



Founded in 1979 as a WI non-profit organization to promote Polish Heritage through educational, cultural, charitable and social activities.  
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**LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Thanksgiving, 2016

Your meal is probably still digesting, and hopefully there is not too much guilt about overconsumption of goods that your loved ones prepared for everyone present. Nowadays we have many reasons to be thankful. Let us hope that Thanksgiving will recharge our internal batteries to provide goodness to the people around us.

With the onset of December, it is time to prepare ourselves for celebrating the Christmas season. In Polish tradition, the Christmas Eve Wigilia brings families together to forgive each other, nourish each other, and provide each other with inspiration. Our Polish Club's Wigilia is Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Goodman Center. This is a very important holiday in Poland, and we hope that everyone at our celebration will feel welcomed and among friends. I am honored to be MC, and I hope that the warmness of the Polish Wigilia customs will reach your heart.

In the beginning of December there is going to be a physical inventory of items the club has to offer at yearly events. If you would like to help, please contact me, or any Director.

The Board of Directors is planning next year's events which include our Annual Meeting on January 22<sup>nd</sup> at Lakeview Lutheran Church. Please reserve the date on your calendar to participate in the event, and help enhance the Club's present in the Madison area.

I am looking forward to meeting you at the Wigilia and then at the Annual meeting.

Z poważaniem,  
Ryszard Zolnik  
President, Polish Heritage Club of WI-Madison

*coming events:*

Dec 2 First Friday Breakfast Friends

Dec 3 Wigilia - reservations were due Nov 21.

If ques. contact: [phcwisconsin@gmail.com](mailto:phcwisconsin@gmail.com)  
or text/call Laurie Ross (608) 334-3324

Dec 4 Madison Polish Film Festival 1 & 3 pm

9 Dec Author Donna Urbikas, 315 W Gorham St.

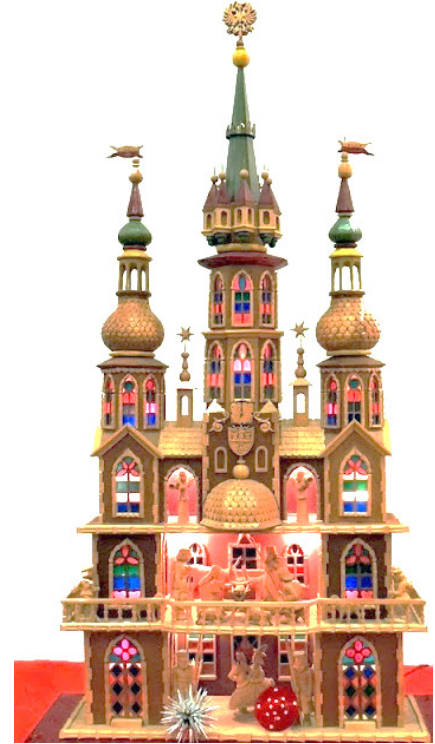
Jan 22 ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTIONS

Details in January newsletter.

\*Your membership must be current to vote at the Meeting\* A Membership Blank was included with the Nov. Wigilia Reservation, and is on our website. We appreciate your prompt renewal!

**Krakovian Szopki**

*SHOPE-kah, plural: SHOPE-key - crib, little shed*



*Brania Szopka, Irena Frączek photo, 2014 Wigilia*

1 Dec KRAKÓW, Main Market Square: In the morning szopki are displayed at the Mickiewicz Monument. After the noon bugle call, they are carried in a procession around the square to the stage. The best are displayed in the Historical Museum. The city's architecture is used for the designs: St. Mary's Basilica, Wawel Castle, the Florian Gate, Sukiennice trade hall and the Barbican, with Bethlehem and historical figurines.

St. Francis of Assisi is credited with starting the nativity scene custom. Kraków's craftsmen made szopki that were carried door-to-door by carolers - some were 3 meters (~9') high for puppet shows with music. In 1937 more than 86 cribs were entered for competition, and it has become an annual event.

*For many years, Jerzy and Carin Brania brought their szopka to our club's Wigilia and the Christmas Bazaar. The carving process began in 1987 in Kraków - it took 3 years to hand carve the intricate pieces. Thank you Michael, Robert & Julie for continuing the tradition.*

**Wesołych Świąt Bożego Narodzenia**

Vess-OH-wik shvyont Boh-ZHE-go nar-od-ZEN-yah  
Happy Holiday of the Nativity of God

**Madison area:****1<sup>st</sup> Fri POLISH FRIENDS BREAKFAST**

9 am Monona Garden Restaurant, 6501 Bridge Rd, Monona  
Polish Kids Club [www.facebook.com/PolishKidsClubMadison](http://www.facebook.com/PolishKidsClubMadison)

**3 Dec 5 pm POLISH CLUB WIGILIA - RESERVATIONS were due Nov. 21**  
[phcwisconsin@gmail.com](mailto:phcwisconsin@gmail.com) or text/call Laurie (608) 334-3324

3 and 11 Dec WI Public TV's show Treasured Quilts of Wisconsin includes 'Portraits From My Polish Garden'

**4 Dec Madison Polish Film Festival, UW-Union South**  
**Marquee: BLINDNESS 1 pm, PLANET SINGLE 3 pm**

6 Dec 11:30 am WI Public TV - The WI Channel: Rick Steve's (repeat) 'Poland Rediscovered: Krakow, Auschwitz, Warsaw'

Author Donna Urbikas: 'My Sister's Mother - A Memoir of War, Exile, and Stalin's Siberia'

