

A woman in traditional Polish folk costume is the central figure. She wears a vibrant, multi-colored floral headpiece with beads, a white lace collar, a red beaded necklace, a green bodice with floral embroidery, a white shawl with a grey sleeve, and a floral skirt. She holds a wicker basket with a white lace doily. The background is a blurred wooden interior.

Happy Easter!

Message from
PACIM New President

What to put in your
Easter Basket

The Battle of Warsaw,
Silesian Uprising and
on replacing bitterness
with trade

Reflections on Chopin,
Tokarczuk, Twardoch,
Dehnel and Smalej

"Kalejdoskop Polski"

A PUBLICATION OF THE POLISH AMERICAN CULTURAL INSTITUTE OF MINNESOTA

POLAM

SPRING 2020
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From the Editor



I am pleased to inform you that I am taking over the post of Editor-in-chief of POLAM again. I do believe that with the new Board composition, under the dynamic leadership of the new President Pawel Mroz, Vice President Charlene Delaney, Treasurer Edyta Dudek and Secretary Mark Dillon, there is a new energy in both PACIM Board and PolAm.

My vision for the PolAm is straightforward: quality articles with strong visual material. We decided to reduce the number of issues to four per year but to expand the content. In an effort to be more inclusive in our coverage of local community and artistic events, we have reached out to other Polish-American organizations in order to be open to voices from other Polish-American organizations in the state, as well as our members and affiliates.

Our past was and is very important for us. Therefore, we will continue publishing Historical Perspectives, with special attention paid to historical anniversaries and major events. In 2020, we have anniversaries of Chopin's 210th Birthday (1810), the Battle of Warsaw (1920), Katyn Massacre (1940), the end of WWII (1945), and "Gdańsk agreements" (1980) among others. In this issue, we touch upon three related historical events of 1920, a critical year in the course of Polish history in the 20th century. At the same time, we want to remember our traditions and customs. There will be space in each issue of PolAm for cultural topics as well.

Nowadays, we are living in a world dominated by visual information. We are flooded by images in our daily life at every step. My vision for PolAm includes focus on modern delivery of the messages—I will pay special attention to carefully selected photographs and graphic material, as "a picture is worth a thousand words." The paper about traditional Silesian Easter Saturday in this issue may serve as an example of the new PolAm style.

Happy Easter!
Katarzyna Litak
Editor-in-Chief

POLAM

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Mark Dillon (Secretary), Edyta Dudek
(Treasurer) Charlene Kaletka-Delaney (Vice-
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Pawel Mroz (President), Adam Ramczyk,
Edward Rajtar, Donna Sisler, Iwona Srienc,
Stanley Wiatros.

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Cover and this page: Easter Saturday Upper Silesia,
Poland; Photo By G. Litynski.

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From the President



Dear PACIM members,

I hope you had a great Holiday and Winter Season, welcomed the New Year with hope and new resolutions, and are looking forward to the warmth of Spring and Summer.

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as a new President of PACIM and welcome new PACIM Board of Directors Officers: Ms. Charlene Delaney, who will serve as Vice-President, Mr. Mark Dillon, who will serve as Secretary, and Ms. Edyta Dudek, who will serve as Treasurer.

We all would like to start by thanking all the PACIM members for participation in recent elections as well as PACIM Board of Directors, who have kindly challenged us to lead this remarkable institution into the new era. We all feel humbled by the trust and honored by the opportunity to serve the Polish-American community of Minnesota.

They say: "May you live in interesting times" and the start of my tenure coincided with the devastating COVID19 outbreak that has been spreading throughout the world and the United States in recent weeks. With the wellbeing of our members in mind and in the responsible spirit of social distancing, I was forced to suspend all in person PACIM sponsored activities. PACIM Board of Directors is working on on-line solutions and hopefully at least some of the activities will return shortly and be available to our community. Other activities will have to be postponed and rescheduled to safer times. The board is working on the mechanism of reimbursement for those who have already paid for the participation and we hope to be able to soon start sending back fees for cancelled events.

Looking ahead, I hope that during my tenure we will be able to bring back some recently lost trust and integrity to this organization and while celebrating the past, paint the vision of the future that focuses on enhanced members' participation. PACIM members certainly expect more from this wonderful organization, and they should – more from the experience and more options for their participation. PACIM's greatest asset is the people, and I am committed to cultivating, championing, and fostering a welcoming community that values belonging, equity, diversity, and dignity in people and ideas.

I would like to close this short message by wishing every member of the PACIM community and their loved ones that this Easter holiday fills your homes with hope of new beginnings, peace, joy, and plenty of colorful Easter eggs (*Pisanki*).

Happy Easter! *Wesołych Świąt Wielkanocnych!*

Dr. Pawel Mroz
President
Polish American Cultural Institute of Minnesota



The Polish American Cultural Institute of Minnesota is a non-profit organization offering broad ranging programs and events that provide opportunity to grow deeper in understanding and appreciation of Polish and Polish American traditions, culture, and history.

SUPPORT PACIM:

PACIM grows through contributions from our members, donors and organizations who believe in our mission to connect the Americans and Poles through art, science and culture. As a non-profit charitable organization PACIM uses your gifts to host the library and sponsor new and exciting programming for our community.

Memberships: PACIM's Membership Program is designed for dedicated supporters to play a significant role in sustaining the organization while gaining preferred access. All members receive free access to our library, newsletter, community calendar email notifications and invitations to our events.

Our membership levels increased in 2019 to keep up with rising costs. All memberships include POLAM newsletter.

Patron \$200.00

Donor \$150.00

Sponsor \$80.00

Household \$60.00

Individual \$40.00

Add \$5.00 for ACPC Membership

For expanded information about our programs and events, please check our website:
www.pacim.org

Location:

43 SE Main Street #228
Minneapolis, MN 55414

Select Sundays Only
1-4 PM
Check Website
pacim.org



PACIM Board 2020 since New Elections 2/23/2020

PACIM Officers

Pawel Mroz-President

Charlene Kaletka- Delaney-Vice President

Mark Dillon-Secretary

Edyta Dudek-Treasurer

Board Members:

Terry Kita, Katarzyna Litak, Adam Ramczyk, Edward Rajtar, Donna Sisler, Iwona Srienc, Stanley Wiatros.



Pawel Mroz, President. Dr. Mroz is Faculty at the Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology at the University of Minnesota. He received his MD and PhD degrees from the Medical University of Warsaw, Poland and subsequently trained at Harvard Medical School in Boston, Northwestern University in Chicago and University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. Currently Dr. Mroz is actively involved in patient care by providing morphological, flow cytometry and molecular genetic diagnoses for patients that seek care at the M Health Fairview facilities. Native of Poland, Dr. Mroz currently works at the University of Minnesota. He has an extensive volunteer experience and has been part of boards of many organizations. He enjoys coaching hockey and spending time outdoors.



Charlene Kaletka-Delaney, Vice President. Passionate champion of her Polish heritage. Long time member of the Board of the Polish American Cultural Institute of Minnesota. Coordinator of (13) Bal Karnawalowy, our formal pre-Lenten Polish Ball. Project Coordinator and Volunteer at PACIM events including Wigilia, Festival of Nations, and the Soup Supper. Author/Editor of „Zupa!”, a collection of Polish soup recipes, in its 4th printing. Co-founder of the Rog Scholarship Fund. American Director of UNESCO English Language Camps in Zakopane and Toruń, PL for 23 years. Honored by the Office of the Marshall of Kujawsko-Pomorskie and the Polish Sejm.



Edyta Dudek, Treasurer. Ms Dudek is an engineer and a math and computer science educator. During 1980 ties she volunteered for the Catholic Intelligentsia Club in Warsaw. In the past few years she served as the Treasurer of the Polanie Club and the President of the Poland Independence Celebration Committee in Minnesota.



