



NEWSLETTER

POLISH CULTURAL CLUB OF GREATER HARTFORD, INC.

Established 1976

www.polishculturalclub.org

October 2011

An Affiliate of the American Council for Polish Culture

OCTOBER IS POLISH HERITAGE MONTH



Pulaski Monument
Main Street, Hartford



Representatives of the Polish-American Veterans

The Polish-American Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts will place the wreath at the foot of the monument. The Polish-American Veterans and the Women's Auxiliary will be present in uniform. John Kocur, President of the United Polish Societies, encourages the public to attend this very special event which pays honor not only to two historic Polish soldiers who fought for freedom in this country but to all American veterans who have served our country with dedication and distinction.

Submitted by Mary M. Heslin

PULASKI-KOSCIUSZKO COMMEMORATION

Sunday, October 9, 2011

- 9:30 a.m.** Assemble at the Polish National Home
60 Charter Oak Avenue, Hartford
- 9:45 a.m.** Group marches to SS. Cyril and Methodius Church
- 10:00 a.m.** Mass at SS. Cyril and Methodius Church
- 11:15 a.m.** Gathering at the Pulaski Monument, Main Street,
Hartford
- 11:30 a.m.** Wreath Ceremony and Guest Speakers
- 12:45 p.m.** Luncheon at the Polish National Home

On Sunday, October 9, at 11:30 a.m., the United Polish Societies will hold the annual day of remembrance and recognition for the contributions of two Polish heroes who fought alongside the American colonists in the Revolutionary War. The two men, Casimir Pulaski and Thaddeus Kosciuszko, left Poland and came to America to join the army under the leadership of General George Washington to free the land from British rule. Kosciuszko distinguished himself at the Battle of Saratoga in the preparations to stop the British ships in the Hudson River across from West Point. Pulaski, known as the Father of American Cavalry, trained the colonists for service in the cavalry and lost his life at the Battle of Savannah, Georgia. It is at the Pulaski Equestrian Monument on Main Street, Hartford that a ceremony will be held to honor his and Kosciuszko's service to this country. Greetings from local and state officials will be presented and visiting dignitaries will address the attendees. The main speaker will be Representative Peggy Sayers of Windsor Locks, Deputy Majority Leader in the Connecticut House of Representatives.

IT'S TIME TO MAKE THE PIEROGI!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Saturday, October 22

Saturday, October 29

Saturday, November 5 (if needed)

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

SS. Cyril & Methodius School Kitchen

35 Groton Street, Hartford

Anyone interested in helping to make pierogi on any of the above-noted dates should contact Pat Archie at (860) 289-8583. Don't miss this unique opportunity to participate in our Polish culinary heritage while socializing with a great group of friendly volunteers. Experience is not a prerequisite. There is a job for everyone.



Pat Archie



Ann Oleasz & Jen Jaronczyk



Maria Panek & Lou Maglaty



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members:

The seasons are moving faster than we can become comfortable with, and before you know it, the one we are in has changed again. This means that our summer rest time is coming to a close and our 35th Anniversary celebration on September 18 at the Polish National Home has come and gone, but not without beautiful memories. It was a majestic afternoon. Executive Director Staś Radosz of the Polish Center of Discovery and Learning at Elms College, Chicopee, MA, was presented with an oil painting of the Royal Palace in Warsaw, Poland, which was obtained by Eleanor (Lottie) Pozniak, a founder and first president. It will hang in the Museum's permanent collection in her honor. Following an outstanding lunch, the surviving nine founders were introduced and presented with a token of appreciation. Gary Sredzienski's discussion of the history of Polish-American music and performance using a variety of accordions was superb. Thank you to co-chairs Anna-Mae Maglaty and Fran Pudlo and their committee for a day to remember.



Surviving Club Founders, L to R: Florence Langridge on behalf of Lottie Pozniak, Ann Oleasz, Debbie George, niece on behalf of Mary M. Hartz, Valarie Gray, Krystyna Słowikowska Farley, Pat Archie, Hedy Bruks, and Joan Godlewski. (Alex Szerejko could not be present.)

The balance of this year provides us with October's "Polish Heritage Month," our Annual Meeting/Food Drive/Turkey Raffle, as well as the Szopka Festival in November, and the beautiful Wigilia in December. Volunteers are already working on these programs. We have outlines for several new programs for 2012. I ask that everyone pitch in and do what they can so that all will run smoothly. Remember, what you do is that much less that someone else has to do. So, as you can see, your Club continues to work hard to bring Polish culture to you and the general public. Thank you for supporting our efforts and in helping us to meet our mission.

