



The PHCWI-Madison was founded in 1979 as a non-profit, non-political organization to promote Polish Heritage through educational, cultural & social activities. PO Box 45438, Madison, WI 53744-5438 http://www.phcwi-madison.org Email: velvetgrn@gmail.com

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**LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT**

The April jet crash that took the lives of Polish President Lech Kaczynski, his wife Maria, and 94 other passengers, many of them members of Poland's elite, was a shock that garnered worldwide public displays of mourning. In Poland, thousands of people gathered in squares to commemorate the lives of the victims, or ringed the streets from the Warsaw airport to the Presidential Palace to throw flowers on the vehicles carrying the coffins of the dead.

In Madison, a 60-member group from the Polish Heritage Club and the UW-Madison Polish Students Association met in front of Memorial Library the evening of the crash. We walked slowly up State Street carrying candles and Polish flags to the steps of the State Capitol where we honored the victims with songs and a recitation of their names.

That event will now remain indelibly marked in Polish memories, like the Katyn massacre the passengers were hoping to commemorate. Even as the mourning continues, Poland already is focusing on the future.

And so is your club. Our organization celebrated its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary last year. Some of you were there at the club's beginning. Some, like myself, are recent members but already have plenty of great memories. This year, we want to find out your expectations for the club, to help us plan for the future. Here are five questions that we would like each member to answer, either by contacting us, sending an email, or responding to a telephone call when a board member calls.

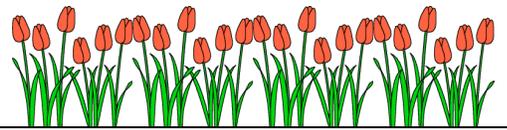
1. Why did you join the PHC?
2. Has it met your expectations?
3. What is your favorite part of PHC?
4. Is there anything you would like to see added to PHC's projects or events?
5. Would you like to see PHC grow so that it has paid staff and an office?

You can call me at 215-4747, or any board member of your choosing. You can also send an email to [mas@2154747.com](mailto:mas@2154747.com). Thank you for helping our club stay strong. Your president,  
*Mary Moskaluk Schumacher*

***Coming Events...hope to see you!***

**Please call 238-9189 if you need a ride.**  
**9am First Fri of the month**  
**PHCWI Breakfast Friends You are invited to join around the breakfast table at the Monona Garden Restaurant 6501 Bridge Rd. till ? See you! Barbara & Michael Lomperski 238-9189**

May 8 PHC at Portage Co. Cultural Festival  
July 25 PHC Summer Picnic at Elver Park  
Aug.16 Book Group *Thaddeus Kosciuszko*



5/26 Dzień Matki Children give mothers *laurki* paper decorated with flowers+wishes

**Volunteer Helpers Urgently Needed**  
for our club's display at school Folk Fairs  
Please call Marie Revolinski 222-2857

**Apr 21 Board of Director's discussed:**

- successful Spring Fest co-chaired by John Benninghouse & Paul Vassalotti, accepted Paul's resignation from the board, with thanks for his service+excellent leadership,
  - Jane Dunn appointed to fill-in on BOD,
  - Buying Committee Policy updates, and
  - membership questionnaire about goals.
- The next BOD meeting is Wed. May 19<sup>th</sup> 6pm at the WI Community Bank 8240 Mineral Point Rd (west of the Beltline). The bank doors lock at 6pm, so call a board member if you plan to attend. We'll give you a cell # in case the door is locked.