Mark Dillon, Board Secretary, is 2nd Vice President at the American Council for Polish Culture and Minnesota Bureau Chief at the Polish American Journal newspaper. A native New Yorker, Mark is a third generation Polish American with extended family in Libusza and Dzikowiec, Poland. He has a MSJ from Northwestern University and has worked for several global asset managers in communications and marketing roles. Mark edited PolAm in 2017.

A Young Minnesota Doctor on the front lines of COVID-19

By Mark Dillon

London –Dr. Olivia Dudek joined the front line in England’s battle against coronavirus as spring arrived here at Queen’s Hospital, a 939-bed facility. The 29-year-old Polish-American internist from Minnesota was pressed into service from the hospital’s surgical teams on Saturday, March 21 to oversee care for 15 patients on ventilators as the number of COVID-19 cases in the United Kingdom surged past 5,600. Two hospital deaths that weekend would be Olivia’s patients there and at nearby 450-bed King George’s Hospital. That weekend institutions run by the National Health Service converted most of their operating rooms into intensive care units and canceled all non-essential services to make room for a deluge of new cases.

“We had to figure out how to make more space. We stopped all surgery ”Olivia said. Nine coronavirus patients had died at the two hospitals when the Polish American Journal spoke with her via mobile phone on Monday, March 23. After two long, grueling days, Olivia went back to her apartment after picking up groceries to rest and videophone her mom, Edyta Dudek, Treasurer of the Polish American Cultural Institute of Minnesota (PACIM), at its library in Minneapolis. “It’s very stressful,” Olivia said. “Two of my colleagues have gotten sick.”

Olivia’s expectation is that her employer will soon begin housing doctors in hotels near the hospital as COVID-19 patient volume continues to grow. The United Kingdom’s COVID-19 recovery rate as of mid-March had been relatively low. Some of the challenges that the doctors are still trying to understand is why some coronavirus patients also have diarrhea, and why patients’ lymphocyte count is low. In most viral infections, lymphocyte count is high as the body fights off the invader. “We are all baffled,” Olivia says. While mindful of the substantial risks, Olivia is thankful to now be in a position where she is making a difference at an important time.

“The coronavirus hits older people and those with preexisting conditions hardest, although exceptions have been reported, (*) Olivia adds “Most people will develop mild symptoms (of COVID-19) and be totally fine.”

If you do get a **mild form** of the disease, she says:

Drink plenty of fluids, especially water.

Make sure you eat well and rest – lots of rest is really important.

Avoid going to the emergency room unless you are very seriously ill.

A visit to a hospital, especially one where capacity might be stressed or sitting in an overcrowded waiting area, may increase one’s exposure to the coronavirus while taxing the resources of health care professionals who may have to triage the situation among patients. “I know that may seem like such a contrary thing to say, but it will be better for most to rest at home” Olivia says.

“It’s really very difficult to tell because we’ve never dealt with anything like this,” she adds “We will get through this.”

Note: () The researches have not yet determined who is most at risk of being infected and who is most at risk of developing severe complications.*

PolAm wants to keep our Polish American community virtually connected as we work through this difficult time. We welcome your stories and feedback on the coronavirus crisis and how Polonia is responding. Contact senior editor Mark Dillon at office@pacim.org.

The Visual Forum

This year PACIM Artist Exchange sponsored an exhibition of Polish painter

Grażyna Smalej

The show will be a part of Art-A-Whirl

May 15-17, 2020

This event is subject to lifting of coronavirus related restrictions on group gatherings.



Born in 1976 in Chełm, Grażyna Smalej is a graduate of the High School of Fine Arts in Zamość (1996) and the Department of Painting at the Academy of Fine Arts in Kraków (diploma in 2001). In the years 1998-2001, the artist was awarded a Hans Bernhardt scholarship (Germany). In 2001, she won the Grand Prix of the Minister of Culture in the Marian Michalik Young Painters Competition in Częstochowa and in 2010. In the same competition, the painter received a distinction for her series the Dreams of Mary Stuart. She is a multiple finalist of the Bielsko Autumn Biennale competition. Grażyna has completed a number of painting series including *Samorozpuszczenie*, *Zasada kropli*, *Summit day* and *Pszczoly*. The artist has organized a number of individual exhibitions and participated in many group shows including at the Saatchi Gallery in London in 2014. In addition to painting and drawing the painter also does graphic design. Grażyna lives and works in Kraków.

More information about Grażyna Smalej and her art can be found at

<http://smalej.art.pl/>

https://www.instagram.com/grazyna_smalej/



Out of all my paintings, 'Bees' is the most poetic series. It has no narrative, just impressions, memories and dreams. On a formal level it is a feast of colors, bright and warm hues. These paintings are a celebration of painterly means: various brushstrokes and washes, thin layers and thick parts of dripping paint. The figure of my father appears in some of the works. He is an enthusiastic beekeeper. Each spring, no matter how he feels and what shape he is in, while the trees are blossoming, he attends to the bees.

I know that smell, that warm sun in May, the explosion of blooms, buzzing pollination, sweet and sticky multi-floral exhilaration. I also know the allergies, swollen fingers, itchy ankles and my foot swollen like a balloon. I am familiar with stings that feel like shots and shots that feel like stings. I can easily recall that vision of a flowering spring, fresh greenery and that powerful zest for life.

This is how the painter Grazyna Smalej describes her show inspired by her father's apiary. In this series we can see men and women cultivating bees, contemplating simple chores in gardens bathed in sunlight. Spring and summer - the warmest time of the year when everything blossoms is also a season when the bees are most active and productive and when beekeepers have most work to do. The artist is fascinated with nature and the habits of a swarm of bees. Bees and nature are the main themes in these paintings.

Smalej has been painting the series dedicated to bees since 2017. Recently she expanded that subject and started including flowers in her works. The new works are telling a story of complicated and meticulous shapes and forms of plants attracting insects. She explores the richness and harmony of those two universes. We can see paintings of gardens, meadows, individual flowers, both imaginary and real, budding and fading. The artist draws inspiration from her childhood memories.

For over 20 years Smalej has been living in Krakow, but she was born and raised in the country, a part of Poland called Lubelszczyzna. Growing up she had cherry trees growing by her house and in her garden, she observed beehives, blossoming apple trees, dandelions and many, many nettles. "That life is long gone, lets bring it back at least in a painting", the artist seems to be saying,

The show in Minneapolis is titled Bee Zone. A bee can fly up to 8 miles from the hive to find nectar. "visiting" from fifty to one hundred flowers. So, a bee zone is a special land- a protected area, full of honey bearing plants. It is also a place where people allergic to bee stings need to be especially cautious. It is a metaphor of life in its full blossom in a bright and sunny garden.

Marcin Cienski

Curator: **Marcin Cienski**

Place: **Minneapolis, 2001 A SPACE Gallery**
<http://2001aspace.com/>

Dates: **May 9-17 2020**

Opening: **May 9 2020, 7:00pm**
In the presence of the artist.

**May 15-17, 2020 – the show will be a part of Art-A-Whirl
OPEN STUDIO TOUR IN NORTHEAST MINNEAPOLIS**
<https://nema.org/art-a-whirl/>

**This event is subject to lifting of coronavirus related
restrictions on group gatherings.**



The Music Series

Although no one ever doubted the genius of the leading Polish romantic, it was Chopin himself who relentlessly challenged his artistic craft again and again. In fact, his compositional modus operandi was rooted in the idea of a continuous evolution.

Chopin employs this techniques at variety of structurally uncertain moments of transitions. From the listener's perspective, it would appear as if the music has stopped and begun anew with a familiar tune, followed by the same tune introduced by another voice. Before we know it, another voice comes to play, creating a multiple layer of voices (polyphony), which accumulates a harmonic tension (as a consequence of a movement of independent voices). Suddenly we find ourselves at an odd moment of harmonic, textural, and often rhythmic tension that needs to be resolved. Chopin then does so as he continues the phrase, breaking away from the polyphony, and assuming one of the themes we are already familiar with.

