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

**POLAND, THE LINCHPIN OF EUROPE • MATKI BOSKIEJ ZIELNEJ, SEPTEMBER 8 • MINISTER VISITS ORCHARDLAKE CITY TO DEMO FRONCZAK HOME • "LIKE MAMUSIA USED TO MAKE!" • DEALING DAVE DOMBROWSKI DEPARTS DETROIT ANTONI PARYSKI AND HIS AMERYKA-ECHO • PORTS OF ARRIVAL FOR POLISH IMMIGRANTS • THE WONDERS OF RZEPAK**

## NEWSMARK

**MOSCOW EYES DUDA.** Russian media outlets focused on President Andrzej Duda's remarks on the need to increase NATO's presence in Poland in his inaugural address.

The NTV channel aired a clip of the address referring to NATO, and the quotes were cited by news agency RIA Novosti.

"We need more guarantees from NATO," the incoming president said. "Not only do we Poles, but the whole of Central and Eastern Europe, which is in a difficult geopolitical situation at present, as you know.

Radio station Echo of Moscow, which is considered to be one of the most independent media outlets in Russia, reflected that "for the time being, it cannot be expected that there will be a noticeable improvement in Polish-Russian relations."

The two countries have been at loggerheads over the Ukrainian crisis, with a string of sanctions and counter-sanctions.

**ALZHEIMER'S BREAKTHROUGH.** Polish scientists have made a breakthrough that could help our understanding of the mechanisms underlying Alzheimer's and Parkinson's diseases.

The discovery was made by scientists from the International Molecular Biology and Cellular Institute (MIBMiK) and the Institute of Biochemistry and Biophysics in Warsaw, in collaboration with scientists from the University of Freiburg in Germany. The results of their study were published in the prestigious journal "Nature."

To produce energy for cells mitochondria need more than a thousand proteins and sometimes the transport of proteins goes wrong. Such mitochondrial dysfunction is characteristic of human pathologies associated with aging and neurodegenerative diseases.

The scientists discovered how irregularities in the transport of proteins to cells may be the cause of aging.

**STRADIVARIUS RETURNED.** The violin once owned by Polish-born Roman Totenberg has been returned to his family, 35 years after it was stolen.

According to the violist's daughter, Nina Totenberg, a California woman got the violin appraised in New York after inheriting it from her ex-husband.

The expert immediately recognized the instrument, Totenberg said.

Totenberg was born in Warsaw in 1911, and enjoyed a distinguished career as a violinist, making his debut with the Warsaw Philharmonic at age 11. He worked with greats such as Igor Stravinsky, Aaron Copland, Leopold Stokowski and Arthur Rubinstein. In 2000, he was awarded the Order of Merit of the Republic of Poland.

Totenberg died in 2012 at the age of 101.

**ONE TOUGH COW.** After two years on the run, Matylda was finally captured, and is now back in the pastures of her owner Leszek Zasada's farm in Zloty Stok located in southwestern Poland, on the border with the Czech Republic. The brown cow escaped in 2013 only one day after being purchased and brought to the farm by owner Zasada.

Matylda raised the wrath of local farmers as she ravaged their crops and managed to elude the many traps set out for her capture.

She survived two severe winters in a nearby forest on her own, was spotted from time to time with a calf.

For two years Matylda eluded capture. Although her owner paid a veterinarian who attempted to tranquilize her, the effort only served to "enrage her further," said Zasada. Polish law prohibits shooting the animal.

Polish newscasters dubbed Matylda a "master of survival," eluding traps, chases on horseback, hunting by dogs and freezing temperatures. At long last, Zasada "tried courting the cow", bringing her apples, salt, cabbages, and "it worked" — Matylda is now back on Zasada's farm, although she did lose her calf while on the run and bears multiple scars from her adventures.

## Mass Mobs Vivify Polonian Churches



About 1,400 people gathered for a "mass mob" at the Detroit's St. Josaphat. Guests packed the historic church, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Detroit Mass Mob has raised about \$200,000 in visits to 14 historic, but sparsely attended, churches since April 2014.

DETROIT — Every month, groups in Buffalo, N.Y. and Detroit pick a church, spread the word on Facebook — and just like that — fill church pews near or over capacity.

Organizers choose historic churches, most of which are known for their architecture, both inside and out. Many are in older, poorer sections, and have minimal

attendance. Besides exposing these jewels to a new audience, the churches benefit from donations, sometimes up to ten times their normal collection for a Mass.

At St. Florian Church in Hamtramck — an eight-story, red-brick church built in 1908 by the Polish families who flocked there to work for Dodge, Ford  
See "Mass Mob," page 6

## Chicago Poles Find, Savor Local Aronia

by Mildred L. Culp

CHICAGO — Whoever would have thought there was an aronia farm near Chicago where Poles could pick buckets-full of aronia? They'd surely know what to do with the fruit.

Margaret Jemiolo of Arlington Heights picked for the first time. "My

friends shared with me and there was never enough," she says. "I made jam, juice and syrup for waffles, French toast and cheesecake. I froze some for smoothies and I'll be making wine."

Magdalena Fraczek, who has no aronia recipes but does have "a really good juicer," wanted to make juice for her son and daughter; so she froze all of her berries. "I was reading about aronia and it's one of the most healthy fruits in the whole world," she comments.

For some Poles, the berries connect  
See "Aronia ...," page 4



## PAC Directors Meet in Washington

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Polish American Congress (PAC) held its annual Council of National Directors Meeting in Washington, D.C. on July 20-23. More than 60 delegates representing PAC State Divisions and member organizations were in attendance.

The purpose of the meeting was trifold: To conduct the business of the organization, including hearing officer reports and debating by-law changes; to meet with high-ranking governmental officials, who presented briefings on the security of Poland and the Visa Waiver Program (VWP), and; to personally meet and discuss with members of U.S. Congress issues related to Poland's se-

## Duda Sworn in as President

WARSAW — Andrzej Duda has been sworn in, becoming the sixth president of the III Polish Republic at a ceremony in the Sejm, Thurs., Aug. 6.

At 10:00 a.m. members the National Assembly, the 460-seat lower house — the Sejm and the 100-seat upper house — the Senate, stood up for the national anthem after which Duda took the presidential oath.

Following the ceremony, Duda made an address to the National Assembly.

Duda recalled his electoral promises and pledged that these will not be forgotten. He stressed that the most important issues are to submit a bill to increase the tax-free bracket, as well as introduce draft legislation to lower the retirement age.

Duda added that he hopes for support in the Parliament for the proposals. However, the Civic Platform-led coalition  
See "Duda," page 4



## Celebrating a Proud and Rich History

by Michael Blichasz

Since 1608, when the first Polish settlers arrived at Jamestown, Virginia, Polish people have been an important part of America's history and culture.

This year, Polish Americans will mark the 34th Anniversary of the founding of Polish American Heritage Month, an event which began in Philadelphia and became a national celebration of Polish history, culture and pride. During 2015, Poles will mark the 407th Anniversary of the first Polish settlers who were among the first skilled workers in America. They, therefore, will also salute all American workers and urge people to purchase the products and services offered by American workers.

Polish Americans will also mark the 236th Anniversary of the death of

General Casimir Pulaski, Father of the American Cavalry.

### THINGS TO DO DURING POLISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

Listed below are suggested activities for your October celebration:

#### COMMUNITY WIDE

**1. Meet with your local** Polish American organizations to discuss a successful, well-coordinated Polish American Heritage Month event.

**2. Request local elected officials** to present a proclamation or special greetings to the Polish American community.

**3. Offer a Mass** at your local church for the intention of your area Polish  
See "Heritage Month," page 3

## ALMANAC



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## September 🌕 Wrzesień

"No time to grieve for roses when  
the forests are burning."  
— **Juliusz Słowacki**, born this  
month in 1809.

- 1 1939. Without declaring war, Nazi Germany attacks Poland, which becomes the first country in Europe to resist armed aggression. World War II begins.
- 2 1833. Birth of Polish scientist **Rudolf Weigl**, who discovered the typhus microbe.
- 4 1939. Nazis march into Czestochowa, Poland.  
1809. Birth of **Juliusz Słowacki**, poet. He is considered one of the "Three Bards" of Polish literature — a major figure in the Polish Romantic period, and the father of modern Polish drama.
- 5 1981. Through Sept. 10. **First Solidarity Congress** with 865 representatives of the nearly ten million strong union meets in Oliwia Hall in Gdansk.
- 6 1921. Birth of **Korczak Ziolkowski**, American sculptor best known for beginning a monumental tribute to Crazy Horse in South Dakota.
- 7 1764. Election of **Stanisław August Poniatowski**.
- 8 **NATIVITY OF MARY**  
*In Polish custom, today's birth of the Virgin is considered the best day for Fall planting.*
- 9 1912. Opening of **St. John Kanty** Preparatory School and College in Erie, Pa.
- 10 1897. **Lattimer Massacre**.
- 11 1382. **Jadwiga (Hedwig) d'Anjou** crowned queen of Poland.
- 12 1683. **Jan Sobieski III** defeats Turks besieging Vienna.
- 14 1951. Death of painter and illustrator **Artur Szyk**.
- 15 1697. Coronation of **August II the Strong**.
- 16 1736. Death of **Gabriel Daniel Fahrenheit**, German scientist born in Gdansk in 1686, and who identified himself as a Pole.
- 17 1939. **Soviet** invasion of Poland.
- 18 **ST. STANISLAUS KOSTKA**
- 19 1987. **Pope John Paul II** presides at Eucharistic celebration at Detroit's Silverdome Stadium. *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.
- 25 **BLESSED WLADYSLAW OF GIELNIOW**  
*Patron saint of Warsaw (1505)*
- 26 1944. Polish paratroopers cover the retreat of British units from **Arnhem**.
- 27 1942. **Zegota**, an underground organization for rescuing Jews from the Nazis, formed in occupied Poland.
- 29 1669. Coronation of **Michael Korybut Wiśniowiecki**.  
1856. Founding of **St. Marys**, the first Polish church in America in Panna Maria, Texas.
- 30 1288. Death of **Leszek II the Black**.  
1831. A committee led by **James Fenimore Cooper** and **General Lafayette** was set up to provide aid for the Poles during the Polish Insurrection of 1830-31.
1881. Birth of **Henryk Moscicki**, Polish historian from the Second Republic period.
- 31 1918. Austrian Forces are removed from **Krakow**.

This paper mailed on or before **August 28, 2015**  
The October edition will be mailed on or before **October 1, 2015**.

## VIEWPOINT

## Election 2016: Are You Up to the Challenge?

In fourteen months, Americans will choose a new President. For the past two months, the *Polish American Journal* has asked how meaningful a role Polonia will play in that process. We identified two prerequisites to exercising any meaningful political influence: insuring our people have citizenship and are registered. Effective naturalization and voter registration campaigns need to be launched *now* if we are to play a role in that process.

Besides naturalization and registration, there's a need for a third pillar: information. Information is a two-way street: Polonia needs to know where the candidates stand, but the candidates also need to know where Polonia stands, what matters to Polish American voters.

Both parties marginalized European ethnic voters in 2008 and 2012. We need to get into the candidates' faces — in both parties — early. We offer two suggestions:

Our first suggestion is the need for Polish American media to get together to approach the candidates. Back in the 1990s, the Irish ethnic media

collectively pooled their reporters so that one united bloc faced the candidates.

No single Polish media outlet—newspaper, radio, or TV—is so important it can stand on its own before the U.S. Presidential candidates. We call on representatives from the leading Polish media—and we're ready to do this ourselves—to get together and come up with a pool of reporters and ask each primary candidate for an interview for American Polonia. Ideally, that should happen by New Year's Day. Absolutely it must happen no later than March 1, because in March voters pick candidates in several big Polish states: Illinois, Michigan, Ohio, and Massachusetts. Once both parties identify their candidates, that media pool ought to grill them again after the conventions.

And what are our issues? Visas: when and how will you make Poland a Visa Waiver country? Will you support temporary employment visas for Poles, like the E3 visa was a reward for Australia? Defense: Will you support missile deployment

in Poland? U.S. military bases there? Russia: How do you plan on dealing with an expansionist and revisionist Russia? (For Hillary Clinton: do you plan on another "reset" with Moscow?) What are you going

*It wouldn't be a bad idea to invite each and every major Party candidate to march up Fifth Avenue this October.*

to do about Russia's ongoing occupation of Ukraine? What will you do about Russian—and Chinese and North Korean—cyberattacks on other countries? Politics & Economics: Poland has traditionally been one of America's best friends in Europe. Will and how will you restore that relationship, making it more robust? How do you plan on expanding American trade and investment with Poland? Social Policy: Despite lots talk about "representativeness" and "diversity," Polish Americans are still underrepresented in government. How do you change that?

Our second suggestion is to develop a coordinated strategy to get political information out to voters. We need a "Polonia Votes" webpage where this information—kept truly current throughout the electoral season—is readily available. We'd love to see the Polish American Congress and other organizations start churning out newsletters. The minute the Republican and Democratic candidates are apparent, they ought to be invited—and expected—to show up in the New York Pulaski Day Parade as the beginning of Polish Heritage Month, when they should be expected to talk to our media about our issues. (Honestly, it wouldn't be a bad idea inviting each and every major Party candidate to march up Fifth Avenue *this* October. You can never have friends too early.)

We have no illusion that getting Polonia on the presidential candidates' radar won't be easy, but the task begins *now*. Poles have the numbers in enough states in a close election to make or break a candidate. Are we smart enough to capitalize on that?

## FORUM/ Anthony Bara

## Poland, the Linchpin of Europe

September is a very important month for Poland and all people with a Polish background. Two significant, yet contrasting, events occurred during this month in Polish history: the 1683 victory at Vienna, which halted the Ottoman Empire's advance into Europe and the 1939 conquest by Nazi Germany and Soviet Russia.

In both cases, Poland proved to be central in deciding Europe's fate, a centrality that is all-too-often overlooked in studies of European and global history.

During the decades leading up to the 1683 Battle of Vienna, the Muslim Ottoman Empire had gradually been eroding Christian power in southeastern Europe. The rivalry between Christianity and Islam had persisted for centuries, and both sides had committed horrible atrocities against each other. In the summer of 1683, the Turks set their sights on Vienna, which would serve as a gateway to conquer the rest of Europe.

For months, a massive Ottoman army of 150,000 laid siege to Vienna. The city's fortified walls and handful of brave Austrian defenders managed to impede the Turks from

attaining a quick victory, but by September it became clear that, bar some miracle, Vienna would fall.

Poland would provide the miracle. Polish King John III Sobieski had long feared Ottoman encroachment into Europe and recognized that if Vienna fell, Poland might be next, followed by the kingdoms of the west. In early September, Sobieski marched an army of 60,000 men toward Vienna to relieve the desperate defenders.

On Saturday, September 11th, Sobieski's forces, including his prized Winged Hussars, charged upon the dumbfounded Turkish camp from atop a ridge. The Ottomans were slaughtered, their leader Kara Mustafa Pasha, forced to flee for his life. After the victory, Sobieski wrote to the Pope, "We came, we saw, and God conquered."

**EXACTLY 256 YEARS LATER** in 1939, Poland's fortune would be the opposite. On September 1st, Nazi Germany invaded Poland with 40 infantry divisions and 14 mechanized divisions. They utilized a strategy called Blitzkrieg, which relied on an overwhelmingly fast-paced armored assault.

Although the Poles mobilized around 1,000,000 men, they were technologically outmatched, especially in armor. Furthermore, Germany's powerful air force wreaked havoc on Polish military establishments and transportation lines.

To make matters worse, the Soviet Union had allied with Nazi Germany and invaded Poland from the east on September 17th. Surrounded by two invading powers, it is amazing that Poland lasted as long as it did. The Polish army capitulated on October 5, which meant Poland had resisted for 35 days (bn comparison, France lasted about 45 days against Nazi Germany alone). The western powers failed to provide Poland with any significant military support, despite their promises to do so before the war. With Poland fell the flood gates, and the Nazis quickly went on to control or influence most of the European continent.

Although the results of these two historical events were drastically different, they share two major similarities: first, in both instances, Europe was threatened by an enemy bent on total conquest; and second, in both instances, Poland was among the first to fight this grave

threat, and the consequences of that struggle impacted Europe's overall fate.

**HAD POLAND FAILED** to halt the Turks at Vienna, Europe would have been vulnerable to further bloodshed and destruction. Similarly, had Poland succeeded in halting the Nazis, it would have interrupted Adolf Hitler's designs and possibly rallied the rest of Europe against him in a moment of weakness.

In that sense, Poland has been the historic linchpin of Europe. Its fate has been inextricably tied to the fate of the rest of the continent. This is in no small part due to Poland's central geographic location within Europe, which has time and again put it on the front lines of the immemorial struggle between east and west.

As Poles and people of Polish descent, we should be proud about our central place in history. At the same time, we should learn from our past and be prepared for the possibility of once again having to play a difficult, but crucial role in future events.

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## PAC Meets in Washington

*continued from cover*

U.S. senators in their offices on July 22 as part of Polonia's effort to gain assurances for the security of Poland by the U.S. and NATO Alliance — the latter in which Poland has been a member since 1999.

During a conference in the afternoon of July 22, the PAC directors were briefed on the inner workings of the U.S.-Poland relationship by Brittany Boulieu of the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Kyle Parker and Philip Bednarczyk of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, as well as by H. Martin McDowell, the deputy director in the Office for Central Europe in the Bureau for European and Eurasian Affairs at the Department of State.

Senator Charles Schumer (NY) addressed the group regarding his strong and continuing support for Poland and Poland's admission into the VWP. In addition, Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur (OH), Congressman Mike Quigley (IL), and Congressman Daniel Lipinski (IL) offered their insights to the PAC regarding these issues. Schumer, Kaptur, and Quigley were recognized with the organization's highest recognition — the Polish American Congress Medal of Freedom — for their many efforts on behalf of Poland and Polish American community.

On the final day of the meeting, Dr. Michael Carpenter, special advisor to Vice President Biden, addressed the group and among his comments, Carpenter unequivocally stated that "the United States will defend Poland and the U.S. will use all of its tools to defend its allies." Carpenter's remarks were followed by those of Mark Koumans, deputy assistant secretary for international affairs at the Department of Homeland Security, who briefed the group on the details and mechanism of U.S. Visa Waiver Program.

In addition to spending an advocacy day on Capitol Hill, PAC members had the opportunity to visit the Polish Embassy to hear the latest information on Poland's efforts to ensure its security, as well as to continue to strengthen its economy. Developing ways to increase Polish exports was of particular interest.

The Polish American Congress was established in 1944 and is a national umbrella organization representing more than 10 million Americans of Polish descent and origin. With 28 State Divisions and 18 National Member Organizations, the PAC has a presence nationwide.

For additional information about the Polish American Congress, please visit [www.pac1944.org](http://www.pac1944.org).

## Heritage Month: Time to Shine

*continued from cover*

American community and invite every one to attend. Following the Mass, hold a reception with Polish pastries and refreshments, welcoming all in the spirit of Polish hospitality.

**4. Sponsor an event to honor noted men and women of Poland.** During October we mark the death of American Revolutionary War hero General Casimir Pulaski on October 15th.

You can conduct a tribute ceremony in front of a portrait of Pulaski. You can also consider honoring people such as Ignacy Jan Paderewski, Fryderyk Chopin, Marie Skłodowska Curie and others.

**5. Encourage people to display Polish and American flags and Polish American Heritage Month posters in their homes, organizational headquarters, banks, businesses, etc.** Flags, posters and banners help bring attention to the fact that October is National Polish American Heritage Month and that Polonia is celebrating proudly. Sample posters are available from the Heritage Month link on the Museum's internet site at: [PolishAmericanCenter.com](http://PolishAmericanCenter.com)

**6. Sponsor a lunch or dinner social with Polish food, music and entertainment.**

### YOUTH ACTIVITIES

**1. Organize an essay contest in your local schools.** Complete information on sponsoring an essay contest is available from the Museum's internet site. You can award prizes during a school assembly or public event to encourage participation from parents and students alike. Ask local businesses and organizations to help sponsor the event and offer prizes.

This is also a way to involve local teachers as judges of the essay contest.

**2. Sponsor a coloring contest.** Art work samples are available upon request from the national committee or you can download coloring forms from the Museum's internet site. The coloring contest remains very popular in schools.

Ask local art students to organize and judge the entries. Ask a local printer to reprint the artwork for

your committee at no charge with the name of his business at the bottom as an advertisement.

**3. Sponsor a children's music or dance recital to highlight Polish music or dance in a local auditorium, school hall or recreation center.** There are children's groups that would appreciate this type of exposure.

It's a great way to get people together for a positive event involving young people. Invite the general public to attend.

**4. Sponsor a Polish poster art contest** requesting area schools to highlight Polish history and culture through student art. Display their art works and sponsor an award ceremony.

### CULTURAL DISPLAYS

Organize a display at your local shopping mall or library featuring Polish books, arts and crafts, wycinanki and paintings by Polish American artists.

Contact local artists and request them to display their works at the local library, parish hall, organization hall, public or office building lobby.

### FAMILY AND FRIENDS

**1. Start your family tree** and invite all the members of your family to get involved.

**2. Review a map of Poland** and learn more about the town or city of your ancestors.

**3. Read a book on Polish history** and share that information with family and friends.

**4. Attend a Polish American event** and invite others to attend with you.

**5. Display a Polish and American flag, a red and white bow, or a Heritage Month poster in your home or place of business.**

**6. Learn more about Polish customs** and share that information with others.

**7. Join a Polish American organization** and get involved in some way.

**FOR MORE IDEAS** and information, contact the Polish American Heritage Month Committee National Headquarters, Michael Blichasz, National Chairman, Polish American Cultural Center Museum, 308 Walnut St., Philadelphia, PA 19106; tel. (215) 922-1700; [www.polishamericancenter.org](http://www.polishamericancenter.org).

## WARSAW WATCH / Robert Strybel

### "PERIOD OF PEACE IS OVER" – POLISH DEFENSE MINISTER.

Polish Defense Minister Tomasz Siemoniak said recently the post-Cold War period of peace is "now over," as the European Union grapples with various crises. They include the Ukrainian conflicts terrorist threats and the humanitarian refugee crisis in the alongside NATO chief Jens Stoltenberg in the western city of Żagań where they attended the first full maneuvers of the alliance's new rapid-reaction force. The exercises, the biggest reinforcement of the NATO countries' collective defenses since the Cold War, followed Russia's announcement that it would boost its nuclear arsenal this year.

### ELECTIONEERING PRIME MINISTER PLAYS HEALTH CARD.

Prime Minister Ewa Kopacz, whose government's record in the health-care field has been mediocre or worse, has suddenly started noticing the shortcomings of the national health service. Electioneering ahead of October's election, which according to opinion polls her Civic Platform party is not favored to win, she has announced an interest-free loan of \$26 million for each of four main medical institutions: the Polish Mother's Health Center, the Children's Health Center, the Institute of Mother and Child and the University Children's Hospital in Kraków-Prokocim, popularly called "the American hospital." She added that the government would provide higher subsidies for other financially strapped hospitals treating the most serious diseases.

### POLAND WARNED AGAINST ATOMIC POWER.

Germany's Economy and Energy Minister Sigmar Gabriel has warned Poland against building nuclear powerplants on its territory. "If we consider the total investment, atomic powerplants are the costliest way of generating energy," he told a Polish-German Energy Forum recently. Gabriel called renewable energy sources such as sun and wind "an exceptional opportunity" compared to the cost of nuclear power. His country scrapped its atomic-energy plans following Japan's 2011 nuclear disaster and fears the results of a similar Polish accident would spill across the border into Germany. The

Polish government is going ahead with plans to build an atomic powerplant in Poland even though most Poles are opposed.

