

# POLISH AMERICAN JOURNAL

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SPECIAL-NEEDS CHILDREN  
EXPERIENCE A JOURNEY  
OF THEIR DREAMS  
PAGE 11

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

**A LESSON IN FREEDOM FROM NOT-SO-LONG AGO • OUTLINE OF POLISH-STYLE CHRISTMAS • THE STORY OF GRONK KARSKI EXHIBIT IN WISCONSIN • PLANNING AHEAD FOR WIECZERZA WIGILIJA • WARSZAWA ON THE "WUKADKA" GERMANY'S "SELECTIVE MEMORY" • TRANSLATING RECORDS FROM POLISH AND LATIN • RECALLING HALECKI'S GENIUS**

## NEWSMARK

**RULING LACKS TEETH.** The European Court of Human Rights says Russia has failed to explain why it kept key files secret when it investigated the 1940 Katyn massacre of more than 20,000 Polish war prisoners.

Russia failed to comply with a human rights obligation to provide evidence, the Strasbourg judges ruled. But they also said the court had no authority to rule on the inquiry.

Soviet Russia only admitted in 1990 that its forces, and not the Nazis, had carried out the atrocity.

The court said it did not have competence to rule on Russia's handling of the Katyn investigation because too much time had elapsed between the massacre and the entry into force of the Convention.

"We are rather disappointed by this verdict," said Poland's deputy foreign minister, Artur Nowak-Far. "The ruling does not take into account all the arguments of the Polish side that have here a great moral and historic right."

Andrzej Melak, president of the Association of the Families of Katyn Victims, called the judgment "scandalous," adding that it was "inadmissible and incomprehensible."

— *Agence France-Presse BBC and NYTimes reports*

**FAMILY THAT SHELTERED JEWS HONORED.** A 97-year-old Polish woman and her late husband were honored by Israel's Yad Vashem Institute, Oct. 25, as "righteous gentiles."

Bronislaw Golonka and her husband Jan provided shelter to a five-person Jewish family on a farm near Bochnia, southern Poland, during the German occupation of Poland. Max Halpern, one of the children saved by the couple, spent many years searching for the Golonka family. He and family members travelled from Israel to Wroclaw, in southwest Poland, to be reunited with his wartime savior.

Halpern recalled how the Golonka family created a special hiding place on their farm. According to Nazi German laws, those who aided Jews could be summarily executed along with their immediate family. A second family that helped the Halperns during the war was honored by Yad Vashem in 1989.

**COMPENSATION SOUGHT.** Poland is determined to get compensation from Boeing for the glitches haunting its 787 Dreamliner jets, which are used by the country's state-controlled carrier LOT, its treasury minister said.

LOT is one of the 13 airlines that fly the 787, which was expected to be a game-changer for the aviation industry as its use of lighter materials and new engines promised 20 percent savings in fuel consumption.

LOT has already said it was demanding compensation for lost revenue linked to a number of Dreamliner problems and has given Boeing until the end of the year to settle over faults or face court action.

The Polish flag carrier, which has struggled for years with huge operating losses, has estimated the cost of Dreamliner problems at \$32.1 million.

"Besides a loss of face, this also disrupts LOT's coming out of the woods in the course of restructuring," Włodzimierz Karpinski told Polish public radio in an interview.

**VANCOUVER TEEN ANN MAKOSINSKI** won Google's global science fair with her project demonstrating how a flashlight can be powered with nothing more than the heat from the palm of your hand.

Makosinski, whose entry was chosen from among thousands to represent Canada at Google's global fair at the company's headquarters in California, created what she dubbed "The Hollow Flashlight," to show how humans can be a source of thermal energy.

The inspiration for her project was a friend in the Philippines who failed at school because she had no light to study by once it got dark. Her experience left the 15-year-old Makosinski determined to find a way to power a light without batteries or electricity.

Makosinski, an 11th grade student at St. Michael's school in Vincent, said she has signed a confidentiality agreement with a company to produce the light.

## In Bronze from Tip to Toe



Surrounded by family, Boston Red Sox Hall-of-Famer **Carl Yastrzemski** give a glance to his image in bronze, following its dedication outside Gate B at Fenway Park. The statue "Yaz" captures the legend tipping his cap after his final at-bat at Fenway in 1983. Yastrzemski played his entire 23-year major league career with the Red Sox. *Story on page 18.*

## Sacred Soil Finds a Home in Minnesota



Sacred soil from Kielpin Cemetery in Lomianki, Poland finds its way to Columbia Heights, Minnesota via the USS Intrepid.

by Gilbert J. Mros

**COLUMBIA HEIGHTS, Minn.** — When Dolores Strand of Columbia Heights opened her email inbox on July 17, she found an unexpected message from an unknown sender. As a result, Columbia Heights has an artifact from its Sister City, Lomianki, Poland.

The message was from Edyta Piatek, staff accountant at the Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum in New York City. In it, Piatek described how during a 2007 renovation of the museum, then curator John Zukowsky located some artifacts that were related to Poland and its history. Among them was a small wooden box containing earth from the Kiel-  
*See "Sacred Soil," page 5*

## Poland's International Situation

An Interview with **Dr. Marek Chodakiewicz** of the Institute of World Politics, Washington

**D**r. Marek Jan Chodakiewicz holds the Kościuszko Chair in Polish Studies as professor of history at the Institute of World Politics (IWP) in Washington, D.C. With a Ph.D. from Columbia University in New York, Chodakiewicz has previously taught at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles and the University of Virginia. A regular contributor to popular and scholarly journals, Dr. Chodakiewicz is author of more than 15 books, including *Intermarium: The Land Between the Black and Baltic Seas* (New Brunswick, NJ: Transaction, 2012). He spoke with the *Polish American Journal* about Poland in the world today.



*2014 is the 25th anniversary of the formal end of Communism in Poland. What do you think of Poland's international situation today: its position, its strengths, and its weaknesses?*

Communism did not end in Poland in 1989. Totalitarianism is like a disease. Poland was not cured miraculously then. The system persists chronically, having transformed itself as post-Communism. That's why Poland's position is not as strong as it should be. It has not taken full advantage of the implosion of the USSR. It

has also not reformed itself adequately. Continuity is the rule; we need discontinuity from Communism.

Poland's neighborhood is mixed. Germany is united. Former Czechoslovakia is, like Poland, free and in NATO. Russia is authoritarian. Belarus never really abandoned the worst of its old system. Lithuania is free. Ukraine doesn't seem to know where it belongs.

*See "Chodakiewicz ..." page 4*

## Beloved Native Son to Become 36th Polish Saint

April 27, 2014 Set as Official Canonization Date

by Robert Strybel

**WARSAW** — People in this staunchly Catholic land of 38 million were happy to learn that next April 27th their favorite native son would be elevated to the altar and become known as St. John Paul II. But bells did not ring out and crowds did not rush to churches in thanksgiving as they did back in October 1978 when Kraków Archbishop Karol Wojtyła was elected pope.

The first non-Italian pope in 455 years surprised Catholics world-wide and the first pontiff from behind the iron curtain sent shock waves across the Soviet bloc. Initial disbelief, surprise and joy also spread across our Polonia like wildfire. But his canonization 36 years later had  
*See "John Paul II," page 5*

## ALMANAC



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## November Listopad

"Let us be honest. In war, as in medicine, natural causes not under our control do much. In the present case, the great tacticians of the campaign were hills and forests, which a young Polish Engineer was skilful enough to select for my encampment."

— Gen. Horatio Gates, to Dr. Benjamin Rush, giving credit to Thaddeus Kosciuszko's strategy and military sense of terrain that gave the Continental Army a distinct advantage over the British at the 1777 Battle of Saratoga.

- 1 **ALL SAINTS' DAY**  
*Wszystkich Swietych*
- 2 **ALL SOULS' DAY**  
*Dzien Zaduszny* or *Zaduszki*. 1788. Piotr Stadnicki loans United States \$15 million and forms the Holland Land Company.
- 3 **ST. HUBERT**  
1930. First regular broadcast of the weekly *Fr. Justin Rosary Hour*, now the oldest Polish language radio program in America.
- 4 1937. Birth of television, film and stage actress Loretta Swit (M\*A\*S\*H).
- 5 1370. Death of Kazimierz III the Great (b. 1330).
- 6 1939. Nazis arrest 182 instructors at Jagiellonian University, who are then sent to the Sachsenhausen concentration camp.
- 7 1867. Birth of Polish chemist and physicist Marie Sklodowska Curie, in Warsaw, Poland.
- 8 1946. Fr. Karol Wojtyla (Pope John Paul II), says first Mass at his parish church in Wadowice.
- 10 1914. Buffalo, N.Y. native Joseph A. Rozan appointed Polish interpreter to the Supreme Court.
- 11 **ST. MARTIN**  
Goose is traditional meal of the day in Poland. A winter weather forecast is then made according to the color of breastbone—white (much snow); mottled (variable); black (light); black and white (mixed).  
1918. Independence of Poland is reestablished by the Central Powers during World War I.
- 12 **ST. JOSEPHAT**
- 13 **ST. STANISLAUS KOSTKA**
- 15 1916. Death of Henryk Sienkiewicz, 70, Polish novelist, 1905 Nobel literature prize winner, in Vevey, Switzerland.
- 16 1846. Free City of Kraków incorporated into the Austrian Empire.
- 17 1891. Ignacy Paderewski gives his first concert in America.
- 18 1655. Swedes besiege the Jasna Gora monastery.
- 20 1914. Birth of Polish actor-director Henryk Tomaszewski.
- 21 1920. Birth of Stan Musial, famed baseball star with the St. Louis Cardinals.
- 23 1227. Assassination of Leszek I the White
- 25 1764. Coronation of Stanislaw August Poniatowski, St. John's Cathedral, Warsaw.
- 26 1855. Death of Polish poet and author Adam Mickiewicz in Constantinople (b. 1798).
- 27 1815. Adoption of Constitution of the Kingdom of Poland.
- 28 1948. Birth of Polish film director Agnieszka Holland.
- 29 1830. November Uprising, also known as the Cadet Revolution, an armed rebellion in partitioned Poland against the Russian Empire.
- 30 **ST. ANDREW**  
*Andrzejki*, a day for fortune-telling.

This paper mailed on or before  
October 31. The December edition  
will be mailed on or before  
November 29.

## VIEWPOINT / Martin Nowak

## The People's Republic

*A Lesson in Freedom  
from Not-So-Long Ago*

In the former communist bloc countries of East Central Europe, including Poland, one can find museums dedicated to the preservation of artifacts from life as it existed under their communist governments. In them, you can see various apparatuses used to spy on citizens: concealed microphones, wiretaps and other listening devices, "security" cameras, voluminous files kept on people, interrogation devices and other such tools of the domestic espionage trade.

Touring the museums today, the typical American is bound to say, "What's the big deal?"

It has been revealed in recent months that the United States government has been for several years conducting a massive surveillance program against its own citizens. Though the feds say that the government does not actually listen to our conversations or read our mail or emails without a special court's approval, only monitors what telephone numbers or addresses are being contacted, it does not take a genius to figure out that the government can still tell, for example, whether you frequent or are registered on certain websites, or are in contact with a certain group or individual. Not just in contact with criminals or terrorists, but with anyone.

Are you a Tea Party activist? The government can easily figure that out by the email addresses and websites you use, or the phone numbers you call. In favor of the legalization of drugs? The feds can figure that out too.

Do you call or write your cousin Zbigniew in Poland? Foreign communications come in for

special scrutiny. The government knows how often you write him or talk to him and for how long. They even store data about your domestic calls and emails to your cousin Lenny in Chicago.

So they don't listen in or read the messages? All that takes is for the government to get a warrant from a special court, which rubber stamps such requests from the very person who appointed them to their jobs. Then Google, Verizon, Microsoft, et al are forced to turn over details of your communications to the government. Use a GPS in your car? The government has the potential to determine where you are and where you have been. The Postal Service photocopies the envelopes and packages of every piece of mail you send or receive.

Going back to the time of Tadeusz Kosciuszko, who came to the United States after being released from a Russian prison in 1797, to the exiles from the Polish Insurrection of 1830-31, to the refugees from communist Poland, many thousands of Poles have fled to this country to escape political persecution and the all-seeing eye of their oppressive governments. How ironic it is that the U.S. has now become so similar to their old homeland of the past.

Police cameras watch us everywhere. There are thousands in use in every American city. Private security cameras operate everywhere and their content is subject to seizure at the whim of the government. License numbers are randomly entered into computers by cops and stored in a massive database to track your movements. Privacy has become obsolete. Why do you want to keep anything private? What are you trying to

hide? You must be up to something terrible. The mere fact of seeking privacy has become a suspicious act.

Your DNA can reveal a lot about you. Your health status and history, who your relatives are, how long you'll live. The Supreme Court recently ruled that the police can forcibly take a DNA sample from you and store it in a database if you are arrested. Not convicted of a crime, just arrested, either rightly or wrongly.

The officials of the old communist governments didn't trust anyone. They even spied and informed on each other. If you work for the federal government, according to news reports, it encourages you to keep an eye on your fellow employees and report any activity by them that you deem "suspicious."

The Attorney General of the United States has in the past year collected a list of Associated Press telephone records and has threatened criminal action against a cable network reporter just for doing his job as a journalist.

It appears that the Fourth Amendment protection against search and seizure, the Sixth Amendment right to trial by jury and the First Amendment freedom of press protections are in danger of being violated by our own government.

The American people need to think long and hard about the road down which we are headed. Do we sit back and accept the erosion of our freedoms until we become like the old communist regimes? Don't think it can't happen here. Communist Poland was officially called the People's Republic of Poland. Let us hope that the United States does not become the People's Republic of America.

## Criticizes "Selective Historical Memory"

WARSAW — Foreign Minister Radoslaw Sikorski has criticized what he describes as Germany's "selective historical memory" regarding Poland and World War II.

In an extensive interview given for German weekly *Die Zeit*, Sikorski remarked that "you are ashamed about the Holocaust, and you know that you lost at Stalingrad, but you make little effort to learn what your fathers and grandfathers did to us."

In a reference to the controversial German miniseries *Our Fathers, Our Mothers*, a production that portrayed the official World War II Polish underground Home Army (AK) as anti-semitic, Sikorski described the depiction as "a scandalous error."

Sikorski said that "Germans have a duty to know more about the neighboring country that is 70 kilometers from their capital city."

Nevertheless, the Polish foreign minister stressed that by and large, current Polish-German relations are positive, and that the policies pursued by Germany are "friendly."

## PRESERVATION AND PROMOTION

## Suggestions for Your Christmas List

Christmas is a time of giving, because God first gave to us. Christmas isn't first and foremost about presents, but gifts can express our care, concern, and love for others.

It's November, and as you make your Christmas list, why not consider gifting your friends and loved ones with books and publications from the *Polish American Journal Bookstore*? It's quick and easy, good bargains too, and—"when the weather outside is frightful"—you don't even have to step out of your house. We'll send your presents to you.

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Polish America: news, music, personalities, culture, and books. It lets you know what Polish leaders are thinking. Isn't that a great gift for less than \$2.00 a month?

(We're not even going to mention what a great gift it would be for United States to have more subscribers!)

Have you looked at our bookstore? We've got books for everybody: for young people learning to be proud of their roots; for cooks who want to recover their traditions; for folks interested in legends and folklore; for people who like novels and fiction; for history buffs (2014 is the 75th anniversary of the start of World War II, and Halik Kochanski's book, *The Eagle Unbowed*, is an authoritative presentation of that event) and for the holidays (we have three very attractive books about Polish Christmas traditions).

Want to send some traditional Christmas cards or get some Polish ornaments? Need some *oplatki*? We

got 'em.

Let's be honest. If we can't rely on Polish Americans to buy and promote Polish products, how do we expect others to know about our proud heritage, a heritage of quality? Go to Jelenia Góra, in southwest Poland: there used to be a whole bunch of beautiful crystal makers who generated gorgeous Christmas ornaments. When one of our writers went there this summer, he discovered they were gone. Some were bought out by other Europeans, who weren't especially interested in the Polish traditions. The others simply went broke for lack of business. Maybe that's the way of business, but is that where we want our heritage to go?

So take a few minutes to see our webpage [www.polamjournal.com](http://www.polamjournal.com) and follow the links to our On-Line Bookstore, or look at our Christmas gift ideas pages 3, 10, 15, and 22 of this issue. Thank you.

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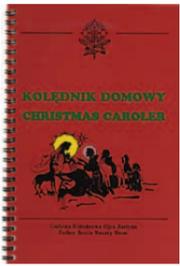
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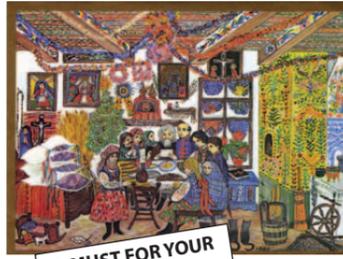


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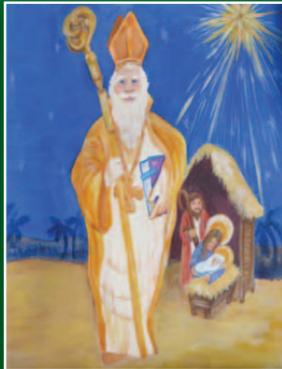
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## Chodakiewicz: "Why can't Poland do any of that?"

continued from cover

How does the neighborhood look for Poland's interests and security, and for Europe's?

Fluid and treacherous, while seemingly stable for now. Russia is a revanchist power. It treats its neighbors as the "near abroad." It would like to re-integrate at least the post-Soviet zone. Germany is very cozy with Russia, so the nefarious geopolitical situation of Poland has not changed. Only American presence keeps the Old Continent fairly stable, in particular its post-Communist part.

Poland has invested a lot in Ukraine since the Orange Revolution, with mixed results. At the same time, Russian President Putin threatens Kyiv if it signs an economic agreement with the EU. How do you read Ukraine, and where do you think of its future?

Ukraine serves as Poland's brittle shield, but Warsaw should not intervene there too vigorously. First, it strengthens western Ukrainian integral nationalists; second, it infuriates the Kremlin. Poland's not strong enough to prop up Ukraine by itself; American leadership is needed.

Russia: American Russian hands insist "it's not the Soviet Union," and even crow that "reset" relations have fostered real cooperation. On the other, a recent ONET editorial suggests that current American (lack of) policy towards Europe and the U.S. pivot to Asia gives the Russians new opportunities in Central



Europe and Europe in general. How should we assess Russian moves and their implications for Poland/Europe?

America's refocusing on Asia does not need to be bad for Poland. If the White House operated according to logic, it would strive to strengthen Warsaw so Poland's might would substitute for America's resources re-located to Asia. But that's not how Washington thinks. Poland is not important; Central and Eastern Europe is not important. Russia matters most. That has nearly always been a permanent factor in U.S. policy since at least 1941. One wonders whether the United States would have the will to fulfill its obligations toward Poland under NATO's Article 5. I very much doubt that Washington would go to war with Moscow over the Baltics. Poland? Maybe. But only if Warsaw

can defend itself.

What should Poland's stance be in the "deepening" versus "broadening" debate over European integration? Should Poland join the Euro?

Absolutely not. One never joins a failing enterprise. That's just bad business. The Estonians did only because they delude themselves that eurozone equals mutual security. It does not. A serious economic crisis can destabilize the post-Communist sphere; without the mechanism of their own currencies, the post-Communist countries may turn into basket cases like Greece. The Russians will have an excuse to "help" stabilize the region, possibly in condominium with the Germans. Poland should be engaged with the EU as little as possible, aside on the economic side. It should try to influence the US, instead, to remain engaged in the region.

Polish relations with Lithuania (and to some degree, Ukraine) are still tense over Polish ethnic rights in those countries. What should we be doing in these cases?

Support the Polish community and ignore the government in Wilno. Work with the current kleptocratic-oligarchic government in Kyiv over Polish minority rights because the post-Communists hate the nationalists and are more inclined to give some concessions to the local Poles. The problem is that the tiny Polish minority tends to congregate mostly in western Ukraine, where the local government is largely dominated

by the ultranationalists, including national-socialist Svoboda.

How does Poland figure in U.S. foreign policy, and is that good?

It does not. U.S. foreign policy establishment remembers about Poland infrequently, mostly when Washington wants Warsaw to rubber stamp one of its initiatives, and it is not good for Poland.

The Germans have the Marshall Fund. How does Poland and Polonia make the Polish case inside the Beltway?

It is easy. Start sending kids to IWP. We teach future leaders to defend decent human civilization. They will also learn how to take care of Polonia and Poland's business. A more difficult thing would be to set up an effective lobby here. But that requires funds. I do not see the Polonia donating. So there are hardly any results. And Poland's lobby is pitiful. For example, at one point the Foreign Ministry hired a Republican PR company which was stymied in its endeavors by the Embassy in DC.

Do you see Poland getting into the Visa Waiver Program? Will that happen if the current immigration bill dies?

The Visa Waiver Program is a litmus test showing how little the Polonia can do and how poorly prepared Poland is for lobbying in DC. If the immigration bill dies, there will be another one. It would be best to attach a rider to a farm bill, or to a gun rights bill. NRA is one of the most effective lobbies in the U.S.

and has a stellar record in passing legislation it supports. Attach Visas Waiver rider to a gun bill or to any hugely popular pork barrel legislation. To understand this, you need a Polish lobby in D.C. endowed with financial resources. Bills do not pass themselves. The skids need to be greased.

What else is there to do?

Build Polish-American banks, credit unions in particular, investment funds; participate in the political process as Americans; and demand what is ours. Fear not.

You present Poland as marginal to American foreign policy interests. But isn't Poland a small player in world affairs, and aren't you engaged in ethnic pleading? Why should it carry greater weight in U.S. foreign policy?

I'm engaged in answering questions you posited. And it is true that Poland is a medium sized nation in Europe, but small in the world. However, so is Switzerland but it wields power incommensurate to its tiny size. It's got banks. I am not even going to torment you with another tiny state: Israel. Nor do I have space to speak about its influence. Sweden is also rather small but it plays a hugely important role as far as foreign aid, in Africa in particular. Why can't Poland do any of that?

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For information about the Institute of World Politics, see [www.iwp.edu](http://www.iwp.edu).

FORUM / Robert Strybel

## Is Our Polonia Doomed to Extinction?

Part 3 of 3  
Youth Outreach:  
The Only  
Way to Go

What does the future hold in store for the Polish-American experience? That all depends on individual Polish Americans. Every Polish group, organization or community hoping to survive and pass its ideals and values down to coming generations should display sufficient interest in and concern about its young people. It is they, after all, who will carry the torch and hopefully one day pass it on to the next generation.

But what if the young people aren't interested? It is easy enough to get preschoolers involved in ethnic activities, since they are still quite family-minded and usually eager to be part of things. Grade-schoolers can be signed up by their grandparents for insurance with a PolAm fraternal and take part in some of its activities. They can be taken to this or Polish fest or other ethnic event by their parents, be driven to their Polish Saturday School or maybe even talked into joining some PolAm youth club or dance group. But as childhood turns into pre-adolescence, things often get more difficult. By then they are likely to have their own popculture-inspired and peer-reinforced interests (rock music, cars, computers, sports, the opposite sex) with little time or inclination for anything else.

Appreciation for one's Polish heritage is not something that can be forced on anyone, and attempting to do so may have the exact opposite effect, especially among rebellious teenagers. But it should be remembered that those same restless but gullible teens are such easy prey for the pop-culture establishment which uses every trick and marketing gim-

mick in the book to make the gadget, snack, pop hit, computer game, fashion, lifestyle or viewpoint they happen to be peddling appear desirable and attractive. The powers of omnipresent commercialism exploit the teenager's feelings of inadequacy, uncertainty, confusion and fear of rejection and persuade him that by using their product or following their advice he will gain peer acceptance.

Perhaps Polonia would do well to implement some of those techniques in dealing with the younger generation. Isn't the popularization of our heritage among Polonia's young people at least as important as some mega-corporation launching a new fast food, pop song or dress fad? Here are some ideas possibly worth considering:

**POLISH SATURDAY SCHOOLS.** Polish Supplementary Schools, also known as Polish Saturday Schools, operate in most North American cities with a considerable Polish population. Classes are conducted at the elementary and high-school levels and include Polish language, history and culture, folk dancing, crafts and field trips. Some young people may balk at having to attend school on Saturday, but many make friends with others young PolAms with whom they have much in common. For information visit: [www.szkolypolskie.org](http://www.szkolypolskie.org).

