Picnic** at the Lamm Grove, August 8. It was just fabulous! Eight local bands provided excellent music all day long: **The Concertina All Stars, The Bedrock Boys, Quality Sound, The**

Touch, RareVintage, The Knewz and Scrubby, Cityside, and New Direction. A jam session followed. Over 350 people came for this big celebration including a bus from the Albany area.

Everything was so special about this picnic; the people who attended (some of whom we have not seen in a while), colorful decorations, and several displays featuring many photos and items from the past. Food and refreshments were plentiful. We have to mention the delicious clam chowder club president. **Chris Tanski** made. And give credit to **Arlene Krzeminski** for her tasty potato and macaroni salads. Also, **Irene Weich** made chrusciki which were enjoyed by all. Of course, we had hot dogs, hamburgers and Polish sausage in addition to a variety of fruit. A huge Chinese auction was chaired by **Barb Zwawa** and she and her helpers did an outstanding job. Chris Tanski spoke to the audience and became teary-eyed speaking about our wonderful club and people. I can

relate to that as polka music, polka fans, and our Polka Boosters Club all have a special place in my heart and I am extremely proud and happy to be a member of this wonderful organization.

Chris and all the officers and board members want to thank everyone who attended this special picnic and to all who helped in any way. It's very much appreciated! Unless you're involved in something like this, I don't think anyone truly realizes the amount of work, time and energy that goes into putting together a party like this. I have to also say how heartwarming it was to see two nice former members come to this picnic even though it was a little difficult as they are in wheelchairs. I was so happy to see **Stella Zwawa** come in with her daughters, **Sylvia** and **Tina**. And, also **Jane Machlowski** came with **Benny** and her son and daughter. God bless them!

CONGRATULATIONS... and best wishes go out to **Rose** and **Bob Kochan** on their 60th wedding anniversary, July 1; to **JoAnn** and **Paul Ryndak** on their 55th anniversary, July 2; and to **Eleanor** and **Frank Stanczewski** on their 65th anniversary, July 10. These are all such very special occasions. Sto lat!

IN SYMPATHY. I was sad to hear of the passing of former Jumping Jacks lead man **Eddie Grabski**, who died last month. The group's saxophone and clarinet player, he will be remembered for the hijinks he arranged with the band — from showing up to play at dances dressed as nuns, to the countless jokes and pranks he orchestrated from the stage.

WHAT ARE THE CHANCES? **Robin Pegg** could not believe his luck when his 1000th Facebook friend was none other than his junior high school music teacher, **Bob Rumbaugh**.

Pegg was tracked down by a fellow classmate on the social networking site. After doing some tracing of old classmates himself, he came across Rumbaugh's name. Pegg said he was amazed his instructor — retired and a World War II veteran — would be active on Facebook. When Rumbaugh friended Pegg, Robin could not help but notice the man who gave him trumpet lessons was the 1000th person on his list.

"What are the chances of that?" he asked. "Whatever they are, I am glad to be able to connect with someone who helped me in my younger days."

UPCOMING

Sept. 5. Labor Day Weekend Polka dance with the Florida Honky Band at the Lamm Grove, 962 Wehrle Dr., Williamsville. Doors open at 3:00 p.m. Music from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Admission is \$8.00 at the door, children 12 and under free.

Sept. 19. The Bedrock Boys play at the Holy Mother of the Rosary Dozynki Fest on Broadway in Lancaster, N.Y. from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Sept. 19. The Touch play at the Sportsmen Tavern, 326 Amherst St., Buffalo, N.Y. starting at 4:00 p.m.

Sept. 22. Polka Variety Club. Leonard Post, Walden and Nagel Dr., Cheektowaga, N.Y. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Music starts at 7:30 p.m. Admission includes snacks, dessert, coffee, beer and pop. Call Richard at (716) 826-2281

Sept. 23. Polka Boosters Meeting. Polish Falcons Hall, 445 Columbia Ave., Depew, N.Y. Potluck dinner at this meeting; please bring a dish to pass. Doors open at 7:00 p.m. and we will be serving at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend. For further information, call Chris at 716-892-7977.

Have a happy and safe Labor Day weekend!

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POLKA JUKEBOX / Steve Litwin

The Rymanowski Brothers, Dick Pillar, and The Naturals

When a band has been around for over 60 years, and their last release was 1981, it's about time they released another recording. The Rymanowski Brothers Orchestra from the Greater Albany, New York area, gives the polka world, *It's About Time*, a 17-track CD that offers a great collection and variety of tunes.

"Drunkard's Lament" polka, the smooth "Blooming Lily" waltz, the English-Polish vocals of "I Never Knew," and "Jolly" oberek are just few that gives this project that "Rymanowski" identity. A 1974 version of "Wishing Well" waltz with a vocal by their late Al Rymanowski, is augmented with the addition of Gerry Rymanowski doing a harmony vocal with his uncle using today's technology.

Dennis Rymanowski is on drums and vocals. Gerry Rymanowski handles bass and vocals. Bob Drozd takes care of sax, clarinet and vocals. Jerry Romanowicz is the accordion man, while Joe Ryczek covers trumpet, sax and clarinet.

The Rymanowski Brothers Orchestra has been making music since 1947 and this new CD is not only a tribute to the longevity of the band, but also to their continuing musical contributions to the polka world.

It's About Time is available by contacting Gerry at (518) 235-8356 or Dennis at (518) 456-2854.

THE BEST OF DICK PILLAR.

He's Dick Pillar. He's Mr. Polkabration. And now he has released *The Best of Dick Pillar* on his Steljo label, a CD featuring three decades of

Dick Pillar & his Polkabration Band. Starting in the 1960s with the big-band "Eastern" sound, and working through the "Hall of Fame" and "On to the Present" years, this CD even includes three bonus tracks with Christmas tunes.

Being a regular at Polkabration for years, I was familiar with the tunes like "Golden," "Polkabration," "Lover Oh Lover," "No Problem," "Polka Fun" and others from the 70s and 80s. They were mainstays for the Pillar band and always popular hits for this Connecticut based polka icon and Polka Hall of Famer.

I knew of the Pillar band in the 1960s but didn't really get to hear a lot of the band until the '70s. The '60s, big band era featured here offers solid orchestration with crisp and classic instrumentation. The clarinets and smoothness of "Raise the Roof," the big-band styling of the "Steljo Theme," the melodic "Sweet Violets" waltz, and even the "Bonanza" television theme polka style make this segment a favorite.

A collection of Pillar polka history, "The Best of Dick Pillar," "Volume I" gives polka fans the opportunity to have a high-quality audio recording of Mr. Polkabration and the band.

Write: Steljo Recordings, 36 Occum Lane, Uncasville, CT 06382 or visit Dick Pillar on the internet at: www.dickpillar.com.

THE NATURALS. Chicago Polkas has given the polka world yet another gift in the release *The Naturals* featuring of 21 songs from 45 rpm discs and a vintage LP recording from the great Chicago based group by the same name. They were a

band that offered a style called, "a free-wheeling kind of Dixieland style polka music," by the late Don Lucki, founder of the group in 1955, (See the PAJ interview with Don Lucki at: www.polamjournal.com/polka/pday.html).

Starting with the rippin' Lucki arrangement of "Clarinet" polka, it only gets better. "Too Young To Shave," polka "Rob Roy" polka, "Farkel Frolic" and "Rots A Ruck" polka are all instrumentals bearing that distinct Naturals' sound with full instrumentation, plenty of rim shots with solid drumming and the musicians letting you know they are loving what they are doing.

The distinctive vocals of Whitey Pawola on tunes like "Laura & Filon" waltz, "Why Me" polka, and "No Gonna Drink" oberek are just a few of the Naturals' vocals in this collection.

Whitey Pawola, Don Lucki, and Ed Swiderski are the only musicians credited on the CD, but the work by the band on each and every tune is dynamic and classic. You can tell these musicians had a great time recording each track as if they were in front of a huge audience instead of in a studio. You cannot play this one too loud.

A tip of the polka *kapelusz* to Kevin Altenburg for his superb re-mastering of the originals. Thanks to Chet Schafer and his Chicago Polkas label for giving the polka world this product.

To the listener, the song listing with the CD has numbers 19 and 20 flip-flopped. If you don't love this CD, you may not be smarter than a 5th grader, or even be someone who appreciates polka music at its best.

Happy Tappy Tavern Show on Polkajammer Network

CHICAGO — Three guys with Polish blood running through their veins have combined their music, talents and experience to bring you a high energy, fun-filled polka show, broadcasting from the "Happy Tappy Tavern."

Andrew Krystopolski, Stas' Wilgocki and Chris Valcik, all from upstate New York's Capital Region, will provide you with the best in polka music from yesterday and today, along with information, entertainment and current events from all over the nation. The show was broadcast on the Jammer Thursday's, starting August 6, between 6:00-7:00 p.m. Eastern time. Email: requests@HappyTappyPolkas.com and look for them Facebook.

Stan "Stas" Wilgocki, was introduced to Polka music at a young age by his father, Larry Wilgocki, who was a huge fan of Happy Louie and

Marion Lush. At the age of eight, Stas began to take accordion lessons which began his own passion for polkas.

Stas lives in Rotterdam, N.Y. with his wife of 19 years, Basia, and their children. When not working as a career Lieutenant/Firefighter/Paramedic with the City of Schenectady Fire Department, he can be found promoting Polish traditions, customs, and polka music thought the organization he founded in 2006 the Casimir Pulaski Society.

In 2009 Stas began a Dnyngus Day celebration in Rotterdam that now has attendance numbers well over 550. His hope is that Rotterdam can become the premier Dnyngus Day spot east of Buffalo.

Chris Valcik, born and raised in the Capital District of New York, has always been surrounded by a huge Polish and Czech family. In

the mid to late '70s Chris was a regular at the Pillar Polkabration, Hunter Mountain, and dances throughout the Northeast.

Chris is a graphic designer and owns his own company, Custom Graphics. He spends most of his day behind a computer designing print material for his many clients. But, when the work is over, he spends his time with his wife Mary.

For years he has been collecting polka music and remastering old albums obtained from his father, family and friends, creating digital files of the music.

Andrew Krystopolski, 29, is a native of Wilmington, Del. and was introduced to polka music by his father and grandfather.

His father played drums with a local polka band in Wilmington. Andrew began musical studies in violin and piano at the Wilmington

Music School. In the early '90s, Andrew discovered a small accordion that belonged to his grandfather and taught himself to play.

In 2000 Andrew was presented the Freddy K., Jr. Memorial Scholarship. The scholarship was used at Marywood University in Scranton, Pa. where he pursued a degree in Church Music. During his five-year college career, Andrew became the host of "The Polka Power Hour," which ran for three years on WVMW 91.5 FM from Marywood.

Andrew plays concertina and has been a guest musician with such bands as Polka Family, Phocus, The New Tradition, Doubleshot, and Stephanie's Honky Band. He currently, performs with The Associates Polka Band from New Jersey and has previously played with the TKO Band of Baltimore.

Sunshine Releases Three New CDs

WEST SENECA, N.Y. — Sunshine Records has released three new CDs.

Good Time Polkas introduces The Varitones Band, "Arizona's Hottest Party Band," featuring a distinctive and lively polka beat. Contact Dave Bonczkiewicz at www.nickelcitydave.com/varitones for more information.

Concertina Hero is the long awaited second CD by The Concertina All Stars. It offers eight originals and 17 great songs. Check them out at: freewebs.com/buffaloconcertinaallstars.

The last is *The Two of Us, Frankie Yankovic and Walter Osttanek*. This is a true gem recorded in the early 1990s by Frankie and Walter and not released until now.

Email Sunshine at: sde224@aol.com or write: S.D.E., P.O. Box 652, West Seneca, NY 14224.

MILESTONES

GEORGE G. BURZYCKI, a drummer with several Chicago area bands died July 31. A veteran of the U.S. Army, he is survived by his wife, children, grandchildren, brother.

"It is difficult to believe that it has been 50 years since George and I met," said Chicago musician Steve Fornek.

"When I met George he was 11 and his brother Ted (Tom) was 16 and I was 17 and formed a wedding band trio. George played drums, Ted played accordion and piano, and I played sax and clarinet," said Fornek. "The group expanded to six members and eventually became Steve Fornek & the Polka Gems. We recorded on Dyno and Stella Record Companies and primarily played for weddings and other private engagements. After the military, George wanted to expand his musical career and went on to play with several jazz and rock bands. He also did a short stint with The Naturals polka band.

"George was always a family man and friendly person with a good heart. As a musician, he was a perfectionist on the drums. He was a cherished friend," related Fornek.

Funeral services were at the Hills Funeral Home, Palos Hills. Interment at Resurrection Cemetery.

POLKA MUSICIAN AND PIONEER Paul Futa, Sr. of South Bend, Ind. passed away Sunday, August 8, 2010 in his residence. Futa was 80.

He is survived by his wife Janet, children, Paul (Kathy) Futa, Jr. of North Liberty, Marlene (Keith) Werwas of New Carlisle, Ind. and Gale (Herman) Brinkhoff of North Liberty; six grandchildren, ten great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

Futa was the leader of the "Paul Futa Family Affair."

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at Holy Family Catholic Church with entombment in St. Joseph Cemetery, South Bend.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Center for Hospice and Palliative Care, 111 Sunnybrook Ct., South Bend, IN 46637 or to St. Patrick Catholic Church, 807 Tyler St., Walkerton, IN 46574.

JOSEPH KANIA, 72, of Lake Tomahawk, Wisconsin, died April 17, 2010. A former Chicago resident, Kania played drums with the Casinos in the 1960s. A good friend of the late musician Don Lucki, he presented the commentary when Lucki was inducted into the Polka Music Hall of Fame.