Cliff Archie, President, PCCGH

NEWSLETTER STAFF

Editor: Frances Pudlo
Assistant Editor: Anna-Mae Maglaty
Staff: Carol Bogon Phelan and Nancy Yiznitsky

CONGRATULATIONS!

2011 POLISH SCHOLARS

Polish Cultural Club of Greater Hartford, Inc.

Jennie Marconi Javorski Scholarship

\$1,000.00 Each



Thomas Cwikla, Caroline Rose Kieltyka, Klaudia Kawka, Natalia Zagula

ACPC Skalny Scholarship for Polish Studies

\$3,000.00



L to R: Cliff Archie, Karoline Carlman, and Ursula Brodowicz

Ursula Brodowicz, on behalf of the American Council for Polish Culture, presented one of two Skalny Scholarship awards to Karoline Carlman of Andover, CT at the PCCGH Scholarship Awards & Strawberry Social on June 15, 2011. Karoline is a student at CCSU working toward a Bachelor of Arts degree in International Studies with European Union/Western Europe concentration. She spent the summer of 2008 in Poland in the town of Tczew of Pomorska at an English immersion camp as a volunteer teaching assistant with the Kosciuszko Foundation. Most recently, she completed a course titled the "History of Modern Poland," described as extremely demanding and taught by Dr. M.B. Biskupski, holder of the S.A. Blejwas Endowed Chair in Polish Studies at CCSU. Karoline has applied to the State Department for a grant to study in Lithuania as part of her interest in Eastern Europe. Her involvement in the community to promote Polish culture stems in part from being an active parishioner at SS. Cyril & Methodius Church in Hartford, teaching Polish folk arts at the School alongside her mother, and being an entrant in the Club's Szopka Festival as well as mentoring other students in the art of szopka making.

Welcome / Witamy to New Members

**Gabriela Backiel
New Britain, CT**

**Krysia Jopek
Windsor, CT**



KAZIMIERZ FUNK DISCOVERED VITAMINS?

Born in Warsaw, Poland in 1884 (when Poland was a part of Russia), Kazimierz Funk became a world-known biochemist. In 1912 he confirmed the existence of Vitamins B-1, B-2, C, and D, and their necessity for normal health and the prevention of deficiency diseases. His work began when he recognized that certain food factors were needed to prevent nutritional-deficiency diseases, such as Beriberi (vitamin B-1 deficiency), Pellagra (niacin deficiency), and Rickets (vitamin D deficiency). He suggested that these unidentified substances were all in a class of organic compounds called "amines," which are vital to life, so he named them vitamins (vital amines). Although they were not actually amines, Funk's proposal (and the coined term *vitamine*) has been called a stroke of genius.



The son of a dermatologist, Funk earned a doctorate degree at the University of Bern, Switzerland, at the age of twenty. He then worked at the Pasteur Institute in Paris, the Wiesbaden Municipal Hospital in Germany, the University of Berlin, and the Lister Institute in London. Emigrating to the U.S. in 1915, he held industrial and university positions in New York and became a naturalized U.S. citizen in 1920. With funding provided by the Rockefeller Foundation, he returned to Warsaw in 1923 to serve as director of the Biochemistry Department of the State Institute of Hygiene, where he increased the quality of Insulin produced in the laboratory. In 1928, because of political unrest in Poland, he accepted a position at a pharmaceutical house in Paris and founded Casa Biochemica, a private laboratory that produced bio-chemical products. After Germany invaded Poland in 1939, Funk returned to the U.S. to work as a consultant for the U.S. Vitamin Corporation. He became president of the Funk Foundation for Medical Research in 1940. In 1963, Funk gave up an active role in research, when he retired.

Funk later studied animal hormones and contributed to the knowledge about hormones of the pituitary and sex glands, emphasizing the importance of balance between hormones and vitamins. He investigated the biochemistry of Cancer, Diabetes, and Ulcers, improving manufacturing methods of commercial drugs as well as developing several new commercial products in his laboratories. He died in Albany, New York in 1967.

Funk advanced humankind's understanding of nutrition and revolutionized the way people looked at health. His conclusion that a lack of vitamins in the diet was responsible for diseases, helped to develop effective preventative and curative measures. Other contributions include finding the connection between Vitamin B complex and carbohydrate metabolism, discovering that vitamins influence the speed at which Cancer grows, separating Vitamin D from cholesterol, and realizing that bacteria are a necessary part of the diet. Funk's work clearly contributed to the increased life span that many people enjoy today.