Chopin in his compositions manages to create intensity and climaxes in a scope of only few measures. For most of us who perform Chopin's music frequently, it provides an unparalleled opportunity to bring the depth of Chopin's music closer to the listeners as it is universally known and loved.

Adam Piotr Żukiewicz
Assistant Professor of Piano
University of Northern Colorado



The picture was taken in 1849 by Louis-Auguste Bisson. This is one of the only two known photographs of Chopin.

210th Birth Anniversary of *Frederic Chopin*

Feb. 22, 1810 to Oct. 17, 1849

Frederic Chopin or Fryderyk Chopin is the world's greatest and best known Polish composer. His music is widely played, universal and touches the hearts of audiences around the globe from Japan to Russia and the Americas. There are Chopin Societies, Clubs and Competitions all over the world. Minnesota has its own Frederic Chopin Society founded in 1984 and Tadeusz Majewski is its Artistic Director. This year marks 210th Anniversary of Chopin's birthday. He left Poland on a tour as a composer and performer shortly before November 1830 Uprising and became Poland's national bard. He eventually came to France in 1831 and became part of Great Emigration (1831 to 1870) that involved thousands of Poles, particularly from the political and cultural élites. He never returned to his native country before his death at the age of 39 due to Tuberculosis.

Professor Żukiewicz performance of Chopin received standing ovation during Poland's Centennial Gala held at the Minneapolis Institute of Art on November 10, 2018 organized by Poland Independence Celebration Committee to commemorate Poland regaining independence in 1918. (K. Litak)

The Literary Circle

Spring updates from the Literary Fund

By Krystyna Borgen



Olga Tokarczuk (first left) during discussion in Minneapolis, Sep. 2018 with Elzbieta Iwanczuk, Joanna Taylor, Ola Schmelig and Dagmara Larsen. Photo by K. Litak.



The translation of contemporary Polish literature is blooming with a very promising 2020 forecast of English editions. Several publishers have announced premiers for this year. American editions of Polish writers are driving more frequent promotional book tours through the USA, opening a door for us here in Minnesota for more meetings with authors, potential book events, discussions, and of course new titles in the library stacks.

Just before she won the Nobel Prize in Literature, Olga Tokarczuk visited the Twin Cities with her newly awarded novel *"Flights"* in September of 2018. The meeting with the author was highly attended, filled with excitement and fascinating discussions. Tokarczuk's novel *"Drive Your Plow Over the Bones of the Dead"* came out in the US just a few months ago, and her latest novel *"Jacob's Books"* is currently being translated and is projected to hit US bookshelves in March 2021.

Other co-authors we have recently hosted, Piotr Tarczyński and Jacek Dehnel, have made their eagerly awaited novel *"Mrs. Mohr Goes Missing"* now available to English readers, published under pen name Maryla Szymiczkowa. The first in the series of crime stories that features female detective Prof. Szczupaczyńska in XIX century Kraków, is very popular in Poland and a highly recommended read.

In March 2020 co-authors Barbara Caillot and Aleksandra Karkowska's visit was cancelled because of the coronavirus epidemic. We hope to reschedule the US tour for the fall to let people know about the legendary transatlantic ship MS Batory, that for over 30 years transported immigrants to the US. The book *"Marsz, Marsz Batory"* is published in Polish with an English language short synopsis of the book, and has already been met with high interest. We hope the publication will find a publisher for an English edition.

The event that we are all waiting for is the upcoming Szczepan Twardoch novel, *"The King of Warsaw,"* whose premiere is marked for April 21st in the USA. The meeting with the author and translator Sean Bye in May in Minneapolis has been cancelled. Twardoch is one of the most read and acclaimed Polish novelists of his generation and now, for the first time, he is published in English. The book depicts overlapping spheres of boxing, the criminal underworld and relations between Jews and Poles in 1937 Warsaw amid the tension of rising fascism in Europe.

We are very excited for the author's meetings and both events have been postponed to the fall due to current travel restrictions. Stay tuned for more information about the event's details on our website and social media.

All author events subject to lifting of coronavirus related restrictions on group gatherings.

An exclusive interview with *Marsz Marsz Batory* co-author Aleksandra Karkowska is being published in the April issue of the Polish American Journal. Go to www.polamjournal.com for more. (K.Litak)

Historical Perspectives



The Silesian Insurgents' Monument in Katowice, Poland. Photo G. Litynski

SECOND SILESIAN UPRISING (1920)

100 YEARS AGO

BY GRZEGORZ LITYNSKI

Just as an armistice was being signed

in France on Nov. 11, 1918, ending World War I, Józef Piłsudski (1867-1935) was forming a Provisional Government. For 123 years, Poland was divided between Austria, Germany, and Russia and now it had the chance to return to the map of Europe.

One of the most urgent issues for Poland was to secure its territory and

institutions. In fact, the establishment of Poland's borders after 1918 was one of the most critical moments in the whole history of the country.

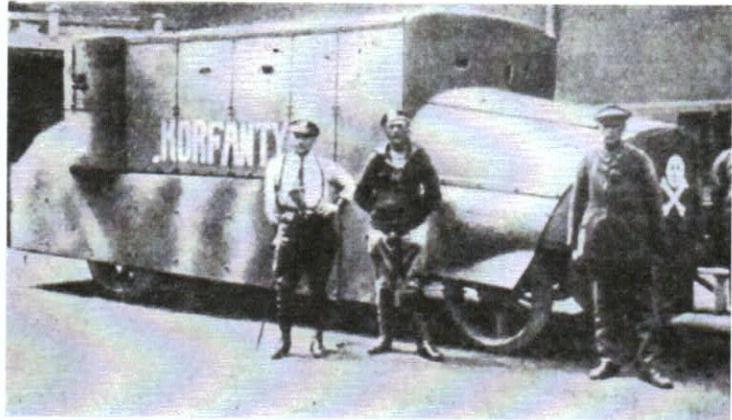
There was an especially complex situation in Upper Silesia. Poland was facing a conflict with Germany which still had a powerful army and a large population living in this area. Upper Silesia was a highly industrial region and dramatically needed by both countries, mainly for economic reasons. The ethnic

circumstances were complicated as over the course of centuries Upper Silesia became inhabited by both Poles and Germans. Numerous Silesian families had mixed roots; Polish-German marriages were common.

The border issue in Upper Silesia was partially handled by the Western Powers in the Versailles Treaty (1919). It was agreed that the future of this area should be decided by the plebiscite in 1921. In January 1920, regular German troops

Much of Silesia had belonged to the Polish Crown in the medieval times, but it passed to the Kings of Bohemia, then Austria, Prussia and Germany. The Silesian Uprisings (Polish: *Powstania Śląskie*) were three armed conflicts (1919, 1920, and 1921) initiated by Polish minority living in the then German area of Upper Silesia. They rose up in attempt to be united with Poland, which was established in 1918, after 123 years of partition between Austria, Germany and Russia. In 1921 the area was divided between Germany and Poland after the Third Silesian Uprising. Poland received a smaller part of the territory, but more industrial. (K. Litak)

In the previous four articles we explored history related to Poland's partitions and rise to independence from 1600's till 1918 and continued through Greater Poland Uprising in 1919. The armistice of November 11, 1918 did not include considerations for a future Polish state. President Wilson's "Fourteen Points" address did not specify Poland's borders. Poles were again able to speak the language freely but the fight for independence continued through 1921. In the early years of the Second Republic (1918-1939) Poland had fought six wars to secure her frontiers.



Armoured Car Korfanty-Wojciech Korfanty (1873-1939) was a political leader who played a major role in the national reawakening of the Poles of Upper Silesia and who led their struggle for independence from Germany. (K. Litak)

left Upper Silesia and the British, French, and Italian troops (altogether 13-20,000 soldiers) arrived in the area to implement the agreement. However, the German administration and police (*Sicherheitspolizei* or *Sipo*) were still in place. *Sipo* worked to suppress Polish organizations, arrested Polish activists and dispersed rallies by force. *Sipo* was indeed brutal and much feared. It became clear that a free and independent Plebiscite would not happen if *Sipo* operated freely. There was rising tension between Poles and Germans.

