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POLONIA'S GREAT CZERNINA DILEMMA
PAGE 19

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

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WOODSTOCK POLAND EMBRACES MUSIC AND MUD • POLISH CHURCH SAYS IT WILL NOT ABANDON HOMOSEXUALS
RADZIWIŁŁ ROYALTY TOUCHED AMERICA • IS OUR POLONIA DOOMED? • ANOTHER YASTRZEMSKI ON THE DIAMOND

NEWSMARK

ROME EYES NOVEMBER OR APRIL CANONIZATION. Speaking to journalists on the papal flight from Brazil, where the pontiff attended World Youth Days, Pope Francis spoke openly about the difficulty of finding a date to canonize John Paul II, who died in April 2005.

Pope Francis told journalists that December 8 — on the feast of the Immaculate Conception — was possible, but he worried that the winter weather would make it difficult for poorer Polish pilgrims to travel to Rome, the Catholic News Service reports.

The Feast of Christ the King on November 24 was also possible, but would not give enough time to make the necessary preparations.

Pope Francis said the best date could be Divine Mercy Sunday on April 27, the first Sunday after Easter in 2014.

Fr. Jacek Siekierski, rector at St. Anne's church in Warsaw told Polish Radio that the April date would be appropriate, given John Paul II's involvement of the Cult of the Divine Mercy, which is related to the visions of Faustyna Kowalska from the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy.

RADZIŁOWSKI NAMED TO NPAC. Thaddeus Radzilowski, president of the Piast Institute was named this week to membership of the National Polish Apostolate Committee (NPAC) by Cardinal Adam Maida, Archbishop Emeritus of the Archdiocese of Detroit. The committee, which is an affiliate of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, is a organization that focuses on the concerns of Polish American Catholics. Cardinal Maida serves as the Episcopal Liaison for the committee. The national coordinator is Msgr. Anthony Czarniecki, Rector of St. Joseph's Basilica in Webster, Mass.. The remainder of the committee is composed of eight lay members and the representative of the Polish American Priests Association (PAPA).

Radzilowski was appointed to bring to the work of the committee his expertise on Polish American life, as well as the capabilities of the Piast Institute as a center for research on Polonia.

AFGHAN WAR TOLL. Corporal Lukasz Sroczyński died at the Military Medical Institute in Warsaw from wounds he received in December 2012 in Afghanistan.

The 32 year-old corporal served in the 12th Mechanized Brigade and left behind a wife and a daughter.

Sroczyński was wounded late last year when his patrol was shot at by unknown assailants in the southwestern part of Ghazni province in eastern Afghanistan.

Sroczyński became the 41st Polish soldier to die in Afghanistan.

THEY TRUST KOMOROWSKI. Bronisław Komorowski marked the third anniversary of taking office as Poland's head of state on August 6, with opinion polls finding that he remains the country's most trusted politician.

The center-right Bronisław Komorowski beat his conservative rival for the Presidential Palace, Jarosław Kaczyński, in elections during the summer of 2010 by 53.01 to 46.99 percent in the second round and took his oath in front of parliament three years ago.

Since then he has consistently topped opinion polls naming him Poland's most trusted politician.

In late July of this year, 71 percent of respondents told the CBOS pollsters that they trusted Komorowski — a former speaker of the lower house of parliament and member of the ruling Civic Platform party — and positively evaluated his work as head of state.

MOVIN' ON UP. Poland is emerging as a major player in European affairs as EU rumors have several of Poland's politicians poised to assume top jobs at the EU and NATO. The respect and admiration Poles have garnered across Europe is attributed in part to Poland's average GDP growth exceeding four per cent and also to the fact that Poland is the only EU member country to have avoided ever sliding into recession since the 2008 global financial crisis.

A Time to Reap



PHOTO: ANDREW GOLEBIOWSKI

Children present flowers for the altar to Fr. Mariusz Dymek, pastor of Buffalo's Corpus Christi Church, and former pastor, Fr. Karl Kolodziejki, during the parish's Dożynki Polish Harvest Festival Mass. The annual harvest celebration, held August 16-18, is the largest summer festival in East Buffalo's Historic Polonia. Highlights included traditional Polish food, the 6th Annual Best Pierogi Contest, heritage vendors, and polka and folk music.

Playwright Sławomir Mrożek Dead

NICE, France — Sławomir Mrozek, Poland's internationally-renowned playwright, has died at the age of 83.

He had lived in southern France, with his Mexican wife, since 2008 after spending many years outside Poland, having first emigrated during the communist-era in 1963.

Following the Warsaw Pact invasion of Czechoslovakia, Mrozek wrote a protest letter and fell foul of the Polish regime, making his return difficult.

He lived in France for 22 years, then moved to Italy, the United States, Germany and Mexico.

See "Mrozek ..." page 4



Root Research-Ready



PHOTO: JAMES BROSHER

NOTED GENEALOGIST CEIL WENDT JENSEN, shown here at Parafia Św. Mikołaja in Bielsko-Biała, Poland, will be one of the guest speakers at the Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan's Annual Genealogy Seminar, Oct. 19. She will present practical examples and suggestions on how to use records, databases, and archives to start or advance your genealogy research. The seminar will be held at the American Polish Cultural Center in Troy. Story on page 15.

Near and Far

An Interview with Dr. Barbara Cieślińska of the Institute of Sociology of the University of Białystok

Dr. Barbara Cieślińska, a sociology graduate of the University of Warsaw, currently works in the Institute of Sociology of the University of Białystok. Her teaching and research interests include the problems of international migration, demography, and the sociology of the family. She spoke with the *Polish American Journal's* John Grondelski about today's immigration trends from northeast Poland, the subject of her 2012 book, *Emigracje bliskie i dalekie*, published by the University of Białystok.

"Because of visa barriers, some Poles extend their stay in America, being uncertain about whether they'll obtain permission for a subsequent visit. That's how they become illegal immigrants ..."

Poland has traditionally been a country of emigrants. What can you say about the general features of Polish emigration in 2013?

Poland is still a country that people leave in search of work. As the national census shows, the scale of emigration, especially temporary emigration, is very high. The last census (2011) shows that almost two million Poles were outside the country at that time, and that 1.5 million of them had been abroad more than a year. In

comparison to the last census in 2002 (prior to EU accession), the number of people temporarily abroad grew nearly threefold. The majority of emigrants from Poland are young people, people up to age 34. Economists point out that Poland's accession to the EU brought about an "expansion of the labor market," causing a significant outflow of people in their productive years. As a result of the financial crisis, however, it is harder and harder for new emigrants to find work, especially since those who left a few years earlier also have difficulties with employment. There isn't, however, a mass return migration.

In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, many Polish emigrants went to America and Canada. Since joining the EU in 2004, how have Polish emigration trends changed?

In the 19th and early 20th centuries, overseas emigration was not unusual in Europe.

See "Interview ...," page 4

World Youth Day 2016 to be Held in Kraków

VATICAN CITY — Prior to the end of the closing Mass of World Youth Day 2013 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Pope Francis announced the next WYD will be celebrated in 2016, in Kraków, Poland.

Blessed Pope John Paul II, soon to be canonized a saint, served as Archbishop of Kraków for 15 years before his election to the papacy in 1978.

John Paul II originated World Youth Day in 1986, in Rome, at the diocesan level. The first international WYD was held in 1987 in Buenos Aires, Argentina, the home of Pope Francis, who served as that city's archbishop as Cardinal Jorge Bergoglio prior to his elevation to the papacy in March.

Pope Francis then prayed the Angelus, a practice of devotion to Mary, the mother of Jesus, and celebration of the Incarnation, the announcement to Mary by an angel that she would conceive the Son of God.

"Through Our Lady's maternal intercession, let us See "World Youth," page 4

ALMANAC



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September Wrzesień

"All the mentally ill were shot with machine guns, but under penalty of death the hospital personnel are forbidden to talk about this crime. It is so hard to believe anything as terrible as this."

— February 18, 1940 diary entry of Polish physician **Dr. Zygmunt Klukowski**, on the execution by Nazis of mentally ill patients in the psychiatric ward at Chelmo Hospital. Klukowski chronicled the World War II Nazi occupation of Poland as events unfolded outside the window of his residence at Szczepieszyn hospital, where he was chief physician.

- 1 1939. Without declaring war, Nazi Germany attacks **Poland**, which becomes the first country in Europe to resist armed aggression. World War II begins.
- 3 1941. Nazis make the first use of **Zygon-B** gas in Auschwitz on Russian prisoners of war.
- 4 1939. Nazis march into **Czestochowa**, Poland, three days after they invaded Poland.
- 5 1981. Through Sept. 10. First **Solidarity Congress** with 865 representatives of the nearly ten million strong union meets in Olivia Hall in Gdansk.
- 6 1921. Birth of **Korczak Ziolkowski**, American sculptor best known for beginning a monumental tribute to Crazy Horse in South Dakota.
- 8 **NATIVITY OF MARY**
In Polish custom, today's birth of the Virgin is considered the best day for Fall planting.
- 9 1881. Birth of **Blessed Aniela Salawa**.
- 11 1382. **Jadwiga (Hedwig) d'Anjou** crowned queen of Poland.
- 12 1683. **Jan Sobieski III** defeats Turks besieging Vienna.
- 13 1894. Birth of lyric poet **Julian Tuwin**.
Gdy kota nie ma, myszy harcują
When the cat's away the mice will play
- 14 1951. Death of painter and illustrator **Artur Szyk**.
- 15 1697. Coronation of **August II the Strong**.
1885. Death of Polish composer **Juliusz Zarebski** (b. 1854).
- 17 1973. Death of historian **Oscar Halecki** (b. 1891).
- 18 **ST. STANISLAUS KOSTKA**
- 19 1939. Wehrmacht (German regular army) murders 100 Jews in Lukov, Poland.
- 20 1874. Birth of social and civic leader **Dr. Francis E. Fronczak**.
- 21 1945. **General Dwight D. Eisenhower** visits Warsaw.
Piękna miska jeść nie daje.
A beautifully decorated plate won't feed anyone.
- 22 1896. Start of the first **Polish Catholic Congress** in Buffalo, founded by Rev. John Pitass.
- 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.
- 28 1920. Birth of RCA Victor, Columbia, Harmonia and Dana recording artist **Walter Solek**.
- 29 1856. Founding of **St. Mary's**, the first Polish church in America in Panna Maria, Texas.
- 30 1288. Death of **Leszek II the Black**
- 31 1918. Austrian Forces are removed from Krakow.

This paper mailed on or before **August 29**. The October edition will be mailed on or before **October 3**.

VIEWPOINTS

Auschwitz: Twelve Years Later

It was a blistering hot day in June as I ventured on my first visit to Majdanek concentration camp with my husband and mother-in-law. They had been before but it was my first time. For quite some time we were the only visitors adding to pensive tone of the experience. There we were, just us and the memory of approximately 80,000 of the camps victims. I combed through the site and found the experience to be very touching. What affected me more than my mother-in-law being unable to visit every exhibit, or the large memorial of ashes, was the barrack which housed rows and rows of victims' shoes. This kind of display is common at Holocaust museums; however, these shoes were not behind protective glass, there was no real barrier between the shoes and myself. The poignant remnants are housed in rectangular cage-like structures; you can see them, sense their smell, and even touch them. Eerie and impactful, their raw presence will stay with me for a long time.

A week or so later, I (re)visited Auschwitz. I had been there twelve years earlier. I had asked to visit the camp for my sixteenth birth-

day when my budding interest in the Holocaust was becoming solidified. Now, on a rainy June day, as an aspiring Holocaust historian the experience was very different. Outside of personal research I can't say I "learned" too much in the way of factual information—although our tour guide was fantastic. What I did internalize was an even greater sense of how acting on hatred is never an individualistic endeavor, either for the perpetrator or victim.

The profile photos of victims that the mask the walls of the barracks pierce one's imagination and consciousness. Some smile, perhaps knowing or not knowing which fate awaits them, although rarely was there a "happy" ending even for those who were liberated. Other pictures stare back at you with knowing and despair.

I am constantly questioned if my work "bothers" me, and although I'm certainly not desensitized, I've adopted what I feel is a healthy detachment for the sake of objectivity. Visiting Auschwitz, twelve years later, affected me, just as the proximity of the shoes at Majdanek had.

Video documentaries, memoirs, letters, and to an extent even films help put a 'face' to the six million.

As we learn of families and experiences and are perhaps even lucky enough to speak with a survivor, we better relate to the horror and the intimacy of persecution and genocide. But I do not know the stories of the shoes' previous owners or those in the photos with eyes that pierce to the core. I do not know if these people had families—they probably did—what their dreams and aspirations were, if they were happy before persecution began. What I do know was that their suffering was not made manifest in a vacuum, their suffering affected many: those who knew them, loved them, felt a connection with them. And there lies the rub. Does my work bother me? How do I respond when people ask how others could do "such things" to one another?

Twelve years later, I am bothered. I am bothered because "such things" continue to happen each day. Every genocide, every mass murder, every hate crime, every hateful act comes from a lack of connection, an unwillingness to tolerate others. Even though I had no personal connection to the shoes or the photographs, I did feel a deep empathy for those faces, not because I knew them, not because I am Jewish (I'm

not), but because I am human and looked into the eyes of another human being whose end was a part of unprecedented horror.

Their horror did not end with the Holocaust, and you don't have to visit a concentration camp (although I recommend it) to understand what happens when hatred and intolerance is allowed to flourish. With the 78th anniversary of passing of the Nuremberg Race Laws this month, let's remember those victims and recognize current ones. We can't expect to feel a connection to everyone, but we can learn as a society to be respectful and tolerable; the alternative is something we cannot accept.



Magdalena Kubow is a senior Ph.D. Candidate in History at Western University, Ontario, Canada. Her dissertation is titled "The Origins of the Holocaust Reconsidered: The Role of the Foreign Language Press 1926-1945." Her side projects include work on the abuse of women during World War I and Holocaust memory in Canada after the Holocaust. Kubow was born in Jawor, Poland, and lives and studies in London, Ontario, Canada.

FORUM / Robert Strybel

Is our Polonia Doomed to Extinction?

Part 1 of 3

The prediction of Nobel Prize-winning novelist Henryk Sienkiewicz appeared likely to come true. During his stay in the U.S. before the outbreak of World War I, he had turned down an invitation to attend the dedication of a newly built Polish school. Sienkiewicz felt Polonia was doomed to rapid assimilation, hence such projects were a waste of time, money and effort. He could hardly have envisaged the DP (displaced person) generation of post-World War II émigrés who revitalized the Polish scene just when it appeared to be sinking deeper into cultural stagnation.

By the 1960s and '70s, Polonia was again facing a crisis. The post-

war flight to suburbia and resultant decline of the once tight-knit Polish neighborhoods had taken their toll. But that was when ethnic renaissance loomed on the horizon. Suddenly it became "in to be ethnic." "Black is Beautiful" and "Kiss Me I'm Irish" were proclaimed by T-shirts and bumper stickers. African Studies programs began arising at universities, and cultural pluralism now appeared to be a growing thing. PolAms, including many third- and fourth-generation Polonians, contributed to this development. The "Polack joke," widely peddled by America's entertainment industry at that time, in many cases made PolAms more assertive and willing to stand up for their heritage than ever. At the height of the hippie era, the late Michał Królewski, the leader of Detroit's militant youth group, the Polish-American Folk Theater, used to say: "We get high on Polish folk culture, not on drugs!"

The vicious "Polack jokes" lost much of their steam after Polish cardinal became Pope John Paul II, inspiring the Solidarity movement

which led to the collapse of communist rule in Poland and across the continent. The Warsaw regime's 1981 martial-law crackdown only delayed communism's ultimate demise, but resulted in yet another revitalizing wave of immigration to America. Since then, other Poles have moved to the United States including winners of the U.S. visa lotteries. Have enough of them become involved in PolAm community affairs and business ventures to assure our Polonia's continued development? That is the 64-złoty question!

There has been a certain amount of friction between successive immigrant generations. The old bread-seeking immigrants of the late 19th and early 20th century were suspicious of the post-World War II DPs who, with the passage of time, themselves became the "Old Polonia." Many did not see eye to eye with the post-Solidarity influx and those had different priorities than the visa-lottery winners. Such differences are completely normal. At the same time, each successive

wave helped rejuvenate Polonia, breathing new life into existing organizations and creating new ones. If Poles and Polonians had been more inclined to work together for the good of the Pol Am community rather than having their own way, probably much more could have been accomplished.

At present, there is no potential calamity on the horizon that would send another major wave of Polish immigrants to America's shores. When and if Poland is finally included in the US visa-waiver program, the existing trickle of Polish newcomers may increase slightly, but that will not produce a significant influx. Those concerned about our community's continued existence and development will probably have to work mainly with our existing human resources, and possibly introduce some innovative approaches to the task. Still, just as Sienkiewicz was proved wrong, we cannot rule out some turn of events that would witness a new wave of Poles hoping to find a new life for themselves in America.

Late Delivery for October

The October 2013 edition of the Polish American Journal will not be mailed until Thursday, October 3. If you do not receive your paper by Monday, October 14, please call our office.

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editor@polamjournal.com

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AMERICAN POLONIA AT A GLANCE

ILLINOIS

CHICAGO — The **Polish Museum of America Library**, 984 N. Milwaukee Ave., is selling duplicate books in English and Polish on various Polish subjects, as well as a variety of books on non-Polish subjects. If you love books, this is the place to purchase them at discount prices.

The funds raised by the sale will help finance necessary improvements to the 98-year-old library and ensure its continued success. The books and items we sell come primarily from donations. The PMAL cares greatly about all books, and, thus they need new homes. The books not sold during the Sept. 14-15 event will be available for purchase at discounted prices during regular work hours in our library through Sept. 30, 2013.

The library is open: Mon., Tues. and Sat. from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; and Wed. from 1:00-7:00 p.m.

For more information, call (773) 384-3352 ext. 101.

MARYLAND

BALTIMORE — Experience the Old World charm with a touch of Baltimore flair as you tour two of Baltimore's finest **Polish delis**, September 14, from 2:00-6:00 p.m.

Sample some of the different types of smoked meats and sausages, taste authentic homemade soup, a wide variety of Polish breads, imported preserves, fruit syrups, chocolates, pastries, cheese and much more.

The price is \$25.00 (non-refundable). Make check payable to: Joan Persing, 38 Liberty Parkway, Baltimore, MD 21222. For more information, contact Gosia at gosia12@verizon.net or (410) 866-6419 after 5:00 p.m.

MICHIGAN

HAMTRAMCK — The Polish media take center stage as the honorees for the 2013 Hamtramck's **Polish Day Parade**, held Labor Day, Sept. 2, beginning at 1:30 p.m. at the corner of Joseph Campau and Holbrook. Grand Marshal will be Keith Sadowski, Warren city councilman. Honorary Grand Marshal will be Stanley Krajewski, former editor in chief of the *Polish Daily News*.

At age 98, Krajewski's distinguished career in newspaper work first spanned work in journalism in Poland. In the United States, he continued to work as a reporter and staff writer for the "Polish Daily News," and later as the paper's managing editor and then editor in chief. He was active in a number of Polish and Polish American organizations, such as the Orchard Lake Schools, the latter for which he received the Fidelitas Medal in 1988, the highest award given by the Schools.

Among the other Polish media recognized are Jurek Rozalski of the "Polish Varieties" a daily program broadcast over WNZZ-690 AM Radio; Sebastian Szczepanski, editor in chief of the *Polish Times* newspaper; Dr. Alicja Karlic, editor in chief of *The Polish Weekly* a Polish American magazine; and Rafal Nowakowski of Detroit Polish TV.com.