### POLAND LAUNCHES FIRST NEW NAVAL SHIP IN YEARS.

The Navy Yard in the Baltic Port of Gdynia was recently the scene of the first launching of a new naval vessel in years, a patrol ship christened the ORP *Ślązak*, Construction began back in 2001 when the vessel had been planned as a corvette named ORP *Gawron*. (ORP = Okręt Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej or Ship of the Republic of Poland.) Commentators have noted that Poland has the facilities needed build modern naval vessels but can do so only if the Defense Ministry lays out the cash. Poland's defense industry was criticized a recent decision to purchase French helicopters rather than those produced in Poland.

### WE SHOULD BE LIKE POLAND – UKRAINIAN PRESIDENT.

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko plans to present an amendment to his country's constitution patterned on the example of neighboring Poland. That would include Poland's experience with decentralization which brings the governing authorities closer to ordinary people. "Those reforms will strengthen Ukraine's unity and become an antidote to federalization," Poroshenko rejected the notion of federalization being forcefully promoted by Moscow which would give eastern Ukraine's break-away Donbas region a special status and effectively draw it into the Russian sphere of influence.

### POLES ADVISED AGAINST VISITING TUNISIA.

The Polish Foreign Ministry has reiterated its appeal urging Poles not to vacation in Tunisia where Muslim terrorists have been targeting foreign tourists. Poles have been among the victims of recent attacks. At a conference at the Ministry in Warsaw, Polish Deputy Foreign Minister Katarzyna Kacperczyk urged Tunisia's ambassador to Poland and other Tunisian officials to ensure better protection for resort areas visited by foreign tourists as well as transport infrastructure. The tourist industry, one of the mainstays of the Tunisian, has suffered as the terrorist attacks have scared many foreign visitors away.

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SYBIRACY / Stefania Borstowa

## Memories from Deportation to Kazakhstan – Friendship with Our Hosts

*Editor's note: As a result of the secret protocol of Ribbentrop-Molotov non-aggression pact, Poland was invaded from the west by Nazi Germany and later from the east by Soviet Russia in September 1939. The German attack to Poland on September 1, 1939 is also considered the beginning of the World War II. Although the attack by Germany was anticipated, the Soviet invasion (September 17) caught Poland and the Western world by surprise. The invasion of Poland from both sides concluded a fourth partition of Poland. The Soviet invasion was followed by massive involuntary deportations of the Polish population, especially so called "social enemies" to the East. This operation was done by NKVD and involved about one million people. The women and children were usually sent to the remote settlements of Siberia or Kazakhstan, while the men were sent to labor camps where they worked in inhuman conditions, and many died. The memoirs presented here depict very well the fate of these people through the example of one family, the Borsts.*

Since 1938, Stefania, along with her hus-



PHOTO: SYBIRACY.ORG

Poles living with Kazakh family.

band, Edward Borst and their two children, lived in Stanislawow, in the Southeastern part of Poland. Edward Borst came from an influential family of textile manufacturers from Zgierz (Lodz area). He was a Polish officer of the reserve. In 1939, his military unit was caught by Soviets during the attempt to cross to Romania after the Soviet invasion, and he was sent to a forced labor camp in Komi re-

public, where he later died of dysentery. occupied by other Polish families living with local Kazakhs families. Finally somebody showed to us a wooden house with the door glued with clay entering to the living room. The owners were ill, laying on the benches near the furnace. We were given this living room.

Our presence was a blessing for the owners, since Marysia was able slowly to help the

The first part described the deportation and travel to Kazakhstan.

Part II of III

After our Kazakh host died suddenly on the way to visit his daughter, Olga, his wife went into a rage. When we came back home with four buckets of wild strawberries picked up in the forest, we saw our belongings thrown outside of the home. We were homeless again.

We were far away from our home in Poland, in Krutoyarka, a small village somewhere in Kustanay region in Kazakhstan. We decided to walk to the village, but all quarters were

owners to heal their arthritic pains. Marysia treated them with the ointments that we had in Poland. Patients had to lay naked in the sun or on the nettles, with their skin oiled. It was a good treatment. After two months they were able to walk and work again.

The room which we were given had three windows, a wooden ceiling and floor and was full of bugs. After one full week of hard work we removed the old plaster from the walls and prepared 120 buckets of clay to cover the walls. Then we bleached the walls with chalk tinged with indelible pencil (what a pretty color!). We literally burned out all the crevices with naphtha (petroleum). At the end we cleaned the rest of the house and the bugs disappeared.

We lived in this house two years. We developed a deep friendship with the host family and we did lots of good acts to each other. These were noble people and we owe them a lot.

continued next month

Baba Jaga Corner: Visit Jaga Polish Culture Website at: [www.polishsite.us](http://www.polishsite.us)

## Duda: "Poland — not only symbolically, but also geopolitically — has moved from East to West."

continued from cover

tion government has steadfastly justified its raising of the retirement age as an essential measure to combat Poland's demographic crisis.

He called for mutual respect, which, as he put it, is the key to repairing Poland.

"This respect must be the cornerstone of the community," Duda said, adding that he believes in a constructive cooperation with the government, the Sejm and the Senate.

**OFFICIAL DUTIES.** While in the Parliament, the President laid flowers at the plaques commemorating Polish parliamentarians who perished during World War II and those who were killed, along with the president and other high-ranking officials, in the plane crash in Russia in April 2010.

From the Parliament, the president and the First Lady proceeded to St. John's Cath-

edral to attend Mass, which was celebrated by Archbishop Stanislaw Gadecki, Head of the Polish Bishops' Conference, together with the Primate of Poland Wojciech Polak, Kazimierz Cardinal Nycz of Warsaw and the Papal Nuncio Archbishop Migliore.

Later in the day, during a ceremony in front of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Warsaw, Andrzej Duda took over command of the armed forces.

He is the sixth Polish president since the country embarked on the path of democratic transformations in the summer of 1989.

Duda told the Sejm that Poland's foreign policy should "not be a revolution, but it needs correction and an increase in activity."

"This correction is talking about our goals, our aspirations, presenting our point of view

### Polonian Masses Congratulate New President: You Can, Too

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Polonian activists in our nation's capital have begun a grass roots initiative to sign a congratulatory letter to new Polish president Andrzej Duda. The letter will be presented to Duda, likely during his visit to the UN in September. "We want to show that Polonia still has not perished and to let Poland know that we still care," said one organizer. To sign the letter contact John Armstrong at: [jlowellarmstrong@yahoo.com](mailto:jlowellarmstrong@yahoo.com).

in a calm but firm and unambiguous manner, by communicating this to our international partners," the president said.

On the international arena over the last 26 years Poland has enjoyed two

great successes, according to Duda: membership of NATO and the EU.

"Thanks to these events, Poland — not

only symbolically, but also geopolitically — has moved from East to West."

"European cohesion must be constructed in such a way that Polish affairs are also taken into account," he said. "In this way, we should build the unity of NATO," the newly sworn in president continued.

Duda stressed the importance of building a strong and well-equipped army and pledged cooperation with the minister of defense. "But it will also be active. I believe that we can work together for the good of the Republic in this field."

"Here one has to put the matter clearly — we need more guarantees from NATO, not only we as Poland, but the whole of Central and Eastern Europe in the current difficult geopolitical situation. We need a greater NATO presence in this part of Europe, including in our country," Duda said.

—Radio Poland

## Aronia: Berries are used in shakes, smoothies, and with cereal

continued from cover

with their business. Chicago's Ewa Bielska, licensed esthetician and owner of beauty salon BioLife Organic Spa, focuses on health. "I picked the berries, because they're natural produce, very healthy and very beneficial to the skin and healthy living," she says. "I put them in the freezer and have a few in the morning with a shake."

Agnieszka Ostrowska-Walawski, an Arlington Heights distributor for Forever Living.com LLC, who also froze berries, made juice. "Every day I have a shake or smoothie," she reports, "all different kinds." She makes her smoothies with aronia, other fruits and green vegetables.

"My eight year old son doesn't like smoothies," she remarks. "I use a Forever Living product for him, a vanilla shake with banana, strawberry and aronia."

Magda Urbaniak of River Grove froze her berries and blended some of them with pears in preserves. Also, she says, "I'm eating them every day with my cereal. Plain."

**THE FARM.** Nestled in the Kankakee River Valley outside of Momence, Coldbrook Farm ([ColdbrookFarm.net](http://ColdbrookFarm.net)) grows aronia in America's heartland, surrounded by sod, corn and soybeans. The grower, John Pilcher, left his family farm in western Illinois for college. He couldn't get the farm out of his system.

While living in Seattle, he encountered a wide range of food crops and fell for berries of all kinds. He learned about aronia berries after returning to Illinois. Their uniqueness intrigued him. They'd been grown commercially in the United States for only about 20 years. He bought some land, planted aronia bushes in 2009 and installed drip irrigation to assure table quality fruit.



PHOTO: COLDBROOK FARM, INC.

**CHICAGO-AREA RESIDENTS** Magdalena Fraczek (left), Krystyna Ostrowska (center) and Agnieszka Ostrowska-Walawski (right) show their bounty from picking aronia in the rain at Coldbrook Farm in Momence, Ill.

Unlike most farms in Poland and the U.S., his non-GMO fruit grows sustainably, with no herbicides or synthetic insecticides.

**THE POLISH CONNECTION.** Three years ago, Grazyna Muszynska of Barrington was searching

the web for aronia and found Coldbrook Farm. She bought a case of frozen berries for juice. Last summer she called again to ask if she could pick fresh aronia with friends. When she arrived, she walked over to a bush, picked a berry to taste and smiled.

Muszynska's first group included eight friends, thrilled to know about self-pick aronia close to Chicago. Seven of them, Polish-born, had eaten aronia in their first country; some had picked there.

The guests had their choice of berries, acres of them. Everyone, bright orange bucket in hand, chose the younger patch. The men and women teamed and talked as berries fell into the buckets. They spoke Polish the entire time, enjoying the moment. One woman kicked off her sandals and walked barefoot between the rows.

The picking lasted three hours. Afterward, everyone stood around in a circle, sharing Polish deli meats and cheese and their beloved first language. Some of the guests proved to be serious pickers. Two left the field with 60 pounds; a third, with 30.

One woman said she'd dried aronia. She didn't know that everyone would be leaving with a small tub of Coldbrook Farm's own dried sweetened aronia berries to remember their visit.

Before they packed up and went home, Pilcher promised the ones who return this year a discount if they bring a friend. The friend will also receive the discount.

The next day, Muszynska emailed that she had a group of 20 or 25 who'd like to come. "What do you think?" she asked.

They, too, would have a Polish moment and put aronia on the table — and in the freezer!

### The Next "Superfruit"

Aronia (*Photinia melanocarpa*, formerly *Aronia melanocarpa*) is commonly known as "black chokeberry," although the preferred common name used by individuals who sell the berries or products made from them is "aronia berry" or simply "aronia," said Joe M. Hannan, commercial horticulture field specialist at Iowa State University Extension and Outreach.

Although the perennial shrub is native to the eastern United States, it has been grown as a commercial berry crop in most Eastern European countries since the 1950s. Large-scale commercial cultivation of aronia started in the Soviet Union in the late 1940s as a means for producing their own source of vitamin C and reached 43,984 acres in 1984. According to the Polish Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development in Warsaw, there were 11,119 acres in Poland in 2004. One year later the number had grown to 12,355 acres. One Polish company alone sold 40,000 tons of aronia juice in Europe, new business startups that use aronia berries as an ingredient have increased from just two launches in 1997 to 108 in 2007.

Europeans, and Poles in particular, enjoy juice made from the plant's berries for its antioxidants, which are greater than those found in cranberry, blueberry, strawberry, cherry, pomegranate, goji, and mangosteen extracts.

## APAC Unveils New Webpage

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The American Polish Advisory Council, a bipartisan, non-profit organization, which works to represent political interests of the Polish American community, has unveiled its new webpage at [www.americanpolishadvisorycouncil.org](http://www.americanpolishadvisorycouncil.org).

The website embodies technology to connect with and engage users and deliver information in an easy to navigate format, optimized for smart phone and tablet access. Users will find information on past and upcoming events such as the 2015 annual conference which takes place in Washington, D.C. on October 10 of this year, as well as issues being undertaken by the organization such as Poland's inclusion in the Visa Waiver Program.

"The new website is part of our strategy to position and grow our organization but also to support our mission of strengthening the political voice and influence of Polish Americans," said Darek Barcikowski, executive director.

APAC President Gen. Edward Rowny (ret.), said the launch coincides with the opening of registration for the 2015 APAC Annual Conference. "We are also in the midst of a tremendous undertaking to build support for the US Visa Waiver for Poland, an effort that we need the entire community to join. The new webpage enables users to do just that: to get updated on the issue and to get engaged," he said.

## Planning Stages



**THE FULTON POLISH FEST COMMITTEE** is hard at work, planning the 10th Annual Polish Fest for 2015. This year's event will be on Saturday, September 19, from noon to 7:00 p.m. at the Fulton Polish Home, 153 West First Street South (Rte 48).

As in previous years, the Fest will have a live polka band, Polish and American Food, and Polish beer on tap. Admission is free and proceeds benefit the Polish Home Building Fund.

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

Pictured are (l. to r.): Dora Roik; Bob Pietrucha; Nancy James; John Kruk; Holly Carpenter; and Bob Vayner.

## Styka Exhibit and Sale

DOYLESTOWN, Pa. — The Polish Heritage Society of Philadelphia in cooperation with the Pauline Fathers of the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa will be holding its 37th Annual Adam Styka Art Exhibit and Sale at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa, in the Art Exhibit Room (gift-shop building, lower level)

located in Doylestown. This exhibit takes place concurrently with the Shrine's Polish Festival and Country Fair. Exhibit dates: Labor Day Weekend: September 5, 6, 7 and 12, 13, 2015.

All are welcome. For more information, contact Marie Hejnosz at (215) 487-0221 or email [hejnosz@gmail.com](mailto:hejnosz@gmail.com).

## SPOTLIGHT ON LONG ISLAND / Barbara Szydowski

## Matki Boskiej Zielnej, September 8

Are you aware September was originally, the seventh month of the Roman year and was named after the number seven? It was a time to finish harvesting and to celebrate the results. The Polish word for September is *wrzesień*.

**MATKI BOSKIEJ ZIELNEJ.** As summer comes to an end, the Polish "Feast of Greenery" (Matki Boskiej Zielnej) takes place on September 8. The farm folks bring to church great bouquets of herbs, vegetables and corn, along with a few flowers from the field and garden, which are the blessed by the priest. These bouquets are carried home and kept until the same day of the following year. When sickness occurs in the household, the herbs are brewed and used for medicinal purposes

**LET US ALWAYS REMEMBER.** I was only a child learning to walk and talk when the Second World War began. On September 1, 1939, Hitler's Germany attacked Poland without a declaration of war. The country and its military were not prepared, and Poland was overrun after a month of valiant struggle against overwhelming odds. During this tragic month, Soviet troops entered the eastern territories of Poland on the 17th. The two powers, carrying out a prior secret pact, left Poland partitioned until June 21, 1941, when the Third Reich attacked the USSR. Once again Poland ceased to exist as an independent state.

**SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS.** Congratulations to the following recipients of scholarships:

A \$500 scholarship, presented by the American Polish Association of Professional/Business Men and Women (AMPOLA), was given to **Peter Levchuck**, who will be entering the University of Syracuse in the fall;

The Polish American Museum



"W święto Matki Boskiej Zielnej" ("On the Feast of Greenery") by Aleksander Kotsis 1869. Oil on canvas. National Museum, Wrocław.

Founders Scholarship of \$500 was awarded to **Daniel Walocha**, who will be attending Stony Brook College of Arts & Sciences;

The General Pulaski Foundation of Port Washington awarded a \$500 scholarship to **Mathew Lelonek**, who will enter the University of Albany, and;

The Polish American Cultural Association awarded a \$1000 scholarship to **Mateusz Majka**, who will be attending the University of Massachusetts. A special \$250 Founders Scholarship was awarded to **Mateusz Wysock**, who will enter Macaulay College at Queens College.

**CONCERT FOR GRANDPARENTS.** Grandparents Day is Sunday, September 13 and the Polish American Museum will be honoring *babcie* and *dziadkowie* with a Fall Musical Concert, featuring the Paderewski Quartet. Grandparents are important, for they do play a vital role in our lives. In 1979 President Jimmy Carter proclaimed the first Sunday after Labor Day each year as National Grandparents Day.

The Paderewski Quartet of four young ladies was founded in 2011

by students of the Ignacy Jan Paderewski Polish Supplementary School in Glen Head, Long Island. The Quartet has performed in various cultural institutions including the Consulate General of the Republic of Poland as well as Carnegie Weill Hall and in the 2014 Lincoln Center Concert Festival Winners Recital.

The program for September 13 will feature the music of Bach, Chopin, Beethoven and Mozart.

**MUSINGS.** The *Military Heritage* magazine's September issue features an article by Alex Zakrzewski, "Polish Cavalry in World War II." This is a good magazine if you are interested in military history.

Recently at the local public library a lunch concert featured pianist Matthew Harrison and Vlada Yaneva who entertained the audience by performing the music of Johannes Brahms, Karol Szymanowski, Antonin Dvorak and Gyorgy Ligeti ... While in New York City, I attended the Polish National Ballet at the Joyce Theatre, which was, for me, too modern. The dancers performed three ballets, wore non-descript dark attire, and the music and lighting at times was dark.

**OF INTEREST.** In 1972, **Richard Nixon** became the first U.S. president to visit Poland ... **Captain Constantine Bandowski** born in 1822 became the first foreign-born Union officer to die in the Civil War, on May 26, 1861 ... On April 20, 1834 President Andrew Jackson signed a bill giving land in Illinois to **Polish immigrants** ... **Walter (Danilowski) Dana** was born in 1902 and died 2000. His Dana record label was home to Polish classical, opera, comedy, and polka recordings ... **Stan Coveleski**, born 1890, was the first American League pitcher inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame. He died in 1984.

Please help us help our own community. Join the ...

## PAJF Polish American Journal Foundation

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

As a national newspaper serving Polish immigrants and their descendants since 1911, the Polish American Journal has a unique perspective on the shortfalls — primarily funding — that have prevented many great projects from getting off the ground. We also have grown increasingly frustrated to see students — future leaders, who are passionate about Polonia — seek other areas of study because they could not secure something as simple as airfare to study in Poland or abroad.

Likewise, we see so many talented academicians, scholars, artists, folk groups — the list goes on — whose special projects or areas of study have been dropped for lack of funds. In many cases, state or federal arts or cultural



funding is available, but these groups cannot afford processing fees to meet application requirements. It is time to start helping our own.

**Your tax-deductible donation to the Polish American Journal Foundation supports our efforts to keep the Polish American community strong for generations to come.**

**MEMBERSHIP.** Donations are accepted in any amount. All donations will be acknowledged and may be used as charitable contributions on your tax return. As a member, you can suggest any worthwhile cause: a donation to a local Polish American museum; veteran's group; scholarship fund; dance group, etc. Our board reviews these suggestions and creates a ballot of the most-requested causes/recipients, which will then be voted on by current members. (Membership is yearly, starting with the date of your most recent donation). All members reserve the right to abstain from being a voting member.

Since 1911, the Polish American Journal has been an advocate for Poles and their descendants in the United States. Help us utilize over 100 years of the Polish American experience to support those who share our core values of strong family, faith, and community.

**OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS.** Eugene Trela, Cleveland, Ohio; Ben Stefanski II, Cleveland, Ohio; MaryLou Wyrobek, Buffalo, N.Y.; Mark A. Kohan, President, Buffalo, N.Y.; and Kathleen Bruno, Secretary, Buffalo, N.Y.

**PRIVACY.** The PAJF is the sole owner of the information provided by its members. The PAJF will not sell, share, or rent this information to others. It will be used solely for record-keeping and correspondence.

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**POLISH CHILDREN'S HEARTLINE** (a non-profit corporation, State of New Jersey) begins its 30th year of helping children. An all volunteer non-profit organization receiving generous donations from Polonia and American supporters makes it possible for over 2000 Polish children to be treated annually by cardiac surgeons and physicians in hospitals in Poland. As requested, equipment critical to pediatric care is provided to six hospitals in Zabrze, Katowice, Lodz, Suwalki, Bialystok and Grajewo. Contributions may be made in memory of and/or honor of family and friends. Each donation is tax exempt and acknowledged. We thank you for your support and ask for your continued support for much help is still needed. "If we don't help our Polish children, who will?" —Doreen Patras Cramer, President

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

RELIGION / Benjamin Fiore, S.J.

## Minister of Culture Visits Orchard Lake's Polish Mission

Madam Professor Malgorzata Olmilanowska, minister of culture of the Republic of Poland, made a special trip to Orchard Lake, Mich., July 23, 2015. The Polish Mission there was honored as recipients of the Gloria Artis (gold) medal for the promotion and preservation of Polish heritage and culture.

The Polish Mission and the Orchard Lake Schools is the only organization in the United States that has received the highest level of this medal.

Mission Director Marcin Chumiecki, and The Polish Mission team welcomed the Minister to Orchard Lake on July 23 for a behind-the-scenes tour of the campus. Chumiecki showed Olmilanowska programming at PARI in the Fr. Wotta Building, and visiting archivist Tomasz Szpil discussed some of our most valuable collections in the archives.

Olmilanowska, welcomed attendees to the exclusive showing of Po Prostu (Simply) PINK in the Galleria. She spoke about the importance of remembering and preserving the past, but also how beautiful it is to celebrate the future.

**ST. JOHN PAUL II EXHIBIT IN THE VATICAN.** The late saint pontiff's friendship with the Jewish people, with particular emphasis on his childhood friend **Jerzy Kluger**, is the subject of a four-section, multisensory exhibit. After touring 18 locations in the United States, the exhibit, curated by James Buchanan of Xavier University in Cincinnati and William Madges of St. Joseph's Univ. in Philadelphia, was installed in the Braccio di Carlo Magno, the left-side corridor of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. The installation in the Vatican honors the 50th anniversary of the promulgation of Vatican II's *Nostra Aetate*, which marked a new era in Catholic-Jewish relations. St. John Paul II cemented those relations during his long pontificate. The idea for the exhibition was presented to St. John Paul II to honor his 85th birthday. He died before it was completed and presented. To date more than one million people have viewed the exhibit.



**GLORIA ARTIS PRESENTED.** Pictured above are (l. to r.): Dr. Stan Majewski, chairman of The Polish Mission Board; Lud Koci, chairman of the Board of Regents; Professor Olmilanowska, minister of culture of the Republic of Poland; Msgr. Thomas Machalski, chancellor and rector of the Orchard Lake Schools; and Marcin Chumiecki, director of The Polish Mission.

