



Polish Heritage

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ACPC board members visit Peterson Park and sculptor of Antonishak's statue featuring Generals Thaddeus Kosciuszko and Kazimierz Pulaski.

Art in Youngstown where we enjoyed a guided tour through many spacious galleries and viewed John Singleton Copley's *Mrs. Daniel Rea and Child*. Another painting that drew our full attention was *Silver and Black* which was created by Jackson Pollock at the height of his most creative abstract period and is valued at well over \$ 1 million. We were also entranced by a scene from President George Washington's wedding painted by Junius Brutus Stearns and Benjamin West's beautiful *Sepulchre* in which three women arrive at Jesus' tomb, carrying spices and ointments. The very large Butler Institute of American Art hous-

ACPC in Youngstown

Jo Louise Winters, PR Chair

Our Fall Board Meeting, was held Oct. 19 - 21, 2012, in Canfield, Ohio and hosted by the Polish Arts Club of Youngstown, Mary Ann Mlynarski, President. An outstanding program was fully prepared and precisely executed thanks to President Mlynarski and her committee, consisting of Aundrea Cika Heschmeyer and the latter's two sisters Sandra and Cynthia as well as a goodly number of other eager Club members. What a team the Cika sisters make!

ACPC board members were most grateful for the wonderful hospitality extended to them by the Club members. President Mlynarski, Aundrea, and Sandra picked up some of the ACPC members at the distant (one hour trip) airport and even returned some to the airport at 5:00 a.m. Sunday morning. Such grand Polish hospitality!

The Board meeting wasn't scheduled to begin until 7: 00 p.m., so those members who arrived early had time on their hands. Well, our thoughtful hosts promptly took care of that with an unscheduled visit to the famous Butler Institute of American

ing a great many sizeable, beautiful and very valuable paintings is indeed a very informative and inspiring museum to visit.

That evening President Debrorah Majka brought the Fall Board Meeting to order. President Mary Ann Mlynarski greeted the ACPC members enthusiastically and outlined the fabulous program designed to inform them of the vital historical Polish American contributions made by past and present families who settled in the Youngstown area. It began Friday evening after the ACPC Board had wound up its business session with a "Taste of the Valley Reception", with tables laden with tasty dishes, deserts and wines.

On Saturday, the Board concluded its business sessions.

The Polish Youngstown Club then led us off on a whirlwind program which lasted well into the evening. It began with a delicious lunch at the lovely Poland Public Library where we enjoyed a video lecture on public art by sculptor Tom Antonishak and a discussion about Polish Youngstown's challenging

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From the President



Debbie Majka

Dear Members,

Happy New Year! May you enjoy good health, prosperity and much success in all your endeavors. By now even procrastinators like me have stowed their Christmas decorations and are beginning to look forward to Spring. Our Spring Board meeting, hosted by the American Institute of Polish Culture, Tampa Bay, FL, will take place April 12-13, 2013. The meeting will culminate with the Polonaise Ball hosted by the Institute. After a typical Winter of ice and snow, April in Tampa sounds just like what the doctor ordered. All Presidents of affiliates are members of the board and, as such, have the right and privilege to attend board meetings. I invite you to participate and share your experience as we cooperate together in furthering the Council's mission. Make your reservations now (see details on page 6).

Our many programs and projects are moving forward thanks to the dedication of our officers and committee chairs. We are taking steps to ensure greater financial stability of the organization by having all of our funds professionally managed. Applications for our scholarship programs—Pulaski, Skalny and ACPC are arriving daily. As our annual convention approaches, we will be accepting applications for our Marcella Kochanska-Sembrich vocal scholarship. We've successfully participated in the annual NCSS last Autumn in Seattle, and plans are under way for our participation in St. Louis this coming November. Also, our website has a new look—check it out!

And speaking of conventions, we are excited to announce that we will be holding our annual convention in Baltimore, MD, thanks to the Polish American Arts Association of Washington, DC, with an assist from the Polish Heritage Association Maryland and the National Katyn Memorial Foundation. Much can be accomplished when groups unite in a project! During this convention, we will hold major elections for all members of the Executive Committee plus six directors. You have received a request from the Nominating Committee; please respond with your nominations. Also, at our conventions, we present the following awards: Distinguished Service, Cultural Achievement and Founders. Please be sure to respond to the Awards Committee with nominations for those prestigious awards, but keep in mind that awardees must be present to accept the award. (See page 11 for convention details).

