



Polish Heritage

Published Tri-Annually by the American Council for Polish Culture

Winter 2017

Vol. 68 No.1

ACPC FALL BOARD MEETING

The Polish Cultural Club of Greater Hartford, Inc. (PCCGH) had the pleasure of hosting the Fall Board meeting of the ACPC on Friday, October 21 and Saturday, October 22, 2016 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Glastonbury, CT. Among the issues discussed were the locations for the Spring Board Meeting and the Annual Convention 2017. The Spring Board Meeting will take place in Philadelphia, March 10-11. The place chosen for the Convention is Toronto, Canada, most likely in August. Please check the ACPC web site for additional information (www.polishcultureacpc.org).

Following the first working session on Friday afternoon, members of the ACPC's Board of Directors and the Polish Cultural Club's Executive Board socialized at a welcome reception. Old ties were renewed and new friendships formed.

The discussions in Saturday morning's meeting covered many relevant issues and proved to be productive. Events culminated on Saturday evening with a gala celebration of the PCCGH's 40th Anniversary at the Riverfront Community Center in Glastonbury. While drizzly with a chill in the air, the warmth and gaiety emanating from the 100 guests made for an affair that will not soon be forgotten. "Let the Polish Music Flow," a concert of traditional Polish folksongs performed by the Theatre of Imagination Novum, had everyone singing along with enjoyment and pleasure. Maestro Adrian Sylveen-Mackiewicz was acknowledged by the PCCGH for having been awarded the ACPC's 2016 Cultural Achievement Award, and Ms. Senior Connecticut 2016 (Krystyna Słowikowska Farley) was on hand to represent the ageless elegance of women. At 91, Krystyna proves no finer role model. All in all, it was the perfect ending to a successful weekend.

Submitted by Frances T. Pudlo and Patricia A. Kaczynski, Co-Presidents, PCCGH



Go to był za Ślub.....

HAT A WEDDING!

A visit to Landshut, Germany inspires a journey into Old Polish Cuisine...

by David J. Motak

Medieval chroniclers tell us that the wedding of Polish Princess Jadwiga Jagiellonka, daughter of Polish King Casimir IV, to Duke George the Rich of Bavaria in 1475 was one of the most spectacular events in the late Middle Ages.

Although originally a political alliance, legend has it that the marriage of the two young people grew into a true love match between the beautiful Polish Princess and the dashing young Duke. The marriage itself was an effort by the Holy Roman Empire to create a strong alliance with the powerful Kingdom of Poland in order to help halt the expansion of the Ottomans into southeastern Europe following their capture of Constantinople in 1453.

The mere fact that dignitaries from all over Europe swelled the guest list to over 10,000 people indicates the prestige which Poland enjoyed at the time. Records indicate that, at the Royal Wedding banquet alone, guests were served over 300 bulls, nearly 3,000 sheep, 500 calves and over 40,000 chickens. Although we do not know the amount of breads, pastries, side dishes and beverages that were served to the guests, suffice it to say that the Bavarian royal kitchens were certainly a busy place.

Reliving a Proud History

For over 500 years, the townspeople of Landshut have meticulously saved detailed records from this memorable wedding event and - every four years - they reenact the Royal Wedding complete with Medieval banquets, jousts, tournaments, concerts and other activities culminating in the Grand Procession welcoming the Polish Princess. The Landshut Royal Wedding has grown to become one of the most splendid historic reenactment events in the world and one of the most authentic. Participants must be residents of Landshut and the handsomest young man and the most beautiful young lady are chosen to play the leading roles of Princess Jadwiga and young Duke George the Rich.



Two of the over 3,500 participants in the "Royal Wedding" festivities.

continued on page 8



From the President



Thomas Payne

Greetings to my fellow members! I hope that everyone had a Merry Christmas, with opportunity to celebrate Wigilia, and that you are looking forward to a prosperous and healthy New Year.

I had the privilege of attending my first National Council for Social Studies (NCSS) Conference in December 2016. This is primarily for Social Studies teachers in the United States and Canada, but there are also people from the publishing community strolling around. While I had listened to the Glembockis and Debbie Majka talk about past conferences glowingly and read in detail their accounts of the activities, I must confess that attending and actually meeting the people who pass through and show a keen interest in Polish history and culture is an awesome experience. These people include those who fondly and proudly recall their own Polish heritage, those who have visited Poland, and those who are not Polish but have a desire to understand the truths about our history and at the same time can be amazed at the dispelled myths perpetrated by distortionists. And yes, there are those who stop by to grab a few pieces of Polish candy and wind up staying to chat or read our literature.

I highly recommend that you find an opportunity to visit our booth if the conference is ever near your location. The Glembockis and Debbie Majka do a fantastic job of engaging and enlightening the attendees. I also want to thank the Embassy of Poland for their financial support. There is a considerable cost to represent at this conference, since there are travel, booth rental, set-up fees, media and literature costs, with high quality giveaways such as posters and CDs. Depending upon location, it can cost between \$3,000- \$5,000 to financially support a conference presentation. Some of our Board members make individual, tax-deductible contributions specifically earmarked for this annual project. I encourage all our members to consider making a small donation to this cause. Through the devoted efforts of our NCSS Committee with continuous annual improvements, this has developed into ACPC's flagship project.

