

# American Council for Polish Culture

## Annual Report of Affiliates and Committees

### September 2020





# About the 110-year-old Thaddeus Kościuszko Monument in Lafayette Park, Washington, DC

Dedicated in May 1910 by U.S. President Howard Taft, this bronze and stone work in Lafayette Park by Polish sculptor Antoni Popiel depicts Kosciuszko in the uniform of a Continental Army general during the American Revolution, holding a map of the fortifications he designed at Saratoga, N.Y. that secured a victory over the British that was a major turning point in our War for Independence.

The sculpture rests atop a square tiered base adorned with bronze sculptures on all four sides. On the north side, there is an eagle perched on top of a globe showing America with a flag, a sword, and a shield. On the south side, there is globe showing Poland with an eagle fighting a snake on top. On the east side, Kosciuszko has a drum at his feet and a flag in his left hand. With his right hand, he unties a rope from around the waist of an American soldier. On the west side, another figure group depicts Kosciuszko, dressed in a Polish military uniform, lying on the ground and pointing into the distance with his right hand. Assisting him is a Polish soldier dressed in peasant military attire to symbolize the Polish Army.

A copy of the statue was erected in Warsaw, Poland in 2010 (below, to the right). Popiel also designed a monument to writer Adam Mickiewicz in Lviv and a sculpture of Kosciuszko on horseback in Krakow. Destroyed by the Nazis during World War II, the Krakow sculpture was rebuilt in 1960.

Assuming a lifting of coronavirus public gathering restrictions, the American Council for Polish Culture hopes to host its 2021 Convention in Washington, DC next summer.



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## Message from the President



Hello ACPC Members:

I am writing to thank the editor Mark Dillon, and the contributors of reports to this summary of activities of ACPC affiliates and supporting organizations.

Under normal circumstances we would be together at our annual convention exchanging greetings and sharing our personal experiences since we met at the last convention in Warsaw. We would also share our local organizations activities as stated in this summary, and as presented in our group meetings.

Although circumstances have caused our convention to be cancelled it has not cancelled the creativity and positive outlook of our members. Read the activities of our organizations. Activities have been cancelled but people are communicating their commitment to a successful future, hopefully beginning in 2021.

Our **Polish Heritage** newsletter editor, David Motak, informed the membership that because of the member organizations lack of activity he needed additional contributions. He received enough information to publish the newsletter. It was an opportunity for those who had interesting information, but it was never published to share it with the membership.

As an example, Celia Larkin offered to provide information on Marcella Sembrich. Did you know that was her stage name, her real name was Prakseda Marcelina Kochańska. Cecilia Glembocki will contribute information on NCSS. The 2020 convention was canceled but will be held in Washington, DC in 2021. Marianna Eckel will provide information on the delayed celebration of the 100th anniversary of the birth of St. John Paul II.

More good news about the 14 St. John Paul II organizations in the US. We invited them to become members of the ACPC which was received with great interest. I want to encourage our committee that is producing a new membership folder to continue their efforts to complete their project as soon as possible. We could have distributed the information to those who attended our last St. John Paul II last virtual meeting. Maybe with a little effort on our part we could have 10 new member organizations.

I wish to describe another situation which may produce positive results from the current situation. Many of our members have participated in virtual meetings, certainly those who are working are finding it is now a part of the workplace. I have asked Mark Dillon to work with the membership to determine if we can have a virtual Board Meeting probably in November after the elections but before Thanksgiving. Mark has experience with establishing successful virtual board meetings and events at two organizations in Minnesota and has surveyed our leadership team on the issue. Our members need to have interest and a computer to participate. Expect messages from Mark as the program develops. It is the future of group communication.

Remember Debbie Majka's radio show *Polonia Today*, is aired on Sundays at 1:30pm in Philadelphia at WWBD-AM 860 Eastern Time. It is entertaining. Podcasts from prior broadcasts can be found at <https://wwdbam.com>.

With warmest regards,  
Raymond Glembocki



# American Council For Polish Culture

## 2019– 2021 Leadership Team

<b>ELECTED POSITIONS</b> <b>Executive Board</b> Officers elected for a Term of Office 2019-2021 <b>President</b> Raymond Glembocki <a href="mailto:raymondglembocki@gmail.com">raymondglembocki@gmail.com</a> <b>First Vice-President</b> Jaroslaw Golembiowski <a href="mailto:composerjg@comcast.net">composerjg@comcast.net</a>	<b>Second Vice-President</b> Mark Dillon <a href="mailto:mglendillon@aol.com">mglendillon@aol.com</a> <b>Treasurer</b> Thomas Payne <a href="mailto:thomaspayne52@verizon.net">thomaspayne52@verizon.net</a> <b>Recording Secretary</b> Marcia Lewandowski <a href="mailto:marciasdancinstuff@att.net">marciasdancinstuff@att.net</a>
<b>Directors</b> Directors elected for a Term of Office 2019-2021 Alicia Dutka <a href="mailto:aldutka@comcast.net">aldutka@comcast.net</a> Marianna Eckel <a href="mailto:marisiareckel@yahoo.com">marisiareckel@yahoo.com</a> Mary Flanagan <a href="mailto:mflan90753@gmail.com">mflan90753@gmail.com</a> Marie Hejnosz <a href="mailto:hejnoszm@gmail.com">hejnoszm@gmail.com</a> Tiffany Loomis <a href="mailto:tiffanymariah@hotmail.com">tiffanymariah@hotmail.com</a> Raymond Okonski <a href="mailto:rayokonski3@gmail.com">rayokonski3@gmail.com</a>	Directors elected for a Term of Office 2018-2020 Jacqueline Droleski <a href="mailto:jdroleski@stny.rr.com">jdroleski@stny.rr.com</a> Cecilia Glembocki <a href="mailto:virginiaegg@cox.net">virginiaegg@cox.net</a> Barbara Lemecha <a href="mailto:barbara.lemecha@sbcglobal.net">barbara.lemecha@sbcglobal.net</a> Carolyn Melesky <a href="mailto:clmele@comcast.net">clmele@comcast.net</a> Matthew Melesky <a href="mailto:clmele@comcast.net">clmele@comcast.net</a> Peter Obst <a href="mailto:peterpjo@aol.com">peterpjo@aol.com</a>

## Affiliates and Supporting Organizations

### CONNECTICUT

Polish Cultural Club of Greater Hartford Inc.

### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Polish American Arts Association of Washington DC, Friends of John Paul II Foundation, Inc.  
Washington DC

### FLORIDA

American Institute of Polish Culture of Tampa Bay, American Institute of Polish Culture, Miami

### ILLINOIS

Polish Arts Club of Chicago, Chicago Chopin Society

### MARYLAND

National Katyn Memorial Foundation, Baltimore, Polish Heritage Association, Baltimore

**MASSACHUSETTS** Polish Cultural Foundation, Boston

### MICHIGAN

Friends of Polish Art, Detroit, Orchard Lake Schools, American Polish Cultural Society

### MINNESOTA

Polish American Cultural Institute of Minnesota, Polish American Medical Association of Minnesota

**MISSOURI** Polish American Society of Metro St. Louis

**NEW JERSEY** Polish Arts Club of Trenton

### NEW YORK

Kopernik Polish Cultural Society of Broome County, Kopernik Memorial Association of Central New York, Polish Heritage Club of Syracuse, Polish Arts Club, Elmira, Polish Arts Club of Buffalo, Marcella Sembrich Memorial Association, Bolton Landing, Polish Heritage Society of Rochester, The Kosciuszko Foundation, NYC

**OHIO** Polish Arts Club of Youngstown

### PENNSYLVANIA

Polish Heritage Society of Philadelphia, Polish Falcons of America, Pittsburgh, Polish Cultural Council of Pittsburgh

### TEXAS

Panna Maria Historical Society, Austin Polish Society, Polish Heritage Center of Panna Maria

# Minutes of the Spring 2020 Board Meeting of the American Council for Polish Culture

March 6-8, 2020 Skokie, Illinois

Friday March 6, 7:15pm Polish National Alliance Hall, Skokie

## **Call to Order**

ACPC President Raymond Glembocki presided. Second Vice President Mark Dillon acted as Recording Secretary in the absence of Marcia Lewandowski. Thaddeus Mirecki served as Parliamentarian.

## **Attendees (21 on Friday, 20 on Saturday)**

Raymond Glembocki, Cecilia Glembocki, Thomas Payne, Mark Dillon, Robert F. Dutka, Matt Meleski, Alicia L. Dutka, Jarosław Gołombiowski, Celia Larkin, Richard Larkin, Jackie Kolowski, Ted Mirecki, Richard M. Lapham, Robert Synakowski, Peter Obst, Carolyn L. Meleski, Deborah J. Majka, Tiffany Loomis, Camille Kopielski, Andrzej Urbaniak (Friday), Dr. Kasia Litak (Saturday), Donna Bielecki

## **Chicago Chopin Society – Host Greeting**

Jarosław Gołombiowski welcomed attendees and provided details regarding Saturday's ACPC meeting venue and a 7pm Saturday concert entitled *If Chopin Met Paderewski*, a gala fundraiser benefiting the Chicago Chopin Society

## **Review of 2019 ACPC Fall Board Meeting Minutes**

It was agreed that the draft minutes of ACPC's October 2019 board meeting would be further reviewed at the Fall 2020 board meeting.

## **Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Thomas Payne distributed a Balanced Sheet and Profit & Loss for the interim fiscal period June 1, 2019 through February 20, 2020. ACPC's net assets rose \$30,605 for the period to \$1,044,363.84. Convention/board meeting expenses, NCSS expenses and scholarship awards were the largest expenses, offset by dividend income. Membership dues dropped 49% compared to the prior year earlier period to \$2,403. *Polish Heritage* printing expenses fell as annual issue count was cut to 3.

It was reported that due to communications and personnel change at an affiliate, ACPC was unable to be a sponsor of the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual National Chopin Competition in Miami, Florida. Thomas Payne recommended that resources normally allocated to this event be dedicated toward the sponsorship of another concert elsewhere in the US.

## **Investment Committee Report**

Investment Committee chair Robert F. Dutka provided a report from Arthur F. Hazen Jr. at Medallion Wealth Management, a financial planner in Franklin Park, Pa. detailing short and long-term performance of the Pulaski Scholarship Fund portion of ACPC's portfolio (\$518,133) He also mentioned that the Ameriprise/Beacon Wealth Management Partners portion of the portfolio (grants, scholarships, operating account and NCSS/YSL accounts had a 1.0% annual management fee while the Fidelity/Medallion portion had a 1.25% management fee.

*Note: Between Feb. 21 and March 20, 2020 the S&P 500 Index dropped 18.52% (Source: Charles Schwab & Co.) Medallion provided a client update on March 18 at its website found here:*

## **Financial Secretary/Membership Reports**

Ted Mirecki recommended that ACPC's affiliate and individual member dues structure and \$5 a person co-pay for members of affiliates be reviewed at the next ACPC convention. On Saturday, he provided an update on affiliates who were non-current with dues. It was reported that Frances Pudlo had assumed duties as Membership chair, replacing Florence Langridge. Catherine A. Hamilton, a Polish American author in Portland, Oregon, was accepted as a new individual member. Hamilton has a new novel being published in June entitled *Victoria's War* about women who were slave laborers in Poland during the Nazi occupation.

## **Scholarship Committees**

At the request of Ray Glembocki, Mark Dillon introduced a draft of a mini brochure designed to summarize the combined efforts of ACPC scholarship programs. Comments, changes and corrections were accepted, and Mark noted that a revised layout and final copy would be provided in the coming weeks. Ray, Carolyn Meleski and Mark worked on the initial draft.

*Eye of the Eagle Scholarship* – Mark Dillon reported that application interest was modest, and that the committee had extended the application deadline until April 30. He encouraged board members to jointly promote multiple programs through more venues such as social media

## **Marcella Kochanska Sembrich Vocal Competition 2020**

Celia Larkin provided a program update and moved that ACPC create a \$10,000 revolving dedicated allocation to the program to encourage a greater volume of applications and sustain the program. Substantial discussion regarding the program's marketing and applicant requirements and potential alternative funding sources followed. Celia's motion was seconded by Alicia Dutka and passed by acclamation. Initial funding was to be provided in part with a residual \$3,483 balance from the Chase Sembrich savings account *Note: The program was suspended in late March amid government restrictions on public gatherings related to the coronavirus crisis.*

*ACPC Scholarship* – Richard Lapham replaced Robert Synakowski as the new chair of this program. The board approved by acclamation,

*Polish Studies (Skalny) Scholarships* Deborah Majka reported that the program hopes to award two \$3,000 scholarships this year and reminded the board that the application deadline was May 3.

## **Wachtel Literary Awards**

Carolyn Meleski reported that the Polish Heritage Society of Rochester, NY was planning a \$1,000 award this year (\$500 from the society, \$500 from ACPC) She also noted that the as a result of social media connections, Polish Cultural Club of Greater Hartford would sponsor a literary competition for 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grades at the Polish Language School in Connecticut \$500 (\$250 from the affiliate and \$250 from ACPC).

*Raymond Glembocki adjourned the meeting for the evening with the intent to resume discussion at 9am at the Holiday Inn North Shore Chicago the next morning. A light reception at PNA Hall with appetizers, wine and Belarusan champagne followed. The meeting resumed on Saturday following the addressing of technical issues to connect to the hotel's conference room monitor to a speaking guest and a board member's computers.*



### **Chicago Chopin Society – Host Information**

Jaroslav Golembiowski provided further details regarding lunch, ACPC's updated directory and the 7pm *If Chopin Met Paderewski* concert

### **ACPC Overview and Marketing Brochure**

Debbie Majka detailed an ongoing project to revamp and update a promotional brochure about ACPC. The fold-out brochure would describe the benefits of affiliate and individual membership, outline our programs and serve as ACPC's key public-facing marketing communications piece.

### **ACPC 2019-2020 Directory**

Jarosław Golembiowski finalized mailing and distribution of an updated ACPC, affiliate and supporting organization personnel directory. Corrections were noted such as need to update Minnesota information to reflect a March 5 election and leadership change. It was reported that a new updated edition would be issued after the next ACPC convention or election.