**NAZI ERA-CRIME SUSPECT'S CASE SHELVED.** German prosecutors have suspended their war crimes investigation of a retired Minnesota carpenter, exposed as a former commander in an SS-led unit. As commander of a unit of the SS-led Ukrainian Self Defense Legion, the 96-year-old **Michael Karkoc** is reported to have ordered the attack on a Polish village in which dozens of civilian were killed. He concealed his membership in the Self-Defense Legion when he entered the US in 1949. While the German authorities concluded that Karkoc is not fit to stand trial because of his age, a parallel Polish investigation remains ongoing and the Simon Wiesenthal Center has criticized the U.S. government for failing to take action on deportation proceedings. **Andrzej Arseniuk** of the Polish State National Remembrance Institute noted that he is waiting for assistance from the U.S. authorities to verify Karkoc's handwriting. His family denies any involvement of his in war crimes.

**FATHERHOOD WORKSHOP IN**

**TORONTO.** Three Knights of Columbus Councils in Toronto, Cardinal Wyszynski #9296, Maximilian Kolbe #9612 & Eugene Mazenod #12916 invited **Dr. Dariusz Cupial** from Poland to host a two-day intensive workshop on fatherhood. Dr. Cupial is founder of TATO.net, an organization that helps "fathers be better fathers." The workshop focused on the book *7 Secrets of Effective Fatherhood* by Ken Canfield.

**JOHN PAUL II INSTITUTE GRADUATES.** Advanced degrees in theology were awarded to 20 graduates of the Pontifical John Paul II Institute for Studies on Marriage and Family. The institute is located at Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C.

**STO LAT TO ... Sr. M. Johnice Rzdakiewicz, CSSF,** on being awarded the Magis Medal by the Jesuit Honor Society Alpha Sigma Nu in recognition for her living out Jesuit values in the world in an inspiring way. Sr. Johnice runs Buffalo's response to Love Center, which offers food, clothing, high

school equivalency programs, English language instruction, and other services to the needy on Buffalo's East side.

**Zachary Naternak**, a sophomore at Buffalo's Bishop Timon-St. Jude HS, on receiving the Fr. Len Memorial Scholarship. The scholar (National Honor Society, Academic All Star) – Athlete (JV soccer, hockey, baseball and crew) also belongs to the Franciscan Men of Service Club, belongs to the International Club and is a Student Ambassador, as well as the Health Care and Career Academy. He enjoys cheering on his sister as a supporter of the Polish Heritage Dancers of Western N.Y.

**Maren Lelonek and Janine Steinhauer**, the first graduates of Chesterton Academy located in the former St. Josaphat School in Cheektowaga, N.Y. **Fr. Richard Poblacki**, pastor of St. Josaphat's Parish, praised the graduates and the schools on their accomplishments and on the blending of academics and faith. The school, which opened in 2013, will have 36 students in the fall and boasts a curriculum which includes four years of philosophy and a classic education model with Latin, Music, Art, Debate, and Drama. For more information go to [www.buffalochestertonacademy.org](http://www.buffalochestertonacademy.org) and [www.facebook.com/buffalochesterton](http://www.facebook.com/buffalochesterton).

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO...** Franciscan Sisters of St. Joseph in Hamburg, N.Y., celebrating 50 years in the religious life: **Sr. M. Andrea Ciszewski, Sr. Carol Claire Czyzewski, Sr. Geraldine Kaczynski, Sr. Bernadette Okulicz, & Sr. Constance Santilla.** The jubilarians served in Western New York, Detroit, Springfield, Mass., and Brazil.

**Holy Mother of the Rosary PNCC Cathedral** in Lancaster, N.Y., celebrating 100 years of affiliation with the Polish National Catholic Church. The parish was founded in 1895, before the beginning of the PNCC. **Bishop Thaddeus Peplowski, pastor emeritus,** updated the parish's history and presented his findings at the anniversary celebration.

**NO TIME FOR RABBLE.** Albert Einstein once wrote a letter to rising science phenomenon **Marie Sklodowska Curie** that she shouldn't bother with small-minded folks who obsess in criticizing her.

"I am impelled to tell you how much I have come to admire your intellect, your drive, and your honesty, and that I consider myself lucky to have made your personal acquaintance in Brussels," Einstein wrote from Prague to Curie in Paris, Nov. 23, 1911.

"Anyone who does not number among these reptiles is certainly happy, now as before, that we have such personages among us as you, and Langevin too, real people with whom one feels privileged to be in contact. If the rabble continues to occupy itself with you, then simply don't read that hogwash, but rather leave it to the reptile for whom it has been fabricated."

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## Mass Mob

continued from cover

and Packard — the noon Mass brings in an average 200 people, which looks sparse for a building that seats 1,500. Thom Mann, an organizer with Detroit Mass Mob who's not a regular at St. Florian, had to get here early because, he says, "there'll be standing room only."

"People are upset that the churches are closing, but the simple reason is, people don't go," Mann says.

Detroit Mass Mob started after Mann saw an article about the Mass Mobs being held in Buffalo. The first event in Detroit drew 150 people. The next had 400. Nine hundred people came to the third Mass. Then they started looking for bigger churches.

At the Mass Mob at St. Florian, 2,000 people showed up.

The priest, the Rev. Mirek Frankowski, who also doubles as music director, said the crowd nearly brought him to tears.

"Because, I mean, such a big crowd, it's impossible to see these days in any of the churches. But thanks to the Mob Mass we have this feeling of what it was so many years ago, when the churches were filled with people."

Last month, 1,468 attendees packed St. Josaphat for a Noon Mass. Donations totaled \$13,550.00. The previous week's total was \$886.00.

The church's iconic steeple was recently rebuilt following storm damage that almost forced its closure.

In Buffalo, Buffalo Mass Mob XII celebrated the feast of Our Lady of Czestochowa at Corpus Christi Church in Buffalo's Historic Polonia District. Other Polonian parishes to benefit from the Mass Mobs were Assumption in the city's Blackrock section, St. John Kanty on the East Side, and St. Casimir's, in once-Polonian stronghold of Kaisertown.

The next event in Detroit will be September 13, at St. Hedwig's, 3245 Junction, for a noon service.

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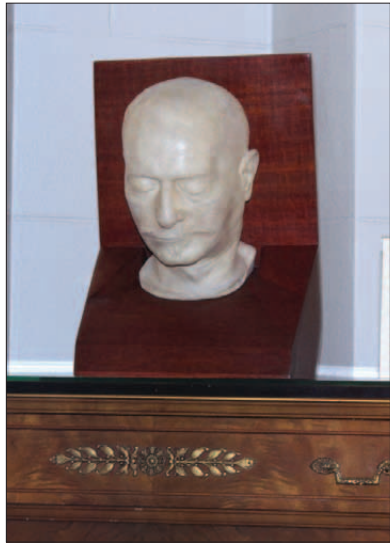
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## HAPPENINGS: CHICAGO STYLE / Geraldine Balut Coleman

## Paderewski Death Mask Part of PMA Permanent Collection

PHOTO: GERALDINE BALUT COLEMAN



Paderewski death mask.

CHICAGO — The Polish Museum of America (PMA) is pleased to announce an addition to its Ignacy Paderewski Room: The Death Mask of Ignacy Jan Paderewski, created by sculptor, Malvina Hoffman in 1941.

In April 2013, Martin Skoble contacted the PMA to inquire whether the museum would be interested in accepting Paderewski's Death Mask. The PMA graciously accepted this gift and waited for its arrival. The mask, donated by Martin Skoble and Gabrielle Howard, arrived at the PMA on January 23, 2014. However, the PMA had to wait to open the parcel. For preservation purposes, the mask had to be acclimated to the temperature and environment of the museum. The PMA staff noticed some staining and cracking, and the PMA contacted Inez Litas of the Litas Liparini Restoration Studio. She recommended that some conservation was needed. A PMA supporter, Ludwika Rozwadowska, agreed to sponsor the needed conservation. The Death Mask is now on display in the renovated state-of-the-art Paderewski Room.

Hoffman was a well-known New York based sculptor. She had been commissioned by Chicago's Field Museum of Natural History to cre-

ate bronze sculptures for part of its permanent exhibit: The Hall of the Races of Man. These sculptures were also featured at the 1933 Chicago World's Fair.

As Paderewski's friend, Hoffman had previously created four sculptures of him. In 1922, she sculpted three bronze pieces: Paderewski, the Statesman; Paderewski, the Artist; and Paderewski, the Man. In 1923, a fourth sculpture was created from plaster called Paderewski, the Friend. Hoffman also created a bronze sculpture of Paderewski's hand, which can be seen on his Steinway piano in the Paderewski Room.

Interestingly, the plaster cast of the Death Mask was the intended first step for Hoffman's final bronze sculpture: Paderewski – The Last Phase. This bronze creation had a tragic ending. It was aboard the MV Paderewski, an unescorted Polish cargo ship, which was torpedoed by a U-214 German submarine on December 30, 1942, about 40 miles off the coast of Trinidad.



(l. to r.): Drago, Barabieda, Nagel, Konrad Zielinski, and Rich Owsiany.

**SUPPORTING ULTRA-TRIATHLON AT PMA.** On July 26, The Polish Museum of America (PMA), the Tatra Mountain Cultural Foundation, and the Polish Consulate in Chicago welcomed U.S. Navy Seal Team 7 member, **Bradley Nagel**, to discuss his upcoming participation in an ultra-triathlon, "From the Baltic Coast to the High Tatra Mountains: A Triathlon Across the Length

of Poland!" This PMA event was held to help defray some of the costs of this endeavor that is scheduled to begin on August 1.

Guests had the opportunity to meet Nagel, who spoke about SEAL training and military missions, and with **Colonel Gregory Barabieda**, the national liaison representative at the Allied Command, who spoke of the cooperative efforts of the Polish Armed Forces in NATO.

Also appearing at this event was Polish American, **Thomas Drago**, a former U.S. Special Forces commando, who, from 2005-2008, was a SEAL instructor. During his deployment and with his camera on his helmet, he documented some combat actions while participating with Polish soldiers of the Thunder Unit in 2003 - 2005. He presented this short film at the PMA.

The triathlon was organized by KRS Formoza. Participants from various branches of the Polish Armed Special Forces, including commandos, as well as members of the U.S. Navy Seals, will swim 18km from Hel down the Gulf of Gdansk to

Gdynia, cycle from Gdynia to Morskie Oko in Zakopane, and finally climb Rysy, the highest peak in Poland's Tatra Mountains. The triathlon will conclude with a ceremony unveiling a commemorative plaque honoring the fifth anniversary of the tragic death of General Włodzimierz Potasiński, former Commander of Poland's Special Forces, at Smolensk.

Sports memorabilia was auctioned off during the event, including autographed items from **Marcin Gortat**, NBA star with the Washington Wizards. Gortat is a spokesperson for Poland's KRS Formoza, as well as an honorary patron of the triathlon.

KRS Kormoza is a non-profit organization comprised of current and former soldiers of Poland's Formoza military unit whose goal is to help soldiers wounded in action.

**SMOLIGA SECURES A PAN AM SILVER MEDAL.** Winning the silver medal in the women's 100-meter backstroke at the Pan American Games in Toronto certainly gave a morale boost to **Olivia Smoliga** of Glenview, Illinois and the Univer-

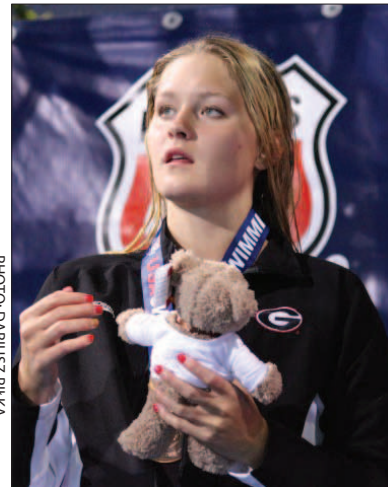


PHOTO: GRIFFIN SCOTT

Smoliga at 2014 Phillips 66 Games. On July 17, Smoliga, a college junior, won the silver medal with a time of 1:00.06 minutes. Brazil's Etienne Medeiros won the gold. This was the only event Olivia swam at the Pan Am Games, and, with this win, she is ranked 21st in the world.

Having been struck with mononucleosis before the 2014 Phillips 66 National Championships, she did not perform well there or at the 2015 NCAA tournament. However, her fifth best time in the 100-meter backstroke qualified her for a position on the national swim team,

and, subsequently, qualified her for the 2015 Pan American Games. In 2012, Olivia was the world champion in the backstroke and a 2014 NCAA champion in the 50-meter freestyle.

Smoliga said, "The one thing I want to take away from it (the Pan Am Games) most is kind of a confidence boost. I really want to go in there and feel how I used to feel, when I used to travel and go to these big meets – walk on deck with my head held high, and really just feel like I can do anything."

**POLAND'S MINISTER OF CULTURE VISITS UNITED STATES.**

On July 22, **Małgorzata Omilanowska**, minister of culture and national heritage of Poland, along with **Urszula Śluzak**, director of the Department of International Relations, and **Jacek Miler**, director of Department of Cultural Heritage, had the opportunity to meet with the Polish American community, not only at the Polish Consulate in Chicago, but also with the Polish communities in Michigan and New York. While in Chicago, Omilanowska visited The Polish Museum of America, the Chopin Theatre, and the Art Institute of Chicago. She also had the opportunity to visit and view the statues of Thaddeus Kościuszko and Nicolas Copernicus, located on Chicago's Solidarity Drive. Omilanowska toured St. Stanislaus Kostka and Holy Trinity churches, Chicago's two oldest Polish churches, which were built through the efforts of Polish immigrants.

On July 23, Omilanowska met with representatives of Michigan Polonia. She awarded the Orchard Lake Schools the Gold Medal "Gloria Artis" for the school's contributions to preserving, promoting, and protecting Polish heritage and culture. (See accompanying story on page 6).

Omilanowska then went on to visit New York and its large Polish American community.

## POLONIA OF THE EASTERN GREAT LAKES / Michael Pietruszka

## How Good Are Your Pierogi?

BUFFALO, N.Y. — A delegation from WNY, which included **Polish American Congress WNY** President Richard Solecki, Polish Singers Alliance of America President Mary Lou Wyrobek, and Polish American Congress WNY Directors Richard Mazella and Steve Flor, recently took part in a Polish American Congress sponsored visit to the offices of congressional leaders in Washington, D.C. to secure their support for the inclusion of Poland in the U.S. Visa Waiver Program, and to honor Sen Charles Schumer for his support of causes important to the Polonia Community.

**TIDBITS.** Members of **Buffalo-Rzeszow Sister Cities, Inc., Pomost International** and any individuals interested in learning about and fostering a cooperative relationship between Buffalo and Rzeszow can now join a Facebook group, "Buffalo-Rzeszow Solidarity Group" ... Chicago's "D Street Band," Polish beer and pro-biotic coolers were featured at the "Shishkababa & Kaiserbob Polka Fest" which was held at **St. Casimir Parish** in Buffalo's Kaisertown neighborhood on August 1 ... Also on the 1st, the Polish Union of America held its Annual Family Picnic at Centennial Park in

West Seneca ... The **Canadian Polish Congress** presented its "Polish Day in Mississauga 2015" at John Paul II Polish Cultural Centre on the 5th ... The Buffalo Bisons baseball team hosted its annual "**Polish Festival Night**" at Coca-Cola Field in Downtown Buffalo on August 11. The team recognized retired NYS Appellate Division Judge and Chopin Singing Society President Ann Mikoll as the Polish-American-of-the-Year, and Pauly Kwiatkowski of Arty's Tavern in Buffalo's Historic Polonia District with the Community Leadership Award.

The **Pulaski Police Association** of Buffalo and Western New York hosted its Annual Family Picnic at Como Park in Lancaster on August 5 ... **St. Stanislaus Kostka Church** in Rochester held its Polish Arts Festival on the parish grounds on August 7 and 8 ... The **Polish Consul General** in Toronto presented a program, "Jestem Poeta: Tadeusz Rozewicz" featuring performances by Maria Nowotarska, Agata Pilitowska and Krzysztof Jasinski, at the consulate on August 13.

The WNY Division of the Polish American Congress held its "**18th Annual Polish Remembrance Day**" observance, remembering and honoring Polish victims of the Na-

zis and Communists, at the St. Stanislaus Cemetery in Cheektowaga on August 15 ... **SWAP Post 114** from Toronto hosted "Dzien Zolnierza Polskiego" at Paderewski Park in Vaughn, Ontario on the 16th ... **Holy Trinity Parish** in Erie, Pa., held its 22nd Annual Zabawa on the parish grounds the weekend on August 21 through 23. Entertainment included the Polka Family Band, Polka Country Musicians, Mar-Vels, Knewz, and Wiwaty Folk Dancers ... The 27th Annual **OWL Family Picnic** took place at the Lamm Post in Williamsville on August 23.

**UPCOMING.** Arts Services Initiative of Western New York Executive Director **Tod Kniazuk** was selected to be one of 20 top-level arts executives chosen to consider the future of arts administration at the Americans for the Arts Executive Leadership Forum to be held in September in Sundance, Utah ... The 24th Annual "**Farewell to Summer**" benefit for Ss. Cyril & Methodius Seminary in Orchard Lake, Michigan, will be held at the Millennium Hotel on September 10 ... The **General Pulaski Association** will honor educators of Polish descent at its dinner at the Creekside Banquet Facility in Cheektowaga on September 11 ...

**Kyle Kohan**, an instrumental music teacher, retired after 30 years of service in the Frontier Central School District.

The Hamilton Branch of the Canadian Polish Congress will be hosting its "**Dozynki Harvest Ball**," featuring the Korona Band, at the Polish Alliance Hall in Hamilton, Ontario on September 12 ... **Boy Scout Troop 107** from St. John Kanty Parish on Buffalo's East Side will mark its 90th anniversary with a dinner at the Matthew Glab American Legion Post in Lackawanna on September 19.

**Kabaret To I Owo** will present "Zagrajmy to Razem Jeszcze Raz" at the Hamilton Dom Polski on the 19th ... The **Corpus Christi** "Dozynki Polish Harvest Festival," which will include the 8th Annual **Buffalo's Best Pierogi Contest**, will take place on September 19 and 20 on the parish grounds on Buffalo's East Side ... Also on the 18th and 19th, an interdisciplinary conference examining the impact of World War I, focusing on the Galicia region will be held at Daemen College in Amherst. The conference will include a keynote address by **Dr. Robert Blobaum**, Eberly Distinguished Professor of History at West Virginia University, on "Life

on the Home Front in Warsaw During World War I." An exhibition of 50 works by Polish-Lemko artist Nikifor Krynicki, on loan from the Museum of Sculpture of Alfons Karny in Bialystok, Poland, will remain at Daemen College until October 2.

The **Roncesvalles Polish Festival** will take place in Toronto also on September 19 and 20. For more information on this event, please visit <<http://polishfestival.ca>> ... The **Msgr. Adamski Polish Saturday School** will celebrate its 60th anniversary with a banquet at the Millennium Hotel in Cheektowaga on October 17 ... The **Chopin Singing Society** will present its annual concert at Assumption Church in Buffalo's Black Rock neighborhood, October 18 ... Government and business leaders from Buffalo have been invited to participate in the "American Culture and Business Week" in Rzeszow, **Buffalo's Sister City**, from October 4 through 11.

❖ ❖ ❖

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

POLISH CHEF/ Robert Strybel

## “Like Mamusia (or Babcia or Ciocia Halina) Used to Make!”

“Like Mamusia (or Babcia or Ciocia Halina) used to make!” This and similar phrases are heard on the PolAm scene when Polonians think back to the sights, scents and tastes of their culinary childhood. More often than not, the underlying suggestion is that the delicacies and flavors of those bygone times were superior to today’s home-made and store-bought foods. The actual dishes vary from family to family, but many of them are widely shared. Here are some of them.

### CHICKEN SOUP (rosół z kury)

This is the typical Polish Sunday dinner soup, also served at weddings and other family occasions. A fryer/broiler can be used, but for that rich, old-time flavor a mature stewing chicken is preferable. Wash 1 cut-up 3 lb chicken, place in pot, add 1 T salt and 2-1/2 - 3 qts water, bring to gentle boil and cook 90 min

or until meat is fairly tender. (Cook only 45 min if a fryer is being used). Skim off scum until no more forms. To broth add 1 portion soup greens and 1 halved onion, impaled on fork and charred over flame or directly on electric hot plate until blackened concentric rings are seen, 1 whole tomato, 8 peppercorns, 4 grains all-spice and 1-3 bayleaves. Cook until vegetables are tender. Strain and discard all spices. Vegetables may be used in some other dish, but the carrots may be diced and served in the soup. Serve over home-made or store-bought egg noodles, poured-batter noodles (see below), cooked diced potatoes, cooked rice or barley. Calorie counters should cool and refrigerate soup overnight and discard congealed fat before reheating. Garnish with a little finely chopped parsley and/or dill before serving.



**POURED-BATTER NOODLES (lane kluski).** Fork-blend 2 small eggs, 6 T flour and 2 pinches of salt until mixture is smooth. Stir in 1 T hot chicken broth or as much as needed to get a nice pourable batter and beat with fork until smooth. Pour batter in a thin stream into a pot of rapidly boiling water and cook about 2 min. Remove with slotted spoon and serve in broth.

**FRESH TOMATO SOUP (zupa pomidorowa ze świeżych pomidorów).** Wash, hull and quarter 1-1/4 lb fresh tomatoes and simmer covered on low heat with several T stock and 2 T butter 15-20 min. Sieve into 6 c meat or vegetable

stock and season to taste with salt, pepper and a little sugar. Cream with 1/2 c sour cream or 1 c milk fork-blended with 1 heaping T flour. Simmer briefly and serve over noodles or rice. Variation: When fresh vine-ripened tomatoes are out of season, simply stir 4-5 T tomato concentrate directly into hot stock and proceed as above.

**DILLED POTATOES (kartofle z koperkiem).** This is best when small new potatoes are available but is also good with mature potatoes. Place 2-1/4 lbs peeled potatoes leaving small ones whole and halving or quartering larger ones. Place in pot, cover with boiling water, add 2 t salt and cook on med heat about 30 min or until fork-tender. Drain. Dot with butter (about 1 T) and garnish with finely chopped fresh dill. Toss gently to evenly coat potatoes with melting butter and dill. *Note:* Apart from being part of main courses such as roast chicken or breaded pork cutlets, dilled new potatoes

make a nice summer lunch or light supper served with a bowl of cold buttermilk or sour milk (eaten with a spoon like soup) on the side.

**CUCUMBERS & SOUR CREAM (mizeria).** Peel 2 cucumbers and slice into thin rounds. Sprinkle with salt, freshly ground pepper, 2-3 pinches sugar and 2t lemon juice or vinegar. Lace with 1/2 - 2/3 c fork-blended sour cream (or plain yogurt for weight-watchers). *Optional:* Garnish with chopped dill. *Variation:* Add 1 small thinly sliced onion for added zing.

**CARROT-APPLE-HORSERADISH SALAD (surówka z marchwi i jabłek z chrzanem).** Combine 4 washed, peeled finely grated carrots with 2-3 peeled, cored, coarsely grated apples. Sprinkle with lemon juice, toss and stir in 1-2 heaping T prepared horseradish. Season to taste with salt (sparingly), sugar and lemon juice. Stir in 1 heaping T sour cream and/or mayonnaise or more to taste.

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## Happy 95th Kowalski Sausage Company

by Geraldine Balut Coleman  
HAMTRAMCK, Mich. — Congratulations to the Kowalski Companies, more popularly known as the Kowalski Sausage Company, as it celebrates its 95th anniversary. As reported in the *Polish American Journal*, seen on television, or covered in other newspapers, many of the original Polish meat-specialty companies have closed their doors. But as you drive down Holbrook Avenue in Hamtramck, you cannot miss a sign showing a fork puncturing a large plump Polish sausage. This sign is so adored by the Kowalski family that they will not permit it to come down for some small “touch-ups.” The sign tells you that this is the Kowalski factory. But the wonderful aroma permeating from the 100,000-square-foot building also tells you that you are in “kielbasa-land.”

