



## NEWSLETTER

# POLISH CULTURAL CLUB OF GREATER HARTFORD, INC.

Established 1976

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

February/March 2020

An Affiliate of the American Council for Polish Culture

### **\*\*\* SUSPENDED THIS YEAR \*\*\***

*(due to an event conflict)*



#### 6th Annual

#### **Pączki na Karnawał (Pączki for Mardi Gras)**

The last Thursday before the beginning of Lent, *Źusty Czwartek* (Fat Thursday), is traditionally the time to eat Pączki (Polish jelly doughnuts). For the past 5 years, The Polish Cultural Club has hosted a pączki sale at SS. Cyril and Methodius Church in Hartford on the Sunday before Ash Wednesday. This year's event, which would have taken place on Sunday, February 23, has been preempted by the Polish Scouts of Hartford who are hosting a national gathering of Polish Scouts for International Thinking Day. Hundreds of scouts will attend Mass and hold activities in the Polish National Home and lower Church Hall, which will be limited to public access. We wish our Scouts a successful event and look forward to resuming our offering of these special sweet treats at next year's Pączki na Karnawał.

### **SAVE THE DATE**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2020**

#### **Two Lectures and Lunch on Your Own**

at the Polish National Home

60 Charter Oak Avenue

Hartford, CT

Co-sponsored by the Polish Genealogical Society of CT and the Northeast, Inc. and the Polish Cultural Club of Greater Hartford, Inc.

**FREE and Open to the General Public**

#### **TENTATIVE PROGRAM**

##### **Late Morning:**

LECTURE on:

**"The History of the  
Polish National Home"**



**LUNCH at the PNH:** On one's own

##### **Early Afternoon:**

LECTURE AND SLIDE PRESENTATION BY MARK MILEWSKI:  
**"The Seven Summits"**



When PCCGH member and mountaineer, **Mark Milewski** reached the summit of Puncak Jaya in Indonesia in August 2019, he became approximately the 160th person to ever master the "Seven Summits"; the highest mountains on each continent. We look forward to learning more about Mark's unique accomplishment. Look for further details in the next newsletter.

### **JENNIE MARCONI-JAVORSKI SCHOLARSHIP**

Sponsored by the Polish Cultural Club

of Greater Hartford, Inc.



A PCCGH Scholarship application has been included as part of this Newsletter. **Applications must be postmarked no later than May 1, 2020.** On the reverse side of the application is a list of additional scholarships offered by the American Council for Polish Culture (ACPC). These include "*The Eye of the Eagle Władysław Memorial Journalism Scholarship*," "*Scholarship for Summer Study in Poland*," "*Pulaski Scholarship for Advanced Studies*," and the "*Leonard Skowronski Polish Studies Scholarship*." **Please visit the ACPC's website [www.polishcultureacpc.org](http://www.polishcultureacpc.org) for further information and details** and feel free to share this information with students of Polish heritage.

*Florence Langridge and Virginia Pudlo, Scholarship Co-Chairs*

The 2020 JENNIE MARCONI-JAVORSKI SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION can also be downloaded from our Club's website: [www.polishculturalclub.org](http://www.polishculturalclub.org).



**ANNA-MAE MAGLATY** — Our Club suffered another major loss on January 25, 2020 with the unexpected death of Anna-Mae Maglaty, a pillar of Polonia and the Hartford community at large. Every life she touched benefited from her friendship. She was an example of staunch faith, wise counsel, diplomacy, and undaunting strength in the face of adversity. And that smile . . . always that warm, welcoming smile which lit up a room. We thank Michelle Maglaty Mostello for allowing us to reprint the beautiful Eulogy she read at Anna-Mae's Funeral Mass. Please see the enclosed insert.



## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S PEN

Dear Club Members:

I hope this first newsletter of 2020 finds everyone well! Ideas are formulating for Club events for the coming year, but reflecting back on our wonderful holiday events, we managed to have a successful Szopka Festival in spite of a bad weather forecast, and there is no question that our blessed Wigilia dinner always brings out the best that we Poles have to offer.



