



NEWSLETTER

POLISH CULTURAL CLUB OF GREATER HARTFORD, INC.

Established 1976

www.polishculturalclub.org

February 2015

An Affiliate of the American Council for Polish Culture

We cordially invite all members and friends to join us for

Pączki na Karnawał !!!

Pączki for Mardi Gras



Pączki will be sold individually or packaged to take home.

Sunday, February 15, 2015

7:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Lower Church Hall

SS. Cyril and Methodius Church

55 Charter Oak Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106

The last Thursday before the beginning of Lent, *Thusty Czwartek* (Fat Thursday) is the time to eat Pączki (jelly doughnuts). Come enjoy these traditional Pre-Lenten treats before or after Mass at SS. Cyril and Methodius Church. There will also be a display of Polish Easter items . . . pisanki (painted Easter eggs), wooden butter molds, books, and more.

For further information, call (860) 659-0356.



CO-PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Club Members:

We both extend our best wishes to you all for a "Healthy, Happy, and Successful New Year." Plans are already being formulated for a program of informative and enjoyable meetings and events.

Mark your calendar for Thursday, March 26 when Prof. Richard Benfield of CCSU will speak on "Gardens of the World," with an emphasis on Eastern Europe and Madame Ganna Walska. The event will be held at the Polish National Home. Further details will be published in the March Newsletter.

Please feel free to contact either one of us if you need any assistance or if you have a question. We are proud and honored to be your Co-Presidents.

Pattie Kaczynski
(860) 677-0628

Fran Pudlo
(860) 659-0356

A NOTE FROM CLIFF ARCHIE

It has been a very busy and eventful four years as your President and Co-President, but also very memorable. Special thanks to my Co-President of the last two years, Anna-Mae Maglaty. We supported each other and worked harmoniously throughout our term. Many thanks also to the Executive Board and Committee Chairs for all their help and guidance and for playing a critical role in the well-being of the Club. My deepest appreciation to all the many volunteers who help each year to set up for the different events — decorating, baking, making pierogi, and promoting Polish customs and traditions to our friends and neighbors. With so many dedicated members involved in presenting Polish cultural events, how could one not be very proud to have been their President and Co-President? Thank you also for the beautiful framed "Dough Boys" photograph, the Crazy Horse statue signed by Monique Ziolkowski (daughter of Korczak), and the Bear Claw bolo tie piece that were presented to me at Wigilia. More important, however, are the many, many warm memories which I will always hold close and cherish. Thank you again for everything.

Clifford G. Archie

NEWLY ELECTED PCCGH OFFICERS



L to R: Lilia Kieltyka—Recording Secy; Cliff Archie—Asst. Treasurer; Ray Kowalski—Treasurer; Ed Farley—1st VP; Pattie Kaczynski—Co-President and Historian; and Fran Pudlo—Co-President

SZOPKA FESTIVAL THANK YOU

The 34th annual Szopka Festival, held on Sunday, November 30, 2014 was nothing less than spectacular. Carol Oleasz, Szopka Contest Chair, did an exceptional job in working with students and accepting and displaying over thirty colorful entries for judging. All Szopka proceeds benefit the Jennie Marconi-Javorski Scholarship Fund, which awards scholarships to college students of Polish heritage. Szopka Contest winners were as follows:

1st Prize: Kate Leyden & Colleen Truman

Grade 6, St. James School, Manchester

2nd Prize: Shreya Chapra & Angela Gerard

Grade 6, St. James School, Manchester

3rd Prize: Sophia Davillier & Nathan Melia

Grade 7, St. James School, Manchester

3rd Prize: Group Entry

St. Augustine School, Hartford

Over 180 dozen pierogi, made by Club volunteers, were available for sale, as were home baked delicacies sold at the Kawiarinia and Country Kitchen booths. Vendors enjoyed a steady flow of customers and did a brisk business, and, of course, Święty Mikołaj was on hand to greet children of all ages and pose for a Polish Christmas photo.

