

# Polish Heritage

Published Quarterly by the American Council for Polish Culture

Spring/Summer 2011

Vol. 62 No. 1



## ACPC Board Meets in Chicago

By Jo Louise Winters, ACPC PR Chair



It is always a great pleasure for the American Council for Polish Culture (ACPC) to participate in Board Meetings and Conventions sponsored by such Affiliate members as the Polish Arts Club of Chicago, Dr. Vivian A. Walkosz, President. Ms. Walkosz, EdD, has an interesting background. As a professor in the Curriculum Dept. for Northeastern Illinois Univ., she taught courses in mathematics and mathematical & science methods at graduate and undergraduate levels, and authored new courses of study. She was appointed by Mayors Daley and Byrne to the Chicago Manpower Planning Council. Dr. Walkosz's love for her Polish Heritage began very early in her life and intensified over the years. ACPC honors Dr. Walkosz as an important leader in the fields of Polish culture and heritage. ACPC members attending the Spring Board Meeting were most appreciative of the superb arrangements made by Dr. Walkosz and the Club's welcoming committee.

ACPC President Deborah Majka opened the Spring Board Meeting and provided copies of the agenda for the weekend. The business session began with a report by Mrs. Camille Kapielski, Chair ACPC Summer Studies in Poland Scholarship. Mrs. Kapielski announced that two students had been chosen for summer studies at universities of their choosing in Poland. Each winner will receive a \$2,000 scholarship. Past winners have invariably submitted highly enthusiastic reports about their experiences, particularly at the Jagiellonian University in Krakow – enriching their Polish lan-

guage skills, taking weekend tours including hikes in scenic mountain ranges, and visiting old salt mines with beautiful crystalline sculptures.

Marcia Lewandowski, Chair of Membership Outreach Committee, reported on the successful launching of our Affiliate Matching Grants program. The Committee selected two winners. In 2010, our \$500 grant went to the Polish Arts Club of Trenton, NJ for its literary competition "World War II: Behind Closed Doors, Stalin, the Nazis and the West". The current \$500 grant goes to the Polish Arts Club of Youngstown, OH for its area High School Student Art Contest, Jan. 3 – Feb. 2011. Both Affiliate organizations submitted excellent well-conceived proposals. A determination was made to offer two additional grants to projects initiated by ACPC Affiliates. Information as to deadlines and requirements for submitting proposals are posted on the ACPC website [www.polishcultureacpc.org](http://www.polishcultureacpc.org).

Marion V. Winters, Chairman of the Pulaski Scholarships for Advanced Study Committee announced the two winners of the 2011 competition: Lisamarie Gora of Colonia, NJ, a *Juris Doctor* candidate at the NY Law School, and Beata Hryniewicz of Wethersfield, CT, a PhD candidate in Physical Therapy at the University of CT. The \$5,000 checks will be presented on ACPC's behalf to Ms. Gora by the Polish Arts Club of Trenton, NJ and to Ms. Hryniewicz by the Polish Cultural Club of Greater Hartford. Mr. Winters has submitted a press release to the Polonia press describing the remarkable achievements of these two outstanding students.

Mr. Winters also reported on behalf of Ms. Ursula Brodowicz, Chair of the Skalny Scholarships for Polish Studies in Memory of Louis & Nellie Skalny, that following the filing deadline of May 15, 2011, the Committee will select two scholarship winners of \$3,000 each.

Music Chair Alicia Dutka announced that our annual \$2,000 Marcella Sembrich Music prize will be awarded to the selected vocalist at the ACPC's Convention in Cleveland, July 2011.

Jamestown Marker Committee Chairman Tom Payne successfully applied for approval of a marker honoring craftsmen from Poland for their exceptional skills which contributed richly to the success of the Jamestown Settlement in the early 1600s. Board members congratulated Mr. Payne and were very pleased with the statement he prepared for the plaque, which will cost \$1,500. The VA Dept. of



Marker Committee Chairman Tom Payne

Transportation still needs to review and approve the marker location an installation logistics. Assuming that these matters will be finalized this year, the ACPC Board Arranger Committee will prepare for a Fall Board Meeting at Jamestown in October, 2012. Mr. Payne will develop an appropriate program and commemoration ceremony for the historical event.

In the absence of Awards Committee

(continued next page)

## From the President

Debbie Majka



May is a special month with much to commemorate—Poland’s May Third, 1791 Constitution, regarded as the first in Europe and the second oldest modern constitution in the world. Also in May, we honor Mary, our spiritual Mother, Queen of Poland, and our own Mothers, who gave us life and are the keepers of our rich Polish culture heritage. And as of May 1, we are now able to call our beloved Karol Wojtyla, Blessed John Paul II. Before too long, I’m sure we’ll be calling him Saint! And, if you haven’t yet seen the documentary film, *Nine Days that Changed the World*, be sure to do so. Produced by Newt and Callista Gingrich in cooperation with Citizens United, the film recounts John Paul II’s historic nine-day pilgrimage to Poland in June, 1979, and why this visit was the turning point for defeating Communism in Eastern Europe.