Hamtramck muralist Dennis Orlovski designs a float celebrating the parade theme with the help of the rest of the Polish Day Parade committee as he will with this year's salute to Polish media.

The Polish Day Parade is sponsored by the Polish American Congress-Michigan Division. The Hamtramck community joins in the parade with the Hamtramck Cos-

mos band and other bands, church groups, various Polish folk dance groups, the Hamtramck Historical Commission, veterans groups and service clubs, entertainment acts, just to name a few of the participants, along with groups from across Michigan. All are invited to join the festivities. The parade caps off the Hamtramck Labor Day Festival, a free weekend of entertainment.

For more information on the parade, call the parade chairman Judge John Chmura at (586) 574-4925. Interested individuals and groups are asked to preregister. More details can also be found at www.polishdayparade.com.

NEW JERSEY

CHERRY HILL — Sat., Sept. 7. Little Servant Sisters of the Immaculate Conception **Garden Festival Fundraiser**. 1000 Cropwell Road. Polish food, baked goods, refreshments, children's games, prizes. 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Info call Rosemarie Grabowski (856) 235-1521.

PENNSYLVANIA

DOYLESTOWN — The 48th Annual **Polish American Festival** at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa located on Ferry Road takes place during Labor Day Weekend, Sat., Aug. 31-Mon., Sept. 2 from noon until 8:00 p.m. each day.

The Festival features carnival rides, live music and stage shows and ongoing entertainment on the main stage and in the Polish village highlighting Polish traditions and customs, Polka Folk Dance Groups, along with a variety of Polish and American food and refreshments.

The \$10.00 admission includes all events and carnival rides. The Festival will continue Sat., Sept. 7-Sun., Sept. 8. For more information, visit www.PolishAmericanFestival.com, or www.PolishShrine.com, or call (215) 345-0600.

PHILADELPHIA — Registration and first day of classes for St. John Cantius **Polish Language School** will be Fri., Sept. 6. Parish Hall, Almond & Orthodox Streets, Bridesburg section of Philadelphia. 5:00 p.m. Info call Ewa Jasz (215) 888-7769.

DOYLESTOWN — Our Lady of Czestochowa **Polish Language School** Registration. Sept. 15. National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa, Ferry Rd., 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Classes resume Sat., Sept. 28 at 9:00 a.m. Info call Kasia Axson (267) 218-3846.

PHILADELPHIA — Sun., Sept. 15. **Polish Scouts of America** "Harcerstwo" Philadelphia-Bridesburg Registration and first meeting. Mass at Noon, St. John Cantius Church,

Almond & Orthodox Sts. (Bridesburg section of Philadelphia), followed by meeting at 1:00 p.m. in parish hall. Call Krzysztof Mozdzionek at (215) 713-4808 or Jagoda Rojek (215) 639-2147 for information.

WASHINGTON, D.C.

WASHINGTON — To raise awareness of what these peoples experienced up through the Cold War and even today, John Shimkus (R-Ill. 15th) and Adam Schiff (D-Calif. 28th) have introduced H. Res. 302 "Expressing support for designation of August 23 as **"Black Ribbon Day"** to recognize the victims of Soviet Communist and Nazi regimes."

On August 23, 1939, Nazi Germany and the Communist Soviet Union signed a non-aggression agreement, the Ribbentrop-Molotov Pact. This pact allowed Germany and the Soviet Union to carve up Eastern Europe without intervening with each other in the process. It led to Germany's invasion of Poland and contributed to the beginning of World War II. The outcome of the Ribbentrop-Molotov Pact subjected Eastern Europe and its people to the unrelenting dictatorship of the Soviet Union.

"It is important to honor these victims and remember the atrocities committed against them, especially as some governments deny the occurrence of such grave events," say the bill's sponsors. "It is our hope through recognizing these victims that their history will be forever remembered."

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Kosciuszko Foundation Board of Trustees invites all to a **Fundraising Dinner** in support of the Foundation's activities in Washington, D.C., Sat., Oct. 26, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. The event will be held at the Army and Navy Club on Farragut Square, 901 Seventeenth St., NW. Tickets are \$150 each.

The Kosciuszko Foundation will pay tribute to Lt. Gen. Edward Rowny, the 2013 recipient of the Pioneer Award.

General Rowny served his country in times of war and peace. As a U.S. Army general, he commanded troops in World War II, Korea, and Vietnam. As a special adviser to five U.S. presidents, he worked to reduce the threat of nuclear weapons.

Rowny is the president of the American Polish Advisory Council.

His new book, "An American Soldier's Saga of the Korean War," is the autobiographical story of the experiences of a young Lieutenant General in Korea.

To attend, call (202) 785-2320 or (212) 734-2130.

QUOTES / compiled from news sources

Polish Church Will Not Abandon Homosexuals



Archbishop Jozef Kowalczyk.

"The Church will not turn its back on homosexuals. They are its members, as human beings, just like everyone else. This tendency does not make one an unworthy person, or an inferior person, and it does not exclude them from the Catholic community ... I know people with homosexual tendencies who are very worthy people, but I do not approve of or accept sexual practices between people of the same sex. The Church criticizes it and considers it as a sin. Pope Francis recalled this in his speech."

— *Primate of Poland Archbishop Jozef Kowalczyk.*

"We appeal in the name of the principles of our religion, which professes man's inalienable right to freedom and to be treated with dignity."

— *From a joint statement issued by the Muslim Religious Union and Muslim League, following the July 24 abduction in Syria of Polish photo-journalist Marcin Suder.*

[Immigration spokesman] "Mr. Bryant wrongly claims that Polish workers are used to save money. This is simply not true. In fact agency workers from Poland cost us exactly the same as local agency workers, and our existing employees. The only reason we seek the help of people from Poland is that we simply can't recruit enough local people to satisfy these spikes in demand for temporary work."

— *The UK's Next clothing store, defending itself against accusations by the Britain's opposition Labour party that they were "unscrupulous" in their use of cheap labor from Poland.*

"It's *koniec* — finished. There are no looming Polish princes or princesses. There will never be a Polish-American mayor of Chicago. And the blame lies with perfidious,

gullible and timid Polish-American politicians."

— *Closing sentences from Chicago political columnist Russ Stewart's June 19, 2013 Northwest Side Newspaper article "Polish-American Politicians: A History of Failure." Stewart wrote the Windy City's Polish American elected officials could never get ahead because of "misplaced trust, ethnic jealousy and rivalries, factions, geography, unrealistic expectations, procrastination, timidity."*

"Anetta told me that these works were part of Polish heritage. And when I saw the excitement and emotion on her face, I decided then that they had to go home."

— *American art collectors Dan and Louise Runion, who purchased six lithographs by renowned Polish painter Zofia Stryjeńska for just 110 dollars at an auction in Maryland. A long-time friend of the couple, Anetta Grabowska, helped in identifying the works, and assisted in returning them to Poland.*

"It will be exciting, bordering on the frightening, to see if the fish was a one-of, or if it is a species that we will see more of ... It is known as a plant-eater, but having said that, it goes for a little bit of everything."

— *Peter Rask Moller of Denmark's Natural History Museum, on a pacu fish, caught in the Baltic Sea. A cousin of the piranha, one was also caught in Poland's Oder River in 2002. The pacu has Baltic bathers worried: Two fishermen died in Papua New Guinea after their privates were bitten off by the fish.*

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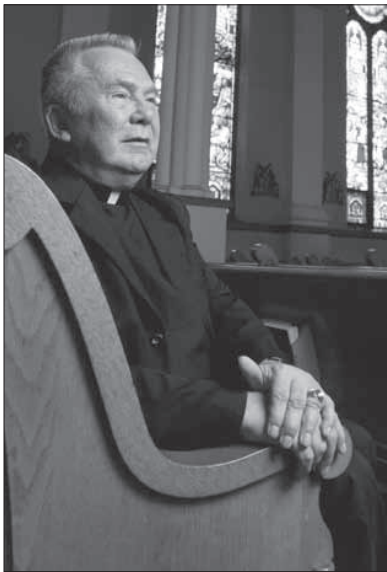
SOUTH BEND — Fr. Leonard Chrobot, pastor at St. Hedwig and St. Patrick parishes and a professor at Notre Dame University, retired Aug. 1, just shy of his 50th year as a priest. He has served as part of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend since 1964.

In addition to his parish responsibilities, Fr. Chrobot is a long-time educator and an advocate of the Polish American heritage. He has been reflecting on Polish American identity and the changes it has undergone for 40 years, he recounted to graduates of Ss. Cyril & Methodius Seminary during a commencement address in 2005.

A South Bend native, Fr. Chrobot, attended St. Adalbert Catholic School. Influenced by the Felician Sisters and his parish priests, his secondary education took place at St. Mary's Preparatory in Orchard Lake, Mich., and he obtained a bachelor's degree in philosophy from St. Mary's College in 1960; a master's degree from Purdue University, West Lafayette, in 1964; and a doctorate from Wayne State University in 1975.

He was ordained to the priesthood at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne on May 30, 1964.

Fr. Chrobot served as academic dean at St. Mary's College from 1968-77 and as president from 1977-88 — during which time tuition rev-



ONE OF POLONIA'S most respected academicians, the Rev. Leonard Chrobot, poses for a portrait for *South Bend Tribune* photographer James Brosher at St. Hedwig Catholic Church in South Bend.

enue at the college increased 93 percent, enrollment by 65 percent and the college became recognized as an influential cultural center and the heart of the white ethnic movement. He became an adjunct professor of sociology and coordinator of the American Polish Research Fellowship at Notre Dame in 1989, posts he has maintained ever since.

As immigration and assimilation changed the Polish American landscape of South Bend and the larger

Midwest in the 1960s and '70s, Fr. Chrobot became a point person for the experience. He testified before the U.S. House of Representatives subcommittee on education in 1970 on behalf of the Ethnic Heritage Studies Centers Bill, which authorized \$30 million to establish Ethnic Heritage Studies Centers throughout country. The centers developed curriculum materials for use in U.S. public schools that taught the cultural heritage of major ethnic groups in the country. Orchard Lake Schools, where he served as dean during that time, had previously established several such centers.

His expertise has been called upon often and took the form of many appointments, including to the sociological, religious, and academic. In 1979 Fr. Chrobot cofounded the "Polish American-Jewish American National Council," a national organization of ethnic leaders.

Fr. Chrobot had the honor of meeting Blessed Pope John Paul II several times. They became acquainted first when Blessed John Paul II was archbishop in Poland, and met again in 1976 when a delegation of some 20 bishops, led by then-Cardinal Wojtyła, came to Orchard Lake.

Although he enjoys cooking and gardening, Fr. Chrobot said he also hopes to spend some of his retirement hours in South Bend developing his writings.

Facebook OKs "Hate Poland" Page

CHICAGO (PMN) — The popular internet social network Facebook has approved a page entitled "Hate Poland," saying it is acceptable by its standards.

The "Hate Poland" page features a Polish flag riddled with bullet holes at its top, and a man in military uniform and helmet aiming at it. Flowing violently from the back of the flag in deep red is what can reasonably be identified as blood.

The "signature picture," also at the page's top, is another Polish flag with a red-colored "X" over it. An "X" over a graphic commonly refers to something that is either forbidden or destroyed.

Large upper case text in red over the main graphic states "Poland Sucks."

Many have reported the page to Facebook as hate speech, but Facebook's Community Standards Department replied it had examined the page and found it was not hate speech or violate its standards.

Facebook community standards state: "Facebook does not permit hate speech, but distinguishes between serious and humorous speech. While we encourage you to challenge ideas, institutions, events, and practices, we do not permit individuals or groups to attack others based on their race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, gender, sexual orientation, disability or medical condition."

It can only be deduced that Facebook believes the page does not in any way refer to an ethnicity or national origin. Apparently, the company considers Poland to be an empty void without anyone who claims it as their ethnicity or any persons who hold it as a place of their national origin, and who might be considered as attacked by the page.

In an obvious attempt to satisfy Facebook standards, the page includes a disclaimer stating "Here we laugh at Polish stereotypes." Although the page has a few Polish jokes and other insults in graphics and cartoons. Poles or Polonians will find nothing at which to laugh.

By clicking on "About" near the pages top and then on "More" for so-called FAQ, those with strong stomachs can read why the page creators "Hate Poland."

The persons responsible for creation and management of the page are identified only as Namax and Bubba. Visitors to the site concluded that the page was British in origin because of British symbols and references, but the anonymous page creators state that it has not British connection of any kind.

Surprisingly, according to Wikipedia, Facebook has one of the lowest click-through rates (clicks on advertising banners) of all similar social media sites. However, it makes a huge profit by click-throughs because of the many millions that subscribe to it. Refusing to click-through is a form of boycott, which, if a method adopted by hundreds of thousands, could affect Facebook financially.

Reports of hate speech to Facebook are made by clicking on the cog wheel under the word "Sucks" and then the words "Report Page." It will then open to a window in which to indicate why the page is offensive.

"This just goes to prove how one or two ignorant people can ruin a good thing," said PAJ editor Mark Kohan. "Until now, Poles and Polish Americans have not felt threatened by Facebook. There are hundreds — if not thousands — of pro-Polish pages on the site."

An Interview with Dr. Barbara Cieślińska

continued from cover

Many Europeans, including Poles, then went to America. The trip was long, exhausting, and expensive; for these reasons, these emigrants were often permanent. Today's methods of transportation have changed, which is why temporary emigration is more popular. Because of visa barriers, some Poles extend their stay in America, being uncertain about whether they'll obtain permission for a subsequent visit. That's how they become illegal immigrants, which complicates their lives in America and their contacts with home. As a result of Poland's EU accession, emigration in Podlaskie voivodeship to European countries at the expense of emigration overseas has grown. In other regions of Poland, this trend was occurring even before EU accession.

Polish emigrants found a warm welcome in the past decade in England and Ireland. How will the economic slump in Europe, the problems of the Irish "Celtic Tiger" and British reservations about the EU affect Polish emigration in Europe over the next ten years?

The UK and Ireland certainly achieved a movement beneficial to themselves by simultaneously opening [to Poland] their labor markets along with EU accession. Poles appreciated that lack of barriers and sought to improve their situations through emigration. It is most probable, however, that the scale of emigration from Poland will decline in the future, irrespective of the economic situation of those countries to which Poles are still traveling today. The next demographic decline is reaching adulthood. This is a generation of only children, which means a reduced inclination to emigrate, in effect, a drying up of the emigrant stream.

Europe has been dismantling its borders, while America has been strengthening them. How does the fact that Poland is still not a "Visa Waiver" country for the U.S. affect emigration trends?

By still not having removed its visa barriers to Poles, I think that America will encounter a similar consequence as Germany, which put off fully opening its labor market to Poles until 2011. By that time, the emigrant stream had gone elsewhere, and the opening of the market changed little. I think it will be likewise with the U.S.: removing visa requirements for Poles will not alter the trend that started several years ago. Even in traditionally "Americanized" regions, more and more people are already choosing other (closer) directions for economic emigration.

You have been studying emigration from Podlasie which—along with the Podkarpackie region—are traditional sources of emigration from Poland. What is it about Podlasie that fuels emigration, especially to America?

The Podkarpackie and Podlaskie regions are among those which are poor, agricultural, and poorly industrialized. The opportunities for getting paid well for work, or even just finding employment that guarantees regular wages, is lower here than in other areas. For example, in Podlaskie voivodeship, more than 30% of the inhabitants work in agriculture. People who study joblessness note that there is a high level of hidden unemployment among agricultural workers. In this situation, emigration is a tested way for individuals to cope. Families that maintain contact with relatives who emigrated to America have "migrant social capital," making it easier for them to carry out their emigration plans: going to friends and relatives is safer and psychologically costs less. The new emigrant has some support; he's not on his own. The Polish community which he enters through his friends or relatives can also be attractive from a social viewpoint.

How is U.S.-bound emigration from Podlasie changing today?

The value of the dollar fell radically after 1989, which is why the

advantages for emigrants today are relatively lower. For those who have some employment in Poland, it doesn't pay to leave to work in America, which affects the relations between relatives in America and those left behind in Poland. One of my students recently told me she wanted to go abroad during her vacation to make some money. Her grandmother has been living in America for many years. So she asked her grandmother for an invitation. Her grandmother told her bluntly: "there's nothing for you to come here for" and did not send an invitation. That example indicates that things have changed.

Poles have always been ambivalent about emigration: they often leave with some idea of return. What has been the historical experience of return among Podlaskie emigrants, and how is that changing today?

Although the growth of emigrants from Poland today is very high, it nevertheless only encompasses 5% of the Census 2011 population. Most people stay home and do not emigrate. Those who, in turn, emigrated often do not see their plans realized. Some return, others don't. While there's no "wave" of returnees, one also can't say emigration is all one-way. Statistical data indicates that Polish-Americans dominate among immigrants to Poland from the United States. That means that a portion of those who settled in America return to Poland. From the viewpoint of returning to Poland, those who stayed illegally in America—who overstayed their visas—have it worse. Paradoxically, their illegal stay makes their emigration more permanent.

What social factors affect emigration from Poland, and how does this affect families?

In the opinion of some Polish scholars, the reason for emigration from Poland is the inadequacy of our social policies: the lack of a pro-family policy, the uncertainty of receiving any benefits, the lack

of social insurance, ever more difficult access to medical care, etc. The countries to which Poles travel (especially the UK) are seen as much friendlier to their citizens and even to their immigrants. As regards emigration from Poland, it means that family emigration from Poland is growing: more and more families rather than one member delegated by the family, emigrate. In such a situation, return to Poland is less likely, because even if the parent-emigrants (people raised in Poland) might want to come back, for their children the country in which they were raised, went to school, live becomes their country.

Playwright Mrozek Dead

continued from cover

He returned to Poland in 1996 and lived in Krakow for several years.

Mrozek's best-known plays are *The Tango*, *The Emigrees*, *The Ambassador* and *Love in the Crimea*.

Three years ago, Penguin published a collection of his satirical short stories, *The Elephant*, written in 1957, about life in Poland under a totalitarian system.

President of the Polish PEN club, Adam Pomorski, has told the Polish Press Agency that Mrozek's death marks an end of an era in the history

of Polish literature.

"He was no doubt one of the greatest Polish writers of the twentieth century," he said.

In a recent interview Mrozek said that despite a long period spent outside Poland, the Polish language has never become dead for him.

"This is what makes me happy and proud," Mrozek said.

Professor Zbigniew Mikolejko, however, has told Polish Radio, however, that his decision to emigrate from Poland "destroyed him as a writer; he could not be a writer outside Poland."

World Youth Day Returns to Poland

continued from cover

ask for the light of the Holy Spirit upon the journey that will lead us to this next stage in our joyful celebration of faith and the love of Christ," Pope Francis said.

When the 29th WYD is celebrated in Kraków in 2016, the Church will also be celebrating the 1050th anniversary of the Baptism of Poland, commemorating the beginning of Christianity in that nation.

"Together with the whole Church in Poland, I rejoice that the Holy Father has accepted the invitation addressed to him by the highest authorities of the Republic of Poland and by the Polish Episcopate," said

Cardinal Stanislaw Dziwisz, Archbishop of Kraków.

"We express our gratitude to the Holy Father for his decision to visit the country of the Blessed — soon to be Saint — John Paul II, and look forward to keeping vigil with the 'morning watchmen' at the festivities in Kraków."

MARCH ON WARSAW. The Solidarity trade union plans march on Warsaw for a four-day anti-government demonstration to force the authorities an increased retirement age from 65 to 67, and so-called "flexible working time," which the union says takes advantage of workers.

