

Polish Journey

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I am very proud of the Polish Cultural Council's organizational mission. Because we are a Polish cultural organization, and not a political one, we do not delve into the current politics of Poland at our meetings. Although we have many native-born Poles on our board and in our membership, we avoid the pitfalls of some other Polish organizations which advance one political agenda after another while members "take sides". Our debates are not about the roles of the church and the state in Poland. Rather, they are about topics such as which particular Polish musician would draw a crowd in Pittsburgh.

I am also involved in an organization whose mission is to support Poland as a loyal ally and a proven friend of the United States. I also have friends involved in Polish "social" organizations around the country. An increasing number of members are Polish-born. They therefore have a keen interest in internal Polish politics. The Polish Americans within these organizations are more concerned that Poland has a democratically elected government free from outside influence. Internal Polish politics are not their concern. Increasingly, in Polish political and social organizations, the members are determined to get their political agenda met, which often means nothing gets done as participants' tempers rise and focus turns to who is right. The anger is based on Poland's political winds. Now, via these organizations, those

winds have landed on the shores of the US.

Here is a brief overview of Polish politics. In Poland, the right, or conservative, parties are typically very much aligned with the Catholic Church, having on their platform restrictions on abortion, in-vitro fertilization, gay rights, etc. They are also highly nationalistic

successful years in office, the center (Civic Platform Party), led by president Komorowski, lost to the Kaczynski's right wing Law and Justice Party. The Law and Justice Party was led by a relatively unknown candidate for president, Andrzej Duda. This was a stunning defeat for the party whose objective was full integration with the

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

and against any further integration with the European Union. They are vehemently anti-Russian, calling for increases in military spending. They blame Putin for downing the plane carrying President Kaczynski and his entourage to Smolensk, Russia. Their strength comes from the rural areas of Poland, especially the southeast, close to the Ukraine.

The left, in the case of Poland, is comprised of former communists. The party is virtually irrelevant. However, the center party is pitted against the Polish right. The center is highly supportive of EU integration. (Where do you think all of the money for Poland's new highways came from?) They firmly believe in the separation of church and state. They have their greatest followings in the urbanized areas of Warsaw, Krakow, Wraclaw and Poznan.

There was a national election in Poland in May. Like most elections, this was a struggle between two political parties with two very different ideologies.

After five fairly

European Union. So, the left replaces the right and at some time in the future, the opposite will occur. Such is the nature of politics: nothing lasts forever.

So why am I writing about Polish politics when they are not part of the PCC? My observation is that Polish political discussion in the US within our cultural and social organizations is the kiss of death for them. I have seen the battle lines drawn, and for what purpose? No one wins, except some egos. Let the Poles sort their politics out themselves and leave it on their shores. Let those of us who truly care about Poland lobby our government to help insure that it remains a free country, democratically elected and a strong member of NATO with good trade agreements. Who the next president of Poland is, is for the Poles in Poland to decide. Who will be the next Polish musician to bring to Pittsburgh, is ours.

Rick Pierchalski
President PCC



GLAMOUR IN THE SHADOW

By Magda Rybka, (Warsaw, Poland)

If you intend to recapture your heritage or wish to find the less traveled path for your next vacation anytime of the year, the article below from our Warsaw correspondent will pique your interest. Ed.

Busko

Most of us have heard about Busko and its underground treasures. Many have been lucky enough to “enjoy” the virtues of its foul-smelling, salty and sulphury water and benefited from its miraculous qualities. The minerals it contains are supposed to be good for everything that’s inside and outside us, starting with heart and finishing with our hair and nails. Not many, however, have had the opportunity to go to the resort in November and stroll around the spa park in the misty fall afternoon when all the sculptures, statues and dead fountains take on mysterious and monstrous shapes that bring to mind the books of Zafon. In this hazy weather the old Marconi sanatorium looks like an enchanted castle. Its few residents and scarce visitors, hiding under umbrellas and behind high collars of their coats, seem unreal and kind of ghostly. Beautiful Art Nuoveau villas, partly submerged in shadows, deepen the sense of timelessness. Only a cup of heated and aromatic wine ordered in Deresław’s castle can bring you back to normal. Deresław was a medieval knight who owned the Busko territory. Knight Deresław left



Pińczów

his property to the nuns in 1241. In 1251, the nuns received a revenue privilege from King Bolesław the Chaste (Bolesław Wstydlivy) allowing the convent to use the salt water. This is the first record of the use of Busko’s mineral waters. In 1287, Busko was granted civic rights by Prince Leszek the Black. We may see the statue of the famous prince and warrior in the main avenue leading from the spa park to the town market place. A small and shapely figure of the heroic black knight welcomes tourists and passers-by. Yes, the history of Busko and the surrounding region started long ago and left imprints all around. It’s an unquestionable challenge and pleasure to follow the long forgotten path of historic traces.

Wiślica

It takes just a quarter of an hour to get from Busko to Wiślica. The town was founded more than 1000 years ago, close to the important trade routes. At that time it was probably the capital of the famous tribe of Vistulans. The land of Vistulans, after coming under temporary rule of Great Moravia and Bohemia, was incorporated into Poland by Mieszko the First in 990. The first fortified settlement was probably founded at the end of the 9th century.

Before entering the town, we can see the proud tower of the Collegiate Basilica of the Birth of the Virgin Mary, which was completed by King Kazimir the Great

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“The opinions expressed by authors do not always reflect the views of the PCC.”