This year, 2011, marks the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Maria Sklodowska-Curie’s Nobel Prize in Chemistry and the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of her first U.S. visit. She discovered two new elements: polonium (named in honor of her homeland, Poland) and radium; was the first person honored with two Nobel Prizes—in Physics and Chemistry; was the first woman to win a Nobel Prize; the only woman thus far to have won the Nobel in two different fields; was the first woman to teach at the Sorbonne; created the theory of radioactivity; she also coined the term. Marie never patented her radium-isolated process so that the scientific community could perform unhindered research. And while our mission is to foster an interest in our rich cultural heritage and to showcase the talents and accomplishments of Poles and Polish Americans, I would be remiss if I didn’t mention the Polish American Congress leadership role in seeking support of visa waiver legislation. Our united efforts can bring about positive results. Go to the Polish American Congress website: [www.pac1944.org](http://www.pac1944.org) to answer the appeal of the Polish American Congress.

And speaking of websites, check out our website: [www.polishcultureacpc.org](http://www.polishcultureacpc.org). There’s a wealth of information included there—new and ongoing projects, board meetings, our upcoming annual convention in Cleveland, and five lesson plans: the Polish Experience at Jamestown; Pulaski and Kosciuszko; Perspectives on Fear; *Nine Days that Changed the World*; and *Linking Cultures and Enriching Lives*. And, ACPC now has a page on Facebook, thanks to Director, Ilona Frederick. Check it out and spread the word. Finally, thank you all for your warm congratulatory messages on my inauguration as Honorary Consul of the Republic of Poland in South-eastern Pennsylvania. I couldn’t have done it without you and the American Council for Polish Culture!

Chair Mary Flanagan, Marion Winters served as temporary chair. He has submitted the results of selections made by the Committee and the Board to Mrs. Flanagan who will contact the chosen candidates to determine their availability to accept the awards at our Convention this summer in Cleveland, OH.

News that the ACPC’s very talented and energetic President, Debbie Majka was recently selected as the first Honorary Consul in southeastern PA for the Republic of Poland caused spontaneous applause to erupt at length.

1<sup>st</sup> V.P. Bernadette Wiermanski presented an ACPC award honoring Debbie for the Embassy’s appointment to such distinguished status. The award consisted of a beautiful wooden clock and two pens for her desk as well as a matching wooden holder for business cards. More applause followed revealing the happiness expressed by the admiring ACPC attendees. Three days after our Chicago meeting, over a hundred friends, well-wishers, leaders of Polonia organizations, and diplomats from other countries gathered at the elegant Stotesbury Mansion in Philadelphia to witness the formal inauguration of Deborah M. Majka as the newest Honorary Consul of the Republic of Poland. Conducting the official ceremony were Robert Kupiecki, Ambassador of the Republic of Poland in DC, and Marek Skulimowski, Deputy Consul General in NY City. The Ambassador expressed the fact that a long time need was at last being filled and his pleasure that such a highly qualified candidate could be found to fill this vital post.

The highlight of the ACPC Board Meeting in Chicago was clearly our visit, to the “jewel of Polonia” the Polish Mu-



*ACPC Pres. Deborah Majka shown with the gift she received from the Board.*





*Mrs. Maria Ciesla (left),  
President of the Polish  
Museum of America  
and Dr. Vivian Walkosz,  
President, Polish Arts  
Club of Chicago*



*Jan Lorys, Museum Director- tour guide to Paderewski Room*



*Attendees at the luncheon - Polish Museum*

## **Deborah Majka, Honorary Consul**

On April 12, 2011, Ambassador of the Republic of Poland, R. Kupiecki inaugurated the Honorary Consulate of Poland in Philadelphia, PA and on behalf of the Polish Minister of Foreign Affairs, he nominated Deborah Majka, a native Philadelphian as Honorary Consul of Poland.

The Consulate will serve the Philadelphia area and southeastern Pennsylvania.



*Amb. R. Kupiecki with Honorary Consul Majka*

seum of America, established in 1935. The event was magnificently organized by Pres. Vivian Walkosz and members of the Polish Arts Club of Chicago. The full story of the Museum's history from creation to the recent remarkable renovations was presented eloquently by the Museum's President Mrs. Maria Ciesla. We had the opportunity to stand in awe before many priceless paintings and historical artifacts as we strolled through the richly refurbished Museum. We were treated to a special tour of the famed Paderewski Room with a true expert, Jan Lorys, Museum Director with special focus on the life of the famous Polish pianist, composer and statesman. Here we beheld many of Ignacy Paderewski's personal belongings, including his priceless piano, his desk and even the pen used to sign the Paris Peace Treaty in 1919.

Our host club topped off the exciting afternoon with a magnificent luncheon that included champagne and had most everyone going back for seconds of the very tasty meal! Our recollections of the ACPC Spring Board Meeting in Chicago, Illinois will live in our memories for a long, long time.

The 2011 ACPC Annual Convention will be hosted by the Polish American Cultural Center, John Paul II, in Cleveland, OH, Mr. Ben Stefanski, Pres. It is scheduled for July 13-16 at the Hilton Garden Inn (members will be furnished with full details by the Host Club).

## Polish Cultural Club of Greater Hartford

The Polish Cultural Club of Greater Hartford began the 2010/2011 season with a 200th birthday celebration in honor of Frederyk Chopin. A concert was held in conjunction with the Polish National Home in September. An accomplished pianist, Melody Fader, performed admirably and the music brought tears to one's eyes. Following the concert, guests enjoyed hot and cold hors d'ouvres while a traveling accordionist, Eugene Kozlowski played classical and Polish Folk melodies. The program culminated with a huge birthday cake in honor of this great composer and virtuoso pianist.

