

PolAm

A Publication of the Polish American Cultural Institute of Minnesota www.pacim.org

November 2009

Rog Endowment	3
New Polish Saint	4
Wigilia	6
News & Events	6-7

Vol. 31, Num. 11

Twelve Most Important Poles

By John Radziłowski

1. Mieszko I (930–92), Ruler. The first historically verified ruler of Poland and the founder of the Piast dynasty. Under Mieszko and his son Bolesław I the tribal state of the Polanie expanded to absorb the Kraków region, Silesia and Pomerania. He accepted Christianity directly from Rome, thus ensuring Poland's independence from both the Germanic Holy Roman Empire and the Orthodox Byzantine Empire.

2. St. Stanisław (1030–79), Bishop and Martyr. The first native Pole to become bishop, St. Stanisław was an important figure during the reign of King Bolesław II the Bold. The king's appetite for power and his incessant wars to expand the kingdom alarmed many and began to exhaust Poland's resources. When the bishop objected and began to challenge the king's authority, the king ordered his assassination. The high-handed act outraged Poles and caused a full-scale revolt against the king, driving him from the throne. St. Stanisław was later canonized as the first Polish saint and came to symbolize the limits on royal power and the independence of the Church.

3. Kazimierz III Wielki/Casimir III the Great (1310–70), King. Taking the throne as a 23-year old, Casimir inherited a unified but fragile Poland surrounded by powerful enemies bent on its destruction. During his 37-year reign Casimir transformed Poland

into a regional powerhouse. He broke up alliances between his enemies through diplomacy, expanded Poland's borders in successful wars, revitalized the economy, rewrote the legal code, protected the rights of peasants and Jews, founded Poland's first university, chartered hundreds of new towns and villages, and built 66 castles to block all major invasion routes. The greatest single ruler in its history, Poland exists as we know it today thanks to his vision and energy.

4–5. St. Jadwiga I (1373–99) & Władysław Jagiełło (1384–1434), Kings. Jadwiga, the grand-niece of Casimir the Great, married Jogaila, Grand Duke of Lithuania, uniting the compact Polish state with the sprawling military duchy of Lithuania, creating Europe's largest nation. Until Jadwiga's death in 1399, they co-ruled this kingdom in a true partnership. Jadwiga was known for her charity and care for the poor and on her death she pawned her jewelry to refound the Jagiellonian University. Władysław went on to rule the united kingdom for another 35 years, establishing the Jagiellonian dynasty and ushering in the start of Poland's golden age.

6. Paweł Włodkowic/Paulus Vladimiri (1370–1435), Philosopher and Jurist. Trained at the Jagiellonian University, he served

Polish Independence Day - November 11

“The Polish State has arisen by the will of the whole Nation”
—Józef Piłsudski

On this November 11, take a few moments to reflect upon the significance of Polish Independence Day, the day on which Poles celebrate the rebirth of their nation after 123 years of foreign rule by the Russians, Germans and Austrians. Our forebears struggled valiantly all those years to keep Polish culture, religion and language alive during the Partitions when the occupiers did all they could to wipe the memory of Poland from the consciousness of Europe.

Resistance came in many forms, from the spiritual work of Saint Zygmunt Feliński, to the underground schools, to outright armed resistance, to the concept of “organic work,” to the adherence of the Polish peasant to his land, language and church. On November 11, 1918 Poles once again were masters of their own house and embarked upon building their nation anew.

Millions of Poles left the land of their birth either by choice or by exile creating a Polish diaspora (Polonia) that now numbers some 15-20 million. November 11 is also our Independence Day, a day to remember sacrifices made by our ancestors and to pay tribute to the land of their birth —Poland.

Important Poles continues on page 3

Membership Form For
Polish American
Cultural Institute of Minnesota
612-378-9291

www.pacim.org

___ Patron \$150
___ Donor 100
___ Sponsor 75
___ Household/Friends 40
___ Member (includes newsletter) 25
___ Newsletter 15
___ 1st Class Postage (optional) 6
___ ACPC Membership (optional) 5

Total: _____

Please add \$5 to the above membership levels if you wish to join the American Council for Polish Culture (ACPC) through PACIM (a 50% discount).