In the early 20th Century, Agnes and Zygmund Kowalski emigrated from Poland and settled in Detroit’s East Side. Their hope was to live the American Dream. They opened a small grocery store on Detroit’s Chene Street. Noticing a demand for Polish-style food, they decided to add a smokehouse to the back of the store and started producing Polish kielbasa. As demand grew, a factory was built on Holbrook Avenue in Hamtramck in 1920, where it remains today.

The stewardship of the Kowalski Sausage Company passed from generation to generation with



Kowalski logo.

Steve Kowalski, son of the founder, leading the company beginning in the 1950s and his son Ronald taking over in the 1970s, establishing Kowalski as one of Michigan’s finest meat processing enterprises. Today, the fourth generation, Michael Kowalski, president and CEO, and his sister, Linda Kowalski Jacob, corporate secretary, continue to manage and uphold the traditions of Kowalski “Kowality.”

The Kowalski Companies process millions of pounds of meat and employ 160. The company produces natural-casing hotdogs, a hunter’s sausage, about 50 varieties of Polish-style sausage (kielbasa), a variety of deli meats, and traditional salads. However, Michael says that

the company’s bestseller is definitely the hotdog, with the second best seller being the garlic bologna.

Over the next five years, Kowalski Companies plans to hire an estimated 200 new employees, as updated equipment will be added to the Hamtramck facility.

The Kowalski Companies currently include Hamtramck’s Dudek, the pierogi and naleśniki maker, Novi Township’s Tassos Epicurean Cuisine, and the brands Amhurst Kitchen, Just Sweet ‘Nuff Chicken ‘n’ Rib Sauce, Our Famous Sweet ‘n’ Spicy Chicken ‘n’ Rib Sauce, Yiayia’s Famous Greek Salad Dressing, Consumer Guild Supreme, Home Style Foods, and The Original Hunters Sausage.

According to Michael, the ever-so-popular Kowalski product hasn’t really changed since his grandfather came up with the special recipe. All the meat used for the Kowalski products comes from the Midwest. He’d like it all to come from Michigan but “there’s not a place in the Mitten State that could keep up with his demand.” “Every year that we stay in business is an accomplishment,” he said. “We’re not perfect, but we’ve made enough right changes that we’ve made it 95 years.” he said.

The motto “Kowality since 1920” means high-quality food products, a commitment to Hamtramck and Metro-Detroit and its employees, and pride in being made-in-Michigan. Sto lat, Kowalski Companies!

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## Fire Company Celebrates Anniversary

AMSTERDAM, N.Y. — The Perth Volunteer Fire Company celebrated its 70th Anniversary on August 8, 2015. The observance started with a parade, followed by vendors, a cruise in, food, music and fireworks at dusk.

The fire company was founded in 1945, when Supervisor Clarence Joslin and Frank Luba, owner of Big Maple Tavern talked about starting a fire company with friends and fellow business owners. Among its charter members were Frank Luba, Casper Smitka, and Mickey Zwolak.

Today the fire company is located on State Highway in a 9500 square foot fire station which is housed on 24 acres of land with 32 members that serve our community. There are

future plans to develop the rear of the property to include a pond for water supply and training area.

“The day is to celebrate our 70 years of service to our community” according to Peter Watroski, Chief. “We are excited to have crafters, cruise in, music, food, and camaraderie among our members, family and our community” said John Lesniewski, the company’s president.

**DID YOU KNOW?** Attempts to include the Warsaw Uprising in its “On This Day” listing have been ignored by *Encyclopedia Britannica*. Events listed for August 1 include the opening of the 1936 Olympics in Berlin, and the last entry in Anne Frank’s diary.

## Polish-built solar car headed for Australia

ŁÓDŹ, Poland — Orzeł 1 (Eagle 1), an experimental solar-powered vehicle built by students of Łódź Technological University, is headed for Australia to compete in the World Solar Challenge. The Formula 1-type vehicle weighs 880 pounds, measures 17 feet in length and has a top speed of 62 m.p.h. It has room for the driver and one passenger. In addition to solar panels, Orzeł 1, the only entry from Central Europe, has been fitted with two battery-powered electric motors.

At the event (October 18-25), competitors will be required to complete a nearly 1,900-mile route through the desert from Darwin to Adelaide.



**POLONIA PLACES**  
GREGORY L. WITUL

## St. Casimir R.C. Church

1162 Chestnut Street  
Kulpmont, Pa.  
Status: Closed

Last month, the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of New York closed over a half dozen parishes as part of its consolidation plan "Making All Things New." Sadly, closing parishes is not a new phenomenon for the Catholic Church. In the past 30 years, scores of historically Polish parishes have been forced to close for a variety of reasons, including St. Casimir's in Kulpmont, in Pennsylvania's Coal Region.

Many of the Polish churches across the country began with the same narrative: Poles move into the area, organize, petition the Bishop, then the Bishop sends a priest to start the parish. St. Casimir's beginning is almost the reverse of the story. Father Leonard Baluta of Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Marion Heights, Pa. saw that there was a growing population of Poles in Kulpmont. He petitioned and received permission from the Bishop of Harrisburg to form a new Polish parish for the city. He gathered the Poles and on November 17, 1913 secured a plot of land to be used as St. Casimir's Polish Roman Catholic

Church. It would take almost a year for the land to be cleared and construction of a combination church and school to begin. On Christmas Eve 1914, Father Baluta offered the first Mass in the "not yet completed" structure and on May 7, 1915, Rev. Vincent Wojno was appointed the first resident pastor at St. Casimir's. It would take until June 20 for the Bishop to travel to Kulpmont, but at the 11:30 a.m. Mass, the church was dedicated, and St. Casimir's was officially born.

In September 1915, the parish school opened with lay teachers, who would run it until 1920 when the Bernardine Franciscan Sisters

took over. Over the next decade, a rectory was built for the parish priest, a convent was constructed for the sisters and a cemetery was purchased for the congregation. Father Wojno also purchased two lots to be used for a new larger church, but the Great Depression put a halt to that plan and it would take almost 30 years for it to be revived.

It would be under the pastorship of Father Alphonse Marcincavage that the first spade of dirt for a new St. Casimir's was turned on Polish Constitution Day, 1961. A year later on May 13, 1962 the completed \$250,000 church was blessed. The angular designed church with modern stained glass still included a traditional mural of its patron saint. The building would serve the parish until June 25, 1995 when the church closed as part of a diocese-wide consolidation plan. While this would be the end for most churches, St. Casimir's would rise again.

On July 9, 2015 Bishop Ronald W. Gainer of the Diocese of Harrisburg held the first Mass at St. Casimir's in 20 years. In 2003, the church was purchased by the St. Pauline Foundation to act as a center for the Brazilian saint. It was through their efforts that the Mass was held, to the rejoicing Polish community of Kulpmont.



The combination church and school as it looked in 1915.



The interior of the second church decorated for the parish's 50th anniversary in 1965.



The second church completed in 1962 as it appeared on the cover of the parish's Golden Jubilee book.

### THE PONDERING POLE / Edward Poniewaz

## B&Bs

No, this is not about a Polish Bread and Breakfast (although that might make a really good subject for a future article, and — for you generous folk — my contact information is listed below). The B and B stand for billionaires and Biedronka. Timely topics especially since there is a lot of talk about Trump and low wages. Amazing how the hot topics in the United States go, so goes Polonia.

As in the United States there are Poles on the world billionaires list. There are five or six of them depending on the source. With the Polish economy being exceedingly healthy and productive since the early 1990s, this is no surprise. What is surprising, however, is Poland lost the top dog, Jan Kulczyk, worth an estimated \$4 billion. He died too young — 65 — on July 28.

Kulczyk (inset, right) was ushered into the world of business and finance by his father, who started a number of companies after World War II. Although his portfolio was made up of many diverse interests, he was primarily involved in the natural resources, energy, and real estate sectors. Like most of the wealthiest people in the world, Kulczyk took advantage of opportunities and trends that were presented throughout his life such as "Poland's transformations," the period in which the country went from communism to a more capitalistic oriented society.

Lech Walesa called Kulczyk "irreplaceable," and said "it will be hard to organize some things without him." *Forbes* magazine called him a "Self Made Man." As we hear in the commercial, that kind of description for Kulczyk is priceless.

The other B, Biedronka, is not the name of another Polish billionaire; it is a discount supermarket chain in Poland owned by a Portuguese food distribution group called Jeronimo Martins. I found a story about Biedronka on the Yahoo ticker and the kicker in this ticker is some of the Poles have objected to the Polish government awarding Pedro Pereira da Silva the Order of Merit for his work as director of Jeronimo Martins. The government praised da Silva and Jeronimo Martins for providing 58,000 jobs and offering lower cost goods and services. Simply put, for the good, Biedronka is like Walmart in this country.

And like Walmart, Biedronka is being criticized by a contingent of Poles for the "exploitation of thousands of Polish women and men, adding that Biedronka has faced prosecution for crimes against 302 people for failure to pay wages owed, or committing other viola-



tions of the labor code." This is the kind of stuff you wouldn't necessarily award the Order of Merit, but the kind of stuff you should be free to debate and push back on.

My response to reading about Kulczyk and Biedronka is my personal B & B: it is the love of business and a blessing. I love seeing a Poland removed from the constraints of communism, allowing talent and determination rewarded in the free market with financial success and at the same time, the blessed freedom of citizens and workers to express their discontent at businesses for their actions.

**REMINDERS.** Get oral and/or written history of your elderly Polish parents, grandparents, relatives, friends, or acquaintances. These are the few persons left that lived through the depression, survived World War II, or came to the United States during the Solidarity revolution. Get their stories before time runs out.

Collect and document the favorite recipes for the same demographic mentioned in Reminder 1.

If you are the demographic in Reminder 1, start mentoring someone to take your place of leadership in Polonia. Start doing that now.

**POLISH OR NOT?** From the July 2015 issue of the *Pondering Pole*: Walter "Walt" Woltnosz, designer of the Stephen Hawking "equalizer" computer program. Yes, he is Polish.

Dziękuję bardzo to Tom Tarapacki for the confirmation on Woltnosz.

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

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

## KF Selling Master Painting Reproductions

NEW YORK — The Kosciuszko Foundation is offering a limited collection of some of the art in its collection. At present, museum quality reproductions (giclees) of five paintings are being offered for purchase. The artists are long since gone — Boleslaw Jan Czeda-kowski, Wojciech Kossak, Aniela Lewandowska, Jacek Malczewski, Jan Styka — but their artistry lives on. These are masterpieces of Polish fine art, now available and affordable to collectors.

Each reproduction is archival printed on 17 mil acid free poly/cotton canvas with pigmented polychrome archival inks. The number of reproductions is limited to 100, and each canvas comes numbered with a certificate of authenticity.

Proceeds go toward conserving the Foundation's collection and the house it resides in. Part of the purchase is tax deductible.

Founded in 1925, the Kosciuszko Foundation promotes closer ties between Poland and the United States through educational, scientific and cultural exchanges. It awards up to



*Kosciuszko at the Battle of Raclawice.* Jan Styka (1858-1925), one of five reproductions available.

\$1 million annually in fellowships and grants to graduate students, scholars, scientists, professionals, and artists, and promotes Polish culture in America.

*The Kosciuszko Foundation,* 15 East 65th Street, New York, NY 10065; (212) 734-2130; info@thekf.org, www.TheKF.org.



Become a member today

## Polish American Historical Association

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

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

**Polish American Historical Association**  
Central Connecticut State University  
1615 Stanley Street, New Britain, CT 06050  
www.polishamericanstudies.org

SPORTS / Tom Tarapacki

## Dealing Dave Dombrowski Departs Detroit



**Dave Dombrowski** (above) has left Detroit — well, at least the Detroit Tigers. The team's president and general manager since 2002 was replaced in a move that surprised many. The Tigers were 11 1/2 games out of first place in the AL Central at the time, but were hampered by some long-term injuries. In addition, the man called "Dealin' Dave" for his skill at making deals, had pulled off three high-profile swaps trades just before the trading deadline.

Tigers owner Mike Ilitch had turned to Dombrowski when his franchise was on the verge of becoming historically inept. By 2006 the Tigers were in the World Series. In the four years from 2011-14 the team won four consecutive division championships. In four of those playoff runs, the Tigers went deep into October. Twice they made it to the World Series, only to lose to the Cardinals in 2006 and Giants in 2012.

Dombrowski grew up in Palos Heights, Ill., and began his career with the Chicago White Sox in 1978 as an administrative assistant in their minor league organization. He then worked for the Montreal Expos before becoming the first general manager of the Florida Marlins, where he was the architect of the Marlins 1997 World Series winning team.

Dombrowski, 59, will likely receive job offers, but his family will not be leaving their home in Bloomfield Hills at least for a year. His daughter, Darby, is a senior at Sacred Heart Academy and will finish school there ahead of entering college in 2016. His son, Landon, is a sophomore at Birmingham Brother Rice.

Dombrowski left the team with a lot of class, saying: "I respect that when you own the team you can run it however you like. I've had a wonderful 14 years here, and that's a long time in this game. I feel great and I'm ready to go."

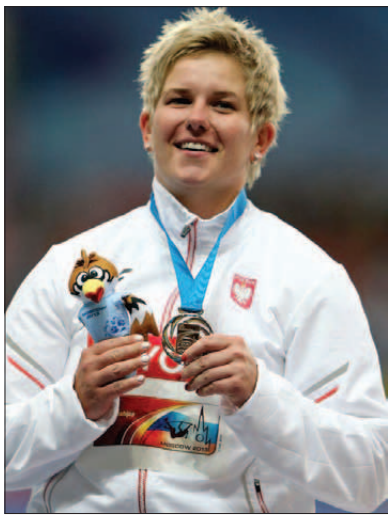
**US TOPS POLAND.** Defending Champion Poland lost to the United States in the bronze medal match of the 2015 FIVB Volleyball World League in Brazil. Poland qualified for the tournament's final round of six, but was knocked out of contention for the gold by eventual champions France. The Poles then faced the Americans for third place and lost in straight sets.

Earlier in the tournament Poland lost twice to the USA in the Chicago area, despite having a pro-Polish crowd in the arena. The teams later split their two matches in Krakow.

One member of the U.S. team apparently made a good impression in Poland. It was recently announced that **Thomas Jaeschke** will pass up his senior year in college to play for Asseco Resovia of Rzeszow, Poland, one of the top pro volleyball teams in Europe. Jaeschke, who played for Loyola, is the reigning national player of the year. Asseco Resovia won its seventh Polish League title and finished second in the European Champions League last season, matching the best finish ever for a Polish team in the 56-year-history of the Champions League.

In other volleyball news, Cuban-born volleyball player **Wilfredo León Venero** was granted a Polish passport, opening the way for him to play in the Polish national team. The 22-year-old former member of the Cuban national team has been living in Poland with his Polish girlfriend.

The national teams will next play in the World Championship in Japan in September, which is part of the qualification process for the 2016 Olympics. Poland is the defending World Champion.



**HAMMER DOWN.** **Anita Włodarczyk** (above) of Poland bettered her own hammer throw world record and became the first woman to throw beyond 80 meters

at the Kamila Skolimowska Memorial Throws Festival in Cetniewo, Poland. After opening with a foul, Włodarczyk threw 81.08, adding 1.5 meters to the world record, which she set last year. It was the fourth world-record throw of her career.

In 2009 she won gold at the World Championships, and was presented Knight's Cross of the Order of Polonia Restituta for her athletic achievements. The 29-year-old native of Rawicz won silver at the 2012 Olympics.

**SUHR GETTING BACK INTO FORM.** Defending gold medalist **Jenn Stuczynki Suhr** seems to be getting back in form for the 2016 Summer Olympics in Brazil, even though the 33-year-old native of Fredonia, N.Y. has experienced some physical setbacks of late. Last year she suffered a bruised heel and Achilles tendonitis. Then, during a training session at home, her pole shattered in mid-jump. She sustained injuries to her left wrist, left hand, ribs, neck and left shoulder.

This year Jenn won the U.S. Nationals, and then captured bronze at the Pan Am Games. In 2012 she won Olympic gold in tough conditions in London, and hopes in finish first in warmer weather in Rio de Janeiro next year.

**POLISH FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS.** The **Gdynia Seahawks** beat the Wrocław Panthers 28-21 during the final of the Polish League of American Football before 14,000 fans in Wrocław. During the season Wrocław had defeated the Seahawks by scores of 33-0 and 35-7.

The MVP of Superfinal X was Angelo Pease of Gdynia, a former Kansas State running back who played briefly for Green Bay. Gdynia was coached by Maciej Cetnerowski. Gdynia also won last year, making it the first team to repeat in the 10-year history of Poland's version of the Super Bowl.

Polish-born offensive tackle **Babatunde "Babs" Aiyegbusi**, who recently signed with the NFL Minnesota Vikings, was back in his homeland for the game. The product of the Polish League was part of the TV broadcast of the game.

**PERKOSKI'S NOTEBOOK.** **Liz Johnson**, winner of the Polish American Sports Hall of Fame Excellence in Sports Award in 2013, won a silver medal in the women's doubles bowling and a bronze in the singles at the Pan Am Games ... By making it to the Wimbledon semi-

finals for the third time, Poland's **Agnieszka Radwańska** moved up the WTA rankings from No.13 to No.7 ... Democratic Presidential hopeful **Sen. Bernie Sanders**, who was born in Brooklyn to Polish Jewish immigrants, captained the track team at James Madison High School ... **Czesław Marchaj**, a Polish-British yachtsman and professor whose published scientific studies of the aerodynamics and hydrodynamics of sailing boats have influenced yacht, sail and rig design, died at 97. During World War II he was a soldier in the Polish Home Army (Armia Krajowa) ... **Klint Kubiak**, 27, the son of Denver Broncos head coach Gary Kubiak, was named Kansas University wide receivers coach.

**TALKIN' BASEBALL.** Five-time All-Star shortstop **Troy Tulowitzki** was traded to Toronto. The 30-year-old native of California was the seventh overall draft pick in 2005, and had spent his entire nine-year career in Colorado. In his first game with the Blue Jays he batted leadoff and hit a home run and two doubles, driving in three runs and scoring three times. He also made an outstanding defensive play in the third inning. Toronto went on to win 8-2 over the Philadelphia Phillies.

Pitcher **Scott Kazmir** was traded by Oakland to the Astros, and in his first two starts for his new team didn't allow a run in seven innings. His family in Houston was thrilled to see him return home. "At first my dad didn't even believe me coming to Houston," Kazmir said. "We always joke and he thought I was messing around. Once it all set in, everyone was excited and happy. I'm glad to be back at home." The 31-year-old lefty was taken by the Mets with the 15th overall pick in 2002. A two-time All-Star with Tampa Bay early in his career, Kazmir found himself out of the majors by 2011, but regained his form and was back in the majors with Cleveland in 2013. Oakland signed him to a \$22 million deal before last season.

**Mat Latos (Latosz)** was traded for the third time in his career, and second time this season, going from Miami to the Los Angeles Dodgers. While the 27-year-old righty wasn't having a great season, he did well since returning from a stint on the DL with a knee injury. In his first outing for the Dodgers, Mat allowed one run on four hits over six innings in a 5-3 win over the Angels. Latos had consecutive 14-win seasons in

2012 and 2013 with the Reds.

**NOT POLISH.** I've gotten some inquiries about football great **Check Bednarik** and Olympic swimmer **Katie Ledecky**. Both parents of Bednarik, who died earlier his year, came from eastern Slovakia in 1920. Ledecky's paternal grandfather came to the United States from Czechoslovakia in 1947.

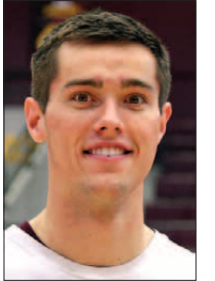
Some readers thought that 2015 Baseball Hall of Fame inductee **John Smoltz** might be Polish. After all, he was born in Detroit and was an accordion prodigy. In addition, the name "Smoltz" sounds like it's Slavic or maybe German. Well, believe it or not, he's Italian on both sides. Smoltz's father, also named John, and mother, the former Mary Tersigni, both worked as accordion teachers. Johnny joined the family business when he was four, playing at polka parties and winning prizes for his musicianship. However, by age seven he decided he wanted to be a baseball player.

**JAESCHKE JOINS ASSECO RESOVIA.** (GBC) It appears as though Thomas Jaeschke made a good impression in Poland. The six-time Polish volleyball championship winner, *Asseco Resovia* out of Rzeszów, and one of the top professional volleyball teams in Europe, offered Jaeschke a three-year contract.

Jaeschke, a Warrenville South (Wheaton, Illinois) graduate and an outside hitter was instrumental in helping the Loyola University Chicago (LUC) Ramblers win two consecutive NCAA volleyball titles (2014, 2015). Jaeschke, a junior and finance major at LUC, will be interrupting his college studies.

He was the first LUC player to be named National Player of the Year and in 2012 was named *Chicago Sun-Times* Player of the Year. In 2014 and 2015 Jaeschke was named Player of the Year by the American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) and a member of the AVCA All-American First Team.

In the July 2015 World League volleyball competition in Rio de Janeiro, France won the World League title, Serbia was second, United States was third, and Poland fourth. Jaeschke will be contending for a position on the 2016 U.S. Olympic volleyball team.



## Stan Kokoska Honored by Little League International

by Al Koproski

STAMFORD, Conn. — On July 16, 2015, the "Father of Little League Baseball in Poland" Stan Kokoska was honored with a plaque in Kutno, Poland. Kutno is the headquarters for Little League Baseball for Europe, Africa and Asia. The plaque, in English and Polish, recognizes the dedication of Kokoska since his quest to find his Polish roots in 1987. While in Poland he saw boys without a summer activity. Kokoska went to Warsaw, the capital of Poland, to meet with Polish officials regarding Little League Baseball and then contacted Williamsport, Pa., which is Little League Headquarters. As a result of his efforts, Poland became the first Communist Country in Eastern Europe to start Little League Baseball.

Kokoska took early retirement

from the Connecticut State Department of Education and dedicated his life to bringing baseball to the children on Poland. In 1989, he and a group of Connecticut baseball enthusiasts founded the Polish National Youth Baseball Foundation, a 501-c-3 not for profit organization. This organization sends baseball and softball equipment, free of charge, to the children of Poland and Eastern Europe. Kokoska spent his summers in Poland teaching baseball to coaches and children.

Kokoska served in Korea as an infantry lieutenant and was awarded a Bronze Star after a daylight raid on his outfit, where he served valiantly. He was also honored by the Polish Government for what he has done for the children of Poland with the "Knights Cross of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Poland."

Besides activities with baseball, Kokoska was past president of the Polish American Congress of Connecticut, active in the Pulaski Citizens Club of Willimantic and the Kiwanis Club. He was named Little League Eastern Regional Volunteer in 1989 and was the first Polish American to be elected mayor of the city of Willimantic, Conn.

If you want to honor Stan for his contributions to baseball and softball you can "Give a Kid a Glove," by making a contribution to the Polish National Youth Baseball Foundation. Checks can be made out to PNYBF and mailed to 222 Ocean Drive East, Stamford, CT 06902. All donations are tax deductible and will be acknowledged by the PNYBF. If you would like to help collect equipment call Al Koproski at (203) 323-9944.