In August 1920, the powerful Soviet Army under command of general Mikhail Tukhachevsky (1893-1937) moved so close to the capital of Poland that the fall of Warsaw seemed unavoidable. On August 17, 1920, the German press in Upper Silesia announced that the capital of Poland was in hands of Bolsheviks. Following this (fake) news, the Germans caused unrest in many Silesian cities. Polish shops and houses were plundered and burned. In Katowice French troops tried to stop the Germans. About 10 people died, many were injured.

That day, Doctor Andrzej Mielecki rushed to help wounded people. He was recognized as a Polish activist, massacred and finally murdered. His body was thrown into a river. The

response came almost immediately - on the night of August 17, 1920 Poles launched attacks on German forces and facilities. The Second Silesian Uprising started. The Polish units took control over most of the Upper Silesia territory. *Sipo* dominated in major cities as it was well armed.

For Polish forces the main purpose of the revolt was not to gain the territory, but to convince the Western Powers to terminate the activity of *Sipo*. Indeed, only a week later, on August 24 Allies decided that *Sipo* should be replaced by a new police force called *Policja Plebiscytowa* (Plebiscite Police) or *Abstimmungspolizei*. It consisted of 50% Germans and 50% Poles.

The Second Silesian Uprising was the shortest of all the Silesian Uprisings; it lasted only a few days. However, it forced the Allies Commission to get rid of hated German *Sipo* forces and set up much better conditions for Plebiscite preparation. It is remarkable, that the Second Uprising was initiated spontaneously as at the same time as colossal forces of the Soviet Red Army were at the gate of Warsaw, and the collapse of Poland seemed certain.



Dr. Andrzej Mielecki (1864-1920).

Historical Perspectives



FOTO: ARKADIUSZ WOGIELSKI / FORUM POLSKO

THE BATTLE OF WARSAW

(1920)

By Iwona Srienc

INTRODUCTION BY K. LITAK: On November 11, 1918 Poland regained its independence. After 123 years of partition between Austria-Hungary, Germany and Russia, Poland was free again but the question of its borders was still open. Revolutions of 1917 in Russia and dissolution of Austro-Hungarian Empire created a new political situation in this part of Europe. Poland, Czechoslovakia, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Ukraine and some others were fighting for the independence. It was not a peaceful process. Starting with 1918, most of Central Europe was in the state of chaos with multiple military conflicts: Greater Poland Uprising, Estonian Liberation War, Latvian War of Independence, Hungarian-Romanian Wars, Polish-Ukrainian war, Silesian Uprisings, just to mention only a few of them.

The situation on the eastern border of Poland was particularly complicated. The area was inhabited not only by Poles, but numerous minorities – Belorussians, Jews, Lithuanians, Ukrainians. The fate of the Polish eastern frontiers was mainly depending on the situation within Russia. There was a Civil War since the revolutions of 1917: the main powers were Red Army (Bolsheviks under the dictatorship of W. Lenin) and White Army (under the command of general A. Denikin). The White Russians were supporters of the Russian Empire, in fact they were very little friends of Poland. In July 1919, Jozef Pilsudski sent a delegation to General Denikin to discuss potential cooperation against the Soviets, but Denikin practically refused to acknowledge Polish borders and Polish independence. Denikin also demanded that Polish troops should leave Podolia. He was clearly against the Ukrainian independence which was important to Pilsudski at that point.

On the other hand, the Soviets recognized independence of Poland. Therefore, Pilsudski decided not to support the White Army in its fight against Soviet Army. In October 1919, truce between Poland and Soviets was made. Tragic decision or historical necessity? Faced with two powerful enemies, Pilsudski concluded that the victory of Bolsheviks over White Russians would be a lesser evil. This was one of the most decisive moment in Poland's history. Given the truce with Poland, the Soviets reorganized their forces and by the early 1920, the Red Army had defeated most of the White forces in Russia and in Ukraine.

In the previous four PolAm's we explored history related to Poland's partitions and rise to independence from 1600's till 1918 and continued through Greater Poland Uprising in 1919. The armistice of November 11, 1918 did not include considerations for a future Polish state. President Wilson's "Fourteen Points" address did not specify Poland's borders. Poles were again able to speak the language freely but the fight for independence continued though 1921. In the early years of the Second Republic (1918-1939) Poland had fought six wars to secure her frontiers.

The Spring of 1920

brought new developments. The main commander of the Soviet Forces approved a plan to attack the West going through Poland. July 2nd, 1920 the Red Army commander, Mikhail Tukhachevsky issued a famous daily order, in which for the first time it was clearly stated what was the main purpose of the offense: through "the corpse of the White Poland leads the way to the world fire (...) To Vilnius, Minsk, Warsaw! Forward!" Even more clear was political instructor Josef Unshlicht: "to capture Warsaw is not a final goal but only a starting point in the main, grand goal - European Revolution, World Revolution". Two days later the Red Army divisions lead by Tukhachevsky and Yegorov quickly advanced into Poland from the North.

The Soviet army was moving faster than it was expected. At the beginning of July 1920 Prime Minister, Władysław Grabski, turned to Aliants for help - Poland was facing the danger of loosing its independence again. The Soviets were preparing the creation of the Polish Socialist Republic of

Councils and on August 2 announced the formation of the Temporary Revolutionary Committee of Poland under the leadership of Julian Marchlewski.

On July 20, the commander-in-chief of the Red Army, Sergey Kamieniev, issued an order to attack Warsaw and Lvov. Piłsudski had to reevaluate the situation fast, reposition armies to be ready for counter attack. Together with gen. Tadeusz Rozwadowski they crafted the plan to form the main line of defense of the city on the outskirts of Warsaw, at Modlin Fortress and along the Wieprz River. This meant regrouping the armies into three fronts. The north front led by gen. Józef Haller was going to prevent the Soviets from crossing the Vistula river and pretend that the main Polish counter attack would be coming from there; the middle front led by gen. Edward Rydz-Śmigły was to defend Warsaw from frontal attack, and the south front led by gen. Iwaszkiewicz-Rudoszczański (1871-1922), supported by the Ukrainian units was going to protect Lvov and the oil fields.

On August 12 the Red Army reached the defenses of Warsaw. The ratio of forces was unfavorable for Poland, 2:3 and the whole Europe was convinced that the city would fall. Even people in Warsaw thought that Warsaw could not be saved.

The Battle of Warsaw begun on August 14 th with the battle of Radzymin (NE of Warsaw). After heavy fighting, General Sikorski was able to drive a wedge between two Soviet armies, disrupt the front and forced Bolsheviks to withdraw.

On August 16th a daring move to launch a surprise attack by three divisions repositioned from the south front to the flanks of the Soviet army forced it to a disorganized withdrawal eastward and almost annihilated it. This move was a decisive moment in winning the war. Out of 21 Soviet divisions, 7 were taken prisoners, 6 were crashed and the rest withdrew.

September victory on the Niemen River led to the final collapse of the Soviet front. The armistice was signed on Oct 12, 1920 was implemented on Oct 18th . The war was over. Diplomatic disputes ended with the signing of the Riga Treaty on March 18, 1921 and ultimately defining Poland's eastern borders.

The moral significance of this victory was enormous. The Polish-Soviet war was fought by a country that had just got back its right to exist. The nation begun to believe in its own strength, that its independence was not just given but won in the fight.





Traditional Easter Saturday in Upper Silesia

There has been a renewed interest in folk culture in Poland in recent years. Groups promoting folk dances and songs have been attracting new members. Mainstream artists have a long tradition of drawing inspiration from folk roots, with relative newcomers like *Kapela ze wsi Warszawa*, *Tulia* (represented Poland in Eurovision 2019), and *ATOM String Quartet*.

