

THE POLISH CULTURAL CLUB OF GREATER HARTFORD, INC.
ANNUAL REPORT
July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019

October 2018

The Club's original cookbook published in 1988 was revised and updated. A total 500 copies of FAVORITE RECIPES – Including Easter and Christmas" were delivered and became an instant success necessitating a reorder of 300 copies in the spring.

November 2018

Members of the Club participated in the 100th Anniversary Celebration of Polish Independence on November 4 with a Special Anniversary Mass held at SS. Cyril and Methodius Church in Hartford followed by a Dinner and Special Anniversary Performance by the Theatre of the Imagination at the Polish National Home in Hartford.

On November 15, the Annual Meeting, Food Drive, and/Turkey Drawing were held at the Polish National Home. The following Officers were nominated and voted into office for a two-year term: Lilia Kieltyka (President); Ursula Brodowicz (Vice President); Frances Pudlo (Secretary); Raymond Kowalski (Treasurer); and Virginia Pudlo (Historian).

"A Polish Christmas" exhibit, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Museum in New Haven, CT opened on November 17, 2018 and ran until February 3, 2019. Various members of the Club assisted the Museum with its planning and programs.

The 38th Annual Szopka Festival and Competition was held on November 25 at the Polish National Home in Hartford. This is the Club's major fundraising event, the proceeds of which benefit the Club's Jennie Marconi-Javorski Scholarship Fund. It is attended by hundreds of visitors from CT and surrounding states who enjoy the food, shopping, and experience of a Polish Christmas Festival.

December 2018

The Club's annual Wigilia celebration was held at the Polish National Home in Hartford on December 7. A traditional meatless meal, followed by the singing of kolędy, was enjoyed by close to sixty guests, both members and those from the general public.

As part of its "Polish Christmas" exhibit, Club member Marek Czarnecki gave a lecture at the Knights of Columbus Museum in New Haven, CT on December 15 entitled "Polish Christmas Traditions."

January 2019

It was standing room only on January 13 when the Moniuszko Choir under the direction of Adrian Sylveen captivated over 900 guests with a concert of Polish kolędy at the Knights of Columbus Museum

in New Haven, CT. Following the performance, the Club hosted a reception for the choir and the 25 Club members who were in attendance.

February 2019

President Lilia Kieltyka chaired a Club table at the “Winter Wonderland Wine Tasting” event sponsored by The Holy Name Society of Sacred Heart Church in New Britain, CT. The Club’s newly published cookbook was featured for sale along with a sampling of foods made from its recipes.

March 2019

The fifth annual pre-Lenten “Pączki na Karnawał” was held on March 3 at SS. Cyril and Methodius Church in Hartford. Twenty dozen pączki were offered and completely sold out.

President Lilia Kieltyka, along with Florence Langridge and Frances Pudlo, attended the ACPC’s Spring Board Meeting in McLean, VA.

April 2019

Christine Waszynski, DNP, APRN, GNP-BC from Hartford Hospital spoke on “Sleep Hygiene” at the General Members Meeting held at the Polish National Home in Hartford on April 25.

May 2019

“A Taste of Polonia – Food and Drink” was enjoyed by seventy guests at the Polish National Home in Hartford on May 11. This Club-sponsored event was to celebrate the publication of the Club’s new cookbook “FAVORITE RECIPES.” Food and desserts from the book were featured, in addition to beer and Polish liquor tastings, and music.

June 2019

On June 2, the Club hosted a booth at the annual Little Poland Festival in New Britain, the largest Polish Festival in the Northeast. Many of the approximately 15,000 festival goers were happy to stop by and share some time at our colorful booth where our Club cookbook, Christmas card, “Pillows for Baby Jesus” Christmas tree ornaments, and apple szarlotka were sold.

On June 19, four outstanding scholars of Polish descent received a scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.00 each: *Olivia Dybinski*, who plans to attend the University of Connecticut, Storrs majoring in Applied Mathematical Sciences with a goal of becoming a Math teacher; *Bruno Wieckowski*, who will continue his studies at Central Connecticut State University School of Business, New Britain, CT majoring in Accounting; *Jessica Witkowski*, who will continue her studies in Political Science at Pace University-Dyson College Arts & Sciences, New York City; and *Karol Wroblewski*, who will continue his studies in Pharmacy at Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, Albany, New York working toward a goal of earning a PHMD Doctor of Pharmacy in 2023.

Submitted by Virginia Pudlo
Historian