**BENCH IN KUTNO, POLAND** honoring Stan Kokoska, PNYBF president. Coach Zdzislaw Ziolkowski of the Dzialdowo Yankees reads the dedication printed on the marker.

# Veteran of Two Armies, Goclawski Honored for Years of Service as Volunteer

PEABODY, Mass. — Tadeusz Goclawski, 87, was just 11 when the Nazis bombed his hometown of Warsaw, Poland, in 1939. He remembers hiding in his family's cellar and witnessing the brutal treatment of Polish Jews at the hands of the Nazis. By 1944, he joined the underground Polish Home Army for a major operation to overthrow the forces occupying the historic city.

His older brother Ryszard was killed just two days before the Warsaw Uprising of Aug. 1, 1944, and then his father, Waclaw, was captured and sent to the infamous Buchenwald concentration camp. For 63 days, Goclawski, his mother Wanda and thousands of Polish resistance fighters scurried from hiding spot to hiding spot, striking at Nazi troops with little outside military support. The uprising ended badly, and the resistance fighters finally surrendered. Goclawski, who was injured during a firebomb attack

on a Nazi tank, was imprisoned — along with his mother and other resistance fighters — in German prisoner of war camps. They later learned Waclaw died in Buchenwald that December.

After the war, Goclawski and his mother were freed by Soviet troops. Making his way to an American zone, Goclawski joined a Polish unit attached to the U.S. Army in Germany. Wanda emigrated to America in 1949, and the two were reunited a year later in Boston.

He was drafted into another war, this time for the U.S. Army, which was fighting in Korea. Ironically, instead of being deployed to Korea, he was stationed in Germany with the First Division.

Over the past 60 years, Goclawski has volunteered with numerous North Shore Polish organizations, including the St. Michael's Polish-American Society and the Polish Club of Danvers. He was a

member of the former St. Joseph's Church in Peabody and just stepped down after 26 years as commander of the Stefan Starzynski Polish Legion of American Veterans Post 55 in Salem. He's been a regular fixture each year at the celebration of Polish Constitution Day at Peabody City Hall.

In honor of his service to Poland, the United States, and the area's Polonia, Goclawski was given a community recognition award by the United Polish Organizations of Peabody (UPOP). It was presented at the group's annual Polish Christmas Breakfast last December.

"I thought something should be done to honor him," said Lola Busta, UPOP president. She described Goclawski as a humble man, not inclined to dwell on his accomplishments in life.

He agreed with a shrug and a smile.

— Excerpted from the Salem News



**GOCLAWSKI.** Fought in Warsaw Uprising as member of Poland's Home Army, and years later in Korea for the U.S. Army.

**PAJ BOOKSTORE KITCHEN** TO ORDER BY MAIL Use form on page 13 for all items on this page and page 13 TO ORDER BY PHONE (800) 422-1275 • (716) 312-8088 MON.-FRI., 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. TO ORDER ON LINE: polamjournal.com SECURE SERVER

**COOKBOOKS**

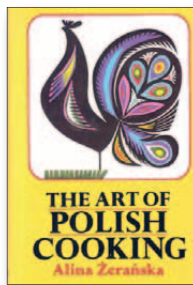
**PIEROGI LOVE**  
New Takes on an Old World Comfort Food  
By Casey Barber  
\$19.95  
Hc; 128 pp.  
8.3 x 8.1 inches



Full color photographs

This tasty tribute to the pierogi takes a familiar wrapping and stuffs it with a host of unconventional, innovative, and decidedly non-traditional fillings. With 60 sweet and savory recipes that include everything from the classic Polish cheese and potato offerings to American-inspired Reuben pierogie and fried apple pie-rogies to worldly fillings like falafel and Nutella, there's a pierog for every party and every palate! Each recipe comes with a charming story from Barber's extensive explorations in pierogi flavors.

Casey Barber is a freelance food writer, photographer, and editor of the critically acclaimed website Good Food Stories.



**THE ART OF POLISH COOKING**  
By Alina Zeranska  
Pub. at \$22.95  
PAJ Bookstore Price: \$15.95  
Ethnic / Polish  
384 pp.  
8 1/4 x 5 1/2

12 b/w illus. Index 2nd ptg.

Reissued by Pelican Publ., The Art of Polish Cooking, contains 500 authentic recipes, complete with recipes for hors d'oeuvres, soups, entrees, vegetables, pastries, desserts, and beverages. Special holiday menus are also presented, along with charming descriptions of traditional Polish feasts and celebrations. Author Alina Zeranska provides easy-to-follow recipes for favorites like Cabbage Rolls, Chicken in Dill Sauce, Meat Pierogis, and Fruit Mazurka. Zeranska has translated these Polish recipes perfectly using exact American measurements.

**POLISH HERITAGE COOKERY**

by Robert Strybel  
\$49.95  
h.c. 900 pp.  
7.25 x 9.50 in.  
Expanded Edition, ill. and full color photographs

"Polish Heritage Cookery is the best Polish cookbook printed in English on

the market." — Polish Cultural News

A perennial bestseller, *Polish Heritage Cookery* is the most extensive and varied Polish cookbook ever published. More than 2,200 recipes use easily available American ingredients and measurements. Modern Polish cuisine is a blend of hearty peasant dishes and more elegant gourmet fare, incorporating a broad cross-section of cultural influences. The book includes numerous cultural notes, historical accounts of Polish culinary traditions, and descriptive line drawings. Its expanded edition includes information on Polish products available in the United States, such as plum butter, honey mushrooms, and kielbasa, and their culinary uses.



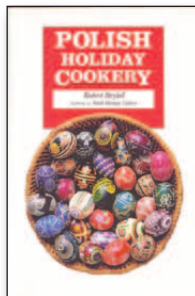
**GREAT POLISH RECIPES**  
by Raymond T. Laskowski  
\$10.00  
Spiral bound, s.c.  
62 pp., index  
8.5 x 5.5 in.

Published in 1980 and rediscovered this year, this is a collection of four generations of recipes from kitchens in Poland and the United States. Includes appetizers, soups, salads, vegetables, breads, noodles, sauces, stuffing, kielbasa, entrees, and desserts. Straight-forward, easy-to-follow recipes for beginners and experienced cooks alike.

**POLISH HOLIDAY COOKERY**

\$24.95  
by Robert Strybel  
248 pp., hc., Hippocrene Bks.

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



incorporation in the Polish American mainstream culture.

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

**POLISH CLASSIC RECIPES**

\$16.95  
by Laura and Peter Zeranski  
2011, 96 pp., h.c., index, 100 color photographs by Matthew Aron Roth

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



**POLISH CLASSIC DESSERTS**  
\$16.95  
By Laura and Peter Zeranski  
2013, 96 pp. 8 1/2 x 8 1/2. Index. 100

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

**POLISH CHICAGO: OUR HISTORY, OUR RECIPES**

\$29.95  
by Joseph W. Zurawski  
240 pp., hc., 720 photographs  
G. Bradley Pub.

Since the 1830s, millions of Poles have come to Chicago. This work recounts by vivid prose, rare photographs and poignant anecdote the amazing story of these indomitable people. The volume turns a spotlight on 36 Polish American restaurants and families who opened up their kitchens to share time-tested, delectable Polish recipes.

**POLISH PIEROGI:**

*From the Old Country to the Old Neighborhood* \$10.00 by Eva Gerwecki, 48 pp., sc.

A collection of "secret" recipes, tips, and more for not only fillings and toppings, but a variety of dough recipes as well. Over 150 recipes with regional variations, from California to New York!

**THE OLD NEIGHBORHOOD POLISH COOKBOOK:**

*Hamtramck, Detroit and Beyond* — \$10.00 by Elna Lavine, 44 pp., sc.

96 recipes from the famed Polonia of Detroit. Breakfast, lunch, dinner pastries, pierogi, kluski, cream chipped beef, soups, desserts and more.



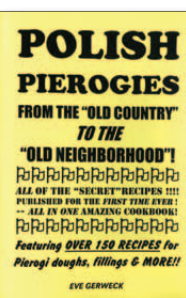
**POLISH GIRL COOKBOOK**  
\$10.00 by Eva Gerwecki, 44 pp., sc.

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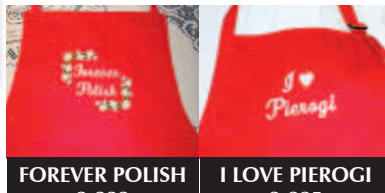
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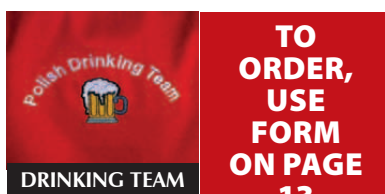
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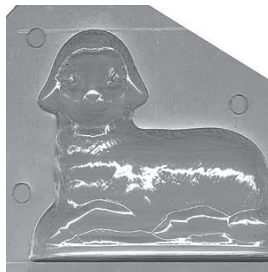
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## BOOKS IN BRIEF / Mary Lanham

## Saboteur Scouts

**RIISING HOPE: BOOK I: WARSAW RISING TRILOGY**  
by Marie Sontag  
Sunbury Press, 2015, 219 pps.  
P.O. BOX 548  
Boiling Springs, PA 17007  
(855) 338-8359  
Sunburypress.com

In the tumultuous time of September 1939 Poland, young Tadzio Dabrowski along with several of his fellow Boy Scouts were called upon to devote their lives to helping Poland win its freedom back. At only thirteen years old, Tadzio, a devoted son and brother, who loves history and music, is reluctant to join the underground resistance at first. When his mother is taken and imprisoned by Nazi soldiers, he is driven to action. Forced to grow up well before his time, Tadzio is set on a harrowing journey, fighting for his life, his family, and his country.

Dabrowski, his older sister, and younger brother moved with his fellow Scouts to Warsaw, where from 1939 to 1945, Tadzio and his friends served in the Gray Ranks. Teenagers, just like him, they lived under the constant fear of being killed by German soldiers or sent off to concentration camps. The younger Scouts carried out various missions of sabotage against the Nazis any way they could. They obfuscated road signs, delivered underground newspapers, and spray painted buildings with the Kotwica symbol to show the underground movement's undying resistance to the occupying forces. Older Scouts were tasked with armed resistance and assassinations.

Carrying out sabotage and resistance missions weren't the only dangerous activities Tadzio and his fellow Scouts were participated in; continuing their education was also extremely hazardous. He and other students met secretly at the homes

of teachers to learn about Polish history and culture, a subject that was banned by the Nazi Regime.

Sontag successfully balances action-packed sequences with quiet and thoughtful moments. The excerpt below is one example of Sontag's fast-paced scenes.

"A minute later, Tadzio saw them. Andrzej and Magdalena stood pressed up against a wall, hands raised in the air. A German soldier stood at their backs, pointing a semi-automatic pistol at them. Without thinking, Tadzio ran up behind the German and slammed the paint can into the back of his head. The SS man's knees buckled. He dropped his weapon in the snow and collapsed on the ground."

A former teacher, Sontag's education background is apparent in that she adds definitions and pronunciation guides for Polish names and words at the end of most chapters. A bibliography and character guide are also included.

*Rising Hope: Book I: Warsaw Rising Trilogy* by Marie Sontag is available on Amazon.com and the Sunbury Press Store at Sunburypressstore.com.

**ABOUT THE AUTHOR.** Dr. Marie Sontag has a Bachelor's degree in Social Science, a Master's degree in Instructional Technology, and a PhD in Education. She has taught for over fifteen years as a social studies middle school teacher. In addition to *Rising Hope*, she has also written *The Bronze Dagger*, a historical fiction novel for young readers. Dr. Sontag currently resides in California.

Antoni Paryski and his *Ameryka-Echo*

## THE POLISH HEARST

*Ameryka-Echo and the Role of the Immigrant Press*  
by Anna D. Jaroszyńska-Kirchmann  
Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 2015.  
Pp. 288, HB, \$60 (E-Book, \$30)  
To order: [www.press.uillinois.edu](http://www.press.uillinois.edu) or  
(800) 621-2736 or [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)

The newspaper in your hands is part of a rare species, from two perspectives: the *Polish American Journal* is one of a shrinking number of ethnic newspapers oriented to a Polonian readership, yet it was one of the earliest of the Polish American papers that went to English as its primary language.

About a hundred years ago, there was a vibrant and active European ethnic press serving immigrants arriving in America from Central, Eastern, and Southern Europe. "Between the 1880s and 1920, from 800 to over 1,000 titles of foreign language newspapers were published in the United States, and in 1930 alone, 142 foreign-language dailies and 511 weeklies came out" (p. 5).

The Polish American press represented no small part of those numbers. Anna Jaroszyńska-Kirchmann, professor of history at Eastern Connecticut State University and former president of the Polish American Historical Association, introduces us to an important member of the Polonian Fourth Estate: *Toledo's Ameryka-Echo* and its publisher, Antoni Paryski.

The newspaper was a marriage of two: Paryski launched *Ameryka* in 1889 and later bought a Buffalo newspaper, *Echo*, creating *Ameryka-Echo* in 1906. The paper was published continually until 1971.

Paryski (1864-1935) was born in Poland and came to America in 1883. He eventually found his place in journalism, working in both Polonian newspapers as well as with purely American printers, albeit in cities that had large Polonian diasporas: Detroit, Chicago, Milwaukee, and Winona, before finally putting down roots in Toledo until his death.

**THE LATE 19TH CENTURY** was a period of great change for American newspapers. Technological advances in typesetting changed publishing: by working outside of Polonia, Paryski learned the cutting-edge technologies of the times and later used them at *Ameryka-Echo*, which Jaroszyńska-Kirchmann describes as outfitted with "the most advanced printing equipment" (p. 62).

More importantly, journalism changed because of a shift in publishing philosophy. The late 19th century in America was the era of "yellow journalism," epitomized by William Randolph Hearst. Newspapers moved from being heavily partisan political journals where the issues of the day were argued out to sheets for the masses, flattering themselves on "objectivity" and "neutrality," distilling the news into simple and often sensational forms in an unending quest to sell copies. Traditional news was squeezed to make space for recipes, advice columns, serialized fiction, and other features to attract readership. One could maintain (as this reviewer does) that this was the first (but certainly not the last) era when the mass media deliberately engaged in "dumbing down."

Paryski was a quick study and learned what sold,

adapting it for his newspapers. *Ameryka-Echo* promoted itself as a vehicle of education for the masses while pursuing its own sensationalism with an anti-clerical edge that garnered it (and its readers) several Church sanctions. Paryski also made himself the tribune of the working man, occasionally even spouting socialist-like rhetoric alongside his anti-Church tirades, only to show his true colors when he prevented unionization of his own plant or sided with the owners against Polish American laborers during the major Willys-Overland strike in Toledo in 1919.

## BOOK REVIEW

John M. Grondeski

Jaroszyńska-Kirchmann's book can be divided into two parts. Chapters 1-4 showcase the larger history: the life of Paryski, set against changes in journalism occurring in his day, and the history of *Ameryka-Echo* under Paryski himself, as long as it remained a family business after his death and, lastly, when it passed into other hands until the paper's own demise. For this reviewer, those chapters are the most valuable: documenting the history and personages of American Polonian history, especially press history, is still necessary. Newspapers, as opposed to church buildings—both parts of material culture—are far more fragile and ephemeral: they literally eventually crumble to pieces.

**THE REST OF THE BOOK** incorporates the author's own specific interest and scholarly contribution: readers' contributions to the paper. *Ameryka-Echo* featured a column, "Kącik dla wszystkich" [A Corner for Everybody], where readers could voice their opinions and debate issues. Jaroszyńska-Kirchmann is especially interested in this participatory form of letter-writing democracy. We perhaps have a tendency to think of Polish immigrants, especially the *emigracja za chlebem*, as not well educated. Perhaps in terms of formal schooling that was true. But Karen Majewski (*Traitors and True Poles*, Ohio University Press, 2003) has shown that those immigrants were often readers who may have brought books along with their few treasured mementoes and handful of soil from "the old country." The Polonian press of the time serialized many books, and even Paryski threw in books along with his subscription deals. Furthermore, as Jaroszyńska-Kirchmann maintains, Paryski was very much influenced by Polish Positivism and its philosophy of restoring Poland through self-improvement. Jaroszyńska-Kirchmann shows that, contrary to those who thought of Polonia's "huddled masses" as voiceless, they sought out and had some venues to express their views.

Paryski, like the Worzalla Brothers in Wisconsin, was a key figure in the early Polonia press. He was certainly a complex if not controversial figure, who led a paper often anti-Church in tone but whose influence in Polish-American journalism was significant. The book's price is a tad high, but that is what university presses today are charging, and there is a value to Polish-American studies being published in the academic press rather than through some obscure outlet.

Recommended.

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## ENTERTAINMENT NEWS / Staś Kmieć

## Dark Roles for Olek Krupa

Angelina Jolie, the Coen brothers, Arnold Schwarzenegger, Woody Allen ... there is no other Polish actor who would collaborate with so many American stars and star in so many Hollywood movies. Despite this prominence, **Olek Krupa** (right) is not widely known.

For years, Aleksander Krupa remained almost anonymous in Poland. Born in 1955 in southwestern Rybnik, Poland, as a teenager, he had no acting plans. He failed to get through his exams, and to avoid appointment to the army, he enrolled in the Teacher Training College in Katowice. A psychologist friend advised him that the teaching profession was not for him and that he should pursue theater and film. There were 2,000 candidates for 20 places at the Warsaw Academy of Dramatic Arts and he was accepted.

Making the move to the United States during the turbulent 1980s, he found work as a character actor in film, mainly due to his rough facial features and deep voice. He played dark, shady types — thugs, gangsters, criminals, and murderers. Krupa is generally on screen in the roles of foreigners, usually from Eastern Europe. Notably, he played the Russian president in the film *Salt* opposite Angelina Jolie.

On television, recently he has appeared in FX's *The Americans* as Colonel Zhukov, and as Russian President Pavel Ostrov during the first season of *Madame*



*Secretary* on CBS. He has a pivotal role in the opening episodes of the upcoming 2015 season.

**KRAKOWSKI ON TV AND BROADWAY.** Jane Krakowski (right), who won a Tony Award for her turn in the musical "Nine," will return to Broadway in *She Loves Me*, the upcoming revival of the 1963 musical that previews February 5 ahead of a March 3 opening at Studio 54.

*She Loves Me* is based on the Hungarian play *Parfumerie* about two combative co-workers who don't know that they've been writing to each other as anonymous pen pals. The play also provided the inspiration for 1940 film "The Shop Around the Corner" as well as 1998 romantic comedy "You've Got Mail." The musical has lyrics by Sheldon Harnick and music by Jerry Bock — the duo behind *Fiddler on the Roof*.

There are echoes of *30 Rock* in *Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt* which should be expected given that it comes from the same writing duo: **Tina Fey** and **Robert Carlock**.

Initial plans to air the series on NBC were scrapped in favor of a streaming deal on Netflix. Krakowski was a last-minute addition for the show.

Krakowski, who earned four Emmy nominations for playing Jenna Maroney between 2006 and 2013, now steps into the role of Jacqueline Voorhes, a pill-popping Manhattan housewife who hires the titular **Kimmy (Elie Kemper)** after the latter escapes a decade-long stint in a subterranean doomsday cult.

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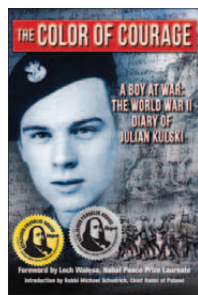
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**NEW! THE COLOR OF COURAGE**  
*A Boy at War: The World War II Diary of Julian Kulski*  
Paperback by Julian E. Kulski  
\$19.95  
Aquila Polonica Publ., 2012

496 pp., 6" x 9", pb,  
"If there is going to be a war, I do not want to miss it." So wrote Julian Kulski a few days before the outbreak of World War II, in this remarkable diary of a boy at war from ages 10 to 16. Kulski wages his own private war against the Germans with small acts of sabotage. At age 12, Kulski is recruited into the clandestine Underground Army by his Scoutmaster and begins training in military tactics and weapons handling. At age 13, he meets with leaders of the Jewish Resistance. Arrested by the Gestapo at 14, he is rescued and at 15 fights in the Warsaw Uprising of 1944.



**NEW! THE AUSCHWITZ VOLUNTEER**  
by Witold Pilecki  
Translated by Jarek Garlinski  
\$34.95  
Aquila Polonica Publ., 2014  
460 pp., 6" x 9", pb,

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

**AMERICAN ORIGINALS**  
*Northwest Ohio's Polish Community at Home, Work, Worship, and Play*



Editor: Timothy Borden  
Pb. 258 pp.  
The University of Toledo Press  
9 x 6 inches  
\$22.95

American Originals, an anthology of stories from Toledo Polonia will prove to be a favorite on any bookshelf devoted to the Polish-American experience. Eleven chapters discuss aspects of what makes Toledo's Polish community unique, such as the polka traditions, weddings, foods, neighborhoods, and culture. Importantly, American Originals provides an overview of the assimilation of the Poles into Toledo.

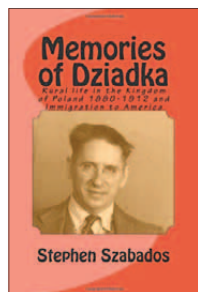
The University of Toledo Press published American Originals as part of its series on the various ethnic groups who settled in Toledo. Previous titles include Hungarian American Toledo, The Irish in Toledo, and Aran Americans in Toledo.



**NEW! LOVE IS LOVE**  
List price \$25.95  
**PAJ Bookstore price \$19.95**  
By Maria Bello  
240 pages, 5.5 x 0.8 x 7.2 inches  
Dey Street Books, 2015

The daughter of a working-class Roman Catholic Italian American father and Polish American mother, Mario Bello majored in political science at Villanova University. Following graduation, she honed her acting skills in a number of New York theater productions before moving on to become one of today's most successful actresses. Bello speaks often and highly of the influence her Polish American grandmother had on her.

In 2013, Bello was recovering from a life-threatening illness when she made a discovery that changed her life: She was in love with her best friend, a woman named Clare. In her new book, she examines the myths that so many believe about partnerships. She explores how many different relationships helped define her life.



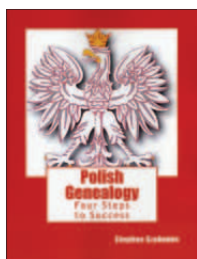
**MEMORIES OF DZIADKA**  
*Rural life in the Kingdom of Poland 1880-1912 and Immigration to America*  
by Stephen Szabados  
\$14.95

6 x 9 inches  
This book is about the life of a Polish immigrant, from his birth in the Russian partition of Poland: the customs and traditions he grew up with; his decision to leave his family and the land of his birth; the trek across Poland to the port of Bremerhaven; his voyage across the North Atlantic Ocean; arrival in America; and his life in America. Through the story of one man, you will learn and understand the hardships of a typical Polish immigrant in the early 1900s.

**FINDING GRANDMA'S EUROPEAN ANCESTORS**  
by Stephen Szabados  
\$14.95 / 128 pp., pb.

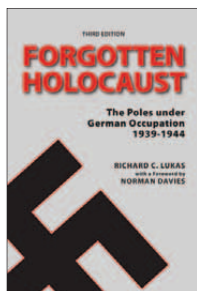
This is a "must have" book to find your European ancestors. The author uses his experience to help you identify the available resources that you can use to find your own ancestors. The book includes many sample docu-

ments, current websites and books that will be useful for your genealogical search. Even if you are not a beginner, this book will give you helpful tips that may be the one you need to locate that missing relative.



