



NEWSLETTER

POLISH CULTURAL CLUB OF GREATER HARTFORD, INC.

Established 1976

www.polishculturalclub.org

June 2018

An Affiliate of the American Council for Polish Culture

*Members & Guests are cordially invited
to attend the 2018*

SCHOLARSHIP PRESENTATION AND RECEPTION



Wednesday - June 20, 2018

Polish National Home Dining Room

60 Charter Oak Avenue

Hartford, Connecticut

Handicapped Accessible & Free Parking

*6:00 PM - Doors Open
6:30 PM - Reception
7:15 PM - Meeting
7:30 PM - Awards Ceremony
Dessert*



Please join us for this special evening!

There is no charge for this event, but we ask that you RSVP by calling
Florence Langridge at (860) 521-4034.

Presented by the
Polish Cultural Club of Greater Hartford, Inc.

www.polishculturalclub.org

Information: (860) 659-0356



DO YOU KNOW The history behind Poland's 100th anniversary of regaining independence?

In the 16th century when it was known as the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, Poland had a population of over 9 million and occupied the greatest territory in its history — 1.1 million square kilometers (three times larger than today). It was a sprawling empire, considered one of Europe's largest, stretching almost from the Black Sea to the Baltic Sea. Both Poles and representatives of foreign dynasties were eligible as candidates for the throne. Polish kings were elected by the gentry and aristocrats (10% of the total population), and while several foreign kings were elected, such leadership was ineffective. In 1655, Sweden gained control over Poland's Baltic region followed by several wars with Turkey. All of this contributed to the decline of Poland's significant empire. In the period 1697 to 1763, the Saxon dynasty reign marked the deepest fall of the state. Political chaos and economic problems pervaded the land and Poland became dependent on her strong neighbors.

The **first partition** of Poland by Prussia, Russia, and Austria took place in 1772 when they annexed almost a third of Poland's territories and 35% of its inhabitants. The **second partition** occurred in 1793 after Polish patriots had attempted to devise a new constitution, following the one adopted on May 3, 1791. Both Russia and Prussia invaded Poland and agreed to a partition that left only the central part of Poland remaining. Following this partition, a major insurrection broke out in an ultimately futile attempt to restore Poland's independence. It was led by military engineer Tadeusz Kościuszko who had served under General George Washington in the American Revolutionary War. The **third and final partition** of Poland ensued in 1795 in which Prussia, Russia, and Austria divided the remaining Polish territories among themselves. Stanislaus Augustus Poniatowski, the last king of an independent Poland, was forced to sign his abdication, and from that moment, Poland was erased from the map of Europe for 123 years. It was left to the Catholic Church to become the main institution which preserved and defended Polish culture, language, and identity against foreign oppression into the 20th century.

World War I provided a turning point. America's Polonia actively supported Poland's quest for freedom through generous cash donations and war-relief drives. The Polish Falcons were largely instrumental in the creation of a Polonian volunteer army that joined Gen. Józef Haller's nearly 100,000-strong force on the Western front. Also known as the Blue Army, they initially trained and fought as the Polish Legion of France, but fought with the ultimate goal of Polish independence. By war's end, this force was officially recognized as the Independent Polish Army. It is estimated that about 20,000-25,000 Polish men from North America volunteered and fought in France as part of the Polish Army. The recruits from America were primarily recent immigrants who had not yet become American citizens. From Pittsburgh to Chicago and Worcester to Omaha, these young Polish men came to the assistance of their homeland eager to contribute in any way they could.

It was only at the close of World War I that Poland re-emerged as a recognized nation. On November 11, 1918, in Warsaw, the Austro-Prussian occupation authority handed power over to Józef Piłsudski, a popular Polish military leader recently freed from a German prison. Piłsudski proclaimed Polish Independence and became Head of State and Commander-in-Chief, with Ignacy Jan Paderewski serving as Prime Minister of the newly created Republic of Poland. The stage for Poland's reappearance on the world map had been set eleven months earlier when U.S. President Woodrow Wilson, called for the creation of an independent Polish state with access to the sea in one of his famous "Fourteen Points." At the 1919 Paris Peace Conference, Free Poland champion, Ignacy Paderewski, and National Democratic Leader, Roman Dmowski, had pleaded Poland's case successfully. It would take several more years of plebiscites and armed struggle, however, including the 1920 defeat of the invading Soviet hordes led by Marshall Piłsudski, before Poland could be truly free. And, of course, this left Poland facing the daunting task of rebuilding its war-torn country.

A new system of government, armed forces, school system, and even railway tracks of standardized width all had to be recreated. Due to runaway post-war inflation, a satchel full of paper money (Polish Marks) was needed to buy a loaf of bread. It was the 1924 monetary reform of Finance Minister Władysław Grabski that introduced the modern złoty which soon became one of Europe's most stable currencies. Other major achievements included the then ultra-modern Baltic port of Gdynia, built from scratch from a former poor fishing village. The Central Industrial District, a steel-making and defense-industry complex in the new city of Stałowa Wola, produced armaments for the Polish army. Poland became a major exporter of agricultural food products and coal and began producing industrial machinery and manufactured consumer goods. In the cultural realm, it could boast vibrant arts and humanities, new universities, theaters, a symphony orchestra, and publishing houses. However, all of this reconstruction took place in a hostile environment comprised of both external and internal threats, including the worldwide Great Depression.

