



NEWSLETTER

POLISH CULTURAL CLUB OF GREATER HARTFORD, INC.

Established 1976

www.polishculturalclub.org

October 2018

An Affiliate of the American Council for Polish Culture



CELEBRATE POLAND'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE

There are two events taking place in the Greater Hartford area to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Poland's Independence. Members are encouraged to take advantage of the offerings.



A TWO-DAY SYMPOSIUM AND GALA CELEBRATION

Presented by the Polish Studies Program
at Central CT State University, New Britain, CT

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2018

Founders Hall in Davidson Hall, CCSU

9:00 a.m.—2:30 p.m. Opening Ceremony & Symposium Presentations

2:30 p.m.—3:30 p.m. Lachowicz Fellow and Winners of the
High School Competition

3:30 p.m.—4:30 p.m. Polonia Paderewski Choir
Patriotic songs (sing-a-long)

Special Guest: His Excellency Piotr Wilczek
Ambassador of Poland to the U.S.

Light refreshments and lunch

Symposium is FREE and open to the public

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2018

Davidson Hall, CCSU

1:30 p.m.—3:30 p.m. Symposium Presentations

Light refreshments

FREE and open to the public

GALA CELEBRATION (Sunday, October 21, 2018)

Alumni Hall, Student Center, CCSU

4:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m.

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Neal Pease

Tickets: \$85.00 per person; \$25.00 students

For full program and Gala ticket information, call Magda
Jacques at (860) 832-3010 or visit: www.ccsu.edu/polishstudies/



100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF POLISH INDEPENDENCE

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2018

SS. Cyril and Methodius Church, Hartford

11:30 a.m. Special Anniversary Mass

Polish National Home

60 Charter Oak Avenue, Hartford

12:30 p.m. Dinner

3-Course Plated Dinner in Dining Room

Cost: \$30.00 per person

(Reservations Only)

2:00 p.m. Special Anniversary Performance

(Details to be Announced)

Cost: \$20.00 per person

*Part of the proceeds from this event will be
earmarked as a donation to the SS. Cyril and
Methodius Church Renovation Fund.*

For further information, please contact:
info@polishhomect.org - (860) 247-1784



CO-PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

Dear Friends:

It is hard to believe that summer has sped by so quickly; we hope that everyone enjoyed some well-earned rest and relaxation.

The Cookbook Committee has been hard at work during the past few months compiling and editing recipes and putting the finishing touches on a final edition of **"Favorite Recipes — Including Easter and Christmas."** The draft has been submitted to the publisher and will be ready in time for the holidays. Thanks to all who submitted recipes and to committee members Ursula Brodowicz (cover artist), Lilia Kieltyka, Florence Langridge, Anna-Mae Maglaty, Carol Bogon Phelan, and Gini Pudlo, who made this project possible.

As reported previously, the Knights of Columbus Museum in New Haven is staging **"A Polish Christmas"** for the 2018 holidays. The exhibit will open in early November and run until early February. We are in the process of arranging a bus trip for members and friends. Details will be forthcoming.

Please support the various Polish organizations that are celebrating the 100th anniversary of Poland's independence. There are many events taking place in October and November, some without cost.

The time has come to start preparing for our 38th Annual Szopka Festival and Competition. Please volunteer—there are many ways to participate. This is a huge undertaking for our Club and ALL hands are needed. The guests who visit the event are extremely grateful that this event is held annually and for that we should be proud.

Fran Pudlo Pattie Kaczynski Co-Presidents
(860) 659-0356 (860) 677-0628

THIS IS AN ELECTION YEAR — The Nominating Committee would welcome your input. Open Offices: *President (or Co-Presidents), Vice President, Recording Secretary, and Historian.* Please submit the names of any candidates to Anna-Mae Maglaty, 35 Fernridge Road, West Hartford, CT 06107 — 860-521-7621. We also welcome any member to join us on our Board of Directors. We meet about 8 times a year to conduct general business and plan events. It is an opportunity to serve our Polish community as well as being a rewarding experience.

2017-2018 CLUB OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Co-Presidents: Patricia Kaczynski and Frances Pudlo
- Vice President: John Majdan
- Secretary: Lilia Kieltyka
- Treasurer: Raymond Kowalski
- Historian: Patricia Kaczynski
- Board Members: Clifford Archie, Patricia Archie, Ursula Brodowicz, Marek Czarnecki, Edward Farley, Krystyna Farley, Mary Heslin (Emeritus), Florence Langridge, Anna-Mae Maglaty, Louis Maglaty, Carol Bogon Phelan, Virginia Pudlo, and Nancy O. Yiznitsky.