With the help of a matching fund opportunity offered by the national American Council for Polish Culture (ACPC), we are planning to sponsor a Literary Competition for Polish youth. The object of the competition is to foster interest in the fields of journalism and/or literature while developing an increased awareness and appreciation of Polish culture. Cash prizes will be awarded. Stay tuned for further details.

We are looking for a member, perhaps with a flair for journalism, to help produce articles or news items for our newsletter. Let us know if you are interested.

Lilia Kieltyka

Photos from Szopka and Wigilia have been uploaded to our website:  
[www.polishculturalclub.org](http://www.polishculturalclub.org)

### *Witamy!* A Warm Welcome to New Members

**Robert Majewicz of Westerly, RI**

**Paul and Elaine Puzo of East Hampton**

**Julia Wonsiewicz Woron of East Hartford**

#### MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Annual Dues: \$25 per member / \$40 dual or household / \$10 student

Mail to: Polish Cultural Club of Great Hartford, Inc.

P.O. Box 380699, East Hartford, CT 06138-0699



to update us when you have a change of name, address, phone number, or e-mail address by notifying Carol Phelan by E-mail: [hopscoth77@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hopscoth77@sbcglobal.net) or by phone: (860) 646-3114.

#### **2019-2020 CLUB OFFICERS AND BOARD**

- President: Lilia Kieltyka
- Vice President: Ursula Brodowicz
- Secretary: Frances Pudlo
- Treasurer: Raymond Kowalski
- Historian: Virginia Pudlo

Board Members: Patricia Archie, Marek Czarnecki, Edward Farley, Krystyna Farley, Patricia Kaczynski, Florence Langridge, Louis Maglaty, John Majdan, Carol Bogon Phelan, and Nancy Yiznitsky.

*Feel free to contact any of us at any time.*

## SZOPKA — DECEMBER 1, 2019



## WIGILIA — DECEMBER 14, 2019



#### **NEWSLETTER STAFF**

- Editor: Frances Pudlo ([francespudlo@att.net](mailto:francespudlo@att.net))
- Assistant Editor: Position Open — Please inquire if interested
- Staff: Carol Bogon Phelan, Nancy Yiznitsky



**DO YOU KNOW . . . BENJAMIN FRANKLIN AIDED POLISH PRINCESS IZABELA CZARTORYSKA?**



Most people are familiar with the phenomenon of musical notes emanating from drinking glasses when their rims are rubbed by a wet finger. The pitch and notes can vary with the size and shape of the glass and the amount of water it contains. In the 1700s, musicians began performing concerts on sets of water-tuned glasses. In 1761, Benjamin Franklin heard such a performance in London, was fascinated, and by the following year had invented a musical instrument. It was called the armonica—not harmonica, but armonica—and consisted of a set of various shapes and sizes of glass plates turned on a spindle by a foot pedal. The musician stood over the turning spindle and rubbed his moistened fingers over the edges of the spinning plates, sending out beautiful, ethereal notes, just as had the sets of glasses.

*Benjamin Franklin playing his invention, the armonica.*

Franklin was already famous throughout Europe for his inventions and experiments, especially with electricity. Distinguished foreigners who visited London during his stay often sought to meet with him. Among them were the Polish Prince Adam Czartoryski and his wife, Princess Izabela Czartoryska. The Czartoryskis belonged to one of the richest and most influential noble families in Poland. Pani Czartoryska had been suffering from a deep depression and in 1772 had composed her final testament and farewell letters. Prince Adam thought a visit to Mr. Franklin, the charismatic American, might cheer her up. What transpired was explained by the princess in her memoirs:



*Princess Izabela Czartoryska*

“Franklin had a noble face with an expression of engaging kindness. Surprised by my immobility, he took my hands and gazed at me saying, ‘Pauvre jeune femme (poor young lady).’ He then opened a harmonium (armonica), sat down, and played long. The music made a strong impression on me and tears began flowing from my eyes. Then Franklin sat by my side and looking with compassion said, ‘Madam, you are cured.’ Indeed, that moment was a reaction in my state of melancholia. Franklin offered to teach me how to play the harmonium. I accepted without hesitation, hence he gave me twelve lessons.”