**POLISH SCOUTING.** The Polish Scouting Organization is Polonia's scouting movement for boys and girls of all ages, from Cub Scouts (Zuchy) to Eagle Scouts (Starsze Harcerstwo). Besides acquiring typical scouting skills such as woodland survival techniques, harcerze also learn Polish campfire songs, games and activities and get

exposed to the Polish language and tradition. Polish Scouts have their headquarters in Chicago and operate several woodland camps. Details at: [okreg@zhppgk.us](mailto:okreg@zhppgk.us)

**POLISH APOSTOLATE YOUTH LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE.** The National Shrine of Our Lady of Częstochowa in Doylestown, Pa. (near Philadelphia) is the venue of a gathering meant to unite, strengthen, and prepare the future leaders of the U.S. Polonia. Bright, ambitious young PolAms aged 16-29 meet to discuss how Polish cultural and religious heritage, the traditions and beliefs passed down through generations influence their lives. Camping, movies, group games and other fun activities are included. For information: to: [pylcusa@live.com](mailto:pylcusa@live.com).

**AMERICAN POLISH ADVISORY COUNCIL.** Young PolAms interested in politics may find this group a rewarding experience. It is a not-for-profit group incorporated in the District of Columbia in 2004 launched a Polish American Platform, which was signed by over 300 Polish American organizations. Its main thrust is to make Polonia's priorities known to candidates for political office. Information is available at: [www.apacouncil.info](http://www.apacouncil.info).

**POLISH KNOWLEDGE OLYMPICS.** This Polish Knowledge Bowl, whose sponsors include the Polish Consulate and the Polish National Alliance, seems an interesting way to promote interest in Polish affairs, history and heritage. One year it attracted some 600 students from 16 Chicagoland public schools with bilingual Polish-English curricula who had made it to the finals. Trophies were awarded to winners in five different categories, and all the

finalists were treated to dinner in a Polish restaurant.

**FOLK-DANCING.** There are Polish folk song and dance ensembles throughout North America, and many of them are populated largely by teenagers and young adults. Participation cultivates grace, stamina and overall fitness, gives participants an opportunity to travel and perform before audiences and come into contact with PolAm peers. Many singles eventually "got hitched", set up families and often provided another generation of Polish folk dancers. PolAm folk-dance groups take part in a World Polish Folklore Festival in Rzeszów, Poland. Contact [www.pfdaa.org](http://www.pfdaa.org)

**GREATER DIVERSITY.** Even if you're crazy about polkas and obereks, for the sake of Polonia's future occasionally try to rise above person preference. You may hate hip-hop, techno and heavy metal, but that's what the younger set is into. Featuring the Polish version of those music styles may be an eye-opening experience to younger PolAms who often consider Polish things to be old and corny. That revelation could provide an indirect way of exposing them to more valuable aspects of our heritage.

**TRIP TO POLAND.** When all is said and done, there is no better way to getting a young PolAm hooked on this heritage than taking or sending him or her on a vacation to Poland. Nearly everyone who has visited in their formative years has come away with a deeper appreciation for and interest in things Polish. They may balk at first ("What's there to do and see in Poland?"), so maybe go via London or Paris as an added attraction.

EDITOR'S DESK

**DONATION APPRECIATED.** I'd like to thank Carl Nicsevic of Troy, N.Y., who recently donated several editions of the PAJ to our office. The papers date from the 1960s, and will be used to fill in the blanks in our in-house archive.

**LAPSUS CALAMI.** While most things that go wrong around the office are not my fault (and if you believe that ...), I take full responsibility for placing the wrong photo under the "Model Behavior" story in last month's PAJ. The article reported on "Ridiculousness" host Rob Dyrdek and guest Polish American model Joanna Krupa, who talked positively about their Polishness on the show. For those of you have been wondering, here's a photo of the beauty.

— M.K.



**POLAND'S OLDEST WOMAN** celebrated her 110th birthday, and received a letter of congratulations from Prime Minister Donald Tusk. Born October 3, 1903, Aleksandra Dranka has lived in the southern Poland village of her birth, Harklowa, for most of her life with the exception of several years spent in the United States. She came to the States as a small girl with her parents, who earned enough funds there to purchase a farm and house in Harklowa.

Dranka is the eldest of nine siblings, was married for sixty-three years, has two children, three grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

She is in good health, has a good sense of humor, likes sweets, and military songs.

## Heritage Day a Hit In Michigan City

MICHIGAN CITY, Ind. — The Second Annual Polish Heritage Festival was held Sept. 15 at International Friendship Gardens. Highlights included a Polish-English Mass; a performance by the Wesoly Lud Polish folk dance ensemble; music by the EZ Tones polka band, and accordionist Steve Kowalczyk; Polish food and beverages; exhibits; and a pisanke (Polish Easter egg) demonstration.

Mayor Ron Meer declared Sept. 15, 2013, as “Polish Heritage Day” in Michigan City.

Special guests included Paulina Kapuscinska, Consul General of the Republic of Poland (Chicago), and two employees of Kampinos National Park in Poland, of which the nearby Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore is a “sister park.”

Local radio personality Dick Ka-



MEMBERS OF “WESOLY LUD” entertain festival-goers with a traditional Polish folk dance.

mont of Michigan City was honored audiences through his “Sunday Polka Party” program.

## Sacred Soil: Native Son Listed on Memorial

*continued from cover*

pin Military Cemetery in Lomianki. A brass plate on the box commemorated the crew of an American B-17G Flying Fortress named “I’ll Be Seeing You,” shot down while delivering supplies to Polish freedom fighters during the Warsaw Uprising in September, 1944. The aircraft crashed in Lomianki, a nearby suburb.

A brass plaque on the wooden box contained the following inscription:

In Memoriam

Lt. Francis E Akins Sgt. Frank Decillis  
2nd Lt. Forrest D. Shaw S. Sgt. George A. MacPhee  
2nd Lt. Ely Berenson Sgt. Paul Haney  
2nd Lt. Myron B. Merrill S. Sgt. Walter Shimshook

These intrepid airmen gave their lives while flying a mission of mercy to supply the beleaguered Warsaw Uprising. They were the crew of Aircraft #175 of the U.S. 8th Air Force lost over Warsaw on September 18, 1944.

This earth from the Lomianki Cemetery symbolizes their supreme sacrifice.

Dedicated on the 50th anniversary of the mission on board Intrepid Sea-Air-Space Museum in New York City.

Poland will always remember them.

Consulate General of the Republic of Poland in New York  
New York, September 18, 1994

Zukowsky had given the box to Piatek because of her Polish heritage, and asked her to find a suitable home for it. During her search, she found the Internet web page of Columbia Heights, Minn., which mentioned that its Sister City was Lomianki, the place where the soil had originated.

Piatek then contacted Strand, co-chair of the Sister Cities committee, who agreed to take it. Strand explained that not only was Lomianki a Sister City to Columbia Heights, but Walter Shimshook (Szymczak), a crewmember who’s name is listed on the memorial, was a native of the Northeast Minneapolis / Columbia Heights area.

Acquisition of the artifact played a major role in the Columbia Heights Mayor’s annual proclamation of October as Polish Heritage Month. The city plans to put the box of sacred soil on permanent display in its City Hall.

Next year will be the 70th anniversary of the Warsaw Uprising, and the city of Lomianki plans to commemorate the occasion with a memorial service at the Kielpin cemetery where there is a monument honoring the American fliers who tried to help them during the Warsaw Uprising.

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*Gilbert J. Mros is a member and former co-chair of the Columbia Heights, Minn. / Lomianki, Poland Sister Cities Committee.*

## John Paul II: Beatified Six Years After Death

*continued from cover*

long been a foregone conclusion, and the official announcement of the actual date – a mere formality.

To us he was already a saint during his lifetime,” remarked fortyish Warsaw engineer Marcin Wróbel. “At his funeral in Rome his saintliness was apparent to the crowds of mourners that chanted ‘santo subito’ – make him a saint immediately.”

By the standards of the Roman Catholic Church, whose mills are known to grind slowly, the short space of time that has elapsed since his death really does amount to instant sainthood. Warsaw Archbishop Cardinal Kazimierz Nycz noted: “That is a record short time. Some canonizations took centuries or at least many long decades. Here we are dealing with nine years – that is a mere flash,” Cardinal Nycz told a TV interviewer.

The Polish-born Pontiff went on to his reward in 2005 and was beatified six years later. Originally there had been discussions about holding the canonization ceremony in November or December of this year, possibly on December 8th, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. There was talk of a separate ceremony or one held jointly with the canonization John XXIII. But already last July, Pope Francis indicated that both pontiffs would be canonized together.

As a gesture towards the countrymen of John Paul II, Pope Francis said it was unlikely the canonizations would take place during the autumn or winter, since the many

Poles traveling to Rome for the occasion might face hazardous road conditions. Since the official an-



The short time that has elapsed since John Paul II’s amounts to instant sainthood.

nouncement, parishes across Poland are planning pilgrimages to Rome for the canonization, and individual Catholics are thinking about taking their annual vacations over the Easter holidays next year. Many Polish-American groups and individual Polonians are likely to be among them.

In addition to the balmier spring weather and the festive Easter atmosphere, April 27th coincides with Divine Mercy Sunday, a feast instituted by the Polish Pope. In 2011 on that occasion he was beatified, marking the first stage on his the road to Catholic sainthood. It was John Paul II who had presided at the beatification of John XXIII in the year 2000. The two religious lead-

ers had collaborated on the Church’s renewal. Good Pope John launched the major reforms of Vatican II, and Cardinal Wojtyła was among the Council’s most active participants.

To most Poles and Polonians alike, Jan Pawel II was a giant of a man, an inspiring religious leader and sterling patriot who nevertheless espoused universal values and sought rapprochement with people of every race, nationality and creed. To many of his compatriots, the Polish Pontiff’s most significant pronouncement were the words he spoke in Warsaw during his first papal homecoming: “May Your spirit descend and renew the land ... this land!”

The following year Solidarność, the Soviet bloc’s first independent labor union, raised the torch of freedom. A decade later, following years of tensions and turbulence, the Soviet empire came tumbling down. The rest is history.

**WHEN HE IS CANONIZED** next spring, Karol Wojtyła will become the 36th Polish saint. During his 27 year-long pontificate, John Paul elevated to sainthood a record number of more than 200 blessed. The Polish saints among them included Poland’s 14th-century Queen Jadwiga (Hedwig), Auschwitz martyr Father Maksymilian Kolbe and Sister Maria Faustyna, whose visions of Christ Merciful inspired Divine Mercy Sunday. The Polish Litany to the saints will soon include the invocation: “Święty Janie Paweł – módl się za nami!”

## ACPC Elects New Officers



HONORING FORMER ACPC NATIONAL PRESIDENT Deborah Majka for her years of dedicated service are (seated) recording secretary, Marcia Lewandowski; (standing) treasurer, Gregory Biestek; president, Camille Kopsielski, Deborah Majka, and first vice president, Mary Ellen Tyszka. The presentation was made at the organization’s national convention in Baltimore, Maryland on August 6, 2013.

BALTIMORE — A new national leadership has been elected by the American Council for Polish Culture (ACPC) at its 65th Annual Convention. The four-day convention, held July 31-August 4, 2013 at Baltimore’s Sheraton Inner Harbor Hotel, was hosted by ACPC affiliate, the Polish American Arts Association of Washington, D. C. The new slate of officers includes President Camille Kopsielski (Polish Arts Club of Chicago); First Vice President Mary Ellen Tyszka (Friends of Polish Art, Detroit); Second Vice President Thomas Payne (Polish American Arts Association); and Recording Secretary Marcia Lewandowski and Treasurer Gregory C. Biestek (Friends of Polish Art).

Also elected were directors: Robert Dutka; Raymond Glembocki; Janet Ann Hedin; Peter Obst; Dr. Wanda O’Brien-Trefil; and Bernadette Wiermanski.

The new officers will serve a two-year term.

In addition to the election of new national officers, the delegates at the ACPC convention also honored outgoing President Deborah Majka for her 14 years of service as national president. During Majka’s terms of office, the American Council for Polish Culture initiated the first-of-its-kind Youth Leadership Conference; established the Pulaski Scholarship for students pursuing graduate degrees; restored the General Casimir Pulaski monument in Savannah for the re-interment of

his remains; and dedicated a Commonwealth of Virginia Historical Commission Marker to the first Polish craftsmen who arrived in Jamestown, Virginia in 1608. Through participation in the National Conference on the Social Studies (NCSS), ACPC provides teachers with materials related to Polish history and culture and the accomplishments of Poles and Polish Americans, which they share with their students.

Founded in 1948, the American Council for Polish Culture, Inc. is a national non-profit, charitable, cultural and educational organization that serves as a network and body of national leadership among affiliated Polish American cultural organizations throughout the United States. The council represents the interests of some 21 affiliated organizations located in the 15 states and the District of Columbia. The ACPC is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) charitable and educational entity.

Further information can be found on the ACPC web site at [www.polishcultureacpc.org](http://www.polishcultureacpc.org).

**SIKORSKI: POLAND WANTS NO COLD WAR WITH RUSSIA.** Poland’s Foreign Minister Radoslaw Sikorski said Russia’s “Europeization” would be best for Poland and added that it wanted to avoid the return of a Cold War.

“Russia is our neighbor and it would be best if it became more European, Sikorski said. “The last thing we want is another Cold War.”

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# Outline of Polish-Style Christmas

## Suggestions for Yuletide 2013

by Robert Strybel

These days, more and more Americans of Polish and every other ancestry feel Christmas has become far too commercialized and resent being brainwashed and railroaded into the shop till you drop mentality. An alternative may be our Polish Christmas heritage which is more nativity-minded, tradition-based and family-centered. When thinking ahead to this year's holiday observances, why not run through the following list and see which activities could be incorporated into your family circle of PolAm community.

### TRADITION REQUIRES KNOWLEDGE.

It is next to impossible to introduce, cultivate or pass on traditions one is unfamiliar with. Everything you need to know about Polish Christmas is presented in a new e-book with a rather unwieldy title:

"Christmas in Traditional Polish Style with Authentic Recipes" (contact amazon.com). Those who prefer the traditional feel of a genuine paper book would do well to consult: The Polanie Club's "Treasured Polish Christmas Customs & Traditions, Father Czesław Krysa's "A Polish Christmas Eve" and Sophie Hodur-Knab's "Polish Customs, Traditions & Folklore". They are available from the Polish American Journal's Bookstore at www.polamjournal.com.

**CHRISTMAS CRIB (żłódek, szopka).** A szopka-making contest might



be a good way to interest the craft-minded in their heritage. Polish Christmas cribs range from the universal stable type to the elegant, shimmering Kraków crèche resembling a cathedral or storybook castle. Google: Szopki krakowskie for a first-hand look.

**FOLK DOLLS.** Polish folk dolls of the Holy Family, a full nativity set and St Nicholas are great holiday decorator items for PolAm homes and clubs. Dolls in regional and historical attire make ideal Christmas gifts. For details visit: <http://lalki.civ.pl>



**GOOD DEEDS (dobre uczynki).** That idea can be instilled in preschoolers through "the hay of good deeds" (sianko dobrych uczynków). The child receives a handful of hay (or dried grass clippings). He or she is told to place one strand of hay into an empty manger each time he or she performs a good deed: helps someone, shares something, helps around the house, etc. The more good deeds, the softer the bed Baby Jesus will have on Christmas Eve.

**ST NICHOLAS (Święty Mikołaj).** Introducing Święty Mikołaj to your family and community is a good way to teach children the deeper meaning of the season: spirituality and charity. At a St. Nick celebration on or around his feast day (Dec.



6) the kindly old bishop quizzes youngsters on their prayers, good deeds and behavior and rewards them with treats.

**ST. NICK STICKERS (mikołajowe naklejki).** The proceeds from stickers of the kindly Święty Mikołaj for use on gifts and envelopes go to brighten Christmas for youngsters at the Catholic orphanage in Białoleka, Poland. The suggested donation is \$5 per sheet of 20 plus an extra \$1 for shipping: [www.polamjournal.com/Bookstore/Christmas\\_Store/christmas\\_store.html](http://www.polamjournal.com/Bookstore/Christmas_Store/christmas_store.html).



**IN AN AMERICAN SETTING (w amerykańskim otoczeniu).** In America, some of them may have to be creatively adapted. Usually that involves displaying or re-enacting them in early or mid-December rather than on or after Christmas Eve the traditional Old Country way. For instance, traditionally, house-to-house carolers would not begin making their rounds in Poland until Dec. 26 (St. Stephen's Day), but by then many people in America are sick of carols and have already taken down their Christmas decorations.

**CAROLING (kolędowanie).** Consider getting together a Polish caroling party. This can be the parish choir or a group of amateurs, in street dress, choir gowns or the old Polish-style disguises. These may include a star-bearer, angel, devil, King Herod, the Three Kings (Wisemen), Grim Reaper, peasant couple, Jewish merchant, soldier, priest and Gypsy. Such performances can be staged at your parish, club, fraternal lodge, community center or shopping mall. And don't overlook paying a visit to a nursing home or two. Hear them sung and see the words and guitar chords online at: [www.poloniamusic.com/KolendyBogsierodzi.html](http://www.poloniamusic.com/KolendyBogsierodzi.html).



**LIVING STABLE (żywa szopka).** Increasingly popular in Poland are living Christmas cribs usually set up on parish grounds. Volunteers, usually young married couples and their baby, play the Holy Family, and cattle, a donkey and sheep in a stable-like setting recreate the ambience of that first Christmas. The crib opens after Midnight Mass and stays open at least until Jan. 6. Combining the Nativity story with a petting zoo makes this a favorite of youngsters and entire families.

**CHRISTMAS GREETINGS (życzenia świąteczne).** The standard greeting is: Wesołych Świąt Bożego Narodzenia i Szczęśliwego

**Wesołych Świąt!**

Nowego Roku! (Merry Christmas and Happy New Year)." An expanded version might go: "Radosnych Świąt Bożego Narodzenia oraz wszelkiej pomyślności w nadchodzącym 2014 Roku życzymy wam wszystkim!" A more religious-flavored version could go: "Obfitych łask Bożego Dzieciątka z okazji Świąt i Nowego Roku życzymy całej Waszej Rodzinie!"



**OPŁATEK IN THE CARD (oplatek z życzeniami).** It is traditional to enclose a piece of oplatek in Christmas cards being sent to

those you love but will not be meeting on Wigilia. Only a small piece (e.g. 1" or 1 1/2" square) is required, since its role is purely symbolic. A corner of the oplatek is broken off and consumed by the sender before sealing the envelope to symbolize sharing the "bread of love" over the miles. If you cannot get oplatek in your area, visit: [www.polamjournal.com](http://www.polamjournal.com)

**GIFTS OF HERITAGE (polskie podarki).** Consider giving those on your gift list things associated with our ancestral heritage – many provided by the firms listed above. It could be a book, recording, DVD, decorative item, amber jewelry, crystalware, wood-carving, wall-hanging (kilimy), framed paper cut-out (wycinanki), etc. Of course there are those who will appreciate a bottle of Polish vodka (Sobieski, Wyborowa, Chopin, Luksusowa) or a six-pack of Polish beer (Okocim, Żywiec, Tyskie, Lech). And something that will remind your recipient of you all year long is a gift subscription to a Polish American newspaper.

**POLISH HOLIDAY BAZAAR (kiermasz świąteczny).** One reason some Pol-Ams drift away from their heritage is the local unavailability of the necessary "fixings." A Polish holiday fair, Christmas bazaar, bake sale, etc. is a good way to inject some Polishes into the local Christmas landscape. Such an event could offer oplatek, hay (for placing under the table-cloth), Wigilia foods, baked goods, imported delicacies, books, DVDs, CDs, greeting cards, moldy music notes and recordings, Christmas cribs, assorted folkcrafts and Polish-flavored gift items.

**POLISH CHRISTMAS FOOD SALE (kiermasz przysmaków świątecznych).** Instead of or in addition to the imported treats (above), home-made Polish-style Christmas delicacies can be prepared by fellow club members or parishioners for sale a short time before the holidays. Obvious choices would be mushroom and beet soup with uszka, herring, pierogi, sauerkraut & mushrooms and poppyseed noodles for Christmas Eve. Favorite post-Wigilia treats are bigos and home-made kielbasa, although pierogi and gołąbki are always favorites.

**POLISH CHRISTMAS BAKE SALE (kiermasz wypieków świątecznych).** Maybe you lack the time, manpower and facilities to hold a Christmas bazaar or Polish food sale, so maybe consider just a bake sale. It could feature makowiec, piernik, keks, babka, tort



makowy and placek. Home-made or Polish bakery rye bread and chałka are also worth including.

**COMMUNITY WIGILIA (zbiorowa wigilia).** Often referred to in Polonia as an "Oplatek Dinner", this can be little more than but a simple meal (fried fish, sauerkraut & mushrooms, pierogi, poppyseed cake) or may be a full multi-course supper.



Usually it is held before Christmas some time during December. In places where people have drifted away from the Wigilia tradition or many live alone with no-one to prepare things for, holding the event on Christmas Eve itself should be considered. A parish hall would be the ideal venue for such a supper, followed by community caroling and finally attendance at Midnight Mass.

### POLISH CHRISTMAS WORKSHOP (warsztaty gwiazdkowe).

Depending on available human resources (qualified instructors, publicity chairmen, volunteers, premises) and local interest, such a project should highlight the Polish Christmas heritage coupled with videos, practical demonstrations (Kraków cribs, home-made tree ornaments, wycinanki, mobiles, caroling costumes), customs, food preparation and/or choir carol practice.



**CHRISTMAS EVE (Wigilia).** To Polish people everywhere, this is the single most important day of the year. Steeped in religious belief, tradition and folklore, it is usually shared with one's nearest of kin. How you are on Wigilia (good, bad, happy, sad, peaceful or upset) is how you will be all year long – is a common belief. It is a festive meal of once-a-year treats and unique customs such as hay under the table-cloth and an empty place-setting at table. Rather than being allowed to dissolve in the Anglo-commercial meting pot, shouldn't these beautiful old customs be passed on to the next generation at home and actively cultivated by our Pol-Am parishes, PNA lodges, schools, clubs and wherever?

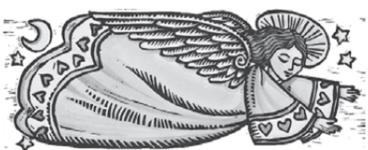
**CHRISTMAS EVE SUPPER (wieczerza wigilijna).** Poland's single most important family gathering is rife with beautiful symbolism and age-old customs. Hay is scattered on the table beneath the table-cloth, and the meal begins when the evening's first star appears in the sky. It comprises (depending on local tradition) either a dozen or an odd number of meatless dishes. The meal begins when the evening's first star appears in the sky with the sharing of oplatek. After the meal, kolędy are sung and gifts are exchanged, after which the family attends Pasterka (Midnight mass).

### CHRISTMAS WAFER (oplatek).

is a white unleavened wafer imprinted with nativity motifs and sometimes referred to as "angel bread" ("chleb spaniel"). It is the single most important artifact of Polish-style Christmas, without which the celebration would be unthinkable. Traditionally bits of the wafer are shared amid an exchange of best wishes with all present as a sign of love, forgiveness and reconciliation. If you cannot get oplatek from your local parish, visit: [www.polamjournal.com](http://www.polamjournal.com), or call our office at (800) 422-1275. You can also order wafers from the ad on page 3.

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RELIGION / Benjamin Fiore, S.J.

## Glenmary Home Missioners Reaccredited

Presidium, the national organization that oversees abuse risk management, confirmed that Glenmary Home Missioners, under the leadership of **Fr. Chet Artysiewicz**, has been found by an independent team of specialists to meet or exceed all abuse prevention and response standards.

To obtain accreditation, Glenmary underwent an educational process and a rigorous assessment to clarify responsibilities, identify best practices, and evaluate the extent to which the defined standards are being met. As Fr. Chet noted, "It illustrates our strong commitment to upholding these standards and to helping ensure that our missions and ministries are safe environments for young people and vulnerable adults."