2018 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



L to R: Scholarship Co-Chair Florence Langridge, Adrian Gorczyca, Sara Loniewski, Camdyn Pegg, Karolina Wlaz, Sylwia Zambrzycka, and Co-Chair, Virginia Pudlo

- Adrian Gorczyca:** Freshman at CCSU majoring in Computer Science
- Sara Loniewski:** Freshman at UConn-Storrs majoring in Allied Health Sciences with a goal of a Master's in Speech Pathology
- Camdyn Pegg:** Freshman at the University of Hartford, West Hartford majoring in Architectural Engineering
- Karolina Wlaz:** Freshman at Saint Joseph University, West Hartford — 6 year Direct Entry Physician Assistant Program
- Sylwia Zambrzycka:** Senior at UConn-Storrs majoring in Allied Health Sciences with a Minor in Psychology

Each received a \$1,000 check. CONGRATULATIONS!

GENERAL MEETING FOR SZOPKA VOLUNTEERS

Wednesday, October 24, 2018
6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Community Room
Lucy Robbins Welles Library
95 Cedar Street, Newington

ALL VOLUNTEERS ARE INVITED!



For further information, call
Fran at
(860) 659-0356



NEWSLETTER STAFF

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



DID YOU KNOW BIGOS IS THE NATIONAL DISH OF POLAND?

In the treasury of Old Polish culinary recipes, *bigos* is one of the most precious jewels. Its traditions go back far into the past, with the most beautiful literary monument of praise to be found in Adam Mickiewicz's masterpiece of Polish literature, *Pan Tadeusz*:

The *bigos* is being cooked. No words can tell
 The wonder of its color, taste, and smell.
 Mere words and rhymes are jingling sounds, whose sense
 No city stomach really comprehends.
 For Lithuanian food and song you ought
 To have good health and country life and sport.
 But *bigos* e'en without such sauce is good,
 Of vegetables curiously brewed.

The basis of it is sliced sauerkraut,
 Which, as they say, just walks into the mouth;
 Enclosed within a cauldron, its moist breast
 Lies on the choicest meat in slices pressed.
 There it is parboiled till the heat draws out
 The living juices from the cauldron's spout,
 And all the air is fragrant with the smell.
 'Twas ready now.

In olden days, *bigos*, stored in wooden casks or great stoneware pots, was a necessary component of a well-equipped pantry. Reheating the *bigos* many times only adds to the flavor and aroma. Thus, it could be served to an unexpected guest, or it was eaten on hunting expeditions, when it was heated in a kettle hung over an open fire. A cask of *bigos* was also taken "on the road," since it was part of the classical Old Polish traveling food supply. It was also served during carnival, at Easter feasts, and on many other occasions. The tastiest *bigos* was made during Christmas and Easter, as there was a great variety of meat and game on hand, and these make up the essence of the dish, which should be served very hot.

A cautionary note from past times — The skill of making a genuinely Polish *bigos* is acquired through practice. It should be made with concentration, with frequent tasting in order to achieve the full harmony of artfully measured out ingredients. Haste and a distracted mind are particularly dangerous. Such an unsuccessful *bigos* is described in the biting epigram by Wacław Potocki:

Wanting to season her *bigos* in haste,
 A maiden goes to the cupboard to add vinegar for taste.
 There among the bottles stood ink, as it was frosty outside.
 Having poured it in she gives me the new dish, with pride.
 I try it: a dog wouldn't eat it; and I think in some wrath:
 I've never seen *bigos* in mourning; by my truth!

Source: **Old Polish Traditions — In the Kitchen and at the Table** by Maria Lemnis & Henryk Vitry, Hippocrene Books, NY, 1996.

EASY HUNTER'S STEW (LATWY BIGOS) Regina Rudewicz

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1/4 cup all-purpose flour | 2 medium onions, sliced |
| 1 tsp. caraway seeds <u>or</u> paprika | 12 oz. (3/4 lb.) kielbasa |
| 2 Tbsp. butter or margarine | 1 can (4 oz.) sliced mushrooms, undrained |
| 1 lb. lean beef, cubed | 1/2 cup dry white wine |
| 1 lb. lean pork, cubed | chopped parsley for garnish |
| 2 lbs. sauerkraut, rinsed & drained | small boiled potatoes as side dish |

Combine flour and caraway seeds (or paprika); coat meat pieces. Heat butter in a Dutch oven or saucepot. Add meat and brown on all sides. Add sauerkraut, onion, sausage, mushrooms, and white wine; mix. Cover and cook over low heat for 1 1/2 to 2 hours, or until meat is tender. Remove meat and vegetables to serving platter. If desired, garnish with parsley and serve with small boiled potatoes. Serves 6 to 8.



From soon-to-be published PCCGH Cookbook "**Favorite Recipes.**"

Michael P. Barlowski, whom you might know as a bartender and member of the wait staff at the Polish National Home in Hartford is the Republican candidate running for state representative for the 6th District in Hartford. Michael was born in Asuncion, Paraguay, but grew up in Terryville, CT after being adopted into a Polish-American family when he was two years old. Michael is a family man, college student majoring in Liberal Arts, and, in addition to the Polish National Home, also works at 50 Elm Café and Spirits. Michael's platform includes: Ensuring public safety, security, and cleanliness in neighborhoods and parks; evaluating legislation for responsible fiscal spending and savings within government institutions; voting in favor of revenue neutral tax reform legislation; and pushing the state Bonding Commission for public funding to repair roads, sidewalks, and curbs. You may follow Michael on Facebook at Michael P Barlowski and Twitter @the_realMB.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Annual Meeting—Food Drive—Turkey Drawing

Thursday, November 15, 6:30—8:30 p.m.