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We are very grateful to Terri Barger for her three-year term on our Board as a Secretary. Her commitment, her expertise and her invaluable input will be hard to follow!

Our best wishes for her next endeavors.

in 1350. It's the most ancient and biggest two-aisled church in Poland. Inside, we shall see the original wall paintings dating back to the reign of King Jagiello who founded them in 1400. Today, the Collegiate is the Sanctuary of the Smiling Madonna, half-sculpture, said to be given to Wiślica by king Ladislaus the Elbow-High, (Krol Wladyslaw Lokietek), but whose origins are not really known. There is a legend that when Wiślica was sieged by Bohemians, the Virgin Mary supported Ladislaus in his quest for power and helped him to defeat his enemies and gain the throne of Poland. Ladislaus, in order to express his gratitude to the Virgin Mary initiated the construction of the Gothic Collegiate, which we can still admire today. It was not the first church on this site; however, excavations showed the ruins of two earlier buildings in the basements of the Collegiate. The first was the church of Our Lady dating back to the 12th century with its most precious Slab of Orants – a Romanesque floor plate with figures of people and animals carved on it. Historians assume that the figures presented two princes who were the founders of the old church: Henry of Sandomierz and his younger brother, Kazimir II. The other building, Holy Trinity church was constructed in the 13th century.

In the late 1950s, archaeologists also discovered the foundations of St. Nicholas church, presumably built in the 10th or 11th century. Its remnants are displayed at the museum pavilion.

The discovery of a gypsum baptismal font, which might serve as a font for collective baptisms, on the site of the church, became a scientific sensation. It is one of the oldest historic artifacts in Poland, and in my view, multiplies the importance of this little town which came to be the witness of the Polish game of thrones. I must add here, as an aside, that we were rather unlucky. We came to Wiślica on holiday and we couldn't see it all because the main expositions were not accessible. We could only peek at the famous font through thick window glass. We could delight, though, in wonderful frescoes, and stained glass windows lit by the faint November sun rays. We could look at so called Dog Hill (Psia Górka), where knight Gniewosz had to literally bark out his accusations about the immoral conduct of Queen Jadwiga. We also got to



St. Bartolomeus at the Hotel Czerwony near Busko

the basement of the Gothique house of Jan Długosz who was a cantor curator in the Wiślica collegiate. In the house there are the remains of old polichromies and original wooden elements of the house framework.

For us the visit to the house was more adventurous than educational, since the electricity was off. So we watched the Museum treasures in the light of the torch, which made us feel like Indiana Jones.

After a short walk around the town, we moved on. We had only two days to enjoy our sightseeing, so we had no time to spare.

Pińczów

Another 20 minutes and here we are. There is a famous saying '...and it dawns in Pińczów'. It is tough to understand it well, until one finally visits the place. The tiny town overwhelms with Renaissance and Baroque beauty and the gravity of its history.

The attractions include the 18th-century palace of the Wielkopolski family, several churches and monasteries (some dating back to the 15th century), the Renaissance St. Anne's Chapel, the recently restored synagogue, and the ruins of the 13th-century castle. The complex of the former Pauline monastery, founded in 1449 by Cardinal Zbigniew Oleśnicki, is

located in Pińczów's market square. Currently, a regional museum is located here. We may visit a Franciscan monastery from 1587 in the district of Mirów, as well as a house which once hosted a Calvinist printing shop which published for example, the works of Frycz Modrzewski. Shame that there is no visible informative placque on a house of such importance. Indeed, Pińczów in the period of Reformation was the center of intellectual development. The famous Pinczow Academy called the Sarmatian Athenes could boast with the best teachers and wonderful achievements like the first Polish translation of the Bible. It was also the center of famous theological debates. It all came to an end after 1592 with the victory of the Counter-Reformation. Pauline monks, previously expelled by Zbigniew Oleśnicki, returned, took over the building occupied by the Pińczów Academy and redeccorated the former church in the Baroque style.

An important chapter of Pińczów life was involved with the Jewish community which constituted the majority of town inhabitants. The old Synagogue, recently rebuilt, is therefore an extremely important landmark commemorating the lost people and the lost connection. Reservations are required to visit the synagogue.

Alas, again, we had to satisfy ourselves with a nice walk around the city and a muddy climb to St. Anne's Hill, overlooking the town, where we could see a beautiful mannerist chapel. The museums and the chapel itself were closed because of the state holiday. Let's look at the positive side though: one lucky day, we will have a pretext to go there again, and see more of the "top-secret" mysteries of Pińczów.

After a short lunch break at a small but exquisite Middle-Eastern fast food place, we took a short drive around the countryside. We saw a few examples of wooden sacral architecture and enjoyed the picturesque views of Nida Landscape Park (Nadnidziański Park Krajobrazowy).

I encourage everyone to visit the mentioned places but please remember, the trip needs planning. It's a truth which we had apparently neglected.