This re-accreditation, for five years, renews Glenmary's first accreditation granted in 2006. Presidium is one of several organizations that are tasked by the Catholic Church in the United States to provide independent and external education and assessment of the staff in Catholic schools, church organizations and parishes to ensure that children and vulnerable adults find in them a safe environment.

**DISSENTING CATHOLICS SET TO MEET IN MILWAUKEE.** Archbishop **Jerome Listcki** of the

Archdiocese of Milwaukee, has been asked by the Rockford Pro-Life Initiative to prevent the conference of the Call to Action organization from holding a Catholic Mass at its conference, Sunday, Nov. 3. The organization has been criticized for liturgical abuses at past conferences and for selecting speakers who actively work against official Church teachings.

This year's conference will feature the screening of a film produced by "Catholics for Choice" entitled "The Secret History of Sex, Choice, and Catholics," described as a 45-minute apology for the church's teaching on abortion. Speakers at the conference include **Sr. Jeannine Gramick**, and **Mr. Robert Shine**, both of whom argued against the Catholic church's teachings on marriage and human sexuality, and ex-priest **Mr. Robert McClory** whose talk is entitled "Faithful to Baptism: The Role of Dissent in Catholicism's New Era." Sr. Gramick recently engaged in a public debate with Springfield, Ill. **Bishop Thomas Paprocki** on similar issues.

**STO LAT TO...** Deacons **Bryan James Zielienieski** and **Frank S. Kedzielawa** on their ordination along with **John William Adams** to the permanent diaconate for service in the Buffalo diocese by the Most

**Rev. Richard J. Malone.**

Deacons **Marc Rybinski** and **Matthew Wisniewski**, ordained together with **Leon Rodgers** to the permanent diaconate by **Archbishop Allen H. Vigneron** for service in the archdiocese of Detroit. Speaking for the three newly-ordained deacons, Deacon Rybinski said, "We as deacons are called to serve, not by being front and center, but by making sure that Christ is."

**Bishop Bernard A. Hebda**, auxiliary bishop in the archdiocese of Detroit on his appointment by Pope Francis to be Co-Adjutor Bishop of the Archdiocese of Newark, N.J. He will assist Archbishop John J. Myers in the administration of the archdiocese. Archbishop Myers and the other two auxiliary bishops are all in the 70s.

Honorees as outstanding Polish priests and nuns by Buffalo's General Pulaski Association: **retired RC Bishop Edward Kmiec**, **Revs. Daniel Palys**, **Fabian Maryanski**, **Leon Biernat**, **Michael Burzynski**, **Daniel Bellittiere**, **Ryszard Biernat**, **Conrad Stachowiak**, **Tadeusz Bocianowski**, **Mariusz Dymek**, **retired Bishop Thaddeus Peplowski** (PNCC), **Bishop John Mack** (PNCC), **RC Bishop Edward Grosz**, **Msgr. Matthew Kopacz, P.A.**, and **Sisters Mary Blaise Surlas**, **Mary Jodsanne Buszek**, **Mary Johnice Rzadzkiwicz**.

**Rev. Tadeusz Bocianowski** on being awarded the Knight's Cross of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Poland at a ceremony at the Polish Consulate in New York City in recognition of his work as co-organizer of the oldest Pulaski parade in the United States in Cheektowaga, N.Y.; host of weekends for children from the Polish "Communication without Barriers" Foundation; as well as many other activities, concerts and exhibits by Polish artists.

**FOOD AND THE FAITHFUL.** The Oct. 12 episode of "Our Daily Bread" on Buffalo, N.Y.'s WKBW-TV Channel 7 featured host **Fr. Paul Seil** and **Ann Marie Smokowski** who stressed the importance of meal planning for diabetics and prepared crockpot oatmeal, fish and tomatoes with wine sauce and quick chocolate chip cookie cakes. Visit the show's website for this episode and more information on "Our Daily Bread" at [www.odbtv.org](http://www.odbtv.org).

On Nov. 9-10, 2013, **St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church**, 308 Fillmore Ave., will be sponsoring its annual Parish Bazaar at 1219 Abbott Rd., Lackawanna. A huge basket raffle and gift certificates will be up for bidding. Homemade baked goods, food, beverages, and a large "Grandmothers Attic Treasures" top off the event. For info, call the rectory at (716) 852-7566. St. Nicholas is known throughout the area for its pierogi, which will be on sale at the bazaar.

## Jan Karski Exhibit in Wisconsin



PHOTO: KONRAD ZIELIENSKI

MADISON, Wisc. — On September 24, in the Rotunda of the Wisconsin State Capitol Building, Consul General Paulina Kapuścińska and Dr. Mark Pienkos, President of the Polish American Congress – Wisconsin Division (PAC-WI), spoke at the official unveiling of the exhibit, "The World Knew." This exhibit focused on the life of Jan Karski, a diplomat, World War II Polish underground state and resistance fighter, and eye-witness to the German Nazi death camp atrocities, who brought reports of the Holocaust to the Western Allies as early as 1942. Karski asked them to take military action while there was still time to save hundreds of thousands of lives.

Consul General Paulina Kapuścińska and Dr. Pienkos also held a meeting with Wisconsin Lieutenant Governor Rebecca Kleefisch

to discuss prospects of future cooperative efforts between the state of Wisconsin and the Polish Consulate about Jan Karski in an effort to better educate their constituents about the moral responsibility of individuals within society, so that the horrors of history could never repeat. Other topics discussed were the forging of connections between Wisconsin and Poland through Polish tourism growth to be generated in Wisconsin and the economic opportunities that Poland can offer in the area of American job creation.

This exhibit was made possible by the Polish History Museum in Warsaw and was made available by Poland's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Jan Karski Educational Foundation. The exhibit remained in the Capitol Rotunda from September 23-26, 2013.

— Geraldine Balut Coleman

## PAC Cites Pulaski Police

BROOKLYN, N.Y. — It was the Pulaski Association of the New York City Police Department that was served with a citation when the Downstate Division of the Polish American Congress (PAC) held its Annual Awards Banquet at Greenpoint's Polish & Slavic Center, October 26.

The reason? For being one of New York's outstanding Polish American organizations for more than a half-century, according to PAC president Frank Milewski. Accepting the award on behalf of the Pulaski Police was its current president Michael Lukowski (left) shown here with Milewski.

Both the Congress and the Pulaski Association are mainstay organizations of the Polish community. Acting as that community's umbrella organization, the Congress was founded in 1944, only twelve years prior to the establishment of the Pulaski Association in 1956.

The Pulaski group was created as a Polish fraternal organization within the NYC Police Department. Over the years it has grown to a membership of 1,500 active and retired City police officers of Polish and Slavic heritage.

And it was the initiative and imagination of the Founders Committee which further led to the creation of the Grand Council of Polish Associations. It was the Grand Council which then encouraged the



PHOTO: DOWNSTATE NY POLISH AMERICAN CONGRESS

establishment of Polish fraternal organizations within police departments in the neighboring counties of Westchester, Nassau and Suffolk and in major cities like Buffalo, Philadelphia, Cleveland and Chicago.

Civil servants from other ethnic groups have also formed similar fraternal organizations in the NYC Police Department. "But when it comes to displaying pride in their Polish heritage, it's hard to beat the police of the Pulaski Association," said Milewski.

Also honored that evening were Rev. Joseph Szpilski of St. Stanislaus Kostka Parish; Congressman Peter King (R-NY); Brooklyn Borough President Marty Markowitz; Marie Sklodowska Curie Professional Women's Association, and the Society of Polish American Travel Agents.

### MODLITWY

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

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

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

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**CONCERT SERIES AT HISTORIC POL-AM CHURCH.** Rev. Mariusz Dymek, pastor of Buffalo, N.Y.'s Corpus Christi Church, announced a series of concerts in the church to showcase the church's artistic beauty and its dynamic environment for organ, woodwinds and voice. Fr. Dymek said, "Beautiful music is the art of the prophets that can calm agitations of the soul; it is one of the most magnificent and delightful presents God has given us."

The series will include: Canisius College Chorale at 5:00 p.m. Nov. 17; Christmas Concert at 2:00 p.m., Dec. 15; Flutist Emma Resmini at 2:00 p.m. Jan. 5 (the 10th anniversary of the Pauline order's presence at Corpus Christi); Kindred Concert on Feb. 9.

The church, founded in 1898 is listed on the State and National Registers of Historic Places and has undergone extensive restoration and renovation.

HAPPENINGS: CHICAGO STYLE / Geraldine Balut Coleman

## PRCUA Holds Matching Donation Campaign

CHICAGO — The Polish Roman Catholic Union of America (PRCUA) announced it will assist The Polish Museum of America (PMA) in raising general operational funds to match new funds raised by the PMA. The PRCUA will donate up to \$14,000 in matching funds.

This “140/77 Campaign,” so named in celebration the PRCUA’s 140th Anniversary of its founding and the 77th Anniversary of the opening of the PMA, has begun and will run until the end of January 2014.

The guidelines are simple: For every dollar donated to the PMA, the PRCUA will match 50 cents. Donations from new sources will qualify, as will new and expired



PHOTO: JULITA SIEGEL

WESOŁY LUD and dignitaries.



CONSUL GENERAL PAULINA KAPUŚCIŃSKA presents the PRCUA’s Joseph A. Drobot, Jr. with the *Gloria Artis* Silver Medal of Merit for Culture on behalf of Poland’s Minister of Culture and National Heritage.

in running the PMA. Its goal with the “140/77 Campaign” is to utilize new monies to help offset some of those costs.

The PMA hopes that, within this limited time, PMA supporters will convince their friends to consider contributing any amount to this campaign. Remember: for every dollar donated to the PMA, the PRCUA will

membership fees. Longtime members and supporters are asked to invite their friends who are not yet members to support the PMA. How to do that? Let them know that the PMA continues in its efforts to preserve Polish and Polish American heritage and culture for future generations.

The following will give donors an idea of what the Museum has done or is in the process of doing to preserve our cultural heritage:

This year alone, the PMA Library began automating its card catalogue and book circulation system with the Polish and Library of Congress Library Systems. The Museum Archives continues to process documents at a steady rate, in preparation for the first-ever published guide to its collections. Many items from the PMA’s photography collection were digitized and will be presented for the first time at the PRCUA exhibition. The PMA music collection is re-catalogued, thanks to staff and visiting music librarians from the National Library in Warsaw. An ethnographer of Polish culture recently updated the PMA’s folk art gallery. After a successful showing at the PMA, an exhibit of current Polish posters was loaned to Austin, Texas to be presented to a new audience. In cooperation with the Dwight David Eisenhower Presidential Library in Abilene, Kansas, the PMA loaned materials for an exhibit marking the 70th Anniversary of Eisenhower’s nomination as Commander-in-Chief of the Allied Armies in Europe. The new PRCUA/PMA entryway, PMA Gift Shop, office, and conference room are slated to open soon. Economically smart LED lights were installed in the stairwells, improving visitor safety.

Thanks to the PMA’s dedicated staff, devoted volunteers, and generous donors, the Museum is able to make these projects happen. Yet there are several costs involved

match it with 50 cents. Please send your donation check to The Polish Museum of America, 140/77 Campaign, 984 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL 60642-4101. PayPal payments are also accepted via the PMA website.

A weekly roster of donor names, alongside the campaign thermometer, will be published on the PMA web site ([www.PolishMuseumOfAmerica.org](http://www.PolishMuseumOfAmerica.org)). If additional information is needed, please contact: Jan M. Lorys via [Jan-Lorys@PolishMuseumOfAmerica.org](mailto:Jan-Lorys@PolishMuseumOfAmerica.org) or by phone at (773) 384-3352.

**PRCUA CELEBRATES 140 YEARS.** The PRCUA began its 140th Anniversary celebration on October 4 with a reception and the opening of a special exhibit, *140 Years of PRCUA History*, which were held in the Sabina P. Logisz Great Hall of the Polish Museum of America (PMA). The exhibit’s curators were Kathryn Rosypal and Lidia Kowalewicz of the PRCUA’s *Naród Polski* publication. The exhibit displays fourteen decades of rare and old photographs of the organization and its members, historical documents from the 19th century, along with many other interesting artifacts. This exhibit will be displayed through mid-November.

On Sat., Oct. 5, a late afternoon Mass was held at St. Stanislaus Kostka Church, the second oldest Catholic church in Chicago and “around the corner” from the PRCUA building. After Mass, a banquet was held at White Eagle Banquets in Niles, Ill. The PRCUA’s award-winning dance troupes, the Polonia Polish Folk Dance and Song Ensemble and the Wesoły Lud Polish Dance Company provided lively entertainment. In addition, Joseph A. Drobot, Jr., along with Marlena Dzis, provided entertainment by singing “La Ci Darem La Mano” from Mozart’s opera, *Don Giovanni*.



NEIU DIGNITARIES, W. Sawa, Vice Consul Rusiecki, and Polish students.

The evening’s Mistress of Ceremonies was Maria Ciesla, president of the PMA. Among the guest speakers were: Francis Cardinal George, Archbishop of Chicago; Maciej Pisarski, deputy chief of mission, Republic of Poland; Paulina Kapuścińska, consul general; Frank Spula, president of the Polish American Congress and the Polish National Alliance; Allison Koppel, executive vice president of the American Fraternal Alliance; and Joseph A. Drobot, Jr., president of the PRCUA.

During the evening’s celebration, Consul General Kapuścińska awarded the PRCUA with the *Gloria Artis* Silver Medal of Merit for Culture on behalf of Poland’s Minister of Culture and National Heritage. The *Gloria Artis* Medal is conferred upon individuals and organizations for their activities in popularizing Polish culture and protecting the national heritage of Poland.

**“THE WALL SPEAKS.”** On October 3, Northeastern Illinois University (NEIU), its Art Department under the chairmanship of Professor Mark McKernin, the consul general of the Republic of Poland, Paulina Kapuścińska, NEIU’s Polish American Heritage Month chairwoman, Professor Lidia Filus, and the exhibit’s artist, Wojtek Sawa, invited all to attend the opening of “The Wall Speaks.” This exhibit, also referred to as “The Voices of the Unheard,” is an interactive multimedia exhibit that features large format photography, video, and special artifacts dedicated to Polish children and teenagers who experienced “the subhuman cataclysm” of World War II. Yet the exhibit speaks of life in the midst of war, through everyday, unpredictable tales involving children and young adults. The narratives are fascinating and haunting. They speak of frailty and courage, of individual actions often undertaken outside the apparent realm of logic. The content



Andy Pawlowski, Anna Krupka, Vice Consul Konrad Zielinski

of this exhibit is presented through an interactive installation, which features short, artist documentary films; large format photographs; and specially-designed artifacts. Unfortunately, this outstanding exhibit was only available for viewing at NEIU until October 25.

This project was conceived and directed by Sawa, a film director and visual artist residing in Sarasota, Florida. Support for this project was through the American Institute of Polish Culture, Tampa Bay, the Embassy of the Republic of Poland in Washington, D.C., and the Polish Consulate General in Chicago. Prior to the official viewing of the exhibit, NEIU presented a piano and clarinet recital featuring music of Maurice Ravel, Witold Lutoslawski, and Jaroslaw Golembiewski.

Sawa is a conceptual artist and film director. Born in Poland, he was brought to the United States in 1963, at the age of 10, in the midst of the Cold War. Since then, he divides his time equally between the two countries. Sawa’s work has been presented in galleries, museums, and public spaces throughout Europe and the United States.

**ART FOR HEART.** The Gift From the Heart (*Dar Serca*) Foundation held its 3rd annual “Art For Heart”

benefit, a celebration of Polish art and culture, which jointly benefited *Dar Serca* and The Polish Museum of America. Held Sept. 21 -27, with a gala opening Sept. 21, this event attracted almost 400 patrons of the arts. Co-chaired by *Dar Serca* Board members Agnieszka Schwietert and Andrzej Pawlowski, along with Anna Krupka, the event had something for everyone. Nineteen artists presented works of art ranging from wearable art and photography to sculptures and paintings. All were for sale. *Dar Serca* was established in 1988 to assist children with disabilities from Europe as well as from the Greater Chicago area.

The Gift From the Heart Foundation is a 501(c) (3) not-for-profit organization, headquartered in Schiller Park, Ill. Portions of this foundation’s mission are: to offer children with extremely complicated medical cases expert diagnosis and treatment that cannot be found elsewhere, as well as to provide children from abroad and their parents with housing, transportation, and translation services.

**A SUCCESSFUL SALE.** On the weekend of Sept. 14-15, The Polish Museum of America Library (PMAL) held another successful book sale. Over 200 patrons attended, looking to review and purchase books from the thousands of Polish and English language books available; searching for that hidden treasure. The for-sale collection had Polish language books on history,

literature, gardening, Polish cuisine, music, sports, and tourism. If one had a specific area of interest, Małgorzata Kot, the PMAL’s head librarian, could say exactly where to find those books. There were English language books on subjects such as Polish history and the Polonia communities, along with Polish music and movie CDs. This event would not have been possible without the volunteers who helped organize and work it the days of the sale. As of this publication, the PMAL raised \$6115. Books that were not sold would once again be offered at rock-bottom prices on September 30 and then again on October 16-19. Visitors included treasure seekers, families searching for Polish reading material for their children, Americans of Polish descent interested in English-language literature on Polish history and Polish community, and music school students hunting through music literature and scores.

The collected funds from this sale will be used to purchase newly-published books, as well as the continued preservation/maintenance of the *cymeliów*, the oldest and most valuable books in the PMAL collection. This special collection has rare and valuable books about Poles living in the United States.

## QUOTES / compiled from news sources

## The News We've Been Waiting For

"We're overwhelmed because this was the news we've been waiting for. John Paul II was one of the greatest popes because not only did he accomplish so much for the Church, he touched so many people around the globe because his message was so universal. So many people respected him, even those who did not agree with the church or its teachings."

— **Rev. Dariusz J. Jonczyk**, pastor at both St. Joseph's Church and St. Stanislaus Kostka Parish in Woonsocket, R.I.



"We are going to have a serious discussion about changing the school's name."

— **Faustin Weber**, headmaster of Pope John Paul II High School in Hendersonville, Tenn. The school was founded in 2002, when John Paul II was still alive.



"For his leadership that has not only touched Poland, but also the European Union, its Eastern neighborhood, and the international community. From his tireless fight against Communism to strengthening Poland's growing economy, he

has become a beacon of democracy and economic achievement throughout Europe."

— *Statement from the Atlantic Council, an American think-tank which promotes constructive leadership and engagement in international affairs, on Polish President Bronislaw Komorowski, who was named among the recipients of the Council's 2013 Global Citizen Awards.*



"We had knuckleheads that did stupid things on the weekends or other times."

— **John Halinski**, the Transportation Security Administration's deputy administrator, on new policies to reform misconduct by TSA employees.



"I like to think it's a cycle, but I don't think so. There's not many people interested in polka."

*Massachusetts bandleader Eddie Forman, whose group played the last dance at Bayway Polish Home in Elizabeth, N.J., once a hotbed of polka activity, and a meeting place for the area's once-populous Polish American community.*

## AMERICAN POLONIA AT A GLANCE

## Master's Dissertation on Katyn Massacre

by **Richard P. Poremski**

BALTIMORE — **Sarah Bass**, 24, an American studying in England at the London School of Economics in pursuit of a Master's Degree in International History, choose the 1940 Katyn Forest Massacre as the subject for her dissertation and academic argument.

While most students stampeded topics about the Middle East, Bass — a confessed individualist — broke from the herd and consulted with her faculty mentor. He suggested searching out recent officially-declassified governmental information and possibly uncover an interesting subject to adopt and expound upon.

While surfing the web for such a theme, Bass found the treasure trove of recently-released U.S. government documents pertaining to Katyn (see "U.S. Participation in Katyn Massacre Cover-up Exposed" — PAJ, October, 2012). Although unfamiliar with the massacre, the more she read about it the more intrigued she became, and decided that her unique topic had been found. More specifically, she will focus mainly on the larger implications of the the Katyn Massacre vis-à-vis East-

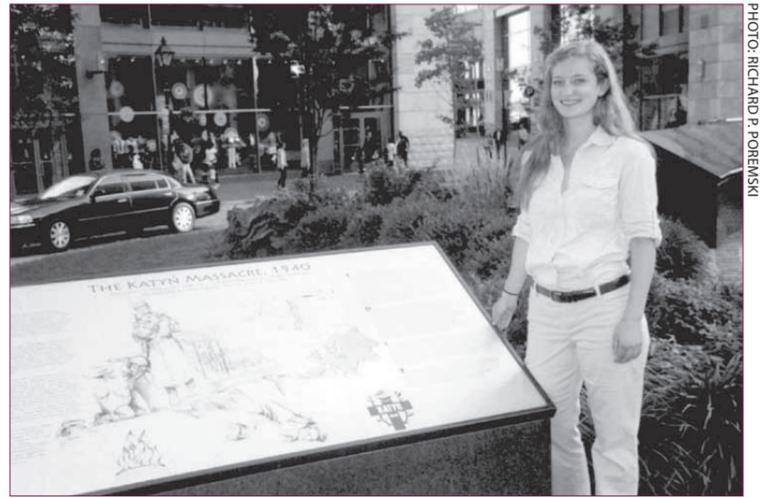


PHOTO: RICHARD P. POREMSKI

RESEARCHER SARAH BASS at the National Katyn Memorial.

ern Europe at the beginning of the Cold War, and American Policy towards Poland from 1943 to 1953.

Bass, who is not of Polish heritage, contacted the National Katyn Memorial Foundation and visited here from her home in nearby Annapolis, Md., consulting and gathering up relevant research documents and information. While still here on summer hiatus from London, her research will continue at the U.S. National Archives and she will also

attempt to obtain firsthand accounts from anyone who was affected by Katyn, or professionally interested in it.

The student expressed her frustration at the general public's overall ignorance that more than 20,000 Poles were collectively murdered by the Soviets in Russia during the Katyn Massacre. She said this, and giving Katyn its full due in the process, pushed her to her scholarly goal.

## SPEAK UP / Letters to the Editor

## Ellis Island, 100 Years Later

It's been 100 years since my grandmother arrived at Ellis Island. I would imagine many readers also had their relatives come through Ellis Island around that time.

Sadly, because of the damage from Hurricane Sandy, Ellis Island is closed, as it still requires major repairs. Check the National Park Service's Ellis Island for announcements when it will reopen.

With Thanksgiving this month, and Christmas the next, this would be an ideal time to make a donation to Ellis Island in honor of your relatives who passed through its gates.

My grandmother came with twenty dollars, according to the manifest on the Ellis Island website, which can be viewed for free! ([www.ellisland.org](http://www.ellisland.org)). Financially, even with times as they are, I think we have all benefited from our relatives coming to this country and not just monetarily. I often think of the education my grandmother had, compared to the education I received because of her sacrifices.

Consider making a donation and adding your family photo to the American Flag of Faces on the Ellis Island web page ([www.flagoffaces.org](http://www.flagoffaces.org)). Your contribution of \$50 to

add a photo is tax-deductible. For more information, visit the website.

The American Flag of Faces will be a living and interactive exhibit on Ellis Island, the National Monument within sight of the Statue of Liberty. The American Flag of Faces can also be viewed online.

Donations can be sent to: The Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation, Inc., 17 Battery Place, #210, New York, NY 10004-3507. Tel.: (212) 561-4500.

Your checks should be made payable to: "The Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation, Inc."

Another nice way to honor our relatives is with a donation to the PAJ Press Fund. The Polish American Journal, which began in 1911, continues its service to American Polonia. The Fund is used to support reader services. Please look for the ad for the PAJ Press Fund in this issue.

Whatever you decide, Thanksgiving is a nice time to remember our ancestors who came to this country and enabled all of us to have a better life. What a legacy!

**Carole Hango-Hanlon**  
Washington, D.C.

## Obama invited to Polish Freedom Fest

WASHINGTON, D.C. — During their recent visit to the United States, Polish President Bronislaw Komorowski and Foreign Minister Radoslaw Sikorski invited President Barack Obama to attend 25th anniversary celebrations of Poland's recovered independence, next June. The partially democratic elections held in Poland on June 4th, 1989 are regarded as the official end of com-

munist rule. Komorowski pointed out that this Freedom Holiday concerned not only Poland but all the countries of the former Soviet bloc as well.

