



## NEWSLETTER

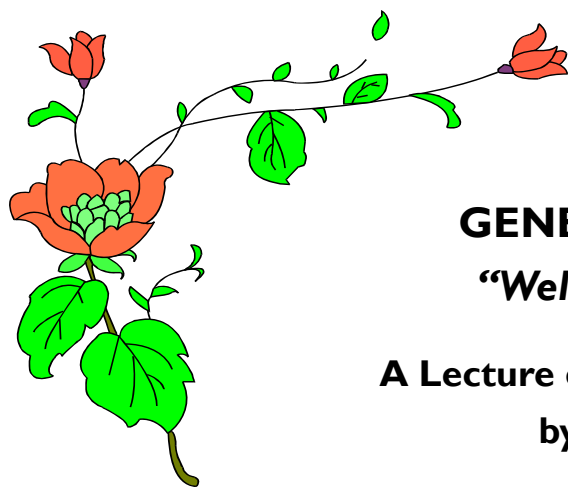
POLISH CULTURAL CLUB OF GREATER HARTFORD, INC.

Established 1976

www.polishculturalclub.org

March/April 2013

An Affiliate of the American Council for Polish Culture



### GENERAL MEETING

*“Welcome to Spring”*

**A Lecture on New Plants for 2013**

**by Mark Hixson**

**Thursday, March 14, 2013**

**6:30 p.m.**

**Polish National Home—Dining Room**

***Members and Guests are Welcome***

*Wesołych Świąt  
Wielkanocnych!*

*Happy Easter  
Holidays!*

*Zdrowych i  
spokojnych Świąt  
Wielkanocnych!*

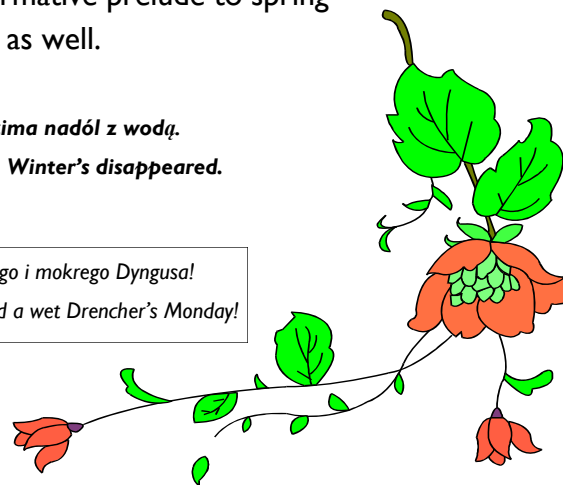
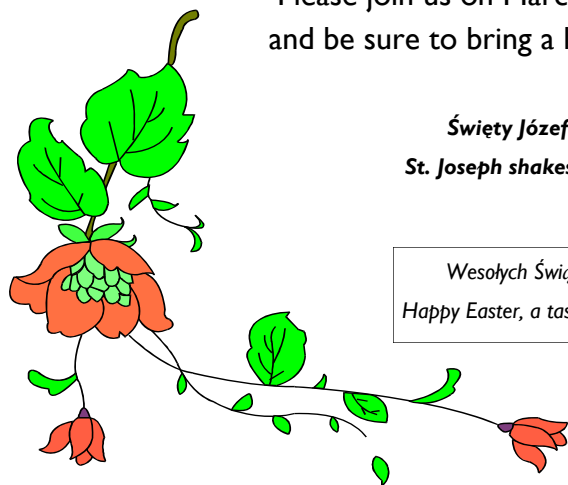
*Healthy and peaceful  
Easter Holidays!*

The Club is excited to feature Mark Hixson of Imperial Nurseries of East Granby, CT who will be reviewing the latest plant trends for 2013. These will include plants that have great seasonal flower power and compact habits and which are especially suitable for small space gardens or patio containers. He will also touch on the growing popularity of vertical gardens. With a twenty-year history with Imperial Nurseries, Mr. Hixson credits his mother and grandfather for his passion for gardening.

Please join us on March 14 for an informative prelude to spring and be sure to bring a list of questions as well.

*Święty Józef kiwnie brodą idzie zima nadół z wodą.  
St. Joseph shakes his beard, and see: Winter's disappeared.*

*Wesołych Świąt, smacznego święconego i mokrego Dyngusa!  
Happy Easter, a tasty Easter breakfast, and a wet Drencher's Monday!*





### A MESSAGE FROM THE CO-PRESIDENTS

For the first time in its thirty-six plus year history, the Polish Cultural Club of Greater Hartford is fortunate to have the services of two Co-Presidents. The Nominating Committee worked zealously to entice a member to accept the role of President, but to no avail. Both of us realized that the Club was in danger of demise and felt something had to be done. In consultation with our spouses, we agreed to take on the role together for the next two years. We promise to do our best, but we also look to all the members to step up to the plate and to become more directly involved. As we look through the roster, there are names whose faces are unfamiliar to us. Therefore, we cordially invite you to come to a meeting or a program and introduce yourselves. We will attempt to make the programs for the coming year interesting and enjoyable. We will do our part as Co-Presidents, but we also depend on you, dear members, to assist us along the journey.