**POLISH GENEALOGY: Four Easy Steps to Success**  
by Stephen Szabados  
\$19.95  
164 pp., pb.

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



**FORGOTTEN HOLOCAUST: The Poles Under German Occupation, 1939-45. Third edition**  
\$19.95  
358 pp. pb.  
Hippocrene Books.

*Forgotten Holocaust* has become a classic of World War II literature. As Norman Davies noted, "Dr. Richard Lukas has rendered a valuable service, by showing that no one can properly analyze the fate of one ethnic community in occupied Poland without referring to the fates of others. In this sense, *The Forgotten Holocaust* is a powerful corrective." The third edition includes a new preface by the author, a new foreword by Norman Davies, a short history of ZEGOTA, the underground government organization working to save the Jews, and an annotated listing of many Poles executed by the Germans for trying to shelter and save Jews.

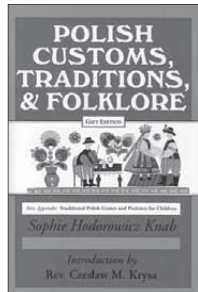


**LAROUSSE POCKET POLISH-ENGLISH/ENGLISH-POLISH DICTIONARY**  
by Larousse  
Published at \$6.95  
PAJ Bookstore Price: \$5.50

608 pp. pb.  
For anyone speaking, reading, or studying, the Larousse Pocket Dictionary is the ideal dictionary for everyday

use. With its handy, portable, paperback format, great price and clear, easy-to-use layout it's filled with up-to-date vocabulary in all subject areas.

55,000 words and phrases and more than 80,000 translations; hundreds of usage examples; abbreviations, acronyms, and proper nouns.



**POLISH CUSTOMS, TRADITIONS & FOLKLORE**  
\$16.95  
by Sophie Hodorowicz Knab  
340 pp., pb.  
Hippocrene Books

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



**NEW! MY WAGGING TAIL**  
by Stanley Bednarczyk  
\$19.95  
476 pp., p.b.

There comes a time in life when one begins to look backward instead of forward. The story of growing up in Camden, N.J. as the son of Polish immigrants (and the youngest of five children) Bednarczyk, an 81-year-old Depression baby, recalls his life on the streets as a youth and as a letter carrier. "A member of the so-called Silent Generation, he has something worthwhile to say." (Mary Latham, *Polish American Journal*).



**BE NOT AFRAID**  
by Heather Kirk  
\$19.95  
Borealis Press,  
276 pp., pb.

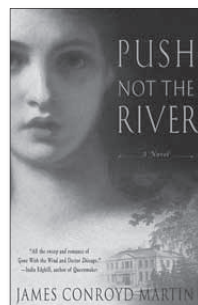
Want to learn something about Poland and the movement that started the end of the Cold War in an easy-to-read, well-written book? *Be Not Afraid* is an introduction to the Polish non-violent resistance movement, "Solidarity." It involved ten million people over a period of ten years, freed Poland from Soviet domination, and contributed to the fall of the Soviet Union in 1991. It

killed no one.



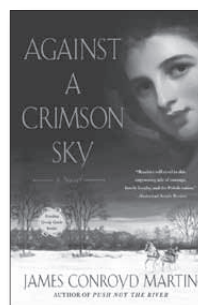
**BOCHEK IN POLAND**  
\$11.95  
54 pp., Polonie Publishing

A First Prize winner in a literary contest sponsored by the American Council of Polish Cultural Clubs, this is a delightful, captivating children's story about the life of storks and many of the Polish customs they encounter. Beautifully illustrated and educational, it will be thoroughly enjoyed by adults as well as children.



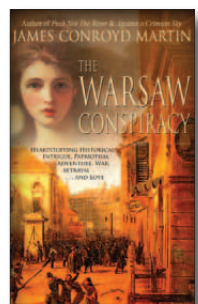
**PUSH NOT THE RIVER**  
\$15.95  
St. Martin's Press.  
496 pp. pb. Maps & wycinanki illust. Reading Group Guide

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



**AGAINST A CRIMSON SKY**  
\$15.95  
St. Martin's 369 pp. pb. Map & wycinanki illust. Reading Group Guide

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



**THE WARSAW CONSPIRACY**  
Hussar Quill Press,  
508 pp., pb.  
\$17.99

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

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## GENEALOGY / Stephen M. Szabados

## Ports of Arrival for Polish Immigrants

... Give me your tired, your poor,  
Your huddled masses  
yearning to breathe free,  
The wretched refuse  
of your teeming shore.  
Send these, the homeless,  
tempest-tossed to me,  
I lift my lamp beside  
the golden door!

The above is an excerpt from the sonnet, *The New Colossus*, written by Emma Lazarus in 1883. In 1903, the poem was engraved on a bronze plaque and mounted on the pedestal of the Statue of Liberty. Both these words of the sonnet and the Statue of Liberty have become symbols of immigration to the United States.

New York was the major port for arrivals into the United States but there were over 300 ports along the U.S. coastline receiving immigrants. New York was where most of the Polish immigrants arrived, but Philadelphia, Baltimore and Boston also received large numbers of Polish immigrants. Galveston, Texas is also important in the discussion of Polish immigration because it received the first mass migration which established the Polish community in Panna Maria, Texas. The Poles also arrived in North America in significant numbers through the Canadian ports of Quebec and Halifax, Nova Scotia.

I believe that knowing the port of arrival of your immigrant ancestors and its history should be an im-

portant part of your family history. Why they arrived at a specific port should also be an interesting part of their story and the selection of the destination port was based on one or more of a number of factors.

For many immigrants the price of the passage was the major factor as some of our ancestors chose the cheapest route. Some invested almost all their money into the price of the passage. While others wanted to save as much as possible to have more to purchase farmland once they had arrived. Shipping companies began to compete for immigrant passengers and prices dropped as the companies sought to fill their cargo areas with human cargo to offset the cost of the return voyage to America for more goods, grains and raw material that were needed in Europe. The companies based their decisions on their shipping contracts and business relationships, port regulations, port fees, port accessibility and the demand for the products shipped to Europe.

In the early 1900s, shipping companies upgraded their accommodations to provide safer transportation to the steerage passengers. This move by the companies was to meet new standards required by the U.S. but it also was to reduce the fears of the steerage passengers. Many had heard of horror stories of sickness, deaths and poor living conditions on voyages taken by friends and relatives who had preceded them

to America. The choice of ship also pre-determined the port of arrival.

Other important factors that determined the port of arrival were recommendations from the relatives and friends who had proceeded them. For those in a hurry to join their loved ones, finding ships that were leaving as soon as possible was important. As the United States began to restrict immigration, arriving at ports which had inspectors with lax procedures helped immigrants who may have conditions that they feared may cause them to be rejected in other ports. Each port earned a unique history and knowing this history may give you valuable insights into the personal history of your ancestors and may yield some reasons for their immigration and suggest some of the challenges they faced.

Once the emigrants had made the decision to leave, their goal was to board a ship for America, survive the voyage, gain admittance to the U.S. and then join their friends and relatives. Do the research and find the passenger manifest. This is the seed that plants your family's roots in America.

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

## PGSCTNE Conference, October 2-3

NEW BRITAIN, Conn. — The Polish Genealogical Society of Connecticut and the Northeast is holding its 2015 Genealogy Conference, October 2-3, at Central Connecticut State University in New Britain.

The conference provides an opportunity to learn strategies for tracing your Polish American and Eastern European roots. The speakers are well known in Polish genealogy circles and their discussions will enable attendees to fill in the missing pieces of their family history. All speakers, who are highly respected with excellent credentials within the genealogy community, have extensive experience in their respective fields and have been featured at numerous regional, national and international conferences.

If your research has hit a brick wall, consultations with speakers might aid in unraveling some of research problems. These one-on-one consultations are always very popular, and there are a limited number of openings.

Featured speakers will be Ta-

deusz Piłat, John Righetti, Kris Rzepczynski, Lisa Alzo, Dr. Mieczysław B. Biskupski, Matthew Bielawa, and Jonathan Shea.

A two-part seminar, "Introduction to Polish Research" will be held on Friday night. This lecture is designed for both beginners and intermediate Polish genealogy researchers.

New this year, from Tarnobrzeg, Poland is Tadeusz Piłat. His topics are "Notary Records with an Emphasis on Records in the 19th Century" and "Galician Maps in Poland."

Other lectures include "Digital News: Utilizing Online Newspapers in Your Genealogy Research," "Pennsylvania's Coal Mines, Pennsylvania Resources for Polish Genealogists," and "Changed by Thalerhof — An Anniversary Documentary" which explains Europe's first concentration camp located in the Galician section of Poland from 1914-1917.

For more information and a description of the speakers topics, visit

www.pgscetne.org/ConferencesEvents.aspx, where registration materials are available. You can also contact Diane Szepanski, Conference Chair, at Szepanski3@cox.net."

## DISCOVER YOUR POLISH NAME

For a custom-researched analysis of the meaning and derivation of your Polish last name, how many people share it, where they live, and whether a coat-of-arms goes with it, please airmail a \$16 check (adding \$7 for each additional surname) to: Robert Strybel, ulica Kaniowska 24, 01-529 Warsaw, Poland.

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## POLAND AND WORLD WAR I / Martin Nowak

## America Commits to Poland

*continued from last month*

On January 22, 1917 came President Wilson's "peace without victory" speech which was the first time he officially addressed the Polish situation. Statesmen everywhere are agreed that there should be a united, independent and autonomous Poland, he declared.

In March came the first proposal to the administration to allow the recruitment of a Polish army on American soil, something for which Paderewski pushed. The Russian Revolution that month diminished its role in the war and reset its policy on Poland. On March 29 the new Russian government declared the right of an independent Poland to exist.

On April 6, 1917 the United States entered World War I against Germany in response to that country's unrestricted submarine warfare. This greatly increased the influence of America vis-a-vis the status of Poland. On October 18 the president gave the okay for Polish Americans to recruit for a Polish army, which would eventually become part of Haller's Army in Europe. On November 10 the Polish National Committee, formed in Paris as a kind of Polish government-in-waiting, was recognized by the United States as an official organization, with Ignace Paderewski as its American representative.

On January 8, 1918, three days after Britain issued a similar statement, came President Wilson's famous Fourteen Points speech, the declaration of America's war aims. Point Thirteen concerned Poland:

*An independent Polish state should be erected, which should include the territories inhabited by indisputably Polish populations, which should be assured a free and secure access to the sea, and whose political and economic independence and territorial integrity, should be guaranteed by international covenant.*

This statement was a huge psychological boost to Poles throughout the world and filled them with a new confidence as they strove toward their goal of a free Poland. Two months after the Fourteen Points speech came the first joint Allied declaration designating the restoration of an independent Po-

land as an Allied war aim.

In the summer of 1918, Paderewski called on nationalist Roman Dmowski to join him in America to help him solidify his lobbying gains. Dmowski arrived in August and stayed for the rest of the year, meeting with President Wilson and other VIPs. In a brilliant political move, Paderewski and Dmowski took control of a congress of American Poles held in Detroit. It passed a resolution recognizing the Polish National Committee in Paris as the sole body overseeing Polish affairs in the world, including the U.S.

With the Paris Committee already having been recognized by President Wilson as the de facto representative of the European Poles, coupled with Paderewski's popularity among the American public, Dmowski's conservative nationalists monopolized the Polish question in America. Polish Americans who supported rival Piłsudski were branded as pro-German and pro-Austrian. Since the United States was at war with the Central Powers, the Piłsudski Poles in America were accused of being anti-American and were covered into silence. President Wilson even banned publication of pro-Piłsudski Polish American newspapers.

In any event, by the second half of 1918, Wilson's and America's devotion to the cause of Poland's resurrection now seemed complete. The U.S. participation in the Great War ensured the defeat of Germany and Austria-Hungary and with czarist Russia out of the picture due to its internal turmoil, the stage was set for the rebirth of Poland. Exactly how this would be achieved and what would constitute the new country was still uncertain, but the expectation was that a peace conference would settle the matter. It would not work out exactly that way.



Wilson



## The Genealogy Assistant

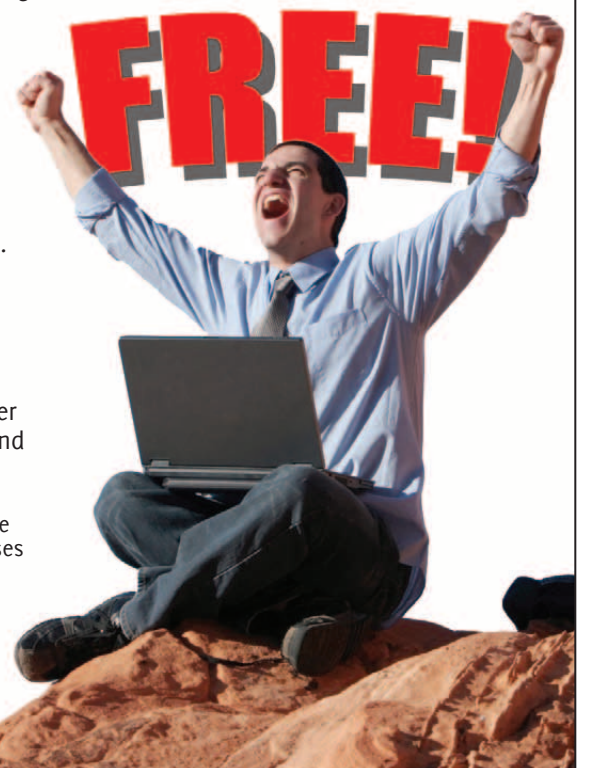
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TRAVELOGUE – 5 Days in Poland / Staś Kmieć

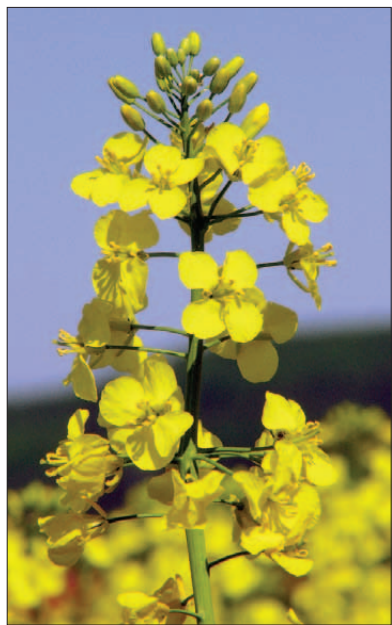
## Fields of Gold – the Wonders of Rzepak

Part XVI

My visit with Agata and Norbert continued into the early morning hours. We discussed the arts, artistry, politics, the prospects of a cultural arts festival in Lublin, and an original musical theater project, but finally it was time to conclude the dialogue and camaraderie. I returned to my hotel room and promptly collapsed onto the bed for three hours of sleep before the morning departure on the *Mazowsze* bus to accompany the company for two performances in Wrocław.

After breakfast and an overload of coffee, I donned dark sunglasses and made my way to the pickup point in front of Matecznik. On the dancers' bus, I engaged in multiple conversations throughout the coach, before settling in my seat and absorbing the landscape.

It was hard to miss the predominant fields of gold dotting the countryside. The blooming flowers turned the scenery into an ever-expanding vibrant yellow patchwork. I asked Krzysiek what this crop was and he replied "rzepak." I inquired again to make sure I noted it down properly. I knew many varieties of Polish flora and vegetation, but I had never heard of this. After all these visits, how could I not have paid notice? As it turns out after a few weeks, the plants set seed and turn brown, ready for harvest, which is why I may have missed its prominence on other trips. Krzysiek continued to tell me that the plant is used to produce a popular cooking oil in Poland.



*Rzepak* (*Brassica napus*) is a bright-yellow flowering member of the mustard or cabbage family. The plant is used to produce a popular cooking oil in Poland, and has many other uses around the globe.

*Rzepak* (*Brassica napus*) is a bright-yellow flowering member of the mustard or cabbage family. It is cultivated mainly for its oil-rich seed, and is the third-largest source of vegetable oil in the world. It is also grown for the production of animal feed, and biodiesel, and in China and Southern Africa it is consumed as a vegetable.

It has been cultivated and used for thousands of years in India and since the Middle Ages in Europe, mostly for lamp oil, to make soap, and during the 19th century to lubricate steam engines. It was prescribed to treat stiff, aching joints. Less useful as food for animals or humans because it had a bitter taste due to high levels of glucosinolates, it was eaten during famine times and during both World War I and World War II. Through selective breeding programs, the bitter-tasting, acidic



Hotel Górski Polichno in Wolbórz. substance was reduced to a level that was more appealing for consumption.

*Brassica* crops may be among the oldest cultivated plants known to man. In India, it is mentioned in ancient Sanskrit literature from ca. 1500 BC and seeds have been found in archaeological sites dating back to ca. 2300 BC. Its production has a long history in China. The Chinese word for the plant was first recorded ca. 2500 years ago, and the oldest archaeological discoveries may date back as far as to ca. 5000 BC.

The plant is known by names deriving from the Latin for turnip, (*rāpa* or *rāpum*), and is first recorded in English at the end of the 14th century as "rapeseed." It is also known as oilseed rape, rapa, or rapeseed. Unfortunate associations with the name of this plant aside, it is a major crop in Poland and many nations of the world. Leading producers include Canada, China, India, France, Germany, Australia and United Kingdom. Poland ranks eighth with approximately 1.9 million tons produced annually.

**GOOD-BYE OLIVE OIL.** Rapeseed oil (*olej rzepakowy*) has been touted as the healthier, home-grown option to olive oil, with a light, buttery and nutty flavor. But, could it ever usurp the holy grail of gourmet cooking oils in our kitchens?

It has the lowest saturated fat content of any cooking oil – half that of olive oil – and is rich in Vitamin E and omega-3 and 6 fatty acids. With a higher smoke point than olive oil (which can be toxic at very high temperatures), rapeseed oil is a better option for frying and roasting. As a frying oil, it does not alter its properties and rapidly reaches a high temperature. It easily drips from the fried product, so cutlets, patties, and so on, are less greasy.

Chefs Jamie Oliver and Nigella Lawson sing the praises of oil's delicacy, arguing it doesn't interfere with the flavor of other ingredients in the way that olive oil does. The oil is popping up on restaurant menus, in everything from cakes, chocolate puddings and ice cream to mayonnaise, dressings and a dipping for bread. Chefs are even incorporating the seeds and the green leaves of the flowers – with their slightly peppery bite, into their dishes.

With recent reports of olive oil prices spiraling after poor European harvests and a bacteria outbreak affecting Italian olive trees, as well as continued concerns about olive oil fraud – rapeseed oil might be about to have its day in the sun. I know I will seek out *olej rzepakowy* when I return to the States.

People often get confused about the difference between canola oil and rapeseed oil. There are key genetic variances. In the 1970s, Canola was created through traditional plant cross-breeding by removing two undesirable components found in the rapeseed plant: glucosinolates and erucic acid.

In North America, the term "canola" came into usage in the 1980s to avoid the linguistic resemblance between the term "rapeseed" and rape. The name is a contraction of "Canadian" and "Oil" (or "ola" for "oil low acid") to make this difference apparent.

Most of us have only known the cheaper stuff – that is pressed using heat and chemicals, and labeled generically as canola or vegetable oil. The price of rapeseed oil has risen and farmers have spotted a market for high quality cold pressed versions – sometimes labeled premium, virgin or extra-virgin. These oils are altogether different to the refined product. Poland produces low-end and gourmet oils which are available domestically, and exported.

Rapeseed oil is used as diesel fuel, either as biodiesel, straight in heated fuel systems, or blended with petroleum distillates for powering motor vehicles. Biodiesel may be used in pure form in newer engines without engine damage and is frequently combined with fossil-fuel diesel in ratios varying from 2% to 20% biodiesel.

**WONDERFUL PLACE FOR REST STOP.** The buses with dancers, singers, orchestra and technical crew pull into an inviting place on this stretch of road with a dominating wooden highland-style structure and windmill. Union rules dictate that the company must take a travel break after a determined amount of time, and what better location for a food and rest stop than Hotel Górski Polichno. Located by the National Route nr. 8 in Wolbórz, the property features a distinctive architecture in the style of a thatched cottage. The restaurant is very large with log cabin atmosphere. Plenty of seating inside and outdoors and an extensive food selection including traditional favorites. The rest rooms are very clean and there is a souvenir shop across the parking lot.

The brochure for the accompanying hotel shows an exquisite elegance combined with the friendly warmth of hearth and home. The complex offers over eighty rooms.

With everyone back in place we continue to Poland's fourth largest city, Wrocław.

## Inhale the Brine Vapors in the Teznia



The Graduation Tower/Teznia structure at the Konstancin Spa.



The Grzybek emitting mineral water vapors from underground wells.

by Richard Poremski

KONSTANCIN, Poland – A Unique Sanatorium Experience. Here just eight miles south from the Centrum of Warsaw lies the formal spa and rehabilitation complex of Konstancin-Jeziorna. A very unique feature of the spa is its teznia – a mineral water graduation tower. Upon first sight it appears to be a bizarre looking structure, and it takes a small bit of time for the brain to interpret what the eyes are seeing. And for sure this was the desired reaction that my Polish relatives anticipated when they arranged the surprise visit for me.

**THE TEZNIA IS THREE STORIES TALL**, approximating the linear dimensions of a U.S. football field, and open to the sky above. Its four walls consist of framework containing bundles of brushwood, usually blackthorn – and so the *teznia* can also be referred to as a "thorn house." The brushwood walls are constantly trickle-bathed from the top down by mineral/brine waters emanating under natural pressure from deep underground wells. The mineral water is rich in bromide and iodine, which the sun evaporates on the brushwood bundles thereby

leaving mineral deposits on them. Consequently, the bundles must be replaced every 5-10 years because they become too encrusted with the accumulated minerals.

The resulting microclimate created inside of the structure results with mineral-rich water droplets suspended in the air and regarded as having beneficial health effects similar to that of breathing in robust sea air, and touted as being especially beneficial for those suffering from respiratory ailments.

Additionally, inside the graduation tower, located on one end its large open quadrangle, and surrounded by benches, sits the peculiar *grzybek* ("little mushroom") – a naturally pressurized mineral-waters dispensing device about five feet tall that resembles a mushroom. Everyone in the immediate vicinity of it is enveloped in the heavy mist spewing out from its dome equipped with multi-directional nozzles. You experience a surrealistic constant interplay between the pulsating fog and bright sunshine. It is recommended that you be in the near vicinity of the *grzybek* for 15 minutes at a time, and within the *teznia* itself for only a one hour period.

**THE POSH TOWN** of Konstancin is a very interesting place in and of itself. Its peaceful and quiet leafy lanes are lined with walled mansions and elegant estates – it being akin to Warsaw as Beverly Hills is to Los Angeles. It is the recognized abode of many successful, influential, rich and famous Varsovians who decamped from the hustle and bustle of Poland's capital city.

All-in-all, the Konstancin-Jeziorna suburb is well worth a day trip visit from nearby Warsaw. You can enjoy Mother Nature's green countryside with its many recreational activities, visit a restaurant or café, and even immerse yourself in the therapeutic mists from the *grzybek* in the *teznia*.