"For the American president it would be an opportunity to remind the world that the United States continues to support freedom throughout the world," commented Sikorski.

## Polish Business Doing Well in America

NEW YORK — President Bronislaw Komorowski told representatives of ten Polish-American Chambers of Commerce operating in the United States that Polish investments had grown impressively in recent years and topped the \$2 billion mark.

A representative of HTL-Stre-

fa said his company had captured 60% of America's insulin and surgical needle market. America is the biggest market for crystalware producer Krosno Glassworks, and "Forbes" magazine has ranked Poland's LGBS-Software among Central Europe's most dynamically developing firms.

## Activists Honored in Wisconsin

MILWAUKEE — University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Professor Emeritus **Donald Pienkos** and Philadelphia attorney **George Szymanski** were honored by the National Advocates Society and the National Medical and Dental Association during a joint banquet, August 3 in Egg Harbor, Wis.

Pienkos, a leading Polonian scholar and retired political science professor from the University of Wisconsin, has served as a past national director of the Polish National Alliance. He was honored with the Dr. Joseph Jachimczyk Award for his scholarship, leadership, and work on behalf of Poland and Polonia. He is author of *For Your Free-*

*dom through Ours: Polish American Efforts on Poland's Behalf, 1863-1991*, as well as scholarly histories of three of the four leading Polonian fraternal organizations: the Polish National Alliance, the Polish Women's Alliance, and the Falcons. Jachimczyk was the longest serving (1960-95) coroner of Houston, Texas, and is said to be the inspiration of the TV drama, "Quincy."

Szymanski, a Pennsylvania attorney and long-time Polonian activist, was also designated as Man of the Year 2013. A civil litigator in New Jersey and Pennsylvania, Szymanski has specialized in social security, disability and employment law matters, and has contributed count-

less hours of *pro bono* work for the Philadelphia Polish American community. A former National Advocates Society president, he has also been active in such Philadelphia Polonia organizations as the Polish American Congress, the Kościuszko Foundation, and the Polish Heritage Society.

The National Advocates Society and the National Medical and Dental Association, which date back to the 1920s, are two professional organizations for Polish American lawyers and medical personnel. They hold their annual conventions jointly. This year's convention was organized by past president Jane Simers Kaminski.

## Rowny Authors New Book on Korean War

WASHINGTON, D.C. — U.S. Lieutenant General Edward Rowny (Ret.) has written a new book, "An American Soldier's Saga of the Korean War."

In a release, Rowny said: "This small book of 110 pages gives you an 'I was there' account of my involvement in the Korean War from the beginning to the end. It begins with my receipt of a message from Seoul that the North Koreans attacked the South on 25 June 1950 and ends in September 1952 when I left Korea, the year before the Armistice. During the last half of 1950, I was General MacArthur's official spokesman, a planner of the Inchon invasion, builder of the bridge across the Han, airdropped a bridge into the Chosin perimeter to rescue surrounded Marines and infantry, evacuated troops and supplies from Hungnam and executed the Christmas Cargo, which rescued 100,000 North Korean civilians from capture by the Chinese. During this time, I was a brevet Brigadier General, two grades higher than my regular rank of Lieutenant Colonel. During the first half of 1951, I was the chief of logistics of X Corps during their attack northward from Pusan. During the last half of the year, I was deputy and subsequently commander of the 38th "Rock of the Marne" Infantry Regiment. On 15 September 1951, I captured Hill 1215, the high ground overlooking Heartbreak and Bloody

Ridges. It was the proudest day of my career, because we killed or captured 200 Chinese without suffering a single fatality.

"During the remaining nine months of my time in Korea in 1952, I conducted attacks and withstood defenses as we fought back and forth at the 38th Parallel."

Rowny, born in 1917, was a U.S. Army general and an ambassador, chief U.S. negotiator in arms reduction talks with the Soviet Union, and one of the originators of the helicopter as a platform for combat. The citation from his Presidential Citizen's Medal, which he received in 1989, reads: "one of the principal architects of peace through strength policy." He served as an arms control adviser and negotiator to five presidents — Nixon, Ford, Carter, Reagan and Bush. Rowny, a 1941 graduate of West Point, has received numerous awards for valor and achievement, including combat in World War II, Korea, and Vietnam. An author of various books and memoirs, Rowny founded the Paderewski Scholarship Fund in 2004 to bring deserving Polish students to the United States to study American style democracy and currently serves as president of the American Polish Advisory Council. He lives in Washington, D.C. with his wife Elizabeth.

The book is available from ThingsPolish.com.

**KORONA SA**, one of the world's leading manufacturers of candles, is investing some \$18 million to build its first U.S. plant in Virginia. Based in the central Polish city of Wieluń (Łódź region), the firm produces candles of every possible type including votive lamps, chafing-dish warmers and scented candles. Korona has been a major candle supplier to Walmart. The candle works will create new jobs for the residents of the small town of Dublin (population 2,500), located in Virginia's Pulaski County.

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## Ornaments



A



B

### A. 4 inch Blown Glass Wycinanki Ball Ornament

Hand-blown and hand decorated by Polish artisans, every ornament is a collector's item inspired by Polish traditions representing the floral folk art. Measures approximately 4" in diameter.  
#570506 - \$29.95

### B. 7.4 inch Blown Glass Traditional St. Nicholas

Dressed in traditional Bishop garb, this figurine wears a mitre on his head decorated with gold colored accents and a maroon vest on his shoulders. The whole outfit is adorned with the golden crozier and three apples on the bible that Saint Nicholas holds in his hands. Measures 7.4" H.  
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Each set of cards displays a Polish sentiment on the inside. Designs vary, so you may not get exactly what is shown. Envelopes included.



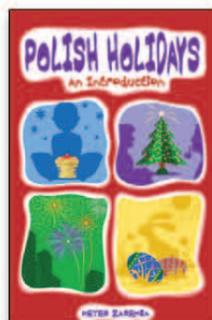
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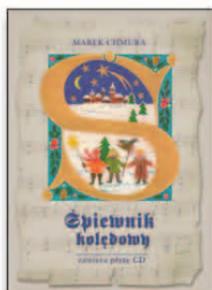
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## Christmas Books



### Polish Holidays: An Introduction

This handy introductory guide to Polish holidays provides factual information in an easy to digest packet. Contained within is information, recipes, and/or songs for the Harvest Festival (Dożynki), All Saints' Day (Zaduszki), St. Nicholas' Day (Mikołajki), Christmas Eve (Wigilia), Christmas (Boże Narodzenie), New Year's Eve (Sylwester), Three Kings (Trzej Królowie), Carnival (Karnawał), Fat Thursday (Tłusty Czwartek), and Easter (Wielkanoc). SoftCover. 8.5" x 5.5", 28 pages. English. #BK2573 - \$9.95

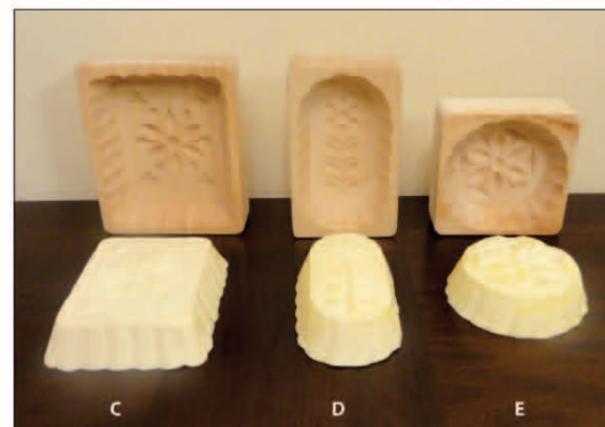


### Polish Carols Songbook with CD

Holding on to the beautiful tradition of singing Polish Christmas carols, we give you a large collection of the most beautiful Polish carols. You will find in it lyrics and musical notes to 51 compositions. Along with the book is enclosed a CD with specially chosen compositions.

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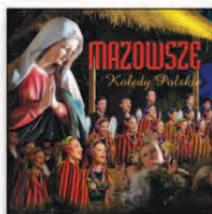
### D. Osełka Butter Mold with Scalloped Edges

Measures 5.0" L x 3.0" W x 1.25" H  
#KOR109 - \$29.95

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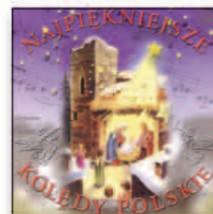
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### Mazowsze Ensemble on CD - Kolędy Polskie

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### Harfa Mens Choir - Najpiękniejsze Kolędy Polskie

These 18 Polish Christmas songs were performed by the Harfa Men's Choir directed by Jan Węcowski. Recorded in the PWSM Concert Hall in Warsaw, February 1997.  
**Songs include:** *Wśród nocnej ciszy, Dzisiaj w Betlejem, Gdy się Chrystus rodzi, & more*  
#MTJ10046 - \$19.95

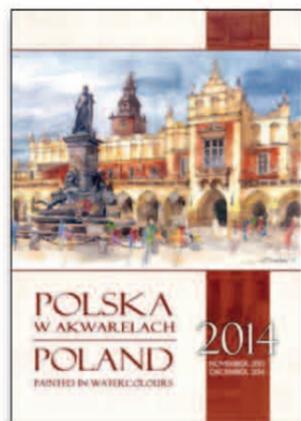
## 2014 Calendars



### 2014 Polish Folk Art Wall Calendar

This gorgeously designed 14 month calendar is inspired by the art of Łowicz Wycinanki (Polish Paper Cutting), where vibrantly colored paper is cut to create masterful motifs of the imagination. The graphic setting of the calendar is based on works of Mirosława Stefaniak.

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Male's & Female's Polish Name Days  
Polish Holidays  
Week order begins on Monday  
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### 2014 Poland in Watercolor Wall Calendar

This calendar features beautifully depicted scenes from 14 different cities of Poland in watercolor. Among the featured cities are: Kraków, Gdańsk, Warszawa, Sopot, and more.

**Calendar features:**  
Weekdays & Months in Polish & English  
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Polish Holidays  
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POLONIA OF THE EASTERN GREAT LAKES / Michael Pietruszka

## Polish Films Take Center Stage in November

The Skalny Center for Polish And Central European Studies and the Polish Heritage Society of Rochester announced the lineup for this year's Rochester Polish Film Festival. After the presentation of Tadeusz Konwicki's "The Issa Valley" as a teaser on October 13, this year's offerings will include Laurent Bouzereau's "Roman Polanski: A Film Memoir," Ryszard Bugajski's "The Closed Circuit," Julia Kolberger's "The Easter Crumble," Andrzej Jakimowski's "Imagine," Piotr Trzaskalski's "My Father's Bike," Kordian Piwowarski's "Baczynski," Katarzyna Roslaniec's "Baby Blues," Bartek Ignaciuk's "The Hamster," Eugeniusz Korin's "Vulture" and Jan Jakub Kolski's "To Kill a Beaver." The festival will run from November 6 through 10. Special guests will include Ryszard Bugajski, Mari Mamona, Kordian Piwowarski and Anna Piwowarska. The opening film will be screened at the Dryden Theatre at the Eastman House. The other films will be shown at the Little Theatre in Downtown Rochester. More information is available at [www.rochester.edu/College/PSC/CPES/events/fall13/pff13/pff013/index.html](http://www.rochester.edu/College/PSC/CPES/events/fall13/pff13/pff013/index.html).

**The Permanent Chair of Polish Culture** at Canisius College's "Polish Film Festival and Art Exhibit" starts on November 11 with a Mass celebrating the life of Blessed Rev. Jerzy Popielusko in Canisius College's Christ the King Chapel. This year's films, to be screened at the Montante Cultural Center, include Tony Haines' "Father Jerzy Popielusko: Messenger of Truth," Wladyslaw Pasikowski's "Aftermath," Ryszard Ordynski's "Pan Tadeusz," Wojciech Smarzowski's "Rose" and Bugajski's "The Closed Circuit." An exhibit of the art of Artur Popek entitled "Shields Against Evil" will also be on display in the Montante Center. Details on the festival are available at [www.canisius.edu/polish-chair/polish-film-festival](http://www.canisius.edu/polish-chair/polish-film-festival).

**The Ekran Toronto Polish Film Festival** will be held from November 13-17. Toronto audiences will be able to view Janusz Zaorski's "Siberian Exile," Kordian's "Baczynski," Kolberger's "The Easter Crumble," Korin's "The Vulture," Jakimowski's "Imagine," Tomasz Wasilewski's "Floating Skyscrapers," Krzysztof Lukaszewicz's "Viva Belarus," Joanna Kos and Krzysztof Krauze's "Papusza," Jerzy Domaradzki's "Fifth Season of the Year," Jan Kidawa-Blonski's "In Hiding,"

Kolski's "To Kill a Beaver," Leszek Dawid's "You Are God," Filip Antoni Malinowski's "Resettlement," Ryszard Bugajski's "Interrogation" and "The Closed Circuit," and Tomasz Magierski's "Blinky & Me." Guests of this festival will include Janusz Zaorski, Mirosław Slowinski, Kordian and Anita Piwowarski, Julia Kolberger, Jan Kidawa Blonski, Magda Boczarska, Julia Pogrebinska, Tomasz Magierski, Ryszard Bugajski and Maria Mamona. Additional information on the Toronto festival can be found at [www.ekran.ca](http://www.ekran.ca).

The Mississauga, Ontario Library System is presenting the "Masters of Polish Cinema," a celebration of the cinema in Poland, along with an exhibit of Polish film posters, at the Mississauga Central Library through December 6th. For more information, visit [www.mississauga.ca/portal/residents/programsforadults](http://www.mississauga.ca/portal/residents/programsforadults).

**POLONIA TIDBITS.** The **Dunkirk Dom Polski** recently awarded scholarships to Alicia Meyer, Joshua Tippens, Kyle Perry, Kyle Gawronski, Harlie Kalfas and Elizabeth Golubski... The results of the 6th annual "Buffalo's Best Pierogi Contest" from the Corpus Christi Dozynki were as follows: Traditional: (1) Kristen Sikora (Sauerkraut), (2) Cynthia Opoka (Pumpkin "Dynia"), (3) Mary Beth Morse (Sauerkraut and Potato); Commercial: (1) Homestyle Catering (Farmer's Cheese), (2) Pasta and More (Farmer's Cheese); Non-Traditional: (1) Deborah Wisholek (Hot Stuffed Pepper), (2) Brian Marek (Mardi Gras), (3) Carolann Cepuchowski (Kielbasa and Borscht); Dessert: (1) Nancy Konieczny (Hawaiian Delight), (2) Paula Sepanik (Cherry Cheese), (3) Dorothy Cepuchowski (Poppy Seed).

The **Krakow-Rochester Sister Cities Committee** marked its 40th anniversary with a presentation by artist Shawn Dunwoody on "Krakow City Days" at the Skalny Center of St. John Fisher College on September 11, and a lecture and exhibit entitled "History of the Krakow - Rochester Sister Cities Relationship" at the Skalny Center on September 20. ... The **Polish Heritage Dancers** of WNY conducted an "Open House" at Our Mother of the Rosary Polish National Cathedral on the 16th ... The music of Moniuszko, Chopin, Karłowicz and Lutoslawski were performed as part of the "Late Nightingale"

program at the **Polish Consulate** in Toronto, and PhoCus and Special Delivery played the "End-of-Summer Dance" at Potts banquet hall in Buffalo on September 21 ... On September 23, the **Professional & Businessmen's Association** hosted its first "Septemberfest" social and networking event at Russell's Steakhouse in Williamsville ... The **Advocates Club of WNY**, an organization of lawyers and judges of Polish descent, presented its 2013 Distinguished Leadership Awards to NYS Assemblyman Dennis Gabryszak and Cheektowaga Town Justice Paul Piotrowski at the group's Fall Cocktail Reception and Dinner at the Polish Villa II Restaurant on September 26 ... Also on the 26th, the members of the **Professional Business Women of Polonia** enjoyed a presentation on Buffalo's Sister City relationship with Rzeszow, presented by Jim Serafin and Thomas Wdowik, at the Millennium Hotel in Cheektowaga ... On the 29th, Louis Nagy offered a presentation entitled "General Jozef Zachariasz Bem (1794-1850): Son of Poland, Hero of Hungary" as part of the University of Rochester's **Skalny Lecture and Artist Series**, and the "Muszkietierowie Kabaretu" was presented at the Living Arts Centre in Mississauga.

The **Cichocki family** of Camellia Brand Meats fame have expanded their Genesee Street shop to 4000 square feet during a recent renovation ... **Ashli Skura Dreher**, a former Countess Pulaski from Lewiston, was named 2014 NYS Teacher of the Year... The Board of Directors of the **Permanent Chair of Polish Culture** at Canisius College elected the following leadership for the coming year: Dr. Margaret Stefanski (Board Chair), Hon. Michael Pietruszka (Vice Chair) and Sophie Hodorowicz Knab (Secretary) ... The Special Delivery polka band, Harmony Polish Folk Ensemble and a pierogi making demonstration opened **Polish American Heritage Month** at Buffalo's historic Broadway Market on October 5... On that same day a standing-room-only crowd filled the Valley of Buffalo Hall in Cheektowaga to remember the life of the late Polonia activist Jackie Schmid. Music was provided by the Knewz, Special Delivery, Touch, Phocus, New Direction and Buffalo Concertina All Stars. Proceeds benefitted the Jackie Schmid Memorial Scholarship Fund, [www.jackieschmidsscholarship.org](http://www.jackieschmidsscholarship.org).

## "The Journey of Our Dreams"

**BUFFALO, N.Y.** — Thanks to the generosity of the many supporters of the "Special Children with Special Needs" humanitarian appeal, twenty children with disabilities from Brzozow, Poland were able to travel to Rome, with their caregivers this summer.

The trip, called "The Journey of Our Dreams," allowed these students to meet Pope Francis.

Funds for the appeal came largely from the Polish Heritage Festival, held each year in Buffalo. The Festival's Charitable Fund is chaired by Christine Jozwiak, who said the "Dreams" trip was the biggest challenge to date. "Thanks go to all who responded with donations that made this possible," she said.

Sr. Agata, director of the children's home, said the children screamed with joy when they heard about the pilgrimage to Rome.

"We had a specially-equipped bus with a chair-lift to accommodate the needs of our children. It was very comfortable, and we had very nice, experienced drivers. We also had a very special tour guide who gave us much information about the places we visited, and most importantly, treated the children like children without disabilities," said Sr. Agata.

She said meeting Pope Francis was a great experience. "We were fortunate to hug, kiss and give him a yellow rose made by each child. He made a special effort to stop and talk to us."

Sr. Agata said the most touching moment was the opportunity to touch and pray at the tomb of our Pope John II.

In a letter to Jozwiak, she thanked



**SR. AGATA** and student **Monica** greet Pope Francis.

the chair for her hard work and efforts to bring the pilgrimage to fruition. "For most of us who spend every day in the home, this was only a dream, almost impossible! But with all our special experiences of the 'Journey of Our Dreams,' the children could — for a while — feel like a completely healthy person. And for this we thank you with all our hearts!"

The Polish Heritage Festival Charitable Fund is continuing its annual Christmastime fundraising effort, "Spirit of St. Nicholas," which provides warm clothes for the less fortunate children in an orphanage/educative center in Jaroslaw, Poland.

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE** to contribute, please send your check payable to the Polish Heritage Festival Charitable Fund, attention Christine Jozwiak, P.O. Box 115, Springville, NY 14141-0115. On the memo line of the check please write "Spirit of St. Nicholas."

The Polish Heritage Festival is a 501 (c) 3 charitable organization, therefore your donation is tax deductible.

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- Newsletter • Membership card with lapel pin
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## 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.

PAHA, Central Connecticut State University, New Britain, CT 06050

[www.polishamericanstudies.org](http://www.polishamericanstudies.org)

# Polka MAGAZINE

POLISH AMERICAN JOURNAL

DEDICATED TO THE PROMOTION AND CONTINUANCE OF POLISH AMERICAN MUSIC

## Innovation Marks the 45th IPA Festival



IPA TRIBUTE BAND with guest Hall-of-Famer Billy Belina singing.

CLEVELAND — Celebrating 45 years of polka promotion, the International Polka Association conducted its annual Festival and Convention at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Independence, Ohio, August 1-4, 2013.

Friday afternoon introduced a new innovation called “The Polka Dot Party” where guests were given the opportunity to show off their vocal and musical talents during “Polkaroke” with the backing of a live polka band.

Polka Family, The Knewz, and Freeze Dried performed throughout the evening and, for the first time, Polka Hall of Famer/DJ Billy Belina along with DJ Joni Zychowski-Minehart streamed live polka music via their online broadcast on the Polka Jammer Network. Another new aspect of this year’s fest featured a special premiere performance by “The Divas,” namely Ania Piwowarczyk, Gennie Okrzesik, and

Mary Lou Czerniak, all well-known vocalists in the polka industry.

Saturday morning began with the 44th annual IPA Polka Music Awards and Hall of Fame Banquet. This year’s award winners included Tony Blazonczyk’s New Phaze for “Favorite Song” (For The Love of Music), the IPA Tribute Band for “Favorite CD” (Yesterday’s Songs), Lenny Gomulka for “Favorite Male Vocalist,” Mollie Busta Lange for “Favorite Female Vocalist,” and Dennis Polisky and the Maestro’s Men for “Favorite Instrumental Group.” The Hall of Fame inductees included Tony Petkovsek (Pioneer Category), Jan Cyman (Deceased Category), and John Furmaniak and Frank Borzymowski (Living Category).

After the banquet, The Boys, the IPA Tribute Band, and Polka Country Musicians provided some great vibrant polka music and as a special treat, eleven different Polka Hall of

Famers performed as guest vocalists during the IPA Tribute Band’s show.

On Sunday, the annual IPA Meeting was conducted at which the membership elected officers and directors to fill various positions. Incumbents Dave Ulczycki (president), Rick Rzeszutko (first vice president), Pete Danielczuk (sergeant-at-arms), and Laura Mateja (secretary) were all re-elected. (Ulczycki later resigned. See accompanying story). Illinois Director T. Ron Jasinski-Herbert was re-elected, while Keith Pietranczyk and Dennis Mikolajewski were welcomed as the two newly-elected Illinois directors. Canadian Director Ed Guca and Debbie Dunaj (Wisconsin) were re-elected, while Lori Urbanczyk (New York) was welcomed as our newly-elected out-of-state director.

The 46th Annual IPA Festival and Convention returns to Ohio next year over the Labor Day weekend, August 29-31, 2014.

## Dave Ulczycki Concludes His Tenure as IPA President

CHICAGO — After many years of dedicated service to the International Polka Association, Dave Ulczycki announced his desire to conclude his tenure as IPA president at a recent Board of Directors meeting. Dave was elected president in 2006 and presided over many organizational improvements and successful events. He also served as an Illinois Director and 1st Vice President as he selflessly gave his time and efforts for the promotion of polka music.

Ulczycki was also very instrumental in fostering improved relations and cooperation between the IPA and fellow polka organizations

such as the United States Polka Association and the Cleveland Polka Association.

In keeping with IPA by-laws, to the fill the vacancy, 1st Vice President Rick Rzeszutko has assumed the role of Acting President and will continue in that capacity until the next IPA Festival planned for August 31, 2014. At that meeting, elections will be conducted to determine the new president and other IPA positions open at the time.

The IPA Officers and Directors extend their sincerest gratitude and heartfelt congratulations to Dave Ulczycki for his stellar career of leadership.

## Stephanie Travels Back in Time

STRONGSVILLE, Ohio — Wanda & Stephanie are featured on “Memory Lane,” a new CD released on Jimmy K Polkas.

This 14-track recording offers music that has never before been released, including performances by the late Li’l Wally Jagiello and Wanda & Stephanie together. The tracks have been re-mastered but retain the timeless quality of the original performances.

With a variety of songs, including “Lovely Girl,” “Jailbird,” “Congratulations,” and more, this is a collection every Stephanie fan will want for their collection. The package also includes a beautiful collectible fold-out of photos, memories, and information.

Contact: Jimmy K Polkas, P.O. Box 360855, Strongsville, OH 44136, or visit [www.jimmykpolkas.com](http://www.jimmykpolkas.com).

