## The Polish Heritage Club of Wisconsin – Madison



# May *maj* Vol. 15, Issue 4 2016 Poland's 1,050 Anniversary of Christianity

Founded in 1979 as a WI Non-profit Organization to promote Polish Heritage through educational, cultural, charitable and social activities. PO Box 45438, Madison, WI 53744-5438 http://www.phcwi-madison.org info@phcwi-madison.org Facebook (608) 831-8827

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#### LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

The last several weeks have been focused on celebrating rebirth and renewal because of Easter and Spring. The green fresh plants and chirping birds definitely are assuring us that very soon we will focus on how hot it will be.

Special thanks all who contributed to the Spring Festival which was very well attended and brought us new faces and discussions. For those who were at the festival for the first time, hopefully it was a time to connect with good food and people contributing to enjoyment of the renewal season.

Thanks to Szymon Woźniczka's continued efforts to bring music to Madison, there was a Grażyna Auguścik - Jarosław Bester concert. Their music shows the artistic move towards a fusion of musical styles. Living in Kraków in mid-80s, I was able to appreciate the influences that created a very unique sound that was both inspiring and challenging to my ear. I hope that you had chance to take advantage of this concert and will participate in future concerts that will be held with the Club's support.

Please take a note of upcoming events and reserve your calendar for those that will enhance your day. With young people continuing their education, please remind everyone May 15<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for the scholarship that the Club is sponsoring. Prompting young people to write about Polish culture may not only spread the word of the club's mission but also may help the finalists financially in pursuing their education. I look forward to seeing many of you in the Club's events to foster positive, engaging and constructive energy for Polish identity and culture which can be a treasure for everyone.

Z poważaniem, Ryszard Zolnik, President, Polish Heritage Club WI-Madison Group

May 3 Book Club *Trzeciego Maja Day*May 7 Portage Co. Cultural Festival
May 15 due: Scholarship application website or
Patricia Brinkman brinkpa@att.net (608) 212-2413
May 21 Polish American Genealogy
June 11 first sign-up date for June 25 Gloria W's
Fabric & Ribbon Flowers Workshop RES. REQ.

Your dues are due if your mailing label (or email) doesn't say 2016. Thanks for your renewal! Memberships are Jan 1 - Dec 31. If you join after Sept 1, it's counted as the next year.

#### Polish Constitution of May 3, 1791 scene from Jan Matejko's Konstytucja 3 Maja 1791



The Constitution has just been adopted by the Great Sejm in the Royal Castle (background). Stanisław Małachowski, Crown Marshal of the Grand Sejm, is holding the Constitution in his hand as he is carried by deputies down ulica Świętojańska to St. John's Collegiate Church.

1999: Pope John Paul II to the Polish Sejm
Trudno w tej chwili nie wspomnieć o długiej, sięgającej
XV w. historii polskiego Sejmu czy też o chlubnym
świadectwie ustawodawczej mądrości naszych
przodków, jakim była Konstytucja 3 maja z 1791.
"It is difficult at this moment not to mention the long
history of the Polish Parliament, reaching back to the
15th century, or that glorious witness to the legislative
wisdom of our ancestors that was the Constitution of

#### May 3: "Trzeciego Maja Day" WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE DOCUMENT: 1999 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 11

- 1 Relating to:proclaiming May 3rd of every year, Trzeciego Maja Day.
- 2 Whereas, "Trzeciego Maja", May 3, 1999, marks the 208th anniversary of the
- 3 signing of the Polish Constitution on May 3, 1791; and ...... [lines 4-8] .....
- 9 Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That the legislature of
- 10 the state of Wisconsin recognizes the contribution of the Polish Constitution to the advancement of democracy and freedom by proclaiming May 3rd of every year,
- 12 "Trzeciego Maja Day" in the state of Wisconsin and invites all citizens to join their
- 13 fellow Wisconsinites of Polish descent in celebrating Polish Constitution Day,
- 14 "Trzeciego Maja".

May the Third, 1791."

#### Madison area:

1st Fri Breakfast 9 am ?s/ride? Barb (608) 238-9189 Monona Garden Family Restaurant, 6501 Bridge Rd, Monona

 $\underline{1}^{\text{st}}$  Sun 5 pm *Eucharist in Polish* St Cecelia's, WI Dells www.dellscatholic.com/ (608) 254-8381

<u>Sat</u> 10 am Polish Kids Club, Waunakee https://www.facebook.com/PolishKidsClubMadison

UW-Madison Polish Students win.wisc.edu/organization/PSA

3 May 7 pm POLISH CLUB BOOK CLUB Kasia (608) 836-8632 Middleton, WI. Polish Constitution Day *Trzeciego Maja* 13 May Trevor Stephenson: Music of Chopin and others on 1855 Bösendorfer Concert Grand Piano, 900 Univ.Bay Dr. Madison

<u>11 June</u> start registration for: <u>25 June</u> POLISH CLUB co-sponsored with Pinney Library *Gloria Welniak's Fabric &Flowers Workshop* 10 July POLISH HERITAGE CLUB PICNIC Lakeview Park, Middleton

October POLISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH
November POLISH CLUB BAZAAR
Nov/Dec Madison Polish Film Festival
December POLISH CLUB WIGILIA

#### Genealogy:

**Dane Co. Genealogical Soc.** meetings ~ 1<sup>st</sup> Thur. of the month. Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 4505 Regent, 7 pm. <u>5 May</u> 7 pm. *Breaking through the Brickwalls* <u>dcags.camp8.org/</u>

"The proverbial brickwall has prevented many a genealogist from moving forward with his or her family history research. This meeting is a time to bring your "brick wall" problems to the meeting and discuss them with others. A new perspective on a problem is always helpful. Participants will sit a table in the gym and go around the table and discuss a problem and brainstorm for a solution. After about 40 minutes a person from each table will report back to the entire group on the issues addressed. Members may bring a homemade treat to share with the group. Beverages will be provided by DCAGS. Visitors are welcome!"

