



## Aug. 11-13 PACIM-related Event Highlights

- ◇ **A Sto Lat "Birthday Card" signing** at PACIM's booth from Minnesota to the People of Poland to mark 100 years of Poland's renewed independence since Nov. 11, 1918
- ◇ **A PACIM-sponsored reenactment of the Trumpeter of Krakow** 7 pm Aug. 12 and 5pm Aug. 13 At the Cultural Stage
- ◇ **PACIM Library Sale** mostly fiction, Polish classics, some Polish cook-books, how-to's, vintage albums
- ◇ **PACIM Silent Auction**, winners to be selected and announced after the festival on [pacim.org](http://pacim.org)

## Inside

*PACIM scholarship recipients named*

*Recipe: Polish cucumber salad*

*A Polish research tool at the U of M*

*Take our Newsletter Survey*

*Wianki revival marks 25 years*

*A story of multi-fold long-term growth*

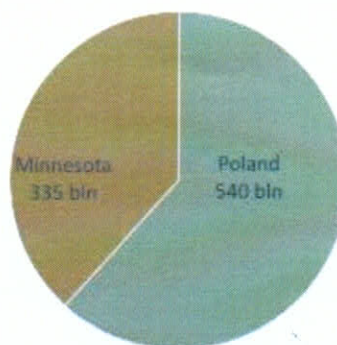
## An economic look at Poland, Minnesota and the U.S.

*Below is the first of an occasional new PolAm series about the growing economic connections between Poland and Minnesota. This initial piece provides an overview of our trade relationship and how it has grown since Poland became a free market economy in 1989 and a member of the European Union in 2004.*

Last year it took one and a half Minnesotas to equal the output of goods and services that Poland made last year—\$540 billion worth, U.S. and Polish data show.

### SIZE OF ECONOMIES

Size of economies (GDP, current USD, 2016)



Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, OECD.

Our state runs a growing trade surplus with Poland as exports to Poland from Minnesota have nearly doubled in the last few years to \$119 million as of 2016. That contrasts sharply with Poland's trade relationship with the U.S. economy overall. The United States has a more than \$2 billion trade deficit with Poland as the amount of imports from Poland has increased sharply, and the amount exports has stayed relatively flat.

What's behind this? One likely factor is that Minnesota has an industrial sector makes what Poland's increasingly sophisticated economy wants to buy — transportation equipment, industrial machinery and specialized health care technology.



## ✓ Mark Your Calendars

**Starting July 11**

### **2017 Polish Language Classes-Summer Sessions**

**Held at the PACIM Library at 43 Main St. SE, Suite 228** there will be four sessions each at two levels. A Beginners session is meant for adults and/or teens without Polish language experience, and those taking Beginners 1 & 2 classes. A Continuing Student session is for Intermediate & Advanced students. Tuition is \$25 for all classes. Textbooks are not required. Class sizes are limited. Advance registration is preferred. Please arrive on time.

Times are as follows:

- ♦ **Beginners Session** Tuesdays evenings 5:30-7:00pm, beginning July 11
- ♦ **Continuing Student Session** Tuesdays evenings 7:15-8:45pm, beginning July 11

For more information, contact Terry Kita: 612 378 9291, or [terrykita@earthlink.net](mailto:terrykita@earthlink.net)

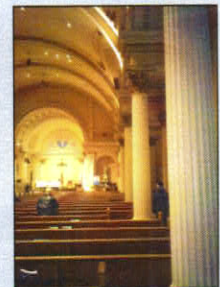
### **August 11 to 13 Twin Cities Polish Festival—PACIM BOOTH Outdoors at 43 Main St SE, Minneapolis**

A great summer volunteer opportunity at Minneapolis' best street fair and fare at the fairest price of all – free. Serve as a greeter at the PACIM booth at the Twin Cities Polish Festival as we send our best wishes to Poland and share the Minnesota story of Polish Americans. Go to [www.TCPolishFestival.org](http://www.TCPolishFestival.org) for more festival information. For volunteer sign up information, email Ela Brodziak at [office@pacim.org](mailto:office@pacim.org) or Mark Dillon at [mglendillon@aol.com](mailto:mglendillon@aol.com)

### ✓ **September 30 Kickoff of PACIM's New Guest Speaker Series Victor Cordella — An Architect for All**

Location: Holy Cross Church, 1pm

Hear Wisconsin historian Geoffrey Gyrisco talk about the 12 Minnesota churches designed by Polish-born architect Victor Cordella of Minneapolis. Meet the Speaker Reception afterward. Details coming soon.