Polish Conductor Krzysztof Urbanski debuts with PSO

By Jim Cunningham

Many of the greatest Polish musicians of the past century have appeared at Pittsburgh Symphony concerts. Pittsburgh music lovers heard Artur Rubin-stein, born in Lodz and often mentioned as the all time greatest interpreter of Chopin. Rubinstein appeared at Pitts-burgh's Syria Mosque in 1947 playing the Chopin Second Piano Concerto and Manuel de Falla's Nights in the Gardens of Spain on the same program, with Vladimir Bakaleinikoff conducting. He returned several times including a visit in 1961 with Music Director William Steinberg leading Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 4. The founder of the Polish Radio Symphony Orchestra and former Music Director of the Warsaw Philharmonic, Witold Rowicki, visited Pittsburgh in 1966 and 1967 including the fugue from the Second Symphony by Karol Szymanowski in his concerts. The famous Polish pianist, Krystian Zim-merman, had his Pittsburgh debut under Maestro Maazel's baton. Two of Po-land's most prominent musicians, Krzysz-tof Penderecki and Witold Lutoslawski, returned to Pittsburgh twice, appearing not only in Heinz Hall but also working with the students' orchestra at Duquesne University and the Pittsburgh New Music Ensemble. Both received their Doctorates Honoris Causa from Duquesne Univer-sity.

This past January members of the Polish Cultural Council heard one of Poland's brightest musical stars, Krzysz-tof Urbanski, in his Pittsburgh debut at Heinz Hall with the Pittsburgh Sym-phony in an all Russian concert. Maestro Urbanski is the new Music Director of the Indianapolis Symphony where he has charmed his new orchestra and the public since his appointment in 2011. At age 33, he is the youngest music director of an American orchestra. He has been called a young Herbert von Karajan but laughed when I told him I thought it was impressive to be compared to the long time leader of the Berlin Philharmonic. "Yes I've been called a baby conduc-tor." The *Wall Street Journal's* Pia Cat-ton suggested "his artfully tousled hair



Conductor Krzysztof Urbanski

could land him in a boy band". No one questioned his authority with the New York Philharmonic when he was called at his Warsaw home at the last minute to fill in for an ailing Christoph von Dohnanyi last December. He has been a hit with the Chicago Symphony and as Music Direc-tor of the Trondheim Orchestra. He was Principal Guest of the Tokyo Symphony and has conducted concerts recently which lead to his appointment as princi-pal guest with the North German Radio Orchestra in Hamburg.

The *Pittsburgh Tribune Review* critic chose Krzysztof Urbanski's debut concert as one of the high points of the year, writ-ing, "His leadership helped the orchestra play with confidence and panache in the unfamiliar Russian Overture by Sergei Prokofiev. His *Pictures at an Exhibition* similarly had special flair and precision in a very familiar piece". The Mussorgsky *Pictures* is so familiar to Urbanski that he conducted it from memory without a glance at the score. He told me having the notes in his head is more efficient be-cause he has limited rehearsal time when he introduces ideas as a guest conductor.

Speed is exhilarating to Urbanski at the podium and on the road. Pittsburgh was his first US road trip in the dead of

winter, driving from Indianapolis to the Steel City. He told me "I never get lonely on the road because I almost always travel with my wife". Has he mastered the American way of driving? "I don't know. What is the American way?", he asked. I told him it involved avoiding state troopers. Not a problem, I learned. Mrs. Urbanski was at the wheel for the Pittsburgh journey. Has Maestro Urban-ski been to the famous Indianapolis 500 Motor Speedway for the Memorial Day race? "Of course, and I enjoyed it very much".

Polish Cultural Council regulars at the PSO loved his very personal stamp on the classics and look forward to a return visit. In the meantime, you can find his first recordings with the Indianapolis Sym-phony and check out the DVD *A Tribute to Krzysztof Penderecki* in which Urbanski leads the *Threnody to the Victims of Hiro-shima*. Listen to his complete interview as audio on demand from the WQED-FM.org website and stay tuned for the complete Pittsburgh concert broadcast in the fall on WQED-FM 89.3 Sunday night at 8 PM.

Jim Cunningham is the Artistic Director of Classical QED 89.3
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Merle and Irene Addams: A Polish Love Story

by Mary Lou Ellena

The Polish community in Pittsburgh has lost two icons with the recent deaths of Merle and Irene Addams. Merle John Addams was born in Pittsburgh on December 8, 1922 to Jan and Antonina Koziel Adamiec. He died in Pittsburgh on March 28, 2015. Irene Laura Prus Adams was born on September 7, 1925 to Eva and Louis Prus in Pittsburgh. She died on April 27, 30 days after her husband. Merle and Irene would have celebrated their 68th wedding anniversary on June 12, 2015.

Theirs was a love which was meant to be. It was at a Polish Women's Alliance Convention dance in Pittsburgh that Irene Prus met her future husband, Merle. Too young to date, they courted by letter and by telephone until Merle returned home from World War II. Their marriage was the beginning of a life-long partnership which produced four children: Jeannine, Dean, Evanne and Kent, and six grandchildren.

Merle graduated from Duquesne University with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration in 1951. He spent the majority of his career selling commercial light bulbs to businesses and institutions in western Pennsylvania and eastern Ohio, rising through the ranks as district sales manager and regional sales manager for Luxor Lighting, Pittsburgh Guaranteed Lighting and Nefglo Products, until his retirement in 1987. Merle remained a member of the Army Active Reserve for 25 years, graduating from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, the Army War College, and the U.S Army Command and General Staff College. He retired from the Army as a Colonel in 1982.

Irene graduated from Taylor Alderdice High School in 1943. She was employed by the University of Pittsburgh as a secretary to the Chairman of the



Irene and Merle Addams

Mechanical Engineering Department until she married and started her family. Irene was a master seamstress and designer. She arranged flowers, baked delectable pies, and made mouth-watering jams and jellies. She loved hats and customized them to suit her style and her outfits. She and Merle lived in Allison Park for 51 years and were members of St. Ursula Parish, as well as Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish on Polish Hill.