WI State Genealogical Society WEBINARS wsgs.org/index.php

17 May Using Social Media to Break thru Genealogy Brick Walls

WI Historical Society <a href="http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/21 May">http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/21 May</a> 9 am- 3 pm *Polish American Genealogy*Cost: \$30 (10% off for WHS or WSGS), includes a box lunch.
Main speaker: Steve Szabados, Genealogy Columnist for the POLISH AMERICAN JOURNAL and author. His books include:







Memories of Dziadka; Polish Genealogy: Four Steps to Success; Basic Genealogy: Saving Your Family History; Write Your Family History: Easy Steps to Organize, Save, Share; Finding Grandma's European Ancestors; My Polish Grandmother:

from Tragedy in Poland to her Rose Garden in America.

#### Milwaukee:



May 8 at 10, noon, and 2 pm. Mother's Day Champagne Brunch
All You Can Eat Buffet!!! RESERVATIONS REQUIRED
Chef-carved beef tenderloin and pork loin, spiral ham, made-to-order
omelets, Polish sausage, potatoes, pierogi, chicken supreme,
beef burgundy, smoked fish, assorted salads, fresh fruit platter,
assorted pastries, and more!! Cash Bar will be open
Adults: \$29 Children 6-12: \$12 Children 5 and under eat free

ALSO AT THE POLISH CENTER: POLANKI Gift Shop and Library until May 30: Poland Beautiful art exhibit of Polish scenes

"...the [Polish Center] building was designed and decorated to embody Polish culture and heritage. It overlooks a beautiful spring fed lake in a natural wooded setting."

17-19 June. 35<sup>th</sup> Polish Fest at Henry W. Maier Festival Park

#### Winona, MN

"The mission of the Polish Cultural Institute and Museum is to collect, exhibit, interpret and disseminate the heritage of the Kashubian Polish Culture." <a href="http://polishmuseumwinona.org/View You Tubes">http://polishmuseumwinona.org/View You Tubes</a>, Family History Links, and Events:

May 1 May Crowning 2 pm

May 7 Polish Constitution Day Mass at St. Stan's 4-5 pm
Pre-prandials 5:30 pm Supper and Program 6 pm
June 27-July 08, 2016 Guided Tour of the Kashubian Lands which
sent so many emigrants to Winona and Pine Creek The leaders of
the tour will be Dr. Joseph Hughes, Professor of Classics, Missouri
State University and Mrs. Malgorzata Mazur, Certified Tour
Guide (Gdansk, Poland). http://kashubia2016.blogspot.com/
August 15 Harvest Fest / Assumption 12:00 pm
October 2 Smaczne Jablka 11-4 pm
December 4 Oplatki Sunday 12-3 pm

**Chicago:** Polish Constitution Day Parade May 7 starts at 11:30 ROUTE: along State Street, from Lake Street to Van Buren St. **Book Expo America** May 11-13 features Poland as its country

of honor. Free programs May 10- 14 hosted by the Polish Book Institute to celebrate this special occasion - authors, poets, and literary artists at bookstores and special venues across the City. http://www.booksfrompoland.org/



#### **CLUB AND MEMBER NEWS**

#### SUNSHINE CORNER! Słoneczny Kącik

You are welcome to share your news, stories, celebrations, birthdays, anniversaries. Sto lat!

5/2 Art Haralampopoulos 5/26 Carol Janecek 5/7 Linda Cagle 5/28 Zach Zwadzich

5/11 Dennis Jasiczek 5/22 Barry Dexter 5/30 Kasia Virgel

Happy Anniversary to: 5/26 Tony & Deb Ankowicz 5/12 Szymon Wozniczka & Suzanne Mendoza 5/17 Rose Meinholz & Larry Hochman

Welcome to new members: Marge Guthneck, Kathy Rasmussen, Zbigniew Pietranik & family, Patty, Steve, & Andy Zallar

Continued good recovery wishes to Doris Graiewski! (recovering from a broken hip after a fall)

#### March 20 additions to the Spring Festival April newsletter:

Linda Cagle posters. Set Up/Clean Up Crew: Paul Morgan, Richard Reale, Andrea Rolich, and Irene Swiggum. AND Blessed Sacrament Church in Madison had a Blessing of Baskets.

#### April 18 Polish-themed Senior Lunch, Lakeview Lutheran Church

~ 80 attendees including PHCWI members Linda Cagle, Dolores Hurlburt, Mike Lomperski, Rose Meinholz, Irene Swiggum and Gloria Welniak enjoyed a delicious lunch of Dill Pickel Soup, Caraway Rye Bread, Bigos & 3 Polish desserts. *Dziękuję* to Pastor Dean, PHCWI member Laura Jasiczek, and all who prepared the meal!



#### May 3 Tue 7 pm. POLISH CLUB BOOK CLUB: Trzeciego Maja 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Polish Constitution

Please contact Kasia (608) 836-8632 in Middleton <a href="mailto:krzmw@chorus.net">krzmw@chorus.net</a> about your coming so she has enough chairs.

Piotr Dufour's 1791 printed edition of the Government Act (Constitution of May 3, 1791).

**1 April kwiecień fools....** It was time for the club's first Friday Breakfast at Monona Gardens...but no one sat in the usual east corner of the restaurant. Then three accordions appeared, and then came loud sounds of *Roll out the Barrel*.

"Prima Aprilis – uważaj, bo się pomylisz!"

"April Fools' be careful, you can be wrong."

