



NEWSLETTER

POLISH CULTURAL CLUB OF GREATER HARTFORD, INC.

Established 1976

www.polishculturalclub.org

September 2016

An Affiliate of the American Council for Polish Culture

40th ANNIVERSARY



The Polish Cultural Club of Greater Hartford, Inc.

**Cordially Invites You to an
Elegant Evening of Celebration**

Saturday, October 22, 2016

**Riverfront Community Center
300 Welles Street
Glastonbury, CT 06033**

Ticket Price: \$75.00 per person

There will be an outstanding raffle table as well.



For Reservations and Payment, please contact:

**Mrs. Nancy O. Yiznitsky
87 Montclair Drive, East Hartford, CT 06118-3328
Telephone: (860) 568-2044**

**Make Checks Payable to: "PCCGH 40th Anniversary"
Please include Entrée Selection**

*The Riverfront Community Center is handicapped
accessible with ample and convenient parking.*

**HAVE YOU PLACED YOUR AD IN THE
40TH ANNIVERSARY PROGRAM BOOK YET?**

There is still time.

Please contact Carol Phelan for information.

Tel.: (860) 646-3114 / E-mail: hopscoth77@sbcglobal.net

PROGRAM

6:00 p.m. Reception/Cash Bar and Hors D'oeuvres

Butternut Strudel

Potato/Farmer's Cheese Pani Puri

Cucumber Canapes with Smoked Salmon

Pretzel Crusted Chicken with Three Mustard Aioli

Seafood Fritters

Yukon Gold Potato Pancakes with Sour Cream

7:15 p.m. Dinner (Choice of One)

Boneless Braised Beef Short Ribs with Horseradish Dill Demi Sauce garnished with porcini mashed Yukon gold potatoes, oven-roasted butternut squash, Brussels sprouts, and edamame beans in a rosemary honey glaze.

Sautéed Chicken Scaloppini with Truffle Vinaigrette offered on a bed of sautéed spinach, garnished with a long-grain, aged basmati rice, oven roasted butternut squash, Brussels sprouts, and edamame beans in a rosemary honey glaze.

Fall Vegetable Napoleon – Layers of butternut squash, Portobello mushrooms, corn cake, roasted pepper and eggplant offered on a pool of caramelized sweet onion and spinach.

Catered by Russell Pryzbek, Chef de Cuisine
Russell's Creative Global Cuisine, West Hartford

8:30 p.m. Performance

**Theatre of Imagination Novum, Inc.
(Teatr Wyobraźni Novum)**

"LET THE POLISH MUSIC FLOW!"

A special concert of Polish traditional folk songs and popular music which have been sung at weddings, birthdays, and other family celebrations for countless generations. Popular music is one of the oldest forms of expression in almost every region of Poland, playing an especially unique role during emigration. Although newcomers wanted to assimilate very quickly to their new countries and culture, it was the music from "the old country" that would help them remember their roots and pass on traditions to their children and grandchildren. This presentation of songs and melodies will hopefully remind you of your own childhoods.





CO-PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

IT'S TIME TO CELEBRATE!

For the past six months, all of our efforts have been focused on two upcoming major events: first, hosting the Fall Board Meeting of the American Council for Polish Culture (ACPC) at the Glastonbury Hilton Garden Inn on October 21 and 22, and second, celebrating our Club's 40th Anniversary at the Glastonbury Riverfront Community Center on October 22. Our 40th Anniversary Committee, comprised of Lilia Kieltyka, Anna-Mae Maglaty, Carol Bogon Phelan, Virginia Pudlo, Nancy Yiznitsky, as well as both co-presidents, have been hard at work planning an elegant and memorable evening of fine dining and nostalgic Polish songs and music. We look forward to the opportunity of having our ACPC guests and Club members join together in acknowledging not just innumerable accomplishments over four decades, but also honoring so many dedicated and active members who have brought the Club to this special milestone. We encourage all members and friends to join us on this happy occasion. Please review the information on page 1.