2017 will be a challenging year for our organization. We have many long-time supporting members on our Board who have volunteered their time and energy with a whole-souled commitment to our mission who are now slowing down due to health issues. Undoubtedly you may be witnessing the same thing within your own affiliate organization. ACPC has a vast array of multiple projects that require a considerable amount of administrative support and leadership. It is a testimony to the synergy that can be created by combining the talents and energies from the various affiliates into a single national organization such as the ACPC. New ideas continue to be generated by our talented Board Members, so ACPC remains a forward-looking organization. But reinforcements are needed to continue with our momentum to progress in the promotion of Polish culture, and it would certainly be disappointing if we ever had to scale back on our activities. So I exhort all of our members, but especially affiliate leaders,

to encourage others to attend ACPC board meetings and conventions, so that they can recognize first-hand the value of this organization and the opportunity to make new friends with a great group of men and women. I know from personal experience that if someone attends a meeting or convention for the first time, they have to come away very inspired and at least consider further participation in this great organization.

I look forward to seeing many of you in our upcoming March Board meeting in Philadelphia with a splendid Chopin Concert for those who stay on Sunday. Also, consider making plans to attend our August Convention in Toronto – the date has not been set but we will post information on our web site shortly. Finally, I know that Easter is a very special holiday in the Polish Community, so I wish everyone a Happy Easter!

Thomas Payne

Sincerely,
Thomas Payne
President

Spring Board Meeting

March 10-11, 2017
Philadelphia, PA

Hosted by: Polish Heritage Society of Philadelphia

Hotel: Four Points by Sheraton, 9461 Roosevelt Blvd,
Philadelphia, PA, 19114

Friday, March 10 - Meeting & reception - 7:00 -10:00 pm
Associated Polish Home, Vistula Lounge
9150 Academy Road, Philadelphia, PA 19114

Saturday, March 11 - Board Meeting: 9:00 am - 4:30 pm
Four Points by Sheraton Hotel

Buffet Dinner and Entertainment 6:00 - 10:00 pm
Associated Polish Home, Vistula Lounge
Cost: \$25.00 per person

Sunday, March 12 - Annual Chopin Concert - 2:00 pm
Holy Family University, Sister Francesca
Onley Education Center
Cost: \$30.00 per person
Eric Lu, Guest Pianist

We encourage you to make your hotel reservations ASAP. If you have any questions, please contact **Debbie Majka** at dziecko2@comcast.net, or **Jean Joka** at jeanjoka@gmail.com. View full details at ACPC web site.



Polish American Arts Association

PAAA 50th Anniversary

submitted by Cecilia Larkin.

By any measure, it was a grand affair. The Polish American Arts Association (PAAA) of Washington, D.C., marked its half century of existence in style, thanks to the good offices of Alice Laning, at the Congressional Country Club in Bethesda, MD, which counted among its membership a number of U.S. presidents, members of Congress, and other high level dignitaries. The PAAA emblem eagles, with a golden number 50 at the foot, decorated the tables of the elegant Congressional Room where guests mingled over cocktails before sitting down to a sumptuous dinner. Father Philip Majka, the ever present Polonia *duszpasterz*, offered an invocation and Gala Chairman, Marianna Eckel, introduced soprano Laura Kafka-Price who sang the Polish and the U.S. National Anthems.

After dinner, Tom Payne, who earlier in the year ended a six-year tenure as the PAAA President and is currently the President of the ACPC, welcomed guests and talked briefly about PAAA's history and mission. He then introduced the current PAAA President, Celia Larkin, who expressed gratitude for Tom's past leadership and remarked how fortunate we are to have him at the head of our umbrella organization while, at the same time, continuing as the PAAA's First Vice President. She was then joined by Stefan Lopatkiewicz who presented a tribute to the PAAA charter and lifetime member, Sir Walter Zachariasiewicz, who passed away just two days before the celebration at which he planned to be present even as he was being taken to the hospital the week before. Stefan presented a bouquet of flowers to Sir Walter's widow, Sandra, and spoke eloquently about the man whose life was an example to many and who during his three years as president of the PAAA accomplished more than others could fit in a decade.

Among special guests present at the banquet were: Consul General Zygmunt Matynia, representing the Embassy of the Republic of Poland, and his wife Bożena; Susanne Lotarski, President of the Washington Area Division of the Polish American Congress and Bożenna Buda-Ortins, President of the Friends of John Paul II Foundation. It is only fitting for

an arts association to recognize the artists among us. Of those present were: sculptor Gordon Kray, whose works are seen in many prominent places throughout Washington area and elsewhere; painter Susanne Eisinger; pianists Wanda O'Brien-Trefil, Alvin Smithson and Tomasz Robak; singers Laura Kafka-Price, soprano, David W. Cook, a young American tenor with Polish ancestry, and Dick Larkin, tenor with the Cathedral Choral Society; Stasia Skrypczuk and the Brothers-in-Law Band are in a class of their own and an integral part of many PAAA events. Of the seventeen PAAA past presidents who are alive, thirteen were present. A tribute was paid to all the ones that have passed away. Kaya Ploss, a charter member and past president of PAAA, as well as of ACPC, was welcomed with warm applause as she spoke about her experiences working on behalf of the Polish artistic heritage. The PAAA founder Olga Klug Iwanowska was present in spirit in the persons of her daughter Tania and grandson, Julian Teixeira.

The musical program that followed included a number of Polish art songs performed beautifully by soprano Laura Kafka-Price, accompanied on the piano by Tomasz Robak. The evening ended with the Grand Polonaise and some spirited dancing to the music of the Brothers-in-Law Band. It was, indeed, a grand way to celebrate.

Photo: Jacqueline Kolowski

Friends of John Paul II Foundation

submitted by Bożena Buda

We at the Friends of John Paul II Foundation, Washington D.C. Chapter, have had a busy and wonderfully productive year as we have been expanding our horizons to reach different age groups and populations to spread the legacy of St. John Paul II. We have been blessed in this endeavor with capable and generous members who devote their time, talents, and support to growing our Chapter. Last February, we launched our inaugural Outreach Program to college students at a local university. In early May, we sponsored a presentation by a local Polish Drama Group about the life of John Paul II, in English and in Polish, which included a cast of children, youth, and adults, and included poetry, music, and slides.