Jane Dunn photo



Basia Pulz, Nick Semovski (owner), Patricia Stone, Barb Lomperski

#### **Peace Corps in Poland** by Phyllis Noble

The Peace Corps was active in Poland for 11 years, from 1990 to 2001. Volunteers taught English to more than 400,000 young Poles, and helped to educate tens of thousands of Polish English teachers. They worked in many national parks throughout Poland in the environmental field, while others worked in small towns as administrative and small business advisors. A total of 900 Peace Corps Volunteers served in Poland from start to finish, mostly for two years, although many extended their stay to three.

"On a chilly Sunday afternoon in the old market square in Krosno, senior citizens in squash-inspired hats and shawls merrily hold forth on a local Harvest Festival. Pumpkins and many varieties of squash are on display, celebrating the bounty of the season. Nestled in the foothills of the Carpathian Mountains in southeastern Poland, Krosno is famous for fine handblown glassware - and for oil wells, first drilled in the mid-1800s, that today still pump right alongside family farms."

that today still pump right alongside family farms."

About the photo:

In 2013, my Polish cousins and I wandered through the central square in the heart of Krosno on a Sunday afternoon. There was a harvest festival going on! I don't know any of the women in this photo, but was charmed by their outfits and by the fact that they were obviously having fun.

About my family's roots in Krosno:

My maternal grandmother, Maria Bienia Szelć Kosinska, was born on a farm in Krosno, Poland, in 1876. In 1905, she was a 29-year-old widow with two step-children and two children of her own. She did not have enough land to grow enough food to feed her little family by herself. When she left Poland to come to America, her plan was to make enough money in two years to return to Krosno and buy more land. Sadly, she never was able to return, not even to visit. In Chicago, she met & married my grandfather, sent for her children, and gave birth to two more children, one of whom was my mother.

Phyllis served in Nigeria 1965-1967. Two of her pictures were in the 2016 RPCV Calendar: Feb. Moldova and Oct. Poland.

Each month includes facts about that country. Poland included: "Two Years in Poland and Other Stories: a 67-Year old Grandfather Joins the Peace Corps" "In this absorbing and delightful memoir, Lawrence Brane Siddall takes the reader to Poland where he taught English in a high school as a Peace Corps volunteer from 1997 to 1999 following his retirement. He calls it his late-life adventure. With an eye for detail he vividly describes the challenges he faces in the classroom, his struggle to learn Polish, his initial feelings of isolation in adjusting to a new culture, and the close friends he eventually makes..." www.amazon.com

Club President Ryszard Zolnik, born in Poland, returned as an American citizen in 1992 to serve as a Peace Corps Volunteer. (Nov. 2015 newsletter in the Willy St. Parade with other RPCVs.)

## **Events in Stevens Point, WI**



## May 7. Portage Co. Cultural Festival, 10 - 5 pm free ADM.

Shuttle bus leaves the Chase Bank to the High School, 1201 Northpoint Dr. For over 20 years, Portage County has celebrated its ethnic diversity Stevens Point Area Senior High with a one day event in May.

Sample food, music and folk dances, crafts and children's games from around the world. POLISH EVENTS:

Children learn Polish: 11-11:30 and 12-12:30 Norm Dombrowski's Happy Notes: 12-1:30 Syrenna Polish Dancers: 12-1 and 2:45-3:45

Paper Cutting: Bernie Jendrzejczak; Folk Art: Kim Swedowski; Eggs: Margaret Wadzinski; Arts & Crafts: PHCWI-Madison, POLANKI, Inc. Polish Heritage Awareness Society (Stevens Point);

Amber Treasurers; Bell P Pottery.

Food: PHCWI-Madison and Our Savior's Catholic Church. http://www.portagecountyculturalfestival.org/program/

### May 7 & 8. Polka Pow-Wow www.polkapowwow.com/

Keith Stras & Polka Confetti and IPA Tribute Band STEPHANIE & her Honky Polka Band Continuous music and Dancing. Polish & American Food & Beer.

#### From Poland to the United States

After serfdom was abolished, and the first stage of agrarian reform in 1823, peasants in the Prussian part of Poland had full ownership of plots of land. But the larger estates grew larger, and small plots became smaller. In 1859, 54% of all farms had less than 40 acres. In the Poznan region, 23.16% of the peasant's holdings were about 6 acres in size. ......The already small farms were divided among the children. "The Prussian governments encouraged efficient agriculture...[but] Polish lands were to remain a granary of Germany."

The United States needed laborers. As early as 1857, the lumber industry brought Michael von-Koziczkowski and his family to the town of Sharon (Portage County). Other Polish families came, so that by 1900 the population of Sharon was 2,225. Settlers "came from Prussia, Pomerania, Poznan, and Gdańsk (Danzig). Localities mentioned were Koscierzyna, Lipusz, Brussy-Chojnice, Suleczyn, Kartuzy, Lesno, and Gowidlino."

The 1990 census recorded 385,595 Poles in the U.S, but the number could have been closer to about 2 million. Only those who declared they were born in Poland, or "positively insisted that they were Poles" were recorded as Poles. Those who used regional names - Galacia, Prussia, Posen, Pomerania - were not counted as Polish. Between 1870-1914, 2,600,000 left the Polish territories for the United States.



In 1975 the UW - Stevens Point Department of History offered History 342, Polish Immigration to the United States. The course was based on lectures, readings, book reports and oral history interviews taped by the students. Three copies of the "Authorized Notes from the lectures of Professor Waclaw W. Soroka lectures, second Rev. Ed.1983" available from the S. Central Library System.