## **PACIM Scholarship and Awards Recipients 2017**

Thanks to The Chester Rog Endowment Fund, Polanie Legacy Scholarship Fund, Angelina Guminga Estate and generous contributions from members of the Polish American Cultural Institute of Minnesota, PACIM is able to award annual scholarships to support advanced study, academic pursuits and projects contributing to the Polish American community.

Congratulations to 2017 PACIM Scholarship winners:

**Grace Filek** - PACIM Polish Language Classes

**Patricia Malec** - Fashion Design and Merchandising, College of St. Catherine,

**Janelle Pearson** - Nursing, Bethel University

**Alexander Sikorski** - Computer Engineering, University of Minnesota





*Ivana Kupala by Andrei Shishkin*

## Wianki revival marks 25 years

Last month marked the silver anniversary of the rebirth of an ancient summer solstice tradition in Poland known as Wianki that dates back more than 1,050 years to the country's pre-Christian Slavic roots.

Also known as Noc Kupały (Kupala Night) and Noc Świętojańska (St. John's Night), it is celebrated across Europe and Canada. This Slavic celebration's intent was to celebrate the elements of fire and water, the moon, the sun as a source of light and warmth, fertility and a day to celebrate love.

Beginning on June 24, Wianki is observed in Poland with merrymaking, children's pranks and festivals. In the U.S. this year, the Chicago Chopin Society sponsored a Kupala classical music concert on June 11. (See [chicagochopinsociety.com](http://chicagochopinsociety.com)).

The Wianki tradition was banned in 1982 under Communist marital law but revived 10 years later, and it has thrived since then. The largest celebration in Poland now is St. John's Fair, a renaissance-style

festival in Krakow, marked by fireworks, wreath floating events, homemade crafts, traditional foods, cultural performances, and musical entertainment. (See [www.wianki.krakow.pl](http://www.wianki.krakow.pl)).

The origin of the Kupala name is unclear, and is believed to be a celebration of the Slavic goddess of fertility (which also means "to bathe"). Originally a pre-Christian fertility festival honoring the Slavic goddess of the harvest and love, it includes both fire and water purification components.

*This Slavic celebration's intent was to celebrate the elements of fire and water, the moon, the sun as a source of light and warmth, fertility and a day to celebrate love.*

A pagan tradition, it was a celebration of life, and summer fertility rites. Individuals would indulge in wreath floating, bonfire jumping and searching for the fern flower. Celebrations occur between late June and early July. Celebrations align with the summer solstice, and include many Slavic rituals. The celebration was also called Sobótka, and it was implied that evil spirits were involved.

As Wianki traditions involved water, they were incorporated into Christian St. John's Eve celebrations, linking the event to St. John the Baptist. The saint's feast day is June 24, and in some countries the day remains a national holiday, as in Quebec, Canada.

The wianek (wreath) is considered a symbol of unmarried status. Young women would weave special garlands or wreathes, and then float them onto waterways. By the actions of the wianki (wreath), one could learn one's relationship fortunes. If a bachelor found a wreath, it signified imminent marriage.

Another part of the celebration is the jumping of the bonfire. To test bravery and faith, and to cleanse the spirit and protect against evil and bad fortune, young people jump over the flames of bonfires.

The failure of a couple to complete the jump while holding hands is a sign of their destined separation.

At the close of the celebration, young women and men enter the woods to search for kwiat paproci (fern flower) – a mythical flower which only blooms on this one night of the year. Anyone who finds it will be blessed with good fortune, power, wisdom and wealth. It should be noted that ferns are not flowering plants, and are reproduced by spores.