## Polka-Dotted Perplexities



**WHO ARE THEY?** This photo of an all-girl band was found in the archives of the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston, Mass. There are no identifying marks on the photo. There is some debate on the internet whether or not they are a Polish American polka band. If you have a clue or a lead, e-mail the PAJ at [info@polamjournal.com](mailto:info@polamjournal.com) or call (800) 422-1275.

## Call Him “Mr. Christmas”

TOLEDO, Ohio — Andrew Pawlak, a trumpeter, singer and song writer from the Toledo area, has teamed up with Dan and Matt Gury from Dearborn, Mich., for his first solo recording and full length CD. Titled “Mr. Christmas,” the CD is scheduled to be released in mid-Fall on the North End Record label under the “Legends” series.

“Mr. Christmas” is collection of songs and artists unlike anything previously heard in the Polish American polka industry. The disc will include 14 songs featuring Pawlak and many of the industry’s finest musicians from northwest Ohio and the southeast Michigan. This solo recording, under the direction of Pawlak, highlights many traditional Christmas and holiday favorites and three original compositions (two by Pawlak and one by fellow Toledo polka mainstay Randy Krajewski). Some of the songs featured on the recording include, “God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen,” “Holly Jolly Christmas,” “A Few of my Favorite Things,” “Silent Night,” “No Place Like Home for the Holidays,” and “Walking in the Snow,” the lead cut and a Pawlak original composition.

Pawlak’s musical arrangements are updated versions of traditional

songs presented in a unique manner. Each tune represents a fresh new variation on the Polish American polka concept. In addition to his original contributions and musical arrangements, Pawlak pairs each song with a featured artist and tops off the recording with a soulful trumpet feature on the classic, “Oh Holy Night.”

Featured artists on Mr. Christmas include Dan Gury, Matt Gury, Randy Krajewski, David Kish, Jim Rutkowski, Paul Mocek, Jimmy Mackiewicz, Victor Favot, Randall Favot, Neil Tucholski, Eric Hite, and Marie Gury. Also appearing and making his recording debut, the Irish Tenor Rob McMahon. Pawlak also unveils an all brass horn line he calls the “Hit Squad.”

Initially, “Mr. Christmas” will be only available via mail order or at Stanley’s Polish Market in Toledo and at select performances. All email inquiries can be sent to [pawlak@hotmail.com](mailto:pawlak@hotmail.com). Additional plans to offer this recording through CD Baby and iTunes are currently under negotiation. Finally, listen for exclusive release debuts of songs on the Polka Jammer Network and Pandora Radio during the 2013 Christmas season.

## POLKA MEMORIES / Steve Litwin

If you have a special Polka Memory photograph to publish, email : [pajpolka@verizon.net](mailto:pajpolka@verizon.net).



Wanda and Stephanie. Chicago. 1976.



“Country Casey” Kliszak. Erie Polka Days, Erie, Pa. 1980.



Dottie Stanky of Stanky & the Coalminers. Binghamton, N.Y. 1979.

TOLEDO POLONIA / Margaret Zotkiewicz-Dramczyk

NOTES / Barbara Pinkowski

## The Knewz Welcomes Fall

The Toledo Area Polka Society welcomed The Knewz from Buffalo for the first fall dance, September 28. Polka fans know that this band brings an addictive energy to every event they play. A diverse crowd welcomed them, including a few families who were attending a TAPS dance for the very first time, lots of devoted Toledo fans, and the fun party people from Wyandotte. Many thanks and a big *dziękuję* to the folks from downriver helping TAPS start another successful dance season.

Don't forget the next two TAPS dances are Sunday, November 17th featuring Downtown Sound from Chicago, and the Christmas Dinner Dance on December 15th featuring Randy Krajewski and the Czestusa Park All Stars. Make certain to "Like" TAPS on Facebook for updates and more info.

PRCU / Wyandotte announces that The Project, the USPA Lounge band from 2011, will be the featured guests at an After-Thanksgiving Dance, November 29. The four-day weekend is always a great time to

catch up with friends and start the holiday season right with a polka or two. Sounds like a great way to work off all of the turkey and trimmings, too. Stanley Pasko has info at (313) 815-5230

"What comes to mind when you hear the word 'Bavarski'? Well, if you've ever pondered the possibilities of jazz, rock, and polka blended into one band, you are on the right track. Bavarski is the brainchild of two Toledo musicians, Eddie Biegaj and Ron Oswanski, Jr, and one from Pittsburgh, Matt Zebroski. Among them, these guys have decades of experience and an impressive discography, not to mention numerous awards and honors. The band hails from New York City and according to its website, plays "whoop-arsch style NYC polkas."

On the website, Bavarski lists two gigs in October, and is sure to book many more. You can find additional info about all three musicians, including bios and discographies. Here's to hoping that Bavarski finds it way west to Toledo one day. More info at [www.bavarski.com](http://www.bavarski.com).

## A Fine Mix to Say Good-Bye to Summer



**BOBBY WROBLEWSKI**, Jim Nowaczewski, and Mike Melamuka of Phocus at the End-Of-Summer Dance.



**VERONICA "RONI" KRUPSKI-SCHILLINGER** (center) and daughters Laurie and Amy.

**BUFFALO** — The appropriately named **End of Summer Dance** on Sept. 21 at Potts Banquet Hall was really enjoyable. Danny Potts has further improved the hall with a new recessed bar area. There are still some areas he has to finish and will be done soon.

Phocus and Special Delivery did a fantastic job with a nice mix of music keeping the dance floor full all night. I haven't seen Phocus play a dance for a bit so it was nice to see and hear the super sounds of Jim Nowaczewski, Bob Wroblewski, Mike Melamuka, Tony Winiarz, Paul Dominiak and Mike Kurdziel. Special Delivery also did a fine job — it was a good pairing of bands!

The September meeting of the **Buffalo Polka Boosters Club** featured a Pot Luck dinner, and what a smorgasbord there was! So many people in attendance and so many delicious dishes brought in for all to enjoy.

**SCHMID REMEMBERED.** On Oct. 5, The Valley of Buffalo Banquet Hall was filled with many loyal polka fans and others, for the Celebration of Life in honor of **Jackie Schmid** to establish a memorial scholarship fund. The entire committee worked very hard getting this all together and it paid off with the big response they received. They all wore special shirts with Jackie's picture to show their love and appreciation for all that she did. Eddie Kutas donated the food for the buffet, many people donated items for the Chinese Auction, Andy Kuczarski was in charge of the sound system for the bands, Robin Pegg booked all the bands — and played with every one of them — and also did a great job as an emcee.

Many musicians donated their time to play for this special cause. We remember all the work Jackie did for the polka world and other civic and cultural organizations; this was our way of honoring her memory.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to ... **Dolly** and **Ron Handzlik** on their 45th wedding anniversary. For this special occasion, they took a trip to Texas where daughter Dorine hosted a dinner party for family and friends at a very special restaurant. We wish them many more years together.

**GET WELL WISHES** go out to **Ron Brady** who had surgery recently.

We hope he heals quickly and recovers fast.

**HAPPY THANKSGIVING.** I would like to wish all of you a very Happy Thanksgiving and hope you enjoy the food, feast, family, friends and football.

### UPCOMING

**Nov. 1-3.** Fall Polka Fest at Seven Springs Resort in Champion, Pa. Many top bands including: Tony Blazonczyk's New Phaze, Ray Jay and the Carousels, The Boys, Henny and the Versa J's, The Diddlestyx, Nu-Tones, Trel Tones and Lenny Zielinski and the D-Street band and our own Concertina All Stars on Sunday — for more info, call (708) 594-6182

**Nov. 2.** Polish Night at the Knights of Columbus, 2735 Union Rd., Cheektowaga, NY — Music by Lenny Gomulka and the Chicago Push and the New Direction Band from 7:00 p.m. until midnight. Polish Platter dinners served from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Cash bar available — Call Jim at (716) 668-1714.

**Nov. 2.** Polka Mass. Blessed Mother Teresa Parish, 496 Terrace Boulevard, Depew, N.Y. 4:00 p.m. Music by Special Delivery. Polish dinner to follow. Dinner tickets must be purchased in advance by calling (716) 683-2746.

**Nov. 3.** Chopin Singing Society performs with the Amherst Chamber Ensemble at 3:00 p.m. at St. Casimir's Church, 160 Cable St., Buffalo, N.Y. Tickets are \$10. Contact Fran at (716) 633-1755.

**Nov. 9.** The Buffalo Touch play Bob Jakubczak's Vets Celebration at the Angola, NY VFW from 8:00 to 11:00 p.m.

**Nov. 17.** Phocus play at the Anchor Inn on William St. in Cheektowaga, NY from 5:00 until 9:00 p.m.

**Nov. 21.** Polka Boosters Meeting at the Polish Falcons Hall, 445 Columbia Ave., Depew, NY. Doors open at 7:00 p.m. Refreshments, entertainment and meeting. Everyone always welcome to attend. Call Chris at (716) 771-1076.

**Nov. 24.** Special Delivery play from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Diane-agains, 2460 Clinton St. (formerly Hurliman's).

**Nov. 27.** The Knewz play a pre-Thanksgiving dance at The Villa, 1085 Harlem Rd., Cheektowaga, NY, from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m.

**Nov. 30.** The New Direction Band and the Auslanders play at The

Penteon, 190 Minerva St., Tonawanda, NY. Music from 6:30 to 10:30 p.m. \$20 admission ticket includes Potts' famous Novemberfest buffet from 6:00 until 7:00 p.m. and beer and pop all night. Cash bar for other drinks. Call (716) 826-6575 for more information.

**Note:** there is no Polka Variety Club Meeting in November. Their Christmas party is on Dec. 7 with music by Rare Vintage — Call Bill at (716) 759-8194 for more information.

### POLKA PATTEN

(PMN) — **Full Circle** is planning their "Polka Cruise with the Stars VII," Feb. 8-15, 2014. The cruise will feature Full Circle, Lenny Gomulka & Chicago Push and a special encore performance of Full Circle's Special Tribute to Marion Lush featuring Richie Tokarz. They've added something new, too: A Special Freelance Jam Band. Also joining them will be their Polka Priest at Sea, Fr. Tom Aleksa and their Polka DJ at Sea, Kenny Olowin.

**A celebration of Ray Henry's "Ballroom Polka"** as the Connecticut State Polka is planned for November 3, 2013. Music will be by the Ray Henry Tribute Band featuring Dennis Polisky and Joseph Milardo. A cash bar and food will be available. The site of the event is the Polish National Home, 60 Charter Oak Ave., Hartford, Connecticut and the party runs from 2:30-6:30 p.m. DJ Peter Danielczuk, who worked on making Henry's song the state polka for years, is the organizer.

Speaking of **Peter Danielczuk**, who was one of the original founders of the Polka Jammer Network, is brought back his "Polka Celebration Show" to the internet's Jammer on October 2, 2013. The show is live on Wednesdays from 10:00-11:00 p.m. (ET). Making for a great lineup, Danielczuk follows Billy Belina's popular broadcast.

**The Michigan State Polka Music Hall of Fame** bestowed honors at a dinner-dance upon Edward J. Dzikowicz of Jackson, Thomas Komon of Britton, Stanley Kowalski of Bay City and Ray Thompson of Free Soil on October 6, 2013. Music at the ZCBJ Hall in Owosso, Michigan, was by Millie's Polka Band and The Steve Drzewicki Band.

As of September 22, 2013, **"It's Polka Time!"** with Craig Ebel is heard every Sunday afternoon from 12:00-2:00 p.m. over WFDL (1170 AM) in Waupun, Wisconsin, a CBS affiliate. Cities able to hear WFDL include Beaver Dam, Berlin, Fond du Lac, Hartford, Mayville, Oshkosh, Ripon, Watertown and West Bend, Wisc. "It's Polka Time!" is produced in the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul, and is heard on 23 other radio stations across the United States, as well as via the Internet on [www.polkajammernetwork.org](http://www.polkajammernetwork.org).

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### Polkamotion by the Ocean 2013 is Best Yet

REHOBOTH BEACH, Del. — On behalf of all our festival volunteers, the staff of **Polkamotion by the Ocean** would like to extend our sincerest gratitude to all the wonderful polka fans from near and far who descended upon Rehoboth Beach, Del., from September 11-14, to celebrate the tenth year of Polkamotion at this fabulous oceanfront resort town. The summer-like weather perfectly accommodated the beach lovers while the ocean waves provided some thrills in the surf. Hats off to "Jolly" Rich Anton who coordinated another fun "Polkamotion Open" best-ball golf tournament on Wednesday afternoon at the Old Landing Golf Course. The two-dollar "Warm-up Party" that night, turned out to be a much bigger event than planned. Everyone enjoyed the live music by Crab Town Sound and

all the guest musicians who joined in to jam. By popular demand, we're going to do it again next year. Polka fans raved about the world-class band line-up that was featured in the Rehoboth Beach Convention Center throughout the four-day festival, as well as the homemade food served up by our amazing kitchen crew.

Lenny Gomulka & Chicago Push, Polka Family, Eddie Forman Orchestra, The Beat, The Boys, Polka Country Musicians, New Direction, Dennis Polisky & The Maestro's Men, Jimmy Weber & The Sounds, Joy IV, and Premiere provided great performances. Mark your calendars for September 10 - 14, 2014 for our 35th Polkamotion by the Ocean. For all the details, visit [www.polkamotion.com](http://www.polkamotion.com) or [www.rbpolka.com](http://www.rbpolka.com) for all the exciting details.

### Mollie B Racks Up Awards

OMAHA, Neb. — RFD-TV's popular weekly polka music program, the *Mollie B Polka Party*, starring Mollie Bust, has, for the second consecutive year, won the Polka America Corporation's Award for Best Variety CD for its "2012 Mollie B Christmas Special." This award, based on a "people's choice" vote, came days after Busta was also named the International Polka Association's Favorite Female Vocalist.

Busta, a multi-talented musician and dancer, who hails from a family of small town midwest American entertainers, has been a featured star on RFD-TV for two seasons. The *Mollie B Polka Party* is a one-hour HD traditional music and variety series, which debuts twice weekly (Wednesday at 7:00pm EST and Saturday at 10:00pm EST) on the

RFD-TV network and every Saturday at 10:00pm EST on FamilyNet. The series includes dancing, music, live events and specials. Mollie B entertains an avid fan base and tours regularly with her husband, Ted Lange, and their band, Squeezebox.

"The *Mollie B Polka Party* represents the best in wholesome, variety entertainment that's suitable for everyone in the family to watch and enjoy. Mollie B's an incredible performer who knows how to put on a good TV show, as well as a live music and dance party," says Patrick Gottsch, founder and president of Rural Media Group, Inc.

Tickets, times and the featured band line-up for the filming are available on the RFD-TV web site: [www.rfdtv.com](http://www.rfdtv.com) or by calling: (402) 991-6290.

### PA Express on Peppermint Records

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio — The **PA Express** is back with another great CD entitled, "I Wanna Dance" on Peppermint Records. The band has carefully selected the tunes for this recording, including songs that are fan favorites, traditional Polish tunes, country-flavored tunes, nostalgic melodies and songs within songs. Already a favorite on the CD is the cleverly-crafted "Polka Menagerie."

With solid rhythm, sparkling horns, crisp concertina and accordion, plus melodic vocals, The PA Express will truly make you feel like you want to dance.

Contact: Peppermint Records, 803 E. Indianola Ave, Youngstown, OH 44502 or email [info@peppermintrecords.com](mailto:info@peppermintrecords.com).

### Bandstand Favorite Instrumentals

CHICAGO — **Jimmy Kilian & Honky Chicago** have put together a dozen old-style favorites on a newly recorded CD entitled "Bandstand Favorite Instrumentals." Well-recognized songs and music that every polka lover requests, are among the great honky Chicago sounds here. "Daddy's," "Two Keys," "Concertina," and "Everyone Loves Someone," are just a sampling of the polkas featured (Kilian and the crew even sneak in an oberek).

Engineered and mastered by Kevin Altenburg, the CD was produced and arranged by Jimmy Kilian.

The CD is available from Jimmy K Polkas, Bel-Aire Studio, and K&C Enterprises. Jimmy Kilian can be contacted by email at: [jkilian45@yahoo.com](mailto:jkilian45@yahoo.com).

### Here Comes Santa!

CHICAGO — **Breakfast with Santa** and the **IPA Christmas Party** will be held on Sunday, Dec. 8, 2013, at Polonia Banquets, 4604 S. Archer Ave. . Doors open 10:30 a.m with breakfast from 11:00 a.m. until noon. The D-Street Band will perform from noon- 3:00 p.m. Current members and kids under 16 are free with a \$10 for non-members.

A **Warm-Up Dance** takes place Jan. 18, 2014. Lenny Gomulka's Chicago Push will perform at Polonia Banquets starting at 6:00 p.m.

The **January Festival of Bands** is scheduled for January 19, 2014 at Glendora House, 10225 S. Harlem Ave., Chicago Ridge.

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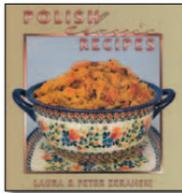


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color photos by Bob Rock

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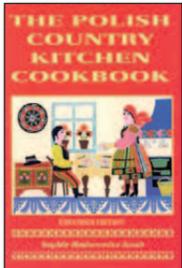
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**POLISH CLASSIC RECIPES**  
\$16.95  
by Laura and Peter Zeranski  
2011, 96 pp., h.c., index, 100 color

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.



**THE POLISH COUNTRY KITCHEN COOKBOOK**  
\$16.95  
by Sophie Knab  
337 pp., pb., ill. Hippocrene Books

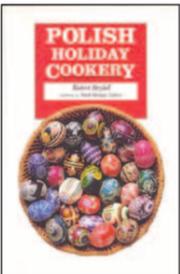
This popular cookbook by beloved Polish American author Sophie Hodorowicz Knab is now updated with a new section on Polish Feasts and Festivals! Knab combines recipes for favorite Polish foods with the history and cultural traditions that created them. Arranged according to the cycle of seasons, this cookbook explores life in the Polish countryside through the year, giving readers priceless historical information to common questions asked by descendants of Polish immigrants. Lovely illustrations by Elliott Hutten and pearls of practical wisdom from the old Polish kitchen marvelously complement this book. This title includes over 100 easy-to-follow recipes, and a detailed bibliography and resource guide.

### 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.

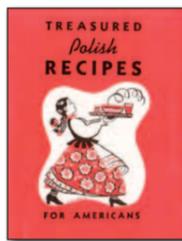
Polish Holiday Cookery covers holidays such as Christmas and Easter, as well as celebrations year-round. Ideas for banquets, picnics, dinners, and family favorites abound throughout, ensuring that cooks have a selection of dishes for any occasion.



### TREASURED POLISH RECIPES FOR AMERICANS

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Polonie Publishing  
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The first complete, hard cover collection of Polish cookery in the English language published in the United States. Researched from old Polish cookbooks and recipes collected from the best Polish American cooks, it also contains stories of Polish festivities and customs such as Christmas Eve wigilia, Harvest Festival dożynki and the foods to celebrate them. Perfect for home cooks or to give as a special gift.



with full color dividers for individual sections, hardcover bounded by plastic spirals for ease of use while cooking. Two indexes for recipes—one in English and one in Polish will make it easy to find your favorite dish.

### THE OLD NEIGHBORHOOD POLISH COOKBOOK:

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

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### POLISH CHICAGO: OUR HISTORY, OUR RECIPES

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

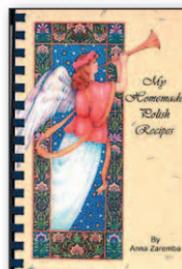
Since the 1830s millions of Poles, often overcoming oppression and hardship, have come to Chicago with a dream of freedom, a willingness to work and a love of country, both old and new. This new groundbreaking work recounts by vivid prose, rare photographs and poignant anecdote the amazing story of these indomitable people.

To many, food is nourishment. To Polish Americans, food is a cause for sharing, celebration and for honoring tradition. This volume turns a spotlight on 36 Polish American restaurants and families who opened their kitchens to share time-tested, delectable Polish recipes.

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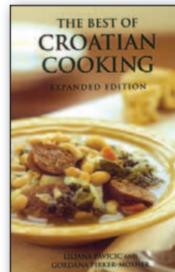
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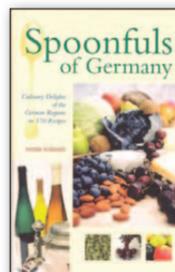
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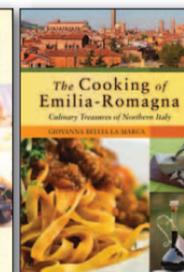
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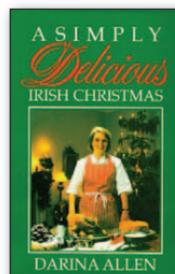
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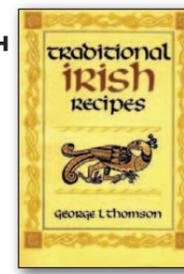
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POLISH CHEF / Robert Strybel

## Planning Ahead for Wieczerza Wigilijna

Here are some favorite dishes of the Polish-style Christmas Eve supper known as "Wieczerza Wigilijna." In some cases, short-cut methods have been used for the benefit of the convenience-minded who nevertheless wish to preserve our ancestral culinary traditions.

### HERRING IN MUSTARD SAUCE (śledź w sosie musztardowym).

Drain a 12-16 oz. jar of marinated non-creamed herring, discarding onions and spices. Plunge into cold water briefly and drain well. Leave herring just they are or cut into smaller pieces and arrange on lettuce-lined serving dish. Intersperse with small onions sliced wafer thin. Drench with sauce, prepared as follows. Fork-blend 1/2 sour cream, 1/2 c. mayonnaise and 1 t. -1 T. prepared brown mustard (preferably Polish Sarepska or German Düsseldorf style), 1/2 t. lemon juice and a dash of pepper. Fork-blend until smooth and pour over herring. Dust with paprika if desired.

### HERRING IN OIL (śledź w oleju).

Drain and rinse store-bought marinated herring as above. Cut herring into bite-size pieces or larger and place in jar, interspersing each layer with a heaping t. chopped onions and a little lemon juice. Top layer should be onions drizzled with lemon juice. One small lemon should be used. Drench herring with high-grade salad oil to cover, seal and refrigerate at least 2 days before serving.

### EASY CLEAR BEETROOT SOUP (czysty czerwony barszcz łatwy).

To 3 c. meatless vegetable stock add 3 c. beet juice (from canned beets) and 1/2 a mushroom cube dissolved in 1 c. boiling water. Season with pepper, a dash of garlic powder, a pinch of marjoram, 1 T. dry red

wine and a little sugar (1/2 t. or so) and lemon juice to get a balanced tangy, sweet, tart flavor. Serve with freshly-baked hand-held mushroom pasties on the side (see below).

### EASIEST CLEAR BEETROOT SOUP (czysty czerwony barszcz najłatwiejszy).

If you lack the time and energy even to prepare the easy barszcz (above), do not despair. Krakus, Knorr and Hortex brand barszcz is now available in 1-liter cartons at your nearest Polish grocery, deli or market. Just heat and serve.

### CLEAR MUSHROOM SOUP (zupa grzybowa czysta).

If you have cooked bolete mushrooms for ear-dumplings (above), an easy way to prepare this soup is simply to combine the leftover mushroom liquid with 5 c. vegetable stock. Season with a little salt & pepper and (optional) a few drops of Kitchen Bouquet to deepen the color and serve over cooked egg noodles or cooked lasagna, cut into 1" squares. If you have no leftover mushroom stock, rehydrate and cook 1 oz. dried boletes. When tender, slice into strips or dice and add, together with the mushroom stock, to 5 c. vegetable stock. Season with salt & pepper. Optional. Garnish with a little freshly-chopped parsley.