8 Dec 6 pm The Black Kettle, 139 N. Ludington, Columbus, WI

9 Dec 6 pm A Room of One's Own, 315 W Gorham, Madison

11 Dec 9:15 Tyrone and Janet Greive 'The spirit of Christmas in Music' includes Polish carols. Midvale Lutheran Church

until 16 Dec Wed-Sat, Edgewood College Gallery exhibit: 'Do Widzenia (goodbye until we see again)' Gostynin, Poland

**Old World Wisconsin:** Hwy 67, Eagle WI *Polish Holiday Dinner*  
3 & 4 Dec, 10 & 11 Dec



"Celebrating Polish immigrants coming to Wisconsin in the late 1800's. Enjoy four course (Mader's Restaurant catered) meal served in the beautifully decorated historic Clausung Barn and Syrenka Polish Children's Folk Dance Ensemble from Milwaukee performing in authentic regional costumes."

OWW Foundation (262) 594-2922

**Milwaukee:**

POLISH CENTER OF WISCONSIN, Franklin, WI (414) 529-2140

4 Dec Holiday Bazaar [www.polishcenterofwisconsin.org/](http://www.polishcenterofwisconsin.org/)

11 Dec 5 pm Wigilia - RESERVATIONS DUE BY DEC. 2

Polish customs, family-style meal \$25-40 and singing Kolędy  
BASILICA OF ST. JOSEPHAT, S. 6th St 'Christmas in the Basilica'  
9, 10, 11 Dec Bel Canto Chorus & Stained Glass Brass

NOV. ISSUE CORRECTION: 'Celebrate the Culture of Water' was the theme of the 73rd Annual Holiday Folk Fair International

**2017 22 Jan POLISH CLUB Annual Meeting and Elections**

**21 Feb 7 pm POLISH CLUB BOOK CLUB Kraków in the Middle Ages**

**25 Feb 10:30 - 4:30 POLISH CLUB at International Festival**

**9 April POLISH CLUB Spring Festival**

**26 Feb Farley's House of Pianos: All-Chopin**

**7- 9 April Madison Symphony: Witold Lutosławski Concerto for Orchestra 10 - 24 Dec HOLIDAY TICKET SALE:** Subject to availability.

- 20% off for seniors (62 and up) & students in most sections
- 25% off for groups of 15 or more •\$12-\$15 Student Rush for concerts

**Genealogy:****Dane County Area Genealogical Society [www.dcags.org](http://www.dcags.org)**

10 Dec 11 am 4505 Regent St. (at Segoe) Visitors welcome.  
*Show and Tell* - displays and stories of members and research.

**WI Historical Society [www.wisconsinhistory.org/](http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/)**

3 Dec 'Family History Projects' - "This workshop will provide guidance on many types of family history projects! .....an exciting day of sharing ideas, making plans to get the whole family interested in your family stories!" (608) 264-6519

13 Nov WI STATE JOURNAL story about Historical Soc. & others "Genealogical resources abound in the greater Madison area"

**WI State Genealogical Society [wsgs.org/index.php](http://wsgs.org/index.php)**

WEBINARS: "Those that log in first will be admitted...."

20 Dec 7 pm 'Eight Common Mistakes That Genealogists Make and How to Avoid Them' Presenter: Donald Schnitzler "This program highlights some of the common mistakes made by genealogists researching their family history as well as strategies that help overcome them. Discussion topics include basic research methodologies (alternate records selection tables), documenting and citing sources, use of research logs, and planning for the future." *Attendees will be able to:* Recognize & Avoid common mistakes made in genealogical research, Strategize for the best approach to finding missing pieces of info, Discuss and Apply elements of the Genealogical Proof Standard, Acknowledge/analyze inevitable contradictions in family records, Consider possible approaches to "passing on" genealogical work.

**Scholarships, Studies, Teaching, and Travel**

**Polish Heritage Club Scholarship due May 15** For WI residents post High School education. See PHCWI-Madison website.

**Wisconsin Study in Poland Scholarship** For undergrads at Jagiellonian Univ. 4 or 6 wks. SEE: Kosciuszko Found. website: <http://www.thekf.org/kf/programs/study/wsips/>

**UW-Milwaukee Summer Study in Poland 2017 July - Aug** at the John Paul II Catholic University, Lublin. Open to students and the general public. CONTACT: Professor Michael J. Mikoś, UW-Milwaukee (414) 229-4151 or [mikos@uwm.edu](mailto:mikos@uwm.edu) <https://uwm.edu/cie/summer-2016-faculty-led-programs/>

**UW-Madison Slavic Dept.** Edward I. Zawacki Award and Michael and Emily Lapinski Undergraduate Scholarship

**March is application deadline for teaching in Poland with WIESCO**

Wisconsin International Educational Scientific Cultural Organization  
<http://www.wiesco.org/>

**BURKHALTER TOURS to POLAND**

June 23 - July 2 PORTRAIT OF POLAND

tour # H2801 April 10 Final payment

CONTACT: Burkhalter Tours

608/833-1525; 800/556-9286

6501 Mineral Point Rd, Madison  
[tours@burkhaltertravel.com](mailto:tours@burkhaltertravel.com)



## CLUB AND MEMBER NEWS

### SUNSHINE CORNER! *Słoneczny Kącik*



You are welcome to share your news, stories, celebrations, birthdays, anniversaries. *Sto lat!*