### **National Conference for the Social Studies**

Cecilia Glembocki detailed ongoing efforts at NCSS to incorporate Polish-American history into Social Studies programs, including events in Austin, TX, Williamsburg, Va, Townsend, MD and Washington, DC. Another event that showcased ACPC's efforts to document Polish history in America since 1609 were activities related to the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Polish Pavilion at the 1939 World's Fair in Chicago. Noting the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first civil rights-related work stoppage in America in 1619 by Polish craftsmen, she said work stoppages have been traced as far back as 1056bc in Egypt. Cecilia said 372 promotional bags were disturbed at the Austin conference Nov. 22-24, 2019. She mentioned the 2021 NCSS national conference will be in Minneapolis on Nov. 19-21, 2021.

### **Minnesota Kaleidoscope Oral History Project**

Dr. Katarzyna Litak, President of the Polish American Medical Society of Minnesota provided a video presentation of an ongoing effort to document the oral histories of 1<sup>st</sup> generation Polish immigrants in Minnesota from the end of World War Two to the present day. Since January, the project has completed 16 in-depth interviews and high quality photo sessions at an ice-fishing house, homes, churches and cafes conducted by Katowice photographer professor Grzegorz Litynski. Minnesota subjects include a Monte Cassino veteran, a Trail of Hope Orphan, members of Solidarity, forced laborers during Nazi occupation, a marathon runner, a professional table tennis player, university professors and a Holocaust survivor. Dr. Litak said the effort is needed given an institutional non-European focus that has left Polish Americans underrepresented in the state's historical record. The project aims to host multiple public exhibits and publish a book.

### **2020 ACPC Convention July 22-26 (Canceled amid coronavirus crisis restrictions)**

Celia Larkin moved that the ACPC holds its annual convention at the Polish American Arts Club (James Monroe mansion) building in Washington, DC and designate the nearby Lombardy Hotel for accommodations at a rate \$179 per night. Mark Dillon seconded the motion, which was approved by acclamation. A field trip to the Library of Congress to review its Polish collections was to be considered.

*Note: The event was cancelled by the board on March 20 amid coronavirus restrictions on public gatherings adopted by DC's government. However, an annual report book of affiliate and committee activity will be completed and delivered in electronic form.*

### **Election of Marie Hejnosz to Unfilled Board Seat**

Jackie Kolowski nominated Marie Hejnosz for the ACPC board seat that had remained unfilled since the September 2019 ACPC convention. Ted Mirecki seconded the nomination. Discussion included a clarification that three unexcused absences constitute grounds for removal from the board. Marie was elected and the vote was as follows: 10 yes 6 abstentions and 2 no.

### **Website Manager/Battle of Savannah Memorial**

Peter Obst provided an interactive walk through of [www.polishcultureacpc.org](http://www.polishcultureacpc.org) to highlight recent updates and to provide recommendations on specific content improvements. He also gave an update on the Savannah Battlefield Marker Dedication, comic book and poster projects.

### **Awards Committee**

Jackie Kolowski reported for the Awards Committee. Awards were approved as noted.

- **Distinguished Service Award Dr. Marek Chodakiewicz**

He is a Warsaw-born [historian](#)/author specializing in [Central European](#) history of the 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> centuries, teaches as the Kosciuszko Chair of Polish Studies at the [Patrick Henry College](#) and at the [Institute of World Politics](#). In 2007 he received Poland's Order of Polonia Restituta and has been a champion of defending Poland's good name in European and American publications.

- **Cultural Achievement Award Brian Ganz**

In January 2011, he began a multi-year project in partnership with the National Philharmonic to perform the complete works of Frederic Chopin at the Music Center at Strathmore. He is a member of the piano faculty at St. Mary's College, Maryland.

- **Founders Award Alice Lech Laning**

Since 2003, Alice has served in multiple roles at ACPC, including director, ACPC Scholarship Committee chair, ACPC Auditor, *Polish Heritage* proofreader, chair of the ACPC Youth Leadership conference, chair of ACPC's Project Funding Committee. Alice has been a past president of the Friends of the Saint John Paul II Foundation and an active member of the Polish American Arts Club, Washington.

- **Jan de Rosen Award Marcia Lewandowski**

Current Corresponding Secretary of ACPC, she has been actively involved in leadership roles in American Polonia for many years. She was nominated by Cecilia Glembocki acting for chair Mary Flanagan, seconded by Richard Lapham. Vote: 14 yes 1 no 3 abstentions

- **Lifetime Achievement Award    Mary Flanagan**

Cecilia Glembocki nominated Mary Flanagan, approved by acclamation. Mary is the recipient of a 2015 Pride of Polonia award, has served as an aide to three members of Congress. She co-edited multiple newsletters, including *Polish Heritage* for ACPC with her husband Robert Flanagan, and newsletters for the Polish American Arts Association, and Friends of John Paul II Foundation. Mary is a past President of the Polish American Arts Association (Washington, DC), and President of the local Polish American Congress (PAC) chapter. Thanks to Mrs. Flanagan's fund raising efforts the 40 foot mural by Jan de Rosen in one of Pittsburgh's Catholic churches, which was being closed, was saved and moved to Doylestown in St. Anne's Chapel adjacent to the Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa.. Her awards have included Knight Commander of St. Sylvester by Pope John Paul II and the Cavalier's Cross of the Republic of Poland.

### **Polish-American Achievements Committee**

Mark Dillon agreed to serve on this committee with existing members (Marianna Eckel and Mary Flanagan) to identify Polish Americans worthy of recognition who might not be eligible for other ACPC awards

### **Advertising/Public Relations**

Jackie Kolowski placed ACPC advertisements in newspapers to promote ACPC activities including many scholarships, the ACPC convention, and Christmas and Easter greetings. Much discussion followed. It was agreed that the Committee chair be afforded media selection flexibility while mindful on a focus on those venues that best represent ACPC's audiences.

### **Fall 2020 ACPC board meeting option**

Thomas Payne said St. Louis was a possible venue to coincide with the St. Louis affiliate's Ball in the Fall event. Mark Dillon volunteered to explore Oct. 2-4, 2020 in Winona, MN as a board meeting site to coincide with the Polish Kashubian community's centennial of union with independent Poland in 1920. <https://www.kcc2020.org/> A follow up report made recommendations prior to the coronavirus crisis. *Note: the Kashubian community postponed its events until 2021.*

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 12:30pm



## Nominating Committee and Public Relations

August 2020

### **Board Nominations**

As of March 2020, I became Chair of the Nominating Committee. I prepared Nomination Forms, Cover Letters and List of current officers and distributed to all ACPC Board Members attending the Spring Board Meeting in Chicago, Illinois. The remaining were mailed to the Board Members together with the 2020 ACPC Board of Directors Membership Directory. The deadline was extended couple of times with final deadline - June 25, 2020. We received only 9 responses: 5 nominations in the US mail, one by email, one by phone call, and 2 chose not to make any nominations at this time. The nominees were asked by phone, to advise the Committee whether they are willing to run for the office for which they have been nominated. We received just enough nominations for each open position. I prepared The ACPC Official Ballot and I forwarded to Ted Mirecki to handle the election this year by mail as Parliamentarian.

### **Public Relations**

I took care of the Holiday Ads (Christmas and Easter) in newspapers. I placed Christmas Ads promoting ACPC and its many activities and Easter Ads promoting the planned July 2020 ACPC Convention in Washington, D.C. which was cancelled.

As official photographer, I attended the March ACPC Board Meeting in Chicago and took pictures for Polish Heritage and our ACPC website.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jacqueline Kolowski



# American Council ACPC for Polish Culture

## ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP REPORT July 1, 2019 to August 2020

On January 1, 2020, Frances T. Pudlo replaced Florence K. Langridge as ACPC Membership Chair. This continues a long-standing tradition for the Polish Cultural Club of Greater Hartford, Inc. Since July 1, 2019, twenty new Individual members have joined ACPC.

Stanley M. Kochanek, Berlin, NJ	2 years
Richard Lazarski, LaGrange, IL	2 years
Robert M. Janice, Falling Waters, WV	2 years
Dr. Wanda O'Brien Trefil, Fairfax, VA	2 years
Catherine A. Hamilton, Portland, OR	2 years
Frederick Stachura, Alexandria, VA	2 years
Kathleen Boccella, Jeffersonville, PA	2 years
Glen Ball, Savannah, GA (Pulaski Committee)	1 year
Janina Gajdamowicz, Savannah, GA (Pulaski Committee)	1 year
Elzbieta Kasprzyk, Okatie, SC (Pulaski Committee)	1 year
Maciej Kasprzyk, Okatie, SC (Pulaski Committee)	1 year
Edward Krolkowski, Savannah, GA (Pulaski Committee)	1 year
Camille Krolkowski, Savannah, GA (Pulaski Committee)	1 year
Matthew Rutkowski, Manhattan, KS	2 years
Aneta K. Lennartson, Burnsville, MN	2 years
Jean Jonker, Holyoke, MA	2 years
Michael S. Steele, Williamstown, MA	2 years
Elizabeth Gadomski, Latham, NY	2 years
Barbara Nowicki, Scranton, PA	2 years
Bruce Trimbur, Bluffton, SC (Pulaski Committee)	1 year

A new Supporting Organization was also welcomed with 23 members –  
The Polish American Medical Association of Minnesota, Roseville, MN.

The sixteen Pulaski Scholarship applicants were as follows:

Alexandra Baczynski, Chicago, IL, Alexander Chmielinski, Herndon, VA,  
Olivia Cieslar, Wheeling, WV, Caroline Cwalina, Sewickley, PA 15143  
Thomas Cwalina, Sewickley, PA, Sarah Fortina, Fleetwood, PA  
Beata Kaminska-Kordowska, New Britain, CT, Cameron T. Kostyra, Brooklyn, NY  
William J. Oliver, Astoria, NY, Kamila Maria Orzechowski, Wethersfield, CT  
Joanna Podosek, Chicago, IL, Helena Shoplik, College Park, MD  
Joanna Szupinska-Meyer, Santa Monica, CA, Samantha Walczuk, Madison, WI  
Magdalena Wor, Duluth, GA, Ann Margaret Zelenka, Parksville, MD

Respectfully submitted,

Frances T. Pudlo,  
ACPC Membership Chair





## **Board Elections August 2020**

**Congratulations to the following individuals who were elected by an acclamation vote via electronic communications. Parliamentarian Ted Mirecki reported the votes to the ACPC Board on September 1, 2020.**

### **AUDITOR**

Judi Tompkins (Friends of Polish Art, Detroit)

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Donna Bielecki (Friends of Polish Art, Detroit)  
Richard Lapham (Friends of Polish Art, Detroit)  
Waldemar Niklinski (Chicago Chopin Society)  
Peter Obst (Polish Arts Club, Trenton)  
Andrzej Urbaniak (Chicago Chopin Society)  
Margaret Zaleska (Polish Heritage Society, Philadelphia)

### **CREDENTIAL & GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE**

Jacqueline Droleski (Polish Arts Club, Elmira, NY)  
Lila Kieltyka (Polish Cultural Club, Hartford)  
Stella Szczesny (Friends of Polish Art Detroit)

### **NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Ursula Brodowicz (Polish Cultural Club, Hartford)  
Jacqueline Kolowski (Friends of Polish Art, Detroit)



## SAVANNAH GENERAL K. PULASKI COMMITTEE

*of the American Council for Polish Culture*

P.O. Box 16608, Savannah, GA 31416

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Savannah Gen. K. Pulaski Committee 2020 Annual Report

Edward Krolikowski, Chairman

749 Southbridge Blvd.

Savannah, Georgia 31405

e-mail: [k2aek@att.net](mailto:k2aek@att.net)

The Committee, in partnership with the Savannah Coastal Heritage Society (CHS), participated in the Battle of Savannah ceremony on Oct. 9, 2019. This annual ceremony, slightly revised each year, included this year having Pulaski Legion re-enactors uniformed as Gen. Pulaski and Lt. Litomski (portrayed by Edward Krolikowski and Russell Dobson) mounted. The inclusion of horses had been a several year struggle, and their appearance greatly enhanced the ceremonies. CHS acknowledged it as a great success and hopes to play upon this feature in 2021. Mr. Ray Okonski donated funds for the dedication of a stone tablet for Feliks Miklaszewicz (captain of 2 privateers engaging British warships). In addition, the Embassy of the Republic of Poland donated funds for a stone tablet for Capt. Fryderyk Paschke, an officer in Pulaski's Legion.

### **2019 Ceremony Highlights**

With approximately 80 people in attendance, the ceremony began with an early morning march to historically match the events of that day in 1779, followed by speeches by Charles Sieracki of the Polish-American Club of Charleston (PACC) representing the ailing Mr. Okonski, as well as Mr. Peter Obst representing the Polish Ambassador Mr. Piotr Wilczek; as well as local officials. A wreath laying ceremony of about 20 wreaths from a variety of organizations and individuals; including the Polish embassy, the PACC and our own committee followed. The ceremony concluded with Gen. Pulaski & Lt. Litomski, leading CHS Revolutionary War re-enactors in firing black-powder salutes. Afterward a free breakfast was provided by the Savannah CHS. The night before the ceremony, our organization hosted a dinner in downtown Savannah. Members of the PACC attended for the first time.

### **Hope for Renewed Ceremonies in 2021**

Due to the coronavirus crisis and related City of Savannah restrictions, ceremonies planned for Oct. 9, 2020 have been cancelled. The Committee was to have added an additional stone marker for Gen. Pulaski's adjutant, Lt. Charles Litomski, and another Pole that meet the CHS requirements. The Pulaski Cadets of Perth Amboy (NJ) had donated funds for a stone tablet and the Polish consulate in Washington is indicating it is interested in its third tablet. Research help for the tablets was provided by Mr. & Mrs. Charles Sieracki of the PACC.



## SAVANNAH GENERAL K. PULASKI COMMITTEE

*of the American Council for Polish Culture*

P.O. Box 16608, Savannah, GA 31416

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Edward Krolikowski attended the Greater Savannah International Alliance (GSIA) meeting in mid-October representing our Committee. Occurring only a week after the Battle of Savannah (BoS) ceremony, several GSIA board members who attended the BoS ceremony gave very positive comments on our participation.