### LITTLE-EAR DUMPLINGS (uszka).

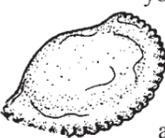
Rehydrate and cook 2 oz. dried bolete mushrooms. Soak 1 slice French bread in 1/2 c. warm water. Chop and sauté 1 coarsely-chopped onion in 2 T. butter until tender and lightly browned. Pass mushrooms, onion and squeezed-out pre-soaked bread through food chopper or process briefly. Add 1/4 c. bread crumbs, stir in 1 egg white, salt & pepper to taste and mix well. Filling should be on the stiff side,

so if it's mushy, stir in a little more bread crumbs and set aside. Sift 1 c. flour onto bread-board, work in egg yolk and a little water, just enough to bind ingredients into a dough. Knead until smooth, roll out very thin and cut into 1 1/2" squares. Place a little filling on each square, fold 2 opposite points together to form a triangle and pinch shut. Gently pull 2 ends of the triangle, join into a ring and pinch them together. Cook in lightly-salted boiling water without crowding until uszka float up. Remove with slotted spoon and serve.

### HORSERADISH SAUCE (sos chrzanowy).

Fork-blend 1/3 c. sour cream, 1/3 c. mayonnaise, 1/3 c. prepared horseradish, juice of 1/2 a lemon, 1/4 t. salt, 1/8 t. pepper and 1 t. sugar.

**PIEROGI** are an essential part of the wigilia meal. If you find yourself crunched for time, you may want to consider ordering them from any one of the many Polish food providers listed on our website [www.palamjournal.com](http://www.palamjournal.com). Just follow the "Library" link to "Polish Food Providers."



For those of you who prefer to do things the traditional way, we have made available on our website downloadable recipes, including several by our Polish Chef for pierogi. Click the "Recipes" button just below our banner.

### SAUERKRAUT & MUSHROOMS (kapusta z grzybami).

Drain and rinse 1 qt. sauerkraut, (preferably Krakus or other Polish imported brands in 1-liter jars), chop coarsely, place in pot add water to cover and 1 bay leaf, bring to boil, reduce heat and cook uncovered about 60 min or until no longer crunchy to taste. In 3 T. butter, margarine or oil brown 8-12 oz. fresh, diced Portobello mushrooms with 1 chopped onion, stir in 3 T. flour and brown lightly, diluting with several T. liquid from sauerkraut pot. When smooth, stir into sauerkraut. Add 1 crushed mushroom bouillon cube and cook on low flame covered another 60 min, stirring frequently. Season with salt, pepper, about 1 t. sugar and (optional) 1/4 t. caraway seeds.

### STUFFED CABBAGE WITH MUSHROOMS (golabki z grzybami).

In 3 T. butter, margarine or oil sauté 8-12 oz. fresh Portobello



**FRIED FISH (ryba smażona).** Sprinkle 2-3 lbs fresh or thawed fresh-frozen fish fillets (perch, pike, walleye, carp, whitefish, catfish, cod, haddock, etc.) with juice of half a lemon, salt and pepper generously, intersperse with onion slices and refrigerate several hours or overnight covered. Just before frying, rinse fish, pat with paper towel. Dip fish in beaten egg, dredge in 50-50 flour-bread crumb mixture, shaking off excess, and fry in hot oil 1/2-inch deep to a nice golden-brown on both sides. Drain on paper towel and serve immediately with horseradish sauce (below).

mushrooms, washed and chopped fine, with 2 med chopped onions. Combine with 3-3-1/2 c. preferably slightly undercooked rice, barley or buckwheat groats, cooked with 1 mushroom cube. Add 1 raw egg and mix to blend ingredients. Salt & pepper to taste and (optional) garnish with 1 T. chopped fresh parsley. Fill pre-wilted cabbage leaves as usual, drench with 3 c. vegetable stock (in which 1 mushroom cube has been dissolved) and bake in pre-heated 350° oven at least 2 hrs.

### BATTER-FRIED MUSHROOMS (grzyby smażone w cieście).

Soak 12 large dried bolete mushroom caps of roughly equal size in warm water 1 or more hrs or overnight. Add 1/2 t. salt and cook in same water at a gentle boil until fully cooked but still firm. Carefully remove mushrooms, drain and dry on absorbent paper. (Save water in which mushrooms cooked for other purposes — soups, gravies, sauerkraut dishes, etc.) Prepare batter by combining 3/4 c. flour, 1/2 t. baking powder, 1/2 t. salt, 1 t. oil and several dashes pepper, stir in 1 c. milk and 1 beaten egg and whisk until smooth. Let stand 30 min. Dip cooked mushroom caps in batter to cover and fry in hot oil 1/2" deep to golden-brown on both sides. Drain on absorbent paper and serve hot.

### POPPYSEED FILLING (masa makowa).

Although not a dish in itself, this filling is used in a number of typical sweet Christmas Eve dishes. In pot combine 3 c. poppyseed with plenty of cold water and swish around with hand. Pour off any impurities that float up. Drench with cold water again and drain through fine sieve. Place poppyseeds in pot, scald with boiling water to cover and simmer on low until poppyseeds disintegrate between fingers (about 40 min.). Drain in fine sieve, pressing out moisture. Pass through fine strainer of meat-grinder twice or through special poppyseed-

grinder once. Or process them in food-processor several min. until puréed. In saucepan melt 3/2 T. butter, add poppyseeds, 1 c. sugar, 1/2 t. grated lemon zest, 3 T. honey and 1/3 c. plumped raisins and simmer 15 min. or so, stirring frequently. About 1/4 t. vanilla extract and/or several drops of almond extract may be added. Note. Canned poppyseed filling is available, but it is nowhere as tasty as the real thing!

### NOODLES & POPPYSEEDS (kluski lub lazanki z makiem).

Cook 1 lb pkg of wide or medium-wide egg noodles or lasagna according to directions or until tender. If using lasagna, after it has cooked cut it into roughly 1" squares. Dot hot, freshly-drained pasta with a little butter and stir in 1 c. or more poppyseed filling (above). Toss gently to evenly distribute. May be served warm, room temp or chilled. Some like to pour a little coffee cream over their portions.

### PASTRY STICKS & POPPYSEEDS (lamańce z makiem).

With knife cut 1/2 c. butter or margarine into 2 3/4 c. sifted flour and mix with hand. Add 2/3 c. confectioner's sugar, 2 whole eggs and 1 extra yolk, 2 t. baking powder, 1 t. vanilla extract and 2 T. sour cream. Combine ingredients well by hand to blend, knead briefly and refrigerate 15 min. Roll out 1/8" thick, transfer to greased baking sheet, cut into 1/2" x 2" rectangles and bake in pre-heated 400° oven about 15 min. Remove from baking sheet immediately. Mound the poppyseed filling on round serving dish. Stick the cooled pastry sticks into it porcupine fashion. This is eaten chip-dip style, with the pastry sticks dipped into the poppyseed mixture.

### CHRISTMAS DRIED-FRUIT COMPOTE (kompot wigilijny z suszu).

Soak 1 c. mixed dry fruit, 3-4 dried figs, diced and (optional) 1/2 c. raisins in water to cover 2 hrs. Add a little water if all has been absorbed and cook about 20 min on med-low heat from the time boiling begins. Optional. 1 small sliced lemon (which has been scrubbed well before being sliced) and a pinch of cinnamon may be added before cooking. Chill and serve in dessert bowls. Note. Christmas Eve compote may be made with prunes alone or prunes & raisins or prunes & figs. It may also be expanded into the traditional 12-fruit compote (said to symbolize the Twelve Apostles) incorporating prunes, raisins and other dried fruit. Apples, pears, peaches, apricots, cherries, figs, dates and currants as well as fresh orange and lemon slices.

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## IN MEMORIAM

## Chester S. Rog, Minnesota Polonia Leader

MINNEAPOLIS — A long-time supporter of Polonia in Minnesota and the Midwest, Czeslaw "Chester" S. Rog, died at home in hospice care at age 89.

A lifelong resident of Northeast Minneapolis, he was a one-man promoter of Polish culture in the Minneapolis/St. Paul area.

Rog, a graduate of Edison High School, attended the University of Minnesota and graduated in 1949 on the GI Bill. A proud World War II veteran, he served in the European Theater and was transferred to London when the U.S. Army discovered the young corporal medic was fluent in Polish. He translated for the flow of Polish pilots, officers and civilians

who fled to England to help fight the war.

His lifelong community involvement started in PTA during the 1960s. He organized many fundraising carnivals at the old Webster School. He ran for School Board and lost. With the election of a Polish pope in 1978, he decided the Polish-American community needed a monthly source of news and information. So, in 1979 he started the *Pol-Am Newsletter*, with himself as editor. After the crackdown in Poland 1981 (Martial Law) he opened a parcel service which shipped packages to Poland.

An employee of the IRS, he retired after a second severe heart attack in 1982. He earnestly began to teach Polish language and culture in the Minneapolis Com-

munity Education evening classes. He was one of the co-founders of the Polish American Cultural Institute of Minnesota (PACIM). In the 1990s, his activities earned him the WCCO Good Neighbor Award. In the late nineties he began attending the national conventions of the American Council of Polish Culture (ACPC), a confederation of Polish Cultural clubs from across the country. In 2003 they awarded him for his outstanding service to Polonia in promoting Polish culture.

For four decades he tirelessly helped Polish immigrants find jobs and lodging in the Twin Cities. He notarized hundreds of invitations which brought citizens together with their relatives in Poland. He also assisted them with health, immigration and social welfare problems. In the 1990s, when immigration reform opened up a "Polish Lottery" for U.S. citizenship, he aided hundreds in getting their paperwork and applications to the proper federal address. In addition, he found time to travel to Poland almost 30 times between 1967-2001.

In May of this year, Rog received a Minneapolis Heritage Preservation Award — the Steven Murray Award from the Minneapolis Chapter of the American Institute of Architects—"Honoring his influence, lifelong devotion and excitement to promote and preserve Polish heritage and culture in Northeast Minneapolis and around the Twin Cities."

Rog is preceded by wife, Helen and daughter, Mary. He is survived by sons, John, Peter (Jenny) and Paul; son-in-law, Mitchell (Sherry) Pearson; grandchildren, Andrew, Luke, Janelle, Cassandra, Emily, and Phillip.

## Czesław S. Sawko, Refugee at Santa Rosa Colony

Chester (Czeslaw) S. Sawko, 83, a native of North-eastern Poland, was a well-known, respected businessman and a most generous philanthropist.

In February 1940, at the age of ten, Sawko and his family were forced out of their home by Soviet soldiers and placed in cattle cars where they endured over two years in a Siberian forced labor camp. In 1942, after Stalin aligned the Soviet Union with the West, Polish prisoners were released. They travelled from the Soviet Union into Uzbekistan and Iran, then to Pakistan, spending three or four months in Karachi. In Bombay (Mumbai), a group of 1434 Polish refugees boarded a British ship, on its six week journey, bound to Mexico via San Francisco. They were then transported by train to the Santa Rosa Colony in Leon, Guanajuato, Mexico. These refugees spent the next three years in this settlement. At the age of sixteen, Chester, his family and others arrived in Chicago. He never forgot how good Mexico and the Mexican people were to these refugees, how accommodating and friendly they were. After achieving that "American Dream," and becoming

a successful businessman, Sawko donated money to the orphanage that was the Poles safe haven. He continued to fund a medical clinic and a new school in Santa Rosa. He never forgot Santa Rosa and its people. His generosity went further, supporting the Polish American community, Poland, and the Catholic Church.

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

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

## OBITUARIES

**Hieronim T. Wyszynski**, 92, of Perth Amboy, was born in Nowe Zalubice, Poland, and attended the Underground University in Warsaw. Wounded in the defense of Warsaw, he was captured, but escaped en route to Germany. In the fall of 1939, he joined the Polish underground movement. He completed his officer training and was given command of an infantry platoon. Captured by the Gestapo in 1943 tortured and sent to concentration camps in Mauthausen, Gusen I and II. In 1945, he was liberated by the United States Army. He spent time in England and came to settle in Perth Amboy. Active in the community here, he was founder and manager (1976-1994) of *Nowy Dziennik-Polish Daily* in New York City.

**John R. Stanek**, owned an employee research firm, built his Chicago-based firm, International Survey Research, into a global research firm and worked with some of the world's largest companies. "He really did create this industry, which is now a \$700 million industry," said entrepreneur, attorney, and technol-

ogy innovator Adam Zuckerman ... **Edward L. Ciemniecki**, 59, a partner with the Archer & Greiner law firm's Philadelphia office and an usher at Christ the King Roman Catholic Church, died of stomach cancer at his home in Haddonfield, N.J. Most recently, Ciemniecki practiced civil law at Archer & Greiner after the firm acquired Peli-no & Lentz of Philadelphia, where he previously worked.

**Doris Gorka Bartuska**, 84, of East Falls, Pa., a physician who balanced career with family long before most women did, died of complications from lymphoma at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. She pursued a career as a doctor because she loved medicine and thrived on teaching. She chose endocrinology because she thought it would give her more time to raise a family. Dr. Bartuska was president of the American Medical Women's Association in 1988, and at various times president of the Philadelphia County Medical Society and the Philadelphia Endocrine Society.

## Decorated Veteran Wins Right to Smoke

NEWINGTON, Conn. — A World War II veteran who faced eviction because he smokes cigarettes in his building's breezeway rather than the designated smoking area has been allowed to continue living in the complex. **Andy Nowicki** and his wife, who are both 90-years-old, were informed that they would have to move out of their apartment over his smoking habit but the case caused an immediate backlash.

Now the Housing Authority in Newington has ruled that the Nowickis will be able to stay in their home after coming to a settlement with their landlords.

The agreement stipulates that the apartment complex must be made more handicap-accessible so that Mr. Nowicki, who uses a motorized wheelchair, can smoke under an awning in the designated smoking area.

Nowicki won a Bronze Star and two Purple Hearts during the war, was a combat infantryman fighting the Nazis in Africa, Italy, France and Germany.

## Shipyard Diagnosis Grim, Says Walesa

GDANSK, Poland — Former Polish President Lech Walesa sees just a five percent chance of saving the Gdansk shipyard, birthplace of Solidarity. After the collapse of bailout talks between chief shareholder, Ukrainian Sergei Taruta and state-owned Industry Development Agency, Walesa was invited to mediate. He stated that he "will do everything possible to save the shipyard."

Roman Galezewski, chair of the Solidarity Trade Union's shipyard's branch, hopes to improve that five percent chance when shareholders talk again in Warsaw. Sergei Taruta owns a 75 percent stake in the company and has stated that he is ready to pay about \$25 million of the \$58 million he says is needed to save the shipyard.

Meanwhile, workers at the shipyard have been paid only in gradual installments since last May.

## AMAZON COMES TO POLAND.

The global on-line shopping leader Amazon is coming to Poland, bringing jobs and business with it. Three large Amazon logistics centers will be established, two in the vicinity of Wroclaw and one in Poznan. Each of the centers will create about 2,000 permanent jobs.

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## SPORTS / Tom Tarapacki

## The Story of Gronk

*Growing Up Gronk: A Family's Story of Raising Champions*, published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt and written by the Gronkowski family with Jeff Schober, is the story of the remarkable athletic success of one family from the Buffalo, N.Y. area. The five Gronkowski brothers have attained some great accomplishments: three of them played in the NFL at the same time, another played professional baseball, and another is currently playing Division I Football.

Their father, Gordon, Sr., played offensive guard for the Syracuse University football team in the 1970s. Afterwards he had a try-out with the old USFL and an offer from the CFL. However, he decided that his football career was over and launched his business career. A fitness buff, he and older brother Glenn eventually opened G&G Fitness in 1990 in the Buffalo suburb of Amherst. With a clear vision and hard work, the business flourished. By 2011 years G&G had 15 locations in New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio.

Over that time Gordon, Sr. also had five sons, all of whom played sports at a high level. The oldest was Gordon Jr., born in 1983. A multi-sport star in high school, he went on the play professional baseball, and was drafted by the Angels. Next came Dan, who played college football for Maryland, and then was drafted by Detroit as a tight end in 2009. Chris also played at Maryland and later transferred to Arizona. A fullback, he signed with Dallas in 2010 as an undrafted free agent. Rob was a second-round pick by New England in 2010 and made the NFL All-Rookie team as a tight end with 42 catches for 546 yards and 10 touchdowns. The following season he set the single-season record for touchdowns by a tight end, with 17 receiving TDs, 18 total. Youngest son Glenn (or "Goose") is currently the starting fullback for Kansas State.

In 2010, Gordon, Sr. had the rare distinction of having three sons playing in the NFL at the same time.

Gordon, Sr. knew that his sons had great athletic potential, but didn't push them. However, he drew on his own knowledge and experience to guide them. He didn't let the boys play organized football or lift weights until they reached eighth grade. In weightlifting he started the boys out slowly and with careful supervision, using light weights and strict form. His now ex-wife, Diane, also made sure the boys ate nutritious meals, spending around \$600 a week on food. Gordy Sr. taught his sons goal-setting, visualiza-

tion and mental toughness. He also recognized the importance of dealing with the off-the-field aspects of sports.

The Gronkowski boys didn't have to be taught to be competitive — that came naturally. They were also all natural athletes, with Ron being best of the group. "Watching him in high school, he was so much bigger, so much stronger, so much faster than everybody else," recalled Chuck Swierski, Rob's varsity basketball coach at Williamsville North High School.

Rob is now an All-Pro tight end with the New England Patriots, and he has certainly captured the public's imagination with his intense competitiveness on the field and fun-loving nature off the field. But each of the brothers has an interesting and compelling story that is told in this book. It takes more than having great athletic ability to be a successful athlete, and Gordon, Sr. obviously recognized that. *Growing Up Gronk* tells how he prepared his sons, offering them guidance and assistance but allowing them to find their own way.

You can get *Growing Up Gronk* at the family's website, www.gronknation.com, as well as other items, from Gronk'D tee shirts to autographed memorabilia. There's also information about the foundation they created to support youth sports.

**COMING TO POLAND.** The Ultimate Fighting Championship is targeting its first event in Poland for 2014, so it's no surprise that the mixed martial arts organization has signed Polish middleweight Krzysztof Jotko. Jotko, 24, who is undefeated at 13-0, has fought professionally since 2010. His wins are fairly evenly split, with seven decisions, four TKOs, and two submissions. Previously the UFC added Poles Daniel Omielanczuk and Piotr Hallmann, both of whom recently turned in impressive wins.

**ENTERING THE HALL.** Three Polish Americans were among the 13-member Class of 2013 inducted by the Greater Buffalo Sports Hall of Fame. They were:

**Jennifer Stuczynski Suhr**, the top ranked woman pole vaulter in the world for the past two years, won a Silver medal in the 2008 Beijing Olympics, and gold at the London Olympics in 2012.

**Art Jeziorski**, a top Buffalo area bowler through five decades. In the 1960s he was part of three straight New York State team titles; in 2001, he posted the highest average (231) of any senior bowler in the country.

**Frank Pytlak**, a standout major leaguer in the 1930s and 1940s. He played in the big leagues from 1932 to 1946, with time out to serve in the Navy during World War II. Pytlak hit .282 with seven home runs and 272 RBI, and batted over .300 in four different seasons with Cleveland and Boston. Pytlak was also an outstanding defensive catcher, and once set a Major League record for handling 581 consecutive chances without an error. Pytlak died in 1977 at the age of 68.

**MAJOR LEAGUE ROUNDUP.**

**Scott Kazmir** completed an amazing comeback in Cleveland, finishing the season with a 4.04 ERA in 158 innings, and averaged about a strikeout per inning pitched and a strikeout-to-walk ratio of nearly 3.5 :1. He had spent the last two years out of the majors after being released by the Angels in 2011. **Joe Maddon** led Tampa Bay to victory in the AL wild card game, though the Rays lost in the ALDS. After struggling early this season, St. Louis lefty **Mark Rzepczynski** was traded to Cleveland, where he did very well in relief. Mark had been a big part of St. Louis' bullpen when the team won the World Series in 2011. Catcher **A.J. Pierzynski** hit .275 with 17 HRs as catcher for Texas this season. The 36-year-old Pierzynski, one of the game's most colorful characters, had previously played for the Twins, Giants and White Sox. White Sox first baseman and team captain **Paul Konerko** raised his career home run total to 434. Since Pierzynski was traded in December 2012, Konerko, 37, is the only remaining White Sox player from the team's 2005 world championship season. Despite breaking his wrist in June, Rockies' shortstop **Troy Tulowitzki** was an All-Star for the third time and hit .312 in 2013. After an injury in early September created an opportunity at first base for the Mets' **Lucas Duda**, he finished the season hitting .223 with 15 home runs, 33 RBIs and a .352 on-base percentage, as well as impressing defensively. The Milwaukee Brewers announced that righty **Tom Gorzelanny** will not be a regular starter in 2014, but will serve as a reliever and potential spot starter. 22-year-old pitcher **Ian Krol** had an up-and-down season with Washington, but "King Krol" has a good shot to make the club's roster next year. 22-year-old Cardinals rookie **Mike Wacha** lost a no-hit bid in the ninth inning of his ninth career start, and he narrowly missed a no-hitter in a NLDS win over Pittsburgh. Veteran lefty **Mike Zagurski** signed with the

## Yaz in Bronze



It may be hard to believe, but it was 30 years ago that **Carl Yastrzemski** played his final game at Boston's Fenway Park. Recently the Boston Red Sox honored the 74-year-old Hall of Famer by erecting a statue of him based on an image of "Yaz" tipping his cap after his final at-bat at Fenway in 1983.

"It's a tremendous honor," Yaz said after the 40-minute ceremony. "This statue means as much to me as being inducted into the Hall of Fame and having my number retired."

Yastrzemski played his entire 23-year major league career with the Red Sox. He had a career .285 batting average with 452 home runs and 1,844 RBIs, played in 3,308 games, hitting 452 homers, winning a Triple Crown, three batting titles, seven Gold Gloves, and the 1967 Most Valuable Player award. In his remarks Yaz made reference to his late son, Mike Yastrzemski, a former professional baseball player who died in 2004. "I wish my son, Carl Michael, could have been with us," Yastrzemski said. "He was my biggest fan." Yaz's grandson, Mike, is currently in the Baltimore Orioles system.

Yastrzemski was born in Southampton N.Y. to Carl Yastrzemski, Sr. and the former Hattie Skonieczny. He was raised on his father's potato farm, and played on his father's White Eagles sandlot baseball team. Though Yastrzemski has always kept a low profile since retiring, he has been coming to Boston's spring training camp every year since 1983.

Yankees in September after pitching well for Triple-A Scranton/Wilkes-Barre. Although he still wants to be a starter, Orioles pitcher **Brian Matusz** has done well since moving the bullpen in the middle of last season, throwing 57 innings with a 2.84 ERA and .202 opponents' batting average. Erie, Pa. native Tim "FedEx" Federowicz became a solid contributor at catcher for the LA Dodgers, appearing in 56 games and hitting .231. **Alan Trammell**, former Detroit Tiger shortstop and manager, served as bench coach for the Arizona Diamondbacks. Former big league catcher **Mike Stefanski** has been the Reds bullpen catcher since retiring as a player in 2003. **Todd Tomczyk** has been the Pittsburgh Pirates head athletic trainer since 2011. Former Pirate Ron Wotus is bench coach for San Francisco.

**IN MEMORIAM.** **Amy Dombroski**, 26, American cyclo-cross racer, died in a vehicle collision in Belgium while training. Dombroski was a three-time under-23 national cyclo-cross champion, and engaged to marry motocross racer Ryan Ro-

zinski.

**Bob Kurland**, 88, one of basketball's pioneer big men, and believed to be the first man to dunk in a game. He played for the Oklahoma A&M Aggies, and was an Olympic champion (1948, 1952).

**Stanislaw Szozda**, 62, elite Polish cyclist who won Olympic silver in 1972 and 1976.

**Frank Tripucka**, 85, a star quarterback for Notre Dame's unbeaten 1948 team and a standout in the NFL, AFL and CFL. Among his children is Kelly Tripucka, a former two-time NBA All-Star with the Detroit Pistons.

**THEY SAID IT**

"My dad was a quiet man and a hard worker. He instilled that in me. He was a tough, good man."

— **Carl Yastrzemski** in reference to his father, *Carl Yastrzemski Sr.*

❖ ❖ ❖

"P.S.: thanks to my Polish Rays fan here in Detroit ... appreciate the Polska banner ... a keeper .... forever !"

— **A Joe Maddon** tweet to fans in Detroit.