## 2010 Polish Related Events **Madison and area:**

- various Thur 7:30pm Polski Stół / Polish Table UW-Rathskeller Sebastian Jankowski [sjankowski2@wisc.edu](mailto:sjankowski2@wisc.edu)  
**May 7 Fri 9am PHCWI Breakfast Friends Monona Garden Restaurant 6501 Bridge Rd. tel. (608) 238-9189**  
**May 19 Wed 6pm PHCWI Board of Directors Meeting WI Community Bank 8240 Mineral Point Rd**  
May 8 Sat Stevens Point 10-5pm PHCWI booth at Portage Co. Cultural Festival  
**July 25 Sun PHCWI Summer Picnic at Elver Park 1250 McKenna Blvd. Madison**  
**Aug 16 Mon 7pm Book Group *Thaddeus Kosciuszko* at Kasia's 3209 Highland Middleton tel.836-8632**  
Sep 10-12 WI Dells Polish Fest  
Sep 17-8 F-Sa Stevens Point Harvest Festival *Dozynki*  
Oct 13-Nov 17 Wed 6-8pm MATC class "Survey of Polish Film"  
**Nov 6 Sat PHCWI Christmas Bazaar at The West Side Club 3706 Junction RD Cty Hwy M**  
**Dec 11 Sat PHCWI Wigilia – reservations needed**

## Chicago:

- May 1<sup>st</sup> Sat Polish Constitution Day Parade on Columbus Drive to celebrate *Trzeciego Maja Day*  
June 24-July 7 Tour of Southern Poland with *The Lira Ensemble*  
At the Polish Museum of America 984 N. Milwaukee Ave tel.(773) 384-3352.....  
May 16 2-4pm Paderewski Recital on 1923 Steinway reproducing concert grand piano  
S19-Oct1 Art Deco Tour of Poland Tel.(773) 384-3352 ext. 102 [Jan-Lorys@PolishMuseumOfAmerica.org](mailto:Jan-Lorys@PolishMuseumOfAmerica.org)

## Minnesota:

- Sundays Minneapolis 1-3:30 The Polish American Cultural Institute's library is open. 2514 Central Avenue NE  
Aug 21-22 Twin Cities Polish Festival

## Milwaukee:



June 18-20 America's Largest Polish Fest Henry W. Maier Festival Park on Lake Michigan  
Please consider adding your name to the list of supporters for this year's Polish Fest. Each individual making a donation of \$250 will have their name listed under the "Circle of Friends" sign at the Mid-Gate. In addition, each "Circle of Friends" donor will receive 20 complimentary tickets to this year's festival, and two invitations to the Opening Ceremony Reception Fri June 18th. Thank you! Please send donation to: Polish Fest, Attn: Circle of Friends, 6941 S. 68th St, Franklin, WI 53132.

Oct 10 Sun 12-4pm POLANKI'S Soup Festival at Norway House

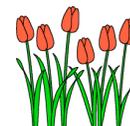
Nov 19-21 Holiday Folk Fair at WI State Fair Park

At the Polish Center of WI 6941 S 68th St Franklin, WI 53132 Tel: 414-529-2140.....

Apr. 30-June 18 "*Enigma: A Surreal Juxtaposition of Images*" paintings by Winnipeg's Margaret Switala

May 9 Sun Mother's Day Brunch seatings at 10, 12, & 2pm Reservations required

May 16 Sun 8am-12 Pancake Breakfast fundraiser



From the Polish-American Journal + [www.polishsite](http://www.polishsite) - A website about Polish Culture

## May *maj* - from Roman deity of growth or fertility

- 3 1791 **Konstytucja Trzeciego Maja**; Poland's first Constitution passed, 1st in Europe  
5 1846 Birth of novelist & Nobel laureate **Henryk Sienkiewicz** *The Trilogy, Quo Vadis* (d.1916)  
7 1867 Birth of writer & Nobel laureate **Wladyslaw Reymont** (d. 1925)  
9 1931 Death of **Albert Michelson**, Nobel Prize-winning physicist. (b. 1852)  
12 1935 Death of Polish Head of State (1926-28, 1930) **Jozef Pilsudski**, leader 1916 Polish independence  
1970 Death of World War II Polish Gen. **Wladyslaw Anders**  
13 1981 **Pope John Paul II** shot in St. Peter's Square  
16 942 Death of **Bronislaw Malinowski**, 56, anthropologist, ethnographer, in Conn.  
17 1025 Death of **King Boleslaw Chrobry** (Boleslaus the Brave)  
18 1920 Birth of **Karol Wojtyla**, Pope John Paul II, in Wadowice  
1944 Second Polish Corps win the **Battle of Monte Cassino** in Italy  
20 1881 Birth of Polish General **Wladyslaw Sikorski**. Prime Minister WWII Govt. in Exile  
24 1543 Death of **Nicholas Copernicus** (Mikolaj Kopernik), Polish astronomer, in East Prussia  
28 1981 Death of Polish Primate and staunch anti-communist **Stefan Cardinal Wyszynski**