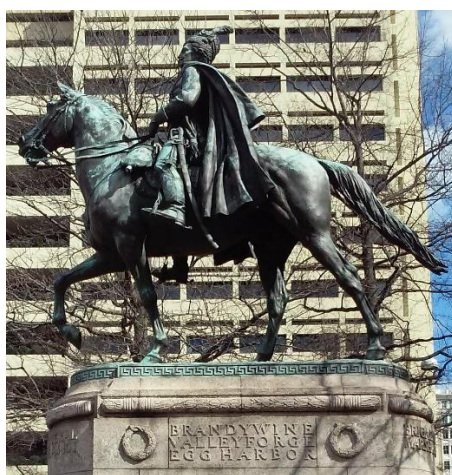
On Dec. 5, 2019 members from our committee traveled to join the PACC for Kolędy and Opłatek in Charleston. The event, held in a horse stable similar to Christ's birth in Bethlehem was well attended.

Edward Krolikowski appeared again as Gen. Pulaski in CHS' *"Night in the Museum"* program on January 25, 2020. He interacted with about two hundred children and adults for a four-hour period to educate them about Gen. Pulaski's life and connection to Savannah.

On Feb. 21, 2020, Edward Krolikowski, portraying Gen. Pulaski, participated in the Georgia Day celebration. He marched in the parade and was given a place of honor on the mayor's stage during patriotic speeches and anthems.

The Committee worked with Mr. Peter Obst on a visit to the U.S. by the Pulaski Museum in Warka's director, Mrs. Iwona Stefaniak and staff. They intend to follow Gen. Pulaski's footsteps in visiting all pertinent U.S. locations; including Savannah. The visit was not achieved due to problems on the Polish side.

The Committee has initiated efforts to get the new marble slab that was placed over Gen. Pulaski's tomb at the base of the Pulaski monument in 2009 engraved. The City of Savannah had halted all attempts to inscribe the tomb until the remains were verified. The Smithsonian Institute did this in April 2019. City officials have thus far indicated that a private party will be required to pay for the work. The effort for this approval will require documentation, estimates and at least one appearance before the city council to gain approval.





## Wachtel Literary Awards 2020

Even with schools shuttered due to the Covid-19 virus, a request or a matching first place literary award was received from the Polish Heritage Society of Rochester, New York. Graciously, a check for \$500.00 was sent to Brendan Reynolds of Penfield, New York.

Brendan's essay was/is about one of his favorite places on Earth, Krakow Poland. He writes about the vast array of art throughout the city and in the National Museum in Krakow. Among the notable artists mentioned are Jan Matejko and his "Stanczyk", the court jester and Matejko's inspiration to other artists. Brendan gives a synopsis of DaVinci's "Lady in Ermine" and the reason that Cecylia Gallerani is clasping an ermine in her arms.

Brendan's photo, autobiography and his entry, Krakow" may be viewed by accessing:  
[www.polishcultureacpc.org](http://www.polishcultureacpc.org) and clicking onto "Competitions".

All Affiliates and Supporting Organizations are encouraged to hold their own Literary Competitions. The Wachtel Literary Awards Committee will match up to \$ 750.00 for a first place award per Affiliate or Supporting Organization per year. All of the particulars may be found by accessing the ACPC website at:  
[www.polishcultureacpc.org](http://www.polishcultureacpc.org).

Respectfully submitted,  
*Carolyn L Meleski*  
Wachtel Literary Chair

# ACPC Scholarships 2020

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## PULASKI SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Six winners of the 20th annual \$5,000 Brig. Gen. Casimir Pulaski Scholarships were announced recently by Dr. Stephen Medvec, Chairman of the Pulaski Scholarship Committee, American Council of Polish Culture (ACPC). A large number of applications (16) was received this year. The scholarship program was initiated 20 years ago as a result of a sizeable endowment by the Conrad R. Walas family with continuing support from Polonia. Three years ago, long-time chairman Mr. Marion Winters retired from the committee and his place was taken by Dr. Stephen Medvec. Serving with him on the Pulaski Scholarship Committee for 2020 are Alicia L. Dutka; Deborah M. Majka; Carolyn Meleski; and Peter J. Obst.

The exceptional qualities of school work and research plus dedicated community services performed by the applicants made the final selection process difficult. The Committee felt that most of the applicants deserved recognition for their outstanding achievements and honestly wished that funding was available that could have allowed for several more awards.

### The Pulaski Committee selected the following students for the 2020 Pulaski Scholarships for Advanced Studies grants of \$5,000 each:



**Beata Kaminska-Kordowska** - A native of Grajewo, Poland and a US citizen, Beata has her BS in Developmental Neuropsychology and a BA in Spanish from the University of Connecticut in Storrs. At present, she is pursuing her Ph.D. in Neuroscience and Behavior at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst. Her research focuses on how individual differences in alcohol preference and alcoholism affect the workings of the prefrontal cortex. Beata's commitment to the Polish community has remained strong throughout her pursuit of higher education. She is very active as a Troop Leader of the Polish Girl Scout Organization in New Britain, Connecticut. In addition, Beata is engaged in fundraising for Wielka Orkiestra Swiatecznej Pomocy.



**Kamila Maria Orzechowska** - A native of Wethersfield, Connecticut, Kamila received her BS in Chemistry with a concentration in Pharmacy from the University of Saint Joseph in West Hartford, Connecticut. At present, Kamila is pursuing her Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) degree at the University of Saint Joseph School of Pharmacy in Hartford, Connecticut. Kamila has significant laboratory experience, and recently developed a drug compounding application, which is now available as ARx via Apple since August 2019. She is currently working on an international weight loss supplement project in conjunction with graduate students from Alexandria University in Egypt. Kamila is also active as a Troop Leader of the Girl Scouts in Hartford and serves as a Polish lector at SS. Cyril and Methodius Roman Catholic Church in Hartford.





**Joanna Podosek** - A native of Chicago, Illinois, Polish her first language to kindergarten, Joanna is pursuing her degree of Doctor of Occupational Therapy at the College of Health Sciences, Occupational Therapy Program, Midwestern University in Downers Grove, Illinois, a graduate in 2018 from Monmouth College with a BA in Behavioral Neuroscience (aka Biopsychology). Joanna's concern for the disabled derives from the cognitive experiences of her older sister, to whom Joanna is very devoted. She wishes to work especially with 3-to-5-year-old children and with stroke victims. Joanna's professor wrote "Joanna has a level of maturity, professionalism, and intellect which surpasses her peers. She is the 'whole package.' Anyone would be blessed to have her as a mentor."



**Helena Shoplik** - A native of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Helena is in her fourth year of Ph.D. studies in the School of Psychology at the University of Maryland in College Park, from which she also holds her MA. She expects to complete her doctorate in 2021. Helena holds her BS in Psychological Science from Saint Vincent College in Latrobe, Pennsylvania. Her area of specialization is to overcome anxiety among kindergarten children and their parents. Helena won the Kosciuszko Tuition Scholarship in 2019.



**Joanna Szupinska-Myers** - A native of Los Angeles, California, Joanna is pursuing her PhD in Art History from the University of California in Los Angeles (UCLA). She also holds her MA in Art History and BA in Studio Art from UCLA, plus an MA in Curatorial Practice from the California College of the Arts in San Francisco, and also studied at the School of Central and Eastern European Studies (SCEES) at the Jagiellonian University in Krakow. After having worked a decade in museums, Joanna returned to her alma mater of UCLA to pursue her doctorate to enter academia. Her research involves twentieth-century Polish art, in particular how communist-era artistic practices subverted official governmental narratives. She is focused upon the Polish photographer Zofia Rydet (1911-1997), who documented with her camera "traditional forms of architecture and dress, religious icons and glimpses of nature spilling in from windows, in some instances the black-and-white images appear as if made in the nineteenth century . . . to catch something that was fading away."

*photo by Nikolay Maslov*



**Ann Margaret Zelenka** - A native of Baltimore, Maryland, Ann Margaret is a graduate of the University of Baltimore, in Jurisprudence (BA) and Negotiations and Conflict Management (MS). She also holds an MA in Law from Regent University in Virginia Beach, Virginia. Ann Margaret has spent a good part of her career in Washington, DC with the federal government. At present, Ann Margaret is pursuing her Ph.D. in Leadership at the University of the Cumberlands in Williamsburg, Kentucky. Her research discusses the contributions made to business leadership by 19th, 20th and 21st century Eastern European women, concentrating on three women. Ann Margaret is of Polish and Czech heritage.

## **Leonard Skowronski Scholarship for Polish Studies**

Up to two, \$3,000 scholarships are available students who are pursuing Polish studies. These scholarships are intended for students pursuing some Polish studies (major may be in other fields) at universities in the United States who have completed at least two years of college or university work at an accredited institution. These scholarships are awarded for the fall term.

Notice of the availability of these scholarship awards was forwarded electronically to 35 Colleges/Universities offering Polish Studies and Eastern European and Slavic Studies programs and to ACPC affiliates and board members. No scholarships were awarded as the applicants did not meet the requirements as stated above.

Deborah M. Majka, Chair, Skowronski Polish Studies Scholarship

Committee Members: Ursula Brodowicz, Jacqueline Droleski, Alicia Dutka, Carol Meleski

## **Eye of the Eagle Władysław Zachariasiewicz Memorial Journalism Scholarship**

ACPC's Eye of the Eagle Journalism Scholarship aims to annually award \$5,000 toward college or graduate school tuition and school-related expenses other than room and board for students with a clearly demonstrated, defined interest in a career in enterprise journalism in the public interest.

Awards are based solely on professional and academic merit with an appreciation for issues that affect Polish-Americans. ACPC hopes applicants will be inspired to follow in the footsteps of famous journalists who maintained a strong ethical commitment, sense of objectivity and fairness amid financial, political, social and industry peer pressures.

Amid the coronavirus crisis and related college shutdowns, program interest was limited despite a deadline extension, and no award was made this year. On-line only studies offered by many university level journalism programs this autumn may not be the best use of funds for a field that requires a high level of face-to-face research and public contact. As the 2020-2021 school year unfolds, the Committee will explore new and additional opportunities to promote the program.

Mark Dillon, Eye of the Eagle Scholarship Committee Chair

Committee members: Robert Synakowski, Mary Ellen Tyszka, Rose Kobylinski

# ACPC Music Committee

## Marcella Kochańska Sembrich Vocal Competition 2020 Report

During the March 6-7, 2020, meeting in Chicago, the ACPC Board of Directors approved a proposal to establish a revolving fund for the annual Marcella Kochańska Sembrich Vocal Competition so that there will be a set amount of \$10,000 available as needed for the prizes and other expenses associated with conducting the competition. The funds remaining after all the expenses for the year are met will be carried over and augmented as needed to have the same sum available next year.

Despite the cancellation of the 2020 ACPC Convention due to the coronavirus pandemic, the Marcella Kochańska Sembrich Competition Committee, with approval of the ACPC Executive Committee, decided to proceed with the competition. This decision was made based on many indications that now more than ever, artists, especially students and those in the beginning stages of career development, are in dire need of support. The deadline was extended to May 31, 2020, to allow participants extra time to make arrangements for recording due to the coronavirus situation.

The competition was advertised on the ACPC website and Facebook page, as well as in the social media of various affiliates and supporting organizations, *Gwiazda Polarna*, *PNA Zgoda* and other Polonia media. Additionally, an ad was placed with the online audition service YAP Tracker.

The response to this year's competition was higher than in previous years and we attracted ten talented applicants who met all the required qualifications. Three independent judges listened to recordings forwarded by the contestants and provided their detailed evaluations. Based on the judges' ratings, the Music Committee made its decision on the awards.

Due to a tie in the top ratings, instead of a First and Second Prize, the two were combined and split to give each of the top scorers an equal value Marcella Sembrich Award. The winners of the \$2,500 prizes are:

**Laura LeVoor**, Soprano from Fort Thomas, KY, and **Leo Radosavljevic**, Bass from Chicago, IL (Photos below left)



Three other contestants received one vote each for the Second Prize and the committee decided to recognize each of them with a non-monetary Honorary Mention Award. They are:

**David Cook**, Tenor from Lexington Park, MD; **Rachel Deatherage**, Mezzo-soprano from Astoria, NY; and **Suzanne Lis**, Soprano from Berlin, Germany

Other contestants were: Soprano Monika Cachro from Lake Zurich, IL; Soprano Ahava Katzin from Turin, Italy; Soprano Jackie Schieffer from New York, NY; Soprano Lauren Nash Silberstein from Clifton Park, NY; Mezzo-soprano Natalia Smolij from Sugar Land, TX.

The judges for the competition were:

Stefania Kondella, Soprano from the Poznań Opera; Mark Ohnmacht, Principal Agent for Performing Arts Consultation Services, and an organist and choir director; and Luis A. Galvez, Director of Music and Liturgy at St. Viator Church in Chicago.

At the present time, we cannot plan for a live concert by the winners of this year's competition; however, we are making arrangements for a virtual concert later this year or early in 2021.

In addition to the competition, the ACPC Music Committee arranged a concert during the ACPC Convention in Warsaw in September 2019, featuring two young cellists: Mateusz Błaszczak and Wojciech Bafeltowski, students at the Fryderyk Chopin University of Music in Warsaw.

*Respectfully submitted by Cecilia Larkin, Music Committee Chair, and Committee members: Alicia Dutka, Dr. Jaroslaw Golembiowski, Dr. Laura Kafka-Price, Richard F. Larkin*

## 2019 Polish Perspectives Exhibit in conjunction with the National Council for the Social Studies

Exhibit Chairperson: Raymond and Cecilia Glembocki

Advisors: Debbie Majka: Honorary Council of the Embassy of Poland in  
Philadelphia region -Historian

Tom Payne: Financial chairman

The American Council for Polish Culture sponsors an exhibit called “Polish Perspectives ‘ which addresses historical facts about Poland, the rich cultural heritage and traditions. Books are distributed to educators from Aquilla Polonica about World War II at no charge. The Embassy of Poland provides booklets on the History of Poland as well as maps and travel booklets. The leaflets about The Poles in Jamestown who gained the right to vote in 1619 are developed Many of the CD’s and DVD’s are about Pope John Paul II as *Liberating a Continent, The Nine Days that Changed the World.*



A grant was received from the Foreign Ministry of Culture and from the Friends of John Paul II Foundation for educational materials as DVD’s CV’ bookmarks and leaflets.

