



## NEWSLETTER

# POLISH CULTURAL CLUB OF GREATER HARTFORD, INC.

Established 1976

[www.polishculturalclub.org](http://www.polishculturalclub.org)

October 2010

An Affiliate of the American Council for Polish Culture

### GENERAL MEETING

**Speaker: SUE SONSTROM**

**Topic: "HABITAT FOR HUMANITY  
POLAND"**

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2010**

**6:30 P.M.**

**Polish National Home**

**60 Charter Oak Avenue, Hartford**

***Members and Guests Welcome***

Sue Sonstrom, a member of the building team in Gliwice, Poland, will be the guest speaker at the General Meeting on Thursday, October 21, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. at the Polish National Home. Mrs. Sonstrom will share her experiences of August 12-22, 2010, with us.

The team was comprised of nineteen people, of whom twelve were women, and headed by leaders who had four years of experience with Habitat Poland. This effort was financially backed by St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Wethersfield, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, and Habitat for Humanity International.

According to the article in the Hartford Courant written by Sherwood J. Anderson, there is a great need for housing in Poland. Approximately 1.5 million housing units are needed countrywide. The Gliwice Habitat Chapter has built seven buildings, housing 57 families.

Participants from the United States pay their own way, about \$2,500. In addition, they also raise funds for the Polish Habitat affiliate.

Mrs. Sonstrom learned how to swing a hammer from her late father-in-law, Arthur Sonstrom, who was head of the carpentry department at Goodwin Technical High School in New Britain. In addition, she prepared herself

for the trip by listening to Polish CDs because she said, "people appreciate your taking an interest and are more likely to be helpful to you." We cordially invite members and guests to this General Meeting. At the same time, the Nominations Committee Chairs will present the new slate of Officers for 2011-2012. Do make every effort to come.



Pulaski Monument, Main Street, Hartford (October 2009)

### PULASKI-KOSCIUSZKO COMMEMORATIVE EVENT

**Sunday, October 10, 2010**

**11:30 a.m.**

**Main Street, Hartford**

**Main Speaker: M.B.B. Biskupski, Ph.D.**

**(If rain, ceremony at Polish National Home)**

**(Preceded by 10:00 a.m. Mass**

**at SS. Cyril and Methodius Church)**

On Sunday, October 10, the United Polish Societies (Centrala) will hold its annual day of remembrance and recognition for the contributions of two Polish heroes who fought valiantly under the leadership of Gen. George Washington during the Revolutionary War: Generals Casimir Pulaski and Thaddeus Kosciuszko. You are cordially invited to join the Polish-American Veterans, Women's Auxiliary, Polish Scouts, distinguished dignitaries, and Polonia at large in paying tribute to these two remarkable men and celebrating Polish pride.



**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Greetings! Once again, we celebrate Polish Heritage Month. The Club is proud of its efforts in promoting programs that pay homage to our great heritage. The calendar is full of opportunities for members to celebrate one's Polishness — the trip to the Polish Center of Discovery and Learning on October 9, the Pulaski/Kosciuszko Celebration on October 10, Pierogi Making for the Szopka Festival on October 16 and November 6, the Distinguished Service Award Dinner on October 17, the General Meeting on October 21, and the Kosciuszko Squadron Commemoration on October 30. Please make an effort to attend as many of these functions as you are able.

Accolades to the many people who worked so zealously to have the Chopin Concert brought to fruition! To the one-third Club membership, who participated in some way, to the two-third attendees from the Greater Hartford area, I wish to say how heartwarming it was to greet the one hundred forty Chopin lovers. Melody Fader was outstanding. Truly Chopin had to have been smiling as his music and her playing brought tears to one's eyes. Eugene Kozlowski and his accordion added that special touch as members and guests enjoyed the "Gala Reception." The table was indeed Polish with delicious and plentiful food. No one will ever forget those two splendid birthday cakes. Yes, it was a grand party. Bouquets of gratitude go out to the Co-chairs, Ursula Brodowicz and Fran Pudlo, to the two dedicated ticket committee members Nancy Yiznitsky and Irene Dylag, to Michael Kilian and his staff of the Polish National Home, to Janusz and Mark Bruks of Alliance Graphics, and to the Publicity Committee of the Club: Mary Heslin, Janice LaPenna, and Alice Rogala.