## CLUB EVENTS & MEMBER NEWS

### European Homemade Sausage in Milwaukee



The Apr. 2<sup>nd</sup> JOURNAL SENTINEL told about Frank Jakubczak's sausage shop at 1985 S. Muskego. He retired last Christmas, and went on a vacation, but customers kept calling. He reopened (Thur-Sun)

and grateful customers had sausages for Easter baskets. In Poland, Mr. Jakubczak took a 3 year sausage making trade school program. When he moved to Milwaukee in 1960, he worked for other sausage makers, and opened his own in 1973. **Marie Revolinski**, past club President says, "the PHC used Frank's kielbasa & kiszka for many years. The sight & smell of his smoked ham was the hit of the raffle at our Spring Festivals, and brought in extra money, sorely needed in the early days of the club."

### PHC Book Group

April 26 "A Pole is a man born with a sword in his right hand, a brick in his left. When the battle is over, he starts to rebuild." James Michener's *Poland* tells stories about the destruction of villages and cities, & what happens to three families over 700 years. The Book Group appreciated this way of learning Polish history. They told about visits to huge Malbork Castle and other sites in the book. Then for recent history, Professor Szybalski described the solemn and "very hectic" days when he attended the plane crash funerals in Warsaw

Aug. 16 Mon at 7pm you are welcome to discuss the 2009 book *The Peasant Prince Thaddeus Kosciuszko* by Alex Storzynski. Madison Public Library has 6 copies. *From Publisher's Weekly:*

"Prize-winning journalist Storzynski pulls military strategist and engineer Thaddeus Kosciuszko (1746–1817) back from the brink of obscurity by including almost every documented detail to create the first comprehensive look at a man who once famously symbolized rebellion. His were the plans sold to the British by Benedict Arnold. And Kosciuszko's years of devotion to the American cause framed his efforts to transform Poland into a self-governing republic freed from the oversight of Russia's interests. He antagonized Catherine the Great and, later, Napoleon. Kosciuszko rallied the first Jewish military force since biblical times to fight for Polish independence, and consistently supported equality and education for peasants, Jews, Muslim Tatars and American slaves—which earned him the devotion of the masses and lectures by the upper classes. Readers of military and American history should take note: the minute details will enthrall devotees. Casual readers will benefit from Storzynski's expert crafting of a readable and fact-filled story that pulls readers into the immediacy of the revolutionary era's partisan and financial troubles."



### SUNSHINE CORNER! *Sloneczny Kącik*

You are welcome to share your news, stories, celebrations, birthdays, anniversaries. It's all about making a connection with club members. Let us know your reasons to celebrate by calling Basia Pulz (608) 767-2921 or Jane Dunn 831-8827 *Sto lat!*

### Past-PHC President Leon Luick's Birthday May 14<sup>th</sup>

Leon and Jo live at the WI Veteran's Home #311 MacArthur Hall N2665 Co. Rd QQ King, WI 54946

### Tyrone & Janet Greive announced their retirement.

Since 1979 they have played with the Madison Symphony Orchestra. As concertmaster, Tyrone's violin tuned all the instruments. At Polish club events he shared his love & knowledge of Polish music, last at our 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration, when he and Janet played with pianist Ellen Burmeister. We trust the Greives will still play for some club events (and that Tyrone will have more time for his model train set.) Best wishes!