The real cataclysm occurred in September 1939, when Nazi Germany and Soviet Russia invaded and split Poland down the middle. After World War II, Poland was forced to function as a Soviet puppet state until the collapse of communism in 1989. Final independence occurred in the '90s when the Warsaw Pact dissolved, the last Soviet soldiers left, and Poland adopted a new constitution to replace the 1952 communist-era charter. Today Poland stands strong among the Western nations as a member of NATO and the European Union.

Sources: [Poland and Warsaw](#), by Tadeusz Jedrysiak, Warsaw, 2007; "Poland marks its 100th anniversary of regaining independence," by Robert Strybel, [White Eagle](#), April 29, 2018; and [www.hallersarmy.com](#)

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

THURSDAY, JUNE 7, 2018

7:00 p.m.

Movie: "Hiszpanka" (Influence) - in Polish with English subtitles

Vance Academic Center, Room 105

Central CT State University, Nw Britain

FREE

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20, 2018

PCCGH Jennie Marconi-Javorski Scholarship Presentation/Reception

Polish National Home, 60 Charter Oak Avenue, Hartford

Doors Open: 6:00 p.m.

Reception 6:30 p.m.

Awards Ceremony 7:15 p.m.

No charge for members, but RSVP requested: (860) 521-4034

SUNDAY, JULY 1, 2018

Deadline for recipes for Club cookbook project. E-mail entries to pccgh18@gmail.com or francespudlo@att.net or mail to: P.O. Box 380699, East Hartford, CT 06138-0699.

MONDAY, JULY 9, 2018

Golf Tournament: "A Gathering of Eagles" . . . Birdies and Pars!

(see article below) Make your own foursome or be assigned.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8—SATURDAY, AUGUST 11, 2018

American Council for Polish Culture's 70th Annual Convention

Hosted by the Polish American Cultural Institute of MN

Crown Plaza Northstar Hotel, Minneapolis, Minnesota

Information: (612) 378-9291 or e-mail: office@pacim.org

CALLING ALL POLISH GOLF ENTHUSIASTS FROM CT

"A GATHERING OF EAGLES" . . . BIRDIES AND PARS!

Sponsored by the Polish Center of Discovery and Learning

17th ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Monday, July 9, 2018

Ludlow Country Club (Donald Ross-designed course)

I Tony Lema Drive, Ludlow, MA 01056

10:00—11:00 a.m. Registration (Fee: \$130.00 p.p.)

10:30—11:00 a.m. Golf Lesson with Ludlow C.C. Golf Pro

11:00—11:45 a.m. Lunch on the Deck

12:15 p.m. Shotgun Start

Hole-in-One Contest sponsored by Sarat Ford/Lincoln

5:30—8:00 p.m. Dinner & cocktails

Information: Ed Dzielenski, 413-567-3132—nyd11@aol.com OR

Mike Minkos, 413-427-6688—m.minkos@comcast.net
www.polishcenter.net



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

We're on the Web!

www.polishculturalclub.org

NEWSFLASH — CLUB MEMBERS

If you have any "Newsy tidbits" about family or friends that you would like to share with the Polish Cultural Club, all you need to do is e-mail or mail a few lines to Anna-Mae Maglacy at either annamae11@comcast.net or 35 Fernridge Road, West Hartford, CT 06107. We look forward to hearing from you.

Krystyna Słowińska Farley recently returned from Italy where she was a guest of the Polish government at the 74th observance of the Battle of Monte Cassino. She was invited as a veteran of this strategic battle. Among the highlights of the trip were a blessing by His Holiness, Pope Francis I, and a visit to a magnificent Basilica which was built by German monks and features a cross made from the chains of German tanks.

Congratulations are extended to **Dr. Marisa Maglacy** who received a Doctorate in Veterinary Medicine from The Ohio State University in Columbus, OH on May 4, 2018. For the next three years, she will be in a residency program at the University of California-Davis studying Pathology. She is the granddaughter of **Louis and Anna-Mae Maglacy**.

Update on the grandsons of **Clifford and Patricia Archie**: **Tyler Whitesell**, graduated from The Ohio State University on May 6, 2018, and will be employed as an Actuary in Washington, DC. **Matthew Whitesell** is a graduate of the University of Virginia and for the past year has served as a Systems Analyst in Boston, MA. Both young men were 2013 recipients of our Club Scholarship.

Nathan Zlotnick, grandson of **Nancy Yiznitsky** and a 2014 Club scholarship recipient, has been placed on the Spring 2018 Dean's List for excellent academic performance in the College of Engineering at Northeastern University.

Rachel Zlotnick, granddaughter of **Nancy Yiznitsky**, will be spending June and July in Madagascar as part of a summer program sponsored by Villanova University and Catholic Charities. Rachel, a 2016 recipient of our Club Scholarship, will be entering her junior year in the fall as a Nursing major at Villanova.

NEW MANAGER AT THE POLISH NATIONAL HOME

When you next visit the Polish National Home, you may very likely be greeted by **Nick Ulion**, the new **General Manager**. Nick is resolved to making your experience at the PNH enjoyable and noteworthy. Together with **Chef Jeff Thompson**, they make an excellent team. Please support the PNH by having a meal or scheduling an event soon.



Tel.: (860) 247-1784

PNH Hours: Tues. and Wed.: 11:30 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

Thurs.—Sat.: 11:30 a.m.—9:00 p.m.

Sunday: 11:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

EXPRESSION OF SYMPATHY

The Polish Cultural Club of Greater Hartford, Inc. wishes to express its deepest sympathy to the following members and families:

Mark Milewski on the passing of his mother, Anita Milewski, on April 9, 2018.

Helen Olejarcz on the passing of her brother, Henry Olejarcz, on May 9, 2018.