The focus of the exhibits for 2018-2019 were on the Polish Craftsmen obtaining the right to vote in July of 1619. We were stressing the fact that the Polish craftsmen were the first to have a work stoppage and were the first to establish the apprenticeship program in the colony. To commemorate that event, the Governor of Virginia, Ralph Northam granted the American Council for Polish Culture a proclamation that the Poles received the right to vote on July 21, 1619, In addition, the Department of Tourism placed 10,000 of these Jamestowne leaflets throughout the Commonwealth.

Exhibiting at the Virginia Affiliate in Roanoke, the educators received canvas bags with the historical marker of when the Poles arrived in Jamestown. This meeting was held by a Virginia affiliate of the National Council for Social Studies. There were about 400 teachers at this conference and a CDs about Notable Poles were distributed. Hundreds of individuals were sited on a poster type format highlighted significant contribution that they made to American History and society.

Each year the NCSS exhibits in various parts of the country. Here is a listing of places where we exhibited and the attendance at each one: Denver 2968, Washington DC 4,095, Seattle, 3414, St. Louis 3335, Boston 4330, New Orleans 3769 Washington DC 4177, and Austin 3942n The local affiliates in Roanoke had 400 teachers, Williamsburg had 368, Middle Atlantic States in Towson Maryland 370.

Sharing our heritage and providing accurate historical facts about Poland and the Pole’s has been the highlight of our attendance at the ACPC conferences. We are pleased to participate with so many educators who are young people who are anxious to hear the “Rest of the Story” particularly about the Polish Craftsmen in Jamestown.

All of our educational materials are available for all affiliates and supporting organizations. They can be obtained simply by contacting [raymondglembocki@gmail.com](mailto:raymondglembocki@gmail.com) or 703 501 6152.



## Website Manager's Report - Peter J. Obst

e-mail: peterpjo@aol.com tel: 215-567-0327 (office)

Our website is: **[www.polishcultureacpc.org](http://www.polishcultureacpc.org)**

The website is being continuously updated as needed by our organizations. However, some of the pages and sections, are in need of rewriting as history has moved on. One such section applies to the history and mission of the organization.

Recent revisions include the scholarship listings, inclusion of .pdf versions of the newsletter, and reports from ACPC meetings and other related activities. Members are encouraged to review the website pages and send comments or revisions to the website manager.

*It is only through member involvement that the website will have current, interesting and topical information.*

For several years now we've had the *ACPC Promotional film* available via the website (and YouTube), if you have not seen it, please do it at the earliest opportunity. It is also available on DVD. This film is also showing its age, a new effort in this regard could be coupled with a member recruiting campaign.

Your website manager is attempting to maintain a current list of links to all the affiliate and supporting organizations from our website. Member input is needed here to keep these links up to date. There is a current event calendar that Robert Synakowski maintains on Facebook in response to member submissions. Many thanks, Robert. Also thanks to Ted Mirecki who is in charge of the ACPC e-mail distribution list.

For those organizations that do not have their own websites the website manager can provide information how to create an internet presence for their organization (contact via e-mail above). Your stories about ACPC related events and photos can also be posted on the website. I would like to express my gratitude to all those whose contributions have helped to make the ACPC website a continuing success.





## INVESTMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

AMERIPRISE / BEACON WEALTH MANAGEMENT PARTNERS professionally manages the Affiliate Grants, ACPC Scholarships, Sembrich, NCSS/YCL and the Operating Account. The annual fee is 1.0% of the total investment.

The FIDELITY / MEDALLION INVESTMENT COMPANY professionally manages the PULASKI SCHOLARSHIP FUND. The annual fee for this service is 1.25% of the total investment.

Values of the MEDALLION and AMERIPRISE Accounts as of June 30, 2020 are available in the Treasurer's Report.

Respectfully Submitted, Dr. Robert Dutka Investment Committee Chairman

### Performance of the S&P 500, International Stocks, Small Company Stocks, Bonds, US Treasury Bills and Commodities Aug. 31, 2010 to Aug. 31, 2020 (Source: Charles Schwab)

#### Common Market Indices

	SELECTED PERIOD (%)	YEAR TO DATE (%)	ONE YEAR (%)	THREE YEARS (%)	FIVE YEARS (%)
S&P 500	15.15	9.74	21.87	14.50	14.44
MSCI EAFE (TRN)	5.82	-4.61	6.11	2.34	4.72
Russell 2000	11.52	-5.53	6.00	5.02	7.64
Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond	3.67	6.85	6.45	5.09	4.32
FTSE 3-Month Treasury Bill	0.61	0.55	1.18	1.67	1.15
S&P GSCI	-7.95	-30.86	-23.75	-7.32	-8.40



# American Council for Polish Culture

## Treasurer's Report Submitted by Thomas Payne

5:54 PM

08/01/20

Accrual Basis

### American Council for Polish Culture Profit & Loss Prev Year Comparison June 2019 through May 2020

	Jun '19 - May 20	Jun '18 - May 19	\$ Change
<b>INTEREST INCOME</b>			
Polish Studies - 3172	2.02	1.12	0.90
Jan deRosen Memorial - 3156	0.12	0.06	0.06
Education Outreach - 3131	0.36	0.34	0.02
Walter Z - Journalism-70206	4.42	4.49	-0.07
Affiliate Grants - 68937	0.31	0.36	-0.05
Gen Fund - Chase -63096	4.16	14.26	-10.10
Wachtel-Torres Literary Fund Savings	0.63	0.63	0.00
Sembrich Vocal Savings-65760	0.36	0.34	0.02
Special Projects Savings -66537	0.70	0.56	0.14
ACPC Scholarship Savings-67030	1.16	1.55	-0.39
Pulaski Scholar Savings-67519	0.57	0.30	0.27
NCSS Endow Savings-67808	0.64	0.64	0.00
<b>Total INTEREST INCOME</b>	<b>15.45</b>	<b>24.65</b>	<b>-9.20</b>
<b>DIVIDEND INCOME</b>			
Ameriprise-Active ACPC	1,665.31	5,116.30	-3,450.99
Ameriprise -ONE (4 Endowments)	19,834.86	5,898.60	13,936.26
Medallion-Fid -Invest. Income	16,671.61	13,121.45	3,550.16
<b>DIVIDEND INCOME - Other</b>	<b>41,103.81</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>41,103.81</b>
<b>Total DIVIDEND INCOME</b>	<b>79,275.59</b>	<b>24,136.35</b>	<b>55,139.24</b>
<b>CAPITAL GAINS</b>			
Med-Fidel Cap Gains Realized	-2,910.51	22,446.43	-25,356.94
Ameriprise Cap Gains Realized			
Ameriprise-realized ONE 4 Endow	0.00	-963.64	963.64
Ameripris realized -Active	0.00	274.24	-274.24
<b>Total Ameriprise Cap Gains Realized</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>-689.40</b>	<b>689.40</b>
<b>UNREALIZED GAIN/(LOSS)</b>			
Unrealized-Medallion-Fidelity	-28,207.63	-31,972.31	3,764.68
Unrealized gain-Active ACPC	-24,560.38	-1,876.44	-22,683.94
Unrealized gain-ONE 4 Endowment	-1,302.38	2,855.91	-4,158.29
<b>Total UNREALIZED GAIN/(LOSS)</b>	<b>-54,070.39</b>	<b>-30,992.84</b>	<b>-23,077.55</b>
<b>Total CAPITAL GAINS</b>	<b>-56,980.90</b>	<b>-9,235.81</b>	<b>-47,745.09</b>
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>15,828.31</b>	<b>5,766.40</b>	<b>10,061.91</b>
<b>Net Other Income</b>	<b>15,828.31</b>	<b>5,766.40</b>	<b>10,061.91</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-63,691.72</b>	<b>-15,756.96</b>	<b>-47,934.76</b>

**American Council for Polish Culture**  
**Balance Sheet Prev Year Comparison**  
As of May 31, 2020

	May 31, 20	May 31, 19	\$ Change
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Current Assets			
Checking/Savings			
General Fund			
Chase- Savings Money Mkt -3096	1,152.01	13,666.07	-12,514.06
Chase - Gen Checking - 2652	20,569.80	9,155.62	11,414.18
<b>Total General Fund</b>	<b>21,721.81</b>	<b>22,821.69</b>	<b>-1,099.88</b>
Chase ACPC Summer Schol.- 7030	11,762.38	11,761.22	1.16
Chase Affiliate Grants -8937	1,800.29	4,049.98	-2,249.69
Chase Education Outreach-3131	3,033.90	4,000.34	-966.44
Chase Jan deRosen Memorial -3156	1,425.57	1,425.45	0.12
Chase Sembrich Savings-5760	3,284.01	3,483.65	-199.64
Chase Social Studies fd 7808	1,264.78	9,730.29	-8,465.51
Chase Special Projects Fd-6537	7,355.89	6,355.19	1,000.70
Chase Pol Studies Skowronski-3172	18,328.57	24,326.55	-5,997.98
Chase Wachtel Literary-3682	5,886.15	6,385.52	-499.37
Chase Walter Z Journalism-0206	45,008.91	45,004.49	4.42
<b>PULASKI SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS</b>			
Chase- Pulaski Scholarship-7519	4,019.71	3,709.74	309.97
Fidelity Mutual Funds	462,302.26	497,802.51	-35,500.25
<b>Total PULASKI SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS</b>	<b>466,321.97</b>	<b>501,512.25</b>	<b>-35,190.28</b>
<b>AMERIPRISE-Mixed Endowments</b>			
Amerprise Operating Cash	808.24	807.40	0.84
ONE - (4 Endowments)	245,657.21	236,464.92	9,192.29
ACTIVE - (ACPC endowment)	89,141.36	97,021.38	-7,880.02
<b>Total AMERIPRISE-Mixed Endowments</b>	<b>335,606.81</b>	<b>334,293.70</b>	<b>1,313.11</b>
<b>CHECKING ACCTS - OUTSIDE CHASE</b>			
NCSS Exhibit Checking	1,990.81	3,958.87	-1,968.06
Convention & Board Meetings Cmte	2,901.86	12,276.24	-9,374.38
<b>Total CHECKING ACCTS - OUTSIDE CHA...</b>	<b>4,892.67</b>	<b>16,235.11</b>	<b>-11,342.44</b>
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	<b>927,693.71</b>	<b>991,385.43</b>	<b>-63,691.72</b>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>927,693.71</b>	<b>991,385.43</b>	<b>-63,691.72</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>927,693.71</b>	<b>991,385.43</b>	<b>-63,691.72</b>

Page 1

**American Council for Polish Culture**  
**Balance Sheet Prev Year Comparison**  
As of May 31, 2020

	May 31, 20	May 31, 19	\$ Change
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>			
Equity			
Fund balance restricted	716,227.67	731,984.63	-15,756.96
Fund balance unrestricted	275,157.76	275,157.76	0.00
Net Income	-63,691.72	-15,756.96	-47,934.76
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>927,693.71</b>	<b>991,385.43</b>	<b>-63,691.72</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>927,693.71</b>	<b>991,385.43</b>	<b>-63,691.72</b>

**American Council for Polish Culture**  
**Profit & Loss Prev Year Comparison**  
June 2019 through May 2020

	Jun '19 - May 20	Jun '18 - May 19	\$ Change
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
<b>DIRECT PUBLIC SUPPORT</b>			
General Public Donations			
Fund Raising & Grants	0.00	570.00	-570.00
General Public Donations - Other	500.00	132.00	368.00
<b>Total General Public Donations</b>	<b>500.00</b>	<b>702.00</b>	<b>-202.00</b>
<b>ACPC Scholarship Donations</b>			
Journalism - Walter Z Fund	0.00	25.00	-25.00
Received funding June 2018	0.00	30,324.49	-30,324.49
<b>Total ACPC Scholarship Donations</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>30,349.49</b>	<b>-30,349.49</b>
<b>Casmir Pulaski Scholarship</b>			
Fees from Applicants	350.00	250.00	100.00
Pulaski General Donations	100.00	1,000.00	-900.00
<b>Total Casmir Pulaski Scholarship</b>	<b>450.00</b>	<b>1,250.00</b>	<b>-800.00</b>
<b>NCSS Exhibit Donations</b>	<b>646.81</b>	<b>2,652.98</b>	<b>-2,006.17</b>
<b>Total DIRECT PUBLIC SUPPORT</b>	<b>1,596.81</b>	<b>34,954.47</b>	<b>-33,357.66</b>
Special Projects & Programs			
Jan De Rosen Fund	0.00	800.00	-800.00
<b>Total Special Projects &amp; Programs</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>800.00</b>	<b>-800.00</b>
Membership dues			
Affiliate Dues	2,685.00	3,685.00	-1,000.00
Individual Dues	41.00	294.00	-253.00
Supporting Org Fees	60.00	3,350.00	-3,290.00
<b>Total Membership dues</b>	<b>2,786.00</b>	<b>7,329.00</b>	<b>-4,543.00</b>
Special events			
Brochure Publications	1,772.09	1,000.00	772.09
<b>Total Special events</b>	<b>1,772.09</b>	<b>1,000.00</b>	<b>772.09</b>
Convention and meetings	3,335.00	3,567.00	-232.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>9,489.90</b>	<b>47,650.47</b>	<b>-38,160.57</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>9,489.90</b>	<b>47,650.47</b>	<b>-38,160.57</b>