Subscription Note: With the postal increase this spring we have made the following changes effective immediately. Since non-profit mail is NOT forwarded but returned 75 cents postage due, if you travel south for the winter please add \$6 to your basic subscription rate of \$15. This ensures you will receive your *Pol-Am* by first class mail all year long and it will be forwarded by the Post Office to your winter abode. Anyone else who wishes to receive their *Pol-Am* by first class mail all year long should add \$6 to their renewals.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Make checks payable to PACIM and send this form with your check to:
PACIM
PO Box 18403
Minneapolis, MN 55418-0403

PolAm

PolAm (Permit #31798) is the official publication of the Polish American Cultural Institute of Minnesota and is published monthly with a July/August issue. Non-profit bulk permit paid at Minneapolis, Minnesota. The Polish American Cultural Institute of Minnesota is located at 2514 Central Ave NE, Minneapolis, MN. Please direct all inquiries to our mailing address at PO Box 18403, Minneapolis, MN, 55418-0403, or email us at info@pacim.org, or call Steven at 612-822-2322.

Founder: Czesław Róg
Managing Editor: Steven Ukasick
Design: Bruce Rubin, Rubin Cordaro Design
Contributing Writers, Reporters and Staff:
Judith Blanchard, Events Coordinator
Mietek Konczyk, Writer
Patricia Beben, Proofreader

We appreciate your continued support. Dziękuję!

Thoughts

Volunteers Needed.

Small non-profit organizations like the Polish American Cultural Institute of Minnesota, Twin Cities Polish Festival and the Dolina Polish Folk Dancers depend upon volunteers to carry out their mission to celebrate Polish culture and heritage. Please consider volunteering your time and talents.



If you are interested in spending a few hours every month or so preparing *Pol-Am* Newsletter for mailing or want to write an article to be published please contact Steven at info@pacim.org or call and leave a message for him at 612-378-9291.

The Twin Cities Polish Festival (TCPF) needs volunteers to help organize next year's Festival. If you have any organizational skills, they need you. Contact Edziu Rajtar at information@TCPolishFestival.org. PACIM also needs responsible volunteers to organize its ongoing events period. Each event has a project plan in place making the planning pretty straightforward. Please contact Anastasia at info@pacim.org or call and leave a message for her at 612-378-9291.

Your participation is vitally important to celebrate and preserve our Polish heritage... if you don't, who will?

Steven

Steven Ukasick

New Members. Witamy:

Virginia Zoncki-Bunker

Generous Members. Dziękuję:

Friends:

Joe Lineweaver

News From Poland

by Mietek Konczyk

Polish President Lech Kaczyński signed the European Union's reform treaty leaving the Czech Republic as the only country still to ratify the document. The Lisbon Treaty is designed to improve the functioning of the 27-nation bloc with a simpler decision-making process.

Actions of the Central Anticorruption Bureau (CBA) have shaken **Prime Minister Donald Tusk's** cabinet. As a result of the discovery by the CBA of questionable contacts cabinet members had with gambling companies that were trying to influence the legislative process, several government officials, including Justice and Internal Affairs ministers, were forced to resign. However, in the government view, some actions of the CBA had been politically motivated and the head of the bureau was also sacked.

Seventeen miners have been killed and many injured in an explosion at a coal mine in **Ruda Śląska**, southern Poland. The explosion is thought to be caused by the ignition of a pocket of methane gas.

Members of the **Polish parliament's** lower house voted almost unanimously to pass a bill making chemical castration mandatory for pedophiles.

PZL Mielec, a Sikorsky Aircraft Corp. company in Poland, has begun final assembly of the first S-70i Black Hawk helicopter. The first S-70i helicopter is expected to be completed in 2010.

Poland's four top car producers, **Fiat, General Motors, Volkswagen and FSO**, will produce close to 900,000 passenger cars and vans in 2009.

The **Polish national soccer team** has ended the elimination stage for the 2010 World Cup in disgrace, losing its last two matches and taking next to last place in its elimination group. Protesting the widely perceived incompetence of the Polish Soccer Federation (PZPN), soccer fans and some sponsors boycotted the last match of the team with Slovakia.