At our 2nd Annual St. John Paul II Lecture in late May, 2016, presenter Maria Juczewska, from the Institute of World Politics, spoke on the topic of "Scholars or Friends? Women in St. John Paul II's Life." The talk was preceded by a mass concelebrated by Rev. Canon Philip Majka and

continued on page 11



Polish Heritage Society of Philadelphia



Left to right: Jean Joka (Pres. PHSP), Marie Hejnosz (VP PHSP), Yola Roman (Pres. KF Phila.) and master of ceremonies Anthony Krzywicki (Pres. JLS)

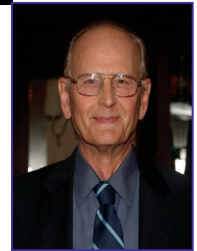
Christmas Gala 2016

On Saturday, December 3, three Philadelphia area Polish-American associations combined to hold a grand Christmas Gala at Whitemarsh Country Club located in Lafayette Hill, PA, outside of Philadelphia. These included the Polish Heritage Society of Philadelphia (PHSP), the Philadelphia Chapter of the Kosciuszko Foundation (KF) and the Jagiellonian Law Society (JLS). No Polish Christmas event would be complete without the custom of sharing *oplatek*. This was followed by a delicious sit-down dinner, while the Dennis Ostowicz Band provided dance music throughout the evening. At one point Walter Wojcik picked up a saxophone and joined in with the band. There was an opportunity to sing Christmas Carols in Polish and English. Over 186 persons attended.

Marie Hejnosz, vice-president PHSP, headed the organizing committee. President Jean Joka managed the invitations and journal ads. Anthony Krzywicki of the JLS acted as master of ceremonies. Dianna Blichasz and Malgorzata Zaleski organized the Chinese auction. Income from the event was dedicated to funding scholarships. All enjoyed themselves and went home regretting the party could not last a while longer.



Working with Casey Palowich from the Philadelphia Chapter of the Kosciuszko Foundation, Peter Obst is developing a "map of Polish related sites" in Philadelphia. To date, just over 100 places have been marked within a 50 mile radius of Center City (this includes Trenton, NJ and Wilmington, DE). At this time only places with cultural relevance and historical significance are being included (sorry, we left out your favorite pierogi place!). This "google map" may be accessed from the ACPC home page (www.polishcultureacpc.org) where a link is provided in the left hand picture menu. It can also be opened on an i-phone via a QR symbol. Comments are welcome.



Paul Krzywicki

Paul Krzywicki, a principal player with the Philadelphia Orchestra for thirty-three years, proud, Polish and persistent, introduced his first book *From Paderewski to Penderecki* on Sunday October 30, 2016 to members and friends of the Philadelphia Polish Heritage Society at the Associated Polish Home in Philadelphia. It was a privilege to have personally heard Paul who performed in over four thousand concerts, participated in more than 60 recordings and presented masters classes throughout the world. Now for his current challenge Paul aimed for a high note off the scale: he wrote a book.

He did not just write a fictional short story but a book that required extensive research and copyright approvals from photographers, institutions and individuals. He brought to the printed page the challenges and obstacles experienced by foreign born musicians whose names were at first unpronounceable and easily forgettable but names that are now known around the world.

Paul memorialized in one book the historical and musical importance of these 170 past and present Polish musicians who formed the core of those who brought structure, excellence and dignity to classical music in Philadelphia through the Philadelphia Orchestra and the Curtis Institute. With

continued from page 10

Caption Correction



In the Fall, 2016 issue of *Polish Heritage*, there was an incorrect caption for the photo to the left which appeared on pg 5 "Adam Styka Art Exhibit." The correct caption should be: *Matthew Szczepanowski, Marie Hejnosz and Tom Payne.*



Chicago Chopin Society

*From the left: Wendy Parman, Jaroslaw Golembiowski, Marlena Dzis, Philip Simmons, Luis Galvez-Alcantara.
Photo by Andrzej Marek Urbaniak*



nity about my gratitude for this collaboration was met with mutual pride and respect.

I have been pleased to work with outstanding young Polish soloists from the Chicago Chopin Society. I am learning about a culture, a community, and its leaders. For our Christmas Spectacular, we presented a new Medley adapted by Jaroslaw combining Polish carols and English ones, possibly for the first time. With the wide support of many Polish organizations we plan to recreate these successes this year at Copernicus, with a Polish-American Friendship concert in September, and another Christmas Spectacular. American Music Festivals vision of bringing people together through cultural exchange is resonating in the Polish community, thanks to our partnership with the Chicago Chopin Society, thanks to American Council for Polish Culture and to the many organizations supporting our efforts.

Thank you all.

ACPC Marcella Kochańska Sembrich Vocal Competition 2017

Deadline April 15, 2017

The \$1,500 prize is given to support the career development of a young singer of Polish descent in honor of **Marcella Kochańska Sembrich** (1858-1935) was a Polish coloratura soprano with a long career at the Metropolitan Opera in New York, the Curtis Institute and Juilliard School of Music. Candidates must be of Polish descent, either a US citizen or a permanent resident, and not under professional management. Canadian residents are also encouraged to apply. For further details and to download the complete list of eligibility requirements and application please visit the ACPC web site at :

http://www.polishcultureacpc.org/sembrich/Sembrich_2017.html

Send application and enclosures to:

Dr. Jaroslaw Golembiowski,
1427 W. Greenleaf Ave #3N
Chicago, IL 60626

Electronic submissions will be considered-please call first: 773-262-9699.