Together, Merle and Irene Addams were forces of nature for their family, their church, their community and especially for Pittsburgh Polonia. Merle joined the Central Council of Polish Organizations in 1983, became Vice President in 1987, and was elected President in 1989. His first act as president was the beginning of a quest for "jedność", the Polish word for "oneness." Merle convened a meeting of the leaders of the various Polish organizations in metropolitan Pittsburgh, with the goal of unifying the fragmented groups into one strong organization that would advance the status of Polish Americans. With Irene and Merle working side-by-side, the

CCPO increased attendance at Polish Day at Kennywood, initiated the Polonian of the Year and Miss Polonia honors, began the Bal Polonaise (which later included debutantes), started the Karuzela Chorus and helped with countless programs and events which focused on Polish Americans in Pittsburgh. In 2003, the Central Council of Polish Organizations became the base for the formation of the Polish Cultural Council, the new, non-profit, organization. Jedność began to deliver results as the Polish organizations joined forces, providing greater community visibility to many cultural and fundraising programs.

Merle knew how to work a room. He made a point of meeting and greeting people by name, of complimenting their accomplishments and of truly listening to their concerns. Irene was the First Lady of the Central Council of Polish Organizations, (later known as the Polish Cultural Council (PCC)). Her vision and perseverance, combined with Merle's intelligence and wit, made them invincible as a team, each with complementary strengths. Few people could say no to a request from Irene; she was relentless. Few people could forget a conversation with Merle; he was witty and intelligent. He was a recipient of the Gold Cross of Merit, awarded by the President of the People's Republic of Poland for exemplary public service to Poland that goes above and beyond the call of duty.

The Pittsburgh Polish Community was enhanced by the lives of Merle and Irene Addams. We have likewise been diminished by their deaths. They will live on, however, in the hearts and minds of those who knew them and loved them. They were true moguls of the Poles of Pittsburgh.

Donations in honor of Merle and Irene Addams may be made to the Polish Cultural Council, P.O. Box 81054, Pittsburgh, PA

Speaking Polish – Piece of Cake

by Veronica Wojnaroski

The Polish language has quite a few words which are sources of many other words. In Polish, these groups of words with a common root convey a sense of unity in all of the things and activities which they represent. Here are just two.

From jeden, many

The word *jeden*, meaning one, is arguably the most prolific Polish word. In the Collins English/Polish dictionary, there is a full page of words which derive from *jeden*. The word came to Polish from Proto Slavic, and ultimately from Proto-Indo-European, from a word which means one or single. Beginning life as a number and an adjective, *jeden* has morphed into other adjectives, verbs, adverbs, nouns, pronouns, and even a conjunction. In many cases, it is the prefix of a noun or adjective, where it combines with another noun or adjective to make a new word.

In its most basic meaning, *jeden* is used to count and to tell time. Recognizing the Polish declensions, we have:

- jeden dom, one house;
- jedna druga, one half;
- jeszcze jeden, one more;
- ani jeden, not a single one;
- o jednej godzinie, at the same hour; and
- jedenaście domów, eleven houses

The many other more complicated words which derive from *jeden* all convey a sense of oneness, unity, or singleness. Two verbs (and their reflexive counterparts) are of interest. *Jednać* means to reconcile, while *jednać się* means to become reconciled with someone. *Jednoczyć* means to unite, while *jednoczyć się* means to unite with someone.

There seems to be only one pronoun which is derived from jeden, jedno, meaning one thing, but its uses are many. For example:

- Jedno i to samo, one and the same;
- Jedno jest pewne, one thing's for sure;
- Jedno z dwojga, one or the other.

Three nouns derive from *jeden*. There are *jedność*, unity; *jedynak*, an only child; and *jednostka*, individual. The one conjugation, *jednak*, means but or and yet.

Adjectives from *jeden* abound. *Jedyny* means dearest and *jednakowy* means equal. Here are a few adjectives created by combining *jeden* with another adjective.

Jeden	plus the adjective	produces the adjective
	barwny, colorful	jednobarwny, monochromatic
	głośny, loud	Jednogłośny, unanimous
	Krótki, short	Jednokrrotny, only once

Jednogłośnie can be made into the adverb, *jednogłośnie*, unanimously. Other adverbs include *jedynie*, only or merely, and *jednocześnie*, at the same time, where *jeden* combines with *czas*, time.

Gotta hand it to ya

The Polish word for hand, *ręka*, is the source of many words and many colorful phrases. In English, these same words are quite disparate, as you will see. Nouns which come from *ręka* are:

- ramię arm
- ręcznik towel
- rękaw sleeve
- rękawica glove
- rękawiczka mitten (there's that diminutive again)
- rękojeść handle
- rękopis manuscript

Strangely dłoń (palm) is not from the same source.

There is one adverb and one adjective:

- ręcznie manually, i.e., by hand
- ręczny hand, as in piłka ręczna, handball, ręczny hamulec, handbrake, and ręczne, robots, handmade

Most of the phrases which are derived from *reka* are quite similar to their English counterparts. Here are a few:

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| • od ręki | while you wait |
| • pod ręką | close at hand |
| • z pierwszej ręki | first-hand |
| • z pustymi rękoma | empty-handed |
| • ręce do góry! | hands up! |
| • Iść z kimś pod rękę | to walk arm in arm |

Homework for you

Jeden and ręka are just two of the many Polish words from which many other words are derived. Look through your dictionaries to see if you can identify others. Hint: try listing all of the words which are derived from the word gość, guest.