Important Poles continues

as a Polish diplomat and rector of the University. In 1414 he represented Poland at the Council of Constance where representatives of the recently defeated Teutonic Order were trying to drum up support for a new conflict with Poland by arguing that the Poles were aiding pagan Lithuanians. Włodkowic responded by demolishing the Order's case, proving the Lithuanians were Christian, and showing that the Order had engaged in a violent war of expansion. Then he went one step further and presented a treatise on why it was morally impermissible for Christians to wage war in order to convert pagans. He upheld the idea of freedom of conscience and that all nations, regardless of faith, had God-given rights. His thesis gradually became accepted (though too often ignored) throughout Europe. It formed the basis of Fr. Bartolomeo de las Casas' defense of the rights of the Indians of the Americas and marked the birth of the idea of universal human rights.

7. Bona Sforza (1494–1557), Queen. The daughter of the powerful duke of Milan, Bona Sforza married King Zygmunt the Old. She became one of the major powers behind the throne and helped to strengthen Poland politically and economically. She also brought an increasing number of Italian artists, architects, cooks, and writers to Poland. As a result, Poland's Renaissance culture flowered in the 1500s, based on fusion of Polish, Italian and German ideas and talents.

8. Thaddeus Kościuszko (1746–1817), Political and Military Leader. The son of a minor noble family, Thaddeus Kościuszko grew up in a time of Poland's decline. His education and patriotism led him to work for reforms that would revitalize the country. In the 1770s, he was recruited in France to help the American colonists. His skills as a military engineer were crucial to the American victory at Saratoga which changed the course of the war. He designed the fortress of West Point—it was so formidable the British never dared to attack. Returning to Poland, he was at the center of efforts to defend the May 3rd Constitution in 1792. In 1794 he led a major insurrection against Russian

oppression. Ultimately defeated by larger Russian and Prussian armies, Kościuszko was imprisoned and spent most of his remaining years in exile where he promoted the cause of liberty world wide. One of his last acts was an effort to use his American assets to buy the freedom of black slaves.

9. Adam Mickiewicz (1798–1855), Poet. The greatest of Poland's Romantic poets, Mickiewicz, more than any single writer, created the modern Polish literary language. His works expressed the longing for independence in partitioned Poland but also evoked powerful feelings of nostalgia for the life of the Polish countryside. His epic poems *Dziady* and *Pan Tadeusz* are among the most important works of Polish literature.

TO BE CONTINUED NEXT MONTH

John Radziłowski is Assistant Professor of History at University of Alaska Southeast and a fellow at the Piast Institute in Michigan. He is the author of *A Traveller's History of Poland*.

Rog Endowment Accepting Applications

DEADLINE: APRIL 1, 2010

Chester S. Rog Endowment Fund for the Advancement of Polish Heritage is accepting applications for stipends to be awarded on May 1st, 2010.

The fund's objective is to benefit and promote the local community and its Polish heritage. It will grant stipends to individuals and/or groups who seek further professional growth, Polish language or arts and cultural study, both locally and abroad, and who are committed to using what they have achieved to benefit the cause of Polish heritage here in Minnesota and Wisconsin.

Stipends/scholarships for transportation, tuition and other expenses will be granted for the year 2010 (subject to change).

Qualifications

Applicants must:

1. be members of the Polish American Cultural Institute of Minnesota, or
2. be recommended by a member of the Polish American Cultural Institute of Minnesota if younger than 18 years of age,

3. be of Polish or Polish American descent or embrace a love of Poland and its culture.

For more information on how to apply go to our website: www.pacim.org

Silent Auction Items Bal Karnawałowy

We are looking for donated items and services for the silent auction at the Bal Karnawałowy coming February 13th. Your donation is tax deductible and will help with Bal expenses. Please call and leave a message for Terry Kita at 612-378-9291 or email Terry Kita at info@pacim.org for more information on how to make a donation.

St. Agnes Men's Club

Bring joy to the Polish children in Poland's orphanages and the Children's Home and School for the Blind in Laski/Warsaw. The Men's Club of St. Agnes Church in St. Paul continues to ship care packages to Poland. Funds are needed to ship these Holiday packages. Please send your contribution to St. Agnes Men's Club, c/o Bernard Koalska, 96 W Rose, St. Paul, MN 55117-1827 651-489-1438 or to 2623 NE Jefferson St, Minneapolis, MN 55418. For more info call 612-789-6445.



Sending Christmas Packages To Poland?

POLAMER

PARCEL SERVICE CO.