For additional Information e mail:

ccs@chicagochopinsociety.com

A Fruitful Collaboration:

American Music Festivals and the Chicago Chopin Society

by Philip Simmons

Founded in 1998, American Music Festivals is a non-profit organization committed to cultural exchange. We realize our mission by collaborating with like-minded organizations-in Chicago, Hawaii, and throughout the world. In Chicago we present the award winning Lincolnwood Chamber Orchestra, in partnership with many diverse communities. A big part of our commitment has been a focus on Eastern European culture which has led to reciprocal programming in Russia, the Czech Republic, Bulgaria, and Bosnia.

American Music Festivals is now thrilled to collaborate with the Polish community. The focal point is the Copernicus Cultural Center, a beautiful venue serving the community for generations. The Copernicus Foundation has enabled us to present a variety of programming in its historic theater including the Sir Georg Solti Memorial Festival, which featured Chicago Symphony Orchestra musicians.

It was at this Festival that I re-connected with Dr. Jaroslaw Golembiowski, a brilliant composer and advocate for Polish music through the Chicago Chopin Society. I realized we could accomplish great things together. In less than a year our orchestra has performed his music on several occasions, and American Music Festivals has collaborated with the Society at Copernicus for "Poland's Great Composers" (Taste of Polonia Festival), and "Christmas Spectacular 2016," celebrating his 30 years of music making in Chicago.

In our first program included the music of Chopin, and also works by Padereski, Lutoslawski, Kilar, and Moszkowski. We performed the world premiere of the Dr. Golembiowski's "Highlander's Dance," proceeded by a folk ensemble performing in traditional style the melodies which inspired his new music. The attendance of the Polish Consulate and the opportunity to speak to the commu-



AFFILIATE & SUPPORTING MEMBER NEWS

HARTFORD



POLISH CULTURAL CLUB OF GREATER HARTFORD, INC.

Far left: Sharing the Oplatek: Sophia Panek, Christine Panek, and Maria Bruks.



Immediate Left: At the Knights of Columbus Museum: Front: L to R: Frances Pudlo, Virginia Pudlo, Carol Oleasz, Ann Oleasz, Patricia Kaczynski. Rear: Peter Sonski, Education Outreach and Visitor Services manager and Bethany Sheffer, Curator/Registrar (K of C).

The Polish Cultural Club of Greater Hartford, Inc. (PCCGH) had an especially busy and rewarding second half of 2016. On June 22, four outstanding students of Polish heritage were presented with the 35th annual Jennie Marconi-Javorski Scholarship. Each student received \$1,000 at a reception at the Polish National Home. They were (below left to right): Cameron Fedina, majoring in Business Management at Fairfield University; Elizabeth Marconi, majoring in Global Health at the Centre for Global Health, University of Dublin, Ireland; Cameron Torres, majoring in Sports Management at Franklin Pierce University; and Rachel Zlotnick, majoring in Nursing at Villanova University.

In early July, a group of PCCGH members met with the curator and staff of the Knights of Columbus Museum in New Haven for a "photo op" to acknowledge the donation by the Club of a Krakowska Szopka. A prize winner in Kraków's annual competition some time before 1985, this Szopka will now be enjoyed as part of the Museum's permanent Christmas crèche collection. (photo at top right).

The summer was taken up with meetings and fine tuning of plans for hosting the ACPC Fall Board Meeting in Glastonbury on October 21 and 22. All went extremely well, with hotel accommodations, meals, and hospitality exceeding expectations.

Concurrently, the Club's 40th Anniversary Program Committee was working diligently to stage a beautiful event to mark this special occasion while honoring our guests from the ACPC Board on their last evening in CT. Thanks are extended to Ursula Brodowicz, Pattie

Kaczynski, Lilia Kieltyka, Anna-Mae Maglaty, Carol Bogon Phelan, Fran Pudlo, Gini Pudlo, and Nancy Yiznitsky for their dedication and high standards. From the gourmet food and the nostalgic Polish sing-along provided by the Theatre of Imagination Novum, to the spontaneous group photo, it was an evening to be remembered and cherished.

Sunday, November 27, the day of the Club's 36th Annual Szopka Competition and Festival, dawned bright and clear. Thanks to the efforts of Publicity Chair, Carol Bogon Phelan, who covered all local media bases, several hundred visitors were on hand throughout the day to enjoy the gorgeous display of Szopki made by area school children, as well as the Polish delicacies offered at the Kawiarnia and Country Kitchen, holiday wares of a large variety of vendors, and, of course, Święty Mikołaj.

This year, for the first time, our "Wigilia" event on Friday, December 9, held at the Polish National Home, was publicly advertised with an invitation to experience a Polish Christmas Eve dinner. Much to our delight, the response was overwhelming. It was an evening of tradition, but also one of bonding with individuals who remember their Polish roots and want to relive happy memories.

As part of our publicity effort, member Marek Czarnecki gave a half hour interview on internet radio (icvrradio.com) on Polish Christmas customs, including Szopka making and Wigilia. He also covered other issues related to Polish history and intrigued the interviewers so much that they plan to have him return for further discussions. Well done, Marek!

Lastly, on December 9 the following Officers for 2016 - 2018 were introduced: Patricia Kaczynski and Frances Pudlo - Co-Presidents; John Majdan - Vice President; Lilia Kieltyka -Recording Secretary; Raymond Kowalski -Treasurer; and Patricia Kaczynski - Historian.

The PCCGH looks forward to carrying on its mission in 2017 and extends best wishes to the affiliates and their members.

Submitted by Frances T. Pudlo and Patricia A. Kaczynski, Co-Presidents, PCCGH





FRIENDS OF POLISH ART

Friends of Polish Art stays active, marks anniversary

by Sebastian Szczepanski

After a successful 2016 ACPC National Convention, members of the Friends of Polish Art (FPA) came back to Detroit from the beautiful city of Pittsburgh with newly gained motivation and energy to work.