From: Excerpts from the New Britain City Journal (Diane L. Mechlinski)

POLISH NIGHT AT THE CORA BELDEN LIBRARY

"Polish Night," arranged by Director Carole Fisher of the Cora Belden Library in Rocky Hill on July 19, 2011, turned out to be a wonderful evening with 127 attendees. Our PCCGH committee of Pat and Cliff Archie, Pat Checko, Krystyna Farley, Ann Oleasz, Carol Oleasz, Carol Phelan, and Cameron Torres (Ann Oleasz's grandson) put on a very enjoyable evening. Guests were greeted with information on the PCCGH, followed by a talk and fashion show of Polish costumes and a 30 minute travelogue on Poland. Cameron displayed two szopki he created and explained how they were made. New member Pat Checko, along with Pat, Ann, and Carol had several tables of books, dolls, wycinanki, pisanki, carvings, and amber pictures. Krystyna provided a beautiful display of amber jewelry. Polish candy disappeared as fast as the bowl was filled. The Committee did a fine job, and I thank them very much.

Submitted by Cliff Archie, President

2011 DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS

The Polish Cultural Club of Greater Hartford, Inc. heartily congratulates the following worthy recipients of Centrala's Distinguished Service Award for 2011:

- Mark Kamienski**, President of the Polish National Home
- Elizabeth Kocul**, Dedicated Club Member

The awards banquet will be held at the Polish National Home on Sunday, October 16, 2011

For information and tickets, please call (860) 247-1784 or
E-mail: hartfordpolishhome@sbcglobal.net

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

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2011 (See front page for schedule)

Kosciuszko / Pulaski Celebration

PNH Information/Luncheon Reservations: (860) 247-1784

E-mail: hartfordpolishhome@sbcglobal.net Public Welcome

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2011

2011 Distinguished Service Awards—Sponsored by Centrala

Polish National Home—Banquet

Information: (860) 247-1784 Charge

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2011 9:00 a.m.—1:30 p.m.

Pierogi Making — SS. Cyril & Methodius School Kitchen

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2011 7:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m.

Wiwat Polonia! Celebrate Kosciuszko's Imieniny featuring Musical Interlude and Polish delicacies

The Polish Center of Discovery and Learning, Chicopee, MA

Seating Limited— Information: (413) 532-1546

E-mail: cct58@comcast.net \$10.00 pp

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2011 9:00 a.m.—1:30 p.m.

Pierogi Making — SS. Cyril & Methodius School Kitchen

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2011 6:00 p.m.

6th Annual Krakus Festival (Polish Center of Discovery and Learning)

Mass Mutual Center, 1277 Main Street, Springfield, MA

Dance to the Music of Jimmy Sturr and his Orchestra

Reservations/Info: (413) 533-7540 / (413) 205-2912 \$100.00 pp

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2011 7:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m.

Polish Reading Group Meets — All interested readers welcome.

Wesoły Sloper House, 27 Grove Hill, New Britain

Book: "Ashes and Diamonds" by Jerzy Andrejewski

NOVEMBER 2011

PCCGH Annual Meeting/Food Drive/Turkey Raffle Free

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2011 9:30 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

Szopka Festival —Polish National Home—Ballroom Free

DECEMBER 2011

Wigilia (Traditional Polish Christmas Eve Dinner) Charge

WHAT A 35TH CELEBRATION!



Staś Radosz being presented with Painting by Club President Cliff Archie



Gary Sredzienski, Performer



Kociubinski Family



Irene and Frank Dylag



Valarie Gray and mother Anna Peterson



Judy Kabilis, Gen Bednarz, Gen Urban



Isabelle Zujko and Vi Bladek



Mr. and Mrs. Chester Zasada

We want to express our deep appreciation and most sincere thanks for the superior leadership in choosing and planning a really delightful afternoon – from the artistic program booklet to the warm welcoming speeches, awards presentations, and sensational program “History of Polish American Music” presented by that incredibly talented performer Gary Sredzienski. We thoroughly enjoyed all the comments and remarks offered by the dedicated members and guests. The luncheon feast was super – still savoring in our minds the tasty flavorful dishes, and the dessert was scrumptious! The featured program, a one man show by Sredzienski, was a smash hit as evidenced throughout his fabulous presentation by the non-stop ecstatic reaction of the entire audience. Gary gave it his all—brought along a trunkload of accordion collectibles—and demonstrated a truly remarkable musical talent. The audience swayed and tapped their feet constantly to his mazurkas, polkas, and waltzes—tunes beloved in our Polish hearts. We want to thank everyone who contributed to the success of the day’s program from the bottom of our hearts (we wish we could pin medals on each and every one of you). We also enjoyed thoroughly the opportunity to visit with our many wonderful friends in the Polish Cultural Club of Greater Hartford. Looking forward to our next visit to Hartford.

Marion and Jo-Louise Winters—Members from Webster, MA



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

**We're on the Web!
www.polishculturalclub.org**