Pattie Kaczynski and Fran Pudlo, Co-Presidents

(860) 677-0628 (860) 659-0356



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR LOCAL MAESTRO Adrian Sylveen Mackiewicz

Nominated by the Polish Cultural Club of Greater Hartford, Inc., **Adrian Sylveen Mackiewicz** was the recipient of the American Council for Polish Culture's "Cultural Achievement Award," presented at the ACPC National Convention in Pittsburgh on August 10—13, 2016. This award is given annually to a prominent American of Polish descent for outstanding achievement in the field of artistic or cultural endeavors.

Maestro Sylveen-Mackiewicz enjoys a performing career both in the U.S. and in Europe. He serves as Artistic Director of the Connecticut Virtuosi, New Britain Symphony, The Connecticut Virtuosi Orchestra, Magnum Opus, Connecticut Lyric Opera, and the Classical Orchestra of Pila in Poland. He is also a frequent guest conductor with several leading Polish orchestras. An active violin soloist, as well as a conductor, he has performed concerts and recitals in Poland, Switzerland, Germany, former Soviet Union, and the United States. Mr. Sylveen-Mackiewicz graduated with distinction from the Paderewski Music Academy in Poznań, Poland, and holds Master and post-Master degrees from the Yale University School of Music. He is the winner of prizes and awards at competitions in Poland and in the United States and has participated in several international festivals. He has been awarded several prestigious scholarships and awards, including the "Primus Inter Pares" Award presented by the President of the Republic of Poland. Maestro Sylveen-Mackiewicz is on the faculty of the Virtuosi Summer Institute at Tunxis College in Farmington, CT and conducts a concert series held at SS. Cyril and Methodius Church in Hartford throughout the year. Congratulations, Adrian.

WE NEED YOUR FEEDBACK. We have been sending electronic communications to those members with e-mail. Is this working well? Are you satisfied with the process? Please send an e-mail to: hopscoth77@sbcglobal.net with any comments or suggestions. We will continue to send hard copies to those members who wish to receive mailings in that form. Please let us know your thoughts.

2016 JENNIE MARCONI JAVORSKI SCHOLARSHIP

On June 22, 2016, four outstanding students of Polish heritage and their families were honored at a reception at the Polish National Home and each presented with a \$1,000 scholarship.



L to R: **Cameron Fedina**, attending Fairfield University, Fairfield, CT majoring in Business Management; **Elizabeth Marconi**, attending the Centre for Global Health, University of Dublin, Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland majoring in Global Health; **Cameron Torres**, attending Franklin Pierce University in Rindge, NH majoring in Sports Management; and **Rachel Zlotnick**, attending Villanova University in Villanova, PA majoring in Nursing.



In other scholarship news, we are pleased to announce that **Dr. Edyta Hrynkiewicz**, daughter of member **Irene Hrynkiewicz** and former PCCGH scholarship recipient, has joined the staff of the Animal Hospital of Rocky Hill, located at 588 Cromwell Avenue, Rocky Hill, telephone (860) 563-1027. Dr. Edyta received her bachelor's degree in Pathobiology at the University of Connecticut, and then attended Kansas State University College of Veterinary Medicine for her DVM.

She volunteered at the AHRH while she was an undergraduate, and is thrilled to be working at the same clinic that fostered her strong foundation in veterinary medicine while complementing her lifelong passion for helping animals. Her main interests are surgery and internal medicine. Dr. Edyta is fluent in Polish, and is looking forward to adopting pets of her own soon!

MEMBERS' SICK AND CHEER

Get-well wishes are sent to **Barbara Cecere** and **Christine Panek** who are recovering from recent surgeries.



Expressions of deepest sympathy are extended to the following:

Marion Lesniewsky on the loss of her brother, Stanley, on June 21, 2016.

The family of **Mildred Blaschinski**, who passed on July 18, 2016.