## **Wooden Synagogues**

Once there were over 150-200 wooden synagogues in Poland. They were an original style of synagogue architecture that developed in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth (now Poland, Lithuania, modern Belarus and the Ukraine). Their exteriors were plain, but inside their elaborate domed and vaulted ceilings (raki'a Hebrew for sky or firmament) were richly painted with "stylized plants and animals in a palate of saturated colors, framing brilliant white panels inscribed with Hebrew texts."

The magnificent, mural-covered Gwoździec synagogue was located in SE Poland, now SW Ukraine. Its re-creation is the centerpiece of Warsaw's POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews the sloped timber roof is the first object seen when entering the museum. virtualtour.polin.pl/punkt/3-gwozdziec-synagogue/

"The dramatic colored interior paintings combine Jewish iconography and religious text with polychrome techniques also found in Polish wooden churches. The combination of painted ceiling & sculptural roof crystallizes the creative co-existence of Jewish and Polish traditions in the communities that once flourished throughout Poland."



www.handshouse.org/gwozdziec/

The 2015 movie RAISE THE ROOF documents the reconstruction of the Gwoździec synagogue. For ten years, Rick and Laura Brown of Handshouse Studio in Massachuttes worked on the project. They partnered with the Timber Framers Guild to recreate the roof structure in Sanok, Poland, using only period tools. Over 90 professional artists and students participated in the Ceiling Painting Workshops. "The Wooden Synagogue Replication Project has been a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for students from many disciplines to work in 12 workshops located in 8 cities throughout Poland involving 58 professionals and 238 students from 26 American and 12 Polish universities."

The 1 hr. 25 min. film has been winning Film Festival awards. TRAILER: https://vimeo.com/107332820

#### **MADISON - Museum of Contemporary Art** Feb 6 - May 22 Frank Stella Prints: A Retrospective

"For over fifty years, Frank Stella has created a significant body of abstract art comprised of paintings, reliefs, sculptures, drawings, and prints. Frank Stella Prints: A Retrospective details the artist's remarkable career as a printmaker. It presents, as evidence, over 100 prints that make apparent how his highly experimental endeavors have redefined the traditional print. The exhibition also offers a clear view of Stella's stylistic evolution—a series of reinventions from the minimalist geometric abstraction of the early years to the baroque exuberance of the later gestural work......[this is] the artist's first major print retrospective since 1982..."

Frank Stella's POLISH VILLAGES are in Warsaw:

#### WARSAW - POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews Feb 19-June 20 Frank Stella and Synagogues of Historic Poland

"...provides a unique opportunity to meet an artist widely regarded as be one of the greats of twentieth-century American art. The exhibition features the extraordinary work of Frank Stella, and also tells the fascinating story of its creation. For the first time Stella's reliefs from the Polish Village series will be set side by side with the prewar photographs and measured drawings of wooden synagogues that inspired them - a fascinating overlap and interplay of two seemingly distant worlds: that of the Polish wooden Synagogue and modern American art."

#### 2015 LIST OF EVENTS: POLISH HERITAGE CLUB OF WISCONSIN, INC. - MADISON GROUP

#### Jan 25 Elected at PHCWI-Madison's ANNUAL MEETING

at Lakeview Lutheran Church - For 1 year: VP-PRES. ELECT Ryszard Zolnik and DIRECTOR Jane Dunn (finish a 2 yr.term) For 2 years: TREASURER Linda Cagle and DIRECTORS Patricia Brinkman and Marcia Flannery Continuing on the Board: PRESIDENT John Hagen, PAST

PRESIDENT Joanna Pasowicz, SECRETARY Pam Pasowicz, DIRECTOR Marge Morgan

Dziękuję for their service to the club - PAST PRESIDENT Butch Luick, DIRECTOR Irene Swiggum, and those who resigned: PRESIDENT Stan Graiewski and DIRECTOR Ralph Tyksinski.

Oct 24 CELEBRATION OF OUR 35<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY: 72 members and guests enjoyed beautiful Olbrich Gardens, and visiting with old and new acquaintances. Special thanks to: the Anniversary Committee: Jane Dunn-Chair, Barb Lomperski and Patricia Brinkman, and Past Club Presidents; slide show: Rose Meinholz and Larry Hochman; and for the Polish Treasures from club members display and handout: Jane Dunn, Jean Wroblewski, and Basia Pulz. (Stories about the treasures will be included in future newsletters.) Father Brian Dulli led the prayers, and several of the students he is leading to WYD2016 in Krakow served as our helpful wait staff. Monty's Caterers provided three delicious different entrées. After dinner speaker Justice Shirley Abrahamson told of her family's Polish con-nections. Honorary club member Tyrone Greive/violin and Michael Keller/piano performed music by Wieniawski, Chopin, & Bacewicz. Our special event ended with an energetic, color-ful performance by Milwaukee's Syrena Folk Dance Ensemble.

**BOOK CLUB** Quarterly meetings, coordinated by Kasia Kryzostaniak, have been ongoing since 2002.

- Jan. Pilsudski: A Life for Poland by Wacław Jędrzejewicz and Unvanquished by Peter Hetherington
- <u>May</u>. *Adam Mickiewicz: The Life of a Romantic* by Roman Robert Koropeckyj, and other sources
- <u>Aug</u>. Copernicus' Secret by Jack Repcheck and A More Perfect Heaven by Dava Sobel, & others
- <u>Nov</u>. Independence Day: *WARSAW 1920* by Zamoyski. *White Eagle, Red Star: The Polish-Soviet War 1919-1920, The Miracle on the Vistula* by Norman Davies. *1920 Diary* by Isaak Babel

#### **CLUB SOCIAL ACTIVITIES:**

<u>1st Friday</u> Breakfasts at the Monona Garden Restaurant <u>Parades</u>: For the 3<sup>rd</sup> year, Butch Luick & Barbara Lomperski organized volunteers and The Red Truck for parades in Black Earth, Evansville, and Middleton.