12/8 Marian Krzyzostaniak  
12/13 Mabel Kuharski & Gabriel Buss  
12/15 Jane Dunn & Jean Wroblewski  
12/18 Pam Pasowicz 12/21 Ann Perry  
12/28 Marcia Flannery & Ann Schachtner  
12/24 Lori Chalecki & Laurie Ross 12/30 Sharon Pasowicz

*Happy Anniversary:* 12/17 Robert & Linda Kriz

12/13 Art & Raina Haralampopoulos  
12/21 Leonard & Mary Ellen Sosnowski  
12/26 Ryszard & Julita Zolnik

*Welcome to new members:* Deborah Agarwal Family,  
Sue Janczak, Carl Kopplin Family, Janusz Szylow

**8 Oct just before 2 am 40 year old Timoteo Lopez-Bacillio** died when his car hit a semi-truck. Known as "George" he is missed by many at Dairyland and Monona Gardens Restaurants - including the Polish Friends Breakfast Group. Since 2010 when Barb Lomperski started the group, it's met on the First Friday of the month - George was most often our waiter.

### **13 Oct Congratulations to Farah Fatupaito and Josh Schultz!**



"It was a beautiful Polynesian wedding in Green Bay. Farah's father is from Samoa, a group of Polynesian islands in the Pacific Ocean - about halfway between Hawaii and New Zealand. During the Christmas season of 2015 the Fatupaito family from Wisconsin joined relatives in Samoa in celebrating a

Family Reunion. It was an exceptional vacation for my two Fatupaito grand-daughters who fell in love with most everything Samoan. Our family has always proudly remembered and enjoyed our ancestry." ~Marie Revolinski and Family  
Farah's family has contributed in many ways for many years at Polish Heritage Club events. She is the daughter of Sue and Pita Fatupaito, and granddaughter of Marie Revolinski, Past-President & Founder of the club's Christmas Bazaar in 2007.

**20 Nov our member Dolores "Val" Hurlburt**, age 88 passed away sitting in her chair. Since 2012 she mailed this newsletter with Ronni Guski & me. We'll miss her & her stories. ~RoseM

### **11 Dec 9:15 am Midvale Lutheran Church, 4329 Tokay Blvd.**

**Honorary PHCW-Madison members Tyrone & Janet Greive** "will present a musical program titled 'The spirit of Christmas in Music.' Unlike the Greives' previous December programs, Janet will sing rather than play the cello. Tyrone and Nancy Linder will play the violin and piano, respectively, and vocalists Nan Faith & Lloyd Bostain also will be featured. The program will include a wide variety of musical selections, including a sing-along of popular carols, designed to stimulate the holiday spirits of those who attend!" (Polish carols included.)



**6 Nov The Polish American Congress - Wisconsin Division** at the Polish Center in Franklin, WI presented the 2016 Congressman Clement Zablocki Civic Achievement Awards to:

- Fr. Tim Kitzke - pastor of Three Holy Women Parish's beautiful churches: St. Hedwig, St. Casimir, Mary of Czestochowa;
- Dean Stanley Jaskolski - Emeritus of Marquette University;
- Rep. Ken Skowronski - Pres. of the Polish Heritage Alliance;
- Maj. Leonard Jedrzejczak - battle of Monte Cassino veteran.

*Special Recognition:*

- St. John Paul II Catholic Polish Saturday School - teaches language, culture, geography, religion;
- St. Josephat Basilica Foundation - raises funds for one of America's greatest landmarks of religious faith, Polish pride;
- Sisters of St. Joseph Third Order of St. Francis - 115<sup>th</sup> anniversary of founding in Stevens Point as Polish Sisters of St. Joseph.

**More about the honorees:** <http://pacwisconsin.com/>

**16 Nov THE CAPITAL TIMES "Immigrant ingenuity: Five Madison immigrants persevere in building businesses"**  
[www.facebook.com/foilfencingcracovia/](http://www.facebook.com/foilfencingcracovia/) From Lisa Speckhard's story was about Krystyna Kostecka and her Cracovia Olympic Foil Fencing School. "Life in Poland under communism...was 'pretty gray.'...It's good we still have people who remember this and who witnessed this," she said. Store shelves were often empty. Sometimes, the only items available were jam and vinegar. Clothing options and consumer choices of any kind were few. Kostecka was born in 1957 in Przemyśl, PL. At 13, she discovered a talent and passion for fencing, and was trained under Olympic fencing coach Leszek Stawick..."  
*Krystyna and her students demonstrated fencing at our 2010 Polish Club Picnic. Last April she moved her business from Odana Rd. to 622 Struck St. Best wishes, Krystyna!*

### **21 Feb 7 pm BOOK CLUB: Middle Ages in Kraków**

**500 - 1500 AD** Thank you to Ralph and Karleen Tyksinski who will host us at their east Madison home. Please contact them about your coming [revralph341@yahoo.com](mailto:revralph341@yahoo.com) or (608) 873-6041  
*Some info. sources:*

ONLINE:

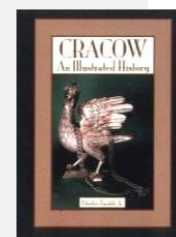
• **Kraków's Rynek Underground exhibition:** daily life in Kraków a few centuries ago, connections between the city and medieval Europe...<http://www.mhk.pl/exhibitions/6>

IN MADISON LIBRARY:

• **King Krakus and the Dragon** by Janina Domanska  
• **The Trumpeter of Krakow** by Eric P. Kelly A family from Kresy fled to Kraków in 1461 after their home is burned to the ground by the Cossack-Tartars. Stories of John Kanty /Saint John Cantius, early chemistry, alchemy, chrysopoeia.