Polish Heritage Month found the members at different events. On October 9, members and guests traveled to Chicopee, Massachusetts to tour the impressive Polish Center of Discovery and Learning, which documents the spectrum of Polish and Polish-American experiences. The annual Kosciuszko/Pulaski celebration, with Mary Mazurek Heslin as Mistress of Ceremonies, was held on October 10, 2010 with Dr.M.B. Biskupski as the main speaker. Among the other guests were Ewa Junczyk Ziomecka, Consul General of the Republic of Poland, congressman John Larson and Commandant Knapczyk of the Polish Veterans. On October 17, Patricia Archie, an invaluable asset to the Club, was the recipient of the Distinguished Service Award given by the United Polish Societies. On October 21, Susan Sonstrom, a member of the Habitat for Humanity Group, spoke on her experiences working on housing in Gliwice, Poland. The Kosciuszko Squadron Commemoration was held on October 30 at the New England Air Museum.

At the Annual Meeting held on November 18, non-perishable items were brought in to help needy families of SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish Community and a turkey drawing was held. Edward Farley assisted by Louis Maglaty, chaired the 30th Anniversary Szopka Festival on November 28. The "Szopki" were magnificent and the successful event benefited the Scholarship Fund.

At the heartwarming Wigilia Supper on December 10, the oplatek was shared, traditional foods were enjoyed, kolody were sung and a new Executive

Committee was installed: President - Clifford Archie, 1st VP - Igor Sikorsky, 2nd VP - Edward Farley, Red. Secretary - Barbara Gancarz, Corr. Secretary - Nancy Yiznitsky, Treasurer - Raymond Kowalski, Historian - Patricia Kaczynski.

### CORRECTION:

In the Winter Issue of the Polish Heritage, under the Polish Cultural Club of Greater Hartford, it stated that Lt. Janina Lewandowska was killed at Katyn. The article notes her as the only female survivor. Information that came about recently found her to be the only female officer killed at Katyn and evidence used did in fact claim that it was her skull that was found. Her remains were brought back to Lusowo, her hometown

*Anna-Mae Maglaty*

## Friends of John Paul II Foundation

On May 1, 2011, the Friends group was represented at the Beatification of Pope John Paul II in Rome by President, Cecilia Glembocki, her husband Raymond Glembocki, former President, Chaplain Rev. Canon Philip S. Majka, Mary Lou Karch and Walter Zachariasiewicz.

On May 22, the Friends are holding their annual celebration of the birthday of John Paul II now Blessed, at the John Paul II Cultural Center with Mass, followed by a speakder and a light reception. The Center has been closed but has been opened for special occasions such as the celebration of the Beatification and the Friends celebration.

*Cecilia and Raymond Glembocki in Rome at the Beatification ceremonies*



## The Chopin Fine Arts Club, So. Bend, IN

The Scholarship meeting of the Chopin Fine Arts Club was held on Saturday, March 26, at the Center Township Library.

The General meeting was held there after the Scholarship meeting. Plans were made for the Annual Card Party to be held on September 11, 2011.

The Anniversary luncheon held at the Tippecanoe Place Restaurant was held on April 16, 2011.

Saturday, April 30, was the Piano Competition Contest. It was held at St. Mary's College in the Little Theater.

All members were reminded of the ACPC Convention to be held on July 13-17 in Cleveland, Ohio and encouraged to attend.

## Polish Arts Club of Youngstown

In honor of Polish Heritage month, the Polish Arts Club of Youngstown presented the award-winning BBC documentary "The Battle for Warsaw" The Warsaw Uprising has been described as the single largest atrocity of the war and was the greatest and bloodiest military operation undertaken by any civilian resistance movement during World War II. The battle lasted for two months, and Nazi officials said they had seen nothing like it since Stalingrad.

Following the screening viewers had the opportunity to meet and listen to Cleveland resident Halina Junak. In 1943 Ms. Junak joined the Underground Resistance. For her efforts she was arrested, tortured, taken to a prison camp by the Russian Army and sentenced to death. She was treated like a criminal and her captors tried to break her spirit, but she persevered and was released ten years later. Finally she received her freedom when she immigrated to the United States in 1960.



# The Kosciuszko Foundation and ACPC Affirm Their Solidarity on Behalf of Polish-American Interests in Washington, D.C.

By Jo Louise Winters, ACPC PR Chair

The Kosciuszko Foundation, Inc. and the American Council for Polish Culture ("ACPC") are pleased to announce their joint solidarity in support of the Kosciuszko Foundation's current and future operation of the National Polish Center (the "Center") in Washington, D.C.

The Center was first conceived at the annual convention of the ACPC held in 1985 to serve as a national Polish-American cultural center in the nation's capital. It was subsequently established in 1988 by the ACPC as a separate non-profit organization and in 1991 acquired its current property — including a historic townhouse in the Dupont Circle area of the nation's capital, as well as pieces of artwork and other items of Polish and Polish-American cultural significance — with the help of the ACPC's fundraising efforts.