NEWSLETTER STAFF

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



DID YOU KNOW THAT POLISH CUISINE OWES MUCH TO MUSHROOMS?

To this day, mushroom-picking in Polish forests, shrubs, and meadows remains a national pastime. In a good season, when the weather is right, a family can gather enough mushrooms for the entire year. The Ministry of Health and Social Welfare officially recognizes 31 kinds of edible mushrooms. Unofficially, there are more, but these are types which appear only sporadically in certain areas and hence are known only locally, especially in folk cuisine.

Mushrooms, if not solely associated with the frying pan and saucepan, are a true feast for the eyes. The very act of picking them is so pleasant a relaxation for big city inhabitants, that it can only be compared to the noble sport of fishing on quiet lakes. The unusual wealth of shape and color of mushrooms growing in emerald-green moss or against the subdued russet background of fallen leaves sometimes creates fantastic and picturesque constellations, deserving to be compared with flowers. This feature has not been ignored by Polish poets who, paying just homage to the beauty of mushrooms, have not forgotten their culinary virtues.

The following is the most beautiful and famous poetical description of mushroom picking in Polish literature: an excerpt from *Pan Tadeusz, or the Last Foray in Lithuania — A Tale of the Gentry in the Years 1811 and 1812*, by Adam Mickiewicz (translated into English Verse with an introduction by Kenneth Mackenzie. The Polish Cultural Foundation, London 1964. Caldera House Ltd., 23 Coleridge Street, Hove 3, Sussex.)

Mushrooms were plentiful: the boys preferred
 The vixens (that's the Lithuanian word)
 Emblems of maidenhood; uneaten by worms,
 No insect ever lights upon their forms.
 The girls the slender forester pursued,
 In song called colonel of the mushroom brood.
 All sought the orange agaric, less tall
 And famed in song, but tastiest of all,
 Or salt or fresh, and good in any season.
 The Seneschal picked flybane — for reason.
 The other kinds of mushroom are not favored,

Because they're harmful or are evil-flavored.
 They are not useless but for beasts are good,
 Shelter the insects and adorn the wood.
 They stand upon the grassy cloth in order
 Like rows of plates: such as with scalloped border
 The small leaf mushrooms, silver, red and gold
 Like goblets that all kinds of liquor hold;
 The kids like swelling cups turned upside down;
 The funnels slim like champagne glasses grown;
 The kind called white that broad and flattish gleam
 Like china coffee cups filled with cream.



Borowik (King Bolete)

To Poles, the king of mushrooms is the *borowik* (*Boletus edulis*), commonly known in English as King Bolete. Its Polish name is derived from *bor* (coniferous forests) and aptly defines its preferred natural habitat. It is also referred to at times as *grzyb prawdziwy* (true mushrooms) or *prawdziwek*, implying that all other species are definitely inferior. But many feel the fresh butter-fried *rydz* (*Lactarius deliciosus*) equals the fresh bolete in taste or comes in a close second. Other desirable species include *pieczarka* (meadow mushrooms), *kurka* (chanterelle), *maslak* (sticky bun), *gaska* (*Tricholoma*), *golabek* (*Russula*), and *kania* (parasol mushroom). The boletus family also includes the *kozlarz babka* (birch bolete). They are ranked fair to good but cannot compete with the King Bolete. Widely marketed in Poland as an economy version of the latter is the *podgrzybek* (*Boletus chrysenteron*) which grows in great abundance but is definitely inferior to the real thing.