FROM AMAZON.COM:

• **Cracow: An Illustrated History** by Zdzislaw Zygluski "a panoramic view of Cracow, from its mythical founding..."  
• **A History of Krakow for Everyone** by Jan M. Małecky "fascinating story... superb guide, peppered with curiosities"



## Gloria's Quilt Stories

**Congratulations to Gloria Welniak.** Her quilt "**Mending Broken Hearts**" was juried into the 2016 WI Quilt Expo's challenge contest "Black & White Plus One Color" and will be in a travelling show until the end of 2017. The tour began in Fredericksburg, VA in Sept. and goes on to Schaumburg, IL, Minneapolis, Atlanta, Lakeland, FL, Cleveland, Raleigh, NC and ends up in Arlington, TX, Aug., 2017.



"**My Polish Roots**" was one of 12 accepted in a challenge by the national quilt magazine QUILTING ARTS. It will be published in the Feb/Mar 2017 issue, and online at [quiltingdaily.com](http://quiltingdaily.com).



"**Portraits From My Polish Garden**" her 40" wide by 64" high quilt was shown at our club's 2012 Christmas Bazaar, the 2013 WI Quilt Expo, the Sun Prairie Quilt Show (Honorable Mention) 2014, and in a one person show at the Madison Public Library-Pinney Branch.



*Gloria's mom (infant) and Aunt Helen ~1910*



*Information Gloria gave to Wisconsin Public TV:*

**Please tell us what inspired you to create this quilt.**

This quilt had its genesis in a genealogical search of my Polish ancestors who migrated from Poland in the early 1900's and settled in Nebraska and Wisconsin. Photos given to me by my mother and collected throughout my life from other family members needed to be put in some form to be viewed by others. Deeply invested in Polish cultural traditions, my Polish American extended family took great pride in expressions of their heritage. The many family stories of triumph and hardships strengthened the bond with my past. I wished to preserve the photos and coalesce them into a single statement. It occurred to me that the presentation of the family members in a garden setting would symbolize the strength and courage which springs from their Polish roots and the presence of their spirits which live on in every garden I cultivate.

**Please tell us about your process - how long did it take to finish, what did you learn.... use any unique techniques or materials?**

Once the photographs were gathered, scanned by computer and stored in digital files, it was possible to alter sizing and other features, keeping the effects as close to the originals as possible and enhancing them enough to print clearly. Photographs of flowers from my garden were also scanned and similarly treated. Photo image transfer on fabric with an ink-jet printer was a new technique for me but thanks to expert instructions and materials available from artist Lesley Riley and Dharma Trading Company, the process went smoothly. Images were printed on cotton fabric specially treated with an emulsion, heat-set and applied to garden setting backings by heat fusing and machine embroidery. Each of the blocks was framed with traditional log cabin piecing, layered with transparent tulle and netting, machine-pieced, and machine quilted.

**Is there anything else that is important for us to know about the story of your quilt?** While the digital processes and other techniques were contemporary, the embroidery, piecing and quilting brought me in a close kinship with my mother and grand-mother, both of whom were accomplished in sewing and "fancywork", as they called it. Several pieces of their embroidery and crochet were close by as I worked, and I drew much inspiration from the sense of continuing the handwork traditions of my ancestors. Though the ages of the photographs span over 100 years, their placement on the quilt is not chronological, but an intuitive arrangement reflected meaningful emotional symbiotic relationships which I assigned to them. The making of the quilt made me feel more connected with the past and to my Polish heritage and made me realize that a patchwork quilt can be made of many diverse yet related parts and like a garden, it can reflect its past and a future which can go on growing and evolving.

**"Portraits From My Polish Garden" is included in WI Public TV's TREASURED QUILTS OF WISCONSIN.**

**Repeats of the original Nov. 29 show:**

**Sat. 3 December 10:30 am on WPT (21)**

**Sat. 3 Dec 7 pm on Create (21-2)**

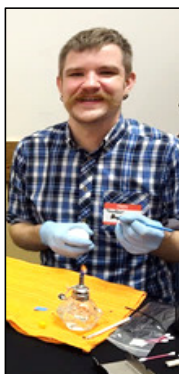
**Sun. 11 December 5 pm on WPT**

# 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Polish Christmas Bazaar

Saturday, November 5, 9 am – 3 pm

at St. Thomas Aquinas, on Madison's westside  
In BOLD = in picture. See more pictures on FB + website.

**Dziękuję to the 2016 Committee:** Linda Cagle, Gloria Welniak, Diane Turner, Andrea Rolich, Jane Dunn, Butch Luick, and Ted Ceplina - to all who made the 10<sup>th</sup> Bazaar an enjoyable event! (Please tell us if your name was inadvertently left off our list!)