HAPPENINGS: CHICAGO STYLE / Geraldine Balut Coleman

Polish Triangle Revisited

CHICAGO — One of the most important parts of Chicago Polonia history is the so-called **Polish Triangle**, which is designated by the triangle formed by the intersections of Division, Ashland, and Milwaukee Avenues. During the 1920s, it was the center of all things Polish, where the neighborhood surrounding this triangle was more than 80% Polish.

Today, there appears to be a smattering of what would be called Polish. One can see the critically-acclaimed **Chopin Theatre** and the **Podhalanka Restaurant**, noted by the *Smithsonian Magazine* as the “Holy Grail.” Around the corner is the popular the **Society of the Arts Building**, and a couple of blocks further south is the **Polish Roman Catholic Union of America**, the historic landmark building that houses the **Polish Museum of America**. Facing Chicago’s famous Kennedy Expressway and a couple of blocks east of the **Polish Triangle** are **St. Stanislaus Kostka Church**, the second oldest church in Chicago, and **Holy Trinity Polish Mission Church** which is packed with Polish-speaking worshippers at its Sunday Masses.

Although the **Polish Triangle** has long ceased to perform its historical purpose, this little area of Chicago, which now appears to be called “West Town,” has become a gentrified neighborhood with a potpourri of trendy restaurants, pubs, and boutiques. It’s as if all of these changes happened overnight. All of this appears to be nice and interesting but, at the same time, intriguing. A group of local area enthusiasts, who established a non-profit organization called the **Polish Triangle Coalition**, consisting of Americans and Poles, desire is to enhance the district, as well as honor and remind visitors of the area’s Polish history and traditions. One of the first and rather spectacular projects in which the Coalition has created is a series of events entitled “Tuesdays on the Triangle.” Every Tuesday until the end of September, it has presented and will continue to offer a variety of artistic performances showcasing all ethnicities living in this area.

Perhaps the “powers-that-be,” that is the Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) Board, can agree to designate the CTA Blue Line Subway Stop, here at Milwaukee/Division as the **Polish Triangle Stop**.

STANLEY CUP VISITS THE POLISH CONSULATE. A crowd surrounded the Polish Consulate on Chicago’s Lake Shore Drive on August 5, as **Pawel Pryliński**, the Chicago Blackhawks’ massage therapist, arrived with escort for a visit. Inside the Consulate a select group of Poles and Polish Americans had the opportunity to view the Stanley Cup, take photos of this treasured trophy, and ask questions.

Pryliński presented Consul General Paulina Kapuścińska with a special Blackhawks jersey with her name and the number “13” on the back. Accepting the jersey on behalf of the General Consul was Vice Consul Robert Rusiecki.

The Stanley Cup now flies to Europe, where Blackhawks fans in Slovakia and Scandinavian countries, just to name a few, will be able to view and be photographed with this special treasure.

Pawel Pryliński is currently in his 21st year with the Blackhawks. A native of Kalisz, Poland, he earned his master’s degree at the



Podhalanka Restaurant

Academy of Physical Education in Poznan, majoring in education and mentoring in coaching and therapeutic massage. Pryliński moved to Chicago in 1981 and earned his professional certification at the Chicago School of Massage Therapy. Pryliński joined the Blackhawks in 1991 and became only the fourth such therapist associated with a NHL club.

CONGRATS TO VERY REV. CANON WALTER PTAK. Congratulations to **Rev. Walter Ptak**, National Chaplain of the Polish Roman



Catholic Union of America (PRCUA)! On June 25, Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz, Archbishop of Kraków, awarded the honorific title of Honorary Canon to Father Ptak in recognition of his contributions to the Catholic Church. In Father Ptak’s case, this title was given to Father for his work within Polonia. Not only is he the National Chaplain for PRCUA, but he is National President of the Polish American Priests’ Association, a member of the Board of Regents of Orchard Lake Schools, but also a member of the Board of Trustees of Ss. Cyril and Methodius Seminary in Orchard Lake, Michigan. Until August 1, 2013, Father Ptak was the Pastor of Our Lady of Mount Carmel and St. Stanislaus Kostka Parishes in Wyandotte Michigan. He left this post to become Dean of Human Formation at Ss. Cyril and Methodius Seminary.

ANNUAL DUPLICATE BOOK AND ATTIC SALE. On Saturday and Sunday, Sep. 14-15, from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., the **Polish Museum of America Library (PMAL)** will hold its annual book sale. Other specialty Polish items such as paintings, crafts, and compact discs will be available for purchase. The PMA Library is selling duplicate copies of books in both English and Polish on various Polish-orientated subjects. Additionally, there will be a variety of books on non-Polish subjects. The funds raised from this sale will help finance necessary improvements to the 98-year-old library and to ensure its continued success. The books and other inventoried items come primarily from donations. The Library cares greatly about all books and wants to secure new homes for them. Books not sold during this sale will be available for purchase at greatly discounted prices until September 30, 2013. For further information, contact the Library staff at

(773) 384-3352, ext. 101.

PWCC HOLDS SCHOLARSHIP/INSTALLATION LUNCHEON. This year the **Polish Women’s Civic Club** will hold its traditional scholarship and new members’ installation luncheon on Sunday, September 15 at 1 p.m. at Café La Cave in Des Plaines, Illinois. The cost of the luncheon is \$40.00 per person. All are invited. Those interested in attending can contact Karen Kozlow at 773.467.1504 or via email at pwcc@msn.com.

LEGION HOSTS FASHION SHOW. The **Legion of Young Polish Women** will host its Third Annual Fashion Show on Sunday, September 29 at White Eagle Banquets in Niles, Illinois. The cost is \$40.00 per adult and \$20 for children, 5 - 12 years old. There will be Legion models, both children and adults, who will wear fashions from numerous stores and boutiques, never seen prior to the fashion show, that will be both upscale and yet affordable. The Legion will have a cash raffle as well. For further information, contact Fashion Show Chair, **Kathy Lesny** via email: kathy.lesny@gmail.com.

SUPPORT THE PAJ PRESS FUND

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

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

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

A sincere “THANK YOU” for their donations to the PAJ PRESS FUND: **Sophie Evans**, Orlando, Fla.; **Robert Fonfara**, Omaha, Neb.; **Helen Napurski**, Lititz, Pa.; **Helen Nowakowska**, Philadelphia; **Alice Pavlick**, Hazle Township, Pa.; **Ed and Alice Sikorski**, West Seneca, N.Y.; **Ray Watabach**, Waitara, New Zealand; **Richard and Pearl Wilgosz**, Hollywood, Fla.; **Regina Wnukowski**, Philadelphia; and one **Friend of the PAJ**. Dziękujemy wam wszystkim! The PAJ thanks all who donated to the Press Fund.

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PRCUA Celebrates 140th Anniversary

CHICAGO — Founded in 1873, the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America (PRCUA), the mother of all Polish American fraternal organizations, is proud to celebrate its 140th anniversary this year.

The festivities begin Fri., Oct. 4 with the opening of the PRCUA History Exhibit and Reception at the Polish Museum of America, 984 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, at 7:00 p.m.

The exhibit is curated by PRCUA Editors Kathryn Rosypal and Lidia Kowalewicz, assisted by PMA Archivists Halina Misterka and Teresa Sromek. It will feature historical treasures such as the original Constitution hand-written by co-founder Jan Barzynski, the first issue of the *Narod Polski* newspaper from 1897, as well as an array of photographs depicting 14 decades of PRCUA’s history. The public is invited; free admission.

On Sat., Oct. 5, a 140th Anniversary Mass will be celebrated at 4:00 p.m. at St. Stanislaus Kostka Church, 1300 N. Noble Street, Chicago. This is the parish where the PRCUA was headquartered during the late 1800s.

A banquet will be held at White Eagle Banquets, 6839 Milwaukee Ave., Niles, Ill., with cocktails at 6:30 p.m. and dinner at 7:30 p.m., followed by entertainment provided by PRCUA’s world-renowned Polonia Dance Ensemble and Wesoly Lud Polish Folk Dance Co. For banquet tickets, please call Agnes (toll-



PRCUA NATIONAL EXECUTIVE OFFICERS (l. to r.): Secretary-Treasurer James Robaczewski; Resident Vice President Anna Sokolowski, and President Joseph A. Drobot, Jr.

free) at (800) 772-8632.

The PRCUA was established in Detroit in 1873 by Rev. Teodor Gieryk, Rev. Wincenty Barzynski, C.R. and Jan Barzynski, editor of the Missouri Polish newspaper *Pielgrzym*. The following year, the organization moved to Chicago’s near north side, where a large Polish immigrant population was concentrated.

The purpose of the Union was to unite all Polish Catholics in America, and their mutual aid societies, in Christian unity, to meet members’ physical and spiritual needs. The PRCUA urged its members to blend their Polish culture and deep faith with American ideals, to create a Polish American community based upon dedication to “God and Country” — the PRCUA’s motto.

The PRCUA continues to promote camaraderie among its members by sponsoring national sports tournaments. It promotes Polish culture through its Polish dance and language schools for ages 3 to 18, Presentation Balls for teens, and holiday gatherings.

The PRCUA has a 140-year legacy of supporting charitable endeavors. In its early years, the PRCUA aided striking Polish workers. During war time and martial law in Poland, it collected funds to send food, medical supplies and ambulances to the Polish people. The PRCUA has generously supported SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary in Orchard Lake, Mich. and still contributes toward the Polish Museum of America.

The PRCUA is currently licensed to sell life insurance and annuities in 24 states. It offers its members many fraternal benefits, including low-cost home mortgages, educational loans, as well as granting scholarships annually to PRCUA members seeking a higher education.

Today, the PRCUA is the largest Polish Roman Catholic fraternal benefit society in the United States with approximately 60,000 members. Led by National President Joseph A. Drobot, Jr. — whose father also served as a PRCUA President (1978-86); Resident Vice President Anna Sokolowski, FICF; Vice President Robert Bielenda, FICF; Secretary-Treasurer James Robaczewski, three chaplains and 15 national directors, the PRCUA enjoys financial stability generated by its low-cost life insurance programs and competitive annuity programs.

RELIGION / Benjamin Fiore, S.J.

Feeding Hungry Children

This will be the third year that Professor Kim Kotz at Villa Maria College, the Felician Sisters College in Cheektowaga, N.Y., will organize the **MannaPacks project**. The Feed My Starving Children Mobile Pack project last year prepared and sent 106,000 MannaPacks. Each pack contains enough rice, soy nuggets, dehydrated vegetables, vitamins, minerals, chicken-flavored protein powder to feed six children for a day. The organizers plan to duplicate last year's total. Each pack costs 22 cents, which means they have to raise \$22,000 for 100,000 packs. The packs will be prepared by volunteers who work in two-hour shifts on November 1 and 2. Corporate and private sponsors are being sought to cover the costs of buying the food for the nutritionist-designed packs.

For further information: KKotz@villa.edu or (716) 961-1837.

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL READY TO ROLL OUT. Chicago's Auxiliary Bishop Andrew P. Wypych is the international director of the **Catholic League for Religious Assistance to the Church in Poland**. The annual appeal for funds will be held in Catholic parishes to raise funds to support Polish Roman Catholic seminarians who study in Rome at the Pontifical Institute and the Polish Pontifical College. For 69 years the fund has been crucial for the formation of Catholic priests for service in Poland and throughout the world as well as for the support of the Catholic Church in Poland. The League appeal began 69 years ago in Buffalo and the chairperson in the Buffalo, N.Y., diocese is Msgr. Matthew Kopacz.

SUPPORTING ORCHARD LAKE SEMINARY. The annual "Farewell to Summer" dinner will be held this year on September 5 at the Millennium Airport Hotel in Cheektowaga, N.Y. Proceeds from the dinner go to support the Orchard Lake Seminary, whose graduates have served in Polish-American parishes since its origin. Reservations for the dinner are to be in by August 30. For further information: (716) 648-0370.

HISTORIC BELL FOUND. The "St. Joseph" bell, cast in St. Louis 110 years ago, first hung in St. Casimir's RC Church on Detroit's west side. It then passed to St. Agatha's and again to Sweetest Heart of Mary Church, where it is rested outside the church on a concrete pad, according to Sweetest Heart of Mary pastor Mark Borkowski. There were plans to erect a tower where the bell would be hung and returned to use. After thieves broke the lock on the protective fence and stole the bell, it was offered to business man Bill Smith, who was expecting to find a commemorative propeller that had been stolen from in front of his business. He paid \$850 for the bell, recognizing that it had some antique value. This saved the bell

from being carted across the river to Canada where it would have disappeared. Smith will restore the bell to its proper owner as a donation to the church.

FUNDS TO FIX TOWER. Long-promised state funds needed for repairs to the historic **Corpus Christi Church** in Buffalo, N.Y. will finally be released.

State Sen. Tim Kennedy and Assemblywoman Crystal Peoples-Stokes were able to get \$195,000 state funds allocated for renovations to the landmark East Side church released, a move that will clear the financial path for another round of repairs to the circa 1898 complex.

The money helped finance renovations to the church's south tower. Kennedy said bureaucratic delays in Albany prevented the money from being released.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO... Felician Sisters in Buffalo, N.Y., celebrating: 75 years of religious profession: **Sr. Emily Marie Zurecki, Sr. M. Hope Zalewski, Sr. M. Slomka, Sr. M. Rosette Kubisty, Sr. M. Sabinie Boczar.** 70 years: **Sr. M. Aileen Madej, Sr. M. Marlinia Skokowski.** 60 years: **Sr. M. Angelette Helak, Sr. M. Angelica Bielski, Sr. M. De Angelis Nowak, Sr. M. Loriette Tokasz, Sr. Rosemarie Kutsko, Sr. M. Virginita Tarnacki.** 50 years: **Sr. M. Nicolette Wichrowski, Sr. M. Francianne Zielezinski, Sr. M. Albertine Stachowski, Sr. M. Jacqueline Benbenek.** 25 years: **Sr. Michelle Marie Stachowiak.**

STO LAT TO... Permanent deacons **Paul L. Augustyn** and **John J. Wlos**, who, with seven others, were ordained to the permanent diaconate for service in the RC Diocese of Buffalo, N.Y.

NEW SCHOOL BUILDING UNDERWAY. Students from **Pope John Paul II Academy** in Montrose, Colo., helped administrators break ground for their new school facility after outgrowing their current building. The Knights of Columbus contributed \$187,000 to the project.

HELP FOR TWINNED CHURCH IN JAMAICA. Good Shepherd R.C. Church in Port Matilda, Pa. responded to the call of the bishop of Jamaica and twinned with Holy Spirit Church in Maggoty. The pastor in Haiti, **Fr. Marek Bzinkowski**, with the help of Good Shepherd parishioners and people from St. Francis University has been able to build a 14-acre complex that includes a church, rectory, convent, medical clinic, meat-processing factory, community center, library, and computer classroom that serves more than 10,000 people annually.

"This is what Jesus calls us to do, and we're able to make this connection," said Fr. Charlie Amershek pastor of Good Shepherd.

Holy Name of Jesus Celebrates 110th Anniversary

by Rev. Fr. Damian Pielez
STAMFORD, Conn. — This year the Holy Name of Jesus Parish celebrates its 110th anniversary. The parish was founded in 1903 and is one of the largest Polish-American parishes in New England and the Diocese of Bridgeport.

"I feel great joy and satisfaction that I work with such wonderful people. It is amazing how the Holy Spirit can guide our lives," said pastor Fr. Paul Hrebenko. "I am very proud that I can continue the work of my predecessors, especially Monsignor Francis Wladasz, builder of our beautiful church, who belonged to the Salesian Congregation, with which I have a very close spiritual connection and great devotion to its founder, St. John Bosco, since my childhood. Msgr. Wladasz also came from the same part of Poland (Silesia)."

The Church is one of the most beautiful churches in the United States. It is designed in the Roman basilica style, which raises the spirit of prayer. Its interior is decorated with Italian Verona marble, interspersed with beautiful Florentine mosaics. Each piece of art on the ceiling is painted on canvas, and the whole is harmoniously integrated in both architecture, sculpture and painting. Step inside this beautiful church and you have the impression that you are present in the interior of one of Rome's basilicas.

Holy Name has an incredible wealth of tradition cherished by many generations of Polish families. The parish is one of the largest in New England, and every month the number of parishioners is increasing, as can be seen by the increase in the number of children enrolled to the Polish Saturday School, whose patron is Adam Mickiewicz.

The school just celebrated 25 years of education, said its director, Kazimiera Ferenc.

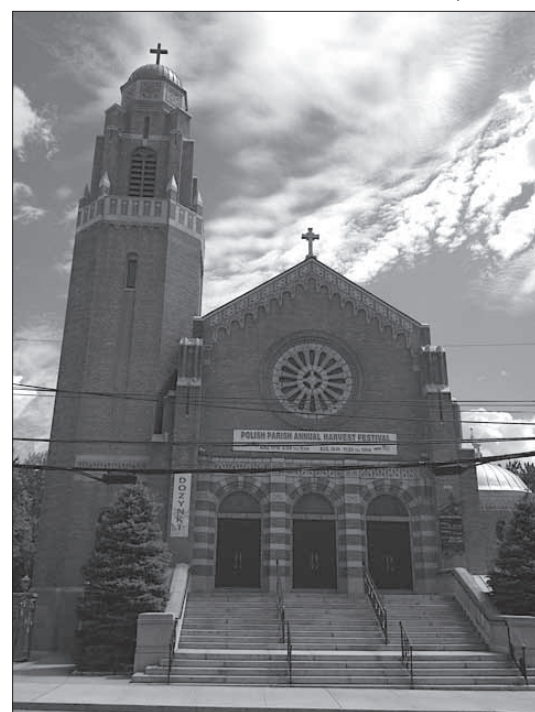
"Polish Saturday School in Stamford is a place where the learning process is organized very professionally and where knowledge of

NEW POLICE CHIEF REMOVES CROSSES. Karol Szwalbe, the new chief of police in the city of Radom south of Warsaw, has begun his service by alienating his subordinates. Among his first acts was to order the removal of crosses from Radom police headquarters and local precinct stations. He also tried to talk policemen out of taking part in their annual August pilgrimage to Czestochowa. Szwalbe has been reported to his superiors, unprecedented since the collapse of the communist regime, which had waged a chronic war on religion.

students is as important as their attitude and behavior," Ferenc said.

Holy Name has also been the home of spiritual daughters, the Sisters Minor of Mary Immaculate, who support the priests and parishioners with their prayer and spirituality of St. Maximilian Kolbe and St. Therese of Lisieux.

Thousands of parishioners and friends of the parish love this church and could not imagine life without it. Proof of this is the dynamic involvement of people in the parish groups, such as Living Rosary Society, Parish Choir, large Altar Servers group, Senior Citizens Circle, the Pulaski Day Parade Committee, and the Committee of its Annual Harvest Festival. Each year, the committee prepares the Festival with the whole parish. It begins with a solemn Mass of thanksgiving for all the good which the Lord God blesses our community. This year, the celebration of the harvest festival was held August 17-18. On the occasion of the anniversary of the parish, the first day will feature a special tent with multi-media effects, music and a DJ



leading the party.

"Our anniversary is a tribute to the dedication and respect for the past priests and parishioners of Holy Name Church," said Fr. Hrebenko. "It is an invitation for those who live in today's world. It is a plea and a reminder for those who will replace us in the future."

Holy Name of Jesus is located at intersection of Washington Boulevard and Pulaski Street. If you have any questions do not hesitate to call to Parish Office at (203) 323-4967.