In Old Polish kitchens, mushrooms were prepared in various ways, as a main course, as an hors d'oeuvre, and as an aromatic addition to many sauces and soups. For example, usually only one mushroom was added to broth, two to three mushrooms to *grochówka* (pea soup) and *kapuśniak* (cabbage soup), whereas not less than a handful was added to the Christmas Eve borscht. Often only one dried mushroom saved a soup or sauce that lacked taste, since culinary success depends not on the amount of mushrooms, but on hitting the right dosage. It can be said without exaggeration that the noble aroma of mushrooms, sometimes barely discernible, has wound its way through hundreds of dishes like a golden thread, giving them their uniquely Polish character. In the 18th century, along with the growing influence of French cuisine, champignons appeared at the tables of magnates and at King Stanislaus Augustus' elegant dinners. They were quite expensive at first. With time, however, when their easy cultivation had been learned, they made themselves at home for good in Polish cuisine.

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

EXHIBIT: CONNECTICUT TRADITIONAL ARTISTS AND THEIR COMMUNITIES

August 11, 2016 — November 4, 2016

Monday—Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The Gallery at Constitution Plaza — 2nd Floor, One Constitution Plaza in Hartford

FREE admission—validated parking for visitors using the Constitution Plaza South Garage

This exhibit celebrates the 25th anniversary of the Connecticut Cultural Heritage Arts Program, a statewide initiative that documents diverse cultural traditions and sharing of folk artists living throughout CT. On display is a fascinating variety of ethnic, occupational, and native arts along with stories and images. CT Polonia is represented by an icon of "Our Lady of Ostrabrama" written by member, Marek Czarniecki, and a prize-winning Szopka from one of our past Szopka Festival competitions. The exhibit is hosted by the CT Office of the Arts and is supported by the National Endowment for the Arts and the CT Historical Society. Lynne Williamson, organizer and curator, is a past recipient of the Club's Distinguished Service Award in recognition of her support of Polish arts.

NEW BRITAIN LIBRARY FALL BOOKSALE

20 High Street, New Britain, CT 06051

Featuring books in Polish and about Poland and its culture.

Wednesday, October 12	2:00 p.m.—6:00 p.m.	\$5
Thursday, October 13	2:00 p.m.—6:00 p.m.	Free
Friday, October 14	10:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.	Free
Saturday, October 15	9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.	Free

Donations of Polish language books are also appreciated. Patrons are happy to find books, especially *babcias* who want to read to their grandchildren.

Contact: Stella Heyl at (860) 225-0770 or E-mail: svbh@yahoo.com for further information.

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

CURRENT ONGOING EXHIBITS

“Mother Teresa — Saint of the Streets” and
“Fleeing Famine—Irish Immigration to North America 1845-1860”
 Knights of Columbus Museum, 1 State Street, New Haven
 Exit 1 off I-91. Free Admission and Parking.

General Information: (203) 865-0400

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2016 During All Masses
“Annual Pancake Breakfast” - SS. Cyril & Methodius Ladies Guild
 SS. Cyril and Methodius Church—Lower Church Hall.
 Come enjoy a delicious breakfast and support the Guild.

Information: Ela Kleszczynski — (860) 295-9813

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12—SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2016

“Book Sale at the New Britain Library”

Please see page 3 for detailed information

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2016 6:00 p.m.

“PCCGH 40th Anniversary Celebration”

Riverfront Community Center
 300 Welles Street, Glastonbury, CT 06033

Please see details on page 1 for Invitation and Program Book Ads

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2016 1:00 p.m.

“Distinguished Service Awards Banquet”

Chopin Ball Room at the Polish National Home
 Sponsored by the United Polish Societies (Centrala)

Information: Gen Bednarz—(860) 721-1655

NEWSFLASH — CLUB MEMBERS

Have you any “Newsy Tidbits” about family or friends that you would like to share with friends at the Polish Cultural Club of Greater Hartford? Please know that we await your item of interest. All that you need to do is to drop a few lines to **Anna-Mae Maglaty** at either annamae11@comcast.net or to 35 Fernridge Road, West Hartford, CT 06107. We look forward to hearing from you. Hopefully this column will continue to grace each newsletter.