Dec 5 The 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Wigilia, at Turner Hall for the second time, was again catered by Ron Dombroski. Irene Swiggum read *The Golden Christmas Tree* (legend of animals speaking on Christmas Eve). Scholarship winners James Dodge & Weronika Zolnik spoke about their plans & family histories.

**GENEALOGY** 2014 President Joanna Pasowicz was a guest presenter at the Dane County Genealogical Society Meeting. Guest Genealogist Barb Glassel hosted a Polish genealogy self-help get-together, and again helped people at the Bazaar with their genealogy questions. The newsletter regularly lists genealogy workshops, meetings and webinars of the WI Historical Society, and other Genealogy events.

FESTIVALS are for the enjoyment of members and the public. They are successful thanks to our dedicated volunteers.

March 29 Our Palm Sunday Spring Festival was again well attended at Immaculate Heart of Mary School. Great publicity from Monona's HERALD INDEPENDENT featured large color pictures in three different issues: Gloria Welniak (Polish palms eggs and cards) detailed the making of pisanki and Polish palms, John & Heather Hagen (on Gubalowka in Zakopane) - John was quoted: "I believe that keeping our ancestors' alive is such an important task. It teaches us about where we came from and helps to build our own identities".

Nov 7 The 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Polish Christmas Bazaar, at K of Cs Hall: Chef Ron Dombroski, SmokeHaus Catering, made the lunch Club member Nancy Wisniewski made and donated a wall hanging for the Silent Auction organized by Gloria Welniak. NEW: kielbasa/ pierogi pre-orders, as done at Spring Festival Club's Facebook page: "This was such a cool event! This was mine & my sister's first year attending. We are 2nd generation Americans on my dad's side, 50% Polish & so excited to learn more about our heritage. We will be back next yr.Thankyou!!!"

#### Others Fairs and Festivals the club participated in:

Feb 21 International Festival at Overture Center: our crafts display was located by the prominent first floor entrance. Besides books, crafts, jewelry, and pottery, the crowds purchased 14 doz. pączki, Bigos/Kielbasa/kraut/rye bread. The Central Wisconsin Center CWC's large gym was filled for their annual Culture Fair. Member Kasia Krzyzostaniak's again did a Polish display, using the club's display & her own items. The May 9 Portage Co. Cultural Festival in Stevens Point again had club members selling jewelry, crafts, grocery items. NEW a popular \$1 sample plate of poppyseed rolls, pączki and kolacki. The 2015 theme was: WE ALL STARTED AS IMMIGRANTS.

NEW in 2015: Sept. 20, a beautiful sunny day, was club's first time at the "one-&-only Willy Street Fair." Many stopped at our booth to chat, learn about Poland, and to view and purchase Polish items. Club President Ryszard Zolnik also marched in the parade with Returned Peace Corps Volunteers. Kasia Virgell quickly posted many colorful pictures on our Facebook.

#### **CO-SPONSORED EVENTS:**

THE ESSENCE OF LIFE/ Esencja życia Polish Director Anna Ferens's documentary about club member and UW Professor Waclaw Szybalski was shown in Poland, New Orleans, Atlanta, Chicago, Florida and Michigan. Our club contributed financially to the film, and is listed in the credits. It premiered in Madison Dec. 2014. The 58 minute film is available for purchase. Contact Irena Fraczek ifraczek7@gmail.com.

Gloria Welniak's workshops, Mar 14 Polish Easter Eggs and Oct 13 wreaths, were co-sponsored by Pinney Library.

The Annual Madison Polish Film Festival (this year the 25<sup>th)</sup> is organized by the Polish Students Association. We advertise the festival and contribute financially. The 2015 films:

CALL ME MARIANNA / Q&A with director Karolina Bielawska, THESE DAUGHTERS OF MINE / Moje corki, krowy, MIASTO 44, THE PHOTOGRAPHER / Fotograf, GODS / Bogowie

**SCHOLARSHIP** essays by the 2014 winners were printed in the 2015 newsletters: *Polish Culture - A Rich History of Dance and Literature* by Claire Wisniewski, *Wanda Landowska* by Lauren Paul, *Martial Law in Poland* by Jessica Bowden, and *The Warsaw Ghetto* by James Morledge Dodge

The 2015 Scholarship winners:

James Dodge, Aleksandra Hoffman and Weronika Zolnik.

#### **EVENTS PUBLICIZED:**

Feb 2 pages of trips to Poland, and more trips in other issues Feb 17 Paczki Day: Pictures in the WI STATE JOURNAL taken at Scott's Bakery in Middleton, showed member Patricia "Blue Accordion" Stone playing tunes for the enjoyment of many. Mar 4 Pulaski Day, a WI Public Schools Observation Day Apr 2 Philip Kosloski book signing in Stevens Point: In the Footsteps of a Saint: John Paul II's Visit to Wisconsin Apr 4 Holy Saturday Blessing of Baskets Święconka Apr/May Polish Meble: Zuzanna Repka's Black Red White Polish Furniture Store on Watts Rd. (and her store was featured in the May 24 WI STATE JOURNAL) May 3rd Polish Constitution Day Trzeciego Maja 1999 WI SJR 11 NorthWest Student Exchange to host a student from Poland June - Sept Polish church picnics (Portage Co. and others) Also the 12<sup>th</sup> DOZYNKI HARVEST FESTIVAL in Stevens Point Winona, MN events: St. Stan's Parish Picnic, and the Polish Cultural Institute and Museum: Smaczne Jablka (Apple Day), YouTube tour, and July 2016 Kashubian Tour of Poland WORLD YOUR DAY (WYD) Kraków 2016: Madison area trips planned by St Paul's UW Campus Center and by Father Dulli. Polish American Congress-Wisconsin Division booklet: Do You Know Poland? (a handy 10 pg. list of books and info.) Kabanosy (thin dry all-pork sausages) for sale by Underground Meats on Williamson St. and sometimes at Farmer's Markets.