On Labor Day, September 5, 2016, a large group of members of FPA walked in the the Polish Day Parade in downtown Hamtramck. (photo top right) This annual celebration of Polish heritage is organized by the Polish American Congress Michigan Division. It's a tradition dating back to 1930s. The Friends of Polish Art has been attending the parade for years now, as it is a perfect opportunity to showcase the Polish-American community its achievements, unity and strength.

In November, we continued another cultural Polish tradition of conducting the annual Szopka Competition. The presentation Szopka Competition winners took place November 20, 2016, at the Polish Art Center in Hamtramck, MI (this popular store served again as the co-host of the competition). The entrants in this year's edition of the competition represented both prize categories. Joint winners of youth level competition were brothers Vincent and Isaiah Spoljarick. In the adult category first place was awarded to Alena Zabawski and the second place was awarded to her mom, Christa Zabawski. Additionally, the People's Choice Award went to the szopka created by Jeanette Guminik.

On Friday, December 9, the Friends of Polish Art co-hosted our annual Wigilia, this time jointly with the Wayne State University Polish Culture Club. The event took place at the Century Banquet Center in Sterling Heights, MI. Dr. Alina Klin, Emily Collette and Nicole Beller on behalf the Wayne State University Polish Culture Club and Jacqueline Kolowski, on behalf of the Friends of Polish Arts coordinated this festive event. The Wigilia was once again (or for some for the first time) a chance to experience some of the most cherished Polish Christmas traditions, like sharing of opłatek, meatless Wigilia meal, caroling (by students and WSU faculty members). The Wigilia also featured "Zakopane" Polish Folk Dance Ensemble who came to entertain the guests with a few Polish folk dances and a special performance of a Polish Christmas polka.

The Friends of Polish Art marked the beginning of 2017 with officers and board of directors election, as well as presentation of winners of the Suzanne Marie Margaret Sloat Youth Literary Competition. Both events took place at the FPA's General Membership Meeting, Friday,



January 27, at the American Polish Cultural Center in Troy, MI. The Youth Literary Competition was established in 2015 and since then it is gaining popularity among Polish American youngsters in the Detroit area. This year the awards were presented to three entries: first place to Peyton Andrysiak (essay "Tadeusz Kosciuszko"), second place to Andrew Tokarz (essay "Selflessness"), third place to Taylor Withers (essay "Terrific Traits Taught by Tadeusz Kosciuszko").

The Election of Officers and Board of Directors (excluding the President whose term ends next year) was conducted at the same meeting and the following individuals were elected to the governing body of FPA: 1st Vice President, Brian Malski; 2nd Vice President, Zofia Duniec-Dmuchowski, Ph.D.; Treasurer, Ewa Greenbaum; Financial Secretary, Mary Ellen Tyszka; Recording Secretary, Carol J. Surma, Esq.; Corresponding Secretary, Sebastian Szczepanski; Board of Directors: Joseph Greenbaum, Barbara Hantz, Alina Klin, Ph.D., Maria Lewandowski and Anthony Wachocki. (group photo above)

The year 2017 marks the 80th anniversary of the Friends of Polish Art (established in 1937). To highlight this milestone, special cultural events sponsored by FPA will take place throughout the year. What's most important the Friends of Polish Art is without a doubt one of the most important Polish-American organizations promoting Polish culture in the Detroit area and we are ready to make 2017 another successful and memorable year!

Photos by Jacqueline Kolowski



Polish Princess Jadwiga Jagiellonka and Duke George the Rich, circa 2013

Co to był za Ślub....

What a Wedding!

BY DAVID J. MOTAK



Photos: David Motak

continued from page 1

In 2013 Jack Samuels and I hosted an excursion to this event which included several members of the ACPC. While it took the original Polish Princess and her wedding retinue over two months to travel from Kraków to Bavaria, it took us just a drive of several hours (with a stopover in Prague.) The Royal Wedding events were truly awesome. We and our guests were dazzled by the splendor and pageantry that the townspeople of Landshut devote to this lavish production. Over 3,500 participants in authentic Medieval attire are involved. This is not the typical "Ren-Fair" event that we are used to in the United States, with fanciful fairies and elves cavorting with "historic" characters dressed in outfits of questionable authenticity, but an elaborate, highly researched and carefully crafted production based on records of actual events. Our experience in 2013 was so popular that several of our past attendees have asked us to host another excursion this summer as it is now the fourth year in the "Royal Wedding Cycle."

Old Polish Feasting

As I began planning for this year's excursion and in preparation for writing this particular column, I have been thinking of what types of dishes were actually served at this grand wedding feast. In particular, what types of foods were familiar to Princess Jadwiga and her contemporaries in Poland in the late Middle Ages? Poland at the time was a country with vast forests abounding with wild game. Polish historical sources inform us that the Polish Royal Court was widely regarded in Europe for its opulence and grandeur, even well before the time of Princess Jadwiga, and lavish meals served on gold and silver plates became the hallmark of the Polish nobility. Bison, wild boar, pheasant, partridge, venison and other game were plentiful and joined domestic meats on the Polish table. Polish breads also became legendary and are still highly regarded today.

Poland was centrally located on the main trading routes, so the medieval Polish cook employed a large amount of spices and seasonings. With the price of spices, black pepper and nutmeg being much lower than in the rest of Europe, spicy sauces became popular among Polish cooks. In fact, in order to demonstrate their wealth, it was a common practice for the Polish aristocracy to incorporate an excessive amount of seasonings and spices into their dishes. Many Polish game dishes were seasoned with juniper berries which were said to have medicinal properties. Juniper (jałowiec) was felt indispensable for venison and combines well with black pepper, marjoram and bay leaves.