**Artisans:** *Wianki* (head wreaths): Basia Pulz  
*Pisanki* (eggs): **Ted Ceplina**  
*Wycinanki*: Andrea Rolich, Sharon Brown  
**Chicago**: Butch Luick, Alice Kvalheim  
**Milwaukee Trip**: Jane Dunn  
**Bakery**: Ronni Guski, Mary Ann Reale, Angela Jakacki, Alice Kvalheim, Beata Wierzba



**Books:** L-Irene Swiggum, Natalie Dresen \_\_\_\_\_  
Kathy Rasmussen, Katia Krzozostaniak

**Buyers:**

Marie Revolinski, Jane Dunn, Marcia Flannery

**Checkout:**

**Cashiers/Credit Cards:** Doris Graiewski, Doug Wierzba, Diane Turner

**Receipts:** Dennis Schenborn, Nancy Wisniewski, Anne Evans, Roman Minyaylyuk,  
**Wrapping:** Norine Vedeges, Kathy Dayton



**Chef/Kitchen:** Butch Luick, Paul Morgan, Michael Armiak, Kasia Virgell

**Food Servers:** Laura Jasiczek, Marge Morgan, Judy Nelson, Julita Zolnik

**L-R: Paul Morgan, Linda Cagle, Marge Morgan**



**Kasia Virgell, Laura Jasiczek**  
(I. Fraczek photo)

**Pre-orders Pierogi etc:** Marge Morgan, Diane Pillsbury, Allan Patek **Lunch Tickets:** Tedd Mianowski, Michael Armiak

**Floaters:** Linda Cagle, Barbara Lomperski, Gloria Welniak **Genealogist:** Barb Glassel

**History:** Rose Meinholz, Mary Loheide, Diane Turner



**Greeters / Membership/ Registration:**  
L-Tom Serocki, Mike Lomperski

**Jewelry:**

Marie Revolinski, Laurie Ross, Marcia Flannery, Ann Schachtner  
Elaine Schenborn, Shelle Michalak

**Musicians:** Tom Wesokowski, Tom Eckes

**Mendota St. Transporters:**

Anne Evans, Linda Cagle, Ryszard, Julita & Adam Zolnik

**Oplatek/Straw:** Julie Brania

**Photographers:** Irena Fraczek, Kasia Virgell

**Poster Design:** Rhonda Proulx (Linda Cagle's sister) & Ian DeGraff (Christmas Tree Graphics)



**Poster Distribution :** Rose Meinholz, Diane Turner, Basia Pulz  
Linda Cagle, Barbara Lomperski, Tedd Mianowski, Marge & Paul Morgan, Andrea Rohlich, Gloria Welniak, Norine Vedegas, Kasia Virgell, Sandy Witte, John Zwadich,

**Pottery/Crafts/Toys:** Jane Dunn, Anne Evans

**Publicity:** Diane Turner, Gloria Welniak, Linda Cagle

**Road Sign Posting:** Marge Morgan

**Set-up:** Linda Cagle, Jane Dunn, Anne Evans, Doris Graiewski, Alice Kvalheim, Barbara Lomperski, Rose Meinholz, Marge Morgan, Paul Morgan, Marie Revolinski, Andrea Rolich, Joan Rubens, Irene Swiggum, Norine Vedeges, Gloria Welniak

**Szopka:** Julie, Michael and Robert Brania

**Take Down/Clean up:** Linda Cagle, Jane Dunn, Gloria Welniak, Alice Kvalheim, Rose Meinholz, Marie Revolinski, Marcia Flannery, Andrea Rolich, Joan Rubens, Irene Swiggum, Michelle Michalak, Anne Evans, Tomasz Jaroszyk, Allan Patek  
**Volunteer Recruiters:** Marge Morgan, Linda Cagle

**Silent Auction Organizer: Gloria Welniak** **Winners:**

John Zwadich - Polish Food Basket  
Mary Ann Preston - Traditional Holiday Centerpiece  
Claire Rynders - Polish Family Winter Activity Kit  
Don Wesolowski - Polish hand-blown glass vase  
Susan Dotski - Polish Collectibles



**Besides a new location.....new this year:**

Gloria Welniak recorded a PSA that ran on Monona's radio station. Sun Prairie's radio station put our press release into their station announcements rotation. TV Channel 57's interview of **Ryszard Zolnik and Marge Morgan** (J.Dunn photo) played several times on their Wisconsin Family (filmed at the Coliseum, same episode as Madison Capitals Hockey Team). Thank you to Publicity Chair Diane Michalski Turner, and all who helped tell others about our Bazaar. As usual, most people learned about our Bazaar from a friend or relative.

# 26<sup>th</sup> Madison Polish Film Festival

Presented by: Polish Student Association

University of Wisconsin-Madison

Marquee Theater

Union South

1308 W. Dayton

\*LINKS TO TRAILERS AND MUSIC ON PHCWI'S WEBSITE\*

## Sunday, December 4:



**1PM BLINDNESS / Zaćma**  
(2016, dir. R. Bugajski)

A little-known recount of an episode from the life of a sadistic Polish Communist interrogator haunted by the horror of her past crimes.