As of January 2010, the Kosciuszko Foundation acquired the Center, which is now operated as the foundation's Washington, D.C. office. The Kosciuszko Foundation, a non-profit established in 1925, promotes educational and cultural exchanges between Poland and the United

States and awards up to one million dollars annually in scholarships to Poles and Polish Americans.

The ACPC 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. Founded in 1948, the Council represents the interests of some 21 affiliated organizations in 15 states and the District of Columbia. Commenting on this important development, ACPC President Debbie Majka said, "The Kosciuszko Foundation's absorption of the Center will hopefully ensure its long-term financial viability."

Kosciuszko Foundation President and Executive Director Alex Storzynski said, "Towards that goal, we held a fundraising dinner at the Polish Embassy in October and the proceeds were dedicated to the Center's operating costs. The Center provides the Polish community with a foothold in our nation's capital, and I urge all Polish Americans to join the Kosciuszko Foundation and to support the Center to

help promote Polonia's interests."

Since early this year, the ACPC and Kosciuszko Foundation have taken steps to maximize the use of the Foundation's new Washington office for the benefit of the Polish-American community. This past summer, the Kosciuszko Foundation hosted the ACPC National Youth Conference at its Washington facility, and the two organizations have expressed their desire to continue to collaborate in this manner, as well as to look for other opportunities to do so.

Storzynski said, "The ACPC and its affiliates play an important role in preserving Polish culture in our communities across the country. The Center provides a home base for Polonia in Washington, and the ACPC's youth conference is an important program that teaches our youth about the American political process and international affairs."

To learn more about the Kosciuszko Foundation, visit <http://www.thekf.org/> and to learn more about the ACPC <http://www.polishcultureacpc.org>

## Book Reviews

### The Katyn Order

by Douglas W. Jacobson

The German War Machine is in retreat as the Russians advance. In Warsaw, Resistance fighters rise up against their Nazi occupiers, but the Germans retaliate, ruthlessly leveling the city. American Adam Nowak has been dropped into Poland by British Intelligence as an assassin and Resistance fighter. During the Warsaw Rising he meets Natalia, a covert operative who has lost everything—just as he has. Amid the Allied power struggle left by Germany's defeat, Adam and Natalia join in a desperate hunt for the 1940 Soviet order authorizing the murders of 20,000 Polish Army officers and civilians. If they can find the Katyn Order before the Russians do, they just might change the fate of Poland.

Mr. Jacobson is the author of "Night of Flames; A Novel of World War Two" which he presented at the ACPC Convention last year in South Dakota.

### Polish Classic Recipes

by Peter and Laura Zeranski  
Pelican Publishing Co., Inc.

The husband and wife team have been cooking and eating classic Polish food together for decades. Peter Zeranski was born in Europe to Polish parents. His family's love for Polish cuisine, and traditions is showcased in *The Art of Polish Cooking*, the critically acclaimed cookbook his late mother Alina Zeranska wrote in 1968. She was a member of ACPC Affiliate, the Polish American Arts Association of Washington, DC.

It was Peter's mother inspired him to undertake this project. Originally, he was to update her cookbook, *The Art of Polish Cooking*, which is not only a foundational work on Polish cuisine, but also has been a best-seller for more than 40 years. A completely new project evolved from this aim, and *Polish Classic Recipes* - complete with

100 stunning photographs was contracted.

Designed for the modern kitchen yet retaining traditional roots, each heritage recipe in the book has been tested to perfection. Showcased alongside beautiful photography and with titles given in both Polish and English, recipes range from cucumber salad and beet soup to pork cutlets and potato pancakes. A chapter devoted to pierogi presents the dumplings with an assortment of fillings, and the final chapter of sweets tops off any meal in true Polish fashion. 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.

# World War II Behind Closed Doors

## The Polish Arts Club of Trenton

The Polish Arts Club of Trenton, NJ was one of two Affiliates selected for the launching of the ACPC Affiliate Matching Grants Program. The Trenton Club used their grant for their very successful program "World War II: Behind Closed Doors, Stalin, the Nazis and the West" a film and book presentation. The following is the fact sheet provided by the Polish Arts Club as background information. Other member clubs may wish to have a similar program.

The Program was sponsored by the Polish Embassy and the Polish Arts Club of Trenton at Mercer County Community College. On October 24, 2010.

The Polish Arts Club of Trenton was founded in 1946 to promote and preserve Polish social, cultural, and academic ideals, to foster Polish Arts and Sciences, and to assist Polish Americans in their pursuit of higher education through scholarship grants. To learn more about the club please visit us on [www.trentonpolisharts.org](http://www.trentonpolisharts.org).

For more information about the fact sheet, please contact [www.trentonpolisharts.org](http://www.trentonpolisharts.org); or William Muszynski at [wimuszynski@aol.com](mailto:wimuszynski@aol.com). Copyright©2010William Muszynski.

**This fact sheet is provided by the Polish Arts Club of Trenton** as background information to the film and book entitled, "WWII Behind Closed Doors. Stalin, the Nazis and the West," which was written and produced by Laurence Rees, Creative Director of BBC History and former Head of BBC TV History programs.