**Daniel Bućko** [danielbucko@gmail.com](mailto:danielbucko@gmail.com)



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## Mizeria - Traditional Polish Fresh Cucumber Salad

Preparation time: 45 minutes

### Ingredients

3-4 medium or small fresh cucumbers

3 cups cold water

1 tbsp. white or apple cider vinegar

½ cup sour cream

Small bunch of fresh dill, finely chopped

Pinch of sugar, pepper and salt



American variations: Substitute plain yogurt instead of sour cream; Add a garnish of chopped Vidalia or red onions; Add 1 tbsp chopped fresh chives; Add 1 thinly sliced hard-boiled egg (*Treasured Polish Recipes* cookbook variation); Substitute fresh-squeezed lemon juice for vinegar

Note: Smaller pickle-size cucumbers are better and less bitter; peel if using larger or drier cucumbers and remove seeds. Don't use a red wine or balsamic vinegar unless you want a pink or tan salad

Wash cucumbers. Run a fork lengthwise down the cucumber to a depth of 1/8 inch. This will create a scallop for each slice. Slice the cucumber very thinly. Cover with the cucumbers with cold water. Let stand 10 minutes. Drain and set in refrigerator for 30 minutes. Mix sour cream with sugar, pepper, optional ingredients and vinegar. Add salt to cucumbers and then combine with sour cream mixture. Serve cold.

Sources: *Treasured Polish Recipes for Americans*, PACIM members

*Coming this Fall*

## Cooking with Kora

Learn PACIM's kitchen secrets to better bigos and perfect pierogi from Kora Korczak. She's the master chef behind our culinary efforts at this year's Festival of Nations and delicious event receptions such as this past spring's organ concert in Golden Valley.

Class schedules will be posted on [www.pacim.org](http://www.pacim.org).



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## Take our PolAm Reader Survey

Later this summer, PACIM will be sending members an e-mail link and post a PACIM.org website link to a survey document to capture your thoughts about the relaunch of PolAm six months ago. Realizing that electronic formats are not everyone's first communications method, you may find the survey below more convenient. You can return it by mail to our Minneapolis address (see back page), drop it off in person at PACIM Library, scan and e-mail it to [office@pacim.org](mailto:office@pacim.org) or bring it to the PACIM booth at Twin Cities Polish Festival. Results will be shared this fall.

### Questions for Your Feedback

1. *PolAm is an informative newsletter that I enjoy reading.*

Strongly Agree   Agree   Neutral   Disagree   Strongly Disagree

2. *PolAm should be published monthly.*

Strongly Agree   Agree   Neutral   Disagree   Strongly Disagree

3. *I would rather get PolAm electronically so PACIM can use the savings from printing for more events.*

Strongly Agree   Agree   Neutral   Disagree   Strongly Disagree

4. *I talk about stories in PolAm with my friends.*

Strongly Agree   Agree   Neutral   Disagree   Strongly Disagree

5. *My Polish-American heritage (and/or my household's) is*

◊ 3<sup>rd</sup> generation or older

◊ 2<sup>nd</sup> generation

◊ 1<sup>st</sup> generation

6. *If PACIM had a larger regular meeting facility and free parking, I would be willing to travel the following additional distance for events*

◊ Up to 15 miles

◊ Up to 25 miles

◊ I prefer the current location

7. *I am age*

18-34   35-59   60-74   75+

8. *I have been a PACIM member for*

<3 years   <5 years   5-10 years   11-24 years   25-35 years

Comments/Suggestions

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## U of M Immigration History Research Center offers Polish resources

Did you know that a cultural research source where you can learn more about the Polish experience in Minnesota and America is the Immigration History Research Center (IHRC) at the University of Minnesota Elmer Anderson Library? Founded in 1965, the IHRC archives historical documents that include