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THE POLISH CHEF / Robert Strybel

Autumn Plum Cookery

In Poland and the temperate states of the United States, this is the time of year plums are in season. Both fresh plums (especially "węgierki" – Italian plums) figure prominently in many Polish dishes, both as a fresh fruit or a dried one (prunes). Here are some examples.

ROAST PORK & PRUNES (pieczeń wieprzowa ze śliwkami). Rub a trussed, 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 c unpitted prunes, and baste meat with 1/2 c dark beer. Bake until meat is fork-tender.

PORK RIBS & SAUERKRAUT (żeberka w kapuście). Drain and rinse 2 qts sauerkraut drain, squeeze out moisture, chop coarsely, place in pot and scald with boiling water to cover. Cook on med-high heat 45 min. Cut 4 lbs pork spare ribs into 2- or 3-rib portions. Sprinkle with salt and pepper, dredge in flour and sauté in hot fat (lard, bacon drippings, oil) on both sides till slightly browned. Transfer sauerkraut to baking pan, interspersing it with the ribs and 1 c pitted prunes. Add a bay leaf, sprinkle sauerkraut with 1/2 t caraway seeds and bake in 325° oven 2 to 2-1/2 hrs or until meat is very tender.

POLISH PORK STEW (gulasz wieprzowy). Rinse and pat dry 1-1/2 lbs cubed stewing pork. Shake meat in flour-filled plastic bag to coat evenly. In heavy skillet, brown meat on all sides in 3 T hot fat. Remove meat from skillet with slotted spoon and in pan drippings lightly brown 3 sliced onions. Return meat to skillet, add 2 sliced carrots, 1/2 c diced pitted prunes, 1 bay leaf and 1/2 c beer. Reduce heat and simmer covered on low heat 45 - 60 min or until meat is tender, stirring occasionally. Add a little water if stew begins to sizzle. Drench with 1/2 c sour cream fork-blended with 1 T flour and simmer briefly. Dilute with meat stock or water if too thick. Season with salt & pepper, 1/4 t paprika, 1/4 t marjoram, 1/4 t crushed caraway seeds and 1 bud crushed garlic. Stir ingredients and simmer briefly.

PORK ROLL-UPS (zrazy wieprzowe zawijane). Slice a 1-1/4 lb piece of center pork loin into 8 pieces. Pound each piece into a thin rectangle and thinly each piece with powidła, (leaving a 1/2" border along the edges), sprinkle with marjoram, place a slice of skinned

smoked sausage on top and roll up. Salt & pepper roll-ups, bread them (dipping in flour, egg wash and bread crumbs) and fry in hot fat seam-side down. Brown on all sides, reduce heat, cover and simmer on low 20-25 min, turning to ensure even cooking. Note. For very tender roll-ups, transfer to baking dish and keep in 325° oven for another 60 min.

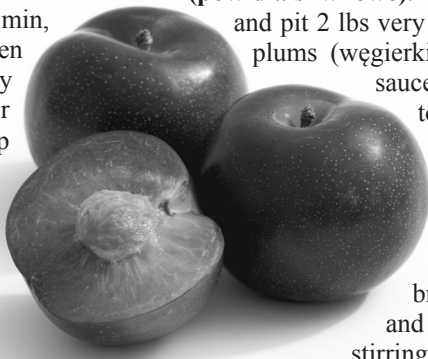
R O A S T DUCK & PRUNES (kaczka ze śliwkami). Preheat oven to 475°. Rub a well-rinsed, dried 4-5 lb duck with salt, pepper, marjoram and 2 buds mashed garlic. Place in covered roasting pan and let stand at room temp 1 hr. Fill cavity with halved pitted plums and/or peeled apple quarters tightly and sew up. Place in roasting pan and pop uncovered into 475° oven. After 15 min reduce heat to 350°. Sprinkle duck with about 1/2 c water and then baste occasionally with pan drippings. After 1 hr add 1 c pitted prunes to drippings and bake another 45 - 60 min or until fork-tender.

HUNTER'S BIGOS (bigos myśliwski). Drain 3 qts sauerkraut, reserving liquid, rinse in cold water, drain again, squeeze dry and chop coarsely. Place in pot with 1 bay leaf, cover with cold water and cook uncovered about 60 min, stirring occasionally. Transfer drained sauerkraut to baking pan and add 2 qts various cooked cubed meat (beef, pork, venison, dark-meat turkey), 3 c smoked Polish sausage skinned and sliced, 8 oz washed, sliced Portobello mushrooms (fried up in bacon drippings with 2 chopped onions), 1 c stewed tomatoes, 1 c chopped pitted prunes, 1/2 c dry red wine, 2 buds crushed garlic and 2 diced large peeled cooking apples. Mix ingredients well and bake uncovered in 350° oven 30 min. Mix again, cover pan and bake another 2 hrs at 325°. Salt & pepper to taste and add about 1/2 t caraway and 1 T marjoram. After switching off heat, leave bigos covered in oven until it cools to room temp. Refrigerate over night. Reheat at 325° for 90 min before serving

RICE & PRUNE STUFFING (nadzienie ryżowe ze śliwkami). Combine 4 c slightly undercooked rice, 1 c drained and diced, pre-soaked pitted prunes and 2 peeled, cored cooking apples, cubed. Sprinkle mixture with salt, pepper, marjoram and a little chopped fresh pars-

ley and use to stuff chicken, duck or (increasing the recipe as required) turkey. Roast your bird as usual.

POLISH PLUM BUTTER (powidła śliwkowe). Wash, halve and pit 2 lbs very ripe Italian plums (węgierki), place in saucepan, bring to boil, reduce heat and simmer until completely break down and are tender, stirring often with a wooden spoon. Add 1 c sugar and continue simmering, stirring frequently until thick. It is thick enough when a spoonful sticks to spoon even when turned upside down. Transfer hot powidła to small, sterilized jars, seal and let cool. Tighten lids if necessary and refrigerate until needed. Note. You can use the ordinary jars store-bought jams come in, not necessarily special canning jars.



Polish Name Analysis – a Unique Gift

Many Pol-Ams have gone through life struggling with a long, multi-syllabic Polish last name without really knowing what it means. Finding out at long last can be an interesting and eye-opening experience.

As a result, ordering a custom-researched surname analysis can make an interesting and unusual gift for a relative or friend. The several-page report shows how Polish surnames developed, provides the derivation and meaning of the name being researched, how many people use it, where they live and whether a coat of arms goes with it. If there is one, a color illustration of the crest (suitable for framing or enlarge-

ment) will be included.

Recipients of such a name analysis will surely be in for a nice surprise when the surname report, airmailed direct from Warsaw, arrives on their doorstep.

To order, simply airmail a \$16 check (adding \$9 for each additional surname) to: Robert Strybel, ulica Kaniowska 24, 01-529 Warsaw, Poland.

Also included free of charge is a contact sheet of handy genealogical leads. The list includes professional genealogists who can sift through family records and track down ancestral homesteads in Poland, even living relatives.

ASK ANDZIA ABOUT AMBER / Andzia Chmil

Chopin: Poland's Beloved Son

Part II

Even before he began his new life in Paris, Chopin realized that performing in public was not his style. He preferred the intimate salons of the Polish and French nobility where his talent and personality were a perfect match for the Parisian high society. In his lifetime he gave only 30 public performances and it is quite likely that these performances were not his best.

His penchant for moodiness, his delicate health, his sensual and visionary music, even his withdrawal from the public and scorn of commerce, made him the perfect archetype for the Romantic Era. The elite became consumed by the desire to be seen with him and to have him grace their tables and salons.

The very best music, of course, was taking place in the salons, right alongside the best conversations. This is where the characters stepped right off the page and became flesh and blood people with art, painting and music, poetry and writing as the very reason, if not the only reason, for their existence. Chopin engaged in conversations and friendships with the exiled Polish poet Adam Mickiewicz, French writers such as Alexandre Dumas and Balzac, the painter Eugene Delacroix and the composer Franz Liszt who said of him "...The muse of his homeland dictates his songs, and the anguished cries of Poland lend to his art a mysterious, indefinable poetry which, for all those who have truly experienced it, cannot be compared to anything else ..."

So many references have been made between Chopin's devotion to Poland and the love and the pride

that the Polish people have for Chopin, that it is easy to connect the composer to something very dear to the Polish people as well — amber. Stradivarius violins and most fine instruments during Chopin's day were rubbed with a resin obtained from premium amber. One can easily imagine that the great man came into contact with amber in this fashion. Buttons, pocket watch covers, smoking implements such as pipes and cigarette holders, fine boxes for personal items were all used by fashionable gentlemen and Fryderyk Chopin was very well-known as being quite the clothes horse.

The jewelry styles worn by the ladies of the Era would have matched perfectly the gem selections of the men. During this time, the amber masters of Gdansk were at the peak of their craft — turning out amber objects and jewelry that were in demand by royalty and commoners alike. Many of the Polish émigrés to Paris were of the nobility and it is more than likely they would have taken their beloved amber with them. Undoubtedly they would have displayed their amber as one of their most notable national symbols and proudly arranged for more amber objects to make their way into the Paris that was in love with Chopin as well.

Chopin's music has become embedded into the world's consciousness as a symbol of Poland's soul in much the same way that amber is associated with the beauty of Poland. And we are quite sure the musical genius, who so loved and longed for his homeland would be quite happy with that.

POLISH COOKBOOKS

THE "OLD NEIGHBORHOOD" POLISH COOKBOOK – 44 pages. 96 rare Polish recipes from the famed "Old Neighborhood" Polish community of Detroit area Michigan. Breakfast, lunch dinner. Pasties, Pierogies, Kluski, Cream chipped beef, soups desserts & **MUCH, MUCH MORE!!**

"POLISH GIRL" COOKBOOK – This is yet another cookbook full of recipes from Michigan's **Old Neighborhood** district. Appetizers, entrees, breads, desserts and more! Upper Peninsula style pasties, Polish Potato salad, Old neighborhood pasties, babka, breads & **MUCH MUCH MORE!!** A great gift for ANY good Polish girl (or guy!!). 44 pages.

"THE POLISH RESTAURANT COOKBOOK" – This unique cookbook actually replicates the menu of a very popular Michigan Polish restaurant. Shows you how to make the **ENTIRE MENU** right at home in your kitchen that looks, tastes and smells **just like the restaurant!** Soups, salads, dressings, sandwiches, Polish meatballs, stuffed cabbage, and **MUCH MUCH MORE!** 44 pages.

>>>These are amongst the most sought-after POLISH cookbooks **ON THE PLANET!** ****NOT SOLD IN STORES****

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SPORTS / Tom Tarapacki

Pavelski Stands Out

Don't let the "v" in his name fool you — San Jose Sharks' star Joel Pavelski really is Polish.

As he told a questioner on the Sharks website about his name: "It's Polish. I don't know what it really comes from; I know it used to be spelled P-a-w-e-l-s-k-i. There's still a few people back home that still spell it like that, but when my family came over they changed the 'w' to a 'v'."

The 205th overall selection in the 2003 NHL entry draft, "Pavs" has developed into a solid two-way forward. He anchors San Jose's second line and power play, and is known for his accurate shot (he's scored 25 goals in each of the last two seasons). He is also one of the best face-off centers in the league, and is a top shootout shooter.

Pavelski has been a winner at every level. He led his Stevens Point HS team to a Wisconsin state championship in 2002, and then joined the Waterloo (Iowa) Black Hawks of the USHL. That team won the league championship.

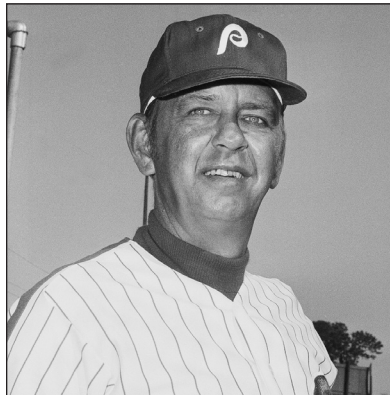
In his first year at the University of Wisconsin he was named to the All-WCHA Rookie team and All-WCHA Second Team. Pavelski led the Badgers to a national championship during his sophomore campaign in Madison and opted to forgo his final two years of eligibility to join the Sharks.

Pavelski made his NHL debut in 2006. He scored a goal in his first NHL game, making him the 11th Sharks player in the history of the team to do so. He overcame some early injury problems to become one of the Sharks' top players.

Still, Joe didn't draw a lot of attention until his outstanding performance as a member of the silver medal-winning U.S. national men's ice hockey team at the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver. Then, in the playoffs he scored nine goals and eight assists in 15 games for the Sharks, earning widespread recognition as one of the NHL's top post-season performers.

It surprises many that Pavelski is this good. He's not big, nicknamed "Little Joe" because he's less than six feet tall and weighs around 190 pounds. He grew up in Plover, Wis., a town of 12,000 that had never produced an NHL player. He also had a relatively normal young life for a future hockey star. He wasn't always playing hockey, but enjoyed hunting and golf. He often helped out his parents with their painting business. "I've never really been to a hockey school," he said.

Many people think that Pavelski's best asset is his soft hands. However, his college coach said that Joe's biggest asset isn't physical. "It's the ability he has between his



OZARK

ears," Wisconsin coach Mike Eaves said. "He's not the biggest, not the strongest, but he has the ability to think and anticipate, and know what he's going to do before he gets to his puck."