**American Council for Polish Culture**  
**Profit & Loss Prev Year Comparison**  
June 2019 through May 2020

	Jun '19 - May 20	Jun '18 - May 19	\$ Change
<b>Expense</b>			
<b>POLISH HERITAGE PUBLICATION</b>			
Heritage Printing Costs	3,214.23	4,718.27	-1,504.04
Heritage Editor's Expenses	700.00	1,050.00	-350.00
<b>Total POLISH HERITAGE PUBLICATION</b>	<b>3,914.23</b>	<b>5,768.27</b>	<b>-1,854.04</b>
<b>PROFESSIONAL FEES</b>			
CPA Accounting fees	1,500.00	1,500.00	0.00
Legal Advice & Services	30.00	10.00	20.00
Officers & Directors Bond	0.00	732.45	-732.45
<b>Total PROFESSIONAL FEES</b>	<b>1,530.00</b>	<b>2,242.45</b>	<b>-712.45</b>
<b>ADVERTISING &amp; PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE</b>			
Ads in Newspapers & Programs	1,880.00	1,650.00	230.00
<b>Total ADVERTISING &amp; PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE</b>	<b>1,880.00</b>	<b>1,650.00</b>	<b>230.00</b>
<b>BOARD/COMMITTEE REIMBURSEMENTS</b>			
Membership Committee	0.00	60.24	-60.24
Other Officers	0.00	206.54	-206.54
Nominating expenses - Awards to recipients @ conventi...	126.29	51.91	74.38
Recording Secretary	124.85	144.85	-20.00
Treasurer	329.78	183.87	145.91
Monies allocated to bereavement	100.00	200.00	-100.00
<b>Total BOARD/COMMITTEE REIMBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>680.92</b>	<b>847.41</b>	<b>-166.49</b>
<b>SCHOLARSHIPS, AWARDS, GRANTS</b>			
Journalism - Walter Z	0.00	5,000.00	-5,000.00
Polish Studies Scholarsh	6,000.00	9,000.00	-3,000.00
Pulaski Scholarship	30,000.00	20,000.00	10,000.00
Sembrich Vocal Awards	200.00	1,500.00	-1,300.00
Wachtel Literary Award	500.00	500.00	0.00
Affiliate Grant Program	2,250.00	750.00	1,500.00
<b>Total SCHOLARSHIPS, AWARDS, GRANTS</b>	<b>38,950.00</b>	<b>36,750.00</b>	<b>2,200.00</b>
<b>PROGRAM SERVICES</b>			
Expenses incurred for educational purposes	9,445.34	1,000.00	8,445.34



**American Council for Polish Culture**  
**Profit & Loss Prev Year Comparison**  
June 2019 through May 2020

	Jun '19 - May 20	Jun '18 - May 19	\$ Change
Convention & Board Meetings			
Board Meeting Hosts	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00
Convention & Board Meetings - Other	13,481.47	3,128.33	10,353.14
<b>Total Convention &amp; Board Meetings</b>	<b>15,481.47</b>	<b>3,128.33</b>	<b>12,353.14</b>
NCSS Annual Conference	14,618.86	8,486.01	6,132.85
Sembrich Music Committee			
Accompanist	0.00	300.00	-300.00
Music Committee Expenses	0.00	794.31	-794.31
<b>Total Sembrich Music Committee</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1,094.31</b>	<b>-1,094.31</b>
<b>Total PROGRAM SERVICES</b>	<b>39,545.67</b>	<b>13,708.65</b>	<b>25,837.02</b>
SPECIAL CULTURAL EVENTS			
Support for Art Shows & Exhibits	500.00	500.00	0.00
Local Cultural Event Support	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
SPECIAL CULTURAL EVENTS - Other	0.00	189.00	-189.00
<b>Total SPECIAL CULTURAL EVENTS</b>	<b>1,500.00</b>	<b>689.00</b>	<b>811.00</b>
MANAGEMENT & GENERAL			
Computer & Internet Expenses	119.40	937.23	-817.83
Gen'l Fund Payments for Convention Items & Other Mee...	234.11	4,215.16	-3,981.05
General Printing & Supplies	0.00	1,085.66	-1,085.66
Fees, Dues, & Charges	655.60	1,280.00	-624.40
<b>Total MANAGEMENT &amp; GENERAL</b>	<b>1,009.11</b>	<b>7,518.05</b>	<b>-6,508.94</b>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>89,009.93</b>	<b>69,173.83</b>	<b>19,836.10</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>-79,520.03</b>	<b>-21,523.36</b>	<b>-57,996.67</b>
Other Income/Expense			
Other Income			
BROKER MANAGEMENT FEES			
Medallion-Fidelity Mgmt Fees	-4,806.26	0.00	-4,806.26
Fees paid to Amer-Fid	-1,675.57	-9,158.79	7,483.22
<b>Total BROKER MANAGEMENT FEES</b>	<b>-6,481.83</b>	<b>-9,158.79</b>	<b>2,676.96</b>
Transfers Among Funds	0.00	0.00	0.00



## The Chicago Chopin Society

### ANNUAL REPORT

July 2019 to March 2020

In 2019-2020 the Chicago Chopin Society enjoyed collaborating with the diverse organizations and institutions that present vibrant events promoting Polish culture. One of the most rewarding efforts has been our participation in Chopiniana in Detroit and the artistic partnership with American Music Festivals Artistic Dir. Philip Simmons.

The Chicago Chopin Society and American Music Festivals share a mission of reaching out to new audiences and creating cross-cultural connections. Our concerts together provide a model for what collaboration can look like for performing arts and community advocacy groups.

**September 1, 2019:** *Old Traditions New Frontiers*. The significance of the September 1st performance of *Salutatio et oratio (Pozdrowienie i modlitwa)* by Jaroslaw Goembowski is that it commemorates the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the brave sacrifices endured by Polish citizens at the beginning of World War II with meditative prayer for their souls.

**October 11, 2019:** a performance at the opening of the exhibition *Polish Imagination: The World of Tomorrow Polish* at the Polish Museum of America in Chicago.

**October 27, 2019:** Chopiniana 2019 – *Chopin Mazurkas arranged by Pauline Viardot* at the American Polish Culture Center, Troy, Michigan.

**March 7, 2020:** The Chicago Chopin Society hosted the Spring Board Meeting of the American Council for Polish Culture. We are very proud to have been able to conduct this event in Chicago. This event was highlighted in Dziennik Związkowy and the initial meetings took place at the Polish National Alliance headquarters.

**March 7, 2020:** *If Chopin met Paderewski....* As a feature of the March program, the Chicago Chopin Society Board of Directors was honored to announce the North American premiere of the Ignacy Jan Paderewski *Suite in G major*, a composition for string orchestra. This performance was the highlight of the Chicago Chopin Society's 2020 season, presenting a work heretofore only played in Poland. Barbara Mirecki, Thaddeus Mirecki, and Drs. Barbara and Waldemar Niklinski facilitated this USA premiere performance of the Paderewski composition. We express deep gratitude to all our devoted and great-hearted donors.

#### 2019–2020 Officers:

Dr. Jaroslaw Golembowski, President      Jessica Jagielnik, Vice-President

Eva Labowicz, Treasurer   Barbara Mirecki, Public Relations Editor   Andrzej Marek Urbaniak, Secretary

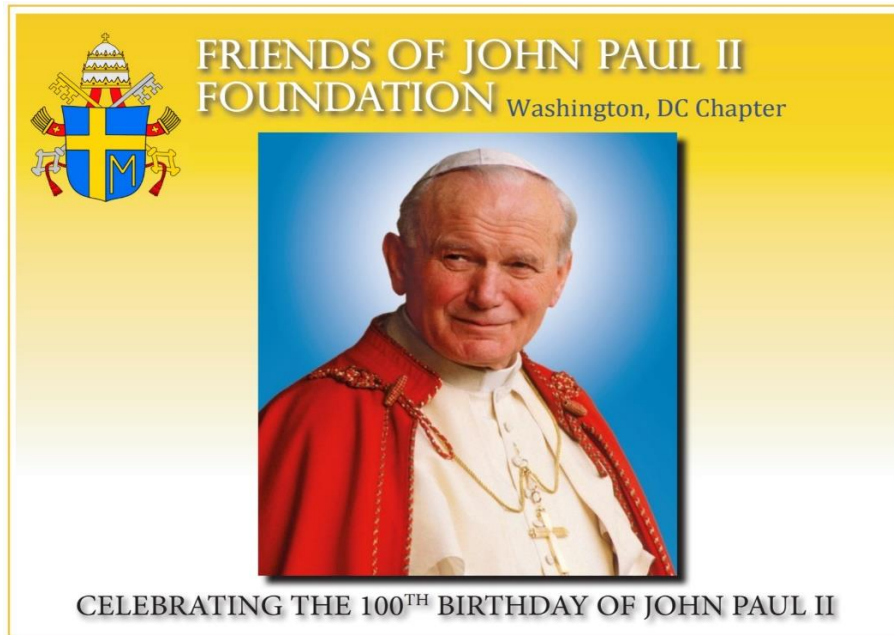
Directors: Barbara Lemecha, Barbara Mirecki, Dr. Waldemar Niklinski   Ewa Zaborowski, Dr. John Zaborowski

Artistic advisers: Anna Golka, Nina Drath, Philip Simmons

Email: [ccs@chicagochopinsociety.com](mailto:ccs@chicagochopinsociety.com)   [www.chicagochopinsociety.com](http://www.chicagochopinsociety.com)   [facebook.com/ChicagoChopinSociety](https://facebook.com/ChicagoChopinSociety)

A 501(c) (3) Non-for-Profit Corporation since 2004.

Respectfully submitted by Dr. Jaroslaw Golembowski, [composerjg@comcast.net](mailto:composerjg@comcast.net), 773-988-3663



## 2019-2020 ANNUAL REPORT TO AMERICAN COUNCIL FOR POLISH CULTURE

### **President**

Marianna Eckel

### **1<sup>st</sup> Vice President**

Roza Pace

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President**

Cecilia Glembocki

### **Treasurer**

Raymond Glembocki

### **Corresponding**

#### **Secretary**

Mary Flanagan

### **Directors**

Zofia Dunian

John Eckel

Thaddeus Mirecki

Tom Payne

### **Audit Committee**

Barbara Jarzynski

John Eckel

Richard Larkin

**June 2019** - We celebrated the 99<sup>th</sup> Birthday of St. John Paul at the Army Navy Country Club. Guest Speaker was Dr. Mario Enzler, former Swiss Guard for Pope John Paul II and author of the book titled "I Served a Saint"

**November 2019** - FJPIIF Board Meeting and election of new officers including reception and speaker were held at The John Paul II National Shrine in Washington, DC. Exhibit promoting the legacy of Pope Saint John Paul II on his upcoming 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebration was held at the Arlington Dioceses Catechetical Educator Conference.

**December 2019** - Friends of John Paul II Foundation in Washington, DC members decorated the Polish Christmas Tree located at the Pope John Paul II Cultural Center with handmade and traditional Polish ornaments.

**February 2020** - Newly elected Board of Directors Meeting was held at the Polish Parish, Our Lady Queen Of Poland Church. This Parish was established in the Washington, DC Metropolitan Area in 1983, by the Holy Father John Paul II.

**May 2020** - We say "Sto Lat" to Great St. John Paul II. May 18, 1920: Karol Jozef Wojtyla, Pope John Paul II was born in Wadowice,

**Chaplain**  
Rev. Canon  
Philip S. Majka

Poland. In his honor, our Chapter is planning to place a bronze free standing bust sculpture of Pope John II in the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC a remembrance of the 100th anniversary of his birth.

**October 2020** - Friends of John Paul II Foundation planned to host a pilgrimage, with the Eastern States of the John Paul II Vatican Foundation, to include a reception at the Vatican Embassy and The John Paul II Shrine in Washington DC, due to the spread of the pandemic, the pilgrimage is rescheduled to 2021.

**November 2020** - Contest Celebrating the 100th Birthday of Pope Saint John Paul II was planned for Grade K-12 teachers and students in the Catholic schools of the Diocese of Washington, DC Metro Area. This is our Legacy Project.

Even though the COVID-19 Virus is a hardship for so many, we also take this time to refocus towards a better future. Due to the pandemic we were forced to cancel this year's *Wianki* and reschedule our Traditional Summer Celebration-St. John's Eve to be held in June 2021. The Cracow *Szopka* Workshop is also rescheduled to be held in 2021.

Respectfully submitted by: Mrs. Marianna Eckel  
**President - Friends of John Paul II Foundation Inc.**  
Metropolitan Washington, DC Chapter  
[kwsj2.wdc.@gmail.com](mailto:kwsj2.wdc@gmail.com)





## **NATIONAL KATYŃ MEMORIAL FOUNDATION**

Post Office Box 25720  
Baltimore, Maryland 21224-9999  
United States of America  
[www.KatynBaltimore.com](http://www.KatynBaltimore.com)

### **American Council for Polish Culture ~ NKMF 2020 Annual Report ~**

The soaring 44 feet (13.4 m) tall gold-leafed bronze National Katyn Memorial, with its cascading water fountain base, is now one of the most dynamic and striking monuments in the United States. It was erected in 2000 by our predecessor group – The National Katyn Memorial Committee. The Katyn Memorial is very prominently located in the heart of Baltimore's newest and exciting multifaceted neighborhood of Harbor East, adjacent to the city's dynamic Inner Harbor complex.

Since 2001, the National Katyn Memorial Foundation (NKMF) is now responsible for conducting an extensive program of annual remembrance. It is also tasked with the improvement and maintenance of the Memorial and its surrounding site.

The NKMF also conducts ongoing Katyn educational and outreach programs. Our principle tools are a traveling display of three 6 feet x 3 feet vertical display banners that duplicates the permanent signage that we improved and installed at the Memorial site, our descriptive brochures, and requested guest speakers. Every available effort is made to promote the memory and ennoblement of the estimated 20,000 Martyrs of the Katyn Forest Massacre (which term now encompasses all those Polish patriots – both military and civilian – also murdered at other now-known infamous sites at the hands of the Soviet/Russian NKVD.)

Now, since 2010, at the annual Katyn Remembrance Reception and Dinner, the 96 victims of the catastrophic Smolensk-Katyn airplane crash are honored and remembered in a solemn candle-lighting ceremony. The April 10, 2010 crash claimed the lives of Poland's Lech Kaczynski, his wife Maria, the Chiefs of the Armed Forces, esteemed clergy, prominent government officials, eminent members of the parliament, notable institutional leaders and honored citizens. They were flying on a sacred mission to the Katyn Forest to pay homage to the slain sons of Poland.

The Annual Katyn Remembrance in Baltimore commemorates all those who perished because of Katyn ... those murdered in April 1940 at the hands of Josef Stalin's Soviet Union ... and more recently those by the capricious hand-of-fate on April 10, 2010.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard P. Poremski – Chairman

Thomas Rybczynski - Secretary

*"Should I forget them, may God in Heaven forget me."*

*~Adam Mickiewicz*



# North America's Memorials to the 1940 Katyn Massacre

Niles, IL; Minneapolis, MN; Doylestown, PA; Baltimore, MD; Jersey City, NJ; Toronto







## Submitted by Timothy Kuzma, President & CEO

Polish Falcons of America (PFA) is a non-profit, member-driven, community life insurer - giving back to the Members it serves by reinvesting profits into the communities in which they live. From its origins in the great immigrant movement of the last century to the demands of today's fast-paced world, PFA upholds traditional Polish values by promoting financial security, active lifestyles and social well-being.