**3PM PLANET SINGLE / Planeta singli**  
(2016, dir. Mitja Okorn)

This romantic comedy follows the story of two young people. She is a music teacher and he is a talk-show host. He proposes that she become the heroine of his show. She will be dating over the Internet, and his program will reveal the true colors of the men flirting online and at the same time he will ridicule the naivety of women who turn to the Internet to find their ideal man.

Free Admission English Subtitles [polishfilmfest.com](http://polishfilmfest.com)



shown on Nov 20:

**KAMPER (2016, dir. L.Grzegorzek)**.....an eternal boy

**KARBALA (2015, dir. K.Lukaszewicz)**...a true 2004 war story

## Polish Films Win Awards

**Smolensk** dir. Antoni Krauze: "an investigative journalist with a large private television station is trying to probe all the circumstances surrounding the [April 2010] tragedy."

5 Sept WARSAW, National Opera – Official premiere

21 Sept GDYNIA, 41<sup>st</sup> Polish Film Festival special screening

**Communion** dir. Anna Zamecka: "Ola is 14 and takes care of her dysfunctional father, autistic brother and a mother who lives separately; but most of all she tries to reunite the family. Her 13 year old brother Nikodem's Holy Communion is a pretext for the family to meet up..."

7-16 Oct WARSAW, 32<sup>nd</sup> Film Festival Best Documentary

**The Last Family/Ostatnia Rodzina** dir. Jan Matuszynski: the relationship between the painter Zdzislaw Beksinski and his son Tomasz, a highly-praised music journalist.

14 Aug LOCARNO, Film Festival Golden Lion winner.

21 Oct KRAKÓW, Beksiński Gallery - 2 wks. after opening 10,000 people viewed paintings, drawings, and photos of deformed figures, abandoned buildings, intimidating shapes, fascinating forms.

**Grandma's Day** dir. Miłosz Sakowski: a young man tries to pull a scam on an elderly woman.

20 Nov DERRY, N. Ireland, Foyle Festival Best International Short

## Do Widzenia Exhibit Wed-Sat until 16 Dec

Edgewood Gallery, 1000 Edgewood College Dr. (608) 663-3252  
Agnieszka Ligendza, Assoc.Professor Graphic Design, & Digital Art, Coordinator of the Web Design & Development Program  
Nov 11 - Reception & Talk, Nov 16 Artists Coloquium

*"Returning to the homeland for a funeral and a final goodbye to one's childhood home is captured in photographs that become a source for healing the scars left by immigration."*

Artist statement:

I am an immigrant.

My family left my birthplace of Gostynin, Poland in mid-August (on the Feast of the Assumption of Mary—the patron saint of Poland) when I was seven years old. My last visual memory of my home town: lines of people standing outside stores waiting for the next morning's food rations in the dark.

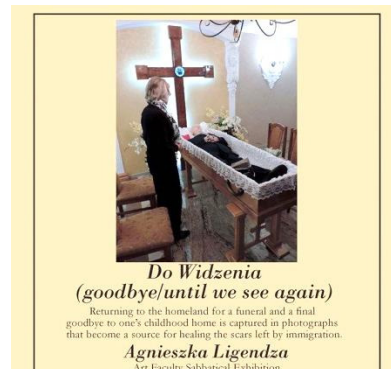
I was told that we were traveling to vacation by the Baltic Sea.

Later that day, after we crossed the West German border, I learned otherwise. My parents informed me that we were never going back. We instead drove to Nienburg (Germany) and arrived at some distant relatives' door step around supper time. They had no idea we were coming. Fortunately, they allowed us to stay.

Just over four months later, my family and I arrived in Detroit, Michigan seeking and finally getting political asylum status.

The work represented in this exhibition is my sabbatical work photographed at the time of the somewhat unexpected funeral of my maternal grandfather, who died at age 98. As I took these images, I knew that this likely will be the very last time I ever see my childhood home. The act of creating these images provided an excuse to distance myself from family drama at times and also to observe and record the place that I come from. The process of editing these intuitively photographed images allowed me to find understanding and forgiveness.

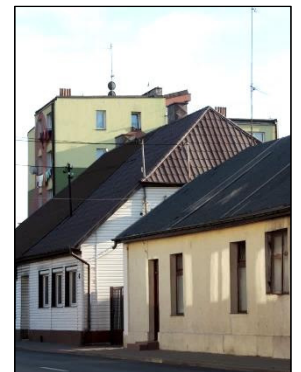
I am grateful to be here.



*Do Widzenia*  
(goodbye/until we see again)

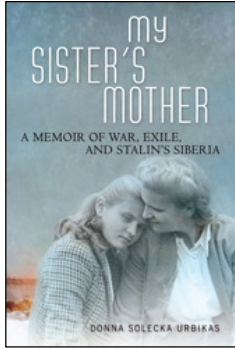
Returning to the homeland for a funeral and a final goodbye to one's childhood home is captured in photographs that become a source for healing the scars left by immigration.