PERKOSKI'S NOTEBOOK. The New York Islanders acquired **James Wisniewski** from the Anaheim Ducks. The 26-year-old Wisniewski had three goals and 27 assists in 69 regular-season games last season for a career-high 30 points, a team-leading 102 blocked shots. Several sports officials expressed their support for the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC) chairmanship bid of former Senator **Robert "Sonny" Jaworski**, also known as "The Living Legend" of Philippine basketball. Born to a Polish American father and a Filipino mother, he played pro hoops in the Philippines until the age of 50. He was also elected to the Senate in 1998. **Sophie "Flint Flash" Kurys** threw out the first pitch at an All-American Girls Professional Baseball League Reunion at Detroit's Comerica Park. Michigan State picked up a verbal commitment from 6'-7" power forward **Kenny Kaminski** of Medina, Ohio. **Scott Kazmir** gave up only three hits and one unearned run in his first start after nearly a month on the disabled list, leading the Angels to a 10-1 victory over the Tigers. Cowboys owner Jerry Jones said undrafted rookie FB **Chris Gronkowski** reminds him of former Cowboy great Daryl Johnston. Chris' younger brother, TE **Rob Gronkowski**, a second-round draft pick (42d overall) of the Patriots, received a four-year, \$4.44 million deal. Outfielder **Chris Lubanski**, now with Toronto's Triple-A Las Vegas affiliate, had an impressive season (hitting .308 with 14 homers and 46 RBIs) until sidelined by an oblique injury. **Christian Laettner** joined the Dream Team in being inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield, Mass., and in November, he will enter the National Collegiate Basketball Hall of Fame in Kansas City, Mo., as an individ-



BARTKOWICZ

ual. **Mat Szczur**, Villanova's junior two-sport standout, has signed a contract with the Chicago Cubs that will allow him to play for the Wildcats football team this fall. The New Jersey Nets signed **Larry Krystkowiak** as an assistant coach. **Andy Stankiewicz** was hired by the Seattle Mariners as minor league field coordinator. **Mike Winiiecki** was named men's assistant basketball coach at Clemson. Poland's **Anita Wlodarczyk** recently broke the world record for the hammer throw in Bydgoszcz, but had to settle for a bronze medal at the European Athletics Championships in Barcelona.

NEW CLASS IN POLISH HALL. Olympic and NCAA Champion swimmer **Kristy Kowal**, former Major League Manager of the Year **Danny Ozark**, and three-time Olympic tennis medalist **Jane "Peaches" Bartkowicz** were recently inducted into the National Polish-American Sports Hall of Fame.

Kowal was presented by her University of Georgia swimming coach, Jack Bauerle. Bauerle was also the U.S. Olympic coach at the 2008 Beijing Olympics. She was also joined by her parents, Ed and Donna Kowal.

Bartkowicz drew a warm ovation from the crowd. Growing up in a Polish, working class neighborhood in nearby Hamtramck, "Peaches" emerged as one of the top US female tennis players in the 1960s.

Ozark, who passed away in 2009, was represented by his widow, Ginny. He was presented for induction by former Phillies slugger Greg "Bull" Luzinski, himself a past inductee.

Former White Sox broadcaster Tom Paciorek was the master of ceremonies for the event. NPASHOF Chairman Jim Conrad said that the banquet turned out to be a very successful and enjoyable event.

Now with 119 inductees, the National Polish-American Sports Hall of Fame has an outstanding collection of historic artifacts on display at the American Polish Cultural Center

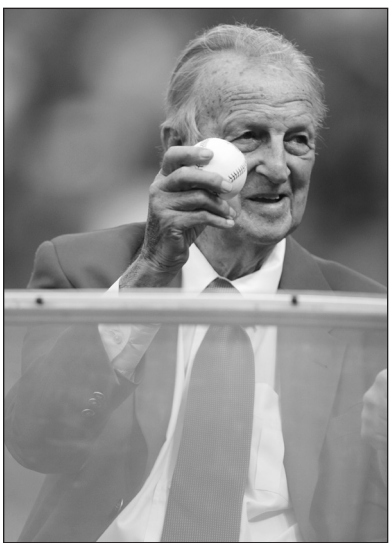


KOWAL

in Troy, Michigan. The American Polish Cultural Center is located at 2975 East Maple Rd., Troy, Michigan (www.americanpolishcenter.com).

Would you like to nominate someone for the Hall? Any athlete, male or female, of Polish-American descent (father or mother must be Polish) who meets the eligibility requirements of NPASHOF may be considered for nomination. All amateur athletes are eligible; collegiate athletes who do not continue into the professional ranks are eligible two years after their collegiate participation ends; and professional athletes are eligible two years after retirement from their sport.

Information on the National Polish-American Sports Hall of Fame is available at www.polishsportshof.com.



MUSIAL

STAND FOR STAN. The St. Louis Cardinals have started a petition drive to convince President Obama to award Stan Musial the Presidential Medal of Freedom. This is the highest civilian commendation that can be awarded to a citizen of the United States. Here's how you can help: Sign the on-line petition on the Cardinals' website www.stlouiscardinals.com. Go to the "Fans" link, click on the "Stand for Stan Campaign" link and complete the petition.

Or you can write a letter to President Obama at: Attn. Ms. Anna Kim, Office of Staff Secretary, The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., Washington, DC 20500. Be sure to include your return address and, if available, use your personal stationery.

Musial is a lifetime member of the Polish American Cultural Society of St. Louis.

HERITAGE

Some Geography

by Ellye Slusarczyk

Poland is the ninth largest country in Europe and ranks sixty-ninth in the world.

Approximately 38 million people live in an area of 120,726 square miles. That is about 320 Poles per square mile.

Poland enjoys a temperate climate. To the north and west, oceanic breezes affect the land. Days gradually become warmer as spring heads into summer. Then in the fall falling temperatures begin to cool down as winter approaches. The average summer temperature is 68 degrees and the average winter temperature is 37 degrees.

Many countries border Poland; Germany, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Ukraine, Belarus, Lithuania, and Kalingrad Oblast. Then there is the Baltic Sea.

An important date in Polish history was 966. Throughout the area were many warring tribes. By becoming a Christian nation, the country became united. Poland became a kingdom in 1025.

Poland's First Republic occurred in July 1, 1569. The Second Republic came into being on November 11, 1918. Then came the People's Republic on December 31, 1944. January 30, 1990, saw the creation of the Third Republic.

Rzeczpospolita Polska refers to a Parliamentary Republic. Within Poland are sixteen voivodeships (provinces). These provinces are then divided into powiats (counties). These number 379. The powiats then divide into 2478 municipalities.

TRIVIA TIME

by Ellye Slusarczyk

- Krystian Zimmerman is an accomplished: a. operatic tenor b. violinist c. pianist
- The Audrey Hepburn Humanitarian Award was awarded posthumously to a. Irena Sendler b. Blessed Michael Kozal c. August Poniatowski
- Barbara Mikulski is a: a. governor b. senator c. well-respected ambassador
- Our nation's only professional and performing Polish American arts company is: a. Lira b. Czeokolado c. Kwiecie
- Polish Vodka (Sobieska) is being endorsed by: a. Bruce Springsteen b. Bruce Willis c. Howard Mandell
- Polka Fireworks is annually held at the: a. Festival of Polkas in Pittsburgh b. Seven Springs Mountain Resort c. Polka Celebration in Cleveland
- In New York City, Manhattan's Madison Avenue and East 37th Street has been renamed: a. Paderewski Way b. Walesa Way c. Jan Karski Corner
- A long-time coach at UCLA was Andy Banachowski who coached: a. volleyball b. football c. rugby
- An established branch of the Polish Unitarian Church was the: a. Polish Brothers b. Free Thinking Society c. Polish Christian Sons and Daughters
- A recreated Polish pony lives in the wild in the: a. Baltic sand dunes b. Bialowicz Forest c. Tatras

ANSWERS. 1.c pianist; 2.a Irena Sendler; 3.b senator; 4.a Lira; 5.b Bruce Willis; 6.b Seven Springs Mountain Resort; 7.c Jan Karski Corner; 8.a volleyball; 9.a Polish Brothers; 10.b Bialowicz Forest

BRUSH UP / Prepared and distributed by the Polonia Media Network

Health Part 3

Nie mogę spać. (Nyh MOH-geh spahch)	uczenie (uuh chuh-LEH-nyeh)
I can't sleep.	allergy
Mam zawroty głowy. (Mahm zah-VROH-tih GWOH-vih)	anemię (ah-NEH-myeh)
I feel dizzy.	anemia
Mam dreszcze. (Mahm DREHSCH-cheh)	oparzenie (oh-pah-ZEH-nyeh)
I have shivers.	burn
Czuję się słabo (CHUH-yeh sheh SWAH-boh)	raka (RAH-kah)
I feel weak.	cancer
Wymiotowałem (vih-myoh-toh-VAH-wehm)	przeziębienie (psheh-zehm-BYEH-nyeh)
I have been vomiting. [Male form]	cold
Wymiotowałam (vih-myoh-toh-VAH-wahm)	zatwardzenie (zaht-fahr-DZEH-nyeh)
I have been vomiting. [Female form]	constipation
Mam (Mahm)	kaszel (KAH-shehl)
I have a (an)	cough
	gorączkę (goh-ROHNCH-keh)
	fever

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

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CIEKAWOSTKI / Martin Nowak

JFK's Spirit Linked With Polish Spirit

When running for president against Richard Nixon in the incredibly close election of 1960, John F. Kennedy struggled for every vote he could get. One important group he courted was the Polish Americans, and by and large he won them over.

On October 1, 1960, he addressed the annual convention of the Polish American Congress in Chicago in a major campaign speech. "I am a friend of freedom and where freedom is I feel at home. Therefore, I feel at home today," he declared to the crowd.

He reiterated his ideas to achieve the ultimate freedom and independence of Poland, and proposed a seven point program of relaxing restrictions on non-military aid that he believed would eventually lead to the peaceful liberation of the Polish people.

Once he became president, JFK could focus on Poland only in more general terms, yet he never abandoned his basic idea of gradually weaning the countries of East Central Europe away from the Soviet orbit. This would become the policy of every American president who followed him. His last major address on Poland occurred at the Pulaski Day Parade in Buffalo in October 1962,

during which he repeated the same themes.

Following President Kennedy's tragic death on November 22, 1963, Polish Americans mourned along with their countrymen, but perhaps a little more deeply. They had lost a true champion for freedom of their fatherland, as well as the only Roman Catholic ever to be president.

In Poland, the state controlled media announced Kennedy's death in the early evening of November 22. They treated his memory with respect and expressed sorrow and sympathy to both his family and to America, and had almost outright praise for JFK, saying he shared an awareness of the principles of peaceful coexistence and understood the consequences of nuclear war. The Polish people mourned him deeply. The average Pole knew little about President Kennedy, yet his death profoundly affected them. Just as he was to Americans, he was a promise of what could be, the leader of the free world and the enemy of the hated communist regime.

At the American embassy in Warsaw below a photograph of the late president, and at the American consulate in Poznań, 16,000 Poles signed books of condolence and left flowers. American writer John Steinbeck was in the Polish capital

on a cultural tour of Iron Curtain countries when news of Kennedy's death reached Warsaw. He was amazed at the demonstration of sorrow, regret and remorse shown by the citizens and said that "it was the most fantastic thing I ever saw. I've never seen anything like it. The Poles said they'd never seen its like either, for anyone."

The Polish government-in-exile in London sent expressions of sympathy to new President Lyndon Johnson and to Mrs. Kennedy. At the funeral, communist Poland was represented by Stanisław Kulczyński, deputy chairman of the council of state, and Piotr Jarosewicz, the deputy premier.

In 1980, the Solidarność movement in Poland began writing the final chapter in John F. Kennedy's peaceful evolution toward freedom in the Soviet bloc. It has been said that all of our presidents from Harry S Truman to George H.W. Bush played a part in bringing down communism in Europe. JFK's contribution ranks highly among them, and for Poles and Polish Americans of certain generations, his spirit holds forever a special place in their hearts.

Galician Roots to be Examined

WINNIPEG, Manitoba, Canada — Oct. 2. "Galicia: Multi-Ethnic Roots in Ukraine and Poland." Red River College, Princess Street Campus. Speakers: International renowned authorities Matthew Bielawa and Brian J. Lenius. Cost: EEGS Member \$55.00; Non-Member \$60.00. The lecture theatre seating is limited to 120 people, so please register early. This full day seminar will include various topics on Galicia, including a description of Galicia, record keeping, locating records, reading and analyzing records, languages (including Cyrillic), among other topics. Ukrainian and Polish roots will be covered in depth and minority groups such as German, Jewish, Mennonite, Armenian, and Czech roots in Galicia covered according to attendance.

For more information, call or write to: East European Genealogical Society P.O. Box 2536, Winnipeg, MB Canada R3C 4A7; www.eegsociety.org.

Society information and voice mail: (204) 989-3292.

Pondering Pole / Edward Poniewaz

Pride or Complete

Not often, but sometimes, I will still hear a person of Polish extraction say that he or she is "proud to be Polish." The "proud to" expression is *passé* today. My take is that folks either: feel superior; don't care what they are; have an inferiority complex; or fall into the special category.

The special category — epitomized and described by Paul, the disciple of Jesus — talked about fighting the "good fight of faith" (First Letter to Timothy, 6.12), and that "the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work" (Second Letter to Timothy, 3.17). The Paulian category is more a condition of being rather than just wearing a funny hat or button. One day, I envision all of our Polish brethren will be complete and confident, and "equipped for every good work."

There is good pride, but there also is the bad kind. The good we associate with being pleased with our deeds or accomplishments, or the deeds of accomplishments of others. There is the bad kind,

which we probably have been subject to, or victim of at one time or another, is the type associated with the seven deadly sins. It is defined in dictionary.com as "a high or inordinate opinion of one's own dignity, importance, merit, or superiority, whether as cherished in the mind or as displayed in bearing, conduct, etc."