I commend all of you. Serdeczne Bóg Zapłać. *Anna-Mae Maglaty*



Lou Maglaty with pianist, Melody Fader



Mark Kamienski, Gini Pudlo, Irene Dylag, Melody Fader, Fran Pudlo



Eugeniusz Kozlowski entertains guests.



**NEWSLETTER STAFF**

- Editor:** Frances Pudlo
- President/Consultant:** Anna-Mae Maglaty
- Staff:** Carol Bogon Phelan, Genevieve Jaronczyk, Nancy Yiznitsky

**CONGRATULATIONS!**



**Patricia (Stresky) Archie**

**2010 Distinguished Service Award Recipient  
United Polish Societies (Centrala)**

Within every organization there are members who rarely seek the limelight but who are, in fact, the backbone of a group. Such is the case with Patricia Archie, the recipient of this year's Distinguished Service Award.

She is among the founders of the Club and as we move into our 35th Anniversary year in 2011, Patricia's name is at the forefront of many of the Club's projects and programs. Years before the actual establishment of the PCCGH, she worked on International Festivals where Polish culture and foods were featured at ethnic events. She was a tireless worker at the Polish Booth showcasing Mayor George Athanson's All-American Food Festival held at the Hartford Civic Center. To this day, Pat is instrumental in planning, organizing, and overseeing the magnanimous task of "pierogi making" for the annual Szopka Festival. On the actual day of the Festival, she puts on a different "hat," that of assistant to Święty Mikołaj, her husband Cliff, making certain that all is in order.

Among her other duties/jobs were/are: Treasurer of the Club for twelve years, including during the American Council for Polish Culture's National Convention held in Hartford in 1988, Co-Editor of the Club's newsletter for fifteen years, serving as the liaison for the National Club's raffle, organizer of the Telephone Committee, and the Chair of the Nominating and Installation Committees. Together with her husband Cliff, she chaired the 2009 ACPC National Convention Program Book which brought forth rewarding results.

Her home is one of welcome and hospitality. From the warm smile that greets the visitor to the "breaking of the bread," the Archie home always says, "Witamy."

Patricia is blessed with a beautiful family and her Roman Catholic faith defines her. Her husband of fifty-plus years and daughters Lisa, Felicia, and Christina, together with son-in-law David and twin grandsons, Tyler and Matthew, enhance her life and they, in turn, are fortunate to have this Grand Lady as a significant presence in their lives.

The PCCGH congratulates Patricia and prays that God blesses her with good health each and every day.



**TADEUSZ KOSCIUSZKO: THE CONNECTICUT CONNECTION**



While distinguishing himself during the American Revolutionary War as a military engineer, General Tadeusz Kosciuszko (1746-1817) became friendly with many American generals and statesmen, including some from Connecticut. One friend, David Humphrey (1752-1818), a soldier, poet, industrialist, and statesman, who served as Aide-de-champ to General George Washington, was born in Derby, CT. Historians of Derby and the Naugatuck Valley say that Kosciuszko was a guest at Humphrey's home in Derby and when Kosciuszko departed for Europe in 1784, he sailed with Humphrey, who was newly appointed as America's first Minister to Portugal. Humphrey befriended Kosciuszko and followed both his career and the events in Poland by correspondence. In a 1791 letter to Kosciuszko, Humphrey wrote: "Your acquaintances and friends in America all remember you with great affection, all the more from the honorable agency you had in assisting to establish the independence of that country." Humphrey's seven page letter to Kosciuszko hangs in the Kosciuszko Room at the David Humphrey Museum at the Old Derby Historical Society in Ansonia, Connecticut. In 1981, a State Historical Marker was placed on Academy Hill in Derby, which pays tribute to General David Humphrey and Commander Isaac Hull of the vessel "Constitution." Included on this marker is the name of Thaddeus Kosciuszko. Another Connecticut friend of Kosciuszko was Captain Frederick (1766-1831), Commander of the Ship "Adriana." Kosciuszko made his second trip to America on this ship in 1797. The New Haven Colony Historical Society owns an original pencil drawing by Kosciuszko titled "The Cabin Boy of the Adriana." Kosciuszko also painted a watercolor portrait of Captain Lee which hangs in the Henry Whitfield Museum in Guilford, CT.

Extracted from Center Line, a Quarterly Publication of the American Center of Polish Culture, Volume I, Number 34, Fall, 2003. Author: Joseph Wardzala.