Some of our more common modern food items were unknown to Princess Jadwiga and her contemporaries. This included items that originated in the New World and were not introduced into Polish cuisine until well after the discovery of America in 1492. This list is a long one: potatoes, tomatoes, peppers, squashes, corn, beans, as well as various grains including barley and rice. Many common vegetables, such as tomatoes and potatoes did not reach Poland until the arrival of Italian Queen Bona Sforza (right) in 1518 who brought her culinary staff and kitchen gardens with her from Italy. Even today, some vegetables are referred to in Polish as *włoszczyzna*, a word derived from *Włochy*, the Polish name for Italy. And, despite their name "turkeys" were also not on the Polish table until much later, and the fowl's Polish name "indyk" is quite misleading as it came from neither Turkey nor India, but rather from North America and did not reach the Polish table until the mid 1500s.



"Polish Knights" and elaborately clad townspeople participate in the lavish Welcome Procession for Polish Princess Jadwiga in Landshut, Bavaria.

This year's "Royal Wedding" will take place at the end of June.



Explore the Foods of Our Ancestors....

You may wish to explore Old Polish Cuisine further through these fascinating publications that are now available in the United States. All are available on Amazon.com



Grand Procession welcoming Princess Jadwiga.

True Polish Dishes

When one carefully examines the ingredients of typically "traditional" Polish dishes one can obtain an indication of the time period in which they originated, with the champion being the traditional Polish stew, *bigos*. This Polish national dish is often called "hunter's stew" as original recipes called for the use of game meats. Old *bigos* recipes also do not include the use of potatoes or tomatoes which indicates its venerable origin as one of the oldest of Polish dishes originating well before the discovery of America. Certainly this dish that was quite familiar to Princess Jadwiga and probably dates back many hundreds of years.

One of the main grain staples of the old Polish diet was *kasha* (buckwheat groats), which, despite the introduction of rice and various noodle dishes over the years, still remains extremely popular in Polish cooking. The popularity of *kasha* goes back to pagan times when gifts of honey, cheese and *kasha* were offered to the goddess of birth to ensure a long and successful life for a newborn child. The Poles' fondness for *kasha* and their innate desire for independence is reflected in the old Polish proverb which notes that "a Pole will not allow anyone to blow on his *kasha*."

Enjoying a Taste of History

Princess Jadwiga and the old Polish aristocracy were certainly fond of game, but these types of meats are not something that are easily available for the modern cook. There are recipes, and cook books, however, that help the modern cook to replicate the taste of these Medieval dishes by using more modern types of meat. For instance, once can transform an everyday pork roast into something that may have been familiar to the Polish Princess and her contemporaries.



A typical Medieval dinner platter as served at our "Medieval Banquet" during the Royal Wedding events in Landshut.

Greeting the Princess

This year's Royal Wedding Tour will include visits to Munich, Prague, Bolesławiec, Wrocław and Kraków and will feature reserved seating at the Grand Procession welcoming Princess Jadwiga in Landshut, as well as some other related Royal Wedding events.

Our trip is scheduled for **June 29 - July 12, 2017**. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please feel free to contact Dave Motak at 412-835-0539 or visit:

www.janddtours.net.

Food and Drink in Medieval Poland: Rediscovering a Cuisine of the Past

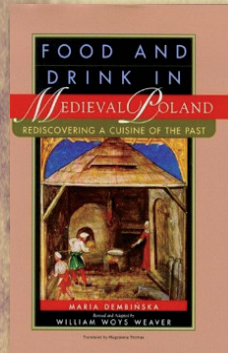
by Maria Dembinska and William Woys Weaver

Hardcover: 256 pages

University of Pennsylvania Press

ISBN-10: 0812232240

This is the first book of its kind in English to explore the fascinating culinary history of medieval Poland.



It represents the fruits of a twenty-year collaboration between two distinguished food historians. To appreciate the tastes and textures of medieval Polish cookery, there is simply no better way than to experience the food firsthand. Weaver has included thirty-five carefully reconstructed recipes, from courtier's pottage, a one-pot dinner popular with rich peasants and petty nobles, to game stewed with sauerkraut, to a court dish of baked fruit, to Polish *hydromel*, an easily made drink flavored with honey and fennel. With ingredients such as rosewater, cucumbers, saffron, and honey, these recipes will intrigue anyone who loves the art of cooking.

Old Polish Traditions in the Kitchen and at the Table

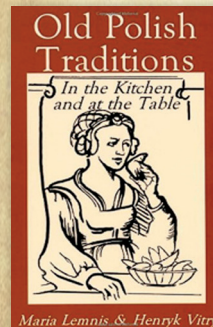
Maria Lemnis, Henryk Vitry

Paperback: 304 Pages

Hippocrene Books

ISBN: 9780781804882

Almost one hundred historic and updated recipes accompany short essays on this history of Polish culinary customs from pagan times until the present day.



The Cuisine of the Teutonic Grand Masters in Malbork Castle - (Kuchnia Wielkich Mistrzów Zakonu Krzyżackiego w Malborku)

Text by Bogdan Gałazka (Polish/English language version)

Hardcover: 120 pages with color photographs

ASIN: 8370737943

This bilingual book includes 50 dishes inspired by recipes from the kitchen of the Medieval "Krzyżacy" Teutonic Knights. Taking its inspiration from Mediterranean, Arabic and central European cuisine, this was a rich and colorful cuisine combining the best of chivalry and monastic, courtly and royal culinary traditions.