### MATC Course Offering October 13-Nov 17

**Class #44691 6pm-8pm Wednesdays MATC-Downtown Instructor- Ewa Verhoven, Seats Available: 20**

*Thank you to PHCWI member Ewa Verhoven for organizing this class we asked for after taking her Polish Theater class.*

**Survey of Polish Film** "This course will explore the century-long history of Polish film in the context of historical, cultural, political and aesthetic influences which have shaped Polish national cinema. Within the chronological framework of the development of Polish film, the class will emphasize characteristic features and elements recognized locally and internationally as distinctively Polish. Special perspectives will address such internationally significant movements in Polish cinema as the

- "Polish School" in the 1950s and 1960s,
- "Cinema of Moral Concern" of late '70s & early 80s,
- newer developments associated with the transition from socialism to capitalism & democracy in the 1990s.

The course will focus on full-length feature films by established directors such as; Andrzej Wajda, Roman Polanski, Krzysztof Zanussi, Tadeusz Konwicki, Kazimierz Kutz, Krzysztof Kieslowski and Agnieszka Holland. The Survey of Polish Film reveals the story of the Polish people and their search for national identity at the same time bringing to light its universal cinematic achievements." To enroll: [matcmadison.edu](http://matcmadison.edu) or call the Enrollment Center at (608) 246-6210 <http://programs.matcmadison.edu/programs/enrichment/survey-of-polish-film>

## POLAND'S LOSSES APRIL 10, 2010

From the April 11, 2010 WISCONSIN STATE JOURNAL

**Mourning in Madison:**

### Area Polish community grieves

By CHRIS RICKERT crickert@madison.com

Members of Madison's Polish community lit candles, prayed and sang the Polish national anthem Saturday in a hastily arranged remembrance for the 97 people – including Poland's president, religious and military leaders - who died earlier in the day in a plane crash in Russia.

Arranged by the UW-Madison Polish Student Association and the Polish Heritage Club, about 40 people met at Library Mall before walking to the Capitol. Many carried candles or Polish flags or wore clothes with the country's colors. One man carried a sign offering condolences to the families of those killed.

"You feel so disconnected from Poland because you're so far away but then we have all this media and I thought Poles and friends of Poland would be able to come together and share their feelings and pay their respects," said Patrick Peczerski, 25, a UW alumnus with the Polish Student Association.

Those killed included what Andy Waclawik, a professor of neurology at UW, called the "cream of the Polish intelligentsia," on their way to a memorial remembering the killing of Polish officers in World War II. Marek Rogal, 35, said he went to the Univ. of Gdansk with one of those killed on the plane. Sebastian Karpiniuk worked in public relations with the Polish president & once rented a room at his grandmother's home.

Some at the gathering had been in touch with relatives in Poland. Kasia Krzyzostaniak, 54, spoke with her sister, her niece, & said her family "cried, they are all in shock." Mary Schumacher, 47, president of the Polish Heritage Club, said she watched coverage of the tragedy on Polish channels via satellite. "The people are just thronging in Warsaw. The whole nation is in shock," she said.

The WISC-TV Channel 3 video is available of the event. <http://www.channel3000.com/news/23115653/detail.html>

**WI Senator Russ Feingold** is a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. His April 10<sup>th</sup> statement: *"I was saddened to learn of the tragic plane crash that took the lives of President Kaczynski and many others today. I join all Americans in sending our deepest condolences to the people of Poland and all those who lost friends and loved ones in this terrible incident."*

**In Milwaukee** the Polish flag flew at half staff at the Polish Center. POLANKI, the Polish Women's Cultural Club, organized a memorial with prayers recited in Polish and English. "On a table next to a window overlooking a pond where the setting sun cast an orange glow, a framed photo of Kaczynski was placed next to a vase of red and white roses, Poland's flag adorned with black mourning ribbons, small candles and a Polish Bible opened to the 23rd Psalm." MILW J SENTINEL

Archbishop Jerome Listewski stated: *"Our prayers are with the country of Poland as they learn of the tragic loss of their president, his wife and so many prominent Polish leaders. We know Poland is a strong and faith-filled country and that the Polish people will rally around those who most need their support and prayer during this time of need."*

**Chicago**, the US's largest Polish community, mourned the loss of Wojciech Seweryn, who designed the Katyn Memorial in Niles, Ill. He died in the crash on the way to the memorial for those including his father who died in the Katyn Forest massacre *zbrodnia katyńska*.