On a very sad note, Irena Mirecka, our devoted member and tireless advocate on behalf of Polonia and all things Polish, was laid to rest in December.

Among her fellow angels, she, no doubt, continues to sing the praises of Poles and Polonia! (Read more about Irena Mirecka on page 4).

Notes from our Polish Heritage calendar—this year we mark the 150th anniversary of the doomed January Uprising of 1863 against Tsarist Russia. Three partitions in the late 18th century had seen the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth divided among Prussia, Russia and Austria. During the long period of Poland's partitions, this was the largest insurgency against Tsarist Russia. About 200,000 insurgents joined the fight; the revolt was completely crushed by the following year. Ringleaders were executed, countless estates were confiscated and insurgents were deported to Siberia. Some 200 events are set to take place in 36 cities across Poland this year in commemoration of the struggle.

And, on a much lighter note, this year also marks the 60th anniversary of the death of poet, Julian Tuwim. Born in 1894 in Łódź, he went on to become one of the most celebrated wits of the inter-war period. He also wrote for children. You may be familiar with his poem, *Lokomotywa*. His playful use of the Polish language continues to delight. Here's one of his aphorisms that we can print—*Pchła, owad co zszedł na psy* — "A flea, an insect that's gone to the dogs!"

Finally, since we've just celebrated Valentine's Day, I want to leave with you this excerpt from a poem of the late Nobel Prize Laureate, Wisława Szymborska, who passed away on February 1, 2012. *Wczoraj kiedy twoje imię ktoś wymówił przy mnie głośno, tak mi było jakby róża przez otwarte wpadła okno.* "Yesterday when someone nearby uttered your name aloud, it was as tho' a rose fluttered through my open window."

I look forward to seeing you at our board meeting in Tampa and offer sincere good wishes for a joyous and blessed Easter! *Wesołego Alleluja!*

Polish Perspectives Exhibit Travels to Seattle

by Cecilia Glembocki

The National Conference for the Social Studies (NCSS) held its 92nd Conference in Seattle, Washington, exhibiting to educators, administrators, and curriculum specialists. American Council for Polish Culture President Debbie Majka, and the Council's NCSS Co-Chairs Raymond and Cecilia Glembocki of Washington, DC hosted the Polish Perspectives booth in the International Alley of the Conference. Approximately 3,529 educators were in attendance and many visited the booth, which the ACPC has exhibited for the past 15 Annual NCSS Conferences.

Exhibited at the Polish Perspectives booth were books from Aquila Polonica on the history of Poland and its heroes; a Christmas szopka/creche (gift from Paul Bosse, ACPC Director); Peter Obst's book on Modjeski, *A Man who Spanned Two Eras*; brochures on Jan Karski, Solidarity, and World War II (from ACPC Director Barbara Lemecha) and the book *Sto Lat* (from Orchard Lake Schools). Flyers about the *Polish American Encyclopedia* were displayed and Mary Flanagan, ACPC Director, displayed her work *With Paintbrush and Sword*.

Children's books were provided by the ACPC Minnesota chapter; *Polish Treasured Recipes* were available for those interested in Polish cuisine and Polish confections from various industries in Eastern Poland were distributed.

Also presented was a newly developed leaflet by Andrew Korzan, with myths and facts about Poles and Poland. The American Institute of Polish Culture, Miami, FL also provided information about its activities.

The Polish Embassy in Washington, DC contributed travel guides to Warsaw and Cracow along with booklets on Polish cuisine featuring famous Polish chefs. They also supplied hundreds of bookmarks with *wycinanki* and Famous Poles. These items were appreciated by attending teachers, many of whom commented positively on their travels and studies in

Poland.

A set of ten posters was distributed along with 300 copies of the *Polish Perspectives* DVD that is a perfect carry-away lesson plan and study guide filled with facts, figures and information about Poles and their history.

Also presented were two new posters of Copernicus and Pope John Paul II by Carla Tomaszewski who also developed a lovely banner to be displayed in libraries and community centers entitled "October is Polish Heritage Month."

The Friends of John Paul II Foundation donated funds to distribute 45 DVDs *Nine Days that Changed the World*, 250 posters and 250 bookmarks to interested teachers. Lesson plans were available through the ACPC web site, www.polishcultureacpc.org.

