

THE POLISH CULTURAL CLUB OF GREATER HARTFORD, INC. (PCCGH)
ANNUAL REPORT
July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020

Summer 2019

Two exceptional and long-serving members of the the PCCGH and ACPC passed away on June 21, 2019 -- Clifford George Archie and Mary Mazurek Heslin. Both will be greatly missed.

September 2019

The Club hosted a vendor table at St. George Episcopal Church's Craft Fair in Bolton, CT where various Polish items were sold.

October 2019

The Club hosted a vendor table at the "2019 Polish Genealogy Conference" at Central CT State University in New Britain attended by individuals from across the United States.

President Lilia Kieltyka attended the ACPC Fall Board meeting in Syracuse, NY.

On October 27, the United Polish Societies of Hartford (Centrala) held their annual Distinguished Service Award banquet. Honored among the three recipients was PCCGH member Frances T. Pudlo.

November 2019

On November 8 and 9, a pierogi-making session for the PCCGH Szopka Festival was held with the assistance of members from the Ladies Guild of Sacred Heart Church in New Britain. A total of 115 dozen cheese/potato and 52 dozen farmer's cheese pierogi were made.

200 guests attended a collaborative film event called "Mission of Honor" which was held on Sunday, November 17 sponsored by the PCCGH, the S.A. Blejwas Endowed Chair in Polish Studies, and the Polish National Home. The movie is based on the true story of the heroic Kosciuszko 303 Squadron fighter pilots who helped the British Royal Air Force (RAF) win the Battle of Britain during WWII. Original items from the curated collection of the Kosciuszko 303 Squadron memorability were also on display.

On November 19, Marek Czarnecki and Lilia Kieltyka were guest speakers on internet radio (ICRVRADIO) discussing Polish holiday traditions.

The PCCGH Annual Meeting, Food Drive, and Turkey Drawing took place at the Polish National Home on November 20.

December 2019

The 39th Annual Szopka Festival and Competition was held on December 1 at the Polish National Home in Hartford. It was attended by hundreds of visitors who enjoyed the beautiful szopkas made by students, ethnic food, shopping, and experience of a Polish Christmas Festival. Proceeds benefit the Club's Jennie Marconi-Javorski Scholarship Fund.

The Club's annual Wigilia celebration was held at the Polish National Home in Hartford on December 14. Eighty-one guests enjoyed a traditional meatless meal followed by the singing of kolędy.

January 2020

Sadly, the Club and ACPC experienced another irreplaceable loss – Anna-Mae Maglaty – who died on January 25.

February 2020

Due to a date conflict, the 6th Annual Pączki na Karnawał was not held but instead dozens of pączki were donated to the Hartford Polish Scouts who hosted a gathering of Polish Scouts from the Eastern region for International Thinking Day.

March 2020

On March 7, Marek Czarnecki presented a live on-line lecture for the Knights of Columbus Museum in New Haven called “Marian Iconography – History of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Sacred Art.” Over 200 viewers signed on, including some from Australia, Singapore, Japan, and Canada.

April 2020

A new dedicated fund was established in memory of Anna- Mae Maglaty. The proceeds will be used for an annual “Anna-Mae Maglaty Literary Competition” for local Polish-American youth. The competition will have a connection with the ACPC's Wachtel Literary Award.

May 2020

No applications for the Club's Jennie Marconi-Javorski Scholarship were received. However, two PCCGH members received the 2020 ACPC Pulaski Scholarship – Beata Kaminska-Kordowska and Kamila Orzechowska.

Unfortunately many Club activities and programs scheduled through June were cancelled in mid-March due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We all look forward to the days ahead when the Club can be active again.

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia M. Pudlo
Historian