### WISCONSIN PUBLIC RADIO IDEAS NETWORK

AM: 970 FM: 90.7 90.9 91.3 107.9

April 13<sup>th</sup> archives available at:

<http://www.wpr.org/ideas/programnotes.cfm>

**9am Kathleen Dunn** and her guest discussed the crash  
Guest: Neal Pease, Professor of History, UW-Milwaukee, and author of "Rome's Most Faithful Daughter: The Catholic Church and Independent Poland, 1914-1939"; "Poland, the US, the Stabilization of Europe, 1919-33".

**5pm Ben Merens** & his guest discussed "the ramifications of this loss for the Polish government, its people, relations with the European Union, Russia, & the US.  
Guest: Donald E. Pienkos, Professor of Political Science, Coord. of International Studies Major UW-Milwaukee."

**Apr 21 Katyn** was shown at Van Hise Hall and UW-Madison Historian Milan Hauner explained the differences between fictitious versions and historical facts. The 2007 Andrzej Wajda Academy Award nominated film is based on a book by Andrzej Mularczyk. The Madison Public Library has a DVD of the Wajda movie and several other books about 1940 event.

**April 28 Russia's state archive** posted for the first time online its files of the Soviet Union's massacre of thousands of Polish officers in the Katyn forest. [www.rusarchives.ru](http://www.rusarchives.ru)

## Madison, WI State St Capitol Square

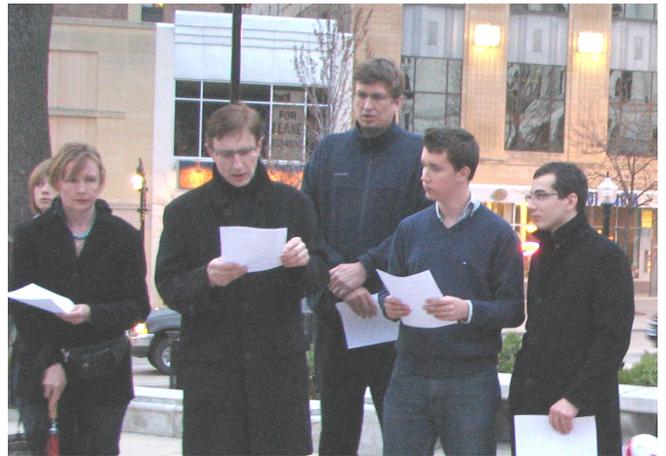
Photos from Patrick Peczerski and Rose Meinholz



sign - Sebastian Aleksander Jankowski (President of the Polish Student Association UW-Madison) flag - Sebastian Puchalski



Sebastian Aleksander Jankowski & Patrick Peczerski



Reading the names: Ewa Verhoven, Andrzej Wacławik, Szymon Wozniczka, Mikołaj Tylka (Vice-President of the Polish Student Association) and Jan Michał Siciński

After candles were lit and names recited, the group prayed: 'Wieczny odpoczynek' and the reply: 'A światłość wiekuista niechaj mu/jej świeci na wieki wieków. Amen.' 'Eternal rest grant unto him/her, O Lord - And may the perpetual light shine upon him/her. Amen.'

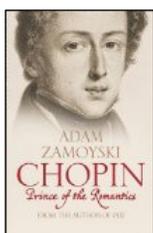




## CHOPIN 2010 200 YEARS

<http://chopin2010.pl/>

**Feb 14** HarperPress released a completely new edition of historian Adam Zamoyski's 1979 Chopin biography.



"The definitive biography of Chopin, unavailable for many years, by one of the finest of contemporary historians." Zamoyski's ancestors hosted many artists, Chopin included, in the Kingdom of Poland and in Paris. 368 pages  
*Chopin: Prince of the Romantics*

**Mar 1<sup>st</sup>** The Chopin Society opened a new high-tech museum in Warsaw's 17th century Ostrogski Palace, on a hill near the Vistula River. "A special card with a computer chip allows visitors to access different audio video elements of the exhibition, and a room with cushions and touch-screens allows children to learn about the composer and his era." "Chopin's certificate of baptism indicates February 22, 1810, as his birthday, but the composer himself and his family always gave March 1 as his actual birthdate."