New contacts were made to continue our plans for the educational outreach project about the first Poles' arrival in Jamestown, including a new poster using the National Bank of Poland's coin design for the 400th anniversary of the Poles' arrival in 1608. Contacts were made through the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation and the Jamestown Foundation to further our efforts in promoting the First Poles in Jamestown. Many tour guides who discuss our first settlers fail to mention the early arrival of Poles and the important contributions that they made to early settlers in America. It is our plan to have these SKYLK posters and bookmarks available for teachers



Deborah Majka (l) and Cecilia Glembocki (r) greet attending school teachers.



Cecilia Glembocki (l) shares materials with a participating teacher.

who visit the historic site with their students. A CD will feature lesson plans and posters for teachers to easily download for classroom use.

Plans are being made to work cooperatively with the advice from Tom Payne, President of the ACPC Affiliate Polish American Arts Association of D.C., who coordinated the marker presentation for ACPC in Jamestown. Items of interest for elementary teachers drew considerable attention.

Connie Donnelly developed a pattern for clothespin dolls of Polish figures for elementary school teachers. She also developed instructions for creating the Polish poppy. Teachers were anxious to copy those ideas for young children. A coloring book will be developed for next year's conference. Two representatives from the Dom Polski and the Polish school in Seattle attended to see our pro-

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Polish Cultural Foundation, Boston, MA

Koncentrationslager Auschwitz Exhibit at Massachusetts State House

submitted by Andrzej Pronczuk
President of Polish Cultural Foundation, Inc.

Despite some progress, the media periodically continue to call the German Nazi Concentration Camps "Polish camps." The Polish Cultural Foundation (PCF) decided to do something to prevent this awful error from happening through a continued education campaign. As part of this effort at the end of 2011, PCF signed a five year contract with the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum in Oswiecim, Poland in order to bring the Exhibit "Koncentrationslager Auschwitz" to America.

Utilizing electronic means, PCF prepared an exact copy of the exhibit which includes 30 large panels illustrating the history of the Auschwitz-Birkenau German Nazi Concentration and Extermination Camp (1940-1945). The exhibit shows that the camp was built and operated by the Third Reich on Polish territory which was annexed to Germany by the Nazis during World War II. The exhibit places special emphasis on the killing of Jews and on the resistance movement. An important component of the exhibit is also an historic introduction covering Nazi ideology, the Ribbentrop - Molotov Pact, and the German invasion of Poland at the start of the war.

From October 22 to November 2, PCF displayed this exhibit at the Massachusetts State House in Boston, supported by State Senator Richard Moore, the Israeli, German, and Polish Consulates, the American Jewish Committee and the Anti-Defamation League of New England. It was viewed for two weeks not only by State House representatives and staff but also by many tourists and school groups.

On Friday, November 2, 2012, a special meeting and reception was organized with the help of Senator R. Moore and the Polish Honorary Consul Marek Lesniewski-Laas. In attendance were more than 100 guests including: a number of Holocaust survivors from the Greater Boston area; members of the Jewish and Polish communities; members of Consular Corps; representatives of several sponsor organizations; and students. Short speeches were delivered by representatives of all the above mentioned supporting organizations and the President of PCF, Dr. Andrzej Pronczuk. This was followed by a keynote speech delivered by Auschwitz camp survivor, Izzy Arbeiter.

Mr. Arbeiter described in great detail the horrors that went on in this infamous camp. He also emphasized that even after 67 years since liberation, he is still reliving those terrible times every single day.

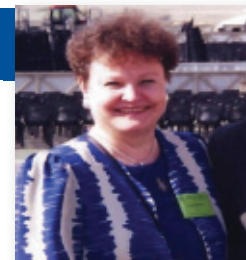
Mr. Arbeiter and all the other speakers praised PCF for the idea of bringing the Auschwitz exhibit to America. They considered the exhibit to be a great educational tool that ought to be presented in schools, public libraries, universities, State Houses, and other such places.

PCF has already received invitations to present this exhibit at the State Houses of New Hampshire and Vermont. PCF would appreciate suggestions from other ACPC affiliate organizations on where further to show this exhibit (PCF contact, tel. 617-696-9009).



Left to right: Marek Lesniewski-Laas, Honorary Consul of Republic of Poland; Lester Fagan, American Jewish Committee; MA Senator Richard Moore; Izzy Arbeiter Auschwitz survivor; Rolf Schutte, Consul General of the Republic of Germany; and Dr. Andrzej Pronczuk, President of PCF.