Answers for gość

Uspodana, in; gospodarczy, economic; gospodarka, economy; gospodarny, thrifty; gospodarski, farm; gospodarstwo, house-hold or farm; gospodarz, farmer or host; gospodarni, hostess; gospoia, housekeeper; gościć, to entertain; gościć u kogoś, to stay at somebody's house; gościć, hospitably; gościny, hospitable.

Bravo Krzysztof!



The Camille and Henry Dreyfus Foundation has announced that Krzysztof Matyjaszewski, the J. C. Warner University Professor of Natural Sciences at Carnegie Mellon University, has won the 2015 Dreyfus Prize in Chemical Sciences, conferred this year in Making Molecules and Materials. The international prize, awarded biennially, consists of \$250,000, a medal, and a citation. The award ceremony will be held at Carnegie Mellon University in the fall and will include a lecture by Matyjaszewski.

Matyjaszewski developed the process of atom transfer radical polymerization (ATRP), which has proved to be the most important advance in polymer synthesis in half a century. In addition to these major advances in polymer chemistry, Matyjaszewski has also been effective at transferring the ATRP process to industry, with applications that include automotive coatings, adhesives, cosmetics, inkjet printing, smart and electronic materials, and many others, with an estimated commercial value exceeding \$20

billion. "Kris Matyjaszewski's work has made free radical polymerization a precision tool for polymer scientists to make controlled macromolecular structures, and has opened new avenues for industry in the control of polymer architecture in practical manufacturing processes," stated Matthew Tirrell, Dean and Founding Pritzker Director of the Institute for Molecular Engineering at the University of Chicago and Board Member of the Dreyfus Foundation.

CMU Professor Emeritus Lectures in China

Professor Ted Massalski, professor emeritus of materials science, engineering and physics at Carnegie Mellon, recently returned from a two-week invited lecture tour in China. This was his fourth visit to China and he traveled together with his daughter Dr. Renny Hutton. He delivered the 67th Dachi (Wisdom) lecture at the Shanghai Jiao Tong University, followed by another lecture at Tsinghua University in Beijing. In addition, he presented a memorial lecture at the Institute of Metals Research in Shenyang where he received the Lee Hsun Award, only rarely presented to foreigners. In addition to lecturing, he met with faculty members and students at

each university.

In his talks, Massalski discussed numerous topics, including international cooperation, phase stability measurements and theories, laws of thermodynamics, meteorites and cosmology, some practical applications of research on materials, and the very fast computer calculations that will shape the future in this field.

Prof. Massalski, has won numerous international honors and awards over his long professional career. He was one of the former directors of the Mellon Institute for Research in Oakland before it merged with Carnegie Tech to form Carnegie Mellon University in the late 1960's.

Phase Diagrams:
Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow

嘉宾: Ted Massalski

- Foreign Member, Polish Academy of Science
- Foreign Member, German Academy of Science, Göttingen
- Fellow, The Minerals, Metals and Materials Society, USA

时间: 5月25日 (周一) 16: 00-17: 30
地点: 上海交通大学闵行校区图书馆信息楼8楼

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Polish Kids Club Picnic

On May 30th Polish Kids Club and the Polish Cultural Council organized Graduation and the members annual "Majowka-Picnic". The event was hosted by PCC President Rick Pierchalski and Board Member Marysia Zioncheck at Pike Run, Jones Mills. To learn more about the Polish Kids Club email: polishkidsclub@gmail.com or visit: www.polishkidsclub.com



BOB (ARON) SZULMAN *As remembered by Eva Tumiel-Kozak*

Anyone who ever met Bob, was definitely impressed with his vast knowledge of music, literature, especially Polish and British, and his memory for facts. At the age of 94, he not only remembered songs from his childhood, the names and details of the books he recently read, but also was aware of all the interesting cultural events, which he often attended with his vivacious wife, Irene. Irene, when asked, stresses two loves of his life: medicine and music! Apparently, three days before his death, he had just started reading another book about Beethoven.

Born in Lodz, Poland, Bob transferred after matriculation in 1938, to a secondary residential school in Yorkshire, England. He entered Birmingham Medical School in 1939. His medical career as pathologist and researcher took him to Cambridge, London, Helsinki, the University of Berkley, the Biology Labs at Woods Hole, Massachusetts, and teaching pathology at Harvard and Pittsburgh Medical Schools. He retired officially from Magee Women's Hospital in 1990 in an Emeritus position to consult, write articles in scientific journals and chapters of books. His many scientific contributions led to the unusual appreciation of his departmental colleagues at Magee in the form of *The Aron E. Szulman Lectures*,

sponsored by the Department of Pathology of the University of Pittsburgh. He had the pleasure and privilege of choosing and inviting a speaker among pathologists, geneticists, or molecular biologists in the USA, Canada, or the UK.

Bob loved working with students and often mentioned that he had learned a lot from them. After all, most of them had Masters or PhD degrees in the sciences. Irene's and Bob's hospitable home often gathered numbers of them, not only for an excellent meal, but also for some hot discussions late into the night. Irene remembers that Bob often considered himself a substitute father, feeling responsible to take care of the students.