We are all proud for who we are, work we did, our kids, our spouses, or something else, and there is nothing wrong with that! It is the "inordinate opinion of one's own importance" that is scary and makes a person less than whole.

So how does a person get to that level of inner strength and spirit that St. Paul had? As you know, I like lists so let me suggest a way.

SSM Health Care of St. Louis recently published a small pamphlet "Experience Exceptional, Ten Reasons Why Your Community Is Better Because SSM Is There" (2010, SSM Health Care, www.ssmhc.com). Some of the reasons given are: Care, Safety, Community, Innovation, Economy, and Charity.

This is part of the section on Charity:

The organization that eventually became SSM began with five Catholic Sisters who had \$5 among them. The first patient at their first hospital in 1877 couldn't pay his bill. The Sisters had a special designation in their ledger for patients who couldn't afford to pay for their care. They called them "ODL" or "Our Dear Lord's."

...the same spirit of compassion demonstrated by our founding Sisters still runs deep and strong throughout SSM. In 2009, the system provided \$66.1 million in charity care.

This might seem obvious that a hospital provides support and health in a community, but if you quizzed employees of the health care system, probably a number of them would not know how SSM did and currently provides Charity. The pamphlet directly and clearly lists: a. the history of caring; and b. how much. This is not the "inordinate opinion of one's own importance" type of pride (although \$66 million is quite a chunk of change), but a sincere effort to engage in the "good fight of faith," so to speak.

So, if you were asked, "What

have the Polish people done?" or "Why would anyone want to be Polish?" how would you answer? Would you smile and ramble the standard "proud to be Polish" or recite variations on the three Cs (Chopin, Copernicus, and Curie)?

Like the SSM pamphlet, I don't know if I could come up with ten reasons but there are four ways Polonia has made the world a better place: culture, history, creativity, and people.

In the history department, I would say the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. This was Poland's version of empire: a huge land mass, diverse population, and political control as well as social and cultural influence for hundreds of years. It may not be comparable to the Roman, British, or Chinese dynasties, but an experience shared in a sense by the Poles.

My question for September: what other ways can you list?

UPDATES. One more thought, again, about alleluias: John Gora, leader of the polka band *Gorale*, has a "Hallelujah" waltz on his CD, *Polka Playin' Fool*. Not a bad tune and perhaps one that can be reworked into a Mass Alleluia.

Jim Furyk and Matt Kuchar, Polish PGA golfers and both having career or near-career years, finished

sixth and ninth respectively at the WGC-Bridgestone Invitational, August 5-8. Jim has earned well over \$3 million dollars so far in 2010 and Matt will probably finish this year with over \$3 million dollars. At this writing, one writer is picking Matt as a sleeper to win the PGA Championship. That would be a career year for me if he does it.

On another golf note, Paul Stankowski, PGA member since 1991, has been in the rough for some time but will end with \$500,000 in his pocket and has had some very good outings in 2010.

POLISH OR NOT? Is there a Polish connection for Lasko Products, Inc.? There is no mention of the company's founders on the history tab on the company home page.

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

Please note: if you send e-Mail, reference (in the subject line) the Polish American Journal or the Pondering Pole. I will not open eMail if I do not recognize the subject or the sender.



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PAHA

www.polishamericanstudies.org

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

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

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Zamość under German Occupation 1939-1945 / Sophie Hodorowicz Knab

The First Expulsions

Part VIII

The plan was to begin the expulsions somewhere around the 21st of December and the entire action was to have been completed in three weeks so that by Christmas all the new German settlers could find themselves settled in their new homes. The expulsions started in the very early morning hours of November 28, 1942. Caught completely by surprise was the village of Skierbieszów, followed by the village of Sady.

Zygmunt Węclawik was a boy the day he, his family and all the inhabitants of the village of Skierbieszów were expelled. He survived the war and recounted his experience:

"The collection point was the school yard ... it was still dark ... half a thousand people standing in the snow. We waited for what was to come. All around there is a cordon of SS. Another ring surrounded the settlement ... the Germans were clutching their lists, calling names ... the cold was making itself felt (the temperatures in the winter of 1942-1943 was 30° and less: Instytut Pamięci Narodowe Biuletyn #5 May 2004) ... people were striking their palms, stamping their feet trying to warm themselves. Cold and hungry children were crying. The adults waited calmly. They awaited their fate with dignity. Some secretly wiped away tears. No need to cry. They calmed down. We will survive the worst. We won't allow the Huns to see our tears.

Frozen to the bone, they start loading us into wagons ... we can hardly wait to get going ... the SS didn't hurry.

Finally we are on the road. On every wagon there is an SS man. The women begin to become unglued. All around there is quiet sobbing. Everyone's eyes are looking at the retreating village. They have left their entire life's work, land and livelihood. They were heading into exile, homeless towards the unknown.

Instead of heading on the main road, the convoy heads towards [the village of] Huszczki. Later we find out why. Another convoy from Zamość was on the main road heading for Skierbieszów. The German colonists from Besarabia, Hungary, Romania and Yugoslavia were to take over our still warm

homes.

Near Zrębia we rode through the woods. Suddenly we see a wretched wooden barrack. About twenty Jews were digging, more accurately - hacking away at the frozen ground. They were digging for themselves. They were ragged, emaciated, listless. Mere spectres of people. They will stop living when the trench is deep. They didn't hurry, but dug slowly, in silence. The SS men have laid down straw. Set up the machine gun. When the trench is ready, one of the SS men will lie down on the straw. They will go down in the movement of the ammunition belt.

The convoy moves slowly in the direction of Zamość. In one of the wagons a woman cries out loudly. Her child has died. More accurately, frozen to death. Not every infant can withstand an entire day in freezing temperatures. It was awful. The terrible keening of the unfortunate mother generated panic throughout the entire convoy. It was the first offering of the expulsion.

We start arriving in Zamosc. The day is ending. The first day of our homelessness. Finally, a gate. We pass through. They unload us to the ground. Now it is completely dark. An entire day without a spoon of hot soup. By the electric light we look at the dismal barracks. A double wall of barbed wire. The same barracks that the Germans used to eliminate thousands of POWs...the barbed wire gate closes behind us. For many, forever." (Translated from: Wysiedlenie Skierbieszowa in Zamojszczyzna w okresie okupacji Hitlerowskiej by Alina Głinska)

Zygmunt and the village of Skierbieszów was not alone in their misery. That same day the village of Sady was also emptied.

On November 29 the villages of Majdan Skierbieszów, Howiec, Hajowniki, Cieszyn, Zawada, Szorcówka and Lipina Nowa were expelled.

On November 30, The Germans expelled the villages of Udrycze-wies, Udrycze-Kolonia and Wisłowiec.

On December 1, the people of the villages of Złojec and Zarudzie lost their homes forever as well.

Everyone was forced "za druty" — a term used by Poles to denote the transit camp surrounded by barbed wire.

Polish-Jewish Exchange Program in 15th Year

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The American Jewish Committee (AJC), together with its Polish partner, the Forum for Dialogue Among the Nations, celebrated the 15th anniversary of their pioneering exchange program at a major gathering in Warsaw.

"By promoting dialogue and mutual understanding between Poles and American Jews, the AJC and the Forum have strengthened the broader relationship between Poland and America," said Lee Feinstein, the U.S. Ambassador to Poland. "You have reminded us of the things that are worth fighting for."

The exchange program began in 1995.

"The exchange program was part of AJC's wide-ranging effort, following the collapse of Communism in Central and Eastern Europe, to reach out and seek to build new relationships, which was impossible during the Soviet occupation," said AJC Executive Director David Harris. "Poland's rapidly developing ties with Israel, the United States and the Jewish world fully justify the early step we took, together with the Forum, and we are proud of all that has been achieved to date."

Growing Jewish Community Faces Choice of Orthodox or Reform Judaism

WARSAW—As the Jewish community in Poland reestablishes itself, many turn to the Orthodox form of Judaism, for decades the only choice and the branch of Judaism that had been dominant in pre-War Poland. Michael Shudrich, Poland's popular chief rabbi, inspires many to follow his lead.

As in Prague, Budapest, and many communities in Germany, however, there has been a resurgence of Progressive (Reform) Jewish life, according to Rabbi Joel Oseran, vice-president of international development with the World Union for Progressive Judaism in Jerusalem. Some younger Polish Jews are finding the tension between life according to Orthodox Judaism's 613 mitzvot (commandments) and the expectations and practices in a modern society such as Poland's. Polish Jews from families

with mixed religious backgrounds balk at not dining with their non-Jewish family members. Stopping work at sundown on the Sabbath, which comes as early as 3:00 p.m. in Poland's winter, does not fit in with Poland's modern economic structure. One problem is that the government recognizes only Orthodox Judaism and the properties that are gradually being returned to the Jewish community go to the Orthodox. As a result, Reform Jews have to worship in makeshift spaces without any Jewish tradition to them.

A Polish American real estate developer, Severyn Ashkenazy who survived the Holocaust is almost single-handedly providing financial and moral support to nurture liberal Jewish life in Poland. Burt Schuman, an American Reform Jew, began serving last summer as Poland's first permanent Progressive rabbi since the war.

Do You Love Polish Music?

A new website, www.PoloniaMusic.com, has been launched by guitarist Bob Johnson. The former Buffalo, N.Y. native wanted to build a website that provided the chords and lyrics for the kolędy he enjoyed singing years ago as a choir boy at St. Stanislaus Parish in Buffalo.

"I surmised there must be others who would enjoy picking and strumming our beautiful Polish melodies and possibly even performing them for their friends and family if they had the chords," said Johnson. "From personal experience, I know this is a wonderful way to keep Polish music alive within families where the Polish language is no longer spoken and Polish traditions are slipping away."

Johnson says PoloniaMusic.com is a work in progress, and welcomes the advice of anyone who has "even a casual interest in Polish music."

In addition to kolędy, the site features information on Polish Classical, Dance, Folk, and Religious music, and links to Polish song groups and events.

New Release for Stanko

Tomasz Stanko Quintet's newest release, "Dark Eyes" (EMC), features the 67-year-old trumpeter, who got his own break in the early 1960s with pianists Adam Makowicz and Krzysztof Komeda. The band includes guitarist Jakob Bro, pianist Alexi Tuomarila, and drummer Olavi Louhivuori.

"The whole session is undeniably dark, but the set proves to be surprisingly uplifting," says the press release. "The tunes do tend to be a bit stark at times, but Stanko is a colorist who never gets unpleasant, and presides over this recording with a light touch."

POLAND FIGHTS / Douglas W. Jacobson

"When will we start flying?"

In their book, *A Question of Honor*, authors Lynne Olson and Stanley Cloud attribute that remark to Polish flying ace, Witold Urbanowicz



(inset, left), who had become exasperated with British Air Marshal, Sir Hugh Dowding, chief of the RAF Fighter Command. Dowding had just completed a rather non-committal speech to a group of eager and impatient Polish pilots who had risked their lives to escape from Poland and fought their way to Great Britain to join the RAF.

Dowding, however, was doubtful about the Poles' abilities, and was not inclined to let them do anything more than fly transport planes or bombers. Ignoring Dowding's rank and position, Urbanowicz, immediately jumped to his feet and confronted the British Air Marshal, telling him in no uncertain terms that Polish fighter pilots were not about to take a back seat to anyone. They had come to Great Britain to fight the Germans, not to "drive buses."

Urbanowicz was born in Olszanka, a small village near Augustow and, in 1932, graduated from the prestigious flying school at Deblin. In 1936, while flying a PZL P-11a with the Kozciuszko Squadron, Urbanowicz shot down a Soviet reconnaissance plane that had crossed into Polish airspace. He was officially reprimanded but unofficially congratulated and transferred to the advanced air force training school at Deblin where he was nicknamed "Cobra."

After the fall of Poland in 1939, Urbanowicz, along with several thousand of his fellow pilots, escaped to Romania then to France and on to Great Britain and his encounter with Air Marshal Dowding. On August 8, 1940, Urbanowicz got his chance. With the RAF dan-

gerously short of fighter pilots, the Poles were finally given command of Hawker Hurricanes and took off to battle the German Luftwaffe.

Urbanowicz didn't waste any time. Spotting a group of three German Messerschmitts high over the English Channel, he broke out of formation and attacked them head-on. After an extended dog-fight, Urbanowicz chased one of the Messerschmitts down to sea-level and scored his first kill. Four days later he shot down a German Junkers Ju-88.

His record was second best among the Polish aces and in the top ten of all Allied pilots in the RAF.

By the 21st of August, Urbanowicz was promoted to one of the Kozciuszko Squadron's command positions and went on the score fifteen "kills" during the Battle of Britain. His record was second best among the Polish aces and in the top ten of all Allied pilots in the RAF. He was awarded the Silver Cross Virtuti Militari by Commander-in-Chief of the Polish Forces, General Sikorski.

In 1943 Urbanowicz joined the USAAF 14th Air Force attachment in China, flying a P-40 Warhawk in combat against the Japanese. He was awarded the US Air Medal and the Chinese Flying Cross. In December, 1943 Urbanowicz returned to Great Britain and later became an Air Attaché in the United States. During the war none of Urbanowicz's airplanes were ever hit by an enemy shell.

❖ ❖ ❖

Douglas W. Jacobson is the Polish-American author of the award-winning book, *Night of Flames: A Novel of World War Two*. Jacobson has been a frequent contributor to this newspaper and has written a second historical novel set in Poland in *World War II* which will be released in May 2011.

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THE OLD COUNTRY / Richard Poremski



"Really In Touch With The Land." Lublin, Poland. May 17, 1976

Interested in things Polish?
Check out Friends of Poland online

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Interested in people, places and things Polish — history, culture, politics, current events, religion, traditions, food and most anything else? Do you occasionally have a question about your Polish heritage but don't know whom to ask? Are there things about being of Polish background you sometimes would like to discuss with someone? If you have answered affirmatively to any of those questions, Friends of Poland might be worth looking into.