Agnieszka Ligendza  
Art Faculty Sabbatical Exhibition



## Books....Wisconsin Connections

**My Sister's Mother** author Donna Urbikas speaks:



8 Dec 6 pm, The Black Kettle 139 N Ludington, Columbus, WI

9 Dec 6:00 - 7:30 pm, A Room of One's Own Bookstore  
315 W Gorham St, Madison

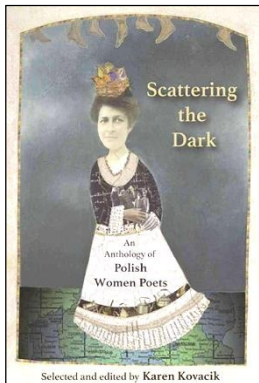
*MY SISTER'S MOTHER: A Memoir of War, Exile, and Stalin's Siberia.*  
pub. UW Press - April 27th, 2016

"This stunning, heartfelt memoir looks unflinchingly at the scars borne by one Polish immigrant family as their daughter tries to become a normal American girl in Chicago. A gripping study of family dynamics, this is also a must-read for WWII history buffs."-Leonard Kniffel, *A Polish Son in the Motherland*

Donna Solecka Urbikas grew up in the Midwest during the golden years of the American century. But her Polish-born mother and half-sister had endured dehumanizing conditions during World War II, as slave laborers in Siberia. War and exile created a profound bond between mother and older daughter, one that Donna would struggle to find with either of them. In this unforgettable memoir, Donna recounts her family history and her own survivor's story, finally understanding the damaged mother who had saved her sister."

### **Scattering the Dark: An Anthology of Polish**

**Women Poets** by Karen Kovacik PAST EVENT: Oct. 14 at Arts + Literature Laboratory, 2021 Winnebago St, Madison:  
"WATERSHED READING: WHIRLWIND WORLD POETRY TOUR  
A fast-paced evening of poems from Uruguay and Poland"



Karen Kovacik and UW-Madison Professor Jesse Lee Kercheval hosted a reading to "build bridges between countries and languages [and] share stories from the front line of translating, of two very different countries & languages— and bring along some food and drink to share too!"

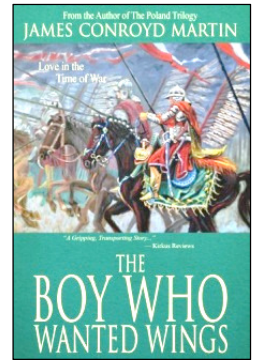
\*SEE OUR CLUB WEBSITE FOR A LIST OF THE POEMS READ THAT EVENING\*

"Karen Kovacik is a poet and translator of contemporary Polish poetry. *Scattering the Dark: An Anthology of Polish Women Poets*" includes over 30 of Poland's women poets writing before and after the fall of communism." She directs the creative writing program at Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis. Pub. April, 20016 White Pine Press. *These cosmopolitan, multilingual poets speak to us across the decades, overcoming a great silence, redirecting the myths, reimagining the role of the poet, and the nature of poetry itself. Scattering the Dark is a useful, subversive, even necessary anthology.*"—Edward Hirsch

### **The Boy Who Wanted Wings** by James Conroyd Martin

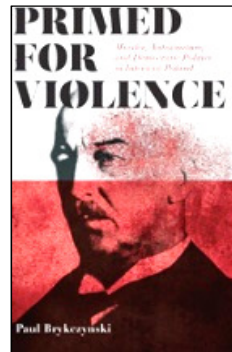
(a presenter at past WI Book Festivals)  
Pub. Hussar Quill Press - Aug. 31, 2016

"Aleksy, a Tatar raised by a Polish peasant family, holds in his heart the wish to become a Polish hussar..... On the eve of September 11, 1683, a massive Muslim Ottoman horde was besieging the gates of the imperial city of Vienna and had been doing so since the previous July...the vastly outnumbered Christian coalition, led by Polish King Jan III Sobieski and his famous winged hussars, descended Kahlenberg Mountain to engage the Turks in an attempt to lift the siege..."



### **Primed for Violence Murder, Antisemitism, and Democratic Politics in Interwar Poland**

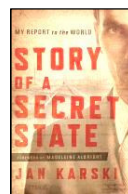
**The assassination that changed a nation** by Paul Brykczynski  
pub. UW Press - May 2016



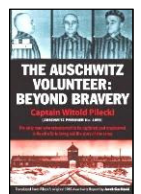
"In 1922, the new Republic of Poland democratically elected its first president, Gabriel Narutowicz. Because his supporters included a Jewish political party, an opposing faction of anti-Semites demanded his resignation. Within hours, bloody riots erupted in Warsaw, and less than a week later the president was assassinated. In the wake of these events, the radical right asserted that only "ethnic Poles" should rule the country, while the left silently capitulated to this demand..."

### **The Auschwitz Volunteer: Beyond Bravery**

by Captain Witold Pilecki is one of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL'S five best books on wartime secret missions. Nicholas Kristof called Pilecki "one of the great heroes of the 20th century."



**POLISH HERITAGE CLUB'S BOOK CLUB**  
2013 Feb *Story of a Secret State*  
by Jan Karski  
2014 Aug *The Auschwitz Volunteer*  
by Witold Pilecki



### **The Spirit of Jan Karski Award Ceremony | YouTube**

The award "is given to those who dedicate their lives to shining a light on human rights abuses and drawing public attention to humanitarian issues around the world." The 2016 Award was presented in NYC on Nov. 1 to Nicholas Kristof, New York Times columnist, two-time Pulitzer Prize-winner, and an influential voice drawing public attention to humanitarian issues around the world. He spoke about Karski, a heroic eyewitness to Nazi atrocities: "Imagine Karski in the 21st Century: What Should We Fight for Today?" Polish jazz guitarist Rafal Sarnecki Trio performed pre-war standards.