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MODLITWY

PUBLICATION OF PRAYERS. The Polish American Journal gladly accepts prayers ads for publication. They must be received by the 10th of each month, prior to the month of publication, and must be pre-paid at the cost of \$15.00 each, which can be paid by check or charge. If you have any questions regarding this policy, please call 1 (800) 422-1275 or (716) 312-8088. Send to: Polish American Journal, P.O. Box 271, N. Boston, NY 14110.

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

FASHION

Szpak named Miss Plus America 2013

NASHVILLE — **Angela Szpak**, Ms. Plus New York 2013, was crowned 2013 Miss Plus America.

Szpak is a New York licensed esthetician and has an extensive background in make-up to include: stage, FX, commercial, editorial, movie, runway, couture and beauty.

A classically trained soprano, she has performed in the United States as well as in Italy. During the pageant, Szpak competed in the Talent Competition and won with her operatic presentation. She is well versed



in all aspects of classical music and enjoys every opportunity to perform. Her training includes Georgia Southwestern in Americus, Ga.; the D'Angelo School of Music in Erie, Pa. and a Bachelor of Music from The Manhattan School of Music in New York City.

Szpak will use her newfound popularity to bring awareness to skin abnormalities that could lead to melanoma and other serious diseases.

The Miss Plus America Pageant system is an organization devoted to promoting full-figured woman. It celebrates the inner beauty of each contestant, as well as recognizing their commitment to their communities.

Fijalkowska First "Miss Poland in a Wheelchair"



WARSAW — **Olga Fijalkowska** won the first ever "Miss Poland in a Wheelchair" contest during a ceremony attended by Prime Minister Donald Tusk.

The award ceremony in Ciechocinek, Kuyavian-Pomeranian province, north west of Warsaw, was organized by the Only One NGO and was inspired by similar beauty contests for the disabled organized in the USA and Europe.

Fijalkowska is a student of humanistic and environmental sciences and was one of 72 finalists who entered the competition.

Tusk said that the judges had an impossible task in choosing a winner from the 10 contestants who made the final round.

"Ladies and gentlemen, I think this has been a very tough choice for everyone. I had the opportunity to see the beauty and the life story of all the participants of this first, great, final and immediately realized that it was impossible to choose, because all deserve an award.

"All [the contestants] are winners," Tusk said.

Łukaszczuk In Winner's Circle



Katarzyna Łukaszczuk, to the Model Launcher Winner's Circle.

The Gorzów Wielkopolski, Poland native was voted the winner of the Sexy Valentine's Dress Contest sponsored by couture designer Dominique Auxilly. The company partnered with the fashion designer to offer the Model Launcher community a unique contest where the winner would be exclusively photographed in Dominique Auxilly gowns and featured on the designer's website.

NEW YORK — Avant-garde modeling website, Model Launcher LLC (www.model-launcher.com) announced the addition of their first-ever international winner, **Katarzyna**

Łukaszczuk received a trip to Miami, with publicity support from Beautiful Planning Marketing & PR, also known as BPMR, and a dream professional photo shoot with fashion photographer John L. Fisher.

Łukaszczuk, who has spent most of her life in Poland, is fluent in Polish and can speak English, Spanish and French. She is Model Launcher's first international winner. Łukaszczuk has a Master's degree in Marketing and Management from The Academy of The Hotel Management and Catering Industry University in Poznań. She hopes to soon find a job in America with her recent degree, and one day call San Francisco, California her home.

Woodstock Poland Embraces Music and Mud

KOSTRZYN, Poland — Reminiscent of Woodstock Music and Art Fair that took place at a dairy farm in the Catskills near Bethel, New York in 1969, the 19th edition of Woodstock Festival Poland took place on August 2-4 in Kostrzyn, near the Polish-German border. The festival had free entrance and claims to be the largest open-air festival in Europe. It is organized by the Great Orchestra of Christmas Charity Foundation and stands under the motto of "Love, Friendship, and Music".

"Dziękujemy, dziękujemy, dziękujemy!" (we thank you) could be heard all over the Woodstock field as the last sounds finished at the Big Stage. Piotr Bukartyk's song "Z tyłu chmur" is a traditional ending anthem, and the moment is always emotional. Among the over 27 performers, there were special projects such as Gooral & Mazowsze, the Punk Rock Project of Farben Lehre, the Metal Project of Hunter and Ghost Braders, a band from the USA.

Can you imagine combining music artists of the Song and Dance Ensemble Mazowsze with the electronic music genres of Goral with some dancers thrown



in? Check YouTube it was a unique fusion indeed.

The festival is the brainchild of Polish journalist and social campaigner Jerzy Owsiak, who some say is the second most famous Pole after Pope John Paul II. He initiated the festival to say thank you to those who donated money to his GOCC charity organization for child medical care.

—Staś Kmiec

CIEKAWOSTKI / Martin S. Nowak

Radziwill Royalty Touched America

The Radziwill clan is one of the oldest noble families of Poland, having its origins in Polish Lithuania centuries ago. Through its wealth and vast land holdings, it became very influential in the political and cultural world of old Poland as well as other countries.

The Radziwill family has included many distinguished members throughout the centuries. There was Jerzy "Hercules" Radziwill (1480-1541), the Great Hetman of Lithuania, and his daughter Barbara who married King Zygmunt II of Poland, after which the power of the Radziwills grew immensely. His son Mikołaj "Rudy" and nephew Mikołaj "Czarny" Radziwill were vocal advocates of Lithuanian separation from Poland and both were leaders of the Protestant movement in Poland.

Cardinal Jerzy Radziwill (1556-1600) was Bishop of Wilno and Kraków. Janusz and Bogusław Radziwill had contempt for the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth and tried for a Swedish-Lithuanian union at the time of the Swedish invasion of Poland in the 1600s. Antoni Radziwill (1775-1833) was Duke of Poznań after the Prussians took that area in the partitions of Poland, married a Prussian and tried to mediate between the occupying Prussians and the subjugated Poles. He was also a composer and friend of Goethe, Chopin and Beethoven.

Wojciech IV Radziwill (1595-1656) was an adviser to three Polish kings, Michał (1778-1850) the commander of Polish forces during the 1830 uprising against Russia, and Stanisław (d.1920) an adjutant to

Marshall Piłsudski. Krzysztof Radziwill (1898-1986) was called the Red Prince because he was a communist who served in the Sejm, but his daughter Anna became an influential member of Solidarność.

The Radziwills through the

visitors from London to the Kennedy White House and other homes, and the President and Mrs. Kennedy genuinely enjoyed their company. Dapper and mustachioed, Stash was a warm, generous man who spoke the Queen's English with a slight Polish accent.

The first lady frequently sent packages of her clothes to Stash's dispossessed relatives in communist Poland.

The prince and princess were divorced in 1974. He died in London two years later. The former Mrs. Radziwill still survives.

They had two children, Anthony, a filmmaker who died in 1999, and Anna, both of whom remained close to their cousins, JFK Jr. and Caroline Kennedy Schlossberg.

Almost all of the vast land holdings of the Radziwills now lie in Lithuania, Belarus and Ukraine, whose Soviet governments confiscated the properties after World War II. The family also had palaces throughout Europe, including Vienna, Paris, Berlin and Warsaw.

The Radziwill Palace in Berlin became the old Reich Chancellery. Adolf Hitler had his offices and apartment there, and the bunker in which he died was just a stone's throw away. His body was burned behind the building. The complex was destroyed after the war, but stone taken from it was used to build two Soviet war memorials in Berlin, which still stand today.

One Warsaw palace was reconstructed after the war and houses Poland's Ministry of Health. Another is the current Presidential palace, the official seat of the president of Poland. It survived the war intact.

Members of the Radziwill family now live throughout Europe and America.

VIRTUAL MUSEUM WINS GRANT. The EMC Corporation Heritage Trust Project announced that the project "Development of the Kresy-Siberia Virtual Museum" is the winner of the \$15,000 grand prize in its 2013 competition for support to projects preserving important history. For more information, visit www.Kresy-Siberia.org. You can also find the group on Facebook.



Prince Stanisław "Stash" Radziwill, and his wife, Caroline "Lee" Bouvier, sister of Jacqueline Kennedy.

centuries established by marriage relationships to the other leading families of Poland as well as Europe. Many royal families are today related to the Radziwills. They were the richest family in Lithuania in the 1500s and maintained their own large army for 200 years. They produced eight chancellors and seven great hetmen of Lithuania, as well as dozens of voivodes, marshalls, parliamentarians and leading military men in Poland.

Their connection to America comes through the descendants of the aforementioned Antoni Radziwill, Duke of Poznań. His great-great grandson was Prince Stanisław "Stash" Radziwill, who was born in 1914 in Szpanów. When the Germans invaded Poland in 1939, he fled to England. His parents stayed in Poland. They were arrested by the Soviets after the war and his mother died in prison in 1947. His father died penniless twenty years later.

Starting over with nothing, Stash made a fortune in London real estate. In the late 1950s, he fell in love with Caroline "Lee" Bouvier, sister of Jacqueline Kennedy. They married in Virginia in 1959. Stash had lost his title of prince since no country officially recognized it, he was referred to as Prince Radziwill out of courtesy. His new wife chose to be called the Princess Radziwill, and American gossip columnists and society editors were happy to comply. When Jacqueline and her husband John moved into the White House in 1961, the American press was thrilled that America's "royal" family actually had a connection to real royalty.

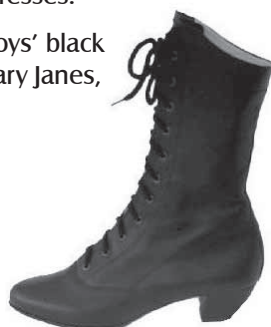
The Radziwills were frequent

Polish Costumes For Sale

Kansas City, Kansas — Sets of Polish costumes are for sale for boys and girls in sizes to fit 4th graders to early college age. The St. John Tamburitzans of Kansas City were a group of young musicians a few years ago and their performing costumes have been stored and covered in a climate-controlled atmosphere to ensure their preservation. They are beautiful authentic crafted costumes made by experienced seamstresses.

Also available are girls' red boots and boys' black boots, girls' red dancing shoes, black Mary Janes, opanke and long braided wigs.

For further information, please contact **Adrienne Nastav at 913-634-7925**



IF MOUNTAIN RUNNING IS YOUR THING ... This month, the World Mountain Running championships are being held in at Krynica-Zdroj, Poland.

According to the World Mountain Running Association, mountain races take place over an infinite variety of distances, ascent, descent and terrain. There are courses to be found that suit every ability and age group.

Mountain races cover the whole range of distances and difficulty from short 15-minute sprints to long several-hour treks over many mountain paths.

For more information, go to www.wmra.info.

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TRAVELOGUE / Staś Kmieć

Five Days in Poland: Sto Lat! – a Birthday Celebration

Part III

“Sto Lat” (may you live one hundred years) is a traditional Polish expression of good wishes, good health and long life. It can be thought of as the equivalent to “Happy Birthday” or “For He’s a Jolly Good Fellow.” The song is sung at informal gatherings formal events and remains an integral part of the Polish immigrant culture – Polonia abroad. The exact origin and author are unknown.

In Old Poland it was thought that “under the sign of the stork” is birth. Modern images and fairy tales has shown the stork as the carrier of a “bundle of joy” to new parents. This legend is certain to have originated in northern Europe. Storks arrive at their breeding grounds in Poland and Germany nine months after midsummer. Like the stork, birthdays return each year – and with the birthday comes “Sto Lat!”

MAZOWSZE – SERCE POLSKI.

Once in the car following a shopping spree at the *Real* Hypermarket, Krzysiek and I continued to Karolin. The Mazowsze region lies in the very heart of Poland, and it is this centrality which has been the key factor in the pre-eminent role the region has held in the life of the nation over the past four centuries. Complementing this – any Pole knows, that the *Mazowsze* Company is the “heart of Poland.”



On a glass table in trendy black and white piano-key cup and saucer, I am served a much-needed strong cup of coffee. The cream is in containers with images of Zofia Stryjeńska folk dancer artwork, and the napkin is imprinted with an elaborate Łowicz *wycinanka* motif... this of course is *Mazowsze*.

The car turned the corner to the unassuming roadway that leads to the grounds of this Polish treasure. The word-heavy signage displays the crucial involvement of the European Union in the funding process for the new structural achievements – this stated in greater prominence than the name of the icon which it supports. Krzysiek rolls down the window as we approach *Mazowsze*'s Ballet instructor, Jarosław Piasecki leaving the compound after morning class, and I am introduced with a brief exchange. Mr. Piasecki is a former dancer, and choreographer at Warsaw's Grand Theater.

I drop off my luggage at the new onsite hotel and am whisked into the onstage rehearsal – already in progress at the new facility *Matecznik*. Krzysiek is called onto the stage



Mazowsze rehearsing on the stage of *Matecznik* – the state-of-the-art facility which I have read about and reported on.

and in glorious voice – *Mazowsze* sings “Sto Lat!” After a presentation of flowers, gifts, and best wishes to Krzysiek on his monumental birthday, the rehearsal continues.

I am brought to the office of *Mazowsze*'s new director for a welcome and a brief conversation. As I await the director, my friend Piotr Zalipski – a soloist with the company comes in to greet me wearing an Actors' Equity logo T-shirt in my honor. On a glass table in trendy black and white piano-key cup and saucer, I am served a much-needed strong cup of coffee. The cream is in containers with images of Zofia Stryjeńska folk dancer artwork, and the napkin is imprinted with an elaborate Łowicz *wycinanka* motif... this of course is *Mazowsze*.

With the passing of the beloved co-founder of Mira Zimińska-Sygietyńska in 1997, there has been a succession of directors with varying degrees of achievement and the position has been one marked in controversy. How could anyone ever replace Pani Mira? The current director Władysław Izban comes from the artistic world – with a career as a notable Opera singer, and as the director of the *Mazowiecki Teatr Muzyczny* – a position he still retains. In this world of multitasking, downsizing, consolidating and mergers, Izban directs both the seasonal Operetta/Music Theater troupe and *Mazowsze*. Detail oriented and proficient at developing new ideas and principles, he appears to be an ideal choice to bring the company into the future, increase its visibility, and make it viable and “hip” to a new generation. I greet my friend, who I no longer address as Pan Izban, but as Włodek. We talk briefly and reserve a later time for more important matters of discussion.

BACK IN REHEARSAL, I find a seat ahead of a group of school children that observing the proceedings as part of a field trip. Having seen *Mazowsze* so frequently over a long period of time and through many generations of performers, it is always refreshing to see the company in rehearsal attire and hard at work. I am viewing them for the first time on the stage of *Matecznik* – the state-of-the-art facility which I have read about and reported on. Long gone are the days of rehearsals

at the congenial, yet cramped spaces of the neighboring Palace, where the company was founded and rehearsed for decades.

I can barely concentrate on the rehearsal because many of my *Mazowsze* friends – while not onstage find a seat next to me and want to chat. Piotr and Norbert Kurdziel keep returning at every free moment... it is Polish language immersion overload. During the times I am able to observe the company, I see that they are in impeccable form and the vocals are rich with pronounced lush orchestration under the baton of Jacek Boniecki. Being from the music world, Izban has focused on the music – increasing the orchestra to 34 from 18 instrumentalists, and paying special attention to the choir.

THERE HAS BEEN a transition and *Mazowsze* has forged into a new and different era. The writing has been on the walls for years that the legendary choreographer Witold Zapala would eventually step down into retirement. He handpicked and prepared assistant Wioletta Milczuk as his successor with the task and responsibility of maintaining the tradition of the company for future generations – entrusting her with the legacy and to keep the intentions and technique of his choreography and the repertoire intact. She studied at the State School of Ballet in Poznań and completed her pedagogy dance training from the Fryderyk Chopin University in Warsaw. A sponge to learning, she completed post-graduate studies in cultural management for developers and animators of culture, and presented her thesis on Ethnomusicology to the Department of Musicology of the University of Warsaw.

The calm and collected Wiola made the necessary transition from a dancer to the Director of the Ballet. Having witnessed her as an instructor at the *Mazowsze* Workshop in Youngstown, Ohio during the last tour, she brings knowledge and trained perspective to her work. As was evident in the workshop, Wiola knows how to convey knowledge and command authority in a pleasant manner. Will proceedings at *Mazowsze* be exactly the same as before – “no;” Wiola will bring her own brand of artistry with a deep respect of her predecessors and their work.

DURING THE LUNCH BREAK, Wiola escorts me to the in-house *Caffeteria* and treats me to spinach *naleśniki* with a cabbage cole slaw-like salad; we chat and then it's back to rehearsal. Krzysiek then takes me on a tour of *Matecznik*. Through a corridor and downstairs below the orchestra pit, I journeyed through the underbelly of the facility like something out of “The Phantom of the Opera,” and begin the grand tour.

Years in the making, the song and dance company wrote a new chapter in its history when it opened the facility in 2009. With the official title *Matecznik Mazowsze – the Center of Folklore* there is a prefix of “European Center for the Promotion of Regional and National Culture” – an acknowledgement to the co-financing for this project by the European Union through the European Regional Development Fund.

As a cultural center for visitor exchange between folk artists from around the world, the structure is located on the premises – an addition to the picturesque Palace and existing complex. *Matecznik* is comprised of a rehearsal center with dressing rooms, artists' studios and a wellness area – personal gym and sauna for the performers, and the 3766 sq. foot multi-use amphitheater arena – created for both indoor and outdoor concerts, which seats 580.

There are storage spaces for costumes, instruments, music, memorabilia, and archives, a costume-tailoring shop, TV broadcast booth, buffet and dining room with catering space, administrative offices, meeting rooms, and a museum and exhibition hall. Located a short walking distance on the grounds, there is a 98-person Guesthouse Inn, and an 80-seat traditional Polish cuisine tavern – *Karczma Staropolska* for visitors.

The Center continues to expand its cultural offerings to improve the growth of tourism by promoting Arts education and cultural heritage. Courses and seminars related thematically to folklore, tradition, and popular culture of Poland and other nations are held. There are training programs for entertainers, choreographers, dance instructors, and regional cooking, as well as concerts, festivals and theater by other ensembles and artists. The Center documents and popularizes these events with the production of television programs and publications.

I catch the last moments of rehearsal and am escorted to the conference room for Krzysiek's “Sto Lat” with the administration and office personnel. The champagne is popped, and chocolates and cake are served.

BIRTHDAY PARTY. I head to prepare for Krzysiek's birthday party. I meet up with his beautiful wife Ewa – a former dancer and now dance instructor, his mother and sister Anna. At the outdoor setup, my friend Marek Pik, wearing a risqué barbeque apron, was cooking his acquired authentic recipe for goulash in a kettle over an open campfire. Marek from the *Krakus Ensemble* in Belgium was a fellow classmate and

in my graduating class in the dance-ethnography course of study at University of Marie Curie-Skłodowska in Lublin. He is now working in Warsaw. We have not seen each other for a very long time and while reminiscing, our conversation recounts the lost time.

A quick departure to close my eyes for 20 minutes (remember I am jet lag from the overnight flight), shower and change and I am immersed in Polish hospitality and the fine art of conversion. Unlike time spent with my friends in the United States, here in Poland an entire eve-



Can it get any better? In addition to a delicious birthday cake, Krzysiek was treated to a round of “Sto lat” from *Mazowsze*.

ning can be spent in robust discussion.

Anna prepared several vegetable salads, and brought homemade meat delicacies from Bychawa on the southeast border – where Krzysiek was raised. It was all flavorful and delicious, but I was waiting for the special birthday cake she has only alluded to.