## POLONIA ON FILM / Joseph W. Zurawski

## Ice Station Zebra (1968)

**Action, Drama**

**Distributor:**

**Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer**

**Director: John Sturges**

**Screenplay Writer: Douglas Heyes**

**Featuring: Rock Hudson, Ron**

**Masak (as Paul Zabrinzski)**

Commander James Farraday, captain of the U.S. nuclear attack submarine USS Tigerfish, is ordered to rescue the personnel at a British civilian scientific weather station at Ice Station Zebra in the Arctic Ocean.

It turns out the mission is to recover a satellite capsule that had

crashed in the area after it had taken photos of U.S. and Russian nuclear missile installations. A Mr. Jones is sent by the British to command the operation. Anticipating Russian troops will land in the area, a tough U.S. combat commander, Captain Anders, is dropped by helicopter to prepare U.S. forces aboard the USS Tigerfish for military engagement. There are some interesting plot twists: a Russian defector and spy (?) tries to get Captain Anders to attack him while Mr. Jones is barely conscious. In the staged fight, Jones awakens and shoots Anders.

Meanwhile, Farraday has fig-

ured out the mission's real purpose is to recover the capsule. He takes a select crew to retrieve the capsule including Paul Zabrinzski, the radioman. After the capsule is located under some ice, Farraday says to Zabrinzski, "I want your technical opinion. The best you can come up with. Will it explode if we pick it up?"

The capsule is freed from the ice. But the Russians have landed and demand the capsule. Farraday, who has ordered his armed men back to the ship, turns over the capsule to the Russian commander. After the capsule is launched by balloon

for recovery by a Soviet aircraft, Farraday uses a device to blow up the capsule. Both the Russian and American commanders agree "the incident is closed." The Russians leave and the Americans rescue the few British personnel who survived at Ice Station Zebra. A news release is issued explaining the cooperation of the Russians and Americans on this humanitarian mission.

Most of the officers are listed by their rank in the movie credits. Zabrinzski is identified only by name and not as the chief petty officer or radioman.

Ron Masak, in his first movie

role, played Paul Zabrinzski. I am unable to confirm that Masak is of Polish descent. However, he is a member of the Artist/VIP Gallery of the Polish American Film Society in Los Angeles.

❖ ❖ ❖

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

## Latin for Genealogists Released



**SUSAN GRZYB** listens as **Prof. Jonathan Shea** explains the contents of her ancestor's one hundred year old Latin language baptismal record, discovered at a local New Britain (Connecticut) parish.

NEW BRITAIN, Conn. — Family historians invariably will encounter the need for one or more foreign languages in the course of documenting the histories of the various branches of their family. For persons with Catholic ancestors, the first language that they will meet is Latin. A knowledge of Latin, as the universal language of record keeping in the church, is needed both here in the U.S., to decipher family records found in a local parish, as well as in Europe. Most parish registers were kept in Latin in American parishes up until the 1960s.

Researchers will now have a resource specifically tailored to genealogists. Prof. Jonathan Shea of New Britain, Connecticut and William F. Hoffman of Houston, Texas have authored a translation guide, the is the third volume in a series of reference books that provide foreign language assistance to roots researchers. The previous two volumes covered the Polish and Russian languages. Entitled *In Their Words: A Genealogist's Translation Guide to Latin Documents*, the four hundred page book translates and grammatically analyzes over one hundred documents spanning a wide geographical spectrum ranging from Argentina to Ukraine. Many of the documents are from Polish-American parishes, as well as birth marriage and death records from Poland and neighboring territory formerly ruled by Poland in nearby Belarus and Ukraine. While many of the vital records documents were similar and followed set formats, unexpected notes written by priests in the body of the records require a good knowledge of the language to decipher them. In one Italian record from the 1800s, for example, the parish priest noted that a funeral was delayed because the horse pulling the cart with the coffin

broke its leg on the way to the funeral. In a Polish record from the mid-1700s, the pastor explained why a scheduled baptism was delayed; a flash flood inundated the road to the church rendering it impassible. Notes such as these add color to our family histories and document the trials and tribulations of our ancestors who lived centuries ago.

As Latin was the language of learning and culture in Europe, it is not surprising to find of non-church documents recorded in that language, as well. The book therefore analyzes documents such as tax and estate records, land transfers, wills, certificates of nobility, and diplomas, to name but a few.

Both authors' academic backgrounds are deeply rooted in the field of foreign languages. Shea, a professor of foreign languages at Central Connecticut State University, is an honors graduate of Georgetown University with a B.S. in Spanish and holds advanced degrees in Slavic Languages and Archival Management. Hoffman holds undergraduate and graduate degrees in German from the University of Dallas and the University of Texas at Arlington. Additionally, both authors are frequent contributors to Polish genealogical publications and have lectured internationally at genealogy seminars and conferences. They have both independently authored books on Polish genealogical research methodology and the origins and meanings of Polish surnames. Both also have personal Polish connections. Shea's maternal grandparents are from the Łomża and Białystok areas of Poland, while Hoffman's wife had Polish ancestors living in Poland and Lithuania.

Further information about the publication can be obtained by visiting [www.langline.com](http://www.langline.com) or e-mailing [langlinepress@yahoo.com](mailto:langlinepress@yahoo.com).

## Need Help Finding Your Ancestors?

CHICAGO — Members of the Polish Genealogical Society of America (PGSA) are available on Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. at the PMA library, 984 N. Milwaukee Ave. to help with your research challenges.

If you are unable to stop by, you can e-mail an inquiry to [PGSAmerica@pgsa.org](mailto:PGSAmerica@pgsa.org) or go to the PGSA website [www.PGSA.org](http://www.PGSA.org), click on

"How To...": in the sidebar and access "Frequently Asked Questions." In fact, visiting FAQs first, might save you having to send that e-mail.

Currently, Board member Steve Szabados is available at the Arlington Heights Library, every Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Whether you are just getting started or trying to solve a "brick wall," Steve should be able to help.

## GENEALOGY / Stephen M. Szabados

### Translating Records

The language used for the records that you find in Polish records will be in Latin, Polish, Russian or German. As you browse the images, you should have a list of key words such as dates and relationships to help you select the images that may pertain to your ancestors. You will be able to assemble your list from word lists in the wiki articles at [Familysearch.org](http://Familysearch.org) or genealogy books that have glossaries of genealogy terms. Modern translation dictionaries will not normally include the terms that you find in these older documents because many terms have fallen out of use and have been replaced with modern terms.

Books that I have used to aid in the translation of my Polish records have been:

- *Follow the Paper Trail* by Jonathan D. Shea and William F. Hoffman
- *Going Home: A Guide to Polish American Family History Research* by Jonathan Shea
- *In Their Words – Polish* by Jonathan D. Shea and William F. Hoffman
- *In Their Words – Russian* by Jonathan D. Shea and William F. Hoffman
- *A Translation Guide to 19th Century Polish-Language Civil-Registration Documents* by Judith R. Frazin

The above books and words lists can be used to translate most of the columnar and narrative records that you find. Some documents, such as narratives that describe a complicated marriage or death situation, should be translated by someone expert with the appropriate language. Genealogy translators should be familiar with interpreting old script and old formal terms. Someone who only translates current modern languages may have difficulty.

I have found that translating old Russian records is difficult for those who learned Russian in modern schools because they cannot interpret the old script and are not familiar with the old formal terms. Also the Cyrillic alphabet was changed by Stalin in the 1950s. The Napoleonic format was written in Polish until the Tsar tightened his control over his Polish provenances and required the use of Russian on all records. In 1868, officials and priests began using the Cyrillic alphabet and Russian for vital records. Russian was used for this area until after World War I when the language used reverted to Polish.

If you have difficulty translating Polish records, the Polish Genealogy Society of America (PGSA) has a list of translators on their website ([www.pgsa.org](http://www.pgsa.org)). The list includes only translators that PGSA members have used and recommend.

#### FINAL COMMENTS ON TRANSLATING RECORDS

- Recognize the Polish alphabet.
- Learn to read Old German Script
- Translate all of the record because even small comments can enrich your family history
- Ask for the help of a professional if you find a difficult passage or phase.

Stephen M. Szabados is a regular contributor to the Polish American Journal, and the author of *Finding Grandma's European Ancestors* and *Find Your Family History*.

## BRUSH UP / Polonia Media Network

### Menu Items II

*m, f, n = male, female, neuter  
prepositions are joined to the next word*

chleb.....	(hhleb)	bread
buleczka.....	(buh-WEHCH-kah)	small bread roll
drożdżówka.....	(drohzh-DUHV-kah)	sweet yeast bun
dżem.....	(jehm)	jam
ciastko.....	(CHYAHST-koh)	pastry or small cake
buraczki.....	(buh-RAHCH-kee)	grated beet
cebula.....	(tseh-BUH-lah)	onion
chlodnik.....	(HHWOHD-neck)	cold beet soup with yogurt and vegetables
chrzan.....	(hhshahn)	horseradish
czosnek.....	(CHOHS-nehk)	garlic
ćwikła.....	(CHVEEK-wah)	boiled grated beetroot with horseradish
fasola.....	(fah-SOH-lah)	beans
deser.....	(DEH-sehr)	dessert

## SURNAME CORNER / Robert Strybel

### Looking for Birthplace

Q: I am searching for my grandparent's place of birth. I have three different spellings, and I would like to know if they are all the same or different places. They are: Czerniejewo, Czewojewo, Poznan (from a passenger list) and Junczewo (from a cousin who is researching). If you can help me with this question, I would be most grateful. Thank you.

Dorothy Badzinski  
[helmenstine@att.net](mailto:helmenstine@att.net)

A: The three names you listed are all separate localities, not different spellings of the same place. Your grandfather must have listed Czewujewo in his travel documents. It is a small village in today's Kujawsko-Pomorskie voivodship (province) in Żnin county. Junczewo is another village also in Żnin county. By contrast Czerniejewo is a small town of some 2,500 in the Wielkopolska region in Gniezno county just across the Kujawsko-Pomorskie border. All three localities are in the same general area of central northwest Poland. Under Prussian occupation up until 1918, Czerniejewo was known in German as Schwarzenau.

For a custom-researched analysis of your surname – its origin, meaning, number of users, where they live and coat of arms if any, kindly airmail a \$19 check (adding \$10 for each additional surname you wish researched to: Robert Strybel, ul. Kaniowska 24, 01-529 Warsaw, Poland. For more information please contact: [research60@gmail.com](mailto:research60@gmail.com).

# POLISH SURNAMES: Origins & Meanings

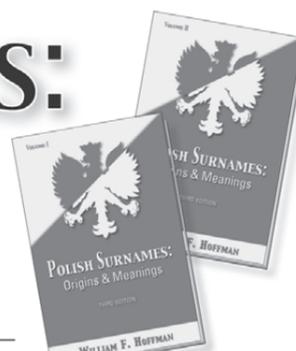
Now, with ~50,000 surnames, the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition by William 'Fred' Hoffman is available!

Includes many names of linguistic origin other than Polish—Czech, German, Hebrew, Hungarian, Lithuanian, Romanian, Ukrainian, Yiddish, and others.

 *Volume I* includes history of surname development, typical name origins, name suffixes, and more; 260pp.

 *Volume II*, with 50,000 surnames (2<sup>nd</sup> ed. held ~30,000 names) arranged by root names, offers translations, derivations, data on the number of Polish citizens bearing each name, and more; 936pp. (on CD, PDFs are English and Polish font searchable)

 Thinking ahead... this would make a special holiday gift.



Volumes I & II printed set  
OR  
Volume I printed, Volume II on searchable PDF disc



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KULTURA / Staś Kmiec

## Five Days in Poland: Warszawa on the "Wukadka"

### Part III

Sleep was not meant to be in preparation for my first full day in Poland. After a packed day upon morning arrival and a birthday party that led me to the morning of the next day, I was about surrender to the goose-down pillow and comforter. Taking 3 Advil tablets in order to get the most restful sleep out of a lesser amount of hours is a practice I adopted in preparation of an early call on set when filming, and it seemed only fitting that to get over jetlag and meet the next day on limited sleep, I needed to do the same.

When I entered the breakfast room the next morning I was greeted by my birthday friend Krzysiek, his mother, niece, and sister Anna. Marek and his fiancé – who we were supposed to meet us before they headed to work were "missing in action" – choosing to sleep in.

Krzysiek's family was traveling to Warsaw on route to Lublin on the nifty mini-bus service that I was introduced to on my last trip. I was going with them for a quick trip into the city to meet my brother-in-law's niece at the Sobieski Hotel and exchange some items from the United States for a gift of special spices for my sister so she could use them for some nouveau Polish recipes.

Cappuccino, fresh bread, jams, yogurt, and egg-jajecznica made for a great start. We piled into the car and got to the station in time to purchase tickets.

The train arrived and Anna informed me that it was the old train; not the newer model. The new train has an easier entry for older passengers. I have traveled this route often and equate it with the Long Island Railroad from the suburbs to the big city. The distance is approximately the same, but at a mere 4.80 zloty (approximately \$1.55) – it is a great bargain.

We boarded the train and immediately went to the machine to validate our tickets, it did not work. We went to the next machine in the compartment – it also was not stamping. To avoid any problems and make sure we were in compliance, Anna noted the time and date on the tickets with a pen as 8:45; 16.05.013.

"Proof-of-payment" is an honor-based fare collection approach used on many public transportation systems. Instead of checking each passenger as they enter a fare control



Warsaw's commuter lines are being re-electricified. Older units, like the one on the left, will be scrapped or rebuilt. Right: A newer, streamlined train.

zone, proof-of-payment requires that each passenger carry a ticket or pass proving that they have paid the fare. Ticket controllers make periodic checks to deter fare evasion. A passenger can purchase a single-use ticket at a kiosk or a machine at the station stop any time in advance, but must insert the ticket or pass into a validation machine before use. Validation machines in stations or on board vehicles time stamp the ticket. The ticket is then valid for some period of time after the stamped time. Some older trains have a hole-punch system.



An average 25,000 passengers ride the "Wukadka" daily.

Disadvantages include a potentially higher rate of fare evasion, Visitors unfamiliar with a system's validation requirements who innocently misunderstand the rules are especially likely to get into trouble. Travel without a valid ticket is not usually considered a crime, but a penalty fare is charged.

The Warsaw Commuter Railway (Warszawska Kolej Dojazdowa)

is a suburban light rail line serving in the capital city. The line, together with its two branches, links Warsaw with the municipalities of Michałowice, Pruszków, Brwinów, Podkowa Leśna, Milanówek and Grodzisk Mazowiecki to the southwest of Warsaw.

WKD – known colloquially as "Wukadka" is a popular link with the city center from small towns and villages as long as for 75 years. This is the fastest and most reliable transport mean to inhabitants of communes located in the area of railway lines managed by

the Rail that enables them to reach places of work and schools. Every day 122 trains set out on their paths, which are used by an average 25,000 passengers daily.

The line was constructed and operated under the original name *Elektryczna Kolej Dojazdowa* (Electric Commuter Rail) by a privately owned electrical power industry consortium *Sila i Światło* (Power and Light) established with the participation of British funding shortly after Poland regained independence after World War I in 1918. The association sought to build an electric railway in order to accelerate economic development and increase the demand for its services.

In 1924 the company received a concession from the ministry of transport to build a private railroad from Warsaw through Grodzisk Mazowiecki to Żyrardów, under the condition that it would be run at least 2 kilometers from the existing line of the former Warsaw-Vienna Railway owned by the Polish State Railways (PKP).

The work began and proceeded simultaneously in two directions. In 1927 it was opened, linking Grodzisk Mazowiecki with the center of Warsaw. In 1932 and again in 1936 the line was extended. Before

the outbreak of World War II work was initiated on the construction of second line.

During World War II the railroad remained operational during most of the German occupation albeit only on part of the line. In 1947 the company was nationalized by the Soviet installed communist government and in 1951 placed under the administration of the Polish State Railways and renamed. During the

1960s the line was gradually trimmed. In 1972 the almost half-century old English Electric railcars were replaced by new PKP designed especially for the line and produced in Wrocław.

In 2001 with the restructuring of the Polish State Railways a separate company was created and in 2007 it was taken over by a consortium formed by the Maszowsze Voivodeship and the municipalities.

Train service is provided by three classes of train sets: units built between 1969–1972; in 2004; and in 2011–2012. There are plans to order additional units for continued expansion of the line.

In 2013 the line will be re-electricified. The remaining older units will be scrapped and others will be rebuilt for that supply or go through a simple conversion. On the main line, trains operate every 15 minutes at peak hours and every 30 minutes off-peak, with a service gap between midnight and 5:00 am.

From the "Maszowsze"-Otrebusy station there are 16 stops before the designated arrival point. When we got off the train we headed through the underground passageway – full of small stores and eating joints, towards the Marriott Hotel. I remembered the way and could lead my out-of-town friends to their pickup destination. A few photos and good-byes and I was on my way to Hotel Sobieski.

### Polonaise Ball, Nov. 16

PHILADELPHIA — On Sat., Nov. 16, 2013 the **Polish Heritage Society of Philadelphia** will be holding its Annual Polonaise Ball and Awards Banquet at the Torresdale-Frankford Country Club in Northeast Philadelphia.

This year's honoree is Edward A. Turzanski, Adjunct Professor and Assistant Vice President for Government and Community Relations, LaSalle University.

Cocktail hour begins at 6:30 p.m. featuring music by Alice Quirk violin; with dinner and dancing at 7:30 p.m. to the music of the Dennis Ostowicz Band. Additional entertainment will be provided by the PKM Dancers and a Chinese Auction throughout the evening.

This is the Polish Heritage Society of Philadelphia's annual fund raiser and all proceeds benefit its scholarship fund. Scholarship awards are given yearly to worthy students of Polish-American heritage. In 2013 the Polish Heritage Society of Philadelphia awarded \$5,000.00 in scholarships to five students. The Society has been in existence for some 40 years.

For reservations and information please contact Jean Joka at (215) 483-0193 or Jean.joka@gmail.com.

### Artist to Speak

CLEVELAND — Cleveland State University is working in partnership with the Cleveland Foundation and The Sculpture Center to host noted Polish artist **Przemyslaw Jasielski**.

Jasielski was recently invited by Poland's Ministry of Culture to participate in the Malta Festival in Poznan, and he continues to build his professional reputation. He is spending the fall semester at CSU and is creating a site-specific installation for the Galleries at CSU that was unveiled October 24.

A luncheon and talk, "Transnature is Here: The Blending of Art and Science in the Sculptures of Przemyslaw Jasielski," will be held Sun., Nov. 17 from 11:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at the Polish-American Cultural Center, 6501 Lansing Ave. Lunch is \$11.00 per person (\$6.00 per child). There is no charge for the talk, which begins at 1:30 p.m.

For information, email Polish-Studies@csuohio.edu, or call (216) 687-2000.

### Karski Fundraiser Set

NEW YORK — The **Jan Karski Educational Foundation** will host a gala reception, Nov. 19, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. at the Consulate General of the Republic of Poland in New York. Consul General Ewa Junczyk-Ziomecka will welcome guests to 233 Madison Ave at 37th Street (Jan Karski Corner), and David Harris, executive director of the American Jewish Committee and a member of the Foundation's Advisory Council, will speak.

The Foundation is a non-profit organization established in 2012 to promote the legacy of the late Jan Karski, the emissary from the Polish Underground during World War II, popularly known as "one man who tried to stop the Holocaust."

Space is limited to 150 persons; tickets can be purchased at [www.jankarski.net/en/news-and-events/buy-tickets.html](http://www.jankarski.net/en/news-and-events/buy-tickets.html).

All contributions are tax-deductible as allowed by the law.

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## THE OLD COUNTRY / Richard Poremski



PUSHING AND PULLING ACROSS WARSAW, Poland. May 16, 1976.

## NAMES IN THE NEWS

**WITOLD WALCZAK**, the grandson of Holocaust victims, is the ACLU's co-lead counsel on the Pennsylvania case for same sex marriage. Walczak, whose family moved to the United States and later returned to Poland, has been the state's top ACLU watchdog since returning to our shores after being knocked around and strip-searched by police amid the Solidarity protests of the 1980s. "At that point I knew I wanted to be a civil liberties attorney," he told the Philadelphia Inquirer.

**SEN. LISA MURKOWSKI** (R-Alaska) expressed support for gay marriage, becoming the third sitting Republican senator to do so. "This is a hard issue. It is hard because marriage is such a deeply personal issue," Murkowski told Anchorage television station KTUU. "There may be some that, when they hear the position that I hold, are deeply disappointed," she said. "There may be some that embrace the decision that I have made. I recognize that it is an area that as a Republican I will be criticized for."

## THE PONDERING POLE / Ed Poniewaz

## A Tribute to the Polka Club

*"Some hold each other tightly, some at a cautious distance. Some hold their arms out stiffly, some drop them loosely at their sides. Some dance springily, some glide softly, some move with grave dignity. There are boisterous couples, who tear wildly about the room, knocking everyone out of their way."*

— From *The Jungle*  
by Upton Sinclair

My mother taught me how to dance when I was a kid, and we danced the polka. So many of the weddings and parties near where she was born and raised in rural Southern Illinois were held at Sherman's Hall and it was there that she taught me how to stand, where to place my hands, and explained the steps and count. That place holds so many memories for me but especially as an introduction to the musical expressions of the Polish American polka. I owe her a lot for that and most likely for my love of dance in general. There is hardly a category or style I have not tried or can speak about or perform. It has given me so much enjoyment throughout my life to know about and be able to dance.

Polka and the accordion in this country, as it goes by extension of the "Polish" thing, get a bad rap. Some of your local rock DJs for some inexplicable reason will refer to it when making the comparison between what is cool and what is not. Inexplicable because rock and polka are not related. I cannot think of any other *folk music* that gets beat up as much. There is a note in the Bruce Springsteen biography however telling the story of when the E-Street band fronted for the rock band *Chicago*. Peter Cetera (half Polish and half Slovak) bassist-singer of *Chicago* entertained both bands at the backstage party playing "Polish music on Federici's accordion." Bruce "The Boss" Springsteen had an accordion player on stage with him at his concert this past March in

**LIFE-SAVING DESIGN.** His invention saves lives everyday: **Paul D. Jablonski**, a metallurgist at the National Energy Technology Laboratory in Morgantown, W. Virg. revolutionized coronary stent technology by developing a platinum-chromium alloy that makes the life-saving device thinner and more flexible than the traditional bare metal stent.

The Jablonski-designed stents are visible on X-rays, which was not possible before.

## Life on the River



**JAN LEWAN** and members of his September 2013 tour of Poland take time to smile for the camera as they cruise down the Dunajec River, just one of the many activities in which the group took part. Jan will visit Poland again in 2014, from July 1-12, along with the Polka Family band's Hank Guzevich. They will visit Gdansk, Malbork, Warsaw, Czestochowa, Zakopane, Wieliczka, and Krakow. Participants will receive a free four-hour DVD recording of the tour, recorded by Lightning Videos.

For information, call or write Pat Tours at (800) 388-0988, 1285 Riverdale St., West Springfield, MA 01089; email info@pattours.com; or jan@janlewandowski.com, P.O. Box 19312, West Palm Beach, FL 33416.

## PROVERBS, SAYINGS, AND NOTIONS / Robert Strybel

## Folk Wisdom of the Polish People

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

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

**Myszy harcują, gdy kota nie czują.**

Equivalent: When the cat's away the mice will play.

*Literally: Mice play when they don't sense the cat around.*

**Jak cię widzą, tak cię piszą.**

Equivalent: Fine feathers make fine birds.

*Literally: How people see you that's how they describe you.*

*Meaning: Making a good impression is important.*

**Gdzie kucharek sześć nie ma co jeść.**

Equivalent: Too many cooks spoil the broth

*Literally: Where there are six cooks there's nothing to eat.*

**Obiecywać gruszki na wierzbie.**

Equivalent: To promise pie in the sky.

*Literally: To promise pears on a willow tree.*

**Modli się pod figurą, a ma diabła za skórą.**

Equivalent: Before the statue he does pray, but he's really under the devil's sway.

*Literally: He prays beneath a statue, but he's got the devil under his skin.*

**Cudze chwalicie, własnego nie znacie, sami nie wiecie, co posiadacie.**

Equivalent: You praise all things foreign and think they are best, but know not what you yourself possess.