Both Bob and Irene loved to travel, where Bob often lectured in various Medical Schools. They joined friends around the world for sightseeing. Some of his fondest memories were from Poland, which they visited to resume contact with friends. As a member of *Sociedad Latino-Americana Patologia*, there was also an unforgettable opportunity to lecture in the new Medical School in Spain's Santiago de Compostela; or a recent invitation by his Alma Mater which included a special visit to the House of Lords.

Indeed, wherever they went, they had



Bob Szulman

a multitude of friends, who came from different walks of life. If you talk to any of them, there is one common thread: Bob's quiet charm, his delightful sense of humor, his unassuming nature, and the epitome of kindness. A real man of Renaissance!

As our Consul Jan Napoleon Saykiewicz said, "He was the last old school gentleman in his words and his actions. He respected everybody and he showed it in the most elegant and charming way".

To say that he is dearly missed is an understatement.

Polish Author Wins 2015 EU Prize for Literature



On June 23, Magdalena Parys won the European Union 2015 Prize for Literature, for her book, *Magik* (magician). She received the award, along with a check for EUR 5,000 at a ceremony in Brussels. Other recipients included authors from Austria, Croatia, France, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Norway, Portugal, Slovakia and Sweden. Upon receiving the award, Parys said, "It's a total surprise for me, a stimulus for working harder and a chance for having my book translated into foreign languages". Parys is a poet, a prose writer, and a translator. She studied Polish philology and pedagogy at Humboldt University in Berlin and is the founder of the Polish-German literary magazine *Squaws*.

Here is the synopsis of *Magik*, as it appeared on the EU Prize for Literature website.

The starting point of the story is a press release: "In 2010, the Federal Commissioner for the Stasi Records (the German government agency) cleared almost six kilometers of files (20 million pages). It is estimated that in the time of the Iron Curtain about 4,500 people from the Eastern Bloc tried to escape to

the West across the Bulgarian borders. About 100 of them lost their lives." This information provides the inspiration for a multilayered story about people trying to unravel the circumstances of mysterious deaths in the 1980s.

Although the story is set in 2011, its roots go back to the 1950s. That's when an operation called *Magik* began: a brutal operation where GDR Stasi cooperated with Bulgarian border guards to murder refugees from the socialist countries who, in the days of the Iron Curtain, tried to illegally cross the Bulgarian-Turkish or Bulgarian-Greek borders. Although the pretext was to prohibit illegal border crossings, this led to the elimination of opposition activists. In the book, GDR history intertwines with the outbreak of the Solidarity movement, contemporary Berlin, human stories of guilt, punishment and escape from responsibility, as well as a complicated investigation by a disobedient police officer, Kowalski. Though removed from the investigation, he does not give up – and will discover the dark past of some influential politicians in the reunited Germany.



Kącik Kulinaryny

Polish Culinary Corner

by Dave Motak

Poland has long been famous for its agricultural and dairy products. One such product is “Krówki”, or Polish fudge. It has long been made in Poland, and exported throughout the world, in spite of Naziism, communism, and socialist marketing. It is made from the freshest cream, butter, and natural honey.

But little do you know that that tasty little piece of Polish fudge which you buy in the import store is just loaded with history! And this sturdy little confection has braved the onslaught of Nazi aggression, communist scarcity and oppression, radical changes in economic and political systems, as well as the vicissitudes of the modern commercial market. All that in one tasty little, chewy bite!

A SWEET HISTORY



During the dynamic economic period between the two World Wars, Felix Pomorski developed the production of krówki on an industrial scale in Poznań. Pomorski called the candies “krówki”, little cows. He wrapped the krówki in pieces of paper which had a logo drawing of a cow. This marketing strategy helped to popularize the candies in Poland.

After he was expelled from Poland by the Germans during World War II, Felix re-established his fudge company in Milanówek near Warsaw, where, despite the great restrictions of the German occupation, he managed to continue creating his fudge confections. This factory burned down shortly after liberation, but the family rebuilt it and again resumed the production of fudge. In 1952, the factory was nationalized by the communist regime and incorporated into the

government-owned “July 22 Plant” which combined the confectionary production facilities of the Wedel Company and other private candy producers into a large state-run confectionary conglomerate. But this did not deter Felix, who then began to produce fudge privately in the garden of his home in Milanówek. After his death, the “krówki” business was taken over by his son, Leszek Pomorski, and then his grandson, Peter Pomorski. The candy label “L. Pomorski and Son” continues to this day. Krówki are as popular as ever and are now available in a wide variety of flavors.

You might wish to try your hand at your own version of “sweet” Polish history by making your own version of krówki, or perhaps use them as the basic ingredient in a delicious mazurek, the traditional Polish dessert that we offer below with a twist.

In any event, enjoy your taste of true Polish history. Smacznego!



Homemade “Krówki” Fudge

- 14 oz sweetened condensed milk
- 2 1/2 cups honey
- 8 oz unsalted butter
- 2 cups caster sugar for baking (or regular sugar)
- 9 x 13 inch rimmed non-stick cookie pan
- Coated candy wrappers or wax paper cut in 3 inch x 2 inch pieces

Coat a cookie sheet with vegetable oil. Combine all the ingredients in a thick-bottomed sauce pan. Heat, stirring constantly. Consistently stirring, bring to a boil and simmer for about 10 minutes until the liquid turns into caramel color (rather dark). Stir until liquid begins to foam. Pour the entire fudge liquid into the cookie pan. Let solidify and cool. Once cooled, using a sharp knife smeared with oil, cut into pieces small enough to fit your wrapper, but leaving a bit of wrapper for folding and overlap.