Our Szopka Festival could not be undertaken without the efforts of an extensive team of Club volunteers and friends. THANK YOU to the following for assisting us during Saturday setup and/or on Sunday: Cliff and Pat Archie, Gen Bednarz, Ursula Brodowicz, Janusz and Hedy Bruks, Maria Bruks, Helena Chrzanowska, Krystyna Farley, Nelson Gottier, Stasia Hodyl, Irene Hryniewicz, Beata Hryniewicz, Jen Jaronczyk, Pattie Kaczynski, Jadzia Kieltyka, Lilia Kieltyka, Jadwiga Kordowska, Michael Kordowski, Katrina Kuliberta from Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, Florence Langridge, Lou and Janice LaPenna, Sophia LaPenna, Lou Maglaty, John Majdan, Alice Nawrot, Elizabeth Negri, Ann Oleasz, Carol Oleasz, Monica Oleasz, Helen Olejarz, Kamila Orzechowski, Chris and Sophia Panek, Carol Phelan, Fran and Gini Pudlo, Paul, Anna, Alexandra, and Isabella Ramoya, Alice Rogala, Helen Rogalsky, Elizabeth Sikorsky, Phyllis Stawiariski, Kathy Stebbins, Julie Story, John Terek, Nancy Yiznitsky, Donna Zarwanska, Ania and Isobel Zujko, and Peter Zujko. If someone was inadvertently left off this list, please let me know and you will be acknowledged in March. We hope we can count on everyone again as we look forward to our 35th Annual Szopka Festival to be held on November 29, 2015.

Ed Farley, Szopka Chair (860) 225-5204

NEWSLETTER STAFF

Editor:	Frances Pudlo	(francespudlo@att.net)
Assistant Editor:	Anna-Mae Maglaty	
Staff:	Carol Bogon Phelan, Nancy Yiznitsky	



DID YOU KNOW . . . That our own Eleanor (Lottie) Pozniak was known as “Mrs. Polonia?”

Connecticut Polonia mourns the loss of Eleanor Pozniak, affectionately known to everyone as Lottie, who passed away peacefully on January 6, 2015 at the age of 97. Born in Hartford, Connecticut to Polish immigrants, Joseph and Mary (Jasiak) Kaminski, Lottie grew up in the Hartford area along with three brothers and one sister. She graduated from Hartford High School and attended Columbia University where she studied in the Slavic Department. She married, raised two children, and retired from Hartford Hospital where she worked for many years in the business department.



Throughout her lifetime, Lottie pursued a mission of service as both an American and as a Pole. During World War II, she served as a Lieutenant with the United States Treasury Department and was awarded their National Service Citation for distinguished service to her country. During that same period, United Aircraft Corporation named her “Home Town Heroine,” after Lottie led a fundraising campaign that raised \$1 million in War Bonds that helped to finance the construction of an Army Air Force bomber. As a USO hostess, she arranged parties at Bradley Airfield for military personnel on leave. She also raised 500 pints of blood for injured servicemen and worked with military personnel at Avon Old Farms School, which was then being used as a re-training center for military officers who had lost their sight in combat.

Lottie always had a passionate desire to present the beautiful culture of Poland, the country of her ancestors, to fellow Americans. That passion brought Lottie national recognition as the sentinel of Polish art and culture, tradition, and achievement. Her voice was well known to WTHT radio listeners as a co-host of a popular Polish-American news program, and she also had her own poetry segment on the station. She joined the Polish Dramatic Club, Gwiazda, at age 16 and appeared in many of its productions. She also danced with, and later directed, the Gwiazda Folk Ensemble, which dance critics recognized as one of the finest in the country. She was a member of the Polish Women’s Alliance Group 280, the Polish National Alliance Group 464, the Polish American Veterans Post 51, the United Polish Societies, Polish University Club of Connecticut, the Polish National Home, Central Connecticut State University’s Polish Studies Program and its Archives, the Kosciuszko Foundation, and the Crazy Horse Monument Foundation, having personally known Korczak and Ruth Ziołkowski.

Recognizing the need to honor and preserve the culture and customs developed by Poles and to encourage higher education and scholarship among young people of Polish descent, Lottie was instrumental in the founding of the Polish Cultural Club of Greater Hartford in 1976 and served as its President for twelve years. During her tenure, she planned and created displays at public libraries and schools, fostered art exhibits, music and Polish cuisine at international fairs, and promoted national and community lecture series, books, and speakers.

Realizing the importance of being a part of a national organization, Lottie initiated membership in the American Council for Polish Culture where she assumed a leadership role as a director and chairwoman of the Awards and Membership Committees. In addition, Lottie was a driving force in bringing the ACPC Convention to Hartford in 1988. Her many contributions on the national level brought her recognition with a presentation of the ACPC’s Founders Award in Washington, D.C. in 1992.