Friends of Poland (FoP for short) is a unique Internet discussion forum devoted to any and all topics relating to things Polish or Polish-American. Not knowing Polish is no obstacle, because all discussion is in English. The forum was set up in the 1990s by Polish-born IT expert Marcin Żmudzki, but most members are U.S.-born Polish-Americans. Other participants hail from Australia, Canada, Poland, Britain, Russia and other countries.

"I joined FoP in 1998, as I was looking for information to assist me in an upcoming trip to Poland," explained Laura Żurowski, a college official from Clintondale, N.Y., who is now one of the forum's moderators. "This year we have also started a FoP Facebook addressed to a younger audience with more emphasis on arts and culture. Now that we have two avenues to participate — Facebook and YahooGroups — we have something to offer all those interested in the topic of Poland and Polonia."

Another FoP stalwart is John Radziłowski, a University of Alaska history professor. "I joined because it was and is one of the few places where Poles and Pol-Ams could discuss issues and exchange ideas in areas ranging from politics and religion to cultural matters and even Polish food," he told this reporter. "I've learned a lot from FoP. The great thing about it is that not everyone shares the same point of view. It's a bit like a community center, open to everyone even if some peo-

ple spend way more time there than others."

FoP participants include Rik Suligowski Fox, one of Polonia's leading historical re-enactors, who regularly promotes the glory of Old Poland's military might on America's Renaissance Faire circuit. One FoP contributor from Michigan is now planning to move to Kraków in a few years, when he and his wife retire. Another is James Conroyd Martin, the non-Polonian author of Poland-themed historical novels. The forum is an excellent place to announce Polish or Polish-American events as well as Polish-related books, projects or services.

But aside from people knowledgeable about and/or directly involved in Polish or Polish-American affairs, like all such forums the FoP also has its share of lurkers. That is the term applied to participants who prefer to listen to and learn what others are saying rather than to actively contribute. There is no obligation to post messages, but after a time some lurkers decide to join in the discussion.

The only rules are that each post must pertain to some facet of things Polish or Polish-American and be in English. If Polish terms or sayings are posted, and English translation must be included. And posters are required to sign each message with their name and location.

Another benefit of FoP is a daily news service dealing with Polish current affairs, compiled by another forum veteran, Professor Roman Solecki. Another of his achievements is his constantly expanding Prominent Poles website. It is a goldmine of information on Poles and Polish-Americans who have made various contributions to the world.

If you feel such a source of information and the lively discussion it often generates may be your cup of tea, contact listowner Marcin Żmudzki for more information and details on how to join: marcin@zmudzki.net.

— Robert Strybel

"Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven Sonatas"

NEW YORK — Rafal Blechacz, a young Polish pianist, who swept all five first-place awards at the 2005 Chopin Competition in Warsaw, has already proven he's one of the best current Chopin players with his first CD release of the "Preludes." Now, he shows us he has the chops for Classical-era music as well, with a new release "Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven Sonatas."

Blechacz is one of the few pia-

nists who can make his performances feel both intelligently thought-out and spontaneous at the same time.

The newest CD is released by Deutsche Grammophon and is available online and in stores.

Born in 1985 in Nakło nad Notecią, Poland, he began his piano lessons at the age of five. He is a graduate of the Artur Rubinstein State School of Music in Bydgoszcz.

OBITUARIES

JUDITH A. (NEE PROCAKIEWICZ) DOMPKOWSKI, PH.D., a Lackawanna, N.Y. native, resided in Hamburg, N.Y. Dr. Dompkowski was former head of the English Department and a professor at Canisius College, in Buffalo. She was an expert on the Nobel Literature laureate, Czesław Miłosz. Dompkowski was also an alumna of Canisius College, graduating in 1974.

WILLIAM CHESTER FOLAK, 71, passed away suddenly on July 12, while tending his family bar and restaurant, Lincoln Tavern, a longtime Chicago

Bucktown area landmark. Owned by the Folak family for over 60 years, the tavern survived the ethnic and cultural changes and urban renewal of the 1960s. Folak's family stayed while others including Polish American families moved farther into Chicago's far Northwest Side and suburbs. Folak carried on the family business with his late wife, Sandra, and his children, Chef Veronica, and Bill, Jr. A devoted pheasant and duck hunter, Folak spent many an autumn day striding through Wisconsin fields with one of his well-known and beloved eight dogs, all Labrador Retrievers. Watching his dogs retrieving gave him more joy than taking a prized bird home. Folak was the founder of the Kishwaukee (Wisconsin) Sportsman's Club, a member of the Halter Wildlife, Inc., the Chicago Society of the PNA, Weber High School Alumni Association, and the NW Spades SAC. A gentle giant, Folak was a fantastic dancer with "Fred Astaire" flair. (G.C.)

FRED J. MARYANSKI, 63, was Nevada State College's longest-serving president. Among his accomplishments during his tenure, Maryanski navigated the institution through its accreditation process; finalized a master plan for the 509-acre campus in Henderson; and opened the college's first permanent building, the Liberal Arts & Sciences Building. Before accepting the Nevada State College job, he had served as interim provost at the University of Connecticut. He began with the university in 1983 as a full professor in the computer science program, and also served on the computer science faculty at Kansas State University. Maryanski earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics from Providence College, a master's in computer science from Stevens Institute of Technology and a doctorate in computer science from the University of Connecticut.

BASIL B. "DANNY" MUZYKA, 87, was a licensed funeral director for over 60 years and was past owner of Muzyka Funeral Home and Muzyka & Son Fu-

neral Home in Chicago. He was a veteran of World War II as a member of the U.S. Air Force.

JOSEPH G. PAWLOWSKI, 91, was the former department chairman of Drivers Education at Maine East High School. Pawlowski played football for the University of Illinois as a starting lineman in the 1940s, played in the college All-Star game at Soldier's Field in 1945 against Green Bay, and played for the Detroit Lions for several years. He was also a World War II U.S. Army veteran.

GEORGE POPIELARSKI, a long-time political, civic, and charitable activist from New York, died in Florida, where he lived in retirement for several years. A lawyer by profession, Popielarski served as assistant Attorney General in New York for a number of years, and was active in numerous Polish causes.

WILLIAM "BILLY" C. ROBLESKI, 32, was a graduate of Naperville Central High School in Illinois. Mr. Robleski was proud to achieve his dream of becoming a firefighter/paramedic with the Riverside Fire Department. He was a cancer survivor and a kidney transplant recipient, who became an organ donor upon his passing.

STELLA (ANDRUSZKIEWICZ) SKONIECZNY, 83, was born in Orzysz, Poland, and emigrated to the United States in 1951, after surviving labor camps in Germany along with her husband, Walter and son Zbigniew, "Bob." In 1956, Skonieczny and her husband started Tesko Enterprises, the manufacturer of architectural metal works. They spent many years helping Polish immigrants create new lives. They were strong supporters of higher education by generously supporting the Knights of Dabrowski and its Crusade for Education Program. Skonieczny and her husband, also, were financial supporters of the Katyn Massacre Memorial Monument which stands at the entrance of St. Adalbert Cemetery in Niles, Ill., and also monetarily supporting the Pope John Paul II Cultural Center in Washington, D.C., *Harcerstwo* (Polish Scouting), and the Polish division "Pancerniaki." She is survived by a son, two daughters and numerous grandchildren. (G.C.)

WILLIAM W. SZYCHOSKI, 71, held almost every title in Beverly, Pa. but mayor in the last 40 years. Previously a city councilman, firefighter, and police officer, as well as a Burlington County freeholder, he most recently owned and operated Holiday Ice Cream & Café in Edgewater Park. The parlor not only won many annual awards for best ice cream in Burlington County, but it was also a haven for charity organizations. He also served his community, hosting a radio show with Burlington City Mayor James Fazzone, where they took

calls and discussed community issues.

PHILIP ULINSKI, 67, was a longtime professor and former chair of the department of organismal biology and anatomy at the University of Chicago. Early in his career, Dr. Ulinski focused on both the structure and the function of the brain. He was a pioneer in the relatively young field of comparative neurobiology. Dr. Ulinski grew up in Michigan and obtained his Bachelor's, Master's and finally his Doctorate, in 1969, from Michigan State University. He was hired in 1975 at the University of Chicago, and helped create the Committee on Computational Neuroscience and the in-depth curriculum that went with it. Dr. Ulinski retired from the university in 2008.

CAPT. DAVID A. WISNIEWSKI, 31, was a Nellis Air Force Base pilot stationed in Las Vegas, Nevada. He most recently served in Afghanistan as a member of the 66th Rescue Squadron. His fellow airmen called him "Capt. Wiz," "Skramble," or "The Trivializer." Capt. Wisniewski was born in Fort Dodge, Iowa, and grew up in Merville, where he played football at Woodbury Central High School. He was so focused on becoming a pilot for the Air Force that he only applied to the Air Force Academy after graduation. He was buried at Arlington National Cemetery.

JOSEPH ZARAZA, 86, passed away July 7. Born in Chicago, Zaraza began working at the age of eight delivering ice via a horse-drawn delivery truck. He left high school in order to support his family and by the age of 18 he was supervising 22 employees in the shipping department of a large publishing company. In 1943, Zaraza enlisted in the U.S. Army and served until September 1945. During his military career, he received the Bronze Star for heroism, the Silver Star, and the Purple Heart with two Oak Leaf Clusters. He was wounded five times in action, including three significant wounds: a serious head wound, a mortar shrapnel wound in this back and significant right hand and elbow damage caused by machine gun bullets. His wounds were so profound that he was told by medical personnel that he would not be able to pursue a career which required significant physical dexterity with a possibility of not living a long fruitful life. Zaraza proved them wrong. He became a U.S. Mail Carrier and for 33 years delivered mail in a Chicago neighborhood with a large Polish immigrant population. Zaraza became this neighborhood's English/Polish language interpreter and letter writer. These customers became part of his extended Polish family. He was their advocate and advisor. Zaraza is survived by a son and grandson. A funeral mass to celebrate his life was held at St. Anthony Church in Portland, Oregon. (G.C.)

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PNA District VI Awards



PHOTO: ASHLEY MISLAK

PHILADELPHIA — The multi-state District VI of the Polish National Alliance (PNA) met here for its annual convention, June 13, 2010. Shown above is the awards ceremony, which is the highlight of the day's busy agenda. Pictured (l. to r.) are: Commissioner Jim Mislak, Richard Poremski, vice president of Council 21 and 2010 "Man of the Year"; Emily Dnichimowski, Lodge 3131 and 2010 "Woman of the Year"; Commissioner Renata Jodlowski; Director Teresa Buckoski; and National Censor Wesley Musial.

Poremski staffs the Polish American Journal's Washington, D.C. bureau. Pictured are (l. to r.): Mislak, Poremski, Dnichimowski, Jodlowski, Buckoski, and Musial.

ACPC Youth Leadership Conference Meets in Washington

by Tadeusz Mirecki

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Youth Leadership Conference 2010 (YLC) provided young Polish American students from all parts of the United States to meet and discuss important matters with distinguished leaders of Polish descent in various fields in society and also to enjoy social/educational events and activities over a week-long visit in Washington, D.C.

This year's conference was organized by the American Council for Polish Culture, June 20-26. The event was chaired by Irena Mirecki, YLC Chair, and her husband Ted. Janet Beane, a Board member of the Polish American Arts Association of Washington served as chaperone.

The keynote address "The Essence of Leadership" was given by Colonel Peter Podbielski, U.S. Army (Ret.) Ambassador Robert Kupiecki met with the group at Embassy of the Republic of Poland for a program organized by Minister Marek Konarzewski and Dr. Grazyna Zebrowska.

The next session was at the Institute of World Politics (www.iwp.edu) for several presentations including a talk by author, history professor and IWP academic dean Marek Chodakiewicz over a variety of topics, particularly the Iraq war.

On Tuesday a talk was given by Regina Frackowiak, Head of the European Reading Room at the Library of Congress where LOC staff brought out rare items relating to Poland. A U.S. Capitol building tour was arranged by Senator Barbara Mikulski's office.

Participants met with Dr. Andrzej Raczko, outgoing Alternate Executive Director at the International Monetary Fund. The day ended with a tour of Arlington National Cemetery with stops at the Kennedy gravesite, the Tomb of the Unknowns and Arlington House.

On Wednesday, Dr. Julian Kulski, a participant of the Warsaw Rising of 1944, gave a presentation and sculptor Gordon Kray led a sight-seeing tour.

On Thursday participants met with attorney Mark Brzezinski, son of Zbigniew at his office who gave out copies of his book, *The Struggle for Constitutionalism in Poland*. Later participants met with incoming IMF Alternate Executive Director Katarzyna Zajdel-Kurowska (the IMF meetings were organized by Jolanta Stefanska).

That afternoon participants screened two video presentations: "Career Opportunities in Social Enterprise" by Paulina Migalska and "Nine Days that Changed the World," a film by Newt Gingrich Productions about the first pilgrimage of Pope John Paul II to Poland in 1979. Participants each left with a copy of the film, gifts Ted & Irena Mirecki.

The planned trip to Baltimore, Maryland, to visit the National Katyn Memorial and meet with Richard Poremski, Chair of the National Katyn Memorial Foundation was cancelled due to 100-degree heat in favor of visiting local museums within walking distance. In the afternoon, Paulina Migalska presented "Perspective on Poland: Legacies of 20th Century Changing Tides of History."

The conference closed with a group dinner with ACPC President Debbie Majka and ACPC Executive Committee members Richard and Bernadette Wiermanski, and Tom Payne, president of the Polish American Arts Association.