In Silesia, there have been an increase of the use of traditional folk dress over the past decade but that region has always had a very long tradition of using folk costumes. There are many variations on the basic styles depending on the area, and most smaller and bigger communities in the Opole Region and Silesia have their own, unique designs. The diversity lies in the ornamentation, cut, choice of fabric, and color. Cieszyn (*strój cieszyński*), Pszczyna (*strój pszczyński*) or Bytom (*strój bytomski*) each have their own distinct traditional dress of but people in smaller towns proudly present their own design. Each part of the traditional dress carries a specific name, hardly understandable in other regions of Poland, for example "jagle", "zapaska," kabotek," or "żywotek".





The folk costumes are not used on daily basis, but only on special occasions like traditional weddings (rare), harvest festivals (“Dożynki”), or religious holidays, like Easter. Interestingly, many young people accompany their parents and grandparents and proudly display their folk dress in the public as well.

Text and photos: Grzegorz Litynski.

The Easter baskets are lined with a white linen or lace napkin and decorated with sprigs of boxwood (*bukszpan*) or fresh spring flowers.

The baskets typically contain a sampling of Easter foods: *pisanki* (painted hard boiled eggs), a piece of sausage or ham, salt and pepper, bread, horseradish, a piece of cake and an Easter Lamb made of butter, sugar or plastic. They are brought to church to be blessed. The blessed eggs are then shared at Easter breakfast while wishing each other all the best for the year ahead with the phrase

Wesołego Alleluja
(Joyful Hallelujah)!

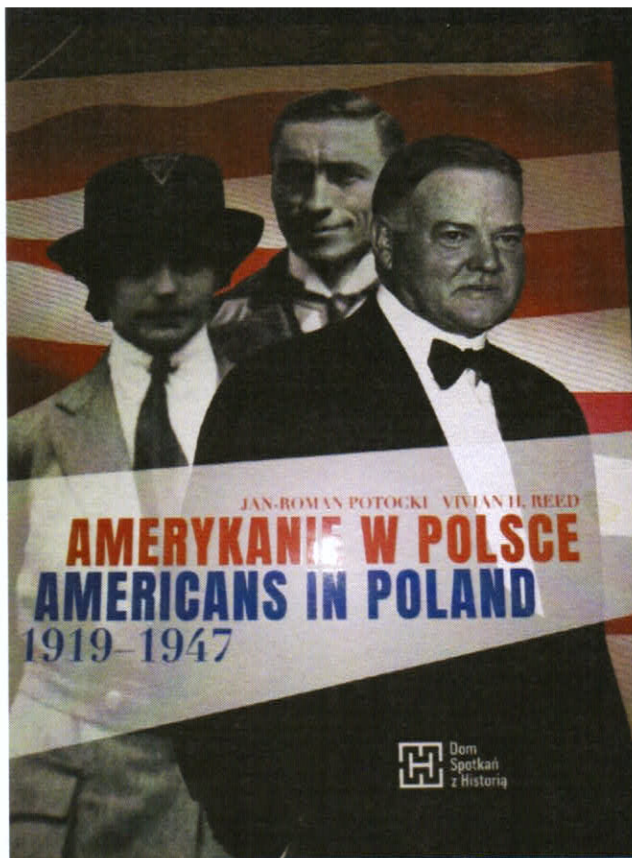
(K.Litak)



Historical Perspectives

Potatoes for Sugar: Replacing Bitterness With Trade

By Mark Dillon



In the chaotic, violent aftermath of World War I, trade among the newly independent countries of Central Europe wasn't easy. Countries didn't trust each other. Relations were especially sour between Prague and Warsaw.

Czechoslovakia invaded Poland on Jan. 23, 1919 in a fight over coal rights and the Silesian town of Cieszyn. In fighting that lasted eight days, Czechs had the advantage in numbers and position. A treaty on Feb. 3 ended the war, with disputed land put temporarily under international control.

At the time, control of coal wasn't just a matter of keeping homes and businesses warm. It was also a matter of food survival for Poland as thousands of tons of vegetables were going rotten that winter for want of energy to transport and process them.

Enter Lincoln Hutchinson, America's man in Prague for the American Relief Administration (ARA) and U.S. Embassy. He wrote to Czechoslovak President Thomas Masaryk on April 19, 1919 to suggest a trade conference to facilitate barter arrangements between countries.

For Poland, the fruit of such talks was a Polish potatoes-for-Silesian Czech beet sugar deal. The Poles were first to deliver, and by mid-May some 2,800 tons of potatoes had gone by rail from Pomerania to Bohemia.

However, by mid-spring not a spoonful of sugar had gone the other way, to the consternation of Col. William R. Grove, the ARA's leader in Warsaw. Hutchinson then tried to get the Czechs to fulfill their end of the bargain.

Below, from the archives of the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library in West Branch, Iowa are excerpts from a series of 1919 telegrams between Grove and Hutchinson:

Grove May 28 -- Five thousand tons have left Poznan through Germany for Czechs. Poles have received no sugar. Why?

Hutchinson June 7 -- Czechs report 6,000 tons up to June 4. Sugar shipments as follows; 10 (rail) cars crossed frontier last week. 20 cars moving from Kutna Hora, Bohemia and 20 cars from Moravia.

Grove June 20 – Records office authenticate at least 12,000 tons potatoes have been shipped from Poznan to Czecho-Slovakia and only 120 tons of sugar have been received. It is absolutely essential that great efforts to get more sugar to Poland as they are badly in need of it. Request you take this matter up and please inform me.

Hutchinson June 25 – Czechs admit 1,516 rail cars potatoes. Claim to have delivered 55 cars sugar while 30 more cars en route to frontier. Have made vigorous representation that contacts call for one car sugar for every 20 cars potatoes.

Hutchinson June 28 – Czechs explain delays due to lack of rail cars resulting from troop and material movements made necessary by Hungarian war. Claim they will make up the deficiency in one week. I have explained to them that what we want is not excuses and promises but performance.

“I have explained to them that what we want is not excuses and promises but performance.” - Lincoln Hutchinson

Hutchinson July 18 – Czech Food Ministry informs me that potatoes in such bad condition that they have ordered further shipments stopped.

Hutchinson July 21 – Czechs report that at this time they have cancelled potato-sugar agreement. Received 21,560 tons potatoes. In return 1,320 tons sugar delivered.

Poland was not happy with the situation, either. The matter was part of settlement talks 100 years ago when much of Silesia was divided by the Spa Conference in Belgium that concluded on July 28, 1920.

The changing beat of an industry

Silesia, France and Germany were the birthplaces of the sugar beet industry in Europe in the late 18th and early 19th century, and the sugar beet industry in Minnesota traces its origins to pre-statehood French, German and Silesian farmers.

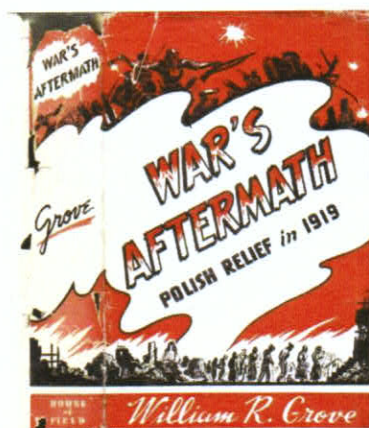
However, Europe's leadership of the industry ended with World War I. In 1912, the three partitioned areas of Poland together grew 4.8 million tons of sugar beets. That collapsed to 2 million by the 1919-1920 season. Around that same time, U.S. sugar beet growers in the Upper Midwest rapidly expanded and today Minnesota and North Dakota account for 60% of U.S. sugar beet production.