Fudge Mazurek

Mazurek Cake:

- 2 1/2 cups all purpose flour
- 1 tbsp baking powder
- 1 1/2 cups powdered sugar
- 3 tbsp vanilla
- 4 oz unsalted butter
- 4 egg yolks

Mix the flour with baking powder, sift into a large bowl. Add the powdered sugar, vanilla, butter, egg yolks and cream. Knead by hand or with a mixer using a kneading attachment, knead briefly at the lowest speed, then at top speed until the ingredients combine. Turn the dough out on a floured pastry board and knead with your hands again to make it smooth. Form the dough into a ball, wrap in wax paper and put it in the refrigerator for an hour. Coat the bottom of a rectangular cake pan with Crisco and dust with flour. Roll out the dough to about 1 inch thickness and transfer to pan. Prick dough with a fork and bake at 350° until golden brown (approx 30 min).

Fudge Topping:

- 4 oz raisins (about 1/8 cup)
- 14 oz commercial Polish “Krówki” fudge*
- 4 tbsp heavy cream
- 2 oz candied orange peel
- 4 tbsp brandy
- 1 tbsp unsalted butter
- Chopped nuts and raisins for decoration

When the cake has cooled, carefully remove it from the pan. Soak the raisins in the brandy and let stand for an hour. Chop up the krówki in a food processor. Add then to a sauce pan along with the butter and cream, heat over low heat, stirring constantly to dissolve. When the mass has a uniform consistency, add the raisins and chopped orange zest. Spread the fudge mass on the mazurka dough. If desired, before it cools decorate with chopped nuts and/or raisins.

** Available at import stores and some major super markets.*

Smacznego!



POLISH FILMS AT THE 34TH THREE RIVERS FILM FESTIVAL

November 6 to November 16, 2015

Screening at: Regent Square Theater,
Melwood Screening Room, Harris Theater
and Waterworks Cinemas.

One of the films PCC plans to present is “The
Photographer,” the latest film by Waldemar Krzystek.

It is a gripping thriller, but it’s also a great psychological
cinema showing the truth about Polish-Russian relations
in the 70’s and the problems encountered by the Russians
at the present time.

See you at the movies!



News and Notes:

• Our **legacy book project** is under-
way. We have begun the process of inter-
viewing Polish Americans and American
Polish whose lives and experiences have
had an impact on Polish life and culture
in Pittsburgh. Unfortunately, many of
the email addresses of interested parties
which we have gleaned are unreadable
or no longer functioning. As a result, we
have been unable to contact these indi-
viduals. If you have not been contacted
or if you feel that you have a story that
you would like to share, please contact
Maria Staszkievicz at the PCC or project
director, Mary Lou Ellena, at mlellena@glconcepts.net. We promise to get back to
you quickly. We want to hear your story
and perhaps share it in our book.

• A limited number of copies of the
award-winning book and DVD **Polish
Hill Remembered** is available through
the PCC website for a donation of \$20,
plus \$3.50 for shipping and handling. Do
not miss out on the opportunity to own a
piece of Pittsburgh Polish History.

• In our last Polish Journey we featured
an article about the role of Polish math-
ematicians in breaking the Enigma code.

It is really great to see that the CIA
recently published article related to Brit-
ish mathematician Alan Turing and his
contribution to computer science and
Enigma included the following informa-
tion: “Poland was actually the first to real-
ize that the solution to breaking ENIG-
MA would most likely be discovered by

a mathematician. Polish cryptanalysts
as early as 1932 could decode German
ciphers and, by 1939, they were able to
successfully decipher messages written
with an earlier version of ENIGMA using
a replica machine like “the bombe” that
could emulate the way ENIGMA worked.
When Poland was overrun by Germany
in September 1939, the Polish as well as
French cryptanalysts shared what they
knew about ENIGMA with the UK,
which allowed the cryptanalysts at Bletch-
ley Park, including Turing, to finally crack
the ENIGMA ciphers”.

The Polish mathematicians were Marian
Rejewski and Henryk Zygalski

<https://www.cia.gov/newsroom/featured-story-archive/2015-featured>

Adventurer of the Year — Aleksander Doba

Aleksander Doba, a 67-year-old man from
Police, Poland, has received the National
Geographic 2015 People’s Choice Award for
Adventurer of the Year. He completed the
longest ever transatlantic journey in a kayak,
7,716 miles. Loaded with five months-worth
of food and equipment, he departed from Lis-
bon, Portugal on October 5, 2013 and arrived
in New Smyrna Beach, Florida on April 19,
2014. The journey was supposed to be 5,400
miles, but inclement weather added 1,300
miles to the original plan.

Out in open water, he was surrounded by

marine wildlife, once having to chase away a
shark with a whap to the head with his paddle.
One evening, he supplemented his freeze-
dried food with flying fish, which conveniently
landed on his kayak. He experienced rashes
from seawater, failures of his satellite phone
and his personal tracking device, and unfavor-
able winds and currents. A broken rudder
caused him to stop in Bermuda for repairs.