Irena Mirecka



We often hear the phrase, "a life well lived". But what does it really mean? Perhaps it means the capacity to love. Irena Mirecka possessed that capacity to love in full measure. First and foremost, of course, she loved her family. There was that twinkle in her eye when she spoke lovingly of her grandchildren and related some cute thing they said or did. Along with her love for her family, Irena's passions were the Catholic Church and advocacy of issues important to the Polish-American community. She was a two-term President of the Washington Chapter of the Friends of John Paul II Foundation. Other church activities included volunteer work for the Polish Apostolate section of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and Chairwoman of the Parish Council of Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish. She was recognized for her dedication to the Church by Pope John Paul II with the Order Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice.

The fall of communism in Poland presented Irena with opportunities through involvement with social programs initiated by the Embassy of the Republic of Poland, such as the Breast Cancer Awareness Program for Poland and the ABC XXI, a program promoting children's literacy. In addition to lending her not inconsiderable talent, energy and enthusiasm to the American Council for Polish Culture, where she served as Financial Secretary and Chairperson of the Youth Leadership Conference, Irena was an active member of the Polish American Congress, the Polish Scouting Organization and a founding member and Vice-President of the Stefan Korbonski Foundation, an organization dedicated to publishing works combating falsehoods about wartime and postwar Polish history.

She was always ready to help those in need—caring for the widow of the late Stefan Korbonski and ACPC activist, the late Edwina Conrad. A true and loyal daughter of Poland, Irena believed that even if you only had one drop of Polish blood in you, you were Polish! We in ACPC were privileged to work alongside her. We extend our heartfelt sympathies to her husband, Tadzio, her daughters Joanna and Marta, her sons-in-law, Richard and Mark and her grandchildren, Benjamin, Ava, Teresa and Cyprian.

President Debbie Majka

A New Traveling Poster Show



The Poster Project originated with an idea by President Deborah Majka to have Polish posters exhibited at the 1996 ACPC Convention in Minneapolis, MN. Posters were selected from collections belonging to Iga Majewska-Trzcinski and Peter Obst, these were framed and crates built for long distance shipping. Since then the ACPC has been loaning this Poster Exhibit of 16 framed posters to member organizations and to interested outside groups. It has been seen at the Press Club in Washington DC, at a country club in Hartford CT, in Youngstown OH, and at Indiana University in Bloomington.

The exhibition spent nearly a year in Boston where it was displayed at three different locations by Dr. Andrzej Pronczuk. For a month, 14 were on show in a Barnes and Noble Store in Fairless Hills, PA. Just recently eight posters from the collection went to an "International Day" at a primary school in Washington. Over 600 persons attended the event. This year, the Poster Committee hopes to replace this popular exhibit with a brand new one consisting of 24 framed CYRK posters. This will be a cooperative venture with the Kosciuszko Foundation. So far, we have located 18 CYRK posters. If anyone would like to loan or donate posters to this exhibit please contact: Peter Obst at obstpjo@verizon.net.

Featured in the photo above: Dr. Andrzej Pronczuk and Jo Louise Winters during the Boston exhibit.

BOOK REVIEW



Contributed
by Mary Flanagan

The Tatra Eagle (Tatrzański Orzeł)

by J. Victor Tomaszek

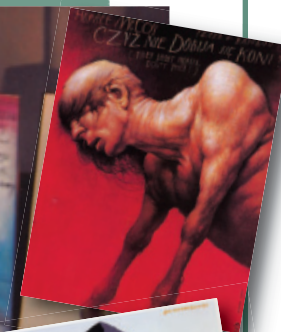
Roundfire Books Publishers

349 pages - Soft cover \$22.95

www.roundfire-books.com

The hero of this historical novel, Boleslaw Radok, lives in the High Tatra Mountains. His father like all able bodied men, is off at war which is raging in 1680s Europe and has neither trained his son for combat nor left him a sword. When the Radok home is attacked by brigands who killed his grandfather, the rest of the family is rescued by a group of the Kings' *Pancerni*. They turn out to be his father's companions who are returning his sword to the son of their dead comrade.

The knights take Bolek under their guidance to teach him the lessons their dead companion no longer could. In the course of their new relationship, they teach him Poland's history, the art of combat, as well as moral and spiritual values shared by Poles. The story culminates at the gates of Vienna where King Jan Sobieski and his army defeat the Turks, saving western Europe from the invaders. The author presents a very detailed description of the battle. Through his story the author passes on to the reader an appreciation of Polish love of God, Country and Honor.



Royal Wedding Tour

Fairy Tale Castles. A Beautiful Polish Princess. A Handsome Young Prince.....