Respectfully,  
 Clifford Archie and Anna-Mae Maglaty  
 Co-Presidents



### MEMBERSHIP NEWS

The Club welcomes a new student member, Kamila Orzechowski, of Wethersfield, CT.

Anna-Mae Maglaty, as Membership Chair, wishes to thank three Club members who formed a committee to provide valuable assistance in preparing and sending out the invoices for collection of annual dues. They are Maria Bruks, Barbara Gancarz, and Carol Phelan.

Also, a big "Thank You" to the three members who run the raffle twice each year. Helen and Ted Lorenc and Richard Lorenc are viewed as efficient and gracious, and their aid in bringing in that "little something extra for the students" and for the Club is greatly appreciated.

### 2012 SZOPKA REPORT



Once again, the Club can be proud that the annual Szopka Festival proved to be a great success and enjoyed by guests of all ages. This is a tribute to the many volunteers who generously devote so much of their time and energy year after year. As the primary source of revenue for scholarships, all proceeds from the Szopka Festival are dedicated to the Jennie Marconi-Javorski Scholarship Fund.

Ed Farley, Szopka Chairman, and his devoted committee chairs and volunteers deserve special recognition. Thanks are also extended to Marek Czarnecki, who visits various schools to present the history of szopka making and to inspire students to participate in this unique Polish tradition, as well as to Carol Oleasz who oversees the szopka competition and works with many of the students.

Creating a szopka is a labor of love and we thank all the young people who took part. The winners of the 2012 competition are as follows:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Ben Liptrap and Brandon Parada (St. James School, Manchester)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Avery Evans, Nicole DiBenedetto, Sarah Phelan (St. James School, Manchester)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: 1) Tim O'Shea and Brendan Truman  
 2) Edgar Dias and Kamron Ghosheshi (all of St. James School, Manchester)

Honorable Mention: Megan Alexander and Delia Topitzer, Olivia Barrett, Elijah Chiuchiolo-Cruz and Colin Zorger, Carolyn Schwendy, Ana Sousa and Jenna Kelly (all of St. James School)

Grade 6 at SS. Cyril and Methodius School of Hartford

Caroline Czuprynski (Sacred Heart School of New Britain)

#### NEWSLETTER STAFF

Editor:	Frances Pudlo	(fpudlo@pdipaint.com)
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## DO YOU KNOW . . . WHICH FLOWERS SIGNIFY THE EASTER SEASON?

Easter is a holiday which arrives in the spring at a time when nature is awakening from its winter sleep and flowers and trees start to bloom. This rebirth of nature symbolizes the Resurrection of Christ and the life that comes after death. Easter is a moveable feast, celebrated on the first Sunday after the first full moon that occurs on or after March 21, the first day of spring. During this time, churches are decorated with traditional Easter flowers celebrating the Resurrection. These flowers with their symbolism, reflect the special meaning of Easter.

### EASTER LILY

Lilies are the traditional Easter flower in the United States. They are believed to have been found in the Garden of Gethsemane after Christ's death and are sometimes called "White-Robed Apostles of Hope." Their fragrant trumpet-shaped white flowers symbolize holiness and purity.



### PUSSY WILLOW

Pussy willows are the traditional Easter flower in Poland, Russia, and the United Kingdom. Their soft and fluffy yellow or silver catkins appear on the branches before leaves in the spring. In Poland, where palms are difficult to obtain, pussy willows (called *baize* or *kotki*) are substituted for palms on Palm Sunday and brought to church to be blessed. On Ash Wednesday, pussy willow branches are cut and placed indoors in water so they will sprout the catkins and leaves in time for Palm Sunday. They are also used by Poles to decorate the traditional basket of food that is brought to church on Holy Saturday to be blessed for Easter breakfast (*Święconka*).



### DAFFODIL

Bright yellow, trumpet-shaped daffodils are a symbol of Jesus's resurrection from death, as new flowers miraculously sprout from dormant bulbs. In Germany, daffodils are called "Osterglocken" or "Easter bells." In England, daffodils are nicknamed "Lenten lilies."



### NARCISSUS

Narcissus was the original Easter flower in Italy and Greece. Ancient Greeks thought of the narcissus as a representation of spring and rebirth. It still remains the traditional Easter flower in Northern Italy and Southern France.

### RED TULIP

In Germany, the red tulip is the traditional Easter flower symbolizing the blood that was shed by Jesus during his crucifixion.

### HYACINTH

In many countries, the hyacinth, with its vibrant colors and sweet pungent smell, is also a traditional Easter flower.

From: [Glos Polek](#), Spring 2011



## CALLING ALL APPLICANTS . . .

for the 2013 Jennie Marconi-Javorski Scholarship  
sponsored by the  
Polish Cultural Club of Greater Hartford, Inc.

Scholarship applications, along with all requested materials, must be **received and postmarked no later than May 1, 2013.**

An application is inserted in this newsletter, but it can also be downloaded from the Club's website: [www.polishculturalclub.org](http://www.polishculturalclub.org).