WE DELIVER PACKAGES
BY SEA OR AIR

2623 JEFFERSON ST NE
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55418

612.789.6445

Saint Zygmunt Szczęsny Feliński Poland's Newest Saint



On October 11, His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI canonized five new saints at Saint Peter's Basilica in Rome, including Poland's newest saint, Zygmunt Feliński. During the ceremony he addressed the assembled Polish pilgrims in Polish (translated):

I cordially greet the faithful who have come from Poland, with the cardinals, archbishops and bishops. I greet all the Polish who, celebrating the traditional Day of the Pope, can rejoice in the gift of a new saint: Zygmunt Szczęsny Feliński. I entrust the Church in Poland and the whole nation to his protection. May God bless you!

The canonization of Saint Feliński began when Pope John Paul II beatified him on April 14, 2001 in Poland. His Holiness, moved by the life of Blessed Feliński, said:

"When the noisy propaganda of liberalism, of freedom without truth and responsibility, intensify even in our country, the pastors of the Church cannot



Beatification St. Feliński

Tsar Alexander II



Saint Zygmunt as a priest



Pope Pius IX



cease to proclaim the one infallible philosophy of the freedom and truth of the cross of Christ."

Saint Zygmunt was born November 1, 1822 in the town of Wojutyn, which at that time was in the Russian Partition of Poland (about 100 miles southeast of Lublin, Poland), to a patriotic Polish family of some means. His father died when he was 11 years old and at age 16 his mother was arrested by the Russians for patriotic activity and exiled to Siberia. Saint Zygmunt was well educated, having studied at the University of Moscow and at the Sorbonne in Paris.

He returned to Russia and entered seminary in Żytomierz (now Zhitomir, Ukraine) and was ordained a priest by Archbishop Ignacy Holowinski, Archbishop of Mohilev, in 1855 and assigned to a parish in Saint Petersburg, the capital of Russia. In 1857 he founded the Congregation of the Franciscan Sisters of the Family of Mary, a religious order for women to minister "above all to the

instruction of the young, whom he considered the only hope of the Polish people."

In 1862, Pope Pius IX appointed Feliński Archbishop of Warsaw, which was under control of the Russians. He arrived in February of 1862 and reconsecrated the cathedral after its desecration by the Russian Army during a suppression of an uprising in the capitol in 1861. His time in Warsaw was a difficult one and by 1863 and the outbreak of the January Uprising his courage and interventions on behalf of Poles and Polish leaders of the Uprising soon brought him exile by Tsar Alexander II. He was sent to Jaroslavl on the Volga where he spent 20 years. His time there was not wasted as he ministered to his fellow prisoners and even founded a Catholic parish there. Those who knew him there were struck by his spiritual attitude and eventually began calling him the "holy Polish bishop."

In 1883 after negotiations between the Holy See and Russia, Feliński was

returned from exile and banished from the Russian part of Poland. Pope Leo XIII removed him as Archbishop of Warsaw and appointed him to the titular See of Tarsus and sent him to the Austrian part of Poland. It was here in Dzwiniaczka, in the far east of Galicia, that he spent the last 12 years of his life in ministry to the poor. With his own funds he set up a school for the local children and built a church and a convent for the Sisters of the Family of Mary.

He was buried in Kraków after his death there on September 17, 1895. Soon thereafter his remains were reburied in Dzwiniaczka. In 1920, after the rebirth of Poland, he was re-interred at Saint John's Cathedral in Warsaw where the faithful venerate his remains as one of Poland's newest saints.

"I am convinced that by keeping my heart uncontaminated, living in faith and in fraternal love towards my neighbor, I will not go off the path. These are my only treasures and are without price."



Canonization in Rome

News

The Polish American Cultural Institute of Minnesota is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and all donations are tax deductible to the extent limited by law. Please consider including us in your tax and estate planning. We appreciate your generous support.

The Board of Directors of PACIM holds their monthly meeting on the first Thursday of the month at 7 pm at the Institute: 2514 Central Ave NE. All are invited.

Przysłowia Polskie

Pieniądz dobrz sługa lecz zły przewodnik.
Money is a good servant, but a poor guide.

Kalendarz

DEC 13 Wigilia Benefit
JAN tba Kulig
FEB 13 Bal Karnawałowy

PACIM Library

PACIM Library

2514 Central Avenue NE
Minneapolis, MN 55418

Hours: Sundays from 1 to 3:30 PM
or by appointment

The Library will be closed November 29 for the Thanksgiving weekend.