**POLISH KIDS CLUB** Thanks to the organizing of member Lisbeth Laciak-Huber, a weekly Children's Polish Hour began in November. <a href="https://www.facebook.com/PolishKidsClubMadison/">www.facebook.com/PolishKidsClubMadison/</a>

#### **POLISH FILMS:**

IDA directed by Paweł Pawlikowski won the 2015 Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film, the first Polish film to do so. It was shown twice during the 2014 WI Film Festival, and then at Sundance, and later at Marquee Theater.

April WI Film Festival Our Club contributed financially. When one of the 150 films was shown, our name was in the credits.

WI Public TV Multiple showings of: Rick Steves' Poland shows, Jerzy Popieluszko Messenger of Truth, Burt Wolf Czestochowa
Sept 24-Oct 8 Milwaukee Film Festival:

RUN BOY RUN (German/Polish) 8-yr.old flees Warsaw ghetto

YOOPERA! Michigan's UP, opera, a Polish Resistance Fighter
Nov 6 UW-Madison Cinematheque with live music:

THE YELLOW TICKET / Der Gelbe Schein Cast: Pola Negri

#### Martin Scorsese's Masters of Polish at UW-Cinematheque:

- ASHES AND DIAMONDS (POPIOL Y DIAMENT) Dir. Andrzej Wajda
- INNOCENT SORCERERS (NIEWINNI CZARODZIEJE) Dir. A.Wajda
- EROICA Dir. Munk; WALKOVER Dir: Jerzy Skolkimowski
- PHARAOH (FARAON) Dir: Jerzy Kawalerowicz
- BLIND CHANCE (PRZYPADEK) Dir: K. Kieslowski
- PROVINCIAL ACTORS Dir. Agnieszka Holland
- MAN OF IRON (CZLOWIEK Z ZELAZA) Dir. A. Wajda
- THE SARAGOSSA MANUSCRIPT Dir. Wojchiech Has

#### MUSIC EVENTS:

Jan 13 WI-born Chopin pianist Frank Glazer passed away, was due to play at UW-Milwaukee on 100<sup>th</sup> birthday Feb.19.

Feb 13-15 Pianist Íngrid Fliter / Madison Symphony Orchestra Chopin's Concerto No. 2 for Piano, Overture Center Feb 22 Dr. Trevor Stephenson performed/discussed solo works by Chopin on his 1850 English parlor grand piano Mar 13 Pianist Marco Grieco: Chopin and others at Farley's April 24-26 Wisconsin Dells Polka Fest, Chula Vista Resort Sept 14 - Nov 9 UW- Cont.Studies, Steve Kurr, Instructor: Great Composers: Byrd, Bach, Chopin, Rimsky- Korsakov Oct 4 Daniel del Pino at Farley's Chopin Twelve etudes Op. 10

Szymon Wozniczka promoted music on WORT-FM. Organized:

Mar 7 Nothing But Swing Trio: Music of Krzysztof Komeda

Sept. 22 "NINE LANGUAGES" Karolina Cicha and Bart Palyga

Brink Lounge (NY Polish Cultural Institute /UW-Slavic Dept.)

**July 11-18 Madison Early Music Festival** *Slavic Discoveries - Early Music from Eastern Europe. Polish events:* 

Concerts: Rose Ensemble Feast /Saints Russia, Bohemia, Poland Ensemble Peregrina Polish Clarissen Cloisters

Workshops: Polish Chant K. Landerkin/ A. Budzińska-Bennett Great Polish Instrumental Sonatas and Canzoni Greg Ingles Distinctly Polish Instrumental Idioms Emily Jane Katayama Polish Motets (Tom Zajac, who performed and taught at the Festival for 15 years, was unable to attend, and passed away Aug. 31)

\*Thank you to John Barker, UW Emeritus Professor of History, for his event lectures, and for his November newsletter article.

#### **UW-MADISON EVENTS:**

- The Polish Students Association the Polish Film Festival.
- · UW-Madison courses and conferences included:

POLI SCI 659 Politics and Society: Contemporary Eastern
Europe INSTRUCTOR Boriana Nikolova

<u>HISTORY 500</u> *Migrants, Refugees, Border-Crossers in Modern Europe* INSTRUCTOR Kathryn Ciancia

Oct 10 Winson Chu Rethinking "National Indifference" German and Polish Activists in Łódź

Oct 9 - 10 WI Chapter of AATSEEL Conference (American Association of Teachers of Slavic & E. European Languages)

KEYNOTE: Displaced Tyrannies: Allegories of Repression in East Central European Literature

• CREECA - Center for Russia, East Europe, and Central Asia:

Feb 12 Keely Stauter-Halsted Sex in the Bourgeois Family:

Prostitution and the Middle Class Home in Partitioned Poland

Mar 12 Gina/Eric Lewandkowski Madison Encounters iBożków

#### MILWAUKEE EVENTS attended by club members:

- Polish Center of Wisconsin: Fish Fries & Polish Beer Tastings Lectures by the Polish Studies Committee UW-Milwaukee Concerts: Czerwone Gitary, Carmen Knoll, Ardiente Quartet, Kuba Stankiewicz, Grażyna Auguścik Group, Kamil Tokarski
- POLANKI the Women's Cultural Club's annual Pierogi and Soup Festivals, Awards Tea (3 to UW-Madison students)
- Polish American Congress-WI Division at their Independence Day/Veterans Day Nov. 8 Luncheon, presented 5 awards, one to our member Professor Waclaw Szybalski.