Christine Marek Waszynski, daughter of member **Mary Marek Hartz**, recently received a Doctorate of Nursing Practice from the College of Nursing at Sacred Heart University in Fairfield. Christine was also awarded the Gold Medal of Excellence for having the highest GPA in her class, as well as the Outstanding Research Award for her dissertation entitled “Using Simulated Family Presence to Decrease Agitation in Hospitalized Delirious Patients.” Her work demonstrated the value of providing video messages from family to patients experiencing delirium during a hospitalization to decrease levels of agitation when family cannot be physically present. Christine has practiced as a certified geriatric nurse practitioner and geriatric clinical nurse specialist since 1986 and as a nurse since 1978. She is currently a member of the inpatient geriatric consult service at Hartford Hospital and leads many hospital-wide projects involving the care of older adults. Congratulations, Christine!



Krystyna Farley with Andrzej Duda, President of Poland, May 2016

Once again, we feature our Cultural Counsel, **Krystyna Słowikowska Farley**, who will be off to the Resorts Casino Hotel in Atlantic City, New Jersey, during the week of October 16 – 20, 2016. She will be representing Connecticut by competing nationally for the title of Ms. Senior America. The contest is open to all Women of Elegance (women past the age of 60). This is not Krystyna’s first experience in Atlantic City, as she attended previous contests as president of the Cameo Club which sponsors the Ms. Senior Connecticut pageant. It is with pride that we note that, together with candidates from the other 49 states, Krystyna will demonstrate her special talents, one of the criteria necessary for crown eligibility. We all wish Krystyna the very best!



Patricia and Clifford Archie were the guests of honor at a surprise 60th wedding anniversary party hosted by their daughters Christina Whitesell (and her husband David), Lisa Archie, and Felicia Archie on Saturday, September 10. Grandsons Matthew and Tyler Whitesell, former PCCGH scholarship recipients and now seniors in college, were on hand to share the occasion with their grandparents. It was a lovely and joyous afternoon with family and friends. May the

Archies enjoy many more wonderful years together — Sto Lat!

Congratulations to proud new grandparents, **Kenneth and Michelle Mostello**, and great-grandparents, **Louis and Anna-Mae Maglaty**. Samara Grace, daughter of Andrew and Preeti Mostello, arrived on April 14, 2016 and promises to be a source of great delight for the entire family. Congratulations are also extended to Elise Mostello, daughter of Ken and Michelle and granddaughter of Lou and Anna-Mae, on her marriage to Daniel Congreve in Boston on August 6, 2016.



Henry (Hank) Fedina, presently recovering after a lengthy illness, was the recipient of a special tribute designed and carried out in secrecy by his sons, Michael and Chris, both to welcome him home and to cheer him onward. Knowing of his love for Polish music and his extensive knowledge of Polka bands and musicians, they decided to hold a “Hankabration” similar to the popular “Polkabration” of which Henry is most familiar. Thus, on the afternoon of August 25, 2016, six well-known musicians were invited to Henry’s home in Niantic, CT where the music men and their guests came together to enjoy food, fun and camaraderie all in honor of Hank. Present were Dennis Polisky and Richie Bernier of the Maestro’s Men; Mitch Biskup of the New Brass; Wally Dombrowski of the Polka Country Musicians; Eddie Forman, the leader of his orchestra; and Lenny Gomulka of the Chicago Push.

Indeed it was a **SURPRISE!** Henry was absolutely thrilled, for in addition to the musicians, members of his family, including his granddaughter, Jessica, a past recipient of the PCCGH Scholarship and a graduate of St. John’s University, and grandson, Cameron, a 2016 recipient of the Club Scholarship and soon-to-be freshman at Fairfield University, were present. It was a magnificent concert in that the boards of the deck resounded with music and dancing while the singing of well-known Polish tunes could be heard hither and yon. All attendees had a great time and the guest of honor sat in awe, finding it difficult to believe that his sons, Michael and Chris, had planned this festive and memorable occasion in his honor. It was a great party for a great guy!



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

We’re on the Web!
www.polishculturalclub.org