I accept the offer for “something stronger” and will have the Polish *wódka* of course, but they offer the drink with a mix of Coca-Cola. Knowing that I am tired from the trip, I decide not to risk it with the “straight up” method. I am in the minority as everyone else seems to be drinking Scotch... *Jim Beam* to be exact. I knew that Krzysiek, along with much of Poland had developed a taste for this foreign alcohol and was alerted by Marek that the party was of a Scotch theme. Then Jacek Leptacz entered dressed in a makeshift Scottish costume and playing Scottish tunes on the Polish bagpipe. With the exception of the kilt, most of the attire was devised from Polish costume pieces. Jacek is a former *Mazowsze* singer and Wielkopolska *koziol biały* specialist; he now is the company's technical director.

The multi-layered torte of light cake, cream filling and preserves topped with whipped cream and chocolate was brought in with another round of *Sto Lat* and several alternative versions sung. The festivities eventually dwindle down as the next day arrived, and it's time to officially get some sleep before a trek to Warsaw, and later the Kiepora Awards. *Dobranoc* – Good Night!

Your support helps to keep the Polish American Journal alive.
Show you care with a Polish Heritage Month greeting.
See form on page 16.

POLONIA OF THE EASTERN GREAT LAKES / Michael Pietruszka

WNY's Blessed John Paul II "Pilgrim's Trail"

BUFFALO, N.Y. —With all of the recent interest in the upcoming canonization of Blessed John Paul II, four Western New York parishes, two local colleges and an historic East Side organization have special reasons for excitement. The Faithful can tour a number of WNY locations in order to develop a greater appreciation for and understanding of Blessed John Paul II, while honoring his legacy.

The first location is St. Stanislaus Parish, the Mother Church of Buffalo's Polonia, located in the Historic Polonia District. St. Stan's recently dedicated a shrine to Blessed John Paul II in the church. The shrine contains a first class relic, a drop of the late Pope's blood. Information on the shrine can be found at www.ststanslausrochester.org

The second parish is St. Stanislaus Kostka Parish in Rochester. This church contains a shrine honoring Our Lady of Czestochowa and Blessed John Paul II. This shrine also contains a relic of Blessed John Paul II, a small piece of cloth from one of his cassocks stained with a drop of his blood. More information about this shrine is available at www.ststanslausrochester.org

The third is the newly formed Blessed John Paul II Parish in Lake View. This parish was formed by the merger of Our Lady of Perpetual Help and St. Vincent's Parishes as part of the Diocese of Buffalo's Journey in Faith and Grace. Five relief carvings depicting iconic moments in Blessed John Paul II's life hang behind the altar in the church. Plans for the parish's celebration of the canonization of its patron will be posted on www.blessedjpii-parish.org.

The fourth local parish with a special connection to the Blessed John Paul II is St. Casimir's Parish in Buffalo's Kaisertown neighborhood. The parish recently dedicated a chapel to commemorate the soon-to-be-saint's visit to the parish in Aug. of 1976. The chapel contains the chasuble and ceramic chalice used by Blessed John Paul II during a Mass at the church during his visit.

Next, a statue of Blessed John Paul II stands in front of the Villa Maria College auditorium in Cheektowaga, and a plaque commemorating the late pontiff's visit to Buffalo State College in 1969 hangs in the Butler Library on the college's Elmwood Avenue campus.

Finally, the Adam Mickiewicz Library and Dramatic Circle on Fillmore Avenue has its club guest book which was signed by Blessed John Paul II during his 1969 visit. Photos of this book can be seen at <http://buildinglibrary.wordpress.com/tag/john-paul-ii>.

POLONIA TIDBITS. After 40 years of supplying WNY Polonia with traditional Polish baked goods, the **Pumpernick 'n Pastry** bakery recently closed its doors ... Parishes of the Catholic Diocese of Buffalo participated in the 69th Annual Catholic League for **Religious Assistance to Poland Appeal** through the month of Aug. ... **St. Stanislaus Kostka** Parish in Rochester hosted its Annual Polish Arts Festival featuring performances by Melody Lane, Ray Serafin's Brass Magic, and the Komrads on Aug. 2 and 3 ... On Aug. 4, **Resurrection Parish** in Cheektowaga presented its "Summer Fest Polka Sunday" featuring the Buffalo Concertina All Stars, and the **Holy Mother of the Rosary** PNCC Cathedral in Lancaster hosted its parish picnic ... A memorial scholarship

fund honoring the late WNY Polonia activist **Jackie Schmid** (inset) has been established. Information about the scholarship can be found at www.jackieschmid-scholarship.org ... On the 6th, the Buffalo Bisons baseball team honored **Rev. Ted Bocianowski** as its Polish American of the Year, and, in a surprise move, named **Chris Tanski** as the recipient of the team's first Community Leadership Award. The Knewz and the Krakowiacy Dancers performed at the pre-game tent party ... The New Direction band performed at the **Eric County Fair** in Hamburg on Aug. 9, the German-Polish Day at Spring Garden Park in East Aurora on the 10th, and a Polka Mass at **Fourteen Holy Helpers** Church in West Seneca on Aug. 25.

The **Pulaski Police Association** of Buffalo and WNY sponsored its Annual Family Picnic at Como Lake Park in Lancaster on Aug. 7 ... **Polish Falcons** of America Nest #6 in Cheektowaga sponsored a Polish Harvest Workshop featuring presentations on Polish harvest traditions and cooking at its clubrooms, and Blessed Mary Angela Parish in Dunkirk hosted its "Summer Festival", on Aug. 11 ... Also on the 11th, **Assumption Parish** in Black Rock celebrated its 125th anniversary with a special Mass, featuring a performance by the Chopin Singing Society, and a banquet with music by the Docenko Brothers at the Millennium Hotel in Cheektowaga ... The **Professional & Businessmen's Association** awarded scholarships to Conrad Ziarniak, Nicholas Gibney and Evan Ostrowski for the upcoming academic year.

The weekend of Aug. 16 through 18 brought Corpus Christi Parish's 34th Annual **Dozynki Polish Harvest Festival**, including performances by Melody Lane, Al Kania Band, Buffalo Concertina All-Stars, New Direction, and the Harmony Polish Folk Ensemble; as well as the 6th Annual **Buffalo's Best Pierogi Contest** with guest judges Lynn Rosati and Jason Czora, to Buffalo's Historic Polonia District.

On Sunday, Aug. 18, **Annunciation Parish** in Elma celebrated a Polish Polka Mass featuring John Stanczyk & Rare Vintage to open its Annual Church Picnic. Lenny Gomulka & the Chicago Push performed later in the day ... On Aug. 17, the WNY Division of the Polish American Congress (WNY PAC) held its 16th **Annual Polish Remembrance Day Mass**, remembering the deaths of three million Christian Poles in World War II, in conjunction with the feast of St. Maximilian Kolbe, at St. Stanislaus Cemetery in Cheektowaga... The following day, the WNY PAC, along with the *Am-Pol Eagle* newspaper, hosted a Family Picnic in the Cheektowaga Town Park ... Also on Aug. 18, WNY's Polish veterans marked **Polish Soldiers Day** with a Mass at St. Stanislaus Church, and "Polkas in the Park" with the music of Rare Vintage returned to Stachowski/Houghton Park ... Buffalo **Auxiliary Bishop Edward Grosz** presided over Our Lady of Czestochowa Devotions at Queen of Angels Parish in Lackawanna on the 22nd ... **Holy Trinity Parish** in Erie, Pa., held its 20th Annual Zabawa featuring the Polka Family Band, Polka Country Musicians, Marvels, Knewz and



Wiwaty Folk Dancers, the weekend of Aug. 23 through 25 ... The **Polish Union of America** held its Annual Family Picnic at Centennial Park in West Seneca on the 24th ... The 25th Annual **Owl Family Picnic**, featuring music by the Eddie "O" Orchestra, Vignettes Singers, New Yorkers with C.J. Luksch, Crash Cadillac, Buffalo Touch, Tony Krupski, Rare Vintage, Special Delivery, Concertina All Stars, Dave Gawronski, Danny Neaverth and Accordion Bill at the George Lamm Post in Williamsville on Aug. 25. This year's event raised money for Camp Good Days and Special Times, Mercy Flight, Response to Love Center, Former Troopers Helping Hands and Wings of Hope ... The **Special Delivery** band has set up its website. The group plays everything from polkas to Classic Rock. Visit www.thespecialdeliveryband.com.

Our Lady of Fatima Shrine in Lewiston celebrated **St. Faustina Day** with a Rosary Procession, and Our Lady of Czestochowa Parish in North Tonawanda celebrated its patroness' feast day with an outdoor Mass and Chicken BBQ on the 25th ... The **Canadian Polish Congress** and the **Polish Students' Association** of the University of Toronto have updated their websites: www.kpk.org and www.psa.sa.utoronto.ca.

UPCOMING. The **Toronto International Film Festival** announced that Andrzej Wajda's "Walesa, Man of Hope" and Pawel Pawlikowski's "Ida" will be screened during the early Sept. festival ... The **Farewell to Summer** benefit for the Ss. Cyril & Methodius Seminary in Orchard Lake, Michigan, will be held at the Millennium Hotel in Cheektowaga, Sept. 5 ... The **Krakow - Rochester Sister Cities Committee** will mark its 40th anniversary with a presentation by artist Shawn Dunwoody on "Krakow City Days" at the Skalny Center of St. John Fisher College on Sept. 11, a lecture and exhibit entitled "History of the Krakow - Rochester Sister Cities Relationship" at the Skalny Center on Sept. 20, and a 40th Anniversary Banquet and Dance featuring performances by Beata Golec, Ray Serafin's Brass Magic and Dariusz Terefenko's Janitar at the Radisson Riverside Hotel on October 19.

The **Roncesvalles Polish Festival** in Toronto, touted as North America's largest celebration of Polish culture, will be held Sept. 14-15. For more information, please visit



VICTIMS OF 1943 WOLYN MASSACRE REMEMBERED. Rochester, N.Y.'s Polonia attended a Memorial Mass, July 14, at St. Stanislaus Kostka Church, in memory of the victims of the 1943 massacre in Wolyn, Poland.

"Seventy years ago, the dignity of man suffered hideous crimes amongst the Polish people, de-humanized through acts of ethnic cleansing," said Steve Flor, national director of the Polish American Congress of Western New York. "Little did the world feel the sufferings of the tens of thousands who suffered horrendous acts of murder verging on genocide.

"Poland today, is a free and democratic nation, and the dignity of man, the dignity of the Polish people, is far above hatred and revenge. As Americans, let us hold fast to our duty to respect the democratic decisions of the People of Poland," he said.

On July 11, 2003, Poland's president Aleksander Kwasniewski and Ukraine's president Leonid Kuchma attended a ceremony in the Volhynian village of Pavlivka (previously known as Poryck), where they unveiled a monument to the reconciliation. At that ceremony, Kwasniewski said that it is unjust to blame the entire Ukrainian nation for these acts of terror.

"The Ukrainian nation cannot be blamed for the massacre perpetrated on the Polish population. There are no nations that are guilty. It is always specific people who bear the responsibility for crimes."

Flor called for reconciliation between Poles and Ukrainians living in the United States.

Pictured above are (l. to r.): Eugene W. Golomb, president of the Rochester Polonia Civic Centre; Jozef Zawitkowski, veteran of the Armia Krajowa and Polish Underground; Rev. Roman Caly, pastor; Dionizy Guzierowicz, Kolo Samopomocy / Skarb Narodowy; Richard Kuczkowski, commissioner of District IV of the Polish National Alliance of North America; Steve Flor, national director, PAC of WNY.

www.polishfestival.ca ... On Sept. 15, the **Echo Society** of Niagara Falls will hold its annual meeting at the Roycroft Inn in East Aurora.

Sept. 21 is the date for an **End-of-Summer Polka Dance** with Phocus and Special Delivery at Potts banquet hall in Buffalo that day ... The **Ekran Polish Film Festival** announced the 5th Annual Toronto Polish Film Festival will take place on Nov. 13-17, 2013.



If you have an item for this column, please send the information by the 6th day of the month preceding publication month (i.e., Sept. 6 for the October edition) at pietruszka@verizon.net.

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BABA JAGA'S CORNER / Jagoda Urban-Klaehn

Marie Curie Final Years

Conclusion

The discovery of artificial radioactivity by Irene and Frederick Joliot was announced in 1934. Subsequently the Joliot couple was awarded a Nobel Prize in 1935. Marie did not live long enough to see the ceremony.

Marie Curie worked almost until her very last moment at the Radium Institute. Although her health was deteriorating rapidly, she could not bear the thought of not working, even writing in a letter to Bronya, her sister in Poland, "I don't know whether I could live without the laboratory." She had rheumatism in her shoulder, gall bladder stones, droning murmurs in her ears, and bad eyesight. Her work with radiation caused painful burns in her hands and changes in her blood, but she was not going to give up. She even invented a "blind-man's technique" to be able to do her daily scientific duties: she used giant lenses, and put colorful, very visible signs on the dials of her instruments.

During Easter, 1934, Marie made a trip with Bronya to Southern France, during which she was sick almost all the time. She had fevers, chills, cold and she was exhausted. She came back to Paris and tried to continue a daily routine including work. One day in May, Marie stayed in the Radium Institute until middle afternoon, then said to her collaborators that she had a fever and must go home. She then made a tour of a garden, stopped by a sickly rose and said to her mechanic to take care of the rose. Before she got in her car she turned again and asked to take care of the rose vine.

She never came back to the laboratory and never saw the rose



again. She felt ill, weak and unable to walk. Doctors suggested a stay in sanatorium, since she was diagnosed with new tuberculosis lesions. On the way to the sanatorium, Marie collapsed and was taken home. Her fever was above 104° F. At that point, she was properly diagnosed with aplastic pernicious anemia in its extreme form—and the disease was progressing very fast. The bone marrow did not react, probably because it was injured by a long accumulation of radiation, according to Dr. Tobe's report.

Marie was surrounded with her family and her daughters during the last days. Her last thoughts during delirium caused by high fever were related to her experiments and the book, which she just finished writing before the last phase of the disease.

Marie died on July 4, 1935. She was buried two days later in Sceaux, next to her husband, Pierre and Marie were enshrined in the crypt of the Panthéon in Paris in 1995. President Lech Walesa of Poland and President Mitterrand of France were

present at the ceremony.

MARIE CURIE-SKLODOWSKA'S LEGACY. Marie became a legend during her lifetime, and she is still one of the most famous women and scientists worldwide. She made a great contribution to science when women, whose role at the time was limited to being a wife and a mother, barely had any access to higher education. She persisted and—since, as a woman she could not study in occupied Poland—went to study at the university in France. She was very talented and worked extremely hard, but meeting Pierre Curie had a great impact on her career. Thanks to Pierre's piezoelectric electrometer, Marie was able to advance her research on radioactivity.

Marie struggled with depression through her life. She lost her mother prematurely, she lost her husband when Eve, her younger daughter was barely one year old, and she was mostly alone in a foreign country. Was she happy? Probably when conducting her work in radioactive research.

Below are some of her best-known quotes, which show her approach to life:

"Nothing in life is to be feared, it is only to be understood. Now is the time to understand more, so that we may fear less."

"Be less curious about people and more curious about ideas."

"I have frequently been questioned, especially by women, of how I could reconcile family life with a scientific career. Well, it has not been easy."



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

POLONIA ON FILM / Joseph W. Zurawski

Prizzi's Honor (1985)

Comedy, Crime, Drama
Distributor: Warner Brothers
Director: John Huston
Screenplay Writer: Richard Condon
Featuring: Jack Nicholson, Kathleen Turner (as Irene Walker, Maida Walcewicz)

Editor's note: This column uses direct quotes from the film that we consider offensive. They are printed solely for academic purposes, and to aid in defining the characters and the tone of film.

Keep in mind that *Prizzi's Honor* is a mob movie. It is meant as a parody. It has some wacky humor and perhaps too many plot twists. Nevertheless, it was a commercial and theatrical success pulling in \$26,700,000, getting eight Academy Award nominations, winning one, and — a rarity — still playing in theaters when it was released as a DVD.

Charley Partanna is the main hit man for the Prizzi mob in Brooklyn. He's at a wedding ceremony in church when he is attracted to a stunning blonde who turns out to be Irene Walker. "I was born Maida Walcewicz," she explains to Charley as they get to know one another.

Charley and Irene have a whirlwind romance and get married in Mexico a few days later. Charley finds out Irene had the contract to put on a hit for the Prizzis during the wedding reception, so none of the Prizzi mob could be accused.

In preparing for the marriage, Charley spoke to 'Pop' Partanna, his godfather. "Pop" asks Charley if he's going to marry that woman, the contractor. Charley responds, "Yeah, she's Polish, but the family

will get used to it."

"Pop" answers, "Yeah, every time she walks in a room, all the rest of the women in the family are gonna have to shut up."

Charley also consults with Maerose Prizzi, his former wife, who dishonored the Prizzi name:

Charley: I met her in a church. It just happened. I knew she was the woman for me. She'd organized the scam in Vegas. I go looking for the bad guy and it turns out to be my woman, can you imagine this? Not only that — Pop tells me she's the piece man for the Nettabino contract. Just the same, I love her, Mae ... I love her.

Maerose: Well...

Charley: How can I live with this? I gotta do something about it. I gotta straighten it out.

Maerose: Then do.

Charley: Do what? Do I ice her? Do I marry her? Which one of these?

Maerose: Marry her, Charley. Just because she's a thief and a hitter doesn't mean she's not a good woman in all the other departments. If she was some kind of fashion model, well it wouldn't last more than thirty days. But you and she is in the same line of business. You are lucky you found each other, you know that, Charley?

Charley: Yeah, I guess.

Maerose: She's an American! She had a chance to make a buck so she grabbed it. Marry her, Charley. Then at least I'll be able to get something out of it... I'll be able to go back in the family.

Charley: Yeah.

Viewers realizing this was meant as a comedy of sorts should not be too surprised to learn that Irene gets a contact to bump off Charley and Charley is told to take out Irene.

Irene suggests they both take off for Hong Kong since she's saved up a million. She explains she's "been doin' three to four hits a year for the past couple of years, most at full pay." Charlie is surprised, "That many?" Irene responds, "Well, it's not that many when you consider the size of the population."

Irene and Charley decide to have one last fling in Las Vegas. Is Irene's changing pronunciation of "Polak" toward the end of the film meant as a hint of what's coming? Both know what the other has planned.

There is a character named Alvin Gomsy who in an informant about a bank president, who is stealing from a bank the mob has a 25 per cent interest in. There are no references to his being Polish.

Andrzej Bartkowiak, from Lodz, Poland, was the cinematographer for *Prizzi's Honor*. Since 1975, he has 34 titles to his credit as cinematographer.



Joseph W. Zurawski is author of Poland: The Captive Satellite: A Study in National Psychology; Polish American History and Culture: A Classified Bibliography; Polish Chicago: Our History, Our Recipes; six regional histories (Niles, Illinois, Door County, Sister Bay, Keweenaw County, Liberty Grove, Saukville) and Sturgeon Bay Shipbuilding.

PONDERRING POLE / Edward Poniewaz

You Go, Oprah!

To my surprise, I was recently told a story about a very special and revered Polish person. This person — for reason known only to God and psychologists — still finds the need to allegedly put himself and the Polish people down by portraying us as backwards or stupid.

What a shame.

How does one handle this? Should a *polak* (the Polish word for a Pole) be allowed to use the "P" word? Does being "one of us" give permission to insult "the rest of us"?

The African American community struggles with this daily. Why

is not OK for Paula Dean to use the "N" word, while at the same time a visit to almost any rap station finds songs flooded with it. Are the "N" and "P" (and "J" and "D" and the rest of the alphabet) proprietary?

Recently, Oprah Winfrey announced she does not tolerate hearing the "N" word in her presence. "You cannot be my friend and use that word around me," she said.