In keeping with the Falcons' motto, "Within a Healthy Body Resides a Healthy Spirit," PFA provides Members with a variety of adult and youth programs. These include volleyball, golf and bowling tournaments, as well as an annual youth camp and development conference for young adults. As a fraternal benefit society, PFA encourages Members to be active in their local chapters, known as Nests, and their communities through the practice of charity and service. Currently there are 59 Nests in eight Districts.

There are nearly 20,000 Members of the Polish Falcons of America.

PFA also offers a variety of benefits and activities for its Members. On average, the organization gives away \$50,000 in scholarship funds to deserving Members. We also provide disaster relief funds to help members in emergencies, newborn benefits and dental/vision benefits. The core business operations of PFA is its life insurance and annuity operations. Polish Falcons offers a variety of competitive whole life insurance products, annuities, IRAs and education savings plans for its Members. Profits from this business is the fuel for our fraternal programs.

This year started with great promise as we began our planning for our National Convention that was going to be held in New Britain, Conn., in July. Our Convention is the Supreme Governing Body of the Polish Falcons and is held every four years. The last Convention was held in 2016 in South Bend, Ind. We were also looking forward to our regular lineup of fraternal activities as well.

Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic changed everything. All of our in-person events were cancelled. These include:

- National Youth and Adult Volleyball Tournaments
- National Bowling Tournament
- Future Leaders Conference
- National Golf Tournament

In addition, all of our Nests with buildings were closed starting in March and some have only started to reopen in late summer and early fall. Nests are where Members gather, and it is a key component of what makes the Polish Falcons a successful social organization. We are hopeful that all of the Nests will reopen to their full capacity as soon as it is safe for everyone to do so.

## **A Virtual Future Leaders Conference, Race and Convention**

In spite of the pandemic, we did successfully conduct three virtual events. First was our virtual Future Leaders Conference. We have been conducting this activity for our young Members for a number of years and we thought we could do it virtually instead to keep our young Members engaged. Held over several weeks, we were able to bring a dedicated group of our young Members together for this important program. We are pleased with the results as these Future Leaders are currently planning new and exciting virtual programs for our younger Members.

Also in the summer we held our first-ever virtual race with 75 Members participating. It was encouraging to see our Members involved in this unique activity. We may consider doing it again in the future, regardless of the pandemic.

We also conducted a virtual Golf Tournament for our Members in September and October. Since this is being written as the Tournament is ongoing I can't speak to the results, but we are encouraged by the registration for the event.

Finally, as was mentioned, our National Convention is going to be conducted virtually in late November. We are required to conduct the Convention every four years so since we could not do it in person, we had no choice but to do it virtually. Several other fraternal organizations are also doing virtual Conventions this year. We expect to have about 200 delegates participate. It will be quite the challenge, but we have a good team working to make it as successful a Convention as possible.

Despite the challenges of the pandemic, PFA continues to provide the same benefits and service to its Members, and we are planning to hold all our outstanding programs and activities in 2021 and beyond. For more information about Polish Falcons of America, please visit our website at [www.polishfalcons.org](http://www.polishfalcons.org).



## Polish Heritage Center Makes Great Strides – September 2020

The Polish Heritage Center in Panna Maria, Texas is making great strides towards preserving the history, values, customs and traditions of the first Polish settlers who immigrated to Texas beginning in 1854. Despite the Covid-19 pandemic, we are as resolute in designing, producing and building the exhibits, audios and movies as the immigrants were in surviving their trials and tribulations back in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century.

We are presently in final production on the project's eleven videos, four interactive displays, and more than one hundred short audio programs, produced for both adult and youth audiences. The adult programs are being translated into Polish.



*The above chandelier at the Polish Heritage Center is modeled after the salt chandelier at St. Kinga's Chapel 1,000 feet belowground at the Wieliczka Salt Mine near Krakow, Poland.*

Exhibit design and production are exacting and detail-oriented endeavors, involving the careful orchestration of designers, writers, editors, producers, audio and video technicians, voice talent, artists, photographers, videographers, lighting specialists, craftsmen, and fabricators. They are all at work! A Board of Directors sub-committee carefully and diligently reviews all exhibit copy, audio and video scripts, and maps prior to production. This is a challenging task. Our hats are off to Professors T. Lindsay Baker, Mieczysław Biskupski, Janusz Duzenkiewicz, Don Pienkos, and James Pula who have provided valuable historical insights and guidance.

The Center's exterior shell is complete. Within the building, exhibit walls have been constructed, and the rotunda dome has been built and painted, awaiting the final work of a decorative artist. Exhibit graphics are in final production and will be sent to the fabricator for printing and assembly in anticipation of installation this Fall. These are exciting times. We are looking at an early 2021 opening.

The high-tech theater will be a dynamic center for workshops, seminars, lectures, meetings, classes, and movies. The Center will host special events and celebrations. Please consider this great location for a future event. The Polish Heritage Center is well positioned fifty miles southeast of San Antonio, one of America's favorite tourist destinations.

After years of work, we are on the threshold of seeing Bishop Emeritus John W. Yanta's vision come to fruition. We have collected over \$11.4 million towards our \$14 million goal. Please consider being a part of this tribute to American Polonia, as a family or as an organization. The Center offers multiple opportunities to pay tribute to loved ones. Email John Cebrowski, Director of Development, at [jcebrowski39@gmail.com](mailto:jcebrowski39@gmail.com) to get your questions answered. Visit our recently revitalized website: [www.polishheritagecentertx.org](http://www.polishheritagecentertx.org) to learn more and to donate. Thank you all!

Submitted by John Cebrowski, Director of Development



# Polish American Arts Association of Washington, DC

Member of the American Council for Polish Culture, Inc. since 1966

*Over 50 years of celebrating Polish culture in the Nation's Capital*

## Annual Report 2019-20

Like everyone else, the Polish American Arts Association has been affected by the coronavirus pandemic and had to limit its activities since March 2020. Prior to that, since the last report, we held three major events:

- General Membership Meeting was held on September 22, 2019, and featured as a guest speaker an award winning writer Katrina Shawver, author of *HENRY: A Polish Swimmer's True Story of Friendship from Auschwitz to America*, a true story that is both a witness to the Holocaust through Polish eyes, and the story of how a Polish (Catholic) competitive swimmer survived Auschwitz and Buchenwald concentration camps during World War II by his wits, humor, luck, and friends.
- The annual PAAA Wigilia was celebrated on December 8, 2019, with the usual array of traditional Polish dishes, observances of age old holiday traditions, and beautiful holiday entertainment, in the festively decorated historic mansion of the Arts Club of Washington.
- On February 23, 2020, the annual Chopin Concert for the benefit of the PAAA Scholarship Fund, featured renowned pianist Thomas Pandolfi, at the Arts Club of Washington.
- The PAAA awarded four scholarships this year to talented students of Polish descent.

In early 2020, the PAAA was fully engaged in making preparations for the ACPC Annual Convention. Shortly after we had booked a hotel and meeting venue, it became apparent that due to the outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic, the plans will have to be put on hold. Based on that, the ACPC Executive Committee made a decision to cancel this year's Convention and hold one in 2021. Assuming things get back to normal, the PAAA looks forward to welcoming convention delegates next summer to "Celebrate Polish Culture in the Nation's Capital."

### PAAA Officers

Cecilia Larkin – President

Thomas Payne – First Vice President

Rose Kobylinski – Second Vice President

Thaddeus Mirecki – Treasurer

Mary Beth Sowa – Recording Secretary

Board of Directors: Hanna Bondarewska, Bożenna Buda, Cecilia Glembocki,  
Dr. Renata Greenspan, Dr. William Klepczynski, Ewa Marie Szczepanska

Email: [paaanewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:paaanewsletter@gmail.com) Website: [www.paaa.us](http://www.paaa.us) [PAAA Facebook](#)

# Chopin Fine Arts Club of South Bend, Indiana

The Chopin Fine Arts Club began their activity with the Annual Anniversary luncheon on April 13, 2019. We awarded our yearly \$1,500.00 scholarship to a Senior in high school for music, Eric Saroain.

We had a Silent Card Party in September with good results. Our Polish Heritage Dinner was held at M. R. Falcon Club in South Bend, Indiana on October 20, 2019. Our main speaker was Professor David Stefancic, who spoke about Polish History. Instead of a Christmas Party, we decided to have a Wigilia, (sharing of the Christmas wafer) on Sunday, January 19, 2020. Everyone enjoyed the relaxing social gathering after the Holidays.

We were unfortunate at the loss of seven members this year, who were all very active in the club. One was Dr. Zbigniew Sobol, who assisted in raising funds for the Blind Children in Laski, Poland and visited Poland yearly with Medical Supplies. .Rev. Deacon Ervin Kuspa, who was our Chaplain for many years and also on the Scholarship Committee. Carol Evans, who was very active on the Scholarship Committee and President of our club in 1989 and 1990. The other members did not have a position, however, they were always ready to help out.

Due to the virus, we are unable to have meetings however, we communicate by sending our newsletter, *the Keynote*, or contacting our members by phone.

Respectfully yours,

Dolores Liwosz, Treasurer

PRESIDENT /SCHOLARSHIP CHAIRMAN, RICHARD LIWOSZ

57310 PEACHSTONE DRIVE SOUTH BEND, IN 46619

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## April 2019 - March 2020 Report from the Polish Arts Club of Chicago

The Polish Arts Club of Chicago (PACC) has been a member of the American Council of Polish Culture (ACPC) since the Council's 1948 beginning. As a matter of fact, ACPC's incorporation documents were signed in Chicago and registered in Illinois, that year.

The **April 2019** annual meeting of the PACC was held at Chicago's famous Gale Street Inn. The following were nominated as officers and directors for the 2019-2020 year. President - Geraldine Balut Coleman, First Vice President - Thaddeus J. Makarewicz, Esquire, Second Vice President - Piotr Wolodkowicz, Treasurer - Robert F. Dutka, DDS, Financial Secretary - Alicia L. Dutka, and Recording Secretary - Mitchelle Kmiec. Those nominated to the PACC Board were Czesława Kolak, Camille Kopielski, Edward Kurzman, Constance Malinowski, Robert Maycan, Jolanta Pawlikowski, and Kasia Szczesniewski. On behalf of the ACPC, Alicia L. Dutka presented a \$5,000 Brigadier General Casimir Pulaski Scholarship to Anna Rogalska of Chicago. Anna is in her third year of medical studies at the University of Incarnate Word in San Antonio, Texas.

In **June 2019**, the PACC held its Annual Installation Luncheon at the Park Ridge Country Club in Park Ridge, Illinois. The new officers were sworn in.

In **September 2019**, a PACC 12-part questionnaire was sent to each member and almost 40% responded. An evaluation of the questionnaires was done and a report was to be given at the April 2020 annual meeting.

President Balut Coleman sent out a two-page newsletter to the membership in **November 2019**. It summarized what events were scheduled up to and including the PACC's scheduled June 14, 2020, Annual Installation Luncheon. The newsletter also included congratulations to Board members, Kasia Szczesniewski and Czesława Kolak.



Kasia's paintings "Gurgling Stream" and "Winter Orchid" were presented at the *vernissage* to a receptive audience. She was the only Polish artist among 20 artists selected for the exhibition by Chicago's Gallery Studio Oh!.

Czesława was honored by the Chicago Chapter of the Kościuszko Foundation as it celebrated Tadeusz Kościuszko's *Imieniny* (Name's Day). She received special recognition for her leadership and dedication to Chicago's Polish community.

In **December 8, 2019**, the PACC held a very successful Christmas Luncheon at the Park Ridge Country Club. Guests enjoyed the sharing *opłatek*, a wonderful luncheon, and a much-anticipated raffle. A special concert performed by Joanna Turska, flutist, and Jeff Kust, classical guitarist, delighted the guests.

In **February 2020**, President Balut Coleman sent out the third PACC newsletter. It reviewed the Christmas Luncheon and reminded members of the scheduled April 19, 2020, annual membership meeting and luncheon, and the PACC's Annual Installation Luncheon scheduled to be held on June 14, 2020. Additionally, it reminded all members to support the 82nd Juried Art Exhibition which was to be held on May 17, 2020, at The Polish Museum of America (PMA). Kasia Szczesniewski had graciously agreed to chair this event. This newsletter was accompanied by an exhibition donation letter. The PACC was pleased to announce that the ACPC awarded the PACC a \$750 Affiliate Project Grant to be used toward the Art Exhibition.

The PACC newsletter also informed its members of the passing of two long-standing members and former officers. Thad Dabrowski passed away on November 7, 2019. Thad served as a Board member for many years and was a Life Member. Jolanta Pawlikowski, passed away on January 19, 2020. Jolanta served as a president, was a Life Member, and chaired many of the PACC's Art Exhibits. They will be sadly missed.

On **March 19, 2020**, the seriousness of the COVID-19 began to strike the United States. President Balut Coleman sent a letter to the membership indicating that the April 19, 2020, meeting luncheon would be postponed until further notice. As the pandemic worsened, the PACC President sent out a second notice that the 82nd Juried Art Exhibition scheduled for May 17, 2020, at the PMA, as well as the Installation Luncheon to be held on June 14, 2020, would both be postponed to future dates.

At this moment in time, everything is at a standstill. The PACC hopes that our lives and the activities of the PACC will return to normal soon.