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## CULTURAL TELEGRAM / Kasia Romanowska

## Przystanek Woodstock

Every year, **Woodstock Festival Poland** features a few dozen great bands from Poland and from all over the world. Last year Przystanek Woodstock attracted 750,000 people. This year, it took place for the 21st time and was run from July 30 to August 1. It featured concerts by over 70 bands and solo artists, including such international stars as Shaggy and Black Label Society. Festival-goers could also see Dawid Podsiadło or a neo big-beat singer Anna Rusowicz — both, very popular in Poland. Since the beginning, the festival's organizer has been Jurek Owskiak, who since 1993 has also been running Wielka Orkiestra Świątecznej Pomocy/The Grand Orchestra of Christmas Charity, a foundation which raises money for medical causes during a one-day event in January. The Festival is free of charge.

**MEN PLAYING IN THE CITY.** A series of club concerts accompanying the tour titled "Men Playing" was launched in three Polish cities. The Miejskie Granie (Playing the City) concerts take place in Warsaw, Poznan and Wrocław. In Warsaw, the Miejskie Granie cycle takes place in Plażowa — an urban café-bar with a beach on the banks of the Vistula River at the foot of the National Stadium. Plażowa attracts music lovers and sunbathing enthusiasts, as well as connoisseurs of the right-bank views of Warsaw. Miejskie Granie ends on August 29. Among Polish artists representing various music genres are: Mela Koteluk, The Dumplings, Natalia Przybysz, Fisz, and many more.

**ANCIENT POMPEII IN 3D.** Another event takes place at Warsaw's National Stadium, where visitors have a unique opportunity to watch the ancient Roman Empire, showing a life in Pompeii before the city was

destroyed in a volcanic explosion in 79 AD. It is the largest multimedia exhibition ever held in Poland. Using technology and computer graphics, the exhibition, entitled Pompeii: Living in the Shadow of a Volcano shows archeological and architectural Pompeii. The exhibition required 70 installations on 2,000 sq m. in 24 rooms. It will be open daily until October 18 from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Shows begin every two hours.

**COMMON BALTIC SHORT FILM CONTEST.** Culture.pl, the Pomeranian Film Foundation in Gdynia, the Gdynia Film Festival, and the Gdynia Film School are organizing a short-film competition about the Baltic Sea countries — their cultural identity, their history, their society, their transformation. The award ceremony will be held at the 40th Film Festival in Gdynia. Common Baltic is part of the cultural program carried out by the Adam Mickiewicz Institute and Culture.pl. After projects in the countries of the Eastern Partnership and Asia, the Institute's cultural activity now turns to Poland, Russia, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Finland, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Germany and Iceland.

**ŻUŁAWSKI WINS BEST DIRECTOR.** Polish film director Andrzej Żuławski's film "Cosmos" won the Best Director award at the 68th Locarno Film Festival in Switzerland.

Another Polish film, "Brothers," by Wojciech Staron received the award for best film in the renowned "Week of film criticism" section.

The documentary "Call me Marianna," in turn, received the Premio Zonta Club Locarno award for best film promoting social justice and ethics. Żuławski's award-winning film "Cosmos" is a Franco-Portuguese co-production, an adaptation of a Witold Gombrowicz novel.

## OBITUARIES

Teresa Ann Buckoski,  
Former PNA Officer

Teresa Ann Buckoski (nee Urman), born August 1950, went to her eternal life July 15, 2015 in Washington, D.C. She was a graduate of Crossland High School, Camp Springs Md. and Alliance College, Cambridge Springs, Pa.

She retired from U.S. federal service after 38 years in 2010. In 1979 she was promoted as the first female supervisor of personnel investigations in the history of the OPM investigations division. Buckoski was long-time member of the Federal Event Planners organization.

She was active in the Polish National Alliance holding national and local offices. Additionally she was a lifetime advocate of Polish causes and events in the greater National Capital region. Buckoski supported the (now) Saint John Paul II National Shrine.

John Wiernicki,  
Auschwitz Survivor

John N. Wiernicki, a U.S. Postal Service architect, who as a teenage partisan fought Nazi invaders in his native Poland and survived more than a year in the Auschwitz-Birkenau death camp, died July 17 at his home in Bethesda, Md. He was 89.

For 40 years, Wiernicki was a Postal Service architect, retiring in 2002 as director of the Office of Design and Construction.

The sights, sounds and smells of his time at Auschwitz would haunt him for the rest of his life.

More than 50 years after he left Auschwitz — just ahead of its liberation by the advancing Russian army — Wiernicki returned to southern Poland to revisit the camp on a research mission for his memoir, "War in the Shadow of Auschwitz," published in 2001 by Syra-

cuse University Press.

"I wrote the book because I wanted to put out there factually how people at Auschwitz lived, worked and died," Wiernicki told the *Gazette* newspaper in Bethesda in 2003. "A lot of people who write about it have never set foot in Auschwitz."

Born Janusz Mikolaja Strojnowski on July 28, 1925, in Sarny (now part of Ukraine), he was orphaned at 10 and was raised by an uncle, Karol Wiernicki, and adopted his uncle's last name.

Wiernicki then became a cadet at a Polish military school. He was 14 when Germany invaded Poland in 1939, and he fled into the forests with a band of older cadets from the school. For the next four years he would fight in guerrilla units. He was captured by the Gestapo in a mass roundup in 1943 and sent to Auschwitz for having false identification papers.

After the war, he immigrated to the United States and joined the Postal Service. As director of the Office of Design and Construction, he managed a nationwide effort to upgrade postal facilities and modernize mail service.

When his grandchildren were very young, they would occasionally ask Wiernicki about the numbers tattooed on his forearm: 150302.

"A telephone number," he told them.

## Elizabeth "Basia" Link

Elizabeth Barbara "Basia" Link, nee Graf, 84, was born in Warsaw, Poland and passed away at home on July 23, 2015. She was the beloved wife of the late Edward Link and the daughter of the late Sabina Glowacka Graf and the late Jakob Graf. At the age of 12 she was relocated to a forced labor camp in Nazi Germany. After the war, Elizabeth and her family were relocated to a displaced persons camp where she attended school and became involved in *Harcerstwo*, Polish Scouting. In January 1946, while in this camp, Elizabeth took an oath to be an active member of *Harcerstwo* — a vow she kept her entire life. It is here that she began



making Christmas ornaments, and it was through scouting that she met her future husband, Edward.

In March 1948, with the help of her extended-U.S. family, Elizabeth, her parents, and sister immigrated to Chicago via New York on the transport ship, S.S. Marine Flasher. Once in Chicago, the first thing Elizabeth and her sister, the late Krystyna Graf Pleszkun, did was learn English at the YMCA.

In August 1950, Elizabeth married Edward Link. They were blessed with three children: Christine, Mira, and George. Mrs. Link beamed with great pride that all three children were able to speak, read, and write the Polish language, that they are active members of various Polish organizations and/or church ministries, and that all have master's degrees.

As her children were growing up, Link had time to develop her certain talents, especially her culinary and handcrafting skills. In 1954, Marian Proszowski, a Polish Scout leader, became the first chairman of the "Christmas Around the World and Holidays of Lights" exhibit at Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry (MOSAI). This led to Link's chairmanship and a more than over-60-year love affair with the fine art of creating and making Polish Christmas tree ornaments. In 2002, Link retired from her leadership role and was pleased that her daughter, Mira, accepted this MOSAI responsibility.

In addition, Link had been active in "Klubie Przyjaciół Warszawianek," Polish Women's Civic Club, the Legion of Young Polish Women (LYPW), and, most notably, "*Harcerstwo*," which along with LYPW, sponsored the Polish Christmas tree at MOSAI.

For over the past 20 years, "Basia," as she was known by her family and friends, visited various Chicago Public Library sites sharing her talents with school age children, showing them how to make ornaments. Annually, she and Mira decorated the special Polish Christmas tree that has been exhibited at the Cook County Treasurer Maria Pappas' office for its "International Christmas Tree" celebration.

Basia is survived by her three children, three grand children, two nieces, and two nephews.

— Geraldine Balut Coleman

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# Polka MAGAZINE

POLISH AMERICAN JOURNAL

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## Music Publishers of America Releases "Then and Now"

WHITE STONE, Virg. — Music Publishers of America (MPA) announces the release of "Then and Now," an album based entirely on music from its Vitak-Elsnic (V-E) portfolio. "Then and Now" is the company's first venture into

recording V-E music, part of its objective of reintroducing the Vitak-Elsnic brand to a new generation of music lovers.

"This album has a little bit of something for everybody, including people not that familiar with polka music," said MPA President Steve Harris. "Some songs are played as originally published by V-E decades ago. But others are completely new arrangements from Alex Meixner."

Meixner is a Grammy-nominated performing and recording artist, music producer and MPA Vice President. "And there's another twist," Harris said. "We've added brand-new English lyrics to some songs that either never had them or that were originally in Czech or Polish." There are 14 songs on the CD, all of which were initially published as V-E arrangements. Standards like Red Raven Polka and Snow Waltz are joined by newly-discovered songs like the jaunty "Crackerjack" polka and the haunting "Last Kiss" waltz.

The Vitak-Elsnic All-Star Band, led by Meixner, was pulled together specifically for this project. "Each musician brought a unique style and skill set to the studio, and the end result turned out beautifully," Meixner said. In addition to Meixner, Hank Guzevich of Polka Family as well as recording veterans Michael Morris, Ed Klancknik, Don Hunjadi, Joe Tierney, Richard Watson and Sam Broeniman round out the band. Meixner, Guzevich and Morris as well as the phenomenal Abby Broeniman perform vocals.

"Abby is simply awesome," Harris stated. "She sings from the heart and really delivers."

To learn more, visit [www.musicpublishersofamerica.com/](http://www.musicpublishersofamerica.com/)

For more information, DJ copies or to schedule an interview, contact Steve Harris ([steve@musicpublishersofamerica.com](mailto:steve@musicpublishersofamerica.com)) or call MPA on (855) 686-8742.

## Sound Check



Connecticut's Maestro's Men recently recorded a performance for the "Let's Polka" program on Binghamton, N.Y.'s PBS station WSKG. The show, hosted by promoter and DJ Bill Flynn (center) will be aired in October.

POLKA JUKEBOX / Steve Litwin

## Gury's "Greatest"

Dan Gury and the Dyna Dukes create a true "salad" of performances on their new CD, *Greatest Polka Show on Earth*. Featuring 16 tracks, this one runs the gamut of music, subjects, and features something old, something new and something to make your heart beat a little faster and your feet tap along to the music.

Think "Mrs. Robinson," with "Accordion Salad Dressing" and then those "Pennsylvania Hills" rolling, rumbling with polka music, "day and night." Making this all happen is a list of lists, a collection of musicians with names like Lackowski, Gury (Dan and Matt), Zelasko, Kalinowski, Gury (Marie), Siwicz, Zelazny, Bozzarelli, Favot, Pawlak, and more.

"Check One, Two," rides the same musical train as the traditional "Lancer's Came," while "Accordion Salad Dressing," "None Do I Care For," and a Bobby Bobin Medley, "Sing Me Again," truly makes this the Greatest Polka Show on Earth.

Dan Gury has always created songs in different ways, some conventional and some from that internal music machine within him.

Ringmasters, Dan and Matt Gury, do everything but bring the pachyderm into your living room. They give you the Show of Shows with a cast of many.

This one is on the DIRC Record label. Don't wait, get your ticket today and enjoy The Greatest Polka Show on Earth.

## "Halfway to Dyngus" Party at The Nite-Cappe

BUFFALO, N.Y. — The Nite-Cappe, 1769 Abbott Rd, Lackawanna, NY 14218, will host a "Halfway to Dyngus Party" on Saturday, September 26, from 7:00-10:00 p.m., featuring the music of Buffalo's Special Delivery.

The Nite-Cappe, owned by the Sabuda family, is well known for its outstanding dinner and lunch menu. It will feature a fare of Polish American favorites for the polka party.

The kitchen will be open at noon.

Special Delivery is one of Buffalo's most versatile bands, playing everything from ethnic favorites to popular dance tunes of all types.

The band has just released its first studio project, "Blueprints for Dancing," on the Sunshine polka music label.

For more information, call The Nite-Cappe at (716) 825-9488.

TOLEDO POLONIA / Margaret Zotkiewicz-Dramczyk

## Biskup Memorial to Benefit North Star Reach

TOLEDO — For nearly a decade, Ron and Sue Biskup of Brighton, Michigan have built a legacy honoring their daughter Lisa Biskup. The Lisa Biskup Organ and Tissue Donation Foundation is the result of years of hard work that Ron and Sue and their many supporters have put into the issue of organ and tissue donation.

Many polka lovers around the Midwest have made an annual pilgrimage to Wyandotte, Michigan to attend the annual Lisa Biskup Memorial Benefit Dance at the end of April to attend the polka dance held in Lisa's memory. This event is the major fund raiser for the Lisa Biskup Organ and Tissue Donor Foundation. The very first dance was held in 2007, and has grown bigger and better ever since.

Recently, Ron and Sue informed me that North Star Reach — a children's camp for those struggling with chronic and life-threatening health challenges — is the target for money they raise through the annual Lisa Biskup Dance. North Star Reach is located in Pinckney, Michigan. This camp will be open year-round for weekly camp sessions. In addition, Family Camp Week-ends will be available for parents and siblings. Perhaps the best part of all, Camp North Star Reach is completely free of charge to campers and families, as a result of generous donations.

North Star Reach is a provisional member of the SeriousFun Children's Network founded by legend-

ary actor Paul Newman over 25 years ago. North Star Reach will be the ninth such camp in the U.S., out of 30 SeriousFun camps and program worldwide.

April 23, 2016 is the date for the last Lisa Biskup Benefit Dance in its present form. The line-up is as follows: Polka Country Musicians, Pan Franek and the Polka Towners, and featuring Concertina on Parade with Al Piatkowski and Lenny Gomulka on concertina, Mitch Biskup on bass, Ray Jay on drums, Jackie Libera on piano, musicians who are all Polka Hall of Famers.

If you are able to travel to Wyandotte for this dance, it is more than worth the effort to help support the cause Ron and Sue Biskup started to honor their daughter Lisa. For more information on the dance, Camp North Star Reach, and organ and tissue donation, check out the Lisa Biskup Memorial Benefit Dance website.

**UPCOMING.** Just like that, summer 2015 has come and gone and now it is time to look ahead to the fall and winter dance schedules. Lenny Gomulka makes a stop in Toledo on Saturday, September 26 for the first dance of the fall-winter season for TAPS. After such a successful Polish Summer Picnic, we look forward to seeing polka music fans, new and veteran, at the Conn-Weissenberger Hall starting at 7:00 p.m. For more info, please call (419) 276-1600, or check out the Toledo Area Polka Society's page on FaceBook.

## Polka Fireworks a Success

by Tish Blazonczyk

CHAMPION, Pa. — The 41st Annual Polka Fireworks was a huge success. All the bands did a great job! Polka Family was very entertaining at Big Dan's Pool party, and everyone was happy the rain stayed somewhere else. Big Dan & Marcia host that pool party each year, and it is one of the highlights of Polka Fireworks that always makes for a lot of fun and memories. Box On performed at Springs for the first time this year, and they were very well received. It's refreshing to see the younger generation getting excited for polkas. Ryan and Dee Dee Ogrodnny performed with Henny & the Versa J's at the polka Mass on Sunday morning, as well as at the dance that afternoon.

The Teen & Tween volleyball games and mixer event were organized by Randy Koslosky & Cindy Olszewski. We thank the IPA for sponsoring that event.

Paul Futa took the reins of the Concertina Jam in the Matterhorn Lounge with many concertina fans in attendance.

DJ Kenny Olowin provided the entertainment at the welcome party and pool parties, while S & D Polish Deli provided delicious Polish dishes throughout the weekend.

It takes a lot of dedicated volunteers to help run a festival like this, and the entire Blazonczyk family extends a most sincere thank you to all the committee members for their time, dedication and cooperation. Thank you to all the DJs and IJs for their help in promoting Polka Fireworks on their radio shows. Thank you to the polka publications and organization web sites that promote the festivals. Our sincere thanks to all the wonderful people who attended and enjoyed the festival.

The final Fall Fest at Seven Springs will be held Oct. 30- Nov. 1, 2015.

## OBITUARIES

### Concertina Virtuoso Jerome R. Kramarczyk Passes

CHICAGO — Jerome R. Kramarczyk, 78, formerly of Chicago, passed away June 7, 2015 in Belvidere, Ill.

He was a retiree of the Illinois Dept. of Conservation serving as a Conservation Police Officer, Game Warden, in Cook and McHenry Counties.

Kramarczyk was a concertina teacher, composer, and virtuoso. He was inducted into the World Concer-

tina Congress Hall of Fame in 1994, and was a founding member of the Bake House Players in Hebron, Ill., and a member of the River Bend Players.

Memorials may be made to Northern Illinois Hospice, 4215 Newburg Road, Rockford, IL 61108. Condolences may be shared with the family at [www.belviderefh.com](http://www.belviderefh.com).

### Promoter, Musician Jolly Joe Timmer

BETHLEHEM, Pa. — Polka Promoter, Jolly Joe Timmer died Monday, July 27, 2015.

Timmer started on WGPA Radio in the early 1950s and became a legend in the greater Bethlehem region.

Broadcasting or leading his polka band for more than 60 years, Timmer even played the first day of the first-ever Musikfest. He also broadcast his own cable polka show for many years.

Creating his own record label, he opened his music store in Bethlehem.

He was inducted into the International Polka Association's Polka Music Hall of Fame in 1990.

He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Dorothy. He is also survived by a sister and many nephews and nieces.

Private services were held at the convenience of the family.

## IN BRIEF

**"POLKA'S NOT DEAD" AUDIO DOCUMENTARY.** Parts 1 and 2 of the documentary "Polka's Not Dead," an insight of polka music enriching Minnesota's musical legacy, is available on SoundCloud. It was produced for and aired on KFAI MinneCulture Radio 90.1FM Minneapolis, and 106.7FM St. Paul.

The first part covers the history and significance of polka music in Minnesota from the 1800s to the 1940s, said Minnesota IJ Craig Ebel. The second part explores how this old world tradition has been kept alive, from World War II until today.

The host, Carrie Swiggum, has done her best to portray an accurate representation of the current polka scene as well as research Minne-

sota's musical past. Feedback is welcome.

To listen, go to [soundcloud.com/minneculture/](http://soundcloud.com/minneculture/) and search for the word "polka."

**TICKETS GO ON SALE FOR STURR CHRISTMAS SHOW.**

Tickets went on sale July 25 for the Jimmy Sturr Christmas Show at the Paramount Theatre in Middletown, N.Y. The Jimmy Sturr Orchestra and Singers, the Pokolonie Dancers and special guest Gary Puckett of the Union Gap will provide the entertainment.

Tickets are available from the State Theatre Box Office in Easton, Pa. at (610) 252-3132. For groups of 10 or more call (800) 724-0727 for special rates.

## DANCE TIME / Jen Pijanowski

## Happy Richie Bojczuk Surprises Picnickers

BUFFALO — The Buffalo Polka Boosters held its annual picnic on a gorgeous sunny July Sunday afternoon. Phocus provided the polka beat as members danced on the large dance floor in the wooden pavilion at Fontana's Grove in Cheektowaga. Fontana's provided an afternoon of food where no one left hungry. Hamburgers, hotdogs, Polish sausage, several salads, corn on the cob, watermelon, and pitchers of beer were available most of the afternoon as part of the admission.

Band members are always eager to take requests and perform polka classics, while mixing in some unconventional polka takes on standard music. Phocus is always willing to invite fellow musicians to sit in for a few songs, which provides an added bonus to their typical repertoire. This year's 39th annual picnic was no exception as surprise guest Happy Richie Bojczuk showed up to sing a few songs. With his trademark song book in hand, he humbly took the stage performing his most well-known tunes. Members crowded around Richie as he smiled and sang with a chorus of many fans joining in. There were several of his previous band members in attendance who thoroughly enjoyed getting the time to catch up with this local polka icon. Stepping back into the spotlight seems somewhat unnatural to Richie, but fans beckoned him to return to performing more often at local events. Buffalo is home to many musicians and it was a welcome site to see so many of them supporting a local polka club.

**ANCHORS AWAY.** The very next night, we got the chance to enjoy even more of the beautiful Western

New York summer aboard the *Miss Buffalo* boat cruise. The Kutas family hosted the annual event this year with the Buffalo Touch. It was a picture perfect night as Lake Erie remained calm and the sunset was glorious. The boat took a trip northward on the lake to Crystal Beach, Ontario. Taking this route is not typical as



**THE BIELA FAMILY:** Pam Biela, Rich Biela, Casey Tucker, Michael Biela, Jen and Ben Omaitis, and Debbie Barnes



A.J. Okrzesik and Eric Bakowski at St. Casimir's.



Chris Sikorski, Christy Nowakowski, and Jen Sikorski.

usually the waters are too rough to venture that far into the lake upon this vessel. Buffalo Touch with guest Tommy Wanderlich kept the mixed crowd dancing and clapping along to the polka beat. They even played a few country tunes in the mix as Steve Michaels showcased his vocal talents. During the short breaks for the band, a DJ provided modern dance tunes for the dozen of dancers crowding the floor. The music and breathtaking scenes of the

Buffalo skyline made this one of my fondest memories of the summer.

**LUCKY ME.** On a whim, I decided to drive to West Virginia for a 24-hour visit to surprise my sister on her 40th birthday. Upon making dinner reservations at one of her favorite restaurants in downtown Wheeling, I found out that it was a Waterfront Wednesday. The outdoor Heritage Port offers magnificent views of the Ohio River and the iconic Wheeling Suspension Bridge, which is among the oldest operating ones in the world. Waterfront Wednesday is a free musical community event offered throughout the summer. As luck would have it, it happened to be a polka band on this particular Wednesday. I decided to walk over after dinner and to my surprise many of my polka friends from the Ohio Valley were in attendance. Nu Tones from Pennsylvania were in full swing keeping the rather large audience captivated

peppy sounds of the band playing "Roll Out the Barrel." They belted out one polka favorite after another grabbing the attention of not only those attending but anyone within ear shot of their delightful sound. I was lucky enough to run into polka lovers, Johnnetta Vinka and her entire family who are always on hand to support polka music. Next as I headed towards the band, I spotted Rich Biela, who plays with Charlie Tansek and Stephanie. I spent some time talking with Rich and his entire family. It was an unexpected surprise getting to hear some polkas on my quick trip to Wheeling. It is amazing to me that growing up, I had no idea that polkas existed in

the capacity which I now appreciate. It was a cherished moment to enjoy the exhilaration of the Nu-Tones while basking in the scenery of the town which I will always call home.

**ANCHORS AWAY II.** A rainy evening lent itself to yet another polka cruise on the *Miss Buffalo*. This time Phocus supplied the music and atmosphere for this event sponsored by Potts Deli and Banquet Hall. Familiar polka faces scurried on board as the weather seemed questionable for the evening. It was a full house for this evening's expedition onto the water. Phocus started the evening up with a crowd favorite, "Don't Close Your Eyes." Tommy Picciano was a guest trumpet player for the night and added a pleasing accompaniment to the band. Johnny Wanderlich was also on hand playing the concertina. The ride was a little rough, making for much frivolity among passengers until it finally settled down during a slow ride on the Niagara River. After a few hours on the water, lightening was illuminating the sky. The captain decided it was safer to take the boat back to the dock. That did not stop the party, as Phocus played dockside for the last hour of the cruise. This allowed many couples to get up and enjoy dancing without running the risk of the boat swinging and swaying. The unpredictable Buffalo weather made for unique memories and much fun on the boat ride. Thanks to the Potts family for giving us another chance to enjoy our favorite music outside during these short summer months.