**PHCWI-MADISON** Facebook: Thanks to Kasia Virgell for all her work! By Nov 732 LIKES. 433,562 people saw All Saints post! At the end of 2015 the club had 204 voting members (52 Family, 88 Individual, and 12 Honorary members.)

## **Music and Theater**

#### Chopin performances:

18th Annual ~ Polish Fest CHOPIN YOUTH PIANO COMPETITION JUNE 19 Milwaukee Summerfest Grounds



**1 May 3:30 pm. Haley O'Neil, Morphy Hall 455 N. Park St.** Bachelor's of Music Piano Performance under direction of Christopher Taylor: Chopin's *Polonaise-Fantasie*.

13 May 7:30 pm. Trevor Stephenson, 900 University Bay Dr. performs music of Chopin and others on 19<sup>th</sup> century Viennese concert grand piano - Bosendorfer. from website: "Over the past two years I have been rebuilding a magnificent 1855 Viennese concert grand piano made by Bösendorfer. This is one of the last instruments whose manufacture was overseen by the company's founder of the company, Ignaz Bösendorfer (1796-1859), who established the firm in 1828. It has a classic *prell-mechanik* Viennese action--which flicks the hammers toward the strings (as opposed to the modern action which drives the hammers)--which gives the tone great immediacy and presence. Though massive and heavily strung, with tensions approaching those of the modern piano, this instrument has no metal plate to alleviate the tension of the strings, but relies upon an ingenious wooden frame design. The resonance of the sound is thus entirely carried by the wood and the result is a dark, intense and very clear-pitched tone that I find absolutely fascinating for the music of the composers we'll hear on this program. I'll also talk about the process of rebuilding this instrument: re-stringing with 19<sup>th</sup>-c. replica wire, re-felting the hammers, replacing the hitchpin rail in the bass, having iron-wound bass strings."

17 April. Auguscik and Bester Duo at The Brink included Chopin's Sonata in G minor and Prelude in C minor.

Past Madison Symphony Orchestra concerts:

11 March. Emanuel Ax "gave Chopin's Waltz 34 opus 2 as an encore. Always a beautiful piece - a rolling, decorated melody above a waltz accompaniment - Ax gave a lesson in the proper use of rubato, bending and curling the tempo and melody for best expression." - Jessica M. Courties THE CAPITAL TIMES April 3. Garrick Ohlsson [Brahms] "complemented perfectly by the quietly songful encore ... the lyrical Nocturne in D-flat major by Chopin." - Jacob Stockinger WELL-TEMPERED EAR

**21** May 2-4 pm. *Wisconsin Folks: Masters of Tradition* Stoughton Opera House event includes Sidonka Wadima who demonstrates egg and straw art, and will be at Polish Fest.

### The Mayrent Institute for Yiddish Culture

"is dedicated to studying and preserving historical Yiddish music and culture, teaching it to new generations, and supporting scholarship and programming that explores it as an important facet of Jewish and American life."

14-15 April. World Records Symposium topics: "contemporary concerns of sound archives, included a performance by Cookie Segelstein & Josh Horowitz: Rural Polish Yiddish music. With a panel, they discussed: The Secret Workshop of Veretski Pass: Creating new traditional music from a fragmented past. http://mayrentinstitute.wisc.edu/events/world-records-2016/schedule/

1-5 May. Out of the Shadows: Rediscovering Jewish Music, Literature and Theater "...a major international research project, led by the Univ. of Leeds, England,... shine[s] new light on forgotten works by Jewish artists. UW-Madison and the City of Madison are uniquely situated as the sole hosts for the project's performance events within the United States; one of the premier public research-intensive universities in the world, located in a community that lives and breathes diverse arts, while striving for social change."

#### 5 May 7:30 pm. Capital Theater, Overture Center

"... an all-star finale in which the Pro Arte Quartet joins with internationally renowned soprano Elizabeth Hagedorn, flutist Stephanie Jutt and pianist Thomas Kasdorf from Bach Dancing & Dynamite Society, pianist Zijin Yao, and Madison's beloved Wisconsin Youth Symphony Orchestra and Madison Youth Choirs. The concert features works by Gideon Klein, Walter Wurzburger, and world premieres of compositions by Wilhelm Grosz and Josima Feldschuh."



Poster for Josima's 15 March 1941 concert, used on the youtube "Walz by Josima Feldschuh (1929-1943) the child prodigy who played piano in the Warsaw Ghetto. "a rosy-cheeked girl with a bow in her hair, sitting at a piano, written in Polish: '11 Yr. old piano virtuoso.' PROGRAM: Mozart's Marriage of Figaro and Schubert's Unfinished Symphony. The concert was held at Rymarska 12, heart of the Warsaw Ghetto.

Two yrs. later, she was smuggled out of the ghetto before the Uprising but died several months later of TB."

#### Past UW-Madison CREECA events: April 14.

The Theater of Public Life in the New Europe: Muffled Voices, Cries for Help, and Other Challenges "The talk, both academic and personal, considers the current refugee crisis in Europe through a re-reading of Hannah Arendt. It discusses the public square, with its theater of public life, as an infrastructure for hope, in which otherness can be explored, and violence prevented." ABOUT THE SPEAKER: Elzbieta Matvnia. PhD, Sociology, University of Warsaw, is Professor of Sociology and Liberal Studies and director of the Transregional Center for Democratic Studies at the New School for Social Research in New York. "Her research in the sociology of politics and art focuses on democratic transformations in E & Cen Europe, .. and more recently on the shrinking of democracy... Her recent books bring together the theater of politics, performance art, and citizens' agency. An Uncanny Era presents post-revolutionary conversations btw. Europe's most emblematic former dissidents: Czech playwright/President Václav Havel, & Polish political thinker Adam Michnik. Her Performative Democracy, explores a potential in political life that easily escapes theorists: the indigenously inspired enacting of democracy by citizens. Written by one who experienced an emerging public sphere within pre-1989 Poland, it seeks to identify the conditions for performativity in public life."