Laurence Rees provides an unfamiliar and shocking view of World War II. Based on archival material available after the fall of the Soviet Union, interviews with survivors, and dramatic reenactments, we learn about the secret deals made between British Prime Minister, Winston Churchill, American President, Franklin Roosevelt, and Soviet leader, Josef Stalin. Mr. Rees demonstrates how these secret deals profoundly affected Poland and the world at large. Did Allied leaders believe they could "handle" Stalin, or were they only focused on the overriding goal of defeating Germany and Japan? The revelations in this documentary will stir your deepest emotions. In the end, you will wonder what is going on Behind Closed Doors today.

## Two Dictators - Conspirators and Enemies

**Many events brought Adolf Hitler to power**, including: the harsh terms imposed on Germany in the Treaty of Paris after World War I; the depression that followed World War I; the French and British government appeasements of Hitler; French and British overconfidence in their military and underestimation of German military strength.

Coupled with a weak political leadership and desire to restore their military dominance, the Germans embraced Hitler's doctrines. At the time, the Soviets were led by the self-imposed dictator, Josef Stalin, a man obsessed with personal power and dominance of Eastern Europe. Most western countries despised communism as much as they came to hate the Nazis and Hitler. But as shown in Mr. Rees' documentary, Stalin was a master of deception and manipulation who emerged the dominant winner after WW II.

**According to historians, Hitler's Nazi ethnic cleansing policies** and obsession with creating a master race resulted in a death toll of between 11 to 18 million which included people from every country and religion in Europe. The atrocities lasted until the end of war in 1945. But millions of people were also killed, relocated and imprisoned by the Soviet Union

under Stalin, before, during and after WW II. In addition, both the German and Soviet governments subjected millions to loss of civil liberties, confiscation of personal property, and dehumanization.

**Under the guise of liberating Eastern Europe** from the Nazis, Stalin fed his lust for power by eliminating the opposition, real or imagined, with no thought to human suffering. Consequently, the deals made "Behind Closed Doors" allowed the Soviet Union to dominate world events for 45 years after the war and to control Eastern Europe until the fall of the Berlin wall in 1989. Ironically, this event and the end of the Soviet stranglehold on Eastern Europe were precipitated by the Solidarity movement in Poland in the 1980's. Poland, the very nation that Hitler and Stalin carved up, and whose invasion was the match that lit the fuse of WW II, proved to be the end of Soviet domination.

**The Soviet Union paid a horrendous price** for its part in WW II. Over 11 million of its military and 16 million civilians were killed, as compared to the western Allied loss of 1.2 million military and civilians. These numbers do not include 3 million Polish Christians, 6 million Jewish victims (3 million of whom were Polish citizens), losses in other East European countries, and victims of other categories of persecution.

**The Soviet and Allied partnership barely lasted the war.** After the war, the US became the dominant western world power and the leader of the free world. West European countries liberated by the US and Britain rebuilt their economies with aid from the American Marshall Plan. Poland and other East European countries were absorbed into the Soviet communist system, faced reprisals, persecutions, and poverty.

## The World in Turmoil: An Overview of Events

### Fighting for Freedom

These scenes from the film will bring tears to your eyes and stir your heart:

**August 24, 1939.** The secret Non-Aggression Pact signed by Stalin and Hitler enabled Germany to attack Poland without the risk of the Soviet Union siding with Britain and France. This pact outlined the Vistula River in Poland as the new boundary between Germany and the Soviet Union, with Poland being wiped off the map of Europe.

# Stalin, the Nazis and the West

**September 1, 1939.** When Germany invaded Poland, Britain and France declared war on Germany. Despite Churchill's reminders that England went to war to defend Poland, the deals with Stalin behind closed doors resulted in a change of tyrants and loss of freedom for Poland.

**September 17, 1939.** Churchill argued that Britain declared war on Germany to secure Poland's freedom. Yet, a similar declaration was not issued when 600,000 Soviet troops invaded Poland from the East. After the dual invasion of Poland, Stalin provided Germany with valuable raw materials, gave the German navy access to an ice free port, and offered Hitler further assistance.

**March 5, 1940.** Sealing the fate of 22,000 members of the Polish officer corps and intelligentsia, Stalin gave a secret order to shoot individually all the captives at three internment areas who had been arrested after the Soviet invasion of Poland in 1939. In Katyn alone, 4,500 were killed and buried in the forest.

**June 22, 1941.** When Germany attacked the Soviet Union, Stalin formed a relationship with British and Americans to help him fight his former ally. Churchill hated communism but said he would provide anyone who fought the Germans a favorable reference, even the devil himself.

**December 1941.** The Soviets met with head of the Polish government-in-exile, General Wladyslaw Sikorsky, to negotiate the formation of two Polish armies to fight the Germans, one under British command, the other under Soviet command. Stalin told Sikorsky that the officers imprisoned during the 1939 Soviet invasion of Poland had been freed, and continued to deny the killings that he personally ordered in 1940. When in April 1943, Germany announced it had discovered mass graves in Katyn, Stalin produced falsified documents and witnesses to blame the Germans. Finally, in 1989, Soviet President, Mikhail Gorbachev, admitted the Soviet atrocity.

**January 1942.** In the Berlin suburb of Wannsee, Hitler and his Nazi henchmen met to discuss what they called the "Final Solution of the Jewish Question" aimed at the extermination of the Jewish people. Killing of the Jewish population had begun in 1941, but became a plan for total elimination and culminated with the death of six million Jews, three million of them Polish citizens.