Respectfully submitted,

Geraldine Balut Coleman, Ph.D., President: Polish Arts Club of Chicago



## *Friends of Polish Art*

2615 W. 12 Mile Rd., Suite 118, Berkley, Michigan 48072

### **2019 – 2020 Annual Report**

Richard M. Lapham  
*President*

October 18, 2019      ACPC Fall Board Meeting, Syracuse, New York

Brian J. Malski  
*First Vice President*

October 27, 2019      Attended Chopiniana, Troy, Michigan

Ewa Greenbaum  
*Treasurer*

November 16, 2019      Attended 115<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Tygodnik Polski

Zofia Duniec-Dmuchowski, PhD.  
*Second Vice President*

November 21, 2019      FPA annual Szopka Competition

Mary Ellen Tyszk  
*Financial Secretary*

December 14, 2019      FPA Wigilia

Carol Surma Recording  
*Secretary*

January 24, 2020      FPA General Membership Meeting & Elections

Sebastian Szczepanski  
*Corresponding Secretary*

February 8, 2020      Attended 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Polish American Congress  
Michigan Division

February 29, 2020      Attended Polish Dance Festival, Troy, Michigan

#### **Directors**

Joseph Greenbaum

March 6/7, 2020      ACPC Spring Board Meeting, Chicago, Illinois

Barbara Hantz

April Swieconka and many meetings cancelled due to Covid 19

Alina Klin, PhD.

July 20, 2020      FPA Filipek and Mitchell Scholarships awarded

Marcia Lewandowski

Anthony Wachow

Respectfully submitted, Richard Lapham, President

# POLISH ARTS CLUB ELMIRA, NEW YORK

## Annual Report 2019-2020

Executive Committee: Jacqueline A. Droleski - President

Janine Novick - 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Rose Balogh - 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

Michael Mize – Secretary Elizabeth Bubacz - Treasurer

Communications Committee: Ann Thorner – Sunshine Correspondence

Ray & Mary Margeson – Meeting Reminder Email & Phone Tree

Finance Committee: Elizabeth Bubacz – Chairperson, Douglas Bauer, William Lepkowski

Bereavement: Ann Thorner – Chairperson

Traditional Swieconka/Easter Dinner Chairperson: Liz Markiewicz Frye

Co-Chairs: Krystnya Markiewicz & Loretta Richards

Traditional Wigilia Dinner Christmas Party Bettyann Bubacz – Chairperson Ann Thorner Co-Chair

Annual Picnic - Harris Hill - Elmira, NY Laura Ingle – Chairperson Co Chairs: Bill Lepkowski,

Elizabeth Markiewicz Frye, Scott Frye

### **September 8, 2019**

Kickoff Membership Campaign Our members who traveled to Poland in May will tell us about their trip.

### **October 1-31, 2019**

Polish Heritage Month - Polish display at the Steele Memorial Library, Main Branch, Elmira, New York.

### **October 6, 2019**

Dr. Frank Kozlowski spoke about the Polish pianist, composer, politician, statesman, and spokesman for Polish independence, Ignacy Jan Paderewski (1860-1941), whose music and fame opened access to diplomacy and the media.

### **November 3, 2019**

Dr. Frank Kozlowski - Part 2 of the Ignacy Jan Paderewski presentation.

### **December 1, 2019**

- Traditional Wigilia Dinner/Christmas Dinner - The preparation of traditional Polish foods was strongly encouraged for this special meatless dish-to-share gathering. Members shared the opłatek and sang Christmas carols (koledy). No business meeting or formal program presentation.

### **January 5, 2020**

Happy New Year!! Discussion of the upcoming events for the new year.

Distribution of the 2020 Members' Booklet and a quick review of important information and changes. Feast/Day of the Three Kings (Dzien Trzech Kroli) material were available.

Dr. Frank Kozlowski presented Part 3 of his very interesting program about Poland's history.

**February and March, 2020** Stay Warm and Safe

We took a "Winter Break" from meetings during these two months because dangerous winter weather often leads to meeting cancellation, which are always an inconvenience for all concerned. So, instead, we looked into the possibility of arranging for the showing of movies at the Steele Memorial Library in Elmira, hopefully on one Saturday afternoon in each of these months. Members were encouraged to check their emails for information/updates as those months drew nearer. Suggestions and recommending a movie were welcomed.

**April 19 and May 17, 2020** No Meeting - Covid 19

**August 20, 2020** - No Picnic - Covid 19

Deceased Members: Charlene Helen Domoracki Prior and Alojzy Niesluchowski

Future Meetings: Pawel Bakowski will discuss the writings of world-acclaimed Polish Author Olga Tokarczuk.

Mike Mize will tell us about Czarnina. More members will discuss their Poland trip.

# THE POLISH CULTURAL CLUB OF GREATER HARTFORD, INC. (PCCGH)

## ANNUAL REPORT July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020

### **Summer 2019**

Two exceptional and long-serving members of the PCCGH and ACPC passed away on June 21, 2019 -- Clifford George Archie and Mary Mazurek Heslin. Both will be greatly missed.

### **September 2019**

The Club hosted a vendor table at St. George Episcopal Church's Craft Fair in Bolton, CT where various Polish items were sold.

### **October 2019**

The Club hosted a vendor table at the "2019 Polish Genealogy Conference" at Central CT State University in New Britain attended by individuals from across the United States.

President Lilia Kieltyka attended the ACPC Fall Board meeting in Syracuse, NY.

On October 27, the United Polish Societies of Hartford (Centrala) held their annual Distinguished Service Award banquet. Honored among the three recipients was PCCGH member Frances T. Pudlo.

### **November 2019**

On November 8 and 9, a pierogi-making session for the PCCGH Szopka Festival was held with the assistance of members from the Ladies Guild of Sacred Heart Church in New Britain. A total of 115 dozen cheese/potato and 52 dozen farmer's cheese pierogi were made.

200 guests attended a collaborative film event called "Mission of Honor" which was held on Sunday, November 17 sponsored by the PCCGH, the S.A. Blejwas Endowed Chair in Polish Studies, and the Polish National Home. The movie is based on the true story of the heroic Kosciuszko 303 Squadron fighter pilots who helped the British Royal Air Force (RAF) win the Battle of Britain during WWII. Original items from the curated collection of the Kosciuszko 303 Squadron memorabilia were also on display.

On November 19, Marek Czarnecki and Lilia Kieltyka were guest speakers on internet radio (ICVRADIO) discussing Polish holiday traditions. The PCCGH Annual Meeting, Food Drive, and Turkey Drawing took place at the Polish National Home on November 20.

### **December 2019**

The 39th Annual Szopka Festival and Competition was held on December 1 at the Polish National Home in Hartford. It was attended by hundreds of visitors who enjoyed the beautiful szopkas made by students, ethnic food, shopping, and experience of a Polish Christmas Festival. Proceeds benefit the Club's Jennie Marconi-Javorski Scholarship Fund.

The Club's annual Wigilia celebration was held at the Polish National Home in Hartford on December 14. Eighty-one guests enjoyed a traditional meatless meal followed by the singing of kolędy.

## **January 2020**

Sadly, the Club and ACPC experienced another irreplaceable loss – Anna-Mae Maglaty – who died on January 25.

## **February 2020**

Due to a date conflict, the 6th Annual Pączki na Karnawał was not held but instead dozens of pączki were donated to the Hartford Polish Scouts who hosted a gathering of Polish Scouts from the Eastern region for International Thinking Day.

## **March 2020**

On March 7, Marek Czarnecki presented a live on-line lecture for the Knights of Columbus Museum in New Haven called “Marian Iconography – History of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Sacred Art.” Over 200 viewers signed on, including some from Australia, Singapore, Japan, and Canada.

## **April 2020**

A new dedicated fund was established in memory of Anna- Mae Maglaty. The proceeds will be used for an annual “Anna-Mae Maglaty Literary Competition” for local Polish-American youth. The competition will have a connection with the ACPC’s Wachtel Literary Award.

## **May 2020**

No applications for the Club’s Jennie Marconi-Javorski Scholarship were received. However, two PCCGH members received the 2020 ACPC Pulaski Scholarship – Beata Kaminska-Kordowska and Kamila Orzechowska.

Unfortunately many Club activities and programs scheduled through June were cancelled in mid-March due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We all look forward to the days ahead when the Club can be active again.

Respectfully submitted,

*Virginia M. Pudlo* Historian

May 31, 2020 (updated July 9, 2020)





# The Polish American Cultural Society of Metropolitan St. Louis

## Annual Report for June 2019 - May 2020

### August 2019

On the 11<sup>th</sup> we celebrated Mass and Dozynki at St John the Baptist Church in Smithton, IL. Followed by a Dinner in the parish school's hall.

### October 2019

- On the 19<sup>th</sup> we held the Polonez Ball at the Sunset Hills Country Club in Sunset Hills, MO. Joining us this year was the Honorary Consul of the Republic of Poland, Wojciech Golik and the Honorary Consul Emeritus in St. Louis, Mr. Robert Ogrodnik.
- This year's Charles Merrill Jr. Scholar attending Thomas Jefferson School and a Presentee was Emilia Dominika Gron. Ms. Gron is from Nowy Sącz, Poland and is currently studying English, French, and Government.
- Ms. Emma Caroly Skubish was also presented. Ms. Skubish is the daughter of Richard and Rebecca Skubish. She has earned a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Illinois in Chicago and is working towards her masters in science.
- The Alexandra Ballet performed "Napoli Excerpt Tarentella" with music by Paulli and Helsted, and choreographed by August Bournonville.
- The PACS choir led the guests in a touching rendition of Orzel Bialy followed by the Polonez dance performed by members of the PACS.

### December 2019

On the 22<sup>nd</sup> we celebrated Wigilia at the Greenbriar Hills Country Club. The Society's choir sang Koledy. Fr. Stanley Konieczny told the story of Wigilia and Msgr. Ted Wojcicki gave the invocation after which we all shared in the opłatek.

Due to the pandemic we have cancelled all of our social events for 2020.

We continue to publish a newsletter and the Hejnal to members throughout the United States.

### **PACS Board of Directors: 2019 - 2020**

President – Robert Szydłowski 4003 Shenandoah Ave St. Louis, MO 63110  
314-952-2328 – Cell 3 4-773-8384 – Fax [pacs-stl@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pacs-stl@sbcglobal.net)

1<sup>st</sup> Vice Pres. - Eleanor Brzezinski 9148 Pardee Spur St. Louis MO 63126  
314-843-4316 [edandelli@aol.com](mailto:edandelli@aol.com)

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Pres. – Anthony Mihulka 723 Oak Hill Lane Ballwin, MO 63021  
314-861-2282 [amihulka@swbell.net](mailto:amihulka@swbell.net)

Recording Sec. - Geraldine Koziatsek 246 Kingshill Drive St. Louis, MO 63141  
[gmdkoz@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gmdkoz@sbcglobal.net)

Treasurer - TBD Sgt at Arms - TBD

Chaplin - Fr. Stanley Konieczny St. John the Baptist 10 S. Lincoln Street Smithton, IL 62285

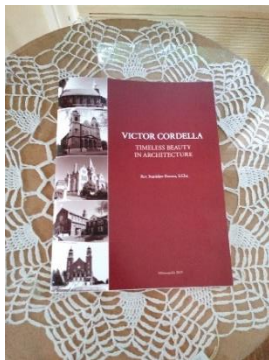
## Polish American Cultural Institute of Minnesota Affiliate Report 2019-2020

The past year and a half has marked an important transition time. In the Spring 2020, a new leadership team took the helm of an organization with a proud 36-year history but one in need of fresh thinking in programming, accountability to members and higher standards of professional excellence.

In a challenging environment, the efforts of a small group of dedicated volunteers resulted in success in history-related, literary and performing arts programming. Of special note were



- **A performance by Poland's ATOM Jazz String Quartet in March 2019** at Orchestra Hall in Minneapolis as part of their first U.S. tour. This event illustrated a distinctly modern flavor in Polish music, a new dimension of Polish culture



- **National recognition by the Polish American Historical Association in January 2020** for a team of researchers that included 2013 PACIM scholarship recipient Michael Retka of Little Falls. Together with Fr. Stanislaw Poszwa and Fr. Spencer Howe of Holy Cross Church in Minneapolis, and Wisconsin historian Geoffrey Gyrisko, they brought to life the story of Krakow-born architect Victor Cordella. Cordella changed the face of religious expression in Minnesota through church architecture for many faith communities with plans

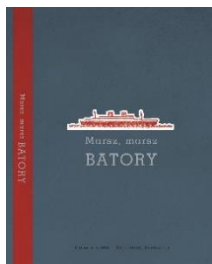
that included a monastery in St. Cloud. The quartet earned a Scalny Civic Achievement award from PAHA for their work, which remains ongoing. The group plans to present additional research at PAHA's virtual meeting in January 2021

- **Revival of *Polam* newsletter** After a six-month absence in 2019-early 2020, PACIM resumed publication of its newsletter in a magazine format

### Our Literary Team's Leadership

We wish to especially salute our PACIM Literary Fund team that includes Krystyna Borgen, Kasia Leville, Ela Haftek and Renata Stachowicz. Through generosity of time, talent and treasure, these women and others attracted famed author Olga Tokarczuk to Minnesota in August 2018, a year before she won a Nobel Prize for literature.

Our Literary Fund was designed in 2017 to provide fiscal and programming flexibility to attract leading authors, poets and actors. Speaker guests have included Polish authors Hanna Cygler and Filip Springer and Polish American authors Anthony Bukowski and James Conroyd Martin.



This year we were hoping to earn a visit from Aleksandra Katkowska and Barbaar Caillott Dubus, Polish authors of the memoir *Marsz Marsz Batory* about the famed Polish ocean liner and her immigrant passengers and her journeys from the 1930s through the 1960s. That effort was scuttled as the COVID-19 crisis gripped America and led to a travel ban from Europe.

## Virtual Revival & Take Out Cuisine

The fallout from coronavirus-related restrictions has impacted PACIM's financial operations this past year. On March 12, we suspended all in-person culinary and crafts events and language classes. We resumed on line classes soon thereafter and in July held our first literary webinar featuring author and ACPC member Catherine Hamilton and her work *Victoria's War*.

Though painful, this pause nevertheless has provided an opportunity to reassess our long-term goals and redeploy assets in a way to both honor traditions and build new ones. Plans were underway to host a take-out version of the PACIM's annual Polish soup festival this fall.