June 21 - July 2, 2013



Romantic Fairy Tales come alive as a one-of-a-kind travel opportunity, **The Royal Wedding Tour**, celebrates a spectacular event in Polish history with the marriage of Poland's Princess Jadwiga Jagiellonka to dashing young Duke George of Landshut, Bavaria amid grand Medieval pageantry, visits to historic sites, and outstanding food and entertainment. This special occasion is reenacted only every four years by over 3,000 costumed participants. Tour includes r/t air from Chicago, visits to historic Krakow, Neuschwanstein Castle in the Bavarian Alps, picturesque Prague and Cesky Krumlov includes the lavish wedding events of Princess Jadwiga, including concerts, banquets, special events and special seating for the colorful ceremonial arrival of the Polish Court and the Royal Wedding Party through the streets of Landshut amid much pop and fanfare. Please inquire soon; tickets are limited. For further information, including a full-color Royal Wedding Tour brochure, price and full itinerary, please contact Donna Sullivan at 713-291-3492 or donnabsullivan@aol.com or Dave Motak at 412-835-0539 / djm713@yahoo.com.

Tour information - including full itinerary, event videos and photos are also available at

www.cracowcrafts.com/culturaltours.html

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yet successful effort to relocate their Polish Veterans monument to nearby Peterson Park. We visited Peterson Park, the home of the only known statue that depicts Generals Thaddeus Kosciuszko and Kazimierz Pulaski together which was created by Tom Antonishak. The ACPC members gathered around this beautiful work of art depicting our beloved Polish heroes honoring their presence in this splendid park. President Majka laid a lovely wreath offered by the ACPC at the base of this distinctive monument.

Next, we passed the former Polish community stronghold and the only Polish parish, St. Stanislaus Kostka, on our way to enjoy the autumn beauty in magnificent Mill Creek Park.

The next stop was the famous "Steel Museum" where a docent tour gave us a dramatic overview of the iron and steel industry and its impact on the labor movement, urban cities and immigration trends. This was followed with a presentation by Bill Lawson, Director, Mahoning Valley Historical Society, who painted a picture of the industry and

labor movement that attracted immigrant families to the Youngstown area.

Across the street is St. Columba Cathedral where at the end of October the Youngstown Polish Arts Club was scheduled to dedicate the new Shrine to Our Lady of Czestochowa. We were met there by the Shrine project chair for a brief tour of the church and then enjoyed reserved places of honor in the pews and participated in the 5:30 p.m. mass. Dinner followed, bringing the weekend board meeting to a pleasant end. ACPC President Deborah Majka expressed the Council's deepest and most sincere thanks to President Mary Ann Mlynarski and Aundrea Heschmeyer for organizing such a thoroughly enjoyable event with the diligent help of many of its Club's members. Board members were most grateful to President Mlynarski and the Polish Arts Club for the wonderful hospitality extended. These sincere feelings bring to mind the Polish traditional Polish saying *gość w dom, Bóg w dom*. We certainly felt the Good Lord's presence about us as we thoroughly enjoyed the Polish hospitality presented to us by members of the Polish Arts Club of Youngstown.
Do milego zobaczenia!



April 12-13, 2013

**Safety Harbor Resort,
Tampa Bay, Florida**
hosted by:

*The American Institute
of Polish Culture of Tampa Bay, Florida*

In order to get the lowest rates, members should book as soon as possible. It is better to call reservations than to book online.

Reservation number is 888-237-8772.

Use code GAIP for reservations.

The website for the resort is
www.safetyharborresort.com

The AIPC has not set the price for the Polonez Ball yet but it will likely be \$75-85.

The only other activity scheduled for Saturday afternoon will be a visit to St. Petersburg Fine Arts Museum, where there is a statue of Pulaski. Further information will be posted on the ACPC web site.

The Friends of Polish Art DETROIT

The Year 2012 was an exciting one for the Friends of Polish Art, celebrating its 75th Anniversary in an amazing and most memorable fashion.

In addition to our Annual Short Story Competition chaired by Janet A. Hedin, the Youth Art Competition, the Fine Arts Competition chaired by Evelyn Bachorski Bowman, the Szopka Competition chaired by Christa Zabawski, we were also recognized and honored for this milestone achievement by other Polish organizations.

In April we hosted the ACPC Board Meeting followed by "Gala 75th Anniversary Ball" chaired by Barbara Lisiecka.

At our General Membership Meeting in May, we awarded scholarships to young deserving students totaling \$12,000 chaired by Carolyn Meleski.

In June the members celebrated with a special Thanksgiving Mass celebrated by Fr. Witkowski.