**August, 1942.** Churchill visited Polish troops and the officers again asked about the fate of the Soviet-held Polish officers. Churchill said they should "Let it go, because no good could come of it."

1942. *Time* magazine declared Stalin "Man of the Year." *Life* magazine likened the Soviet secret police that carried out Stalin's purges and killings, the NKVD, to the American FBI. The American and British people remained ignorant of Stalin's form of communism, because to defeat Germany, their governments did not want protests against an alliance with a bloodthirsty tyrant.

**January - April 1943.** After the Nazis isolated the Jewish population of Warsaw into a ghetto, this resistance opposed the effort to transport whoever was still alive to the Treblinka extermination camp. 13,000 Jews were killed and the remaining 50,000 residents of the Warsaw ghetto were shipped to concentration and extermination camps.

**November 1943.** When Churchill, Stalin, and Roosevelt met in Teheran, Iran, Stalin declared he would keep the eastern part of Poland he had invaded in 1939. As compensation, Churchill suggested that Poland receive part of captured German territory on Poland's western border.

**May 1944.** Polish troops distinguished themselves at the battle of Monte Casino, Italy. Over 4,000 were killed or wounded before the victory was won and the Polish flag flew over the monastery.

**June 6, 1944.** Allies opened a second front at Normandy, France.

## Hope of Freedom Fades

**June 23, 1944.** When 2 1/2 million Soviet troops launched their offensive, the NKVD moved into what had been the Polish city of Lwow. Files found in the German headquarters were used to punish Polish people who had expressed negative views of Stalin and Soviet communism.

**August 1, 1944.** 200,000 Polish people died in the Warsaw Rising. Germany destroyed 95% of Warsaw during this 60-day siege while Soviet troops, Poland's official allies, sat outside and refused to help. Stalin also did not allow British and American air forces to provide supplies from Soviet held territories.

**January 1945.** Soviet troops entered Warsaw, including Polish troops under Soviet command. The Soviet 6<sup>th</sup> Air Force/Army Group wore Polish uniforms and spoke Polish to set the stage for a Soviet puppet government. Stalin banned the Polish government-in-exile from returning to Poland.

**February 1945.** Churchill, Stalin, and Roosevelt met at Yalta where the future of Poland was decided, but Poland was excluded. Eastern Poland was given to Stalin. Poland shrank in size in comparison to its pre-war area, as did Germany. When Churchill later met with the Polish government-in-exile, he was furious that they did not agree to the shrinking of their country.

**March 28, 1945.** Churchill was outraged when 16 members of Stalin's puppet government in Warsaw were transported to a prison in Moscow. Roosevelt said he preferred to stay out of European disputes as he tried to convince Stalin to attack the Japanese in China.

**May 1945.** Germany surrendered and Poland remained under Soviet domination. The war never ended for thousands of people who had been deported to the Soviet Union and were never liberated. Survivors and their children remain to this day in places like Siberia, Kazakhstan, and Uzbekistan.

**1946.** A parade in London celebrated the end of WW II and the Allied forces. Despite numerous sacrifices of Polish troops who had served in the British military, Britain did not invite Poland to participate. Churchill did not want to upset Stalin who had broken off diplomatic relations with Poland for two reasons. The Polish government-in-exile did not accept the revised borders and insisted that the Soviet Union, not Germany, was to blame for the Katyn massacres.

## Free at Last

**1980's.** Rise of the Solidarity movement in Poland.

**1989.** Fall of the Soviet Union. Poland becomes an independent republic.



# Pulaski Scholarship Awards

By Marion V. Winters

The two winners of the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Brig. Gen. Casimir Pulaski Scholarships for Advanced Studies administered by the American Council for Polish Culture (ACPC) were announced recently by Mr. Marion V. Winters, MA, Chairman. Serving with him on the Committee are Mrs. Anna-Mae Maglaty, MS Ed; Mrs. Deborah M. Majka, MS; Mrs. Carolyn Meleski, MS; and Mr. Peter Obst, MA. The Committee awarded \$5,000 scholarships to Ms. Lisamarie Gora of Colonia, NJ and to Ms. Beata Hrynkiwicz of Wethersfield, CT.

**A** *Juris Doctor* candidate, Ms. Lisamarie Gora anticipates receiving her doctorate degree in May 2012 and plans to establish her legal practice in New Jersey and New York. She credits her extensive study of European Law



at the Jagiellonian University in Krakow, Poland with her Polish language speaking skills. During her studies abroad she also volunteered as an ESL (English as a second language) tutor to children at an elementary school.

Ms. Gora's many honors include obtaining a Cum Laude degree from Rutgers Univ., membership in Phi Beta Kappa Honorary Society, and Honorary Student Co-Chair of the NY County Lawyer's Assoc. In 2006, Lisamarie was the recipient of the Louis & Nellie Skalny Scholarship for Polish Studies, which is administered by the ACPC. In the summer of that same year, she undertook extensive study of the Spanish language in Peru where she also served as a volunteer daily nurse at a hospital for mentally impaired children. That same year she was also selected as Ms. Polonia to represent the Polish community of Clark, NJ at the Polish Cultural Fdn. also in the annual Pulaski Day Parade held in Manhattan, NY.