- ◇ **Records of the Polanie Club**, the former Polish women's group in Minneapolis. The group, founded in 1927, was the original 1948 publisher of the cookbook *Treasured Polish Recipes for Americans*, as well as collections of music and poetry. The leadership of Polanie Club donated records to the university in May 2015, and provided a \$20,000 endowment gift for upkeep
- ◇ **An index of more than 100 Polish audience newspapers**, from *The Am-Pol Eagle* of Buffalo, New York to *Zwiazkowiec* of Toronto. Many are not found on resources such as newspapers.com
- ◇ **Family and group letters, diaries, maps and business records**
- ◇ **Polish children's literature** from the 1940s and 1950s aimed at persons displaced after World War II, described by the university as "an excellent example of Communist-era propaganda." These books are part of the university's Children's Research Literature Collection (CLRC)

To view an online index of the IHRC Polish-related records, go to <https://www.lib.umn.edu/ihrca> and type in Polanie Club or Poland. Most of the center's archival collection is stored in a climate controlled cavern on the U of M's West Bank campus. Scanning/photocopying is permitted on site.

IHRC Archives are located at 311 Andersen Library, 222-21st Ave S, Minneapolis, MN 55455, Email: [ihrca@umn.edu](mailto:ihrca@umn.edu) Telephone: 612-625-4800

### A New PolAm Feature About You — Member Notes

Beginning this summer, *PolAm* would like to showcase what's happening in your world with a new feature called **Member Notes**. Tell us about the milestones that are important to you and your extended Polish family. E-mail or write in about subjects such as:

- .career moves, awards, degrees or retirement
- .noteworthy travel to Poland
- .marriages, anniversaries, births
- .memorial tributes to a *PolAm* member who has died

**Guidelines:** Submissions limited to 50 words. **Any use is entirely at *PolAm's* discretion, subject to editing and there is no guarantee of publication of any submitted item.**

Polish language submissions are acceptable. Photos may be sent via email in jpeg format. Please include your telephone number.

### Library Acquisitions

#### Crime novels by Zygmunt Miłoszewski



Born in 1976 in Warsaw, Miłoszewski is an award-winning Polish writer, former journalist at the Polish edition of *Newsweek* and popular crime novelist. PACIM Library now has his Prosecutor Teodor Szacki trilogy:

- ◇ **Entanglement** (Uwikłanie), It earned the High Calibre Prize for the Best Polish Crime Novel of the Year in 2007.
- ◇ **A Grain of Truth** (Ziarno prawdy), set in Sandomierz and
- ◇ **Rage** (Gniew) set in Olsztyn

**History of A Disappearance** by Filip Springer A reportage about a medieval Polish town that disappeared as a result of an environmental disaster caused by Soviet uranium mining

**Irena Tuwim** by Anna Augustyniak (in Polish)

Irena Tuwim (1899–1987) was a Polish poet and translator. She translated *Winnie-the-Pooh* and *The House at Pooh Corner*, *Mary Poppins* and *The Happy Prince* into Polish

#### New DVDs

Belfer /The Teacher (2016)

Jestem mordercą/I Am a Killer (2016)

Prosta historia o morderstwie/Simple Story About a Murder (2016)

Like to see PACIM Library open on Wednesday evenings? With your help, maybe we can. Contact the PACIM Librarian at [office@pacim.org](mailto:office@pacim.org) to volunteer.



## Growing trade between Poland and Minnesota, U.S.

Continued from pg. 1

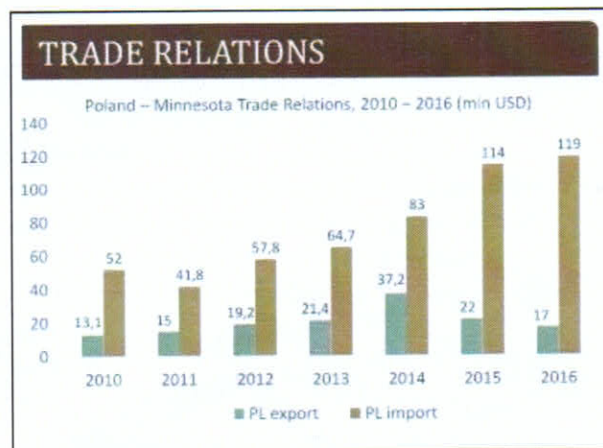
### Top Five as of 2016 (Millions of US\$)