We thank Tarama Samkowicz and the estate of Don Paidosh for their donations to the library this month.

Some of the more interesting items we added this month are:

- DVD movie *Gniew* (in Polish with English Subtitles)
- *Sketches from a Secret War*, a biography of Henryk Józewski, Director of Polish Intelligence in the Ukraine during and after World War I
- *The Guns of Lattimer*, the story of the massacre of striking Slavic mineworkers in 1897
- *Immigrant Women*, a study of the survival and growth of immigrants in the US
- *Wielka miłość*, a translation of Herman Wouk's *Marjorie Morningstar*

PACIM Annual Meeting Report

Our annual meeting was a great success. Marta Pachnik made fantastic hors d'oeuvres and desserts enjoyed by the 38 people gathered. By the time you read this, Marta will have appeared for the fourth time on KARE 11's Showcase Minnesota. Recipes for the beet soups she demonstrated and the beet relish are available on our website

The PACIM Board now consists of the following people:

Ania Scanlan, President
Aneta Toporowska, Vice President
Judith Blanchard, Secretary
Steven Ukasick, Treasurer
Irene Colston, Charlene Delaney,
Anastasia Dzienowagis, Jowita Haugen,
George Hornik, Phyllis Husted, Terry Kita, Bernard Korsak, Ursula Peterson,
Paul Rog, Bruce Rubin, Directors

Membership

From 2008 to 2009, our membership went from 553 to 620. This reflects 68 net members added, 133 new and 65 non-renewing, with 90 new members from the Polish Festival this August.

President Ania Scanlan highlighted the past year accomplishments:

- Completed PACIM strategic plan through the Path process.
- Created a Director of Technology with Mietek Konczyk, Chair
- Developed IT Strategic Plan. Including online reservations, payments and donations
- Continued fine-tuning event Project Plans.
- Developed Role descriptions for all Directors
- Joined Minnesota Council of Non-Profits
- Implemented an intern program
- Developed a philanthropic donation guide

Increasing our presence in the community through events:

- Initiated the Artists Exchange program
- Bal Karnawałowy
- Ongoing events include singing carols at nursing homes, Kulig, Bal Karnawałowy, the Chicago Constitution Day Parade trip, Festival of Nations Polish Café, parades, PACIM picnic, Polish Soup Festival, Wigilia dinner, lectures
- In February, 2009 we hosted members of the Polish consulate and embassy with

a reception

- Participated in the Twin Cities Polish Festival with an information booth and café.

2009 Wigilia Benefit for Polish Children

This year's Wigilia will held be on December 13 at 6:00 pm at Gasthof Restaurant located at 2300 University Ave NE, Minneapolis. This community Christmas Eve celebration features sharing of the opłatek, eating traditional foods and singing Christmas carols in Polish and English. The menu for the celebration consists of:

Herring, julienne pickled beets, cucumbers in sour cream

Mushroom soup with bread

Sauerkraut and mushroom pierogi

Walleye Pike, boiled potatoes with Christmas sauce, fresh sauerkraut with grated apples and carrots

Cheesecake, poppy seed bread and gingerbread

Space is limited to 100 people.

Reservations at www.pacim.org or send your \$35 check made out to PACIM to PACIM, c/o Mietek Konczyk, 209 8th St. E, Apt #404, Saint Paul, MN 55101 no later than December 5. Please indicate if you have specific seating requirements. If you cannot attend the event and wish to donate to this cause, please send your check made out to PACIM-Children's Fund to PACIM, PO Box 18403, Minneapolis, MN 55418-0403. For more information, call Mietek Konczyk at (651) 222-7455.

—Judith Blanchard, Librarian
763-571-9602

Echos from the North will return next month.

Polish American Cultural Institute of Minnesota
Affiliate Member of the
American Council for Polish Culture

PACIM Officers and Board of Directors:

President: Ania Scanlan, Vice-President: Aneta Toporowska, Secretary: Judith Blanchard, Treasurer: Steven Ukasick, Directors: Irene Colston, Charlene Delaney, Anastasia Dzenowagis, Jowita Haugen, George Hornik, Phyllis Husted, Terry Kita, Mietek Konczyk, Bernard Korsak, Ursula Peterson and Bruce Rubin
Contact them at info@pacim.org

Events

By Judith Blanchard

Many events are given to us well in advance of the actual date. Please call the contact information to verify particulars.