In July we rejoiced in the accomplishments of two of our members who received the ACPC Founders Award at the Annual Convention, namely Gregory Biestek and Mary Ellen Tyszka. Later that month, members enjoyed a Garden Party in



Barbara Lemecha's beautiful gardens.

The month of September was the busiest starting with the Polish Day Parade in Hamtramck on Labor Day where FPA was featured and honored by the parade sponsors, the Polish American Congress, with a beautiful float especially created by famous mural artist Dennis Orłowski and built by FPA

At the Polonaise Ball (left to right): The Honorable Joseph L. Zazyczny with awardees Teresa Wojcik, Peter Obst, Marie Hejnosz and Stephen Medvec.



Polish Heritage Society of Philadelphia Honors Members

On a clear fall evening of November, 10, 2012, when the colorful and scenic foliage on the grounds of the Torresdale-Frankford Country Club was surpassed only by the beautiful variety of gowns, dresses, suits and tuxedos found inside, the Polish Heritage Society of Philadelphia once again hosted their Annual Polonaise Ball and Awards Banquet. Four of the Society's members were honored for their outstanding dedication and contributions to the cultural development of the Polish Heritage Society of Philadelphia during an evening that featured dinner, dancing, and cultural displays.

The Honorable Joseph L. Zazyczny served as the emcee for the evening. Awards were presented to Marie Hejnosz, Current President of Polish Heritage Society of Philadelphia and Director of the Adam Styka Art Exhibit; Teresa N. Wojcik, Past President of the Polish Heritage Society of Philadelphia and current Corresponding Secretary; Stephen Medvec, PH.D, Scholarship Chairperson; and Peter Obst, Board Member and Coordinator of Historical Markers.

After the reception, guests entered the main ballroom to find their assigned places amid decorations designed to reflect our Polish heritage. All of the tables were decorated with beautiful, hand-arranged floral pieces that prominently featured red and white flowers. Each table was also identified with the image, name and coat of arms of a different city in Poland, so that guests could spend the evening in, among others, the cities of Cracow, Warsaw, Lublin, and Torun.

In addition to decorations that displayed our rich cultural heritage, during the course of the evening the PKM Dance Group of Philadelphia entertained everyone with traditional dances from the various regions of Poland. The bright and colorful costumes of the dancers coupled with well choreographed movements added quite nicely to the evening's festivities and the delight of the ball's guests. A particular high point came when PKM dancers lead the honorees and guest participants in a rendition of the *polonaise*. The number of guests who participated was so great that the dance flowed beyond the ballroom's dance floor and moved to seemingly encircle and embrace the whole gathering.

In addition to the events already mentioned, a delicious three-course dinner was served, and the honorees were presented with their awards and offered inspiring words of acceptance and gratitude. All proceeds from the evening go to support the Soci-

ety's scholarship program. The co-chairs of the Polonaise Ball, Felicia Malinowski and Irene Musman, as well as the members of their Committee need to be commended for making this a wonderful and memorable evening for all who participated.

submitted by Jean Joka

CHOPIN CONCERT

The Polish Heritage Society of Philadelphia announces its 46th Annual Chopin Concert on Sunday, March 17, 2013, 2:00 p.m. at Holy Family University, Technology Education Center, 9801 Frankford Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19114. Concert pianist Krystian Tkaczewski, will be the featured artist. Tickets are \$25 each; students, \$15 and may be purchased at the door. A reception follows the recital.



Krystian Tkaczewski

Krystian Tkaczewski is a Polish Virtuoso who made his Carnegie Hall debut in 2007. Critics have written: "Tkaczewski was elegant, showed in-depth knowledge, played with passion, displayed devotion and a natural affinity for the music of his homeland".

Born in Tarnow, Poland, where he began his musical education, Krystian has concertized around the world and been the recipient of numerous awards and scholarships. Currently he is pursuing his Doctor of Musical Arts Degree at the University of Hartford Hartt School in the studio of Oxana Yablonskaya. He has also been a founder, Artistic Director and President of the jury of Chopin International Piano Competition in Hartford, CT. For additional concert details: Contact Debbie Majka, phone (215) 627-1391.



American Council for Polish Culture

Find us on Facebook

We are a national organization uniting like-minded groups and individuals in cities across the United States in promoting Polish culture, heritage and history, and intercultural understanding. Feel free to explore the web site by clicking on titles and pictures.