### The Mar 7<sup>th</sup> UW PIANO OUTREACH CONCERT

was a good afternoon to enjoy Chopin and celebrate his 200<sup>th</sup> birthday. The concert/lecture/reception with the UW students at the Capitol Lakes Retirement Center was attended by 98 people. We collected donations for Milwaukee's Kosciuszko Monument Restoration and signatures for the Lt Col Matt Urban stamp. Thank you to **Barbara Lomperski, Basia Pulz and Elizabeth Schultze** for help with the food and display, Victoria Kononova for the lecture about Chopin (preludes and mazurkas) and to organizer Julie Page of the UW-Outreach. As requested, the Club sent a letter in support of the Outreach Program, and we hope to co-sponsor more concerts. Many of these students and community members played the following Saturday at UW-Music Hall for the Chopin Extravaganza  
*Front row-- Monica Schultz, Vivian Wilhelms, Jessica Schallock, Hallie Houge, Allison Jerzak, Dorothy Hui, and Margie Runaas Back row-- Bob Logan, Garrick Olsen, Victoria Kononova, Chu Hao Chan, and Patrick Kenney*



**Mar 14 POLISH MUSIC WORT RADIO** Thank you to **Szymon Wozniczka** for again sharing his music collection and knowledge on WORT Radio 89.9 FM. During the 2 hour ON THE HORIZON show he told about traditional, village and folklore-inspired music collected on a trip to Poland last year, and on the internet, especially from [www.serpent.pl](http://www.serpent.pl) The show was available on <http://archive.wort-fm.org/>

Szymon, in the US for 15 years, did not grow up in a musical family or village. He told the radio host that while enjoying African and S. American ethnic music, he wondered "what about my country?" and this coincided with the Polish folk music revival. He explained that Chopin used Polish folk inspired music, and now current artists are using Chopin's music. What would Chopin play in 2010?

*The playlist included.....*

- The top 3 folk albums of 2009 **Hoboud** [www.hoboud.com](http://www.hoboud.com)  
**Warsaw Village** *Kapela ze wsi Warszawa* [www.kzww.pl](http://www.kzww.pl)  
**Apolonia Nowak & Swoja Droga Trio** [www.folkers.pl](http://www.folkers.pl)
- Mazurkas from: **Maciej Filipczuk i Metamuzyka** <http://www.myspace.com/metamuzyka> and from the **Janusz Prusinkowski Trio** <http://www.myspace.com/januszprusinowskitrio>
- Klezmer music from a new band **Klezmaholics** <http://www.myspace.com/klezmaholics> and **Klezmafour**, formed in 1999 in Lublin <http://klezmafour.pl/new/index/>
- **Muzyka Roztocza** field recordings from the Polish countryside, "the Polish Alan Lomax."
- **Kwadrofonik** <http://www.myspace.com/kwadrofonik> a 2005 quartet – the pianos become percussion instruments
- also- **Kapela Brodow** <http://www.kapelabrodow.com>  
**Orchestra of St. Nicholas** *Orkiestre pw Sw Mikolaja* [www.mikolaje.lublin.pl](http://www.mikolaje.lublin.pl)  
**Sarakina** [http://sarakina.fm.interia.pl/En/en\\_Index.htm](http://sarakina.fm.interia.pl/En/en_Index.htm) trio plays kaval, accordion, bagpipe, bass and tambura.  
**Czarne Motyle** <http://www.myspace.com/czarnemotyle>  
**Zywiolak** <http://www.zywiolak.pl/index.php>  
**Village Kollektiv Band** [www.vk.com.pl](http://www.vk.com.pl)  
A free CD from the S. Poland folk rock group **Turnioki** <http://www.myspace.com/turnioki> was quickly given away.