Franklin was not a psychotherapist, yet he recognized that the soothing sounds of his armonica might have a positive effect on Pani Czartoryska, and apparently they had. She appears to have been a happily engaged individual for months afterward. It is interesting to note that Dr. Franz Mesmer, the famous psychoanalyst who developed hypnotism therapy, used Mr. Franklin’s armonica as background music during his therapeutic sessions and séances. Like Franklin, Dr. Mesmer seemed to recognize the instrument’s calming effects. Franklin and Mesmer met a least once but there is no indication that Princess Czartoryska’s case was discussed.

Although Princess Czartoryska suffered a depressive relapse in 1773, she recovered again and in the later decades of her life became a creative, engaging woman and collector of art works. Leonardo da Vinci’s masterpiece “Lady with an Ermine” came into her collection (and is now displayed at the Czartoryski Museum in Kraków). She remained mentally alert and active until her death in 1835 at the age of 89. She had said about Benjamin Franklin in her memoirs, “I have retained memory of him for my whole life.”



*“Lady with An Ermine”  
by Leonardo DaVinci*

As for the armonica, it fell out of favor as high concert halls became more popular around 1800. The instrument could not be heard well in the larger venues as it had been previously while played in small meeting halls or private parlors. Still, it never disappeared completely. Only a few persons today are proficient at playing it. If you are interested, you may go to YouTube and search the word “armonica” and listen to one of the videos and imagine that you are in Benjamin Franklin’s London apartment in 1772 as he plays the soothing notes for Princess Izabela Czartoryska, seated on the couch across from him.

Source: “Franklin and Pani Czartoryska” by Marin Nowak, Polish American Journal, March 2014

**THANK YOU**



**PRIBYSON FAMILY**

**718 Silas Deane Highway, Wethersfield, CT — 860-969-0600**

**Hours: 6:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m., seven days a week.**

We wish to thank Stacey Pribyson, Owner and Chef at the Wethersfield Diner, and her mom, Janice, for featuring our Club cookbook for sale at their site. This has been a great outlet and we appreciate the support. If you have not tried Stacey’s delicious home-made offerings, you are in for a treat. Please stop in and try excellent “classic diner food with a home-made twist.” The extensive menu also reflects a strong Polish influence. The Wethersfield Diner is proud to have received the “Best Breakfast Award” by the Wethersfield Chamber of Commerce in 2019.

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

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2020** 1:00 p.m.  
 "Lunch and Learn" talk by Poland's Ambassador to Switzerland, Jakub Kumoch, and author Heidi Fishman on The Lados List — The Secret Mission to Save Jews in Nazi-Occupied Europe  
 Mandell JCC Innovation Center, 335 Bloomfield Ave., W. Hartford  
 \$10.00 for Kosher Lunch  
 RSVP: [www.ctvoicesofhope.org](http://www.ctvoicesofhope.org) or (860) 470-5991

**SATURDAY MARCH 7, 2020** 10:00 a.m. OR 2:30 p.m.  
**SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2020** 12:00 noon  
 "Pisanki Class" - Learn how to make *Pisanki*  
  
 Polish American Foundation, 27 Grove Hill Street  
 New Britain, CT — No artistic ability needed. Children 8 and over are welcome but must be accompanied by an adult. Class sizes are limited — no walk-ins allowed. Pre-register by March 1.  
 Fee: \$20.00 for non-members and \$15.00 for PAF members.  
 (Fee includes all class supplies with wax and tool to take home.)  
 To REGISTER: e-mail [PAEvents@yahoo.com](mailto:PAEvents@yahoo.com)

**SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 2020** 3:00 p.m.  
 Lecture and Concert: "Polish Rebirth of the XX Century"  
 Includes works for strings by giants of Polish music (Karol Szymanowski, Mieczysław Karłowicz, and Jakub Kowalewski)  
 Central CT State University — FREE and open to the public

**SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2020 (Save the Date!)**  
 "Lecture on the History of the Polish Home and 'The Seven Summits' by Mark Milewski" with lunch on your own (See Page 1)

**TRIP TO THE CULINARY INSTITUTE AND STAATSBURGH MANSION IN HYDE PARK, NY**  
**Wednesday, May 27, 2020**



You are invited to join the Ladies Guilds of Sacred Heart and Holy Cross Church in New Britain for a day of fine dining and touring. Enjoy a full-course luncheon at the **Catarina de Medici** restaurant, offering authentic Italian cuisine: Insalata di Pomodoro e Romana; Pork Scaloppini with sage, coppo, mushrooms; and spinach flan, and Tortino di Cioccolata — followed by a tour of **Staatsburgh Mansion**, a 20 room Gilded Age residence once owned by Ogden Mills and Ruth Livingston. **Cost: \$107.00 per person**

**Make checks payable to Sacred Heart Ladies Guild**  
 Depart: 8:45 a.m. from St. Pope John Paul II School parking lot in New Britain (off Eddy Glover Blvd.)  
 Estimated Return: 7:30 p.m. New Britain  
 Reservations/Information: Mary Ann Smialowski, Sacred Heart Ladies Guild, 158 Broad Street, New Britain, CT 06053  
*Several PCCGH members have already signed up for the trip.*



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

**We're on the Web!**  
[www.polishculturalclub.org](http://www.polishculturalclub.org)

**NEWSFLASH — CLUB MEMBERS**

If you have any "Newsy Tidbits" about family, friends, or former scholarship recipients that you would like to share with the Polish Cultural Club of Greater Hartford, please send an e-mail to [franpudlo@att.net](mailto:franpudlo@att.net) or jot down a few lines and mail to PCCGH, P.O. Box 380699, East Hartford, CT 06138-0699.



Member **Sophie Bieniek** and the **Hartford Polish Scouts** are hosting a national gathering of several hundred Polish Scouts in Hartford on February 23 for "International Thinking Day." We wish them every success.

Polish-born **Anna Makurat** continues to get rave reviews as a freshman on the UConn basketball team. Her experience of playing two years of basketball in Poland's top women's basketball league has provided her with a maturity that most freshmen don't normally bring to their first year of college play. She has been described as using her body well, making a lot of plays, scoring, and also passing the ball. While her offensive skills can be a huge asset for the Huskies this season, Coach Auriemma would like to have her adjust to playing "U.S. basketball" and step up defense. Her fans will be eagerly following her progress.



**IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR TRADITIONAL POLISH EASTER RECIPES . . . .**



Please consider our Club cookbook.  
**Cost: \$16.00 each OR 2 for \$30.00**  
**Shipping/Handling: \$4.00 per book**

You may order by sending a check or money order to:  
**Polish Cultural Club of Greater Hartford, Inc.**  
**P.O. Box 380699 — East Hartford, CT 06138-0699**

Please be sure to include your name, address, phone, and/or e-mail address. (Information: 860.659.0356)

**STRONA MYŚLI — THOUGHTS PAGE**

- |                                    |                         |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| luty — February                    | różowy — pink           |
| serce — heart                      | miłość — love           |
| kochankowie — lovers               | zareczyny — engagement  |
| kwiaty — flowers                   | czokoladki — chocolates |
| dzień Walentyny — Valentine's Day  |                         |
| astroj romantyczny — romantic mood |                         |



**Wiedza bez wiary, nie może mieć wielkiej wartości.**  
**Knowledge without faith, cannot be of great value.**

**OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO . . . .**

**Helen Olejarz** on the loss of her brother, **Stanisław Olejarz**, on January 5, 2020.



**Louis Maglaty**, husband, and **Michelle Maglaty Mostello**, daughter, and extended family on the loss of beloved **Anna-Mae Maglaty** on January 25, 2020.