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Visitors since Jan. 1, 2013
000483



Small Change = Big Effect

New Homepage for the ACPC Website

The ACPC Website has been running since the mid 1990s with the same logo and artwork and was beginning to show its age. As of January 1, 2013 the home page has been completely rewritten by Peter Obst. A "search" feature has been added, as well as a visitor counter. New fold-out menus were introduced along with active photographs that lead visitors to descriptions of our activities. In January alone over 500 individuals accessed the site. Feel free to explore it yourself:

www.PolishCultureACPC.org

The site is being continuously updated to meet the needs of the ACPC and its member organizations. Your input is the most important component. Please send items, suggestions and report errors or non-working links to: Peter Obst (obstpjo@verizon.net) or Ted Mirecki (ted@mirecki.us)

The ACPC home page as it is now.

The Friends of Polish Art

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vice-president Brian Malski and his friends.

Also, later that month Orchard Lake Ladies Auxiliary honored us with a special award. Later in the month Friends of Polish Art and The Polish Mission at Orchard Lake co-sponsored a "Brylantowe Popoludnie-Brilliant Afternoon" with a fabulous Concert, featuring Polish composers of past and present in the Galeria at Orchard Lake. The afternoon proved to be brilliant as the music was spectacular, atmosphere and reception delightful all thanks to Brian Bowman for his dedication to creating the program as well as playing the clarinet and Evelyn Bachorski Bowman for chairing the event. The string trio was mesmerizing and the highlights included Moniuszko's "Szumią Jodły," performed by our members Joseph Greenbaum, violin and Curtis Posuniak, piano.

In October at the Central Citizens Committee Annual Banquet we were honored with a plaque in appreciation for our accomplishments.

November marked our Seventh Annual Szopka Competition chaired by Carol Surma and all the entries and winners were



on display at our last celebration in this 75th year, the Annual Wigilia that again proved to be an absolutely beautiful affair with over 150 guests in attendance thanks to Christa Zabawski who presided over the event.

All in all, in the words of our President, Carol J. Surma " It was an awesome year."



RAYMOND AND CECILIA GLEBOCKI RECEIVE ORDER OF MERIT

by Jo Louise & Marion Winters

\$5,000 Pulaski Scholarships for Advanced Studies - 2013

The Pulaski Scholarships for Advanced Studies program, initially endowed by the Conrad R. Walas family, is administered solely by the American Council for Polish Culture (ACPC). Qualified applicants must send all of the material described on its website: www.polishcultureacpc.org so that it is received on or before March 15, 2013 (faxes not accepted). Original copies of all materials must be mailed to the Chairman and duplicate copies to the other four Pulaski Scholarships Committee members: Mr. Marion V. Winters, MA, Chairman; Mrs. Deborah M. Majka, MS; Mr. Peter J. Obst, MA; Mrs. Carolyn L. Meleski, MS; Carol J. Surma, Esq. (addresses listed on the website). Questions concerning the requirements should be directed to Mr. Winters at e-mail mvwinters@charter.net or tel. 508-949-0160.

All materials submitted by applicants will become part of the records of the ACPC and will not be returned. Late, incomplete or unsigned documents will not be accepted or returned for correction. The decisions of the ACPC Pulaski Scholarships Committee are final and not subject to review.

All applicants are invited and encouraged to become involved in the programs of the ACPC and to share their talents and expertise with the Council. The Council and its Affiliate and Supporting Organizations across the United States have been engaged in cultural and educational programs for more than six decades. Association with the ACPC and/or any of these 36 established organizations may prove to be of value in the career development of applicants while the direct participation of Pulaski Scholarship applicants in the cultural and educational programs of the Council and its Affiliate/Supporting groups may further strengthen our mutual missions. For further information about the Council, you are invited to visit its website: www.polishcultureacpc.org.

Submitted by Marion V. Winters, Chairman.

Polish Perspectives

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motional efforts firsthand. Their tote bags were filled with all kinds of teaching materials after visits to our booth.

We made additional contacts with various vendors who would use our Polish commemorative stamps to develop lesson plans for Junior and High School Students. Meg Huebeck at the University of Virginia will continue to work with us in developing lesson plans for teachers, especially about the relationship of the US Constitution and the Polish Constitution.

The directors of the National Council for the Social Studies Board all commented positively on our display as it featured not only historical facts but included folklore, traditions and culture. This project evolves over the years and each year more items are added and perfected to present a comprehensive study of Poland, its people and contributions made to United States and the world.