Peter Obst

Polish Arts Club of Trenton

The 71st Annual Polonaise Honoree and Scholarship Awards Luncheon will be held on Sunday, April 9, 2017 (Palm Sunday) from 1 pm to 5 pm at the Trenton Country Club. Peter Obst has been named this year's Honoree. Music will be provided by Tomasz Halat, St. Hedwig R.C. Parish's organist, who also provided music and led us in caroling at the Christmas party. Contact: President John Bogdan at (609) 396-0312 e-mail: johnrbogdan1@gmail.com

Conference at the Pulaski Museum in Warka

A conference entitled: *Poles in America: A Polish-American conference on the occasion of the Pulaski Museum's 50th Anniversary* is scheduled for June 27-28, 2017. Presenters will be provided with meals and accommodations. Guests are encouraged to stay and view an exhibit about sculptor Andrzej Pityński's work which will open on July 1 in the museum's exhibition hall. On the following day the "Vivat Pulaski" picnic will take place on the museum grounds. More information will soon be available through the museum's new website: <http://www.muzeumpulaski.pl/>

Wachtel Literary Competition

Peyton Andrysiak, currently a freshman at Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame, Indiana, received a matching award for her essay sponsored by the Friends of Polish Art, Detroit. Peyton is majoring in Finance and planning to become a certified Financial Advisor. She is looking forward to all of the opportunities that await her in the coming years as a result other education. The Friends of Polish sponsored the Suzanne Marie Margaret Sloat Youth Literary Competition. Entrants in the high school Level III (10th-12th grades) were asked to write on the following theme: Thaddeus Kosciuszko - Polish Patriot and Soldier asserted: *"There is a time when you have to sacrifice everything to have everything saved."* What do you think Kosciuszko meant by this statement and why or why not?



Peyton Andrysiak

For information regarding the ACPC Wachtel Literary Competition and to view Peyton Andrysiak's essay, please go to www.polishcultureacpc.org and "click" onto "Competitions". Please note that ACPC does not conduct a Literary Competition per se. Affiliates and Supporting organizations conduct a Competition then notify the chair that a competition has been held; ACPC's Wachtel Literary Competition will then match the 1st place award up to the amount of \$750.00.

THREE AFFILIATES BENEFIT FROM ACPC GRANT PROGRAM

At the ACPC Fall 2016 Board Meeting in Hartford, the Affiliate Grants Committee was pleased to announce that three of our Affiliates were successful in applying for grants to assist in the development of projects in their communities. Thanks to a one-time influx of funds resulting from a decision by the ACPC Investment Committee, for fiscal year 2016-7 matching funds in the amount of \$750 were awarded to each of the following Affiliates:

• **Polish Arts Club of Chicago** In presenting its 80th Annual Art Exhibition, the Polish Arts Club continues in its role as a leading Polish arts organization in the city of Chicago and the state of Illinois. The exhibit will showcase around 40 Polish-American artists, and feature upwards of 120 artworks, including paintings, drawings and sculptures. The exhibition, to be housed in the Grand Hall of the Polish Museum of America, will run for one month, April 23-May 30, 2017. An opening reception is planned for Saturday, April 22, with the award ceremony on April 30. The exhibit will fulfill the two-fold purpose of showing the artists' work to the Chicago community and acquainting attendees with the art being created by Polish Americans.

• **Polish Cultural Council of Pittsburgh** The Polish Cultural Council took advantage of an unusual opportunity to present to the greater Pittsburgh audience world-renowned Polish pianist Ewa Poblocka in recital during her American tour. Ms. Poblock is the laureate of many international piano competitions, including the International Chopin Piano Competition in Warsaw. She has been featured with many prominent orchestras in Poland and abroad, has been broadcast widely and recorded over 40 discs for major record companies. Ms. Poblocka performed on October 21, 2016, at the University of Pittsburgh. PCC's role was to purchase spots on WQED-FM classical radio announcing the concert to attract a wide audi-

ence, many of who might not be familiar with the richness of Polish culture.

• **The Chicago Chopin Society** In keeping with its mission to actively support and promote Polish composers, artists, and artistic organizations, the Society presented "CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR 2016," A Celebration of Symphony, Song and Sing-Along Honoring 30 years of Jaroslaw Golembiowski's music in Chicago. The concert featured the Lincolnwood Chamber Orchestra, conducted by Philip Simmons, and five soloists from the Chicago Chopin Society. Despite extreme winter weather, an audience of 200 enjoyed the concert that met with rave reviews.

Congratulations, Affiliates, for your outstanding efforts in promoting our rich Polish Heritage! Affiliates interested in more information about the ACPC Matching Grants Program may find the information and application form on our web site: www.polishcultureacpc.org.



Paul Krzywicki

continued from page 4

the focus of a maestro, Paul conducted original source research into their lives. He compiled in one important source document a detailed yet balanced summary of each of their experiences with many important pictures.

Listening to Paul, one realizes how much patience and commitment he needed to successfully bring his idea for the book from concept to publication. Paul's first love, music, must have paved the way for his determination to bring to life the stories of these creative souls. The book can be easily ordered Online at www.lulu.com. For more information, contact Paul Krzywicki pktuba@aol.com.

Cecelia Glembocki Receives Papal Award



The Papal award “Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice” was presented to Cecelia Glembocki by Cardinal Rylko at the Dom Polski in Rome, Italy on October 23, 2016. She received this highest award given by the holy Father to the faithful for service to the church and the

Pope. It was established in 1888 by Pope Leo XIII and is granted for lifelong distinguished service. The presentation was made during the 35th celebration of the John Paul II Foundation. Representatives of the foundations’ affiliates from more than 50 countries were present.

Cecelia has been actively involved in the Friends of John Paul II Foundation in Washington, DC for many years and as president for four. She and her husband Raymond represent the ACPC Polish Booth at the National Conference of Social Studies for teachers. More than 4,000 educators

have attended this yearly conference for the past seven years. The Polish booth features not only historical facts but is about notable Poles who have made great contributions to the history of the world. The booth also features lesson plans, posters, DVD’s, leaflets, etc. She has developed an educational legacy project to promote St. John Paul II’s legacy that has reached more than 45,000 youngsters in three local dioceses.