**BELLOW OUT.** Congratulations to Ron Urbanczyk, who is being inducted into the 2015 World Concertina Congress Hall of Fame. He is one of only four from Buffalo who have been inducted with the Hall's 249 concertina players.

He is being recognized for his endeavors to promote the instrument.

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For information, contact Barbara Falcone at (716) 897-3618  
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**POLKA CALENDAR / John Ziobrowski**

To list your event, please send date, band, location, times, and contact number to johnzz@cox.net.

**SEPTEMBER 4**

- The Polka Whoo. Evergreen German Club. Fleetwood, Pa. 7-11. (610) 944-7501
- Polka Family/The Knewz/Buffalo Touch. IPA Festival. Buffalo, N.Y (800) 867-6552

**SEPTEMBER 5**

- Lenny Gomulka. Roosevelt Hall. Norvelt, Pa. (724) 423-8558
- Dennis Polisky/IPA Tribute Band/Polka Country Musicians. IPA Festival. Buffalo, N.Y. (800) 867-6552
- The Boys/Walt Wagner. Our Lady of Czestochowa. Doylestown, Pa. (215) 345-0600
- Joe Stanky Cadets. St. Mary Church. Mocanaqua Pa. 5:30-9:30. (570) 542-4157
- Jimmy Sturr. Allentown Fair. Allentown Pa. 5 p.m. (610) 433-7541

**SEPTEMBER 6**

- The Shoreliners. St. Marys Picnic. Mocanaqua Pa. 5-9. (570) 544-2805
- Lenny Gomulka/Freeze Dried/Tony Blazonczyk. IPA Festival. Buffalo, N.Y. (800) 867-6552
- John Gora/Tamburitzans/Goralasi. Our Lady of Czestochowa. Doylestown, Pa. (215) 345-0600
- Rich Bobinski Orchestra. Roosevelt Park. Blackstone, Mass. 2-6. (508) 294-1512
- The Boys. Evergreen German Club. Fleetwood, Pa. 2-6. (610) 944-7501
- Jimmy Sturr. PLAV Pavilion. Pine Island, N.Y. (845) 258-4168
- Polka Pals. Polish Club. Daytona Beach, Fl. (386) 258-7059

**SEPTEMBER 8**

- Special Delivery. Town Hall Senior Center Pavilion. Cheektowaga N.Y. 6-8. (716) 686-3400
- Buffalo Touch. River Grill. Tonawanda N.Y. 6:30-9:30. (716) 873-2553

**SEPTEMBER 11**

- Joe Stanky & Cadets. Mohegan Sun Casino. Wilkes Barre, Pa. (888) 946-4672

**SEPTEMBER 12**

- John Stevens DoubleShot. Mohegan Sun Casino. Wilkes Barre, Pa. (888) 946-4672
- Polka Family/Dennis Polisky/Effect Band. Our Lady of Czestochowa. Doylestown, Pa. (215) 345-0600

**SEPTEMBER 13**

- Dennis Polisky Maestros Men. Pulasaki Park. Three Rivers, Mass. 2:30-6:30
- T.K.O./Polish American String Band/Pectus. Our Lady of Czestochowa. Doylestown, Pa. (212) 345-0600
- Eddie Derwin Polka Naturals. VFW. Dupont, Pa. 2-6. (570) 654-9104
- The Swingmasters, Beaver Meadows Community Stage. Beaver Meadows, Pa. (724) 773-6700
- Pennsylvania Villagers. BVM Church. Egypt Park. Egypt, Pa. 3-7. egyptmemorialpark@gmail.com
- The Golden Tones. Roosevelt Hallo. Norvelt, Pa. (724) 423-8558
- John Stevens DoubleShot. Epiphany of Our Lord. Annandale, Virg. 12-6. (703) 573-0777
- Northern Sounds. Polish Club. Belview, Fl. 2-5. (727) 753-9631
- Frankie K Band. Polish Club, Daytona. Fl. 2-5 (386) 258-7059
- Special Delivery. Clinton Bar & Grill.

West Seneca N.Y. 4:30-7:30

**SEPTEMBER 14**

- Walt Wagner. Riverfront Polish Festival. Wilmington Del. 7-10. (302) 594-1400

**SEPTEMBER 15**

- Polka Family. Aqua Turf Club. Plantsville, Conn. 11-3:30. (860) 621-9335
- Mike Niemec Variety Band. Riverfront Polish Fest. Wilmington Del. 7-11. (302) 594-1400

**SEPTEMBER 16**

- John Stevens DoubleShot. Riverfront Polish Festival. Wilmington Del. 7-10. (302) 594-1400
- Crabtown Sound. PolkaMotion. Rehoboth Beach Del. 7 p.m. (410) 654-4724

**SEPTEMBER 17**

- TKO. St. Hedwigg Riverfront Polish Festival. Wilmington Del. 7-10. (302) 594-1400
- Polka Family/The Knewz. PolkaMotion. Rehoboth Beach Del. 6-12. (410) 654-4724
- Buffalo Touch. Polish Falcons. Depew N.Y. 8-10:30. (716) 847-0839

**SEPTEMBER 18**

- Crabtown Sound. Riverfront Polish Festival. Wilmington Del. 7-10. (302) 594-1400
- Eddie Forman/Lenny Gomulka/The Boys/Polka Country Musicians. PolkaMotion. Rehoboth Beach Del. 4-1. (410) 654-4724
- Polka Family Band. Roncesville Polish Fest. Toronto Ca. 6 p.m. (416) 388-2704
- The Continentals. The Waldhorn. Charlotte NC. 6-11. (704) 540-7047

**SEPTEMBER 19**

- Dynasonics/Old School/The Knewz/Lenny Gomulka. PolkaMotion. Rehoboth Beach Del. 4-1. (414) 654-4724
- Golden Tones. Riverfront Polish Festival. Wilmington Del. 7-10. (202) 594-1400
- The Continentals. The Waldhorn. Charlotte NC. 6-11. (704) 540-7047
- Special Delivery Band. Polka Mass. St. James & St. Augustine Oratory. Depew N.Y. (716) 683-2746
- Jimmy Sturr. Mountain Creek Resort. Vernon N.J. 12:30 p.m. (973) 827-2000
- Buffalo Touch. Corpus Christi Church Dozynki. Buffalo N.Y. 1-5. (716) 683-2746

**SEPTEMBER 20**

- Special Delivery. Corpus Christi Church Dozynki. Buffalo N.Y. 3-7. (716) 896-1050
- Dennis Poliski. German Club. Pawtucket RI. 2-6. (401) 723-3549
- The Shoreliners. VFW. Dupont Pa. (570) 654-9104
- Walt Groller. Sacred Heart Parish. Cornwall Pa. 2-6. (717) 273-1574
- Polka Classics. Polish Club. Daytona Beach Fla. 1-5. (386) -258-7059
- Jimmy Sturr. Mountain Creek Resort. Vernon N.J. 12:30 PM (973) 827-2000

**SEPTEMBER 23**

- Special Delivery. Polka Variety Social Club Meeting. Leonard Post. Cheektowaga N.Y. 7:30-10. (716) 684-4371

**SEPTEMBER 24**

- John Stevens Doubleshot. Tussey Mountain. Boalsburg Pa. 4-9. (814) 466-6266

**SEPTEMBER 25**

- Polka Family. Honors Haven Resort. Ellenville. N.Y. 8 p.m. (908) 722-9025
- Joe Stanky Cadets. Honors Haven Resort. Ellenville N.Y. (908) 722-9025
- John Stevens DoubleShot. Appalachian Brewing Co. Harrisburg Pa. 6-9 (717) 221-1080
- Walt Wagner. Cavalier's CC. Newark Del. 6-11. (302) 737-1200

**SEPTEMBER 26**

- John Stevens Doubleshot. Kingsland Park. Sleepy Hollow N.Y. 1-5. (914) 366-5109
- Polka Family. Blue Mtn. Resort. Palmyerton Pa. 1 p.m. (610) 826-7700
- Special Delivery. Halfway to Dyngus Day Party. Nite-Cappe. Lackawanna, NY 7-10. (716) 825-9488
- Joe Stanky Cadets. Quassy Amusement Park. Middlebury Conn. (800) 367-7275
- Mike Surratt Continentals. Capital Ale House. Richmond Virg. (804) 780-2537
- Walt Wagner. Cape May Airport. Cape May N.J. 7-10. (609) 886-8787
- Eastern Sound Orch. Masonic Hall. Ipswich Mass. 1-5. (978) 356-9716
- Jimmy Sturr. Heinless. Cohecton N.Y. 2 p.m. . (845) 252-3354
- The Atlanta Polka Band. Village Corner Restaurant. Stone Mtn. Ga. 5-8:30. (770) 498-0329
- New Direction Band. Darien Lake. Darien Lake N.Y. 3:30-7:30. (844) 854-1450

**SEPTEMBER 27**

- Dennis Polisky. Polish American Club. West Haven Conn. 1-5. (203) 933-9976
- The Golden Tones. VFW. Dupont Pa. 2-6. (570) 654-9104
- Tony Blazonczyk/Lenny Gomulka. Cascade Park. New Castle Pa. 1-7. (724) 656-3510
- Eddie Derwin. PACC. Lyndhurst N.J. 2-6. (201) 438-9723
- John Stevens DoubleShot. Quassy Amusement Park. Middlebury Conn. (800) 367-7275
- Northern Lites. Polish Club. Daytona Beach Fla. 2-5. (386) 258-7059
- Lenny Gomulka/Tony Blazonczyk. Cascade Park. Newcastle Pa. (724) 656-3510

**OCTOBER 1**

- The Continentals. Liederkrantz Club. Reading Pa. 6-10. (610) 373-3982
- October 2
- Polka Family Band. Pilsner Haus. Hoboken N.J. 7-11. (201) 683-5465
- John Stevens. VFW Carnival Grounds.

- Mifflinburg Pa. 7-11. (570) 966-0483
- Polka Country Musicians. Festhalle. Asbury Park N.J. 9-12. (782) 997-8767

**OCTOBER 3**

- Polka Family Band. Pilsner Haus. Hoboken N.J. 7-11. (201) 683-5465
- The Golden Tones. St. Mary Church. Hamburg Pa. 1-4. (610) 562-7657
- Jimmy Sturr. Tioga Casino. Nichols N.Y. 2 p.m. (845) 252-3354
- Special Delivery. Jackie Schmid Memorial Scholarship Fundraiser
- Lily of The Valley Hall. Cheektowaga N.Y. 5-9. (716) 668-6800
- John Stevens. Festhalle. Asbury Park N.J. 9-12. (782) 997-8767
- Mike Surratt Continentals. The Fairgrounds. Frederick Md. 5:30-10. (240) 599-0660
- Rich Bobinski Orchestra. Aqua Turf. Plantsville, Conn. evening. (860) 621-9335
- The Atlanta Polka Band. Trinity Church. Lilburn Ga. 4-9. (770) -972-4418
- Maestros Men. Turner Hall. Clinton Mass. 12-6. (978) 365-9764

**OCTOBER 4**

- The Eastern Sound. The German Club. Pawtucket RI. 2-6. (401) 569-6427
- New Brass Express. Roosevelt Hall. Norvelt Pa. 3-7. (724) 423-8558
- Mike Surratt. The Fairgrounds. Frederick Md. 12:30-5:30. (240) 599-0660
- Joe Lastovica & Polka Punch. VFW. Dupont Pa. 2-6. (570) 654-9104
- John Stevens. Blue Mountain. Palmyerton Pa. 12-6. (610) 826-7700
- The Golden Tones. Pulaski Day Parade. 5th Ave N.Y. N.Y. 12-5
- Polka Country Musicians. PACC. Ludlow Mass. 2-6. (413) 583-6385

**OCTOBER 6**

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

**OCTOBER 9**

- John Stevens. Pilsner Haus. Hoboken N.J. 8-12. (201) 683-5465

**OCTOBER 10**

- Jimmy Sturr. Hunter Mountain. Hunter N.Y. 1 p.m. (800) 486-8376
- Eastern Sound. Loon Mountain. Lincoln NH. 12-5. (603) 745-8111
- The Knewz/The Boys. Meadows Casino. Washington Pa. 7-12. (724) 503-1200
- John Stevens. Festhalle. Asbury Park N.J. 9-12. (782) 997-8767

- Ray Jay Carousels. Sacred Heart Church. Jennette Pa. 4:30 p.m. (724) 523-2560

- Eddie Forman. St. Joseph's Polish Society. Colchester Conn. 6:30-10:30. (860) 537-2550

- The Atlanta Polka Band. Village Corner Restaurant. Stone Mtn. Ga. 5-8:30. (770) 498-0329

**OCTOBER 11**

- Eastern Sound. Loon Mountain. Lincoln NH. 12-5. (603) 745-8111
- Andy Fenus TrelTones. Slovenian Hall. Yukon Pa. 3-7. (724) 722-9700
- Joe Stanky. VFW . Dupont Pa. 2-6. (570) 654-9104
- Maestros Men. Italian Center. Poughkeepsie N.Y. 2-6. (845) -1492

**OCTOBER 15**

- Special Delivery. Polish Falcons. Depew N.Y. 8 p.m. (716) 684-2373

**OCTOBER 16**

- Mike Surratt Continentals. Dominion Bldg. Richmond Virg. 8-12. (804) 451-4344

**OCTOBER 17**

- Mike Surratt. Dominion Bldg. Richmond Virg. 8-12. (804) 451-4344
- John Stevens. Maryland Zoo. Baltimore Md. 12-4. (410) 396-7102
- Special Delivery. Polkasino Bus Trip. Francis Donovan Post, Genesee St., Cheektowaga. Ted. (716) 668-9101
- Eastern Sound. St. Thomas Church. Peabody Mass. 5-9. (978) 531-6517
- The Atlanta Polka Band. High Hampton Inn. Cashier NC. 12-4. (828) 743-4012
- Maestros Men. Ocean Mist. Maturuck RI. 2-5. (401) 782-3740
- Buffalo Touch. Potts Banquet Hall. Cheektowaga N.Y. (716) 826-6575

**OCTOBER 18**

- Eastern Sound. Dom Polski. Lowell Mass. 1-5. (978) 452-8262
- The NuTones. Polish Falcons Hall. Pleasant Pa. 3-7. (412) 922-2244
- Eddie Derwin Polka Naturals. Sacred Heart Parish. Cornwall Pa. 2-6. (717) 273-1574
- George Tarasek Polka Partners. VFW. Dupont Pa. (570) 6549104
- John Stevens. Fire Hall. Glenfield N.Y. 1-5. (315) 376-2135
- Dynabrass. PACC. Ludlow Mass. 2-6. (413) 583-6385
- The Continentals. Md. Oktoberfest. Timonium Fair grounds. Timonium Md. 12-6. (410) 252-0200

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**A TRIBUTE TO RAY HENRY**  
**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2015 • 2:00-6:00 P.M.**  
**SARATOGA KofC HALL**  
 50 Pine Ridge Road, Saratoga Springs, N.Y.  
 Music by the Big Band Sound of  
**Dennis Polisky & The Maestro's Men**  
 (Ray Henry Tribute Big Band with Extra Musicians)  
**LIVE Polka Jammer Network**  
**Radio Broadcast 2:00-5:00 p.m.**  
**LIVE Jam Cam Video and Simulcast: www.polkajammernetwork.org**  
 MC: PETER J. DANIELCZUK • NARRATOR: KAREN OLSZEWSKI  
 Cash Bar & Kitchen. No BYOB  
**ADVANCE PAYMENT REQUIRED TO RESERVE SEATS**  
 All Tickets \$15.00 per person. No Tables Held  
**Reservations: Mail Check to Steve Coblisch, 4B Harwich Manor, Ballston Lake, NY 12019**  
 DJs / IJs / VIPS Call Steve (518) 899-3061 if you plan to attend




## AMERICAN POLONIA AT A GLANCE

## Goodbye, Old Friend

ELIZABETH, N.J. — After nearly 90 years of hosting Polish and polka events, the Bayway Polish Home is no more.

The Pulaski Street enclave, the state's last holdout along a once well-traveled polka circuit, has gone dark, a casualty of the city's dwindling Polish population, rising expenses and, well, a lack of aficionados for an unabashedly old-school aesthetic.

The club drew about 300 from as far as Massachusetts and Maryland for a farewell dance on Aug. 24.

"I like to think it's a cycle, but I don't think so," said Eddie Forman, whose band, based in Hadley, Mass., closed out an 80-plus-year run in Elizabeth with a rendition of the "Bartender's Polka." "There's not many people interested in polka."

Twenty years ago, the promise of trumpets, saxophones and a squeeze box could draw a few hundred to a squat brick and cinder-block building on the edge of an industrial district, but in the last few years, far fewer were turning up, said Charles Kazanecki, the organization's president.

"Now we're down to 50," he said. "People aren't coming out to dance."

Following a late-19th century tidal wave of Polish immigration, nearly one in nine inhabitants of the Bayway neighborhood claimed Polish ancestry in 1910, according to a recent account of the neighborhood by the Historical Society of Eliza-



PHOTO: NORA MISLAN

**THE BAYWAY POLISH HOME** in Elizabeth, New Jersey, was a hot spot for wedding receptions, banquets, polka dances, and countless other community events.

beth.

By 1990, after the fall of communism and an immigration mini-boom from Eastern Europe, 7,100 city residents — or 6.5 percent of the population — identified themselves as having Polish ancestry, according to the U.S. Census. By 2010, the number of Polish residents had shrunk to 2,597, or 2 percent of the city's inhabitants.

The Freedom Club of Joseph Pilsudski, named for a Polish statesman of the early 20th century, was a merger, in 1923, of two independent societies in Bayway. Each had grown out of recent arrivals' desire for a community. Construction of the clubhouse, on Bayway Avenue, was finished in 1929, according to a history of the club on its webpage.

The club sponsored sports teams and events. It also hosted weddings,

banquets and, in time, dances.

After World War II, returning Polish veterans eventually remodeled it so that it could hold the standing-room-only audiences crowding in to listen and dance to popular Polish bands.

In 1964, the clubhouse found itself in the way of the Turnpike's expansion project. It was demolished.

A new clubhouse opened in 1967 on what was then called Brunswick Avenue, but was soon renamed Pulaski Street.

The new building prospered for years, until demographics took its toll. The last straw came when damage from Hurricane Sandy ruined the dance floor roof. At that point, officers decided to sell the building.

The site will be home to new soccer and softball fields, said Elizabeth Mayor Bollwage.

## OCTOBER IS POLISH HERITAGE MONTH JOIN THE CELEBRATION



Dear Friend of Polonia:

**October is Polish American Heritage Month**, and the Polish American Journal invites you to join the celebration! You can participate by sending greetings to American Polonia in the form of patron advertising in the October edition of the PAJ. This special edition will contain greetings from friends, businesses and organizations who are **proud of their Polish roots**.

By being part of this **special edition**, we ask you for your help in strengthening the ties between all Americans of Polish descent during Polish American Heritage Month. This month is set aside to honor those whose selfless dedication helps to preserve our rich Polish traditions.

Through your patronage, we are able us to bring American Polonia a paper it can be proud of, as it is our mission to **keep alive the traditions** which define us. Every month we publish the good news about Poles Americans of Polish descent who make a difference in the world today.

To guarantee placement of your ad in the Polish Heritage Month edition, please return the form below with your check in the enclosed return envelope by **September 17th, 2015**.

We thank you in advance for your support.

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## Alliance Alumni Association Foundation Announces Call for Scholarship Applicants

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio — The Alliance College Alumni Association, thru the arm of its 501(c)(3) Foundation, is accepting applications for its annual scholarship. Graduating high school seniors as well as students enrolled as full-time students in post-secondary colleges, universities, or technical schools are eligible for the \$1500 award.

Eligible students will have at least a 2.0 academic average. While all majors are considered, preference will be given to an applicant majoring in Polish language, culture, or history. Additional preference will be given to applicants related to an Alliance College (or Alliance Tech-

nical School) alumnus.

Applications must be postmarked no later than September 15, 2015.

The Foundation Trustees will select the winner after reviewing overall academic achievement as well as interest and involvement in their community and Polish culture.

"The alumni scholarship program provides us an opportunity to keep alive the legacy of Alliance College. The scholarship is open to all students or Polish descent," says Richard Day, ACAAF President.

For further information contact Richard Day, ACAAF President, at (330) 858-3712 or email rjd44282@hotmail.com.

## Jedliniok to Perform in Buffalo, September 13

BUFFALO, N.Y. — Join the Polish Heritage Dancers for an unforgettable evening featuring Jedliniok, (Zespół Pieśni i Tańca Jedliniok on Facebook) a Polish folk dance group from Poland.

The performance, presenting live music and dancing is a beautiful representation of Polish culture and is wonderful for children and adults alike.

Jedliniok was created in 1975. Members of the ensemble are students of the Agricultural University of Wrocław and other university centers in Wrocław.

In addition to regional dances, national Polish dances — polonaise, mazur and krakowiak — are also included in their repertoire. The ensemble gives performances during very important cultural events in the

city and it attends festivals, outdoor activities, reviews and university student celebrations.

The group has performed in many countries and on different continents, representing Poland in numerous international folk festivals.

Jedliniok will perform on Sunday, Sept. 13 at Our Lady of Sacred Heart Church Hall, 3148 Abbott Rd., in Orchard Park at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door. Tickets are available from Am-Pol Eagle Newspaper, (3620 Harlem Rd., Cheektowaga, (716) 835-9454); and Salt Lamps Etc. (5274 Broadway, Lancaster (716) 564-9286).

For more, please call Michelle (716) at 983-5084 or Irene (716) 681-0813.

## City to Demo Fronczak Home

by Gregory Witul

BUFFALO, N.Y. (Am-Pol Eagle) — Erring on the side of caution, City Court Judge Patrick Carney issued an order on Aug. 18 for the demolition of 806 Fillmore Ave., the former home of Dr. Francis Fronczak, a Polish American patriot.

Carney listened to preservationist Monica Rzepka, who spoke about the importance of the building. According to the New York State Historic Preservation Office, the Fronczak home met the requirements to be placed on the U.S. National Register of Historic Places. (Ignacy Jan Paderewski, who became prime minister of the 2nd Re-

public of Poland, and Nobel Prize recipient Wladyslaw Reymont had visited Fronczak at the address).

As part of that coalition, James Serafin spoke about plans to raise — in conjunction with a neighborhood housing organization — a first round of funding (\$50,000) to secure the site which would allow them to raise additional funds.

Opposing its preservation, a dozen or so neighbors said the abandoned "ghost building" is dilapidated and a fire hazard.

The former owner the the property died without an estate making it difficult to transfer the property to a new owner.

## Fulton Polish Fest

**September 19, 2015**  
**Noon to 7:00 pm**  
**Fulton Polish Home**  
153 West First Street South (Rt 48)  
Fulton, New York

- Free Admission
- Polish Food
- Polish Beer
- Polka Dancing to Live Polka Music

Featuring:

**"Buffalo's The Concertina AllStars"**  
**3pm - 7pm**

- kicking off the event-  
**Jasiu and his accordion**

Hot Dogs and Hamburgers also available  
Proceeds will benefit the Polish Home Building Fund  
www.fultonpolishhome.weebly.com