## Polish Heritage Club of Wisconsin, Inc.-Madison Group PO Box 45438 Madison, WI 53744-5438

2016 PHCWI MEMBERSHIP –for yourself and/or as a gift membership
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FAMILY \$25INDIVIDUAL \$15 SCHOLARSHIP DONATION NEW RENEWALSELF_ GIFT QUESTIONS (608) 831-8827 CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Polish Heritage Club - Madison
Which activities interest you:  Book Group_Crafts_Displays_Events_ Genealogy_Newsletter_Publicity_Displays_Other
My name/address/phone # may be in Membership DirectoryDo not include me in the Directory.
If you want, please share:
Your Birthday(s)/Anniversary
Where your family lived in Poland
Your Occupation/Business is/was
MEMBERSHIPS ARE FROM JAN 1 TO DEC 31 Dziękuję!

## 1.00 USD = 3.91 Zloty **IN THE NEWS** various sources

#### POLAND:

- #57 on UN Happiness List.(GDP, social support, life expectancy, freedom to make choices, generosity, trust) Denmark #1, US #13
- # 6 on Glass Ceiling Index on March 8 Women's Day
- 81% of Poles favor Polish membership in EU, 10% opposed.
- Average Pole eats 9 -12 grams salt/day, >2x recommended.
- <u>25 Feb</u> EU Court of Justice will study Polish rail safety for not fully implementing railway security regulations.
- HOUSTON, GOP Debate Marco Rubio told of Trump's 1 million \$ fine re. Polish workers in the 1980s who were hired to demolish a building on Fifth Avenue for the Trump Tower.
- March Leżajsk, SE Poland ~ Hasidic Jews from Europe, Canada, the US, & Israel visited during annual pilgrimage to tomb of Rabbi Elimelech Weissblum. 2016 the 230<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his death.
- 4 Mar LONDON, UCI Track Cycling World Championships Polish women's track cycling team qualifies for Olympics in Rio 17 Mar MARKOWA, SE PL Opening Museum of Poles Saving Jews. 30-31 March WASHINGTON D.C. President Duda spoke to the Na. Press Club, and had a face to face talk with President Obama. He attended the 4<sup>th</sup> Nuclear Security Summit of 56 countries.
- <u>April</u> WROCŁAW European Capital of Culture 2016 hosts ~ 300 cultural luminaries from Ukraine painters, poets, musicians. Many from Lwów's settled in Wrocław after WWII.
- 1 Apr KATOWICE, near the International Congress Centre A square was named after Henryk Sławik and Jozsef Antall who worked to save ~ 5,000 Polish Jews in Hungary during World War II.

  2 Apr MACERATA, Italy Pianist Krystian Zimerman and a turner repaired an old piano and played it instead of his own Steinway.

  JANÓW PODLASKI 3<sup>rd</sup> horse death from "abdominal spasms"

  Rolling Stones drummer's wife is suing the state-run Stud Farm.

- 3 Apr WARSAW, Teatr Wielki National Opera Concert in honor of 100<sup>th</sup> birthday of violinist and conductor Sir Yehudi Menuhin. SOPOT, WARSAW, GDAŃSK Street protests, and people walked out of church during the reading of an anti-abortion letter 4 Apr PANAMA PAPERS 3 Poles named on the tax haven list. MILWAUKEE, Miller Park Opening Day First Brat delivery by Famous Racing Sausages<sup>TM</sup> Relay: Polish, Brat, Italian, Hot Dog, Chorizo. 6 Apr Poland's Foreign Ministry Russia is "distorting' truth about removal of Soviet monuments." Plans to remove 500 monuments
- 7 Apr-1 May BRANSON, MO, Silver Dollar City World Fest Śląsk Folk Song and Dance Ensemble, based in Koszęcin, Silesia, performs for an estimated audience of 60,000 their 13<sup>th</sup> visit to the USA.

  7-10 Apr WARSAW, Na. Stadium First International Art Fair

  8 Apr WARSAW Alina Szapocznikow's *Ptak/Bird* sculpture sold for record PLN 1.95 million. Was in a shed in the US for decades.

  9 Apr-9 Oct WARSAW, Palace of Culture *Titanic*, *the Exhibition*14 Apr CORK, Ireland After 'mob attack' of 15-30 people threw glass bottles, set fire? Polish family returned their house keys.
- 15 Apr WARSAW ~2,000 protested an anti-windfarm bill. POZNAŃ To mark the 1,050th anniversary of Poland, the National Assembly met for the first time ever outside of Warsaw.
- 19 Apr GDAŃSK ~100 painters are producing the first "painted animation" biography of Vincent Van Gogh. 'Loving Vincent' is directed by Dorota Kobiela b. Bytom, PL.
- <u>23 Apr</u> KRAKÓW, Hutten-Czapski Museum Opening of the Józef Czapski Pavilion. Józef was an artist, author, critic and WWII POW. 2016 is the  $120^{\rm th}$  anniversary of his birth.
- 12 May STOCKHOLM, Eurovision Song Contest Michał Szpak represents Poland with the song *Color of Your Life*.
   29 May NY HARBOR, near Statue of Liberty Aleksander Doba
   (b. Swarzędz, PL) starts his 3<sup>rd</sup> solo kayak trip across the Atlantic.