Readers are warmly invited to join the tax-free, 501(c)(3) organization. Annual dues are only \$10. For membership information, please contact Mrs. Anna-Mae Maglaty at 860-521-7621 or via e-mail at annamae11@comcast.net.

Mrozowski Repeats Win as World Sudoku Champion

PHILADELPHIA — A Polish puzzle solver named Jan Mrozowski became the world Sudoku champion for the second time this year, after two days of tense play in Center City among about 120 of the world's best Sudoku solvers from 32 countries.

Mrozowski, 23, threw his head back in victory after finishing the last puzzle in the final play of the World Sudoku Championship — a round of 10 puzzles that took him 54 minutes, 4 seconds to complete. Shortly after that the civil engineering student from Krakow, who won the world championship last year in Slovakia, was lifting a silver bowl over his head and being hoisted into the air three times by his six teammates.

A Tribute to Chopin in Verse

CHOPIN WITH CHERRIES: A TRIBUTE IN VERSE
 Edited by Maja Trochimczyk, Moonrise Press, 2010
 ISBN 978-0-9819693-0-5
 256 pages with 48 illustrations, 6X9 in.
 \$23.00 paperback; \$10.00 PDF Download

Reviewed by Elizabeth Kanski

In Poland, June is the month for Bing cherries (czereśnie) and July for sour cherries (wisnie), but it is Chopin season year-round, especially in 2010, the 200th anniversary of the birth of the great composer. Maja Trochimczyk, Polish American music historian, poet and photographer, decided to celebrate Chopin's birthday in an unconventional manner: with 123 poems by 92 poets, gathered together into a handsomely produced and exciting new anthology. The idea for the book stemmed from an invitation Dr. Trochimczyk received to participate in the 3rd International Chopin Congress in February-March 2010. Finding that her focus has shifted since the 2nd International Chopin Congress of 1999 away from pure musicology towards poetry and artistic pursuits, Dr. Trochimczyk decided to gather together all Chopin-themed poetry written in English that she could find. Discovering an avalanche of poems, she realized that Chopin's music speaks to the whole world that is full of its admirers. From Emma Lazarus's long poem, based on a cycle of sonnets, to contemporary experiments with form (Mark Tardi) and surreal imagery (Alison Ross), as Dr. Trochimczyk writes in her erudite introduction, "poets continue to count their musical blessings and wonder about the mystery of Chopin's music that touches them so deeply."¹

Chopin with Cherries is organized into fourteen sections, each grouping poems that relate to a certain topic or genre: Name, Piano, Preludes, Etudes, Mazurkas, Polonaises, Waltzes, Nocturnes, Sonatas and other Works, Life, Death, Playing, Listening and Beauty. The classic poems include works by Cyprian Kamil Norwid (the first English translation of his monumental work "Fortepian Chopina" — by Leonard Kress, who also contributed his own poem to the volume), Emma Lazarus, William Pillin, and Amy Lowell (all three poems, though completely different, are entitled "Chopin"), and T.S. Eliot's modernist and ironic "Portrait of a Lady." Norwid's poem is a meditation on the place of the arts in society and on Chopin's achievement in raising the folk element to the level of universal beauty.

Inspired by the tragic fate of Chopin's piano, destroyed by Russian soldiers during the November Uprising in the 1860s, this work sets the most elevated tone in the reflection on the importance and impact of Chopin's music. Emily Fragos's "Chopiniana" and other poems grouped in the "Beauty" section fall into this category. As Fragos writes, even if the whole world has changed into a lunatic asylum, "a deep, invisible room where the occupants do nothing but stain and scratch the walls," still the transcendent beauty survives, "a Chopin of elation, /performing so easily what is impossible to do. I am relieved of the burden / of language and arriving and know for a fact that I need not speak."²

Poet Marilyn N. Robertson found a way of speaking: by considering "Chopin" a language that she shares with her piano ("We Speak Chopin"), and expressing what could not be properly expressed in words. Other poets commented on Chopin's own statements, especially the quote about his failed relationship with George Sand and the impassioned use of music for self-expression: "I tell my piano things I used to tell you" he wrote. Roxanne Hoffman and Jessica Day both quoted this statement and reflected on the loneliness and bitterness of a tone-poet, whose only language was the sound of the piano. May poets tried to understand and explain the appeal of Chopin's music, the mystery of the nocturnes, for instance, in their way of capturing the essence of love and serenity. Georgia Jones-Davis thought about the role of "sorrow" as his one, greatest love:

Others wrote about how they related to Chopin, what they heard, what it meant for them to play it. Poets John Z. Guzlowski, Elizabeth Murawski, Sharon Chmielarz, Oriana Ivy, Leonard Kress, Beata Pozniak Daniels, Maja Trochimczyk, and many others, sought and found their particular way of hearing and relating to Chopin. Many Polish Americans share Chopin's experience of exile and comment on his longing for his lost home, expressed by the burial of his heart in Warsaw and his body in Paris. Erika Wilk wrote about his heart, "preserved in brandy" and concluding "Warsaw has his heart enshrined / the world his music / then, now, forever."

1. Maja Trochimczyk, "Introduction: The Poetry of Chopin in Poetry," in Maja Trochimczyk, ed., *Chopin with Cherries: A Tribute in Verse* (Los Angeles: Moonrise Press, 2010), xxxi.
2. Emily Fragos, "Chopiniana," in *Chopin with Cherries*, 202.

NEW BOOKS

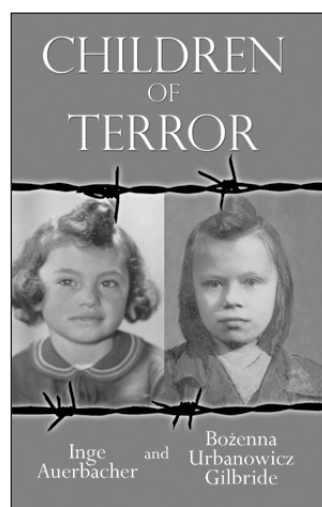
Two Survivors Share Memories of Childhood Horror in "Children of Terror"

NEW YORK — Inge Auerbacher and Bożenna Urbanowicz Gilbride were born within months of each other in 1934, in two different countries and into widely different cultural backgrounds.

Urbanowicz Gilbride, a practicing Roman Catholic from Poland, and Auerbacher, an observant Jew from Germany met many years later in the United States when they both participated in a seminar on the Holocaust. They felt a similarity in their experiences, and have been friends ever since. Both experienced the horror of the Nazi regime, saw their communities destroyed, and witnessed the loss of loved ones. They survived deportation to labor camps and concentration camps, and starvation, disease, and alienation.

In their new book, *Children of Terror*, they speak of their painful past with the hope of fostering tolerance among all people that such events will never happen again. Their message is: "We are all God's children. We all have dreams, and we want to live in peace without hunger and prejudice."

The authors of "Children of Terror" write as honest eyewitnesses to history, witnesses who never gave up. Their willingness to relive their worst memories deserves our sin-



cere gratitude. That both families were able to preserve a few photographs is amazing. Black and white images in the book tell their own story of lost childhoods.

Along with sadness that such cruel things can happen to children, this memoir inspires hope as well. It is a call to work for a better world.

\$12.95
 iUniverse, Incorporated
 Paperback, 120 p.p.
 ISBN-13: 9781440178092
 ISBN: 1440178097

THE HEART OF SIMPLE LIVING.

Wanda Urbanska is the author of *The Heart of Simple Living: 7 Paths to a Better Life* (Krause Publications, \$19.99). Her book offers tips on how to avoid clutter and debt. It suggests ways to make homes more energy-efficient and less toxic.

"I'm convinced," she writes, "that living in the present in our work and in our lives should be one of the primary goals of the simple life."

Urbanska, 54, a former journalist and Harvard graduate, recently returned from Warsaw, where she took a seven-month sabbatical in her father's native Poland. What she learned from that visit is at the heart of her new book, saying Americans need to take a cue from Europeans,

and redefine success as financial solvency and happiness, not material wealth. She encourages people to slow down, do one task at a time, and make time every day to relax.

\$19.95
 Paperback: 256 pp.
 Krause Publications
 ISBN-10: 1440204519
 ISBN-13: 978-1440204517

THE LONG WAY HOME.

The Long Way Home: An American Journey from Ellis Island to the Great War by David Laskin (www.thelongwayhomebook.com), from Harper, tells the true story of twelve immigrants who fought with U.S. forces in the Great War. Two of the heroes featured in the book were from Poland. Poles embraced U.S. entry into the war enthusiastically, volunteering in greater numbers than any other immigrant group and raising an all-Polish infantry battalion under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Peter F. Piasecki. Poles fought in every branch of the American military, winning many medals for bravery. Polonia also sent thousands of young men to fight for the liberation of Poland with Haller's Army.

In researching *The Long Way Home*, Laskin enlisted Polish American organizations to help find families whose fathers and grandfathers had fought in the Great War.

For more information, go to www.thelongwayhomebook.com.
 \$26.95
 Hardcover: 416 pp.
 Harper Publishing
 ISBN-10: 0061233331
 ISBN-13: 978-0061233333

BOOKS IN BRIEF / Florence Waszkelewicz Clowes

The White House in Mourning

THE WHITE HOUSE IN MOURNING

Deaths and Funerals of Presidents in Office
by **Martin S. Nowak**
McFarland & Co, 2010
index, bibliography, notes
appendix, photos, 247 pp, \$38.00

What appears to be an uninteresting title is deceiving. Nowak has presented a compelling, well documented history on the lives and deaths of our Presidents.

Presidents did not have bodyguards until 1901, after the death of President William McKinley. He did have Secret Service bodyguards, but it wasn't until the following year that the position became permanent. Still, the Secret Service has been unable to stop determined assassins.

Attempts have been made on the lives of one of every four presidents, and one of every eleven has been killed while in office. A line of accession had to be formalized after President Reagan was shot. The step by step guidance now covers every possible scenario including accession and funeral arrangements.

The Secret Service, established in 1865 did not begin to protect the president until 1895. In 1902 they assumed the full responsibility of the president. A White House Police Force was established in 1922. This protection was extended to include the president's immediate family, the president-elect and vice president and in 1961 to former presidents as well. At this time a fence was erected around the White house.

In 1900, a physician accompa-

nied the president on trips, and an official White House physician was established in 1930. Today the White House Medical Unit cares for the President, vice president and their families, White House staffers and 2000 workers in the Executive Office building on the White House grounds. Today the president is the most well-protected person in the world.

Nowak provides a reference and detailed history of the eight presidents who died or were killed while in office. It is a personal as well as political accounting. From President William Henry Harrison whose death was due to pneumonia in 1841, to President John Kennedy, killed by gunshot in 1963. When President Harrison died, it took a week for the news to reach his widow. When President Kennedy was shot the entire world watched. Such is the dramatic change in the past 122 years.

Photos and illustrations of the presidents, the deathbeds, viewing, funeral pageants, burial sites, and prominent public officials round out this informative book.

Nowak is a regular columnist in the *Polish American Journal*.

THEY CALL ME KORNEY

by **Michael F. Rizzo**
Ohd House History, 2009
index, illustrations, slang definitions, 208 pp.

When Rizzo bought an old house in Buffalo he discovered it had a history. This nonfiction story of a Buffalo gang who became notorious

robbers and murderers is interesting, funny and sad. John "Korney" Kwiatkowski, Stephen Ziolkowski, Zygmund Plochanski, Anthony Kalkiewicz, Victor Chojnicki, Joe Kornacki and Edward Larkman made a name for themselves. Unfortunately, not on the right side of the law. Their downfall took place in the East side neighborhood of Buffalo.

During the 1920s these Polish gangsters grew to manhood. Rizzo provides a history of each person, their family and upbringing. All were European immigrant families. When Prohibition was created it led to a flourishing time of speakeasies and crime. In a few years the Korney gang went from bootlegging, safe cracking, armed robbery to murder.

Most of their escapades were planned, but often deviated from the outline. The gangster oath of silence was usually obeyed, that is, until the police dug up the body of one of their own, Victor Chojnicki.

Rizzo has presented a story of men who had a disregard for the law, and in the end, for themselves.

THE BLACK MADONNA OF DERBY

by **Joanna Czechowska**
Silkmill Press, 2008, 246 pp.

This is a saga of a Polish family who relocated to Derby, England after the war. Babcia refuses to learn English and is disgruntled with everything. Her only enjoyment is visiting the Polish club. The household consists of her daugh-

ter, Helena, who is a manager in a sewing factory and her son-in-law, Tadek, a house painter. Of the three grandchildren, she is proudest of Zosia, who is intelligent and lovely, even with a birthmark on her face, compared to Wanda who is stout and awkward. The two sisters quarrel constantly. Little Jan is a spoiled hellion. Babcia has decided to return to Poland to die and be buried next to her beloved soldier and aristocrat, Witold, her husband of one year.

When Bashia arrives at her relatives' in Warsaw, things are not as good as she thought and six months later she returns, enthralled Zosia with stories of the city and relatives there. Wanda, feeling unloved, has left home for a job in a nearby city. Jan spends his time with his friends, but Zosia has excelled in school and plans to research the war years in Poland before going to college.

Helena has found work helping a Polish-American do research on conditions of slave labor in the workforce. He learns Helena worked at the Goss factory making German uniforms, now producing fashionable jeans, and becomes obsessed with suing the factory for compensation of the war workers. Helena is appalled, feeling the son should not have to pay for the father's actions. Zosia is having a grand time in Warsaw, meeting her relatives, some who carry strange secrets, mainly about the aristocratic Witold.

She and a cousin become ill after eating at a restaurant, and a few days later she dies from food poisoning. A card of the Black Madonna that

Bashia had given her before her trip is still clutched in her hand.