Lottie’s deep faith as a Roman Catholic made SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish in Hartford a vital part of her life. Among her many contributions were serving as a Trustee and member of the Parish Council and Education Committees. Her assistance in the Parish school earned her the Archdiocesan HOPES Award (Help our Parish Elementary Schools), and she was also presented with a Distinguished Service Award from the Parish. As an officer of the SS. Cyril and Methodius Ladies Guild, Lottie initiated the Senior Citizen’s Christmas party and also chaired one of the Guild’s scholarship programs.

Lottie Pozniak exuded a beauty of soul, mind, and spirit and from the very beginning instilled, guided, and inspired Connecticut Polonia of all ages. She epitomized the ideals of her beloved heritage, and it is with admiration and love that we will continue to kindle and sustain her inimitable soaring Polish spirit.

Condolences are expressed to her family members but most especially to her sister, Florence Langridge, who is an active Board member of our Club and who served as its President for two terms from 2004 to 2008.

Co? What? Gdzie? Where? Kiedy? When?

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2015

7:00 p.m.

"Chopin Concert"

Polish National Home, 60 Charter Oak Avenue, Hartford

Information: Krystian Tkaczewski at (860) 247-1784

E-mail: hartfordchopincompetition@gmail.com

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2015

"Valentine's Dance" organized by The Polish Scouts of Hartford

Polish National Home, 60 Charter Oak Avenue, Hartford

Information: Ela Noga at (860) 335-6039

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2015

7:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

PCCGH Event: *"Pączki na Karnawał"* (*Pączki for Mardi Gras*)

Pączki will be sold individually or packaged to take home.

SS. Cyril and Methodius Church — Lower Hall

55 Charter Oak Avenue, Hartford, CT

Information: (860) 659-0356 E-mail: francespudlo@att.net

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2015

1:00 p.m.

"Polish Cartoons—'Bolek i Lolek,' 'Reksio,' 'Mis Uszatek,' and more" with special guest mascot, Stanley the Wawel Dragon

Children must be accompanied by an adult. **FREE**

Polish National Home, 60 Charter Oak Avenue, Hartford

Take advantage of the delicious pre-event Family Lunch Specials

Information: (860) 247-1784

WEDNESDAY—SUNDAY, MARCH 11—15, 2015

"VI Chopin International Piano Competition"

Sponsored by the Connecticut Chopin Foundation, Inc.

Polish National Home, 60 Charter Oak Avenue, Hartford

Tickets, Reservations, and Information: (860) 247-1784

SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 2015

"Pancake Breakfast" - SS. Cyril & Methodius Church Lower Hall

Sponsored by SS. Cyril and Methodius Ladies Guild **\$5.00**

THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 2015

6:30 p.m.

PCCGH Event: *"Gardens of the World—with emphasis on Eastern Europe and Madame Ganna Walska"*

Lecture by Prof. Richard Benfield, Prof. of Geography at CCSU

Polish National Home, 60 Charter Oak Avenue, Hartford

Members and Guests Welcome **FREE**

Information: (860) 659-0356 (See March 2015 Newsletter)



Polish Cultural Club of Greater
Hartford, Inc.
P.O. Box 380699
East Hartford, CT 06138

We're on the Web!

www.polishculturalclub.org

CLUB NEWS

NEW MEMBERS

The Polish Cultural Club of Greater Hartford is pleased to welcome three new members:

Ms. Alice Nawrot of Wethersfield

Mrs. Hanna Petrisko of New Britain

Mrs. Krystyna Wisło of Newington

Thanks are extended to those members who have paid their dues to date. For those who have not done so, the Membership Chair requests that money be sent in as soon as possible. **Please share a copy of the Membership Application Form, enclosed with this newsletter, with anyone you believe would enjoy becoming a member of our Club.**

CONDOLENCES

It is with sadness that we note the recent loss of three long-standing and devoted Club members. They will be missed greatly. Our sincere sympathy is extended to their families.



Mary Wilkos Bogon



Lottie Pozniak



Chester Zasada



2015 AMERICAN COUNCIL FOR POLISH CULTURE (ACPC) SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINES

Pulaski Scholarships for Advanced Studies

Deadline: March 15, 2015

Students enrolled at an accredited university in the U.S. having completed one year of studies at the graduate level receive \$5,000 (subject to change).

Scholarship for Summer Study in Poland

Deadline: April 1, 2015

Recipients receive \$2,000 toward transportation and tuition expenses (subject to change).

Visit www.polishcultureacpc.org for further details and application forms.