Lisamarie's mentor Prof. Diane Fazzolari, Esq. at the NY Law School wrote that Ms. Gora distinguished herself from the other students as dedicated, hard working and extremely intelligent. The Professor added that actually she was the only student in her class to receive an "A".

The ACPC Scholarship Committee was very impressed with Ms. Gora's extensive community services. After 11 years of arduous work and fervent dedication, Lisamarie achieved the highest rank "Eagle Scout" in Harcerstwo at the Polish Cultural Center in Clark, NJ where

she has played very important roles throughout each year. She helped organize Polonia fund raisers, donated food and clothing to the Battered Women Shelter and portions of fund raiser drives to the Polish Children's Heart-Line. She helped the Adam A. Bak Fdn. organize events at the Polish Consulate that raised nearly \$100,000 for those suffering from the floods in Poland. Some of her other extensive community involvements included serving as the Public Relations agent to gain awareness of the North Town Hall Civic Center within the Polish communities through the Polonia media; active membership in the PolAm Business & Professional Assoc.; and assistant to kindergarten teacher at the Saturday Polish School in Clark, NJ.

Andrew Bak, V.P. Adamba Imports Intl., writes that Ms. Gora is an indispensable part of every team she is a part of, especially the Polish causes in which she has actively participated in since she was a little girl. "She exhibits a passion to use her legal skills to benefit the Polish community.

**A**fter earning a BS Magna Cum Laude degree with a GPA of 3.725/4.000 in Allied Health Sciences at the Univ. of Connecticut

Ms. Beata Hrynkiwicz continued with graduate studies at the university expecting to receive a Doctorate in Physical Therapy in May 2012. In July 2007, Ms. Hrynkiwicz studied at the Jagiellonian Univ. in Krakow, Poland where she also taught English at a summer language camp. This past year she undertook Acute Care Practicum at the Langone Medical Center, NY for three months. Beata has acquired considerable research experience over the past few years at the University. Her Poster presentation at the Fall 2010 CPTA Conference was accepted for publication internationally in Isokinetic Exercise Science. Fluent in Polish, Beata is a Court Certified Polish-English Interpreter and CPR/AED/First Aid Certified since 2007.

Ms. Hrynkiwicz's considerable work experience in her specialty field includes serving as a Patient Service Specialist since June 2010 in Physical Therapy, Storrs, CT, which includes training new employees and teaching aquatic classes. She has also been serving there as a Rehabilitation Technician since 2007. She



has proven her leadership skills by founding and organizing the DPT 2012 Journal Club last year.

Prof. Joseph W. Smey, PT, EdD writes that "Beata's strong work ethic, communication skills and her compassionate nature in dealing with others have unquestionably contributed to her success in the classroom, clinical setting, and her ability to be a positive ambassador for our institution". He adds that he has received only the most positive comments about Beata's professionalism and competence from both the management at Select Physical Therapy as well as from his faculty colleagues in the Physical Therapy Program.

The Regional Director at Select Medical Corp., David A. Hoyle who has known Beata for five years concludes his highly positive statements regarding Beata's outstanding work as a Rehabilitation Technician in his letter of recommendation with the statement that "I'm certain that you have a significant number of deserving applicants for scholarships who have great interpersonal skills, or who represent their Polish culture well, or who have outstanding academic records, or who contributed to the workforce, but I would be hard pressed to believe that there is another applicant who has excelled at so many of these things as Beata Hrynkiwicz."

Beata's community involvement includes active membership in the UConn Polish Cultural Society, volunteer services with the Polish Cultural Club of Greater Hartford in setting up the Annual Szopka Festival; Troop Leader, Camp Director & Activities Coordinator in the Polish Scouting Organization; President of the UConn Polish Cultural Society, participant in the Miss Polonia Connecticut Competition, and Preschool Program Coordinator in the UConn Husky Nutrition Program in 2006.

The Pulaski Scholarship Committee members were also very impressed by the commitments both students promised in their future careers. Beata Hrynkiwicz pledged that in providing physical therapy services in the central CT region, she will strive to assist Polish-speaking patients - a service that is currently an unmet need. Lisamarie Gora promised to contribute time, efforts and her lawyerly skills to the ACPC organization and also to push herself even harder now to get to a position where one day she will be able to share her success with others so that, in a sense, she will uphold the "expectation" that accompanies such an honor as the Pulaski Scholarship, an expectation to continue working hard and staying involved.