She does not even want to hear it from fellow African Americans.

Some African Americans argue they can use the "N" word because they have "lived" it. (Likewise,

those who have not lived it, they argue, cannot use it). However, "lived it" has a different connotation for Oprah. With the exception of rappers, gang-bangers, and professional African American athletes, most African Americans generally admire her courage and stand.

What do you think? Have you "lived" the "P" word? What constitutes "living it"? Having to change your name to gain employment because of hiring biases against Poles? Having low self-esteem from years of ridicule? Or — at the other end of the spectrum — letting your friends call you "Ski," or eating pierogi once a year?

I agree with Oprah. It seems hypocritical condemn outsiders who tell the Polish jokes, but then grant a pass to one of our own who does the same.

A POLKA ENCYCLOPEDIA?

Thanks to James Pula for completing the *Polish American Encyclopedia*. I have a copy and it is quite an impressive book. If you want to order one, it is published by McFarland & Company, Inc., Publishers, Box 611, Jefferson, North Carolina 28640. To place an order by phone, call (800) 253-2187.

NEOLITHIC SETTLEMENT RE-CONSTRUCTED. A neolithic settlement in Biskupin, north central Poland, is being reconstructed with the aid of EU funding.

The remains of a neolithic settlement were first discovered in

I would like to see an encyclopedia of polka music in the United States including the words for some of our most famous and favorite polkas. Translations will be needed for those written in Polish. There can be a history of styles, musicians, dance, church and social halls that hosted polka parties ... the whole nine yards.

Who's up to the task?



Dziękuję bardzo to Joseph Czepiel for the information and questions regarding Tadeusz Kosciuszko and his nationality. Good to hear from and thank you Tom Kiseleski for the engaging email discussion. You got me pondering.



If you have a thought about this month's topic, a question of your own, or have interesting facts to share, contact me at: Edward Poniewaz, 6432 Marmaduke Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63139; email alinabrig@yahoo.com. Don't forget to visit The Pondering Pole blog, ponderingpole.blogspot.com.

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

1934 by local teacher Walenty Sz wajcer. Archaeological work began the following year, led by Professor Jozef Kostrzewski (1885-1969).

The mock settlement currently being constructed includes long-houses of the kind that existed 6000

years ago. Furthermore, plants that were typical of the time will be grown on plots near the houses.

The entire investment, including a new tourist centre, will cost about \$1.3 million, over a quarter of which came from EU funds.



Become a member today

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The Polish American Historical Association was established in December 1942 as a special commission of the The Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences in America to collect, compile and publish information about

Polish Americans. In October 1944, it was reorganized as a national American society to promote study and research in the history and social background of Americans of Polish descent. The Association, which was incorporated under the laws of Illinois in 1972, strives to assist and cooperate with all individuals and organizations interested in Polish American life and history. Contributions in support of the work of the Association are tax-exempt.

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

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POLKA INSIDER / Steve Litwin

More Than Just a Band

The 39th Polka Fireworks is history but the memories live on. The short span between returning home and then preparing a column for the next issue of the PAJ, seems to be minutes compared to the days at Seven Springs.

This polka festival has truly become a family reunion where we get to spend time with friends from all over the country that we only see once or twice a year. Some we've

known for a couple of years, others we've known for decades. Of those in the in the decades group, musicians from the Nickel City aren't just friends, they are more like family (except we don't lend them

money. Come to think of it, we don't

lend

money to family either).

The Concertina All-Stars — Dale Wojdyla, Ray Barsukiewicz, Bob Zielinski, Joe Ryndak, Greg Chwojdak, Dennis Miesowicz, and Brian Kurdziel — are more than just a band on stage. They bring a character to the stage, each one of them is a character. They bring personality, whimsy, wit, stage banter and of course musicianship to each performance. These guys know their audience and



Concertina All Stars horn section: Ray Barsukiewicz (sax and clarinet) and Dale Wojdyla (trumpet).



Bob Zielinski and guest Troy Gawlak.

play to them and for them. Those who gather in front of the stage feel like they are part of the band.

The lesson here is one that others in the business should heed: play music because you want to and it's fun. Perform for your audience as well as for yourself. Make those in your audience feel like they are on stage with you. Make an effort to relate to them.

The Concertina All Stars do all of this and more. They have fun on stage and their audience has fun with them. They are the Concertina All Stars of Buffalo!

Polka Fireworks Memorabilia Wanted

CHICAGO — In preparation for the 40th anniversary celebration of Polka Fireworks, 2014, Bel-Aire Enterprises is seeking memorabilia from previous years.

Do you have posters, ticket stubs, advertisements, brochures, pictures, or short video clips (your best five minutes) of the Polka Fireworks Festival at Seven Springs? Bel-Aire is calling on all polka

fans and musicians to share their favorite story or memorabilia from the last 40 years of Seven Springs history.

Did you meet your significant other there?

What was your favorite jam session or pool party?

How many people crammed into your chalet? Maybe you have a special memory of a favorite

band or musician. Perhaps you're a musician with a story about the first time you took the stage at Polka Fireworks.

Send your items and memorabilia to: Bel-Aire Enterprises 7208 S. Harlem, Bridgeview, IL 60455 or email your short stories and memories to: belaire7208@aol.com. (All submissions become the property of Bel-Aire Enterprises).

TOLEDO POLONIA / Margaret Zotkiewicz-Dramczyk

What a Great Summer!

TOLEDO — Recapping more of the great festivals I've had the chance to attend this summer: Kevin and Judy Kwiatkowski and Stas Pasko put together another successful bus trip to Seven Springs for the 39th annual Polka Fireworks July 5-7. Bands which the gang enjoyed included the Buffalo Concertina All Stars, Darrell Weltin's New Brass Express, The Knewz, Jeff Mleczo's Dyna Brass, Polka Family, Henny & the Versa Js, and Tony Blazonczyk's New Phaze. Packed-room parties, Big Dan's poolside party, and a spectacular fireworks display made the Saturday night stage jam until 1:30 a.m. by Polka Family the proverbial icing on the cake. Henny and the Versa Js provided the music for the Sunday morning polka mass before we departed for home. Thanks to the hosts once again for keeping the camaraderie alive.

A few miles closer to home, the Lagrange Street Polish Festival

took place July 12-14. Band lineup for this event included John Stevens' Doubleshot with guest Hank Guzevich, The Mixx, Randy Krajewski & Badinov, DynaBrass, and Duane Malinowski & the Polka Jamboree. To celebrate 30 years of this festival, several special events took place. DeMarkus Darrington, scholar and athlete from Woodward High School was the winner of a \$3,000 scholarship from Lagrange Street Polish Festival. The polka dance contest took place on Saturday night, with winners Dan Wozniak and Carol Zomkowski being cheered on by the crowd, and pronounced Polka King and Queen. The Sunday afternoon pierogi eating contest brought out some competitors with Andrew Ecklund (the 2012 winner) taking third place, Zachary Mitchell winning second place, and Jonathan Stewart taking first place. There was even an award for the food vendors, with Stanley's Market accepting the Silver Plate

award for the Prince of Pierogi contest. This is the second year in a row Stanley's has won this award. The Echoes of Poland presented two shows, one each on Saturday and Sunday, with the Sunday performance augmented by the Polish-American Concert Band providing some live music for the group's numbers after their concert.

Something completely new to the fest this year was the presentation of a Polish play, *Hunting Cockroaches*, in the recently reopened Ohio Theatre. The play is a dark comedy written by Janusz Glowacki about a pair of successful Polish artists who flee Communist-occupied Poland for the freedom of New York.

And on the summer went, with a few more church festivals, including All Saints in Rossford, just south of Downtown Toledo featuring Duane Malinowski July 26 and Badinov July 27, and Regina Coeli, on the north side of town, featuring Badinov August 4th.

Saturday Night Polka Party on Satellite

NASHVILLE — Jimmy Sturr is now on satellite radio every Saturday at 6:00 p.m Eastern time with



"The Saturday Night Polka Party." Featured on Sirius XM Radio, the weekly program arrived July 20 on the Rural Radio, Sirius XM Channel 80.

Sturr has become synonymous with polka broadcasting through his syndicated radio shows, heard weekly for the past 40 years on 24 stations across the country. The Grammy winner extends his reach beyond his fan base to much better serve American listeners with all styles of polka music favorites,

tracks from upcoming polka artists, stories from the road and special guest interviews.

"We will feature all that the audience has come to love over the years," says Sturr, "with a newfound freedom to bring more folks to the party."

Sturr also hosts his own weekly television show on the RFDTV network, seen nationwide via DirecTV, Dish Network, and Family Net.

Sturr and his orchestra have over 120 recordings; many of which have been recognized and rewarded with numerous honors. Sturr is on the top ten list of the alltime Grammy Award winners, with 18 awards.

Broadcast Music Inc. (BMI) has awarded Sturr and his orchestra its most valued award, the "Commendation of Excellence."

39th Annual Fall Polka Festival

CHICAGO — Bel-Aire Enterprises presents the 39th annual Fall Polka Festival, Fri.-Sun., Nov. 1-3, 2013 at the Seven Springs Resort, Champion, Pa.

Featured bands include, Ray Jay & the Carousels, Tony Blazonczyk's New Phaze, Trel-Tones, Nutones, Lenny Zielinski & D Street,

The Boys, The DiddleStyx, Buffalo Concertina All-Stars, and Henny & The Versa Js.

For room reservations contact: Bel-Aire Enterprises, 7208 S. Harlem Avenue

Bridgeview, IL 60455, attention: Tish Blazonczyk. Visit the website at: www.fallpolkafestival.com.

POLKAJUKEBOX / Steve Litwin

A (Nice) Meeting of the Minds

Putting Carl Finch and Danny Jarabek in the same room or studio can produce many things, including an eclectic, unique collection of musical performances packaged as The Nice Musics. This 14-track CD offers the listener everything from an "Accordion Interlude," to "The Grasshopper" a public domain Dutchman polka, to "Evening Bells," rich with accordion and piano. Other pieces like The Polish Kid's "Bang Bang," "Stacie's Theme," a haunting melody dedicated to Carl's cat, and "Barbara," the polka many of us learned during our first accordion lessons, compete for the "favorite" by the listener.

This isn't your Mother's polka collection but it is a musically interesting product by two talents in our business and it deserves your attention.

Carl Finch was on keyboards, guitar, bass, accordion and some

vocals. Danny Jarabek can be heard on button box, accordion, trumpet, tuba, drums, piano and vocals.

On denTone Records and recorded at The Echolab in Argyle, Texas, The Nice Musics is as graphically interesting as it is musically intriguing. The project was produced by Eugene Swick. Email: Carl@brave.com or Danny at: info@copperbox-site.com.

A BUNCH OF POLKAS. Every once-in-a-while, a band produces a recording that the people, the listeners, can relate to and sing along with and connect with every musical track. The excellent selection of the tunes is matched by the band's performance during the session to make the listener think they are at a dance, in a church hall, standing in front of the band with a cold beer nearby. The music is not overly complex, but is perfectly performed to give it that "live" feeling. This is what The Golden Tones of Pennsylvania have done on their latest CD, "The Golden Tones - A Bunch of Polkas."

Veterans of the polka industry, the Hazleton, Pa.-based Golden Tones have been playing polka music for over thirty years. They developed their own style and were influenced by bands like Eddie Blazonczyk and The Polskie Swingmasters.

Featured on the CD are 15 tracks with some great standards of polka music including "I'll Marry You Next Saturday," "Boys and Girls" polka, "Harvest Time" waltz, "None Do I Care For," and "Balloon Polka."

The six musicians of The Golden Tones include: Richie Machee, (sax, clarinet and vocals) Jerome Machee, (trumpet and vocals) Joe Krzysik, (accordion, keyboards and vocals), A.J. Wanyo, (drums) Mike Yevich, (accordion, trumpet, guitar, bass and vocals) and Paul Pehala, (accordion, concertina and vocals).

"A Bunch of Polkas" was recorded by Wizzears Studio and mixed at Peppermint Records. Visit The Golden Tones on their website: www.goldentones.8k.com.

In between, I had the privilege of attending my first-ever IPA festival at the Embassy Suites, August 2-3 in Independence, Ohio. This organization knows how to throw a party, and the line up for the weekend was top-rate, with The Knewz, Polka Family, and Freeze Dried, Friday night, and The Boys, The IPA Tribute Band, and Polka Country musicians on Saturday. The IPA Tribute Band reminisced with a tribute to all of the winning songs over the years. This festival will move to Labor Day weekend for 2014.

Don't forget to join the Toledo Area Polka Society for the first dance of the fall season on Sept. 28, when the Knewz comes to town. Join TAPS again Oct. 26, when Lenny Gomulka entertains for the 30th Anniversary celebration. This will be a dinner-dance with a catered meal, door prizes, and raffles, plus four hours of great music. Please search for TAPS on Facebook and like our page for more information.

NOTES / Barbara Pinkowski

Cheektowaga Festival One of Nation's Finest

BUFFALO, N.Y. — Can you believe that Labor Day is already here? I say this every year but the summer months go by the quickest. One day it's Memorial Day and all of a sudden, Labor Day is here.

The **Cheektowaga Polish American Heritage Festival**, which took place the weekend of July 19, was again very successful. So many great bands, so much excellent entertainment, a colorful parade, a variety of delicious food, and many vendors selling interesting articles, all made for a very enjoyable weekend at the Town Park. And, the best part is there is no admission fee and free parking. How can you beat that? An extra little perk was the Forgotten Buffalo Band featuring Dave Gawronski, Jimmy Raczkowski, and Ted Kania playing in the beer tent.

At the festival, it was nice to see Ray and Vickie Mielcarek from Rochester, N.Y. enjoying the dancing and music. Some of the outstanding things were the Mummer's colorful costumes, and Dennis Polisky from the Maestros Men joining Chuck Pendrak and Bud Hendski and the Corsairs for memorable dual clarinets. Many wonderful memories of the late Jackie Schmid were shared this weekend. For years, she was one of festival's main proponents.

SUMMER FUN. The **Buffalo Polka Boosters Club** annual picnic on July 28 was a huge success. Close to 200 people enjoyed the fabulous music of the Buffalo Touch and the delicious variety of food and refreshments. This year it was held at Fontana's Grove, which was very comfortable and accommodating. A good time was had by all and best of all, there were no complaints. Everyone had a great time.

GET WELL WISHES ... go out to **Julie Suita**, who had surgery recently, and then suffered a fall. We hope she is getting better everyday.

CONDOLENCES. Sympathy to Marge Pacer on the passing of her sister, **Rita Kasprzyk**, on June 13. Rita lived in West Palm Beach, Florida. May she rest in peace. Please remember the sick and deceased in your prayers.



JERRY MIESOWICZ (center), of Buffalo's Rare Vintage, and the Maestro's Men Dennis Polisky (left), and Andy Galareau. Cheektowaga Polish American Heritage Festival.



THE FORGOTTEN BUFFALO BAND entertained in the beer tent at the Cheektowaga Polish American Heritage Festival. (l. to r.): Dave Gawronski, Jim Raczkowski, and Ted Kania.

BATTER UP! On Aug. 6, **Polish Festival Night** at Coca-Cola Field had a big attendance. The pre-game tent party was packed with polka people enjoying the music, entertainment and food. I must compliment the Krakowiacy Dancers from Eugenia's Dance Studio. Children of all ages performed and proudly danced to the music, smiling all the time. They were a joy to watch. The brilliant colors and designs in the various outfits were beautiful. I felt proud of their dedication to keep the Polish heritage alive and learn the dances that began in Poland. It was so good to see such a large number of our Canadian friends at the Ballpark. Father Ted Bocianowski received this year's "Polish American of the Year" honors.

But, another award was also presented: congratulations to **Chris Tanski**, president of the Buffalo

Polka Boosters Club, who was honored for her dedication and service to polka music and polka organizations. This was a big surprise to Chris. She has been involved in the polka scene for many years and always does her best to promote polka music and the bands. Chris even got to toss out the first pitch!

MUSIC RETURNS. Music returns to the old Hurliman's, now known as **Dianagain's** at 2460 Clinton (just East of Harlem) with Special Delivery playing there Sept. 29, Oct., 20, Nov., 24, and Dec. 15. Watch this column for times or visit www.thespecialdeliveryband.com.

UPCOMING

Sept. 7. The New Direction Band plays at the Echo Club, Portage Rd., Niagara Falls, N.Y. from 7:00 pm to 11:00 p.m.. Admission is only \$5.00 Call (716) 282-



TWO HOME-TOWN BOYS played with Bud Hendski's Corsairs; Al Kania (2nd from left) and Ron Cyrankowski (right). Cheektowaga Polish American Heritage Festival.



FORMER CLUB 77 REGULARS gathered to reminisce old times at the Buffalo Polka Boosters' Picnic at Fontana's Grove. The former East Buffalo bar was a popular place to hear polka music.

3246.

Sept. 10. The Buffalo Touch play at the

River Grill in Tonawanda, NY starting at 7:00 p.m. Call (716) 873-2553.

Sept. 14. The Buffalo Touch are at the Roncevalles Polish Festival in Toronto. Free admission.

Sept. 21. End of Summer Dance at Potts Hall, 41 S. Rossler Ave., Cheektowaga, N.Y. Music by Phocus and Special Delivery from 7:00 pm until midnight. Admission is \$10 Call Ted at (716) 668) 9101.

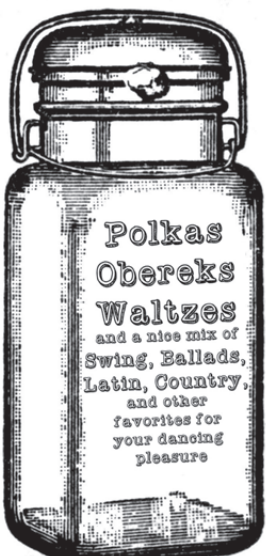
Sept. 25. Polka Variety Social Club meeting at the Leonard Post, 2540 Walden Ave.. For more info, call Bill at (716) 759-8194.

Sept. 26. Polka Boosters Meeting at the Polish Falcons Hall, 445 Columbia Ave., Depew, N.Y. Doors open at 6:45 p.m. A pot luck buffet will be served; bring a dish to pass. New members always welcome. Call Chris at (716) 771-1076 for more information.

Sept. 28. Special Delivery. "Taste of Poland" dance. Dom Polski, 252 Nevins St Dunkirk, N.Y. 14048. 4:30. Call (716) 366-1044 for information.

Sept. 29. Special Delivery at Dianagain's (former Hurliman's). 2460 Clinton (just East of Harlem). 4:30.

Oct. 5. Celebration of Life in Honor of Jackie Schmid for a Memorial Scholarship Fund in her name will be held at the Valley of Buffalo Hall, 2379 Union Rd., Cheektowaga, N.Y. Entertainment by The Knewz, The Touch, Phocus, New Direction, Special Delivery, and the Concertina All Stars. Tickets are \$20 presale and \$25 at the door. To donate a basket for the Chinese Auction, call Kris at (716) 895-6535 For more information, call Ed at (716) 913-3187 or Chris at (716) 771-1076.