To list your event or to be added to our last minute email updates (put "Polish Update" on the subject line), contact Judith at judytam@usfamily.net

This Update is a service provided by the Polish American Cultural Institute of Minnesota. We invite your membership and participation in our goal of promoting Polish and Polish American culture.

November 7

Dolina 60th Anniversary Concert

Dolina Polish Folk Dancers Anniversary Concert will be held at St. Anthony High School, 3303 33rd Ave NE, St. Anthony starting at 7 pm on November 7. The concert will feature performances by Dolina Polish Folk Dancers, St. Mary's Balalaika Orchestra, Izvorasul Romanian Folk Ensemble, Słoneczniki Children's Polish Folk Dance Group, and Chabry Teen Polish Folk Dance Group. Ticket prices: Adults \$15.00, Students \$12.00, Children under 12 \$10.00. Dolina will have a both with Polish folkart and Polish pride merchandise for sale. Tickets available at PACIM Soup Festival, from individual dancers and at the door. Please see www.dolina.org for more information.

November 8

91st Anniversary of Poland's Independence

On November 8, we will celebrate this joyful day with Mass (in Polish) at Holy Cross Church at 11:30 am and then we will move to Kolbe Hall for a toast with a short program.

November 8

Joyce Yang

Featured artist performing at 3 pm at Janet Wallace Fine Arts Center, Macalester College, 130 Macalester St, St. Paul. (1 block west of Snelling and 2 blocks south of Grand). Tickets range from \$12-20. For more information, con-

tact the Frederic Chopin Society at 612-822-0123 or email chopinsociety@aol.com.

November 14

Midwest Polka Association Dance

DyVersaCo, a well-known local band, will play at Sgt. John Rice VFW, 1374 - 109th Ave NE (corner of 109th & Central Ave.) Blaine from 7-11 pm. Admission is \$10 per person. Enjoy a steak dinner prior to the dance. For more information, email Jim Carlson at k.carlson55110@yahoo.com or call 651-426-1079. (Location directions: call 763-757-4540)

November 22

Topola Chór Concert & Dinner

The Topola Chór will present a concert of soldiers songs at the PNA Hall, 1204 4th St NE, Minneapolis at 1:30 pm. \$12 tickets for the concert and Polish dinner may be obtained from Kora Korczak at 763-571-5041.

December 6

Wigilia at Jax with Polanie Club

The Polanie Club of Minneapolis and St. Paul wishes to share Poland's most beloved holiday celebration by hosting a traditional Christmas Eve dinner, Polish Wigilia, on Sunday, December 6 at JAX Café, 1928 University Ave NE. The cost for this non-profit event is \$35 per person and includes tax and gratuity. The social hour begins at 5 pm with dinner at 6 pm followed by music and kolędy (the singing of Polish and American carols). For information and reservation please call Fran Chorzempa 651-639-1464, Marie Tromiczak 763-566-2132 or Marta Swica 651-638-9577.

December 13

Wigilia Benefit for Polish Children

The Polish American Cultural Institute of Minnesota will hold a traditional Wigilia dinner to benefit disadvantaged Polish children on December 13 at 6 pm at Gasthof Restaurant located at 2300 University Ave NE, Minneapolis. This community Christmas Eve celebration features sharing of the opłatek, eating traditional foods and singing Christmas carols in Polish and English. Tickets avail-

able online at www.pacim.org or send your \$35 check made out to PACIM to PACIM, c/o Mietek Konczyk, 209 8th St E, Apt #404, Saint Paul, MN 55101 no later than December 5, 2009. Please indicate if you have specific seating requirements. For more information, call Mietek Konczyk at 651-222-7455.

January 3

Caroling

Join the Polish American Cultural Institute of Minnesota in singing kolędy on Sunday, January 3 from 1-3 pm at Catholic Eldercare, 817 Main St NE, Minneapolis. Meet in the Atrium at 1 pm to practice prior to caroling. All are invited to attend a Christmas sing-along at River Village, 2919 Randolph St NE, Minneapolis at 3:30 pm. Words and music provided by Bob Gacek with his accordion. If there is illness at Eldercare, we will immediately go to River Village. Call on Saturday to confirm. For more information, call Judith at 763-571-9602.

January 10

Jaselka

At Holy Cross Church after the 11:30 am Mass. The Christmas story will be re-enacted by Polish Saturday School children and others.