Wanda returns home, disappointed with her job and helps care for Bashia who has had a stroke and immobilized. The family manages to care for her at home until she, too, dies.

It is Wanda who saves the family, finding love, getting married, having children and reviving Helena as the new Babcia.

ON THE ROAD WITH SUZY

From Cat to Companion
by **Aleksandra Ziolkowska-Boehm**
Purdue University Press, 2010
152 pp, \$16.95

Doctor Aleksandra is an animal lover. Her compassion for her cat, Suzy, makes this a book of discovery and adventure for all animal lovers.

Suzy found the Boehms, and stalking around their Houston apartment, won their hearts and soon became a member of the family. She accompanied them on trips either by auto or plane, a loving companion.

Aleksandra understood the need of compassion and love for animals, and they related to her. A description of a long cross-country trip with husband, Norman is hilarious, as they must make accommodations before and during the trip. Suzy survives and explores her new surroundings in Delaware. Later on Suzy even flies to Poland with her owners.

This is truly a couple who enjoy and deeply care for the welfare of their animals.

REVIEW / Robert Strybel

The PNA – Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow

At first glance, a report about the development of an insurance fraternal may not sound like any to fascinating a read. But this is actually the story of your grandparents or great-grandparents and mine. It encapsulates the ordeal of leaving behind one's family and homeland and starting out in a strange and foreboding overseas land known as America.

I wonder how the average American would feel if he suddenly found himself in Moldova or Bolivia, lands populated by strange people, jabbering away in some unintelligible tongue. Amid unfamiliar ways and strange foods, more likely than not, such displaced individuals would seek out American fellow-immigrants to meet and socialize with and fall back on in times of need. Soon "Little Americas" would begin springing up on foreign soil.

That is precisely the reason Polish neighborhoods, parishes, newspapers and fraternal groups came into being in America. The first such organization was the Polish Roman Catholic Union, established in 1873. It was seven years later that the Polish National Alliance (Związek Narodowy Polski) was born. Now it is America's largest Polish-American organization. That is the subject of *The PNA – Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow* by Professor Donald Pienkos, one of America's foremost political scientists, historians and Polish activists.

Back in the days before Social Security, retirement plans and any form of welfare assistance, the PNA began providing people with burial insurance that would be paid out to survivors. Since then, the organization has created a wide variety of

life insurance and annuity plans to help members enhance their families' financial security. But unlike commercial insurance companies, whose only goal are maximum profits, PolAm fraternal also promote education, humanitarian efforts and Polish heritage in a variety of ways.

The PNA set up the Polish-language daily *Dziennik Związkowy* in 1908 and founded Alliance College (Kolegium Związkowe) in Cambridge Springs, Pennsylvania, four years later. It launched major relief efforts for the people of Poland during and after both world wars and was instrumental in creating the Polish American Congress (1944), an umbrella organization representing the entire US Polonia.

The PNA's efforts have included massive lobbying for Poland's admission to NATO and sponsorship of various cultural and sporting events, summer youth camps and Polish Saturday Schools. Pienkos describes those activities in an interesting way against the backdrop of the achievements and varying leadership styles of different PNA presidents, including Karol Rozmarek, Aloysius Mazewski, Edward Moskal, and the current leader Frank Spula.

The author has devoted a lifetime to researching Polish and Polish issues, to mention only his impressive *For Your Freedom Through Ours*, describing more than a century of PolAm aid to Poland. He has also authored the histories of other major Polish organizations. But this is no ivory-tower scholar. Pienkos has had years of hands-on experience in America's Polish community, including prominent posts in the PNA, Polish American

Historical Association and other groups. He and his wife Angela, also a PolAm scholar and activist, have passed their love of things Polish down to their four now grown sons, all of whom have been to Poland and are keenly interested in their heritage.

The PNA – Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow is a compact, concisely written, but richly illustrated 100-page book, an abridged and updated version of the author's monumental Centennial History of the Polish National Alliance (1984). It contains a chronology of PNA events, a pictorial review of PNA history from 1885 to the present and numerous names, facts and figures. Pienkos' highly readable prose style makes this a book no thinking Polish should be without. It is especially recommended for PolAm organizations, schools and libraries. What's more, it is free for the asking. While supplies last, you can request a copy by writing to: Frank Spula or Paul Odrobina at the Polish National Alliance, 6100 N. Cicero Ave., Chicago IL 60646.

CHANGING TIMES

WARSAW, Poland — The first gay pride to be held in a former Communist bloc country took place in Warsaw. Complete with rainbow flags flying, Village People and Madonna songs pumping from the floats, and drag queens waving like royalty to the crowds, the parade was not without incident as this deeply-Catholic country has yet to reveal its patience like that found in Western European cities.

Estimated to be the largest gathering of its kind in Polish history, the 8,000 participants made up just a fraction of the 50,000 people who took part in last year's parade in Zurich.

Many gay men and lesbians in Poland say they continue to fear repercussions from coming out of the closet.

"I lived in Berlin and, there and here, they are simply two different worlds," said Tomasz Baczkowski, head of the Equality Foundation and an organizer of this year's EuroPride event.

He said he hoped to see Poland legalize gay marriages within three to four years, as Argentina recently did. But a sociology professor at Warsaw University Ireneusz Krzeminski, said Poland's political culture was not yet ready.

"In Poland," he said, "we still do not have major politicians directed toward changing this rather hostile attitude toward Polish gays."

HARRISBURG, Pa. — With the economy on the rocks, more people are willing to drive extra minutes — and in some cases, hours — to get to work.

"I believe that we can expect to see average work trip lengths increase in this weak economy," said Alan E. Pisarski, an expert in travel, infrastructure, and public policy.

Pisarski worries family dynamic will suffer because of the extra time on the road. Often, one parent must leave before the family even rises, and then does not return home until the family is bed. This places more stress on the other parent, who is often forced to take care of the children alone and then is denied their time for recreation and relaxation.



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WARSAW WATCH / Robert Strybel

Polish Death Toll in Afghanistan Rises to Twenty

THE DEATH OF A 31-YEAR-OLD PRIVATE brought to 20 the Polish death toll in Afghanistan. Dariusz Tylęda, who orphaned a wife and child, was killed when his patrol unit was attacked by a home-made explosive device and then shelled by Taliban terrorists. Five other Polish soldiers were seriously wounded in the attack. Poland has contributed 2,600 troops to the NATO-led operation and is in charge of Ghazni province in southeastern Afghanistan.

VIOLENT DOWNPOURS triggered flash floods and caused a dam to burst in Poland's extreme SW corner, submerging most of the city of Bogatynia and surrounding localities. At least three people died and hundreds were evacuated as a raging torrent toppled houses and swept away bridges and cars. August's flash flood followed major spring and summer flooding which claimed at least two dozen lives and caused widespread damage. The government pledged one-off payments of 6,000 zlotys (about \$2,000) to flood victims for current emergency needs and up to 100,000 zlotys (\$33,000) for eventual home repairs.

A SALES TAX known as VAT (Value Added Tax) has been raised from 22 to 23% on most goods and services, even though Poland's ruling pro-business party, the Civic Platform, and its presidential candidate had said taxes would not increase in the near future. The increase includes fuel which in turn will raise the price of all transported goods. A 5% VAT has been slapped on schoolbooks which up

till now had not been taxed. The government claims the increase is needed to help defray the country's huge budget deficit.

313 LAND-PURCHASE PERMITS were issued by the Interior Ministry in 2009 to foreigners, allowing them to buy some 1,700 hectares (4,250 acres) of land in Poland. Foreign companies received 109 of the permits, two were issued to foreign diplomatic corps, and 202 went to private individuals. Germans, Austrians, the French and Dutch were the main buyers of Polish real estate in 2009, mainly summer homes, while Ukrainians, Russians and Italians purchased most of the arable land and woodlands.

A TEAM 160 POLISH FIRE-FIGHTERS and 40 full-equipped fire engines have been dispatched to Russia to help combat that country's worst forest fires in history. Fires raging since July have engulfed at least 15 of Russia's national parks and killed more than 50 people. The smoke has shrouded Moscow and other cities in eye and throat-stinging smog that has reached as far as Finland.

RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES are expected to produce more than 10% of Poland's electricity in 2010, and over the next decade that figure is expected to grow to some 15%. The country's 347 wind-powered facilities are able to generate over one GW of energy. The 734 water-powered plants produce 947 MW. Less power is generated by 133 biogas (77 MW) and 15 biomass facilities (252 MW). So far there are only two solar-powered energy

facilities in Poland generating a mere 12 kW.

THE ZŁOTY GAINED A NEW LEASE on life recently, when Prime Minister Donald Tusk set 2015 as the target for Poland's entry into the euro zone. For years 2012 had been the anticipated entry date, but in 2008, shortly before the outbreak of America's mortgage crisis Tusk said Poland could get rid of the zloty a year earlier. Many analysts believe Poland was the only country to avoid recession in 2009-2010 because it had full sovereign control of its currency. After Poland adopts the euro, currency matters will be decided at the European Union's Brussels headquarters.

THE BATTLE OF WARSAW will be Poland's first historical blockbuster filmed in 3-D is being directed by 78-year-old veteran filmmaker Jerzy Hoffman. He said he agreed to direct it, because the 1920 defeat of the Russian hordes at the gates of Warsaw was Poland's first major military victory since Jan Sobieski's mid-17th rout of the Turks in Vienna. More than 3,500 extras will take part in the clashes between Polish troops and the invading Bolsheviks. Veteran Polish actor Daniel Olbrychski is playing the role of Marshal Józef Piłsudski and Sławomir Idziak, whose career has included Hollywood productions, is the director of photography. The movie is due to be released in August 2011.

POLAND IS GERMANY'S MOST DISLIKED neighbor, a recent Emnid poll has shown. Thirty-three percent of the Germans surveyed said Poland was the neighboring

country they liked the least. The Czech Republic came second, but was disliked by only 13% of the respondents. Of those who expressed their dislike, 56% did not know a single Pole and 58% had never visited Poland. Negative feelings towards Poland were most often expressed by those aged 40-49, while amongst those over 60 only 28% said they disliked Poles.

ELIMINATION OF FLOOD DAMAGE to 802 Polish schools is expected to cost some 100 million zlotys (nearly \$32 million). The 69 school buildings that suffered the most extensive damage will require major overhauls, 504 need basement repairs and 109 – ground-floor renovations. A total of 135 athletic fields were also damaged. Poland's education authorities have also bankrolled summer camps for youngsters from areas devastated by this year's spring and summer floods.

THE NEW APOSTOLIC NUNCIO (Vatican ambassador) to Poland is Italian Archbishop Celestino Migliore, until recently the Vatican's Permanent Observer at the United Nations. He has replaced Archbishop Józef Kowalczyk who had been the Papal Nuncio since Poland dumped communism in 1989. Earlier this year he became Primate of Poland, now a largely titular position. In the latter half of the 20th century, Primates Stefan Wyszyński and Józef Glemp had played a major role in protecting this staunchly Catholic nation against the assaults of atheistic communist rule.

GENEALOGY

Does a Coat of Arms go with Your Polish Last Name? A Crash Course in Polish Heraldry

by Robert Strybel

Polish heraldic devices, popularly referred to as known as coats of arms, were initially awarded to knights for feats of bravery or to reflect some historic episode. Long before military uniforms were to emerge, a clan symbol on a knight's protective shield served to distinguish friend from foe. The clan using a given coat of arms could extend it to others through adoption or intermarriage. Hence, as shown below, a great many variously surnamed and mostly unrelated noble families have shared the same clan-names. And most of them used coats of arms whose clan-name differed from their surname as in "Zaleski herbu Godziemba" (Zaleski of the Godziemba clan).

The clan-name would become part of a nobleman's signature, a kind of second surname, although listed first. For instance a member of the gentry surnamed Zieliński with the first name Stanisław would sign himself: Stanisław Doliwa-Zieliński. And a noble Dębiński baptized Andrzej would affix his signature thus: Andrzej Rawicz-Dębiński. As seen below, the most common ending for noble surnames was "-ski" (or its variants "-cki" or "-dzki") as in **Rudziński, Borkowski, Lewandowski, Grzybowski, Czarnecki, Baranowski, Kowalewski, Smoliński** and **Zawadzki**.

Poland had a larger percentage of nobles than most other European countries, at times accounting for as much as 12-15% of the total population. Having a name such as **Jakubowski, Zieliński, Adamski, Gołębiowski, Grabowski** or others listed below does not mean your line of the family was of noble origin. The overwhelming majority of our Polonia, whose ancestors began flocking to America's shores in the late 19th and early 20th century, trace their roots to hardy peasant stock.

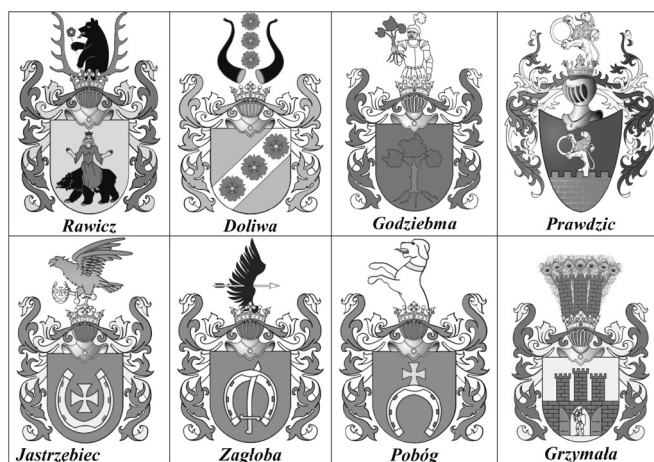
On the other hand, especially in NE Poland's Podlasie area, at times entire peasant villages were ennobled for some service to the local prince or king. They may have been no wealthier than other peasants but were entitled to bear a sword and use a coat of arms. Hence the saying: "Szalchic na zagrodzie równy wojewodzie" (A farming gentryman is the equal of any governor). It was only after Poland got carved up in the late 18th century, that the partitioning powers began conferring titles such as "hrabia" (count), "margrabia" (margrave) or "baron" on some members of the Polish "szlachta" (nobility).