Anyone wanting to be on Szymon's list of Polish events is welcome to contact him: [szymon2005@sbcglobal.net](mailto:szymon2005@sbcglobal.net)

CHOPIN FOR KIDS link:

<http://chopin2010.pl/en/page/chopin-for-kids.html>

MILWAUKEE'S POLISH FEST 12th Chopin Youth Piano Competition Sun June 20 12:30 pm Cultural Stage

WARSAW, POLAND October 2-23 16th International Fryderyk Chopin Piano Competition is held every 5 yrs. Pianists perform Nocturnes, Etudes, Ballads, Scherzos, Polonaises, Waltzes, Mazurkas & Sonatas and for the final, one of "Chopin's Concertos".

Thank you Denise Taylor for permission to print her self edited program notes.....

## CHOPIN'S MAZURKAS

(Note: An expanded version of these notes was written for the UW-Madison's Chopin Extravaganza weekend March 2010.)

As a child and young man growing up in Poland, Chopin frequently danced mazurkas at harvest festivals, parties, and weddings. Everybody did, as they were terribly fashionable, no matter one's economic class or position in life. Mazurkas represent, by the time Chopin was seriously composing music, the intersection of two of his great passions – dance music and Polish culture. Chopin wrote more mazurkas than any other genre, and at no time in his life did he cease to compose them. They represent some of his earliest works as well as his last. The personal nature of the genre inspired Chopin to some of his most compelling creations, where he was perhaps his most experimental and his most consistent.

Mazurkas emerged at a time when several new dances were replacing outmoded minuets and contredanses in grand European houses. Waltzes swept through fashionable society during the early nineteenth century, inspiring Chopin to write many memorable examples (despite claiming he could not actually dance one). With the polonaise, Chopin used an established dance form from his homeland, transformed under his pen into virtuoso showpieces symbolizing Polish resilience under oppression.

In contrast with the polonaise, the mazurka had a comparatively brief history as a national dance of Poland. Arising in the late eighteenth century, the mazurka was an amalgamation of various regional dances of Poland: the mazur, oberek, and kujawiak, as well as the lesser known powislak and swiatowska. As the mazurka became more urbanized, it transformed into a stylized dance piece, much as the waltz had done as it developed from German *ländler*s. Polish scholars have identified two styles with which Chopin would have been familiar – a rustic rural style and a more refined town dance. Rural models particularly color his early mazurkas while he was still a student in Warsaw.

All mazurkas are in triple meter, with a foundational rhythmic pattern of . Two other hallmarks include irregular, changing accentuation patterns and frequent use of *rubato*. One of the most striking patterns is an accent on the third beat, corresponding to the *holubiec* step, where the male dancers click heels together and leap. The *holubiec* leaps can be vigorous or understated and don't necessarily have to occur on the third beat – we can easily find examples on first and

second beats also. Other accentuation may relate to expressive harmonic or melodic stresses; such irregular accentuation enhances the exotic, quirky nature of the mazurka.

A typical folk ensemble in central Poland would consist of a melodic instrument, likely a fiddle or a *fujarka* (shepherds' flute) over a drone by the *dudy* (bagpipe), and a kind of string bass (*basetla*) for rhythmic pulse. Chopin often recalls such ensemble combinations in his mazurkas, and many begin with an introductory drone as a sort of a call to dance.

In his early mazurkas, Chopin has yet to break free of some constraints of the dance genre – most include clear sections with short, repeated motives in the right hand over clearly articulated dance accompaniment. Even at this early stage, though, he deftly introduces a myriad of melodic ornaments, wide melodic ranges, subtle voicings over accompaniment with variously spaced chords, and fragments of counterpoint. As anyone who has participated in folk dances can attest, none of these mazurkas is suitable for dancing, for the subtleties and ambiguities would make them difficult to follow.