The President of Poland, Bronislaw Komorowski, awarded the Cavalier's Cross, Order of Merit of the Republic of Poland to Raymond Glembocki and his wife Cecilia Glembocki (pictured above). The ceremony, which recognized a total of ten Polish-American activists, took place on November 8, 2012 at the Embassy of the Republic of Poland in Washington. The medals were presented by Ambassador Ryszard Schnepf. The ceremony coincided with the Embassy's Celebration of the Polish National Holiday of Independence. The affair was attended by over 250 guests from across the broad spectrum of the Polonia, DC officials, resident diplomatic corps and various military representatives.

Mr. & Mrs. Glembocki have been deeply involved for many years promoting Polish culture, heritage and traditions. Mr. Glembocki was originally from Detroit and his wife Cecilia hails from Bristol, CT. Mrs. Glembocki is the current President of the Friends of John Paul II Foundation in Silver Spring, MD. The Foundation is a non-profit organization established in 1985 and it is an Affiliate organization of the American Council for Polish Culture (ACPC), which acts as a national federation of Polish cultural organizations located throughout the United States.

For over a dozen years, the ACPC has featured a booth "Polish Perspectives" at the annual National Conference for the Social Studies (NCSS). Raymond and Cecilia have taken over the very demanding project since 2010. Their dynamic efforts have strengthened and expanded the annual operation by continuing to attract strong support from Polonian organizations and individuals who substantially contribute financially as well as by supplying valuable books on Poland, posters, audio/visual materials, bookmarkers, lesson plans, etc. that are offered to the hundreds of teachers who visit the booth enthusiastically in growing numbers. (Please see related story on page 3.)

On behalf of the ACPC, President Deborah Majka expressed the Council's deep appreciation to Mr. & Mrs. Glembocki for their magnificent efforts and offered the Council's heartfelt congratulations to Raymond and Cecilia Glembocki for their richly deserved award.

American Council for Polish Culture

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ACPC 2012 AFFILIATE GRANTS AWARDED



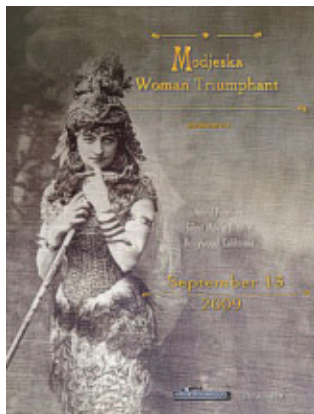
Featured in the above photo are Mary Ellen Tyszka; Carol Surma, Esq.; Paul Bosse; Marcia Lewandowski; Deborah Majka; Dr. Wanda O'Brien Trefil; and Thomas Payne. Presentations for the highly successful ACPC Affiliate Grants Program made at the 2012 Fall board meeting in Canfield, OH. Program Chair reported a \$250 award to Friends of Polish Art, Detroit, MI in support of their Szopka Competition; \$500 to Chopin Fine Arts Club of South Bend, IN for its juried Chopin Piano Competition; \$500 to PAAA of Washington, DC for a Chopin Recital featuring Sembrich Scholarship awardee Andrzej Stec, Tenor.

(Photo contributed by Jaqueline Kolowski.)

The ACPC Affiliate Grants Committee is pleased to announce that, at our Fall 2012 Board Meeting in Youngstown, Ohio, Affiliate Matching Grants were awarded to three ACPC member organizations:

- Chopin Fine Arts Club of South Bend, IN (\$500) - Annual two-day youth (grade 6 - 12) professionally judged Chopin Piano Competition and Concert: Day one, student competition in three age categories; Day two, Winner's performance, awards ceremony and concert by the Judge. Free admission in order to acquaint the students with Chopin's music and offer the community a Chopin concert at no cost to them.
- Friends of Polish Art, MI (\$250) - Annual Szopka Competition with no entry fees, open to adults and children. During the Christmas season all entries displayed at local Polish Import Store which presents a viewer's choice award. Certificates, prize ribbons and monetary awards presented at FPA's Annual Wigilia where winning entries are displayed.
- Polish American Arts Association of Washington, DC (\$500) - Annual Chopin Concert featuring ACPC 2012 Kochanska Sembrich Scholarship Awardee Andrzej Stec. Grant will be used to defray travel expenses of soloist and accompanist from Montreal to Washington, DC. All proceeds from the concert earmarked for PAAA's Scholarship Fund.

Hearty Congratulations to all 2012 Affiliate Matching Grant Recipients! Please watch for additional details on these events in future reports of the *Affiliate News* section in *Polish Heritage*.



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