*Note: This is another observation by Adam Mickiewicz, who chided his countrymen for aping "trendy" Western imports while ignoring native Polish ways, a commentary that seems to last the ages.*

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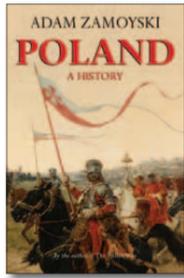
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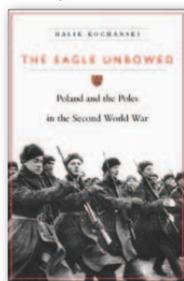
**NEW! POLAND: A HISTORY**  
by Adam Zamoyski  
\$19.95  
pb. 426 pp. 5.5 in. x 8.5 in.

A substantially revised and updated edition of the author's classic 1987 book,

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

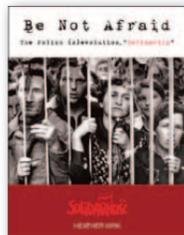
## THE EAGLE UNBOWED:

*Poland and Poles in the Second World War* by Halik Kochanski. \$35.00



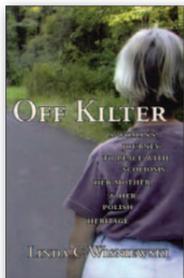
Harvard Univ. Press hc., 784 pp.; 6.125 x 9.25 inches. 32 halftones, 8 maps

Halik Kochanski tells, for the first time, the story of Poland's war in its entirety, a story that captures both the diversity and the depth of the lives of those who endured its horrors. Most histories of the European war focus on the Allies' determination to liberate the continent from the fascist onslaught. Yet the "good war" looks quite different when viewed from Lodz or Krakow than from London or Washington, D.C. *The Eagle Unbowed* provides in a single volume the first truly comprehensive account of one of the most harrowing periods in modern history.



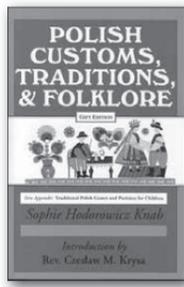
**NEW! BE NOT AFRAID**  
by Heather Kirk  
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Borealis Press, 276 pp., pb.

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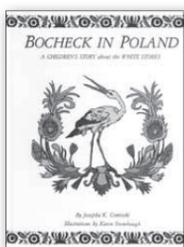
**OFF KILTER: A Woman's Journey to Peace with Scoliosis, Her Mother, and Her Polish Heritage**  
by Linda Wisniewski  
\$18.95  
164 pp., pb.

Even before she was diagnosed with scoliosis at thirteen, Linda Wisniewski felt off kilter. Born to a cruel father and a long-suffering mother in a Polish American community in upstate New York, she learned martyrdom as a way of life. Only by accepting her physical deformity, her emotionally unavailable mother, and her Polish American heritage does she finally find balance and a life that fits.



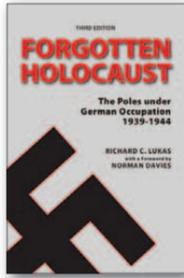
**POLISH CUSTOMS, TRADITIONS & FOLKLORE**  
\$16.95  
by Sophie Hodorowicz Knab  
340 pp., pb.  
Hippocrene Books

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, name-day celebrations, and birth and death rituals. Line illustrations enhance this rich and varied treasury of folklore.



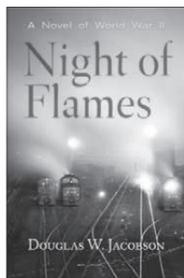
**BOCHEK IN POLAND**  
\$11.95  
54 pp., Polonie Publishing

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.



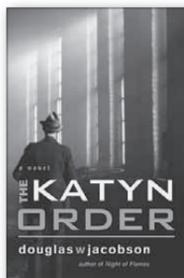
**FORGOTTEN HOLOCAUST: The Poles Under German Occupation, 1939-45. Third edition**  
\$19.95  
358 pp. pb.  
Hippocrene Books.

*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 ŻEGOTA, 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.



**NIGHT OF FLAMES: A Novel of World War Two**  
by Douglas W. Jacobson  
\$16.95  
384 pp. pb., McBooks Press

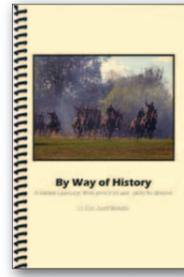
In 1939 the Germans invade Poland, setting off a rising storm of violence and destruction. For Anna, an assistant professor at a university in Krakow; and Jan an officer in the Polish cavalry, the loss is unimaginable. Separated by war, they must find their own way in a world where everything they ever knew is gone.



**THE KATYN ORDER**  
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\$24.95  
384 pp. hc., McBooks Press

American Adam Nowak has been dropped into Poland by British intelligence as an assassin and Resistance fighter. During the Warsaw Uprising he meets Natalia, a covert operative who has lost everything. Amid the Allied power struggle left by Germany's

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**BY WAY OF HISTORY: A Soldier's Passage from Peace to War, Glory to Despair**  
by Lt. Col. J. Bokota, tr. by Stan Bokota  
\$13.95, 174 pp.  
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An eyewitness account of World War I and World War II events, last cavalry charges and the defeat of the Red Horse Army at Komarow in 1920, the battle of Bzura and Warszawa in 1939; the AK struggles, finally description of the moral and physical destruction of Poland by the Soviet regime in the years 1945-70. The events so well described, although interesting, are not as fascinating as the man himself, who comes through in these recollections.

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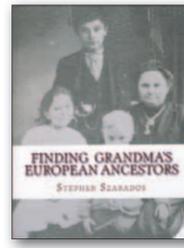
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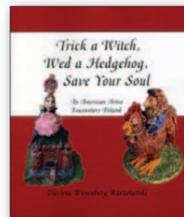
**FINDING GRANDMA'S EUROPEAN ANCESTORS**  
by Stephen Szabados  
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128 pp., pb.

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**NEW! 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.



**TRICK A WITCH, WED A HEDGEHOG, SAVE YOUR SOUL: An American Artist Encounters Poland**  
by Darlene

Wesenberg Rzesotarski. Wecker Press, 2012. 88 pp., pb. \$19.95

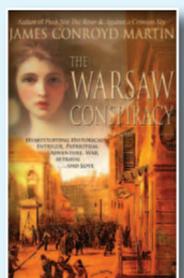
After the fall of Communism, Rzesotarski's husband had an amazing first meeting with Polish cousins, introducing the couple to the rich world of Polish and familial history, so intertwined as to become a microcosm. Rzesotarski brings an outsider's appreciation and an artist's intuition through tales of family, of national identity, and of the enchanted world of fairy tale and myth. Profusely illustrated in color.

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**POLISH FOLK LEGENDS — \$14.95**

Infinity Pub., 2010, 208 pp, pb.

Forty legends collected in Poland or researched in many books and periodicals, including Poland's first written history by Muenster in 895 that states King Popiel reigned in Polonia 246 years before Christ.

**OLD SECRETS NEVER DIE — A Bashia Gordon**

Mystery — \$14.95

with Lois J. Blackburn Infinity Publishing, 2007, 220 pp, pb.

Bashia Gordon, semi-retired interior decorator and amateur sleuth, is at it again. When she learns her friend Connecticut State Trooper Mark Jankowski, is investigating the death of one of her clients, Gladys Goodell, her curiosity takes over. Soon a mummified baby is found in the old Goodell home. None of the Goodell sisters ever married. Whose baby could this be?

**BONES IN THE BACKYARD — A Bashia Gordon Mystery — \$14.95**

with Lois J. Blackburn Infinity Publishing, 2001, 198 pp, pb.

In the quiet corner of northeastern Connecticut, semi-retired interior decorator, Bashia Gordon, turns amateur sleuth when she and her Peace Corps friend, Dottie Weeks, uncover a fragmented skeleton in a septic tank. How did it get there? Who is it? Could the bones be the wealthy eccentric who disappeared years ago?

**A HISTORY OF POLISH AMERICANS IN PITTSFIELD, MASS., 1862-1945**

\$14.95 Palmetto Press 2004. 152 pp., 5.5" x 8.25," photographs, pb.

Using church records, organization brochures and oral histories, the author has compiled a valued history of the Polish community in Pittsfield, originally formed when nineteenth and twentieth century Polish immigrants came to the area seeking work in the wool mills.

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## BOOKS IN BRIEF / Florence Waszkelewicz Clowes MLIS

## NEW BOOKS

## The Tragic Fate of Poles During World War II

**POLES APART: The Tragic Fate of Poles During World War II** by Jerzy J. Maciuszko with Kathleen L. Maciuszko ThoughtWorks, Ltd. 2012 368 pp. appendices, index, photos, footnotes, \$18.00

This thorough biography of Jerzy J. Maciuszko takes the reader from his early years as a prisoner of war in Germany to his final years in his retirement from the Baldwin-Wallace College in Ohio.

The first section is a personal narrative of his heart-breaking World War II years in German concentration camps, and final rescue by the Americans in 1945. He joined the Polish Forces under British command in Germany and was later sent to England. There, he taught English under the Polish Resettlement Corps, part of the British Ministry of Education, and became inspector of the Polish Grammar Schools.

In 1951, with his wife and mother-in-law, he took advantage of the Senator Lodge Amendment providing a quota for Polish immigrants to enter the United States, and sailed for America. On the boat he met others who originated from Cleveland Ohio, becoming very familiar with the area. His sponsor was also from Ohio where the family settled, and Jerzy soon obtained his Master of Library Science degree and joined the Foreign Literature Department.

He joined the Alliance College in 1961 as a professor and chairman of the Department of Slavic Studies and began a program of cooperation with the Jagiellonian University in Krakow, being instrumental in starting the Junior Year Abroad Program with the Jagiellonian.

He became director of Ritter Library at Baldwin-Wallace College in 1974 in Berea, Ohio, where two years later he met and married Kathleen Post. He became involved with many Polish civic organizations, mainly the Polish American Congress and the Polish American Cultural Center and a Polish bilingual radio program on National Public Radio.

The rest of the book is dedicated to voices of other survivors sent to Siberia and an account of life in the German-occupied Warsaw. Kathleen completed the book after Jerzy's death, providing a vivid picture of a man determined to live to the fullest.

**INGRID BERGMAN AND HER AMERICAN RELATIVES** by Aleksandra Ziolkowska-Boehm Hamilton Books, 2013 index, references, photographs, 124 pp., \$26.99.

Ingrid will best be remembered for her part in *Casablanca*, starring with Humphrey Bogart in 1942. It was one of the many films, plays and TV documentaries she acted in during her lifetime. She lived to act, saying she left her shyness behind when she stepped on the stage. As a tall, sensuous and beautiful Swedish woman, she began acting early in life, in London, Paris, America and Sweden. She won many awards, including three Oscars, during her lifetime.

The book describes the relationship with her American relatives, the Boehms. Cousin Norman Boehm visited and continued to maintain contact with her during her lifetime. Correspondence between Aunt Belinda Boehm, her son Carl and grandson Norman reveal the



Bergman

nature of the actress. The author, Aleksandra Ziolkowska-Boehm did not meet her, but research and family contacts with Ingrid bring her to life.

Ingrid's first marriage to Peter Lindstrom ended in bitter divorce over their child, Pia, all this happening while Ingrid was pregnant with Roberto Rossellini's child. (After her divorce she married Rossellini and later had three more children with him.) This caused a huge scandal, with Senator Edwin C. Johnson denouncing her on the floor of the Senate. She was finally forgiven 22 years later, in 1975. The Rossellini marriage ended in 1957 when Rossellini became involved with another woman. Later Ingrid married Lars Schmidt, a marriage which lasted for 17 years.

Ingrid maintained close contact with her children (they did not live with her as Rossellini had custody of the children), stopping work for 18 months to stay with her daughter Isabella when she had serious surgery. She also maintained contact with the Boehms and other family members; much of the correspondence is provided here.

Bergman was diagnosed with cancer in 1974 and struggled with it, continuing to act until she became too weak. She died on August 30, 1982, at the age of 67. She will be remembered as a beautiful actress, and a warm, generous, kind and compassionate person.

**THE CONVERSATION** *Simple Truths to Make Life Work* by Agnieszka Perlinska and Chip Chapados CreateSpace, 2013, 380 pp., \$14.95

Perlinska holds an ongoing conversation with her co-author, exploring human behavior and asking why people act the way they do. Is it personality? Personality is the character of what we are, part of temperament, motives, traits, and behavior. This all begins to develop at age eighteen months, so do we form our personality or is it formed by others? How many times have you seen a two year-old who is cooperative and willing to please, while another may be self-centered and clamor for attention? Where did that come from?

It is crucial to recognize ourselves before we can work or influence others. Different personalities are found in every workplace, and if one achieves to become a leader, they must be able to recognize personal differences and cope with them. The book contains a wealth of information on understanding ourselves and others, managing relationships, creating positive change, dealing with pain and fear, and developing happiness—a wealth of information for all who strive to succeed in their work and lifestyle.

## Recalling the Genius of Oskar Halecki

**OSKAR HALECKI (1891-1973)** *Eulogies and Reflections* Edited by Thaddeus V. Gromada Preface by Jerzy Wyrozumski ISBN 978-0-9849187-1-3 \$7.99. 80 pp.

The 40th anniversary of the death of Oskar Halecki, one of Poland's most distinguished historians and the 100th anniversary of his Jagiellonian University doctorate received "sub auspiciis imperatoris" in 1913, prompted his former Fordham University student to publish this book. It contains moving inspirational eulogies delivered at a Memorial Service held on October 20, 1973 in New York City that gave vivid testimony to the greatness and humanity of Halecki.

These tributes paid by prominent American, Polish, Lithuanian, and Ukrainian scholars and notables were never published nor made public. The book also includes recent reflections written by two of Halecki's former Fordham University students, Dr. Taras Hunczak and Dr. Thaddeus V. Gromada. An addendum enriches the book with pertinent documents, letters and photos.

"Oskar Halecki had been forgotten or ignored by official Polish historiography in an era dominated by the Soviets," said Małgorzata Dąbrowska, Professor of Medieval and Byzantine Studies, University of Łódź. "It is only in recent years that he became present in Po-



HALECKI

land's scholarly discussions. Gromada, the editor of the book, has managed to collect eulogies delivered on the occasion of Halecki's Memorial Service held in New York in 1973. His text as well as the text contributed by eminent scholars and notables are a vivid reconstruction of the late Professor's CV and an invaluable source for an historian. Professor Gromada enriched the book with warm recollections of Halecki as a mentor. As editor, he added unique documents and photos from his private files."

The editor, Gromada received his M.A. and Ph.D. in East Central European History at Fordham University under the mentorship of Professor Hal-

eci. He is professor emeritus of European History at New Jersey City University. He served as executive director of the Polish Institute of Arts & Sciences of America from 1991 to 2011 and as its president from 2008 to 2011. In 1991 he edited Halecki's posthumous monograph *Jadwiga of Anjou* and the *Rise of East Central Europe*, which in 1993 he presented to Pope John Paul II before the canonization of Queen Jadwiga.

The book (\$7.99 plus shipping and handling (U.S.) \$3.00 (International) \$5.00) is available from Tatra Eagle Press, 31 Madison Avenue, Hasbrouck Heights, NJ 07604; Tel. (201) 288-3815 or (336) 940-5656.

For more information, contact Gromada at tgromada@mindspring.com.

## BOOK REVIEW / Ludwik Kowalski

## An Immigrant's Tale of Survival

**YOU HAVE NO IDEA** by Barbara Mueller Walling CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform Pbk., 400 pp. \$8.63 Available on Amazon.com

Barbara Mueller Walling's memoir *You Have No Idea* is worth reading. Written as an autobiography, with her daughter-in-law Gillian Mueller, the book is based on Barbara's hand-written account and numerous interviews conducted between 2008 and 2013. It describes Barbara's childhood in rural Poland before World War II, her survival in Warsaw, where she met and married Edmund, in Vienna during German occupation, and her post-war life in the United States.

Equally fascinating is the life of her much-older Polish husband, Edmund. His account is presented in the book's appendices. A Pole of German descent, Edmund was born in a town near Warsaw that was under Russian domination. Conscripted into the Russian Army in World War I, Edmund went on to fight the Bolsheviks in the Russian Revolution. He was arrested and survived harsh conditions in a Siberian labor camp for many years. Rescued by the Polish government, he returned to Warsaw to build a new life for himself as a successful businessman, a life that was again shattered in World War II.

**DURING THE NAZI OCCUPATION**, Warsaw was subdivided into three sectors: German, Polish, and Jewish. After they were married, Edmund and Barbara lived in the comfortable "for Germans only" sector, but this did not prevent Edmund from occasionally helping his old friends—Russians, Poles, and Jews. He was able to do this because of his wealth and because he was friends with a highly-placed Gestapo officer.

In 1943, however, he was arrested by the Gestapo and spent three weeks in prison. This had nothing to do with helping his friends; the accusation came from a woman he had innocently talked with in a train,

traveling from Nuremberg, Germany, back to Warsaw on business. He was not aware that she was Brigitte Frank, wife of Poland's Nazi Governor General, Hans Frank. Fortunately, Edmund's Gestapo interrogator was sympathetic and helped achieve his release. After this incident, Barbara writes: "Edmund was shaken to the core and far more circumspect about what he said to strangers and even to friends. Nevertheless, our Polish Underground contacts kept coming to the apartment to receive their financial support and listen to the BBC in secret."

**IN THE SUMMER OF 1944**, when Soviets were only 40 miles from Warsaw and anti-German activities of the Polish Home Army were intensifying, Edmund took Barbara, his son from a previous marriage, and their three-month-old daughter to Vienna. Many German civilians were fleeing Poland at the time. But when Edmund tried to return to Warsaw a few days later to check on his businesses and home, the Home Army's Uprising in Warsaw had erupted and he was prevented. He never saw his property or homeland again.

Living in Austria till the end of the war, the family decided to stay there permanently because Edmund refused to return to communist-controlled Poland. But in 1948, he was arrested by Austrian authorities, who tried to deport him to Poland under false war crime accusations, such as "delivering a Jewish family, the Dwormans, to the Gestapo." Addressing the possibility of being deported to communist Poland, Edmund told Barbara, "I will not go; I went through this in Russia and know what it's like ... I won't let them take me alive."

Edmund and Barbara fought Edmund's incarceration for nine months to no avail. The Austrians eventually released him because Poland had refused to take him back and because Dwormans' daughter had surfaced in Belgium; having survived the Holocaust, she testified that the opposite had been true—

that Edmund had, in fact, saved her and her husband's lives. Edmund's long imprisonment ruined the family financially, and in 1951, after their second daughter was born, they emigrated as refugees to the United States. The Lutheran World Federation and friends, members of a White Russian relief organization, sponsored their relocation to Los Angeles, where Edmund and Barbara struggled to rebuild their life again from scratch.

Pages describing problems encountered during the family's first years in Los Angeles, where their third and fourth children Albert and Barbara, were born, are also very interesting. Barbara writes, "We had always considered poverty as a state of mind more than anything else and had never allowed ourselves to indulge in self-pity ... Our motto had always been: We are wealthy; we just don't have so much money ... Whatever disasters had befallen us in the past, they were behind us now. We had succeeded in not letting them destroy us or define us. We remained ever hopeful, always looking forward. Our children were intelligent and studious, and their futures looked bright and secure." They certainly did not expect that their son Albert would go back to Poland many years later as an American diplomat.

The book ends with the description of Edmund's death, at the age of 80, due to rapidly spreading cancer. It was 55 years after this ex-White Russian Army officer had been condemned to death in communist Russia. The early part of Edmund's life — described in Appendix 2, a long interview conducted by his son Albert in 1973 — is very interesting.

Overall, *You Have No Idea* is a well-written book describing tumultuous times in modern history. I strongly recommend it to all who are interested in complex problems of individual survival and adaptation. Reading personal stories — or histories from below — can be illuminating when one wants to understand textbooks—or history from above.

## Ride Remembers Katyn Victims



Motorcyclists Jacek Kawczynski (l.) and Jacek Pikulski

by **Richard Poremski**

**BALTIMORE** — A 3,106-mile motorcycle ride was to begin with a score of Polish riders, but in the end just two — Jacek Kawczynski and Jacek Pikulski — completed the First Annual International Katyn Massacre Motorcycle Ride USA/Canada.

The ride's purpose was to draw attention and publicity to the USSR's crime of genocide against the 25,000 Polish victims of the 1940 Katyn Forest Massacre in Russia, as well as the Soviet's forced deportation to Siberia of 1,700,000 Poles in 1940, many of whom perished along the way.

Also being remembered is the 200,000 Poles savagely murdered during the 1943 ethnic cleansing in Volhynia by the Ukrainian Insurgent Army, in the Kresy Wschodnie ("Eastern Borderlands") of then-Poland, with the full and eager cooperation of the occupying Nazi German army.

The round trip began in Chicago and included stops in Orchard Lake, Mich.; Toronto; Doylestown, Pa.; Jersey City, N.J.; Baltimore; and Akron, Ohio. Existing Katyn memorials are to be visited in these cities, totaling five monuments along the route. At each stop, the cyclists meet the local Polonia, speak at publicized meetings and give news media interviews.

The entourage, which included some local riders, arrived here at the National Katyn Memorial on the afternoon of August 27, 2013. They were warmly greeted by a compact Polonia group. After the laying of a

wreath, everyone sang Poland's nation anthem. A reception and informational meeting was held later at Holy Rosary Church.

This particular crusade-on-wheels was undertaken to coincide with the XIII Katyn Motorcycle Ride/Rally in Poland to the western Ukraine, a former Polish Kresy area. Kawczynski, who has been a Kresy rider, said that these commemorative and remembrance undertakings are well received, especially among any Polish minorities still living in the taken Kresy territories.

Plans are being made for the Second Rally. For more information, visit [www.rajdkatynskiusa.net](http://www.rajdkatynskiusa.net).

## Ensemble Begins New Season



**BUFFALO, N.Y.** — The Harmony Polish Folk Ensemble spent the day at Darien Lake Theme Park, Sept. 14, entertaining a large crowd at the park's Festival of Nations. Dancers and martial artists from several different groups performed over the weekend, and Harmony seemed to draw a lot of attention with their high-energy show, including both national and regional dances of Poland. Dressed in the traditional costumes of the Krakow region, they had vibrant colors that looked great on such a sunny day.

The Darien Lake show was the last in the old season for Harmony. The group started its eighth season, and brand new dances on Sept. 27.

The group welcomes new members ages four and up. Harmony members meet from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at Polish Cadets, 927 Grant St. near Buffalo State College. Families are invited to come and learn more

about the group; no prior dance experience is necessary. In addition to dance, there are culture lessons which include folklore, holiday traditions, regional customs, crafts, history and simple language games and songs. The group takes part in public performances throughout the year, dressed in traditional folk wear from various regions of Poland.

For information or to book a performance, visit [www.harmonypfe.org](http://www.harmonypfe.org) or call Krysia at (716) 228-8256.

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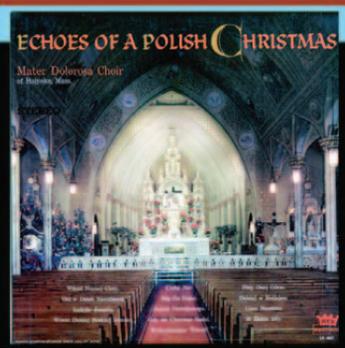


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## Poland's Whispering Witches



**AN AREA IN EASTERN POLAND**, not far from the border with Belarus, is home to the so-called "whispering witches." They are healers who are very much in demand among the local residents.

There are about a dozen of the witches and their rituals include the use of prayers, medicinal herbs, wax, bread and water. At times, some of the more prominent witches may have long lines of people waiting outside their houses — "patients" who come from all over Poland.

Sometimes, those who visit the witches are desperate; this may be their last hope. The witches consider themselves close to the Orthodox Church, and are said to donate the fees they receive to the church.

— Deutsche Welle



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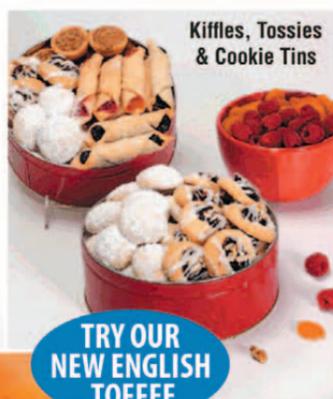
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