American Council For Polish Culture **63<sup>RD</sup> CONVENTION**  
CLEVELAND, OHIO — July 14th - July 17th 2011

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American Council For Polish Culture  
**63<sup>RD</sup> CONVENTION**

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 13, 2011**

3:00pm - 6:00pm **REGISTRATION** Hotel: Hilton Garden Inn, Cleveland Downtown  
 6:00pm - 8:00pm **BOARD MEETING** Hotel: Hilton Garden Inn, Cleveland Downtown  
 8:00pm **SOCIAL** History of Polonia photo mural, Lake Erie Shores wine sampling

**THURSDAY, JULY 14, 2011**

8:00am - 9:00am **REGISTRATION**  
 9:00am **OPENING CEREMONIES:**  
 • Welcome- Gene Bak, Executive Director, The JPPII Polish Cultural Center  
 • Keynote address – Dr. Maria Siemionow, Ph.D. Director of Microsurgey Training, Cleveland Clinic  
 10:00am **BREAK**  
 10:30am - 12:00pm **BUSINESS SESSION**  
 12:00pm **LUNCH WITH SPEAKER:** Speaker: Dr. Cash Kowalski, Author, Heroes of Solidarity  
 1:30pm - 3:00pm **VISIT & LECTURE:** Western Reserve Historical Society Polish Archives. Dr. John Grabowski, Krieger-Mueller Assoc. Prof, Applied History, Case Western  
 3:30pm - 4:30pm **TOUR**  
 5:30pm **RETURN TO HOTEL**  
 6:00pm **MARCELLA KOCHANSKA SEMBRICH CONCERT:**  
 St. Stanislaus Shrine Church, Slavic Village, Cleveland  
 7:00pm **RECEPTION WITH CLEVELAND POLONIA ARTISTS**  
 9:00pm **RETURN TO HOTEL**

**FRIDAY, JULY 15, 2011**

8:00am - 9:00am **REGISTRATION**  
 8:00am - 9:00am **BREAKFAST WITH SPEAKER:** Speaker: Cecile Wendt Jensen, CG, author STO LAT: A Modern Guide to Polish Genealogy  
 9:00am - 1:00pm **BUSINESS SESSION**  
 1:00pm **DEPART FOR UNIVERSITY CIRCLE** Lunch on your own in museum Café  
 2:30pm - 4:00pm **GALLERY TALK AND DOCENT TOUR AT THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART**  
 4:03pm - 6:00pm **TOUR** Shop and snack at Westside Market with optional visit to Great Lakes Brewing Company  
 6:00pm **RETURN TO HOTEL** Dinner and evening on your own  
 7:30pm **SCREENING OF "NINE DAYS THAT CHANGED THE WORLD"**

**SATURDAY, JULY 16, 2011**

8:00am - 9:00am **BREAKFAST WITH SPEAKER** Speaker: Rita Cosby, news personality and author of Quiet Hero: Secrets from My Father's Past  
 9:00am - 1:00pm **CONVENTION SESSION**  
 1:30pm **DEPART FOR GARDENS** Box lunch on bus  
 2:30pm - 4:00pm **DEDICATION OF PADEREWSKI BUST** in Cleveland Cultural Gardens, Rockefeller Park  
 Speaker: Dr. James Pula, editor The Polish American Encyclopedia  
 Performer: Dongning (July) Yang, accompanist, Cleveland Institute of Music  
 4:00pm **RETURN TO HOTEL**  
 5:30pm **DEPART FOR CULTURAL CENTER**  
 6:00pm **ACPC AWARDS BANQUET AND BALL**  
 Location: Polish American Cultural Center & Museum, Slavic Village Warszawa District, Cleveland  
 Performance: Dorota Sobieska, founder and director, The Opera Circle

**SUNDAY, JULY 17, 2011**

10:00am **POLISH MASS** St. Stanislaus Shrine Church, Slavic Village, Cleveland  
 11:00pm **GALLERY TOUR AND POLISH SUPPER**  
 \$10 (not included in fee) JPPII Polish Cultural Center, Slavic Village, Cleveland





American Council For Polish Culture  
**63<sup>RD</sup> CONVENTION**  
 July 14th - July 17th 2011 / Cleveland, Ohio  
**ZAPRASZAMY! YOU'RE INVITED!**

The JPCC Polish Cultural Center is delighted to host the Convention of the American Council for Polish Culture in Cleveland, Ohio as we celebrate the maestro--famed composer, diplomat and political leader, Ignacy Jan Paderewski.

Our city was the center of a geographic region that was home to the largest settlements of Polish diaspora at the beginning of the last century. Today we are experiencing a rebirth of pride and Polonia activities. National and international attention have brought visits here from Lech Wałęsa, Zbigniew Brzezinski, Polish Consul General Ewa Junczyk-Ziomecka, and, most recently, President Bronislaw Komorowski.



*Why not add your name to this distinguished list?*

**AMERICAN COUNCIL FOR POLISH CULTURE 63RD CONVENTION REGISTRATION**

**Hotel Reservations**

Make room reservations directly with the hotel on or before June 29th, 2011 for the convention rate of **Single/Double.....\$99 + tax.**

**Use the reservation code ACPC**

Hilton Garden Inn Cleveland Downtown  
 1100 Carnegie Avenue  
 Cleveland, Ohio, USA 44115  
**216-658-6400 (800) 445-8667**

**Costs:**

Convention Registration Fee..... \$50.00  
 Arrive Wednesday..... \$400.00  
 Arrive Thursday After Lunch..... \$400.00  
 Arrive Friday After Lunch..... \$300.00  
 Guest Banquet Ticket ..... \$75.00

*Please remit full amount or deposit of \$200 per person by **July 5, 2011** Balance due upon arrival. Please no credit cards.*

**For questions and more information contact Ben Stefanski at 216-431-0913**

**ACPC Convention Registration Form** \_\_\_\_\_

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Printed by Avalon Digital Printing & Graphics  
2245 Eureka Rd. Wyandotte, MI 48192

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