## BOOK SALE—WYPRZEDAŻ KSIĄZEK

Thursday, April 4 3 p.m.—6 p.m.

Friday, April 5 10 a.m.—4 p.m.

Saturday, April 6 9 a.m.—2 p.m.

**New Britain Library (Community Room)**

**20 High Street, New Britain, CT**

**Contact: Stella Heyl (860) 225-0770**

*Mamy książki po Polsku.*

This book sale features a wonderful selection of books in Polish: (fiction, non-fiction, children's, classics, poetry, self-help, religion/philosophy, etc.)

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

**THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 2013** 6:30 p.m.  
**PCCGH General Meeting at the Polish National Home**  
 "Lecture on New Plants for 2013" Mark Hixson, Imperial Nurseries  
**Members and Guests Tel.: (860) 568-2044 FREE**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 2013** 11:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.  
 "St. Joseph's Day Polish Dinner" (delicious home-made food)  
**SS. Cyril and Methodius School Cafeteria, 35 Groton St., Hartford**  
**All are welcome! Cost: Adult/Takeout: \$12.00**  
**Tel.: (860) 522-8490 Seniors: \$10.00 and Children: \$7.00**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 24, 2013**  
 "SS. Cyril and Methodius Ladies Guild Communion Breakfast"  
**10:00 a.m. Mass at SS. Cyril and Methodius Church followed by**  
**Lunch at Marco Polo Restaurant, 1250 Burnside Ave., East Hartford**  
**Speaker: Jadwiga Szelazek Morrison, Author of From Exile to Eden,**  
**which details the war experiences of her parents.**  
**All are welcome! Reservations: (860) 956-0474**  
**Cost: \$26.00 for members and \$28.00 for non-members**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 2013** 12:00 p.m.  
**PCCGH Event: "The Rovatti Family Orchestra" (including lunch)**  
**Polish National Home, 60 Charter Oak Avenue, Hartford**  
**Reservation Deadline: April 1, 2013 Tel.: (860) 568-2044**  
**All are welcome! Cost: \$15.00 p.p.**

**FRIDAY, APRIL 26, 2013** 7:00 p.m.  
 "Monte Carlo Whist" (SS. Cyril and Methodius Ladies Guild)  
**SS. Cyril and Methodius Church Lower Hall**  
**Great fun, great raffle prizes. All card players are welcome!**  
**Information: (860) 521-2432 Cost: \$5.00 p.p.**

**ACPC 50/50 FUNDRAISER RAFFLE**

**YOU COULD BE A WINNER!**

Once a year the American Council for Polish Culture (ACPC) appeals for support to supplement annual dues. This national raffle was designed to help benefit various ACPC scholarships. Raffle books are enclosed with this newsletter. Please do what you can to help. There have been many winners from CT! Tickets are 1 for \$5.00, 3 for \$10.00 or 6 for \$20.00. Checks should be made out to: **(PCCGH) and mailed to Mrs. Patricia Archie, 219 Arnold Drive, East Hartford, CT 06108.**



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

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

**Don't Miss This "Toe Tapping" Event**

**April 6, 2013**



The Rovatti Family Orchestra

On Saturday afternoon, April 6, 2013 at 12:00 p.m. at the Polish National Home, Club members and guests are in for a real treat. A Luncheon Program will showcase the delightful music of the four Rovatti children — Jeff, 19, on the concertina, Maryrose, 17, on the drums, Veronica, 15, on the violin, clarinet, and bass clarinet as well as serving as the vocalist, and Felicity, 12, who plays the trumpet. While a great deal of Polish music is featured, music from other cultures will be included as well. The Rovatti Family Orchestra has performed at numerous Polish venues in Massachusetts and Connecticut.

Please note that this program includes **both** the Luncheon and Musical Performance. **Reservations are necessary.** Please refer to the flyer which is enclosed with this newsletter for further details about cost, menu selection, and payment.

**NEIGHBORS!**

We are a nation, and a state, of many languages. The graph below shows the percentage of people in nine local towns who speak only English. The notes in parentheses indicate the next most commonly spoken language in each community. The results may surprise you.

Avon	87.48%	(Polish—Dzien dobry)
Canton	94.09%	(Spanish—Hola)
Farmington	82.72%	(Polish—Dzien dobry)
Glastonbury	87.55%	(Spanish — Hola)
Newington	78.01%	(Polish — Dzien dobry)
Rocky Hill	79.03%	(Italian — Buon giorno)
Simsbury	91.95%	(Chinese—Hi hao)
West Hartford	76.04%	(Spanish—Hola)
Wethersfield	78.46%	(Spanish — Hola)

From: *West Hartford Life*, January 2013

Interestingly, according to the latest census, Polish is the second most widely spoken language by those living in England. Polish is now spoken by more than half a million people in England and Wales, and vies with Welsh for popularity. This is the result of hundreds of thousands of Poles migrating to Great Britain during the last decade while seeking work.

From: *Polish American Journal*, March 2013, Vol. 102, No. 3