Imports from Poland to US	Exports to Poland from US
Aircraft engines \$666	Aircraft engines/parts \$573
Telecom equipment \$527	Auto parts \$114
Industrial machines \$351	Telecom equipment \$169
Furniture \$312	Industrial machines \$125
Auto parts \$310	Electrical apparatus \$114

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce

Poland, on the other hand, produces a lot of what U.S. consumers like to buy in sectors where Minnesota is generally self-sufficient. Take meat for example—meat imports to the U.S. overall from Poland have more than tripled since 2008 to \$144 million last year.

The composition of the U.S. trade relationship with Poland has changed a lot since the global recession, US. Bureau of Economic Analysis figures show. Poland was more fortunate than the rest of the European Union in that it largely avoided the economic downturn that afflicted Europe and the U.S., and since 2008 our bilateral trade relationship has grown stronger.



Source: Trade and Investment Section Polish Embassy, Washington DC

This year, the U.S. is on track to import more than \$6 billion worth of Polish goods and services, a record high, government figures through April suggest. Also, Poland's currency, the zloty, has been one of best performing among emerging markets in 2017 while economic growth within Poland has accelerated to 4% in the first three months (Source: Bloomberg)

Here's a few more U.S.-Poland trade facts worth noting since 2007-2008:

- ◇ Telecom equipment imports have increased from \$19 million to \$527 million,
- ◇ The US' biggest import from and export to Poland are aircraft engines and parts. Eight years ago, our biggest export to Poland was military equipment.
- ◇ Medicinal equipment imports from Poland have risen from \$36 million to \$205 million
- ◇ The U.S. imports 20% less beer from Poland and only marginally more liquor such as vodka. Meanwhile, tea and spice imports from Poland are up nine fold.
- ◇ We import triple the amount of Polish-made furniture but only half as much glassware from factories in cities such as Krosno. This might be due to competition from lower cost consumer glass producers
- ◇ Imports of precious metals other than gold have risen from \$13 million to \$173 million
- ◇ Toiletries and cosmetics from Poland are up 10-fold to \$52 million

## Zbigniew Brzezinski 1928-2017 Polish-American patriot

In May, Zbigniew Brzezinski, former U.S. National Security Adviser in the 1970s, died at 89. Born in Warsaw, his family was originally from Brzezany. Brzezinski helped lead many successful diplomatic initiatives, including the Camp David accords, building support to stand up to the Soviet Union after its 1979 invasion of Afghanistan and deterring the Soviets from sending troops to Poland during the rise of Solidarity. See a 2010 television interview of him recapping his life and career: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=03ApSE6mgHE](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=03ApSE6mgHE)

*Editor's Note: In 1993, I had the honor of interviewing Mr. Brzezinski while I was reporter writing a story about WR Grace & Co. At the time Brzezinski served on the company's board of directors. In 1987, WR Grace became the first wholly foreign firm to operate in Communist China, opening a can-sealing plant in Shanghai. Nine years earlier, through Brzezinski's efforts as National Security Adviser, full diplomatic relations were restored between the U.S. and China.*

-Mark Dillon



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"We cannot have that relationship if we only dictate  
or threaten and condemn those who disagree."  
-Zbigniew Brzezinski

**Children** may move away.  
**Neighborhoods** may change.  
**Polish culture survives.** *With your help.*

Consider providing a legacy to enable Minnesotans to more fully appreciate our Polish heritage. Include PACIM, a tax-deductible 501c(3) non-profit, in your estate planning. Committed to advancing Polish culture for 35 years.

### **PACIM Honor Roll** May 2017

#### **Households**

Gene & Janet Retka, Mary & Del Wojciak

#### **Members**

Gene & Janet Retka, Mary & Del Wojciak

Send corrections/updates to  
przynski@pacim.org

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