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• Nu-Tones (PA) Saturday
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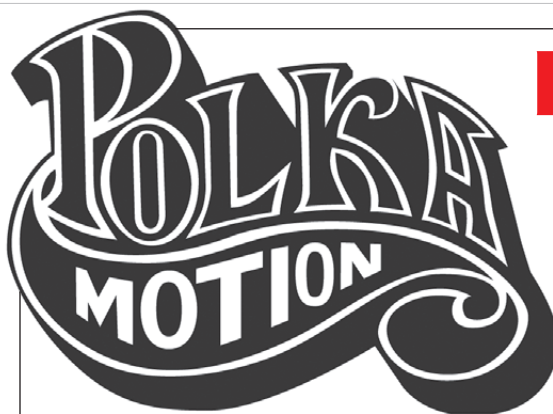
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OBITUARIES

Bishop Thaddeus Joseph Jakubowski, 89 Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus of the Archdiocese of Chicago

Bishop Thaddeus Joseph Jakubowski, 89, Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus of the Archdiocese of Chicago, died on July 14, 2013. Bishop Jakubowski was the Archdiocese of Chicago's liaison with the Polish and Polish American community. He was consistently involved with Chicago's Polish Catholics. His work was recognized by that community, first, in 1997, with the Copernican Award, and, in 2009, with the Commander Cross with Star and White Eagle of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Poland, the highest honor medal awarded to a non-citizen of Poland. He served as the Executive Director of the Catholic League for Religious Assistance to Poland.

He was born on April 5, 1924, was raised on Chicago's Southeast Side, graduated from St. Mary Magdalene Grammar School, and Archbishop Quigley Seminary College Preparatory High School, known as Quigley South. He graduated from St. Mary of the Lake Seminary in Mundelein, Illinois, where he earned a licentiate in theology. He went on to earn a master's degree in classical languages from Loyola



University Chicago. It was in 1950 that Thaddeus Jakubowski was ordained to the priesthood.

From 1950-1957, he served as Associate Pastor at St. Ann Parish on Chicago's South Side, then from 1957-1976, he accepted an assignment at Quigley North Preparatory Seminary as an instructor of classical languages and its Dean of Students. During that same period of time, Thaddeus Jakubowski was named Associate Pastor of St. Bartholomew Parish on Chicago's

Northwest Side. He served in that capacity until 1976. In that year, he was made pastor of St. Robert Bellarmine Parish, also on the Northwest Side, where he served for 12 years. It was in February 1988 that Father Jakubowski was named an Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Chicago by the late Blessed Pope John Paul II. Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus Jakubowski retired on January 24, 2003, and in May of 2003 was appointed a Co-Vicar along with longtime friend, Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus Timothy Lynne, to serve senior priests in the Chicago Archdiocese. Since that time and until his physical health prevented it, "Bishop Jake" visited elderly priests in nursing homes, hospitals, and care centers, and was a point of contact for many in planning visitation and funeral arrangements when they died. Bishop Jakubowski shared his optimistic worldview, saying "There are no problems in the world, they're all opportunities."

Bishop Jakubowski is survived by a brother, Edward, along with numerous nieces and nephews. (G.B.C.)

Chester S. Sawko, 83, Businessman and Philanthropist

Chester (Czeslaw) S. Sawko, 83, passed away on June 25, 2013. A native of Northeastern Poland, he was a well-known, respected businessman and a most generous philanthropist.

In February 1940, at the age of ten, Sawko and his family were forced out of their home by Soviet soldiers and placed in cattle cars where they endured over two years in a Siberian forced labor camp. In 1942, after Stalin aligned the Soviet Union with the West, Polish prisoners were released. They travelled from the Soviet Union into Uzbekistan and Iran, then to Pakistan, spending three or four months in Karachi. In Bombay (Mumbai), a group of 1434 Polish refugees boarded a British ship, on its six week journey, bound to Mexico via San Francisco. They were then transported by train to the Santa Rosa Colony in Leon, Guanajuato, Mexico. These refugees spent the next three years in this settlement. At the age of sixteen, Chester, his family and others arrived in Chica-



go. He never forgot how good Mexico and the Mexican people were to these refugees, how accommodating and friendly they were. After achieving that "American Dream," and becoming a successful businessman, Sawko donated money to the orphanage that was the Poles

safe haven. He continued to fund a medical clinic and a new school in Santa Rosa. He never forgot Santa Rosa and its people. His generosity went further, supporting the Polish American community, Poland, and the Catholic Church.

Sawko served several years in the U.S. Army during the Korean War, and held the rank of sergeant. After the war, Sawko worked in the metal spring industry. But in 1959, disillusioned with the lack of specialty springs, Sawko and a co-worker started R.C. Coil Spring Manufacturing Co., producing precision springs, stampings, wire forms, and 4-side parts. After 50 years, this company is a well-respected internationally known company.

Sawko was a member of a very active group, "The Poles of Santa Rosa," made up of those Polish Siberian forced labor camp survivors, who received refuge in the Santa Rosa Colony. He is survived by his wife, three sons, a daughter, two brothers, and five grandchildren. (G.B.C.)

Catherine L. Benicewicz, Sought to Keep Alive History

(BALTIMORE SUN) — Catherine L. Benicewicz, a retired substitute teacher who sought to keep alive the history of the Polish community that inhabited Brooklyn and Curtis Bay, died of kidney failure at Harbor Hospital.

The lifelong Brooklyn resident was 94.

The daughter of Polish immigrants, Catherine Leocadie Tarnowski was born in Baltimore and raised in Curtis Bay. Her mother was a homemaker while her father worked for 40 years at Davison Chemical Co., where he mixed vats of sulfuric acid.

As a young girl, she attended the Polish school in the Polish Home Hall that was established by the United Polish Societies in 1925 in a former firehouse at Fairhaven Avenue and Filbert Street.

On the first floor of the two-story building was "our Polish school," Benicewicz told *The Baltimore Sun* in a 2003 interview.

Benicewicz worked in the day-

time while attending Western High School at night, graduating in 1937. During World War II, she was a clerical worker for the National Biscuit Co.

In 1945, she married Casimir E. Benicewicz, a Baltimore Gas & Electric Co. carpenter she had met 11 years earlier when women and children worked in the fields of Anne Arundel County farms picking beans, tomatoes and berries.

For years, Benicewicz, who was fluent in Polish, English, French and Spanish, worked as a substitute teacher at Brooklyn Park High School. She also was busy collecting and preserving the history of Brooklyn and Curtis Bay.

As the industrial complexion of the area began to change by the 1980s, when factories closed or were automated, younger people moved away, leaving only the elderly.

"By then, the Poles who had lived in the area for years had moved to the suburbs," said a son, Lawrence

D. Benicewicz.

It had fallen to Benicewicz and her husband to care for the Polish Home Hall that had once been the cultural and social focal point of the community, but which had now come on hard times.

"To my parents, it was something of a shrine," her son said. "She wanted to preserve the culture and history of that part of town."

By 1994, Benicewicz and her husband could no longer care for the Polish Home Hall, whose role in the community was fading. Two years later, it closed for good.

Her husband died in 1997.

The building was rescued from obscurity in 2001 when the newly formed Brooklyn and Curtis Bay Coalition took over its restoration.

An avid fan of classical music and opera, Benicewicz was a longtime communicant of St. Athanasius Roman Catholic Church, where a Mass of Christian burial was offered.

8th Fulton Polish Fest Scheduled



COMMITTEE MEMBERS gather at the Fulton (N.Y.) Polish Home to prepare for the 8th Annual Polish Fest, which will be held Sat., Sept. 21, from noon to 7:00 p.m.

The event will feature live polka music and dancing. Delicious Polish and American food will be available at reasonable prices.

This year Jasiu Klocek and his Accordion from Syracuse will play from noon until 2:00 p.m. From 3:00-7:00 p.m., Donnie P & his Celebration Polka Band from Waterford, N.Y. will be on stage.

The Polish Fest will be held at the Fulton Polish Home, located at 153 West First Street South (Rt 48) in Fulton, N.Y., approximately 30 minutes northwest of Syracuse, and an easy ride from both Utica and Rochester. The Polish Home is a great venue for polka dancing, and admission to the event is free.

For more information about the Fest, call the Polish Home at (315) 593-2875.

Pictured above (l. to r.): is the planning committee for the event: John Kruk (chairman); Bob Pietrucha (The "Silver Fox of Polkas"); Nancy James; Donald Diak; Kim Diak; Bob Vayner; and Dora Roik

PROVERBS, SAYINGS, AND NOTIONS / Robert Strybel

Folk Wisdom of the Polish People

Various sayings have long been known to reflect the common knowledge, folk wisdom, values and feelings of the Polish people. They have taken the form of proverbs, aphorisms, mottos and slogans. Many embody profound truths; others are

light-hearted, even comical.

Many proverbs and concepts are shared with other nations, although their phrasing may differ. Others are more unique and difficult to translate, let alone find equivalents for. The following compilation barely scratches the surface of Poland's extensive treasure trove of maxims and adages, but even these few may help show what Polish people believe in, what they consider important and – in a word – what makes them tick:

Kuj żelazo póki gorące.

Equivalent: Make hay while the sun shines.

Literally: Forge iron while it's hot.

Co kraj to obyczaj.

Equivalent: Different countries, different ways.

Literally: Each country has its (own) customs.

continued next month

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THE OLD COUNTRY / Richard Poremski



GRINDING OUT A TUNE. Old Town Warsaw. May 16, 1976.

Ceil Wendt Jensen Guest Speaker at Annual PGSM Seminar

TROY, Mich. — Noted genealogist Ceil Wendt Jensen will be one of the guest speakers at the Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan's Annual Genealogy Seminar, Oct. 19.

Jensen will present practical examples and suggestions on how to use records, databases, and archives to start or advance your genealogy research.

Her lecture, "Now Boarding: Planning a Research Trip in Poland," is based on over 30 years of travel experience leading overseas groups and research in Poland archives. Participants will learn how to plan ahead, get the most for your dollar, travel light, and "bring home the research you went for." The session includes examples and suggestions on how to prepare for a trip to Polish archives, parishes, and record repositories. Researchers will learn about records, maps, and ephemera held at repositories that go beyond vital records.

Senior Archivist at the Archives of Michigan, Kris Rzepczynski, will also speak at the seminar. He previously worked for 12 years at the

Library of Michigan as the Michigan/Genealogy Coordinator. Rzepczynski's topic will be "Researching Your Family History at the Archives of Michigan: An introduction to the Archives of Michigan."

One of the larger family history collections in the United States, the PGSM Archives emphasize research material from Michigan, the Great Lakes states, New England, the Mid-Atlantic region, as well as Ontario and Quebec. Notable collections include the J. William Gorski Collection of Polish genealogy and history and Michigan naturalization records.

The seminar includes a continental breakfast and a delicious Polish lunch. It will be held at the American Polish Cultural Center, 2975 E. Maple Rd. and Dequindre Rd.

Reservation deadline is October 1, 2013. The price is \$65 per person and \$100 for couples (\$35 is tax deductible).

The Seminar starts at 9:00 a.m. and ends at 4:00 p.m.

If you have questions, please contact Valerie Koselka, vkoselka.pgsm@gmail.com.

GENEALOGY / Stephen M. Szabados

Format of Polish Records

The Polish vital records that you find will usually be in one of two formats – narrative or columnar.

The narrative format is found in the area that was controlled by Russia and in Krakow. The format was introduced by Napoleon in 1808 in areas that he controlled in Europe and its use was continued in Poland after his defeats. The birth, marriage and death registers were to be kept by state officials but since there were not enough state officials, the clergy were frequently appointed to record these events. Polish Catholic clergy were responsible for all civil registration from 1808 until 1825. Beginning in 1826, Jews, Evangelical Lutherans, Protestants, Russian Orthodox, Greek Orthodox and others were allowed to maintain separate civil registers.

The Napoleonic records were written in a narrative or story-like format. The records were written in a set format with the location of the various facts of the life events recorded in a specific order. The basic elements of fact will be found in the same location on each document. However, they are hard to translate because they are handwritten and many words are hard to decipher. Judith Frazin's *A Translation Guide to 19th-Century Polish-Language Civil-Registration Documents* is an excellent book to help translate records found in the Napoleonic format. It lists many phases in Polish and English that will be found in the records which makes translating the records much easier.

The vital records found in Polish provenances controlled by Germany (Prussia) and Austria will be in the columnar format. The records found in the Austrian controlled provenance will be written in Latin or German. In the German (Prussian) controlled provenances the records were written in German, Latin or Polish. These records are easier to translate because the headings of each column are printed and easier to read. Word lists can easily be used to translate the headings which reduce the number of handwritten words that need to be deciphered and translated.

Using the Polish registers is simplified by the indexes that are compiled on a yearly basis and usually found immediately after the records indexed. The indexes usually include a record number and sometimes a page number. Sometimes the index for birth, marriage, and death records were found after each type of record but sometimes the indexes are grouped together at the end of the year's records. Although indexes are a great help, they should not be relied upon completely because of spelling variations and some records may be missing from the index.

Next month I will cover the importance of understanding the Polish alphabet and the difficulties in reading old German Gothic script.

Stephen M. Szabados is the author of *Finding Grandma's European Ancestors (available from the Polish American Journal Bookstore)*, and *Find Your Family History*.

BRUSH UP / Polonia Media Network

Violations

m, f, n = male, female, neuter

- skarga (SKAHR-gah) f complaint
- oskarzenie (ohs-kahr-ZEH-nyeh) n charge
- kara (KAH-rah) f fine [payment]
- mandat (MAHN-daht) m traffic fine
- winny (VEEN-nih) m guilty
- winna (VEEN-nah) f guilty
- niewinny (nyeh-VEEN-nih) m not guilty
- niewinna (nyeh-VEEN-nah) f not guilty
- prawnik (PRAHV-neck) m lawyer
- prawniczka (prahv-NEECH-kah) f lawyer
- policjant (poh-LEE-tsyahnt) m police man
- policjantka (poh-lee-TSYAHNT-kah) f police woman
- posterunek policji (pohs-teh-RUH-nehk poh-LEE-tsyeh) m police station
- proces (PROH-tsehs) m trial
- konsulat (kohn-SUH-laht) m consulate
- ambasada (ahm-bah-SAH-dah) f embassy

SURNAME CORNER / Robert Strybel

Names by Occupation

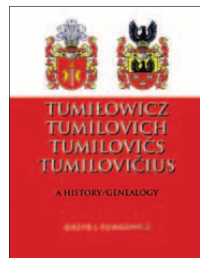
Many Polish last names originated many centuries ago to describe people on the basis of their occupation. In addition to the basic form (given first), numerous derivatives emerged to indicate the person's son or helper. Here are some of the more common:

- Ślawetny a rich burgher in a small town or an average resident of a big city
- Sołtys, Szoltys administrator of a village
- Szambelan chamberlain
- Szeryf sheriff
- Szewc (Szewczyk) shoemaker
- Szlachc nobleman
- Świniopas swineherd
- Tkacz weaver
- Ucziwy village craftsman, inn owner
- Ułan a Polish cavalryman with a lance

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Be a part of our 2013 Polish Heritage Month Edition. See form on page 16!

TUMIŁOWICZ: A HISTORY / GENEALOGY



Compiled in this book of 125 pages are copies of 16th-19th century documents, their English translations, extended genealogies, historical reference regarding origins, and class status of clan Tumilowicz, and analysis of surname versions.

Some associated surnames: Bylina, Bernatowicz, Czarniecki, Daszkiewicz, Guzik, Michniewicz, Sikorski, Szpakowski, Szymkow, Tomaszewski, Trela, Urban.

The book is available for \$17.00 (includes postage).

Contact: Joseph Tumilowicz, Ph.D., 23 Tall Oaks, Dr. Laurel Springs, NJ 08021 / (856) 228-2528



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BOOKS IN BRIEF / Florence Waszkelewicz Clowes MLIS

SCHOLARSHIPS

A Detail Account of Krystyna Skarbek Granville

THE SPY WHO LOVED, THE SECRETS AND LIVES OF CHRISTINE GRANVILLE

by Clare Mulley
St. Martin's Press, 2013
notes, bibliography, maps, photos,
426 pp., \$26.99

This detailed account of a female British spy is fascinating. Born in Warsaw to a Polish aristocrat and wealthy Jewish mother in 1908, Krystyna Skarbek Granville, inherited her father's zest for adventure. In 1939 when the Germans invaded Poland she was in Africa but soon made her way to Britain where she was recruited by the intelligence service. She sought and volunteered for dangerous assignments. With her knowledge of the Tatra Mountains, she skied back into Poland, smuggling materials and secret documents, then led warriors out of the country to join the Allies. She parachuted into France, and bicycled to various secret destinations. Christine had an incredible thirst for danger, excitement and an appetite for affairs. She had a hypnotic power on those she knew. Men loved her and protected her throughout her life. Her many affairs added to her quest for adventure and dangerous missions. She wasn't happy if she wasn't on a mission.

Yet, the British distrusted her because she was Polish, even though she was Winston Churchill's favorite spy, serving as the first female agent in Special Operations Executive. She became a naturalized citizen and after the war was recognized and offered the George medal for her service. To earn a living she worked as a stewardess on a New Zealand ship where she met Denis

Muldowney. He fell deeply in love with her and followed her to London. Her fatal gift of inspiring love finally led to her death. The rejected shipman murdered her on June 15, 1952. She was forty four years old, still a beauty and mourned by all the men she encountered during her lifetime. She was courageous, adventurous and loved life, men, and sex. She loved her family and country, spending her life as a spy working to free Poland.

MONTE CASSINO

Ten Armies in Hell
by Peter Caddick-Adams
Oxford University Press, 2013
bibliography, index, maps, photographs, 396 pp., \$29.95

One of the most complex battles in World War II was the battle for Cassino, which involved armies from ten different countries. Caddick-Adams provides a fascinating account of the bloody battle to rout the Germans from Cassino and conquer the ancient monastery on top the mountain. It began in January 1944 and ended with the German surrender in May. In those five months, the war claimed over 200,000 casualties of Germans, Italians, French, Americans, British, Indians, New Zealanders, Poles, Canadians and South Africans.

After three failed attempts to conquer the area, General Wladyslaw Anders was asked to take charge of the fourth battle to drive out the Germans from their post in the Abbey. The II Polish Corps consisted of liberated prisoners and refugees from the frozen Russian tundra. They were quickly trained in Palestine and sent to Italy. This final

battle was supported by the Allied forces, but it was the Polish Corps who led the way. Caddick-Adams devotes two chapters to the Polish forces showing their bravery and determination to conquer the area and show the world they were not afraid to fight the Germans.

The battle was fought the old-fashioned way, terrible winter weather caused trucks and boots to get stuck in foot deep freezing mud, mountainous limestone terrain shattered into splinters when bombed, roads that only mules could navigate to pull up equipment. Tanks and bombs proved useless.

Today the destruction of the world famous Abbey is considered an unjustifiable act of cultural vandalism. This brainchild was Winston Churchill's, who insisted Italy was a soft spot of Hitler's Europe and saw it as a way to Rome, an hour away. The Allies did not know that most of the monastery's treasures had been already removed by the Germans. Many historians now wonder if the death and destruction during the battle was really necessary in winning the war. After the war ended, the Abbey was painstakingly rebuilt, its baroque chapel purposefully left unfinished and today is a World Heritage site, visited each year by over a million people from around the world.

Caddick-Adams style of writing throws the reader in the midst of battle, showing death, destruction and the horrors of war and the human side of the conflict. He is one of the world's authorities on battle field history. There is minute detail of the five months of battle and loss of men and women, bringing home

the sacrifice made for freedom. The history is well written and told in a compassionate voice, a treasure of information for all those who fought in the war and historians who will be pleased to read this comprehensive record of the battle for Monte Cassino.

A TO Z OF BELARUS

by Vitali Silitski
and Jan Zaprudnik
Scarecrow Press
Rowan & Littlefield, 2010
appendix, bibliography, maps
394 pp., \$34.45.

This guide is part of the A to Z series published by the Scarecrow Press, including two hundred and forty-four other books, providing an encyclopedia of facts on countries, culture, religions, wars, and more.