Minnesota was once a national leader in promoting Polish culture and advancing a deeper artistic global understanding of Polonia. These leaders and accomplishments included:

- The First Gray Samaritan nurses to volunteer to go to Poland to assist with rebuilding after World War I
- The first best-selling English language Polish cookbook \_ *Treasured Polish Recipes* in 1948
- A Pulitzer Prize nominated poetess, Victoria Janda, who had multiple leadership roles at ACPC
- A world-renown and Pulitzer Prize nominated classical music conductor, Stanisław Skrowaczewski, who led the Minnesota Orchestra and composed dozens of orchestral and chamber works

Can this legacy of light, courage, beauty and truth be renewed by another generation of Polish Americans in Minnesota and elsewhere in an era when live festivals and performances are considered by some as a menace to public health? Or when secular and academic leaders give tacit approval to violent displays of ignorance? That is the question of our time.



**Annual Report for ACPC July, 2019 to May, 2020**

**July/August, 2019:**

No events during summer.

**September , 2019:**

**September 2-8, 2019:**

Annual Polish American Festival was held at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa in Doylestown, PA. Many of our members volunteer at the Shrine, and participated with their families in the Festival.

September 4-8, 2019. Annual ACPC Convention was held in Warsaw, Poland. Many affiliates and their members were in attendance, as well as members from the Polish Heritage Society of Philadelphia.

**October, 2019:**

Sunday, October 6, 2019. Officers/Directors and Members of the Polish Heritage Society of Philadelphia marched in the Annual Pulaski Day Parade. Some of our members and their families dressed in original Polish costumes. We had 2 decorated cars driven by Marie Hejnosz and the Wojcik Family. Our banner was carried by Andrew Pustelniak, Peter Obst and Leo Cimoch. Marching with her two grandchildren was Diana Blichasz, Tiffany Loomis and her dog Misha. In addition, joining our group were college students from the Drexel University Polish Club.

Sunday, October 27, 2019 – Congratulations to the Kosciuszko Foundation, Philadelphia Chapter on the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of their founding at the American Revolution in Center City Phila. The Polish Heritage Society of Philadelphia also contributed as a sponsor.

**December, 2019:**

Saturday, December 7, 2019 – Annual Christmas Gala, in conjunction with the Kosciuszko Foundation, Philadelphia Chapter was held at the Spring Mill Manor CC in Ivyland, PA. The evening consisted of cocktails, sit down dinner, dancing to the music of the Krystof Medena Group, together with our famous Chance Raffle. The Polish Heritage Society of Philadelphia raised over \$6,000.00 at the Gala, which proceeds benefitted our Scholarship Program.

**January, 2020:**

Sunday, January 26, 2020 – All members, future members were invited to an open house and a pot luck dinner which was held at the Associated Polish Home. The theme was to promote and recruit new members to the Polish Heritage Society of Philadelphia. We also toasted in the New Year with music by Wojciech Hollender, sharing the opiatek, and singing of Polish/English koledy.

**February, 2020:**

On Thursday, February 6, 2020 a board meeting was held at Maria's Ristorante. Topic of discussions were: Annual Chopin Concert, Selection of Nominating Chair for April Elections, Mass and Scholarship Luncheon in May at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa in Doylestown, PA.

**Page 2 (continued):**

**March/April, 2020:**

Due to the Virus and Isolation, the following events were cancelled:

March 22<sup>nd</sup> – Our Annual Chopin Concert at the Settlement Music Center with guest artist: Martin Labazevitch

April 5<sup>th</sup> – General Meeting and Elections of Officers/Directors for the 2020-2022 Year.

**May, 2020:**

May 3, 2020 – Annual Mass and Scholarship Luncheon at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa in Doylestown, PA., was cancelled due to the virus and isolation. However, the Scholarship Committee this year awarded eight (8) scholarships at \$1,000.00 each to very worthy students. Since there was no official gathering, congratulatory letters and a check were sent to the students. Many acknowledgement notes were received from the students.

In addition, the mass was streamed live (without participation) by the Pauline Fathers at the Shrine.

**Condolences:**

Unfortunately, we lost two (2) of our contributors and advocates of Polonia:

Edward Pinkowski – January, 2020

Joseph L. Zazyczny – March, 2020

**Submitted by:**

Jean Joka

President

**Executive Officers:** Jean Joka, President; Marie Hejnosz, Vice President; Debbie Majka, Treasurer; Diana Blichasz, Recording Secretary; Teresa Wojcik, Corresponding Secretary.

**Directors:** Dr. Frederick Brodzinski, Tiffany Loomis, Irene Musman, Barbara Nowicki, Peter Obst, Dolores Szymanski, Ph.D, John Wisniewski, and Margaret Zaleska, Ph.D.

**Board Appointed:** Liz Whitman, Membership Secretary; Eleanor Kirbyson, Sunshine Secretary, Dolores Szymanski, Ph.D, Scholarship Chair

**CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK**  
Polish Heritage Society of Philadelphia | Facebook  
[www.polishcultureacpc.org/orgs/PHSP.html](http://www.polishcultureacpc.org/orgs/PHSP.html)

## Polish Arts Club of Trenton, New Jersey 2020 Scholarship Award Recipients

*In Loving Memory and Honor of  
Stanley Joe Sr. and Stephanie B. Winowicz  
Presented to*

***Kyle Joseph Holler***

Son of Keith and Carolyn Holler  
Holy Cross Prep Academy, Plans to attend St. Charles Borromeo Seminary College

***Emil Mieczysław Jagielski***

Son of Pawel and Anna Jagielski  
Trenton Catholic Academy, Plans to attend Catholic University in Lublin Poland

***Sebastian Jacob Kloda***

Son of Tomasz and Jadwiga Kloda  
Pennsbury High School, Plans to attend Temple University

***Alexandra Anna Kwasniewski***

Daughter of Michal and Anna Kwasniewski  
Lawrence High School, Plans to attend Mercersburg College,

***Karolina Leleniewski***

Daughter of Zdzisław and Katarzyna Leleniewski  
Lawrence High School, Plans to attend Temple University

***Thomas Joseph Milewski***

Son of Krzysztof and Kamilla Milewski  
Northern Burlington High School, Plans to attend Montclair State University

***Victoria Ptak***

Daughter of Mirosław and Agnieszka Ptak  
Hamilton High West, Plans to attend Rowan College Burlington County

***William Earl Richards***

Son of Kenneth and Denise Richards  
Nottingham High School, Plans to attend New Jersey Institute of Technology

***Angela Caroline Siwarski***

Daughter of Dariusz and Ryszarda Siwarski  
Notre Dame High School, Plans to attend The College of New Jersey

***Dennis Nicholas Skiba***

Son of Nikolay Bagutsky and Dorota Skiba  
Pennsbury High School, Plans to attend University of Pittsburg

***Kevin Stanley Skiba***

Son of Nikolay Bagutsky and Dorota Skiba  
Pennsbury High School, Plans to attend Weidner University

***Erin Jana Swierczyna***

Daughter of John and Stacie Swierczyna  
Steinert High School East, Plans to attend The College of New Jersey

***Ewelina Maria Zajchowski***

Daughter of Dariusz and Ewa Zajchowski  
Lawrence High School, Plans to attend Rider University



# Memorials to a Great Polish American Fundraiser

Next time you are in Chicago or Los Angeles take a moment to visit two sculptures. Both feature a great Polish American whose personal sacrifices helped win the Revolution -- Haym Salomon. The Chicago one depicts Salomon standing to the right of George Washington in the photo below to the left. The Los Angeles one is in Pan Pacific Park, shown below to the right.

Thaddeus Kosciuszko's engineering skills built West Point and fortifications that turned the tide at the Battle of Saratoga. Casimir Pulaski formed and led the cavalry, and died for freedom. Salomon gathered the financial resources to supply Washington's army throughout the war and ensured we had the means to defeat the British at Yorktown in 1781 – an amount believed to be the equivalent of more than \$9 billion in current dollars. Salomon died at age 44 just four years after the war from a relapse of illness he suffered in New York while in British custody as a spy.

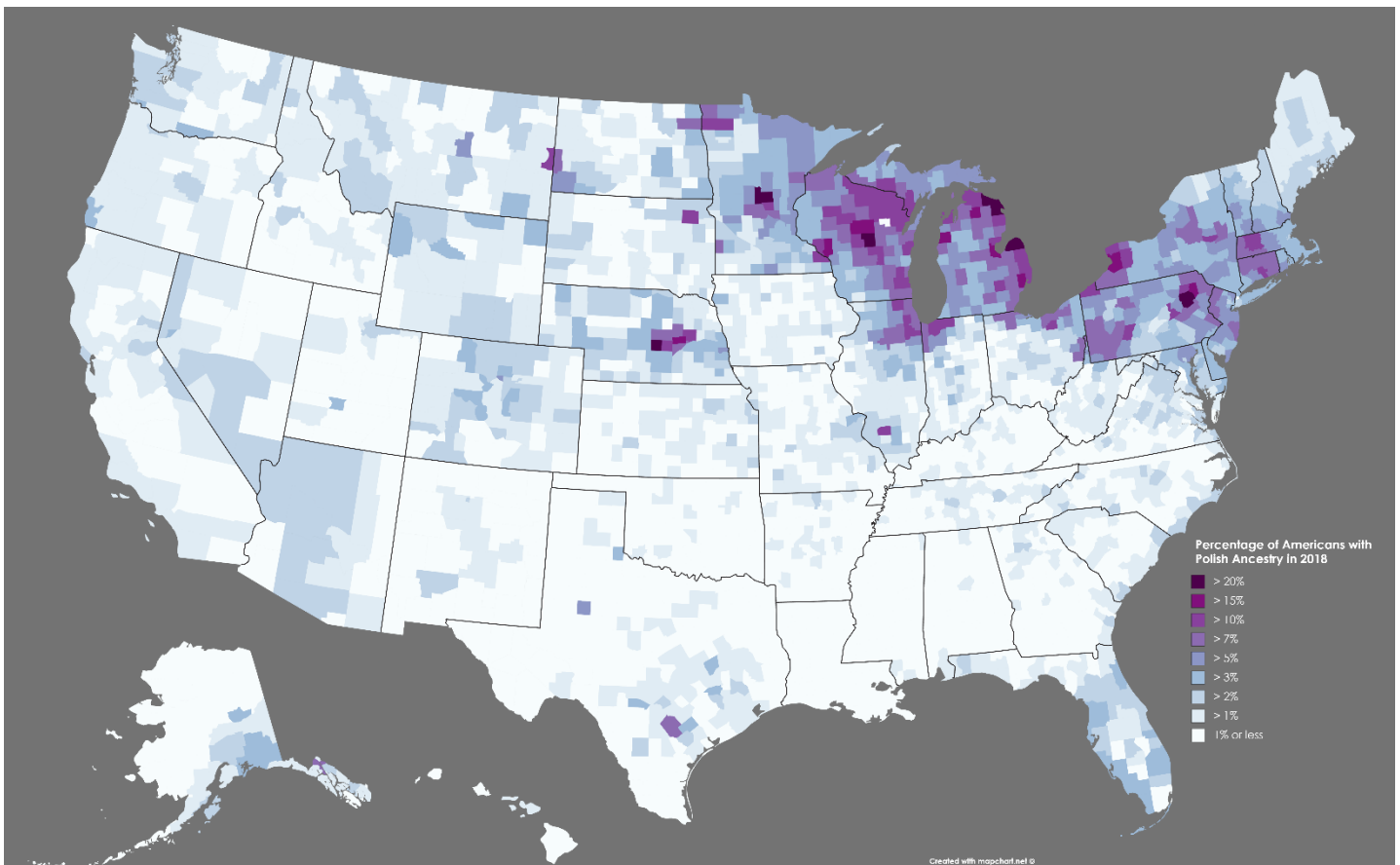
Salomon was born in 1740 in Leszno, a city between Poznan and Wroclaw, to Jewish parents whose family fled religious persecution in Portugal and Spain in the late 15<sup>th</sup> century. Salomon emigrated to New York at age 35 around the time of the first partition of Poland, and became a merchant banker and member of the city's Sons of Liberty chapter. He escaped a British jail and built a new life in Philadelphia. A newspaper obituary described him as "an eminent broker of this city, a native of Poland, and of the Hebrew nation. He was remarkable for his skill and integrity in his profession, and for his generous and humane deportment."

The Chicago sculpture, the work of Loreda Taft, was dedicated a week after the bombing of Pearl Harbor in December 1941. The Los Angeles one stands at 12 feet and 13 tons, was erected in January 1944, and was carved by Robert Paine (a descendent of Thomas Paine). It has been moved to different locations four times, once in the 1950s because of anti-Semitic vandalism.



# A Snapshot of American Polonia

The map below shows county by county distribution of the 9.2 million persons who self-identify as having Polish ancestry as estimated two years ago by the U.S. Census Bureau. Darkest areas show a more than 20% concentration as part of each region's overall population. In Nebraska these are counties west of Lincoln. In Minnesota, this is the area around Little Falls. In Pennsylvania, this is the Wilkes-Barre region, In New York, this is Buffalo. In Wisconsin, the Stevens Point region is highest. In Texas, the county south of San Antonio near Panna Maria is highest. The Census Bureau is expected to release a 2019 update of this data, gathered as part of its periodic American Community Survey, later this fall. Separate aggregate data being gathered as part of the 2020 US Census will be released in December and March 2021.



Source: US Census Bureau 2018 American Community Survey

# In This Dark Hour

By Victoria Janda

Where can we turn to flee in this dark hour,  
The darkest hour of this or any age  
When work falls from the hand bereft of power  
And bitter tear blot out the printed page;  
When man has turned to vulture in the sky  
And swoops with evil portent on our tower.  
Take Poland's lore of legend, history, song  
A priceless warp, and fit it to the loom;  
Then spin and weave a fabric, fine yet strong,  
Of dreams and deeds to last beyond the tomb.  
To shine with tears, to beat with burning thought

—

A fabric dark with grief, yet nobly wrought!

*A Pulitzer Prize-nominated author and social worker, Victoria Janda (b. 1888, Nowy Targ, d. 1961 in Minneapolis) published three books of poetry, served as president of the Polanie Club, Inc., in Minnesota, and was first executive secretary of the International Institute of St. Paul, Minnesota. Her books include Singing Furrows (1953), Star Hunger (1942), and Walls of Space (1945). She was member of the Board of Directors of ACPC throughout during the 1950s and was appointed its historian in 1958. Her civic involvement began during World War I, when she was the only woman to serve on the Citizens Aid Society in Minneapolis.*