February 4-6

Mozart, Brahms & Skrowaczewski

Stanislaw Skrowaczewski will be premiering in the US his Music for Winds. Featured artist is violinist Gina DiBello. All performances are at Orchestra Hall. Thursday, February 4 at 11 am, \$22-\$56; Friday, February 5 at 8 pm and Saturday, February 6 at 8 pm, \$26-\$84. For tickets, call 612-371-5656 or 1-800-292-4141 or online at www.minnesotaorchestra.org.

February 13

Bal Karnawalowy

St. Paul Hotel. Join with others to celebrate Polish Carnival. Special pricing available for Valentine's Weekend at the Saint Paul Hotel. Details next month or online at www.pacim.org.

People



Leszek Kołakowski
Polish Philosopher
1927-2009

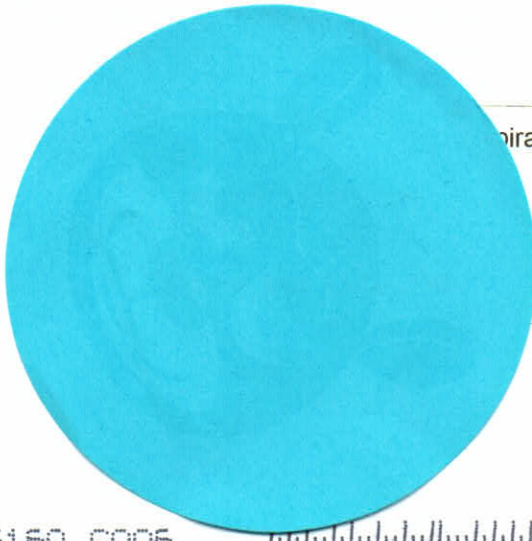
Born in Radom and studied philosophy at the University of Łódź and a doctorate at the University of Warsaw. He embraced Communism but during a trip to Moscow he saw the “enormity of material and spiritual desolation caused by Stalinism.” He became an ardent critic of Communism and was exiled in 1968 and made Oxford, England his home. His most famous work, *Main Currents of Marxism*, is considered one of the most important books on Political Theory. His other works were no less influential, inspiring the Polish dissident movements that led to Solidarity. Adam Michnik called Kołakowski “one of the most prominent creators of contemporary Polish culture”



POLISH AMERICAN
CULTURAL INSTITUTE OF MINNESOTA
PO BOX 18403
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55418-0403

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NONPROFIT ORG. U.S.
POSTAGE PAID
MINNEAPOLIS, MN
PERMIT NO. 31798



Expiration Date: Oct-09

5543285160 C006

Radom, Poland



Population: 227,309
Radom is a city in central Poland. It is located on the Mleczna River in the Masovian Voivodeship (since 1999), having previously been the capital of Radom Voivodeship (1975-1998), 100 km south of Poland's capital, Warsaw.

Polish American Cultural Institute of Minnesota's Polish Children's Fund

Can you help to make life a little bit better for disadvantaged Polish children? Each year PACIM collects donations for its Polish Children's Fund and a board member hand delivers the cash gift to orphanages, schools, hospices, etc. which have as their primary purpose the caring for poor Polish children. Past recipients have been the orphanages in Toruń and Kraśnik, the Laski School for the Blind in Warsaw, the Nadzieja Hospice in Toruń for dying children and the Polish school in Dziewieniszki, Lithuania.

You can help by sending your donations to:
Polish Children's Fund
PO Box 18403
Minneapolis, MN 55418-0403

Please make your check payable to PACIM and put "Children's Fund" on the memo line.

Our Wigilia Dinner on December 13th is also a fund raiser for the Polish children. \$5.00 of each ticket price goes to the Fund. See details on page 6.

Despite the remarkable economic expansion in Poland there still remain far too many disadvantaged children. Please make a donation and help these children. Each donation will be acknowledged upon receipt.

Film

OAK STREET CINEMA
NOVEMBER JEWISH SERIES
An eight-part series of new and recent features and documentaries on Jewish/Polish themes, touched off by the new Minneapolis-made Coen Bros. film, will highlight the November slate at Oak St. Cinema, 309 Oak St. SE, Minneapolis. From Yiddish classics to cutting-edge issues, the series runs November 6-22. 612-331-7563 or www.mnfilmarts.org