**Polish Heritage Club of Wisconsin, Inc. - Madison  
Group PO Box 45438 Madison, WI 53744-5438**

MEMBERSHIPS ARE FROM JAN 1 TO DEC 31 *Dziękuję!*

*Any questions, please call: (608) 831-8827*

*Checks payable to: Polish Heritage Club-Madison*

- Family (2 votes) \$25     Individual \$15  
 NEW     RENEWAL     GIFT     Scholarship Donation \$\_\_\_\_  
 Please email my 10x/year newsletter    (not tax deductible)  
 Yes     No    Include my information in Club's Membership Directory

Name

Address

Telephone

Email

GETTING TO KNOW YOU: Club activities you might like to help with:

- Book Group     Education     Auditing     Computer  
 Cooking     Events     Buying     Newsletter  
 Crafts     Genealogy     Inventory     Publicity  
 Displays     Music     Writing  
 Other:

Birthday(s):

Anniv :

Occupation/Business is/was:

Retired?

Polish Connection / where family lived in Poland:

1.00 USD = 4.17 Złoty **IN THE NEWS** various sources

POLAND: Registered unemployment fell to 8.2% in October.  
• Salmonella infected Polish eggs withdrawn from the market.  
• ~ 3.8 mil. children received PLN 500/month since April.  
• 45% happy with PM Szydło's govt's performance, 40% not.  
• Value of US investment in Poland is > \$40 billion.  
• >60% of businesses achieved a profit first half of 2016.

11 Nov 'Pro-Life' bill: PLN 4,000 payout for child severely disabled /incurable terminal illness + palliative/ rehab. care.

16 Nov Forecasted 2016 GDP lowered to 3.1% from 3.75%.

Parliament lowered retirement age to 65/men, 60 women.

23 Nov Remains of heroes Col. Ignacy Matuszewski and Major Henryk Floyar-Rajchman returned to Poland. In 1939 they saved 75 tons of gold from being seized by enemy forces.

15 Sept Opole, SW PL - C-section birth of identical girl triplets.

22 Sept CENTRAL PL, a private zoo - 4 rare white lion cubs born.

BYDGOSZCZ > 100,000 fake Viagra pills worth at least £4mil.

5 Oct BUFFALO, NY - Peter Rudzinski 46' yacht completing his 4,000 mi. filming of 'Great Loop-Polish Heroes in America'

9 Oct BEIJING, WTA Agnieszka Radwańska 20<sup>th</sup> title in career.

10 Oct HONG KONG, Foreign Correspondents Club - 105<sup>th</sup> birthday of Clare Hollingworth - reported Germany tanks invade 1939.

ROME - Jan Tombiński is EU's Holy See Ambassador.

GDAŃSK, WROCŁAW, KRAKÓW - Scientists from 3 universities find chemical particles that deactivate Zika virus.

14 Oct SHIVLING PEAK, Himalayas - Death of 2 Polish climbers.

16 Oct WARSAW, Museum of the History of Polish Jews, Polin ~ 60 honored as "Righteous Among the Nations" on 30<sup>th</sup> Anniv.

18 Oct SASINY, NE PL - Report in ARCHEOLOGY: 10 "Neolithic burial type" tombs that date from 11-13<sup>th</sup> centuries.

RUCHA COPPER MINE, W. PL - 6 miners injured by 2 am tremor.

20 Oct KRAKÓW, 1<sup>st</sup> car sharing app >1,000 signed up in 1<sup>st</sup> wk.

27 Oct GLIWICE - Aleksander Tarnawski, 95, is the last living soldier of WWII 'Cichociemni' (silently parachuted into PL)

27-28 Oct GDYNIA, Emigration Museum - Conference: '*Poles and Polish Diaspora in Latin America - Past and Present*'

1 Nov CIESZYN, Jesus Church - Commemorated 500 years of the Lutheran Reformation at biggest Lutheran church in Poland.

LONDON - 8 mo. jail for 2 Poles who threw bacon at Muslims.

7 Nov MARRAKESH, UN Climate Change Conference - Poland promoted using forests to decrease CO2 concentrations.

11 Nov WARSAW, INDEPENDENCE DAY: Marches drew ~75,000 people, 7,000 police officers, no serious incidents.

Temple of Divine Providence opening: lit in red and white, inaugural Mass, Michał Lorenc's oratorio "Przymierze" €7m more in donations is needed to finish.

National Philharmonic - Film music composer Michał Lorenc. Hundreds of military veterans, students, patriotic groups.

14 Nov KRAKÓW, Wawel Cathedral Crypt - Bodies of President Kaczynski & wife exhumed as part of 2010 investigation.

16 Nov KRAKÓW, Bagatela - 700<sup>th</sup> performance (11 years) of '*Shear Madness/Szalone nożyczki / Crazy scissors*'

16-18 Nov KRAKÓW, Jagiellonian University - "Icons and Symbols of Canada" is theme of 5<sup>th</sup> Canadian Culture Festival.

19 Nov WARSAW ~50,000 teachers, parents opponents protested planned education reforms eg. abolish middle schools.

22 Nov ANTARTICA 6<sup>th</sup> day of explorer Małgorzata Wojtaczka's 1,130 km solo 50-60 day expedition to reach S.Pole on skis.