Belarus's history has always been tied to Poland, beginning with the legend of the three brothers—Lech, Czech and Rus, seeking to create individual settlements. In the tenth century King Boleslaw the Brave embraced Catholicism. The connection continued with the formation of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania, blending of the Lithuania, Poland, Ukraine and Belarus. During Poland's years of independence, 1921-1939, Western Belarus was controlled by Poland. During the Second World War, borders again were moved and Belarus, by then part of Russia, absorbed some parts of Poland. The political map of Belarus changed once again, in July, 1990, when the fifteen Russian republics dissolved and Belarus came into its own, officially, the Belarusian Soviet Socialist Republic.

A chronology, appendix and bibliography, Cyrillic and Latin alphabet is included as part of this encyclopedia of the country. Today a large number of Belarusians speak Polish, part of the group who decided to remain in the area when borders were moved.

Ostrowski Named Winner

NEW CASTLE, Pa. — The Polish Americans of Lawrence County announce its scholarship recipient for the 2013-2014 school year.



This year, the special congratulations go out to Shenango High School senior, Kelly Ann Ostrowski.

She is the daughter of Patrick and Diane

Ostrowski. Her plans are to attend the Pennsylvania State University and major in biomedical engineering. She has been a faithful helper at our Polish functions for a number of years.

Ostrowski is also the granddaughter of Alice Ostrowski, long time recording secretary of the Polish Americans of Lawrence County.

Receiving honorable mention from the Committee were applicants Erin Hassett, Sarah Hosie and Zachary Matuch.

The Committee would like to thank all those who participated in this year's scholarship program.

Polish American Cultural Society Prizes Awarded

STAMFORD, Conn. — Three students of Polish descent were awarded scholarships from the Polish American Cultural Society. Jerzy Karwowski, president of the organization, and committee awarded scholarships to Katarzyna Babin-ska, who will attend the University of Connecticut; Katarzyna Krasniak, who will also attend the University of Connecticut; and Dorota Mariak, who will attend Syracuse University.

Lyczko 2013 Scholarships

CHICAGO — The Polish American Association is offering a scholarship opportunity for qualified, bright and financially-challenged college students of Polish descent. PAA is able to offer these funds from the generous bequest provided by Felix J. Lyczko.

Lyczko, passionate about the joys and advantages of a college education was determined to make a difference in the lives of young Poles who, for lack of finances are unable to attend college. His brother Charles died while an Air Force pilot in World War II and his son Gene in an auto accident, and were unable to attend college. Deeply saddened by the untimely early deaths of both his brother and son, Felix established the Lyczko Scholarship Fund.

To download the application, visit www.polish.org/LyczkoScholarship. You may also contact the PAA at 3834 N Cicero Ave., Chicago, IL 60641.



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Dear Friend of Polonia:

October is Polish American Heritage Month, a time for Americans of Polish descent to reflect on the contributions our ethnic group has made to the American way of life — from discoveries in the worlds of science and technology to accomplishments on the local high school football field.

Sadly, each generation losses a bit of its "Polishness." The names of great-grandparents who came here are forgotten. A traditional dish is dropped at a holiday. Names become anglicized or changed entirely.

The Polish American Journal serves as monthly reminder of all the good associated with being Polish. On our pages are stories of immigrant families who have bettered themselves in America. We report on Polish Americans who have attained top positions in all walks of life. We describe and teach the customs *babcia* and *dziadek* brought to America. It has become — in part — our mission to make sure traditions are not lost, for they underline the most important aspects of life in America: family, faith, and community.

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SPORTS / Tom Tarapacki

Another Yastrzemski on the Diamond

A couple of ballplayers from Vanderbilt were chosen in the recent Major League Baseball draft. One's name should be very familiar, the other not so much. However, both are grandsons of New England baseball legends.

Michael Andrew Yastrzemski was picked in the 14th round by Baltimore. He is the son of **Carl Michael Yastrzemski, Jr.** (Carl Jr. also went by Mike). He was third-round draft pick by the Atlanta Braves in 1984 and played for the White Sox at the Triple-A level. He died in 2004 at the age of 43 from a heart attack suffered during hip surgery. Of course, **Carl Yastrzemski, Sr.** is a baseball legend. The Boston Red Sox Hall of Famer was selected to 17 All Star Games, won seven Gold Gloves, achieved 3,419 Hits and 452 Home Runs and won the Triple Crown in 1967. Now, 73, he had a triple bypass in 2008 and mostly avoids the public limelight.

Young Mike was previously drafted by his grandfather's team, the Boston Red Sox, and then Seattle, but he wanted to finish college. A Crime and Society major, he was named to the SEC Academic Honor Roll. Yastrzemski, a 5-10, 185-lb. outfielder, hit .312 this season for Vanderbilt in 66 games with 19 doubles, 3 homers and 43 RBIs. He was named 2013 First Team All-SEC and SEC All-Defensive Team for 2013.

Another Vanderbilt standout, pitcher **Kevin Ziomek** was picked by the Detroit Tigers in the second round. The 6-3, 190-lb. lefty had a spectacular junior year, going 11-3 with a 2.12 ERA for Vanderbilt. Among his various honors, he was named to *Baseball America's* third team All-American squad. Also an SEC Honor Roll student, Kevin did not commit to a major. He said it was a difficult decision to forgo his senior year at Vanderbilt, but the Tigers helped convince him with a reported \$956,600 signing bonus.

Kevin's grandfather, **Stan**, is a New England baseball legend too. Stan is revered for bringing Little League to Amherst, Massachusetts in the 1950s. He's the founder of both the Little League and Babe Ruth League and has been very active throughout the years, even serving as national president of the Babe



Michael Andrew Yastrzemski



Kevin Ziomek

Ruth League. He also has served many times as director of state and regional tourneys. In 2005, he was presented the Ed Hickox Award by the Basketball Hall of Fame in honor of his years of service to youth sports, and in 2011 he was elected to the Babe Ruth League Hall of Fame. Kevin's father Peter, an attorney, was his son's Little League coach.

"Yaz" and "Zo," as Mike and Kevin are known, helped Vanderbilt to a late-season No. 1 ranking, although the Commodores bowed out just shy of the College World Series. With their deep baseball roots, it's no surprise that the two friends are what Vandy coach Tim Corbin calls "old souls." They are now both signed with the respective teams and have begun their professional careers. As the 54th player taken, Kevin is a top prospect, blessed with good size and athleticism. With a little more consistency with his pitches, he could be a major league starter. Mike was the 429th pick; although he's a smart, solid player with a fine arm and excellent base running, he doesn't have the ideal power or size. However, both seem to be intelligent, hardworking young men who appear to have bright futures on the diamond and beyond.

STILL KICKING. While many NFL players are looking to retire when they reach age 35, the Raiders Polish-born kicker **Sebastian Janikowski** hopes to stay in the league for several more years. He told the

San Francisco Chronicle that he can play into his early 40s. If Janikowski were to play seven or eight more years at his current level, he could be at the top of many kicking categories in the NFL record book. The "Polish Powder Keg" currently has 324 career field goals, including 31 last season, and by averaging 31 field goals a year for the next eight years, would have a total of 572. That would break Morten Andersen's all-time record of 565.

Janikowski already owns a share of the record for longest field goal ever (63 yards) and he's the only player in NFL history to make more than one 60-yard field goal in his career. If Janikowski were to continue playing at his current level for seven or eight more years, he'd also be in serious consideration for the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

RIDING HIGH. Riding in his first Tour de France, 23-year-old **Michal Kwiatkowski** emerged as a future star, finishing 11th. "It's my first Tour de France and I'm surprised," Kwiatkowski said. "I did better than I expected."

The native of Dzialyn, Poland was considered a strong all-round rider, with excellent sprinting and climbing abilities. His showing in the Tour demonstrated that "Kwiatatek" he could also handle the rigors of the world's most famous bike race.

A former world junior time-trialist, Michal is in his second season with UCI ProTeam Omega Pharma-Quick Step. He turned professional in 2010 with Caja Rural and in 2011 joined Team RadioShack.

Czeslaw Lang, head of the Polish cycling association and winner of the road race silver medal at the 1980 Moscow Olympics, commented that Michal is "a great new rider who inspires our hearts and inflames the souls of the fans."

NO ORDINARY JOE. With a year remaining on **Joe Pavelski's** current contract with the San Jose Sharks, the team announced that they have signed Pavelski to a five-year extension reportedly worth \$30 million.

Pavelski has become a top center for the Sharks. Over the past two full seasons he has tallied 66 and 61 points, including a career-high 31 goals in 2011-12. This past season he played all 48 games and had 16 goals with 15 assists.

Pavelski was originally a seventh round draft choice by the Sharks in 2003. The Wisconsin native spent two seasons at the University of Wisconsin before moving into the pros and developing into one of the Sharks top scorers. Pavelski played for the U.S. in the 2010 Olympics and is expected to be on the 2014 team in Sochi as well.

DRAFTED! A number of players with Polish (I think) names were selected in the 2013 MLB draft. I can't verify their ethnicities, but here are their positions, names, their number selections and the teams they went to: 3B **Eric Jagielo** (26, Yankees); RHP **Ryne Stanek** (29, Tampa Bay), RHP **Teddy Stankiewicz** (45, Boston), 3B **Trey Michalczewski** (213, White Sox), RHP **Neil Kozikowski** 239, Pittsburgh), RHP **Joe Prosinski** (301, Philadelphia), RHP **Adam Plutko** (321, Cleveland), **Jonathan Dzedzic** (384, KC), C **Jake Romanski** (413, Boston), CF **Alex Krupa** (585, Cincinnati), RHP **Andrew Waszak** (673 Atlanta), LHP **Brandon Zajac** (702, San Francisco), RHP **Mark Nowaczewski** (803, Boston), LHP **Bryan Radziewski** (875, St. Louis), RHP **A.J. Bogucki** (920, Minnesota), RHP **Easton Napiontek** (1020, Texas), 1B **A.J. Kubala** (1031, Oakland), RHS **Jacob Smigelski** (1169, Pittsburgh).

Again, I'm not sure if all of these are Polish, or if I missed any others who are. If you know something I don't, please pass it along.

BAD BREAK. Tackle **Bryan Bulaga**, a mainstay of the Green Bay Packers' offensive line, suffered a torn anterior cruciate ligament in an intra-squad scrimmage and will likely miss the entire season. He had just been moved from right to left tackle, and the line was functioning very smoothly at the time of the injury.

In 2011 Bulaga became the youngest player to start in a Super Bowl (age 21 years, 322 days). The rookie right tackle played a key role in protecting QB Aaron Rodgers from the fierce Pittsburgh defense en route to a Packer win.

THEY SAID IT

"Yastrzemski and Ziomek: a couple of pesky Polish kids with names outsiders struggled to pronounce. They sat in the back of the classroom, one 100 miles from Boston, the other 100 miles from New York, dirt beneath their fingernails, hands calloused, pierogis in the bag lunch, baseball on the brain."

— **Mike Dobrow** in ESPNBoston.



"It brings a smile to my face as to how lucky and fortunate I was to obtain such a level of success in the world of distance running. But I say this with the utmost sincerity and honesty that each and every one of those personal accomplishments pale in comparison to my coaching in Special Olympics. There has been no greater joy and level of satisfaction in my life then working with and coaching all my athletes over these past 20 years. To work with an athlete that no one thought could even walk 100 yards and training them so by the end of the season they are racing the 800 meters brings to meaning what life is all about. The term 'priceless' does not do this justice."

— **Bernie Prabucki**, a former *Division III All-American runner at Fredonia State College*, on his election to the *Western New York Running Hall of Fame*. Now living in North Carolina, last year he was named that state's *Special Olympics Coach of the Year*.



"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'."

— **Joe Pavelski**, on the *San Jose Sharks website*.

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POLISH CHEF / Robert Strybel

Polonia's Great Czernina Dilemma

Czernina (pronounced: chair-NEE-nah), duck or goose soup, has long been a favorite of many Polonians. But unlike pierogi and gołąbki, which most everybody enjoys, it is closer to flaczki (Polish tripe soup) and such foreign dishes as sushi and snails. You either like it or you don't. It is a delicious tasting soup — rich, meaty with a fruity bouquet and a sweet and sour tang. More people who have tasted it thinking it was a fruit-based soup are likely to enjoy it than those who know it contains duck or goose blood.

The spelling czarnina is more common across Polonia, since that's how it was pronounced in Wielkopolska, the once German-ruled Poznań region) from which the first wave of Polish immigrants to America hailed. It was the early-comers that set the pace and style for Poles from the Russian and Austrian partition zone. This writer's maternal grandmother hailed from the Lublin region (which had been under tsarist rule), but learned to make czernina from Wielkopolska-rooted neighbor ladies in Hamtramck, Michigan, Detroit's once predominantly Polish enclave suburb.

I remember my late Babcia going to one of the local poultry markets, where she would select a live duck or goose and the butcher would bleed it into a jar of vinegar to prevent the blood from coagulating. Nowadays such poultry markets are far less common, and health regulations in many places prevent the sale of fresh blood. That is what I was told by the several duck and goose farms I found online including Maple Leaf Farms (consumer@mapleleafarms.com). Still, czernina continues to be served at many PolAm festivals and restaurants. Presumably they have their own contacts with friendly local poultry farmers.

In Old Poland, czernina also had a ritual significance. It was the czarna polewka (black caudle) served to a suitor to indicate that his advances were not welcome. In Old Polonia, U.S.-born PolAm kids used to call it "chocolate soup and bullets." The bullets were the raw grated potato dumplings over which the czernina was served.

There are two basic ways of approaching czernina: cooking it in a stock containing the entire fowl or only some of its parts. I prefer the latter for two reasons. First of all duck and goose are on the fat side, so cooking the whole bird will produce a very greasy stock. If only some parts are used, you will get more mileage out of your bird, because the carcass can be stuffed in roasted, giving you two courses instead of one. If you choose that method, cooking a 2-rib portion of pork ribs with the fowl parts will provide added meatiness without too much extra fat. Here is one recipe.

BLACK DUCK OR GOOSE SOUP (czernina/czarnina z kaczki lub gęsi). Place the cleaned giblets (make sure to cut open the gizzard and remove any semi-digested grain lodged therein!), neck, wings and rump of 1 duck or goose and in pot containing 7 c water and cook 1 hr, skimming off scum. (Stuff and roast the carcass separately below.) To

soup pot add 1 portion soup greens, 1 bay leaf, 2 cloves 2 grains allspice and several peppercorns and cook until vegetables are tender. Strain. Remove any meat attached to bones, dice giblets and return to stock. Add chopped duck or goose liver, ½ c or more pitted prunes, ½ c diced dried apples and/or dried pears and (optional) ½ c raisins and cook until fruit is tender. Remove from flame. Fork-blend blood of duck or goose (mixed with several T vinegar) with 1 T flour and whisk into soup. Simmer several minutes, but do not boil. The trick to getting a nicely balanced sweet & sour soup is to gradually season it with a bit of sugar and a little cider vinegar until you get just the right, tangy, winey taste you like. Add 1 t marjoram

and salt to taste. Optional: Add ½ c coffee cream or half&half. Serve over egg-noodle squares (fazanki) or other egg noodles, diced cooked potatoes or potato dumplings (see below).

POTATO DUMPLINGS (kluski kartoflane). Put a large pot of lightly salted water on to boil. Peel 10-12 medium-size potatoes and grate on fine side of grater or in food processor. Transfer mixture to sieve above a pot or bowl to collect the drippings. When dripping stops, transfer potato mixture to a bowl, pour off the dark collected liquid and add the white sediment (starch) to the potatoes. Add 1 c flour, 2 eggs and 1 t salt and mix to get a uniform batter. It should be on the stiff side, so work in a bit of flour if it is too soft and moist. Use teaspoon or melon scoop to scoop up portions of potato mixture and drop into boiling water. Dip the spoon or scoop in the boiling water between scoopings. When noodles float up, cook at a gentle rolling boil another 5 minutes or longer. The smaller the dumplings — the quicker they cook. Test one for doneness. Drain in colander and ladle the czernina over it in individual soup bowls.

BLACK PORK SOUP (czernina ze świńskiej krwi). In many places pork blood may be easier to obtain than duck or goose blood. It can be used exactly as specified above. If you use the above-indicated parts of a frozen duck or goose (wings, neck, rump, giblets) and pork ribs to cook your stock, you may not be able to tell the difference.

BLACK CHICKEN-LIVER SOUP (czernina z kurzych wątróbek). Chicken livers are far easier to find than duck, goose or pork blood. Dump about 1 c into your processor and process to a pulp. Then with wooden spoon or pestle force through sieve, which should collect any veins and membranes, and use the strained liver in place of blood in the above recipe.

BLOODLESS DUCK SOUP (czernina bez krwi). For those who cannot obtain the blood or are squeamish about eating it, this bloodless czernina may be the answer. Place the cleaned giblets (make sure to cut open the gizzard and remove any semi-digested grain lodged therein!), neck, wings and rump of 1 fresh or frozen duck or goose and in pot containing 6 c water and cook 1 hr, skimming off scum. To soup pot add 1 portion soup greens, 1 bay leaf, 2 cloves 2 grains allspice and

several peppercorns and cook until vegetables are tender. Strain. Remove any meat attached to bones, dice giblets and return to stock. Add ½ c or more chopped pitted prunes, ½ c diced dried apples and/or dried pears and (optional) ½ c raisins and cook until fruit is tender. Stir in 1/2 c Polish powidła (prune butter) or 1 c prune juice. Dissolve 1-2 level T flour in 1 c water and stir into soup. Adjust to taste by gradually adding cider vinegar and sugar a bit at a time until you get just the right, tangy, winey taste you like. The



several peppercorns and cook until vegetables are tender. Strain. Remove any meat attached to bones, dice giblets and return to stock. Add ½ c or more chopped pitted prunes, ½ c diced dried apples and/or dried pears and (optional) ½ c raisins and cook until fruit is tender. Stir in 1/2 c Polish powidła (prune butter) or 1 c prune juice. Dissolve 1-2 level T flour in 1 c water and stir into soup. Adjust to taste by gradually adding cider vinegar and sugar a bit at a time until you get just the right, tangy, winey taste you like. The

powidła is already quite sweet so be sure to taste the soup before adding sugar. Add 1 t marjoram and salt to taste. Simmer briefly and serve as above.

MOCK DUCK SOUP (falszywa czernina). In pot combine 3 c homemade or canned chicken broth, 3 c water, ½ c or more chopped pitted prunes, ½ c diced dried apples and/or dried pears and (optional) ½ c dark raisins and cook until fruit is tender. Stir in 1/2 c Polish powidła (prune butter) or 1 c prune juice. Dissolve 1-2 level T flour in 1 c water and stir into soup. Adjust to taste by gradually adding cider vinegar and sugar a bit at a time until you get just the right, tangy, winey taste you like. The powidła is already quite sweet so be sure to taste the soup before adding sugar. Add 1 t marjoram and salt to taste. Simmer briefly and serve as above.

Kinal to Address PGSNYS

BUFFALO, N.Y. — The Polish Genealogical Society of New York State and St. Gabriel's Holy Name Society will hold its annual Genealogy Research Fair, Sat., Sept. 14 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., at St. Gabriel's Church Hall, Clinton Street just East of Transit Rd. (Rt. 78) in Elma.

Greg Kinal, a Pembroke Central School teacher, will be the main speaker from 12:00 to 1:30 p.m. He has been lecturing at senior community centers and research societies,

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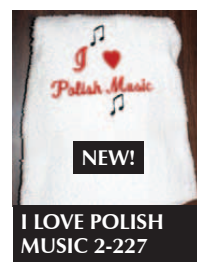
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