For a longer article about Doba, and an inter-
view with him, see <http://adventure.nationalgeographic.com/adventure/adventurers-of-the-year/2015/aleksander-doba/>



PCC ANNUAL FALL PICNIC IN CROATIAN CENTER

Sunday, September 13, 2015

Croatian Center, 80 Schuetzen Park Road in Millvale, PA, 15209

1 P.M. to 6 P.M.

Doors open at 1 P.M. PIG ROAST starts at 1:30 P.M.

Music by Dave Dombrowski

PCC will provide the food, drinks and entertainment

The cost is \$10 per person to defray the expense of the facility rental.

Children 12 and under come free.

Here's the catch: **You have to be a 2015 PCC member to attend!**

We roast a full pig, accompanied by side dishes, pasta, beer, and music.

Members are encouraged to bring a dessert to share.

Here's the deal for new members only:

Simply go to our website, polishculturalcouncil.org and sign up today for membership or fill out the membership form and send a check. As a new member you will be entitled to one free ticket to the picnic (a \$10 value) for an individual membership, two for a family (\$20 value) and three (\$30 value) for a business.

This is for new members only!

Please confirm your participation ASAP but no later than September 4th.

We would love to see you there!

RSVP by e-mail pccorg.ms@gmail.com or tel. 412-871-3347



Cultural Tours Being Offered

Dave Motak will be hosting two of his popular cultural tours to Poland and Central Europe in 2015.

Pampered Poland (Sept. 19 - Oct. 3) showcases the beauty of the Polish Autumn with a leisurely excursion featuring sightseeing, shopping, gourmet dining and many special events. The trip will include deluxe hotels and health spas and many special events.

Christmas Markets of Central Europe (Nov. 27 - Dec. 10) features city tours and Christmas markets in

Prague, Vienna, Salzburg, Budapest, Bratislava, Zakopane and Krakow. Guests will enjoy a Danube River Dinner Cruise, a concert in Schönbrunn Palace, local folklore entertainment, and a Polish "Kulig" (Sleigh Ride). The tour concludes with a "back-stage" visit to Krakow's annual Szopka exhibit and our popular Polish "Wigilia" Banquet.

For full details of these exceptional and unique tours, visit www.janddtours.net or call Dave at 412-835-0539.

Did you speak Polish as a child? Do you have family documents in Polish? Are you planning a trip to Poland? Do you want to learn to speak Polish? If you can say "yes" to any of these questions, please consider the Polish language classes offered by the Polish Cultural Council.

REGISTER FOR POLISH LANGUAGE CLASSES

POLISH LANGUAGE CLASSES WILL RESUME ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12th, 2015 AT 10 AM, AT THE CYA BUILDING IN LAWRENCEVILLE, CORNER OF FISK & GOVERNMENT LANE, BETWEEN PENN AVE. & BUTLER. CLASSES RUN FROM SEPTEMBER THROUGH MAY.

Registration Form 2015-2016

Name

Address

City/State/Zip

Email

Class Choice:

☐ Beginner ☐ Advanced

In the event of an emergency or change of schedule, list the telephone numbers where you should be contacted.

Day

Cell/Evening

Signature

Date

Classes start the first Saturday following Labor Day and run on Saturdays from 10 AM – 12 Noon until the middle of May. They are held at the CYA building in Lawrenceville, 286 Main Street (entrance from Government Lane & Fisk).

Registration and Class Fees:

Individual: \$160.00. PCC Member: \$130.00
Family: \$190.00. PCC Member: \$160.00

Please make your check payable to Polish Cultural Council and mail to:

**Polish Cultural Council
P.O. Box 81054
Pittsburgh, PA 15217-0554**



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www.PolishCulturalCouncil.org



The Polish Cultural Council
**84TH ANNUAL POLISH DAY
AT KENNYWOOD PARK**
Tuesday, August 4, 2015

Join us for a fun time at Kennywood Park as the **Polish Cultural Council** celebrates the **84th Annual Polish Day** with delicious Polish food, a bake sale, strolling musicians, Roman Catholic Mass, Polish religious hymns and folk melodies, Polish folk dancing, and a free polka dance to end the evening.

Discounted tickets purchased in advance from the Polish Cultural Council

Ride All Day ages 3-54	\$26	After 5 PM	\$18
Ride All Day ages 55-64	\$16	Ages 2 and under	FREE
Over age 65 with coupon	\$11		

11:30 A.M.

Polish Kitchen opens serving authentic Polish food, including pierogi, kielbasy, golabki (stuffed cabbage), and much, much more.

Bake Sale opens with a variety of Polish pastries, cookies, nut rolls, and more

Strolling Musicians in the Polish Kitchen Pavillion until 2:00 P.

2:00 P.M.

Living Traditions Folk Ensemble from Brecksville, OH

2:30 P.M.

Polish Program begins with Rick Pierchalski, President of the Polish Cultural Council as Master of Ceremonies.

Presentation of the Polonian of the Year award to co-winners Ron and Ernestine Jeroski for their many years of dedication through promoting Polish culture and involvement in the Pittsburgh community.

Crowning of Miss Polonia 2015

3:00 P.M.

Karuzela Chorus sings traditional Polish songs.

3:30 P.M.

Roman Catholic Mass celebrated in English by Polish Priests, with Polish hymns sung by the Karuzela Chorus under the direction of Dr. Neil Stahurski.

6:00 P.M.

Dancing to "The Boys Polka Band" from Baltimore, MD playing your favorite polkas, waltzes, and obereks until 9:00 PM.

For tickets and ticket information call (412) 921-0292

For general information, call (412) 371-1827