**THE PRIDE OF POLONIA**



Marion Winters with his beloved wife, Jo Louise

The Polish Cultural Club of Greater Hartford's Board of Directors and Members send forth their heartfelt congratulations to our esteemed member, Marion Winters, who received the Pride of Polonia Award on August 29, 2010 at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa, Doylestown, PA. This Award, created by the Executive Board of the Polish Apostolate, is presented annually to honor individuals who have made a unique contribution to the life of American Polonia. Marion is a man of great humility whose outreach in the Polonian community is ever constant and performed to exceedingly high standards. Sto Lat!

**IT'S TIME TO MAKE THE PIEROGI!**

**TWO DATES ARE OPEN**

**Saturday, October 16**

**Saturday, November 6**

**9:00 a.m. to approximately 1:30 p.m.**

**SS. Cyril & Methodius School Kitchen**

**35 Groton Street, Hartford**

PLEASE consider volunteering for one, or both, of our pierogi-making sessions. Remember, we are not looking for pierogi experts — instructions will be provided for newcomers. Bring an apron, willing hands, and your Polish spirit. Coffee and pastries are provided. Come have fun and meet some fellow Club members. Call Pat Archie: (860) 289-8583.



Maria Panek and Pat Archie



Ed Farley



Mr. & Mrs. Chester Zasada

**Co? What? Gdzie? Where? Kiedy? When?****SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2010** 1:00 p.m.**PCCGH Program***“Club Tour to Center of Discovery and Learning” - Chicopee, MA***Dinner on one’s own to follow at Munich House Restaurant****SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2010** 11:30 a.m.**United Polish Societies (Centrala)***“Commemoration of Casimir Pulaski/Thaddeus Kosciuszko”***Dr. M.B.B. Biskupski will be the Main Speaker****Equestrian Statue of Gen. Pulaski, Main Street, Hartford****SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2010** 9:00 a.m.— 1:30 p.m.**Pierogi Making — SS. Cyril & Methodius School Kitchen****SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2010** 1:00 p.m.**Distinguished Service Award Dinner—Polish National Home****THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2010** 6:30 p.m.*“PCCGH Meeting—Sue Sonstrom “Habitat for Humanity-Poland”**Polish National Home**Members and Guests***SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2010***“Kosciuszko Squadron Commemoration”***New England Air Museum****SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2010** 9:00 a.m.—1:30 p.m.**Pierogi Making — SS. Cyril & Methodius School Kitchen****MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2010** 7:00—9:00 p.m.**Polish Reading Group Meets — All interested readers welcome.****Wesoły Sloper House, New Britain****Book: “Poems New and Collected, 1957-1997” by Wisława Szymbowska (1998). Harcourt Brace** **FREE****SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2010****Polish National Home—80th Anniversary Dinner****THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2010** 6:30 p.m.*“PCCGH Annual Meeting” - Polish National Home***SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2010** 10:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.**“Szopka Festival” - Polish National Home****FREE****Polish Cultural Club of  
Greater Hartford, Inc.  
P.O. Box 380699  
East Hartford, CT 06138****We’re on the Web!****[www.polishculturalclub.org](http://www.polishculturalclub.org)****ROTA — THE OATH**

The words of the “Rota” were written in 1908 by Maria Konopnicka. Music for it was composed two years later by Feliks Nowowiejski. It was a candidate to become the Polish national anthem after Poland regained its independence. “Jeszcze Polska Nie Zginęła” won that honor, but this poem became the unofficial anthem of the Polish Diaspora throughout the 20th century and continues to hold a special place in the hearts of Poles throughout the world..

Nie rzucim ziemi, skąd nasz ród.

Nie damy pogrześć mowy.

Polski my naród, polski lud,

Królewski szczep Piastowy.

Nie damy, by nas zgnębil wróg.

Tak nam dopomóż Bóg!

Tak nam dopomóż Bóg!

Do krwi ostatniej kropli z żył

Bronić będziemy ducha,

Aż się rozpadnie w proch I w pył

Krzyżacka zawierucha.

Twierdzą nam będzie każdy próg.

Tak nam dopomóż Bóg!

Tak nam dopomóż Bóg!

We’ll not abandon the land of our folk.

We’ll not let our language be buried.

We’re the Polish nation, the Polish people,

Royal tribe of the Piasts.

We’ll not let the foe hold us down.

So help us God!

So help us God!

To the last drop of blood in our veins

We’ll defend our spirit

Until into dust

Falls the Teutonic storm.

Every doorstep will be our fortress.

So help us God!

So help us God!