Polish National Home Dining Room

This is an election year, so nominations for the following officers are being sought: President (Co-Presidents), Vice President, Recording Secretary, and Historian. If you would like to serve, or know someone who would be interested, please let Anna-Mae Maglaty know at (860) 521-7621.



Szopka Competition (Open to All Ages / Cash Prizes)

Judging on Saturday, November 24, 2018. If you are interested in submitting a szopka for the competition, whether it be a group or individual entry, please visit www.polishculturalclub.org for Szopka Making Rules. Questions can be e-mailed to Marek Czarnecki, Competition Chair, at marekstudio4b@hotmail.com.



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

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2018

Pulaski-Kosciuszko Observance

10:00 a.m. Mass at SS. Cyril and Methodius Church, Hartford

11:30 a.m. Ceremony at the Pulaski Monument, Main St., Hartford

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2018

100th Anniversary of Poland's Independence — Two -Day Symposium

Central CT State University, New Britain, CT

(see detailed information on page 1)

FREE

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2018

100th Anniversary of Poland's Independence — Gala

Central CT State University, New Britain, CT

(see detailed information on page 1 for ticket prices)

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2018

100th Anniversary Celebration of Poland's Independence

11:30 a.m. Mass at SS. Cyril and Methodius Church

12:30 p.m. 3-Course Dinner at the Polish National Home

2:00 p.m. Special Performance in the Ballroom of PNH

(see detailed information and cost on page 1)

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2018

"A Polish Christmas" Exhibit opens at the Knights of Columbus

Museum, 1 State St., New Haven, CT 06511 (details to follow)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2018

PCCGH Annual Meeting / Food Drive/ Turkey Drawing

Polish National Home, 60 Charter Oak Avenue, Hartford **FREE**

SS. CYRIL AND METHODIUS CHURCH FUNDRAISER

Sunday, October 28, 2018

1:00 p.m.

Lower Church Basement

Tickets: \$50.00 per person

(Pre-sale only. No tickets will be sold at the door.)



**ALL PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT
THE ROOF RESTORATION PROJECT**

Make checks payable to **SS. Cyril and Methodius Church** and mail to 55 Charter Oak Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106, Attn: October Fundraiser.

Event Coordinator: Helen Olejrz — helen@hobbytyme.com



Polish Cultural Club of Greater
Hartford, Inc.
P.O. Box 380699
East Hartford, CT 06138-0699

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 Maglaty at either annamae11@comcast.net or 35 Fernridge Road, West Hartford, CT 06107. We look forward to hearing from you.

On August 30—September 3, 2018, **Krystyna Słowikowska Farley**, Cultural Counsel of the PCCGH, was invited by the Republic of Poland to take part in the 100th year celebration of Poland's return to freedom. First-class accommodations were offered to veteran Polish soldiers from around the world who served in World War II under British command.

Prior to leaving home, Krystyna was contacted by a Polish television company with a request to bring her medals, photos, and any other personal memorabilia. This was the second time that Krystyna has been interviewed on Polish TV. She was informed that a disk of this program would be sent to her for viewing.

Spotted—Familiar Faces: **Phyllis and Mitch Stawiarski** were recently seen enjoying lunch at the Polish National Home along with twenty members of their family.



Szopka Festival 2018 will be minus a diligent worker in the Country Kitchen. **Julie Story**, who was an asset for many years, died on August 30, 2018. She was both beautiful of appearance and beautiful of person. Julie will be missed. May she rest in peace.

OTHER INTERESTING TIDBITS

A POLISH GÓRAL IS FIRST TO SKI DOWN WORLD'S SECOND-HIGHEST MOUNTAIN: Andrzej Bargiel, 30, became the first person to ski down the world's second-highest mountain, K2, which is part of the Karakorums straddling the Chinese-Pakistani border. With skis in hand, the highlander from Zakopane climbed the 28,251 foot peak and skied back down to base camp intact. Last year, he had attempted the same daredevil feat but had to abandon the bid due to bad weather. Footage of the descent made television news worldwide since Bargiel's brother was filming the event with a camera-bearing drone in real time. Three years ago, Bargiel became the first skier in the world to descend from the nearby 26,295 foot Borad Peak. He has now skied from the summits of 5 of the 14 world's highest mountains. Poland's Wanda Rutkiewicz, the first woman ever to climb Mount Everest in 1986, became the first European female to climb K2. She died in 1992 after disappearing into an icy Himalayan crevice.

POLAND IS THE WORLD'S THIRD LARGEST APPLE PRODUCER: According to the U.S. Apple Association, China is the world's biggest apple producer, with the U.S. as second, and Poland as number three, followed by Italy, and France.

EXPRESSION OF SYMPATHY

The Polish Cultural Club of Greater Hartford, Inc. wishes to express its deepest sympathy to:

The family of member, **Julie Story**, who passed away on August 30, 2018.