A reminder for members to select an eligible candidate for the **ACPC SCHOLARSHIP AWARD FOR SUMMER STUDY IN POLAND**

Please submit the name of your candidate by April 1, 2017 to Alice Laning.

laning@verizon.net or 703-827-0822.

Friends of John Paul II Foundation

Continued from page 3

Rev. Pawel Sass. The lecture was followed by a delicious luncheon featuring Polish food.

In June 2016, we presented on the topic of John Paul II’s legacy at the 74th Annual Conference of the Polish Institute of Arts & Sciences of America (PIASA) at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. Included was a presentation by Dr. Edwarda Buda-Okreglak on the young Karol Wojtyla /John Paul II’s life and the lesser known facts about him as a youthful actor, playwright and life-long poet. To the delight of our general membership, she presented parts of this talk and slide show at our November meeting.

In Summer we participated in “Krakow in the Capital” World Youth Day locally at Catholic University of America. We were happy to see the founder of our chapter, active centenarian-plus four Walter Zachariasiewicz, show up and join us for lunch. We were sorry to lose Walter at the end of September, 2016, but we are comforted by the thought that he is now with his great friend St. John Paul II.

In early October we held our annual Wadowice-on-the-Potomac dinner (in honor of the birthplace of Karol Wojtyla at the elegant Army Navy Country Club in Arlington, VA, with Monsignor Anthony Czarnecki as our honoree. Monsignor Czarnecki was applauded for his devotion in establishing the first chapter of the Friends of John Paul II Foundation in New England and for promoting our beloved Saint John Paul II through his example, teachings and pastoral works. It was an honor for President Bozenna Buda to present Monsignor Czarnecki with our custom-designed crystal image of himself with Pope John Paul II

and the Vatican flag.

Our featured speaker at the Wadowice-on-the-Potomac was Rev. Pawel Sass, Pastor of Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish in Washington, D.C., who is active in Youth Ministry and credits Pope Saint John Paul II for his call to the priesthood, after a successful career in journalism and as a Vatican reporter. Fr. Sass’s presentation about his visit to Krakow for the World Youth Day, accompanied by young people from this area, was dynamic and inspirational and touched all of us.

In October, accompanied by President Bozenna Buda, we joined in the festivities in Rome and the Vatican, to celebrate the 35th anniversary of the parent John Paul II Foundation. We not only met members of the Foundation from around the world but also had an opportunity to be at the audience with His Holiness Pope Francis.

In November we hosted the Polonia Pilgrimage at the Saint John Paul II National Shrine in Washington, D.C., which was also sponsored by the National Polish Apostolate Committee. Pilgrims from many states in the United States and Poland were represented.

We wrapped up the year by once again decorating the Friends of John Paul II Foundation Christmas tree at the St. JP II National Shrine with Polish Christmas ornaments.

We are very proud and congratulate Ray Glembocki, past president of our Chapter for being honored with the Pride of Polonia Award and Cecilia Glembocki, also a past president, for being awarded the Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice Papal Award in Rome. Kudos to both of them!

As we continue our mission in perpetuating the legacy, ideals and teachings of John Paul II, we are reminded of his exhortation, “be not afraid,” a message of hope and compassion he directed to the world at large and which continues to have relevance today.



Business Office
805 N Hickory Ridge Road,
Highland, MI 48357-4126

NONPROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE
PAID
PITTSBURGH, PA
PERMIT NO. 5605

Polish Heritage is the official publication of the American Council for Polish Culture, a confederation of affiliated Polish American organizations and individuals in the continental United States, propagating the knowledge and appreciation of the culture and civilization of Poland, and the contributions of Americans of Polish descent to the history and culture of the United States of America. The Council conceived and helped fund the establishment of the American Center of Polish Culture in Washington, D. C.

Contributing photographers for this issue of Polish Heritage include Jackie Kolowski and Peter Obst.

Reprints are permitted providing that credit is given to ACPC *Polish Heritage* and copy to the editor.

Annual Subscription to Polish Heritage:

U.S. - 1 yr. \$10 2 yrs. \$18 Canada/Foreign - 1 yr. \$15

Individual Membership in ACPC including Subscription:

U.S. - 1 yr. \$10 2 yrs. \$18 Canada/Foreign - 1 yr. \$15

Attention Affiliate and Supporting Members:

Please email all submissions to djm713@yahoo.com.

Photos should be submitted in jpeg format, 300 DPI. Mailed photos will not be returned. Please submit all articles as a Word document or imbedded in an email and send to djm713@yahoo.com.

The editorial staff are not responsible for transcription errors for handwritten or typewritten submissions.

Editorial Office: David Motak, 3205 Kennebec Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15241.

Business Office: 805 N Hickory Ridge Road, Highland, MI 48357-4126

Address Service Requested

POLISH AMERICAN JOURNAL

DEDICATED TO THE PROMOTION AND
CONTINUANCE OF POLISH AMERICAN
CULTURE • EST. 1911

**Polish American News in English
Published Monthly**

CULTURE • NEWS FROM POLAND
RELIGION • RECIPES • SPORTS
HISTORY • YOUTH • FOLKLORE

*A great way to introduce colleagues,
students, family and friends to
Poland and Polonia's treasures!*

ACPC Member Prices

(Members Save \$4.00 per year)

1-year \$18.00 (Reg. \$22.00)

2-year: \$33.00 (Reg. \$41.00)

3-year: \$45.00 (Reg. \$57.00)

**CALL TODAY (800) 422-1275
(716) 312-8088**

P.O. Box 198

Bowmansville, NY 14026-0198

www.polamjournal.com
info@polamjournal.com