Further reading:

Americans in Poland 1919-1947 by Jan Roman-Potocki and Vivian H. Reed Dom Spotkan z Historia, Warsaw 2019

War's Aftermath – Polish Relief in 1919 by William R. Grove, House of Field publishers, 1940

The History and Social Influence of the Potato, by Redcliffe N. Salaman, Cambridge University Press 1985.



New Perspectives

The Minnesota
Polish Experience:

Telling A Story
Others Won't



“Kalejdoskop Polski, Minnesota”

A quarter of a million Minnesotans have Polish heritage (US Census, American Community Survey 2015). Yet our community has been underrepresented as far as recognizing what Poles and Polish Americans have contributed to the state's growth and cultural history and what we are doing today. Here's an example: of the approximately 800 oral histories currently on the site labelled “Minnesota’s Immigrants-Explore the stories of people who have immigrated to Minnesota” only four are of Polish immigrants. Only one is a post World War II story, that of someone in New Jersey. (See chart to the right from the February issue of Polish American Journal).

Many old-school symbols of Polish-American culture in the Twin Cities that were thriving a generation ago are gone: The restaurant portion of Nye's Polonaise, PACIM's *Bal Karnawalowy* (Carnival Ball), The White Eagle Association insurance company, and the Polanie Club. This years Twin Cities Polish Festival has been cancelled.

We need to redefine our identity. While our traditions are important to all of us, we need to enter Minnesota cultural battlefield in a modern way; *pierogi*, *bigos*, or folk dance should not be the main products associated with Poland and Polish Americans. We have much more to offer. Diversity is one of the key words.

Top 10 Countries as Represented By Minnesota Oral Histories on mndigital.org

Rank	Country	No. of Stories
1	Mexico	127
2	India	68
3	China	34
4	Somalia	32
5	Russia	31
6	Laos	25
7	Greece	24
8	Philippines	23
9	Vietnam	23
10	Tibet	22
25	Poland	4

Source: mndigital.org, a part of the Minnesota Digital Library, funded through the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund via the Minnesota Historical Society.

Reprinted with permission of Polish American Journal.

“No subject is immune from the power of visual culture and this fact becomes especially pronounced with regards to history and historical discourse”

Toward the Visualization of History The Past as Image, Mark Moss 2009

We do need to redefine Polish American culture in MN. "Kalejdoskop Polski" aims to increase the visibility of our community.

After months of research and preparations, I decided to set up a visual documentary project, "Kalejdoskop Polski Minnesota" showing a variety of Poles currently living in the State. "Kalejdoskop" would include Polish American people in MN of various background and different occupations: WWII veterans, owners of small businesses, university based scientists, sportsmen, political refugees of 1980s, priests and artists, exchange students, etc.

The pilot study of "Kalejdoskop" that has been conducted in the recent 6 months was met with surprisingly warm welcome. I have completed over a dozen of interviews and made numerous promising contacts. I was also offered private documents, pictures, letters, and other family heirlooms, often deeply moving historical materials.

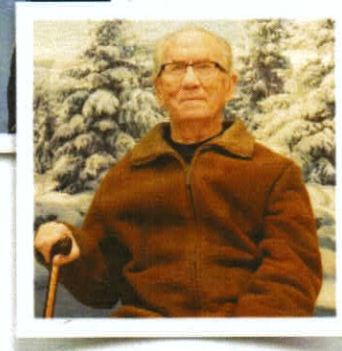
As we live in the world flooded by imaging from all sides, "Kalejdoskop Polski" should deliver a strong visual message. Otherwise, we will not get the attention or recognition. Therefore, the visual part of the project will be in hands of experienced professional documentary photographer.

More details will follow as we progress with the project.

Katarzyna Litak

"Kalejdoskop Polski, Minnesota"

kaleidoscopeminnesota@gmail.com



(* You can also read Mark Dillon's, "Kaleidoscope project aims to spotlight Minnesota's Polish immigrant experience." In: Polish American Journal, Vol. 109, issue 2, February 2020, page 9.

In the Neighborhood

“Mother language – it should not be a variety of rules for children to learn, it should feel like air their soul breathes in connection with the collective soul of the whole nation.” **Janusz Korczak**

Dear POLAM Readers,

It is hard to believe that it has already been six years since a group of three determined individuals launched POLESOM. Throughout the years we have hosted many Kids Clubs, Summer Day Camps, supported an orphanage in Poland and proudly represented Polish community during a number of cultural events organized by Polish and other ethnic groups in the Twin Cities. We partnered with other Polish organizations, including PACIM, to coordinate events focused on celebrating Polish history and heritage. We were able to take a delegation of students to Chicago to take part in the 100th year anniversary of Polish Independence featuring the President and First Lady of Poland.

Our teachers are the pillars of our Polish Saturday Program. They put a lot of effort into making the Polish language classes interesting and well-conducted. In the fall of 2019, we welcomed four new board members who bravely undertook the duties to continue our organization's mission in the coming years.

Our students did more than just study Polish in their classrooms every Saturday morning. Thanks to the cooperation of teachers, the Board and engaged parents, we were able to organize a Polish Bilingual Day Celebration, Christmas Eve gathering with Polish Santa's visit, traditional crafts and making Marzannas. Before we ring the last school bell, we will enjoy Easter potluck together and create some traditional crafts. Our school year will end in May with a fun ceremony, diploma and yearbooks and as tradition would have, a big feast to celebrate the end of another year of learning.



PACIM is proud to have supported POLESOM with scholarships on two occasions. POLESOM teachers have used the funds to create thematic educational materials organized in Walking Library Sets. The sets are a result of creative work and take extraordinary amount of time to prepare. We were told that it takes about five or seven hours of creative work, planning and forethought. The materials have been used by the students in the classrooms and at home. PACIM scholarships supported creation of Walking Library Sets for POLESOM students and learning Polish language, history and traditions. (K. Litak)



Above: Examples of Walking Library Sets.



POLESOM Students at play and visit with Polish Santa; Photos by POLESOM.

We are proud of Minnesotans constant interest in learning Polish and our rich culture. We strive to create an atmosphere of integration and respect, friendly to the development of not only language skills, but also build relationships within our Polish community. Many of you have had your children attend our programs and helped us out financially while we were taking on different initiatives and expanding our teaching materials. We are truly grateful. Without your support and encouragement we would not be able to come as far as we have. We are still in need of financial support and are asking for your help.

As we close the 2019/2020 we are already making plans for September when we embark on another nine month long learning adventure. We are proud to say that throughout the years we have stayed dedicated to our core values of integrity, innovation, quality, community, celebration and fun. We hold a tax exempt status with the federal government and have been diligent in keeping up with the required documentation so our finances remain transparent. We hope that we have built credibility and trust among all of you.

Agnieszka Kemerley, President
 Dominika Boyles, Chair of the Board
 March 15, 2020

www.polesom.org
www.facebook.com/piresom



Janusz Korczak, the pen name of Henryk Goldszmit (22 July 1878 or 1879 – 7 August 1942) was a Polish-Jewish Pediatrician, educator, children's book author, and pedagogue. Korczak's best known writing is his fiction and pedagogy, and his most popular works have been widely translated. In 1911–1912, he became a director of *Dom Sierot* in Warsaw, an orphanage of his own design for Jewish children. When the Germans created the Warsaw Ghetto in 1940, his orphanage was forced to move from its building to the Ghetto. Korczak moved in with orphans and eventually killed in Treblinka death camp with the children. Korczak was offered sanctuary on the "Aryan side" by the Polish underground Council to Aid Jews "Żegota," but turned it down repeatedly, saying that he could not abandon his children. On 5 August 1942, he again refused offers of sanctuary, insisting that he would go with the children. (K. Litak)

In the Neighborhood



Military Cemetery in Kielcino. Courtesy of Ministry of National Defense Republic of Poland.