Presented below is a sampling of some of Poland's better-known heraldic devices and the often colorful medieval legends that surrounded their emergence. A good illustration of how historical episodes influence the shape of Polish heraldic devices is shown by the evolution of Jastrzębiec via Zagłoba to Pobóg.

RAWICZ. This coat of arms is said to go back to a deceased English king's son, whose sister had inherited the royal treasure, so he had her thrown into the cave of a ferocious bear.

But the virgin's prayers tamed the savage beast, and she actually rode to the castle on its back. The startled evil brother repented, returned her treasure and begged her forgiveness. The coat of arms graphically depicting that episode is shared by 460 variously surnamed Polish noble families including **Biskupski, Dębowski, Komorowski, Rudziński, Twaróg** and **Zieliński**.

DOLIWA. The rosettes seen in this c-o-a were the symbol of Porajczyk, a knight of the Poraj clan who used a clever ruse to defeat the pagan Jadvignians planning to besiege the castle at Liw (pronounced "leave"). He was rewarded with land and treasures by the king who added two more rosettes to his Poraj coat of arms (said to be of Czech origin) and renamed it Doliwa (from the battle-cry "Do Liwa!" – "Onward to Liw!"). Doliwa is used by 233 noble families including **Borkowski, Brzeziński, Grzybowski, Zakrzewski** and **Zieliński**.



GODZIEMBA. This c-o-a graphically reflects an episode from Poland's 11th-century wars with the Moravians (Czechs). After losing his sword in the fray, the valiant knight Godziemba fled into a nearby forest but soon re-emerged with a small uprooted pine tree and furiously used it as an effective weapon to ward off his pursuers. The Godziemba c-o-a named after him depicted the knight in its crest (upper section). Among the 156 noble families using it are those bearing the **Bocheński, Czekan, Kowalewski, Pucek, Sosnowski** and **Zaleski** surnames.

PRAWDZIC. This heraldic device came into being on the 13th century when a foreign knight whose c-o-a sported a lion married the daughter of a Polish judge named Jan Prawda (John Truth) whose symbol was a wheel or hoop. The combination of the two emblems produced the Prawdzic coat of arms, eventually shared by 349 noble families including **Bętkowski, Bugalo, Gołębiowski, Hoffer, Lewandowski** and **Strzałkowski**.

JASTRZĘBIEC. Back in 999 a young knight named Jastrzębczyk (little hawk), infuriated at a pagan warrior mocking Christianity, shod his horse with special horseshoes, galloped up the slopes of Łysa Góra (Bald Mountain), captured the pagan and brought him before the king. As his reward he was granted a c-o-a displaying a silver horseshoe and cavalier's cross with the titular hawk moved to the crest. It is shared by 1,113 families including **Adamski, Bogusławski, Chodkiewicz, Dąbrowski, Jakubowski** and **Łukowicz**.

ZAGŁOBA. This emblem was bestowed upon a knight of the Jastrzębiec clan (see preceding entry) had murdered his own brother. As punishment the cavalier's cross was eliminated and the sword-pierced horseshoe was to be a badge of disgrace to him and his descendants. Zagłoba is shared by a mere 57 families including **Boguski, Grabowski, Jaroszewski, Lubański** and **Sochacki**.

POBÓG. One of the bearers of Zagłoba led an exemplary life of Christian piety and humble service to his king. Sent as an envoy to Rome, his devotion so impressed the Pope that the Pontiff restored his Jastrzębiec horseshoe+cross emblem and gave him a letter of recommendation to the Polish King. The hound in the crest was thought to symbolize fidelity, and the modified c-o-a was renamed Pobóg (Old Polish for piety). It is shared by 312 noble families including **Budrewicz, Czarnecki, Filipowicz, Jaworowski, Wojdak** and **Żabowski**.

GRZYMALA. According to legend, the knight Grzymała himself went to the entrance of his castle and with his mighty sword warded off a band of attackers. For this act of bravery he received a crest named after him which depicted that incident. Among the 288 noble families identifying with this c-o-a are those using the surnames **Baranowski, Dziekanowski, Kobylński, Malachowski, Przybylski** and **Wojno**.

MANY OTHER POLISH COATS OF ARMS may be viewed online at:

- <http://www.answers.com/topic/list-of-polish-nobility-coats-of-arms-images>
- [http://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Herby_szlachty_polskiej_\(galeria\)#Herby_rod.C3.B3w_szlacheckich](http://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Herby_szlachty_polskiej_(galeria)#Herby_rod.C3.B3w_szlacheckich)
- <http://www.clenodium.eu/pl/herbarze/Polish-armorial.html> (the most extensive c-o-a collection)
- http://www.akromer.republika.pl/armorial_pocz.html (only basic emblem on shield).

The Polish Genealogy Society of New York State holds its monthly meeting every second Thursday evening at 7:00 p.m. in the Villa Maria College Cafeteria, 240 Pine Ridge Road, Cheektowaga. Upcoming meetings include Sept. 9, Oct. 14, Nov. 11, and the club's wigilia on Dec. 9. For more information, call (716) 652-9120.

TRAVELOGUE / Staś Kmieć

Folklore Friends and Collegium Maius

Part XVIII

THE LAST DAY BEGINS WITH KASZA. My last day in Poland, as everyday since the start of this great adventure was filled with an intended agenda that exceeded a normal day's time allotment. But in Poland time stood still, and with generally little sleep and a large dose of adrenaline, intrigue, and excitement, I had the ability to pack my day with unimaginable sights and experiences.

To prepare for this last day's journey, I began the day with a 36 zloty breakfast at Hotel Cracovia. The buffet was similar to the assortment provided at Warsaw's Metropol, but with the significant addition of two of my favorites — *sok z czarnej porzeczki* (black currant juice) and *kasza gryczana* (buckwheat groats).

Buckwheat, besides being healthy, has been a staple in Polish cuisine. It is usually eaten as a side with many dishes. Energizing and nutritious, buckwheat is available throughout the year and can be served as an alternative to rice or made into porridge.

While many people think that buckwheat is a cereal grain, it is actually a fruit seed that is related to rhubarb and sorrel making it a suitable substitute for grains for people who are sensitive to wheat or other grains that contain protein glutens. Buckwheat flowers are very fragrant and are attractive to bees that use them to produce a special, strongly flavored, dark honey.

A rich source of antioxidants, diets that contain buckwheat have been linked to lowered risk of developing high cholesterol and high blood pressure. The nutrients in buckwheat may contribute to blood sugar control — lowering the risk of diabetes. Whole buckwheat also has scored highest on its ability to satisfy hunger. A study published in the *American Journal of Gastroenterology* show that eating foods high in

Ziemi Lubelskiej — instantly connected and bonded. During my last trip to Poland I visited a rehearsal of their children's and adult ensemble.

The company is based in nearby Nowa Huta and boasts a rich repertoire based on the legends, traditions



My last "official" meeting with dear friends and folklore colleagues — Anna (left) and Kazimierz (right) Lassak, the directors of the Hamernik Ensemble.

and folk customs (*obrzędy*) linked with the Tatra Mountains. Anna is passionate about folk culture, has a no-nonsense approach and boldly speaks her mind. Kazik balances their relationship. Even though our meetings are without frequency, we are able to pick up where we left off without skipping a beat. We discussed in detail the Góralские festivals and competitive nature of ensembles. Anna praised the mountain folklore groups in Chicago for presenting their culture in a clean and professional manner and for the attention made to proper costuming. She asserted that many mountain groups in Poland do not feel the need for extensive rehearsal or detail because they are the real thing — true *górale*.

In 2009 the company celebrated their 30th Pearl Anniversary, and in anticipation of that occurrence, I presented the Lassaks with the last of the four dance ensemble Jubilee tokens I brought to Poland. They presented me tokens from their ensemble and spirits to add my already rather spirited luggage. Our time was short spent, as the Lassaks were on route to a wedding that day. I was invited to attend *Hamernik's* jubilee and to accompany them to the Beskid festival, and then we said our good-byes.

MY TRIP BACK INTO THE OLD TOWN took me through my familiar route past monuments and through Collegium Maius of Jagiellonian University. The 640-year-old Jagiellonian moved into the build-

ing situated at the corner of the Jagiellonska and Sw. Anny streets in 1400, when King Władysław II Jagiello purchased the Pecherz family's corner house with funds his late wife, queen-saint Jadwiga, had earmarked for the renewal of Kraków's alma mater. Thus Collegium Maius — the Grand College was born.

The actual walls of the Pecherz house have been preserved in their foundations and on the side overlooking Jagiellonska Street. This is easily traceable by observing the wild-stone composition, so typical of the 14th century. The house was not large and hardly could hold the University activities. During the 15th century Collegium Maius was extended. The University was able to purchase the houses contiguous to the College and to combine them into a harmonious whole.

The Jagiellonian University was established in 1364. After Prague it's the second university in Central Europe. The oldest college of Poland's oldest and prestigious university, Collegium Maius was rebuilt by the end of the 15th century as a splendid late-Gothic edifice around a vast inner courtyard with surrounding arcades, and a well of 1517 in the center. A noted feature is the spiral staircase leading from the ground floor where lectures rooms are held to the first floor with its halls for official ceremonies. Professors lived and worked in the upper chambers, and conducted lectures in the halls below.

In the 1490s Mikołaj Kopernik (Nicholaus Copernicus) was among the students. Together with Karol Wojtyła — Pope John Paul II, the astronomer that revolutionized entire European science remains the most illustrious of Kraków university's graduates. Other famed students include historian Jan Długosz, writer Mikołaj Rej, poet Jan Kochanowski, King Jan III Sobieski, and the patron saint of professors and students — Jan Kanty.

Over the centuries a whole university quarter has arisen around the Collegium Maius, and the old college underwent transformation — first as the university library. During World War II the university was brutally closed and its buildings occupied by the Nazi Institute for the study of Eastern territories.

Between 1949 and 1964, the entire building underwent a major refurbishment and conservation, shedding all superfluous neogothic additions, that effectively blurred the austere elegance of its original structure. During this time the Collegium Maius was also designated as the seat of the Jagiellonian University Museum — rich in unrivaled exhibits and home to ancient university collections, including the collection of the old scientific instruments, objects and curios.

The origins of the holdings go back to the fifteenth century. It was in 1492 that Marcin Bylica, the Pol-



Collegium Maius was rebuilt by the end of the 15th century around a vast inner courtyard with surrounding arcade.

ish scholar and lecturer at the universities of Krakow, Padua and Bologna, presented his astronomical instruments to the Jagiellonian, thus initiating the esteemed collection. Grown for years through royal and magnate endowments and gifts by scholars and collectors, the holdings became dispersed during World War II. Luckily, most of them were returned after the War and made available for the public to see in 1964, on



A noted feature of Collegium Maius is the spiral staircase leading from the ground floor where lectures rooms are held to the first floor with its halls for official ceremonies.

the 600th anniversary of the Jagiellonian University. Visitors are also attracted by the reconstructed interior of an alchemist workshop.

A stained-glass masterpiece by Stanisław Wyspiański illuminates the door archway of one of the buildings at Jagiellonian. The modern style work has the appearance of that of some obscure artist from the 1970s, or even more recent.

The courtyard is a lovely retreat from the sometimes crowded cobblestone streets. At designated times, trumpets sound and then high above, Polish kings ceremoniously parade out of a large cuckoo clock. A quaint and uniquely Polish experience.

The present clock has been restored four times. According to documents from 1465 referring to the repair of a clock of "great size," we know that the first clock came into being before this year.

Destroyed in 1492 by fire and rebuilt, due to the efforts of the Academy authorities and Queen Elizabeth from Austria, the clock kept time for several decades after. The third restoration of the clock was made possible thanks to a donation from Maciej of Miechów, a professor and benefactor of the Krakow Academy. The unusual clock was constructed with symbols of the sun and moon moving together with the mechanism. The clock eventually ceased functioning.

The present clock, began keeping time on October 1, 1999. In this clock a computer system sets in motion a procession of historical figures marching to two different melodies: an extract of court music taken from the tablature of John of Lublin, dating from the middle of the 16th century and an instrumental version of the academic song *Gaudeamus Igitur*. In the procession there are figures of people connected with the history of the Jagiellonian: Queen Jadwiga, King Władysław Jagiełło, St. Jan Kanty, Hugon Kołłątaj and Rector Stanisław of Skalbmierz. These figures were made in the late 1950's by Władysław Kozyra, a folk sculptor. This musical procession is set in motion at 9:00, 11:00 a.m, and 1:00, 3:00 and 5:00 p.m.

I continued past the hallowed halls and soon entered into the Rynek Square just as the trumpeter sounded his hourly call, I strolled through the Sukiennice cloth hall to check for any new items and then proceeded to Kraków's McDonald's to sample the coffee I had heard so much about and read a newspaper.

Next issue: *The last day in Poland continues*



Figures from Poland's past parade five times a day.

insoluble fiber, such as buckwheat, can help women avoid gallstones... so start your day with kasza!

FOLKLORE COLLEAGUES AND FRIENDS. I had my last "official" meeting that morning with dear friends and folklore colleagues — Anna and Kazimierz Lassak, the directors of the Highland Folklore Ensemble — *Zespół Góral-ski Hamernik*. We had met twice in Lublin at the anniversary of *Zespół*



Collegium Novum.