If the earlier mazurkas might claim closer ties to folk dances, Chopin's later ones reveal an increasingly personal imprint. The Opus 30 and 33 cycles integrate the call and response of popular dance music, but the melodic repetitions often appear reharmonized. The later mazurkas perhaps rely a bit more on the expressive kujawiak traditions than earlier ones and show greater formal sophistication.

While discovering folk dance characteristics in Chopin's mazurkas can be an illuminating exercise, we should avoid misinterpreting the origins of these works. Chopin transformed the mazurka into a range of wholly individual compositions and created – as it was widely understood at the time – art music. With one or two exceptions across his entire *oeuvre*, scholars have searched in vain for specific folk melodies that he incorporated into his mazurkas. Ultimately the familiar dance and rhythmic patterns, instrumental textures, and modality provide a springboard for Chopin's personal stamp on the genre. The French composer Hector Berlioz noted “unbelievable details” in the mazurkas, a “sense of the unexpected...and a thousand nuances of movement.” The same qualities that make Chopin a great composer, not just a great Polish composer, appear in the mazurkas– harmonic creativity, ambiguity, and chromaticism; lyricism; expressive *fioritura* and ornamentation, among many others. What distinguishes the mazurkas from his other works, however, is this potent combination of his individual voice with yearning for a homeland of years past.

-Denise Pilmer Taylor, Ph.D.



**PORTAGE COUNTY  
CULTURAL FESTIVAL**

**May 8 - Stevens Point Portage Co. Cultural Festival**

Our Polish Club will have a booth again at this 18<sup>th</sup> annual event. Of Polish interest:

- Norm Dombrowski and the Happy Notes - 12-2pm
- Jersey Polka Richie plays his concertina & sings “fluent Polish vocals on his originals+old-time favorites”
- ETHNIC ARTS DEMONSTRATIONS :

Barbara Glowdowski – *Pysanki*  
 Bernie Jendrzeczak – Polish Paper Cutting  
 Kim Swedowski – Polish Paper Crafts ...and wish her mother Mary Raczek belated 100<sup>th</sup> birthday greetings!

“About thirty sub-cultures that make up the population of Portage County will participate through the sharing of: food, entertainment, ethnic arts demos, exhibits & sales, games & children’s activities...”

[www.portagecountyculturalfestival.org/index.org/index.html](http://www.portagecountyculturalfestival.org/index.org/index.html)

[www.rkmmilwaukee.org](http://www.rkmmilwaukee.org)

**Restore Kosciuszko Monument**  
**c/o Polanki**  
**Polish Women’s Cultural Club**  
**P.O. 341458**  
**Milwaukee, WI 53234**

**Please print the form below, and make your check out to:**  
**Restore Kosciuszko Monument**  
**Your donation is tax deductible**

*\*Please send no cash in the mail.*



*Help Save the Kosciuszko Monument!*

Keep me informed about the statue of General Thaddeus Kosciuszko

My contribution is enclosed

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

*Thank you very much for your support!*

**Polish Heritage Club Of WI, Inc-**  
**Madison PO Box 45438**  
**Madison, WI 53744-5438**

**PHCWI MEMBERSHIP –for yourself &/or as a gift membership**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership for: SELF\_\_ GIFT\_\_**  
**INDIVIDUAL \$10\_\_ FAMILY \$20\_\_ DONATION\_\_**  
**NEW\_\_ RENEWAL\_\_**

**Checks payable to: Polish Heritage Club of WI-Madison**

I’m interested in: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Book Group\_\_ Crafts\_\_ Displays\_\_ Events\_\_  
 Genealogy\_\_ Newsletter\_\_ Publicity\_\_ RSVP/Schools\_\_

- My name/address/phone # may be in the PHC Membership Directory (\$3 at Spring Festival, \$4 mail)
- Do not include me in the Directory. However, Board members may contact me for official business

If you like, please share your:

- Birthday(s)/Anniversary \_\_\_\_\_
- Where your family lived in Poland. \_\_\_\_\_