COLUMBIA HEIGHTS, MN-ŁOMIANKI, POLAND

SISTER CITIES, INTERNATIONAL

Adapted by K. Litak

In the early '90's, according to Dolores Puente-Strand, a Columbia Heights resident, she suggested to then Mayor Dale Hadrath that Columbia Heights should belong to SisterCities, International. A poll of the community gave overwhelming support to have Poland as the chosen country, according to Strand.

The special relationship between Columbia Heights, MN, and Łomianki, Poland, has a very unique history, writes Dolores Puente- Strand who served as Sister Cities Columbia Heights Łomianki Chair or Co Chair for the first twenty seven years. It began during World War II and the tragic ending of a U.S. Air Force relief mission (Code Name: "Frantic 7"). It air-dropped food, weapons, ammunition, medical supplies, etc. to the Poles fighting the Germans during the Warsaw Uprising. American pilots died during the mission, including Columbia Heights resident Walter Shimshock, from the bomber 'I'll Be Seeing You' .

According to Strand: On September 21, 1986, the citizens of Łomianki dedicated an impressive 9' tall granite monument in Kielcino Cemetery to honor the American Flyers who came to their wartime aid. After Bernard Szymczak was invited by the City of Łomianki to be present at the dedication of the monument to the American Flyers... the decision was made that Łomianki seemed like a good fit. Contact was made with Łomianki's officials and on May 13, 1991, then Mayor Edward Carlson signed the official agreement witnessed by Councilman Sean Clerkin, and SCI members Bernard Szymczak, Anthony Bulinski, and Dolores Strand.

Only a few examples of many SCI efforts listed by Dolores Puente-Strand include providing financial aid to hospitals and programs in Poland, an equipped ambulance, hydro-therapy tub, pediatric surgery table, a horse "Florian" for hippo therapy program. Thirteen of SCI members participated in the distribution of 240 wheelchairs in co-operation with the Kenneth Behring Wheelchairs for Peace Foundation on a group tour of Łomianki and other cities in Poland in 2005. CH Highland Elementary and Łomianki schools exchanged holiday greeting cards made by students. CH/SCI and Łomianki participated in very successful exchanges of high school students in 2008 and 2009. SCI organized and sponsored police professional training and exchange in Łomianki and Warsaw as well as hosted visits to CH by Łomianki Mayors and Sister Cities' officials. SCI donates books to CH Library, Polish Library (PACIM), Valley View School, and Łomianki schools and library. SCI Members volunteer their time by teaching English in schools and summer camps; with volunteer nursing services, sponsorship of "Showcase for Young Artists/Authors", arrange exchanges of greeting cards between students, assistance at various group homes; delivering financial donations from PACIM members and friends to orphanages. All above mentioned efforts are only a small portion of SCI activities listed by Dolores Puente-Strand for the purpose of this

SISTER CITIES, INTERNATIONAL cont.

article. SCI members travel at their own expense to SCI programs, exchanges, conferences and national and international conventions. They organize various fundraising events to support their activities and mission.

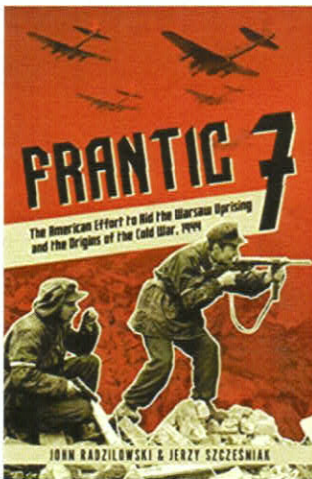
Dolores Puente-Strand writes: *The organization now has 103 members. Twice in the past three years, our SCI has received NATIONAL AWARDS for the Most Outstanding Programs for a SCI group from a smaller community (under 25,000). This has been a first in the history of this global organization. The City of Columbia Heights supports our organization with annual membership fees to SCI/WDC Global Organization, providing meeting space in the City Council Chambers for our 10 monthly meetings (we do not meet in July and December). City officials, staff and departments have been most accommodating.*



From the left: Patricia Sowada, Dolores Puente-Strand, Amanda Marquez Simula.



From the left: Dolores Puente-Strand, Mary Jerde, Gloria Bergstrom (Chairperson), Amanda Marquez Simula, Marian Bernard; Patricia Sowada. Sister Cities Columbia Heights/ Łomianki council meeting at Columbia Heights City Hall.



Sister City International sponsored the Polish to English translation and publishing of the World War II documentary book, "Frantic 7", written by Jerzy "Jurek" Szczesniak of Warsaw. He is the son of Ryszard Szczesniak, who was instrumental in the formation of Lomianki's Sister City connection with Columbia Heights, according to Dolores Puente-Strand. The book is available on Amazon.

The Operation Frantic were conceived in late 1943 as Soviet forces advanced westward into Ukraine, making Soviet airfields accessible to long-range aircraft based in Italy and later England. American aircraft hit targets in central Europe, refueled and rearmed at Soviet airbases. For the first two weeks after the Warsaw Uprising began on August 1, 1944, Soviet forces stood idle outside the city, and Stalin refused to let the RAF land at Soviet airfields after dropping supplies to the Polish freedom fighters. On September 18, 1944, American B-17 Flying Fortresses, supported by fighter planes, dropped arms, ammunition, medical supplies, and food over the city of Warsaw. The assistance came too late and had no bearing on the situation of the Polish freedom fighters in Warsaw. For many, The courage of 1,220 airmen who risked their lives to bring the aid is still remembered by the Poles. (K. Litak)

In the Neighborhood

PACIM has been a long time affiliate of American Council for Polish Culture (ACPC) that is a national charitable, educational organization promoting Polish culture, history, traditions and intercultural understanding. PACIM has organized ACPC conventions in the past with the most recent one in the Summer of 2018. PACIM is ACPC organizational member but each PACIM member can also join ACPC individually. Founded in 1948, the Council currently represents the interests of some 21 affiliated organizations located in 15 states and the District of Columbia. Its oldest affiliated organization, the Polish Arts Club of Chicago, was established in 1928. Incorporated in the State of Illinois as a non-profit corporation, the Council holds tax-exempt status with the Internal Revenue Service as a 501(c)(3) charitable and educational entity. ACPC awards a number of scholarships.

For more details visit:<http://www.polishcultureacpc.org/>



Springtime in Chicago: Lyric coloratura soprano Marlena Dzis sings Chopin's Seize Ans Mazurka op. 50 no. 2 at a Chicago Chopin Society concert attended by board members of the American Council for Polish Culture(ACPC) on the evening of March 7. The concert also included the U.S. premiere of Paderewski's Suite in G for Strings. For more about ACPC, go to polishcultureacpc.org. Look for more in the next edition of ACPC's newsletter Polish Heritage coming soon to PACIM members who are also ACPC members. Photo courtesy of ACPC.



Left to right: Matthew Meleski- ACPC director; Robert Dutka, Investment Committee chair; Alicia Dutka, director and ACPC registered agent, sits on several scholarship committees; Debbie Majka, Philadelphia Polish Honorary Consul; Carolyn Meleski, director sits on several scholarship committees; Katarzyna Litak, PAMSM President; Mark Dillon, Second VP ACPC, PACIM Secretary. Photo courtesy ACPC.

Poland off the Beaten Path



CZOCHA CASTLE-ZAMEK CZOCHA

Czochoa Castle was originally built from 1241-1247 by a Bohemian king. The Nostlitz family took over the ownership of it for over 250 years. The castle was fortified and adapted to withstand gun fire as its use became more prevalent. This proved useful during the Thirty Year War when it was attacked and besieged by the Swedes but the castle was not breached.

After centuries of political turbulence, followed by a fire which destroyed the castle in 1793, the castle was restored to its former glory by Ernst Gutschow, who rebuilt the castle according to old drawings under a supervision of renown architect Bodo Heinrich Erhardt who was already known for restorations of other castles, including Grodziec and Bytow. Czochoa castle was restored and furnished with grandeur. Unfortunately, the oldest parts were demolished during that restoration. Though WWI did not seem affect it during WWII it housed German cypher school. The owner left the castle as the Red Army was approaching in 1945 and took his most valuable possessions. Later it was owned by Polish Army and the castle served as a resort for Polish officers and their families.

The castle itself is everything you could possibly wish for, with its dramatic spires up against the sky. Inside, the main Knight's Hall is suitably grand. There are spiraling secret passages that can be found behind bookcases in the library. The castle has been featured in a number of movies. Its Hogwarts like appearance recently attracted the College of Wizardry. Traveling from Wroclaw to Zgorzelec, take a detour from Hwy A4 to get there. It is really worth seeing. Photo G. Litynski

In the Neighborhood



Photo from our 2019 attendance at the 50th anniversary of the Rzeszow Festival received from Dolina Dancers.

News from Dolina Polish Folk Dancers

We are an organization which promotes Polish culture through song and dance since 1949. Dolina has activities for youth as young as 5 years of age up to those who are young at heart. We invite all interested folks to join either: the Adult group: **Dolina**, the Children's group: **Sloneczniki**, the Teen group: **Chabry**. Dolina Polish Folk Dancers always invite people to come visit us at our rehearsals to check us out if interested joining our organization. However, at the present time, if you would like to visit us at rehearsal please contact us at dolina.mn@dolina.org prior to coming.

All local events we were scheduled to perform at have been cancelled, this is the current list of performances we have confirmed unless we are notified that they are cancelled:

- May 23 - Jeny Kochany celebration - Winona MN
- June 14 - PolishFest --Milwaukee, WI
- June 21.- Polish festival - Florian, MN
- July 25 - Armstrong Creek Polish Festival, Armstrong Creek, WI

Attached is a photo from our 2019 attendance at the 50th anniversary of the Rzeszow Festival.

DVD's of our 70th Anniversary concert will be available after April 15, 2020.

Edward Rajtar
Artistic Director Dolina Polish Folk Dancers

For more information visit dolina.org



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PACIM Scholarships

The Polish American Cultural Institute of Minnesota (PACIM) administers these awards:

- **PACIM-Polanie Legacy Scholarship.** Thanks to the generous bequest from the Polanie Organization, the Polish American Cultural Institute of Minnesota (PACIM) is able to continue their tradition of supporting academic scholarship by offering the PACIM-Polanie Legacy Scholarship for study at a secondary / post-secondary institution of higher learning including colleges or universities and technical or vocational schools.
- **The Rog Endowment Award.** The Polish American Cultural Institute of Minnesota (PACIM) established an endowment fund honoring one of its founding members, Chester Rog. The fund grants stipends up to \$1,000 per year to individuals and/or groups who seek further professional growth in the study of Polish language, art and culture both locally and abroad, and who are committed to use what they have achieved to benefit the cause of Polish heritage in Minnesota or Wisconsin. More than one scholarship may be awarded in any given year. If no applicants meet the criteria, no scholarship will be awarded. Applicants may apply in successive years for consideration.

For details and requirements for each of the awards for 2020 visit our website: pacim.org

Applications deadline **May 31, 2020**

Leonard Skowronski Polish Studies Scholarship - 2020

TWO SCHOLARSHIPS - \$3,000 EACH

The American Council for Polish Culture (ACPC) is pleased to offer two, \$3,000 dollars each scholarships to students pursuing Polish Studies. These scholarships are intended for students pursuing some Polish studies (major may be in other fields) at universities in the United States who have completed at least two years of college or university work at an accredited institution. The scholarships are awarded for the fall term.

FOR DETAILS VISIT:

<http://www.polishcultureacpc.org/schol/PolStudiesSchol.html>

PROCEDURES AND DEADLINES:

All materials must be received on or before **May 3, 2020**. Originals of all materials must be mailed to the ACPC Polish Studies Scholarship Chairperson and duplicate copies to the other Committee members (faxes not accepted).

American Council for Polish Culture

For Immediate Release

Contacts: Raymond Glembocki, President, ACPC
raymondglembocki@gmail.com
Mark Dillon Chair, Scholarship Committee
mgdillon@aol.com
952-473-2765

ACPC sponsors \$5,000 journalism scholarship for 2020

The American Council for Polish Culture (ACPC) is accepting applications through April 30, 2020 for its annual journalism scholarship program that honors a longtime Polish community leader whose work helped thousands of Central European immigrants.

The Eye of the Eagle Wladyslaw Zachariasiewicz Memorial Journalism Scholarship aims to award \$5,000 annually toward college or graduate school tuition and school-related expenses other than room and board for students with a clearly demonstrated, defined interest in a career in enterprise journalism in the public interest.

Last year's scholarship recipient was a University of Maryland undergraduate, announced at the Polish American Arts Association annual meeting in May 2019.

Scholarship program rules call for applicants to be admitted for at a fully accredited university in the United States or Poland, and either a U.S. citizen or be a permanent U.S. resident. Special consideration is given to students of Polish-American heritage and those of non-Polish heritage who have a clear and thorough understanding of Polish culture and values.

Awards are based solely on professional and academic merit with an appreciation for issues that affect Polish-Americans. ACPC hopes applicants will be inspired to follow in the footsteps of famous journalists who maintained a strong ethical commitment, sense of objectivity and fairness amid financial, political, social and industry peer pressures.

To download an application form and informational flyer, go to the scholarships section at ACPC's website: <http://www.polishcultureacpc.org>

The American Council for Polish Culture, Inc. is a national 501(c) 3 non-profit, charitable, cultural and educational organization that promotes Polish culture, heritage and history, and intercultural understanding. It serves as a network and body of national leadership among affiliated Polish-American organizations throughout the United States.

Polish American Cultural Institute of Minnesota (PACIM) is a membership driven non-profit 501(c)(3) charitable organization.

PACIM is grateful for the many gifts, endowments, and donations that make its mission a reality in the programs, events, publications and library collection under its guidance.



Polish American Cultural Institute of Minnesota
43 SE Main Street, Ste. 228
Minneapolis, MN 55414
pacim.org

Ad Rates:

Business card size ad:
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One-quarter page display ad:
\$100 for a single ¼ page display
\$300 two ¼ page display ads, (half year)
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CONGRATULATIONS

PAHA HONORS VICTOR CORDELLA RESEARCH TEAM

Congratulations to 2013 PACIM scholarship winner Michael Retka of Little Falls. He was part of a four person team that earned a Scalny Civic Achievement Award from the Polish American Historical Association this past January for researching the works of Victor Cordella, the Polish American architect from Krakow who designed many churches in Minnesota, including Holy Cross in Minneapolis. Michael recently uncovered the original conceptional plan for the Poor Clares Monastery in Sauk Rapids, MN in Cordella's own handwriting. Fr. Spencer Howe of Holy Cross, Fr. Stanislaw Poszwa, formerly of Holy Cross and now in St. Louis and Dr. Geoffrey Gyrisco of Madison, Wisconsin were the other members of the research team recognized by PAHA.

A Word about Membership Renewals

If your membership expired recently, we apologize for not reaching out with a renewal reminder. Please know all are welcome as we begin a new era, and that we even though we can't be together in person. For a time, we are taking steps to bring Polish Americans in Minnesota closer in new and varied ways. Renew today to help us build a better tomorrow.

PolAm is free to all PACIM Members. All levels of PACIM membership include POLAM newsletter.

Membership Levels:

Patron \$200.00
Donor \$150.00
Sponsor \$80.00
Household \$60.00
Individual \$40.00
Add \$5.00 for ACPC Membership.

Ways to become PACIM Member:

1. **PayPal**- via our website pacim.org
2. **US mail**- mail your check to
Polish American Cultural Institute of Minnesota
43 SE Main Street, Ste. 228
Minneapolis, MN 55414

Please provide your name, address, phone, email address using our Membership Form that can be obtained on our website pacim.org.

All memberships and donations will be listed in this publication unless you specify otherwise.