

## Polish/Polonia events and celebrations

BY ROBERT STRYBEL

Both in Poland and across Polonia, the warmer months of the year provide numerous occasions for fun, festivities, and celebrations. Here are some of them.

■ **DZIEŃ MATKI – MOTHER'S DAY (US: MAY 11; POLAND: MAY 26):** This is the day we honor our Polish or Polish-American mothers and grandmothers with flowers and gifts. Consider Polish books, CDs, amber, crystal, folk crafts, or whatever their fancy happens to be. Perhaps we could treat them to a traditional Polish dinner at home or take them out to a Polish restaurant. Some PolAm clubs and parishes traditionally hold community Mother's Day events. This often starts with Holy Mass, followed with a breakfast or lunch. A Mother's Day banquet might also be considered. Appropriate entertainment might include a recitation of mother-related poetry, a choir or instrumental performance or folk-dance presentation.

■ **Boże Ciało – Corpus Christi (this year US: May 29; Poland: May 26):** This feast honoring the Holy Eucharist usually falls in June, but due to this year's exceptionally early

Easter, it is being celebrated on May 26. Corpus Christi in Poland is a legal holiday. The main celebration is Holy Mass which ends with a procession in the surrounding streets. Processing beneath a canopy, the priest bears the Eucharist in a Monstrance, with two more parish activists propping up his elbows. Girls in First Holy Communion dresses strew the way with flowers, as altar boys perfume the air with incense and jangle altar-bells. As they process to each of four outdoor altars, participants sing Eucharistic hymns, often to the accompaniment of a marching band.

■ **ŚWIĘTO PAMIĘCI – MEMORIAL DAY (MAY 30):** This is not a Polish-originated holiday, because Poles honor their dead on All Saints and All Souls Days (Nov. 1-2), but it has taken on a Polish flavor across Polonia. PolAms hold a memorial service at the Polish Soldiers' Monument at Chicago's Maryhill Cemetery. Participants include war veterans, concentration-camp survivors, a Polish Boy Scout drum corps and highlanders in folk attire. Hymns and military selections are played by a parish brass band. Even if such

trappings are locally unattainable, Polish and American flags can be placed on the graves of loved ones together with flowers and votive lamps.

■ **Festyn Polski – Polish Fest:** Nearly all the occasions listed here could be enhanced with a Polish Fest. Whether it's called a Polish Fête, PolAm Festival, Polish Days, or Polonia Jamboree, these summer events are always popular and are great fund-raisers to boot. Major attractions include Polish-style foods, souvenirs, music, dancing, entertainment as well as games of chance and skill. Competitions could include a foot race, a pierogi or pączki-eating contest, or a brick, tire or (for the ladies) frying-pan or rolling-pin throwing contest.

■ **Noc Świętojańska – St. John's Eve (June 23):** The Summer Solstice (the longest day of the year) coincides with the Feast of St. John the Baptist and has long been celebrated in Poland as Noc Świętojańska (literally: St. John's Night). The two principal celebrations, both rooted in ancient mating rituals, are the bonfire and the candle-lit wreath. Boys wanting to impress the girls would jump over the roaring blaze and girls would float candle-lit wianki (wreaths) down a river or stream. The boy that fished it out was to be her future spouse. The wianki tradition has been practiced over the years across

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

**June 8, 6:00 PM** – PHS Board Meeting  
Cummins Company, 875 Lawrence Dr, De Pre, WI. You are invited!

**June 10, 12:00 PM-5:00 PM** – Polish Club Pierogi Class  
Lakeview Lutheran Church, 4001 Mandrake Rd, Madison (near Warner Park) \$15 preregistration required. Class size limited to first 20 registrations. Send form and check by June 5. Any questions call Marge Morgan: (608) 271-6460.

**June 16-18, Friday & Saturday Noon to Midnight, Sunday Noon to 8:00 PM** – Polish Fest in Milwaukee  
Henry W. Maier Festival Park, 200 N Harbor Dr, Milwaukee, WI, <http://www.polishfest.org/>

**July 13, 6:00 PM** – PHS Board Meeting  
Cummins Company, 875 Lawrence Dr, De Pre, WI. You are invited!

**July 14** – Newspaper article deadline.  
Submit articles to Malgosia at [malgosiaadaugherty@yahoo.com](mailto:malgosiaadaugherty@yahoo.com).

**July 27<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 AM – 9:00 PM** – Charity Golf Outing  
Polish Center of WI, 6941 S. 68<sup>th</sup> St., Franklin, WI  
<http://www.polishcenterofwisconsin.org/events>

**July 20-23** – 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Pulaski Polka Days  
448 E Pulaski St, Pulaski, WI. Check the Band Schedule at <http://www.uspapolka.com/news-bits>

**July 24, 6:30 PM** – Newspaper distribution meeting  
255 Terraview Dr, Green Bay, WI

## Pulaski Polka Days 2017



Photo: WikiDanceSport.com

Come celebrate with us the Polish Heritage Society booth in Pulaski at Polka Days, July 22<sup>nd</sup> and July 23<sup>rd</sup>. Our booth will be open Saturday and Sunday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. This year we plan to increase our T-shirt and hat selection. Please call Malgosia at 920 327 3195 if you would like to help with the sale of our merchandise. If you are in the area stop by our tent as we love meeting all our members!

## The Parishes at Sobieski, Chase, and Little Suamico, Wisconsin

BY BR. JERRY TOKARZ, OFM

### Sobieski: St. John Cantius Parish

John J. Hof was also a prominent figure in the establishment of a fourth Polish settlement in Sobieski, Wisconsin, which is in the neighborhood of Hofa Park, Pulaski, and Krakow. As early as 1895, Hof expressed an interest in settling this area with Polish immigrants. In a letter to Frank Peplinski, a Pulaski businessman, Hof wrote offering to sell him land in the area, and several hundred more acres in the immediate vicinity of Sobieski. In comparison to the other three villages, the friars' early history with Sobieski was less interactive.

Fully aware of the deep religious faith of the Poles, Hof felt a Catholic church would be an asset in attracting people to the Sobieski area. On February 3, 1896, a letter was received from Bishop Messmer authorizing the building of a church as soon as the Hof Land Co. handed over the land deed, as

promised in a previous conversation. On February 12, 1896, Hoff gave the deed to Bishop Messmer indicating, that land hereby conveyed shall be used for church purposes only and not for any other purposes, and that if otherwise disposed of, the party of the second part or his successors shall acquire another site for church purposes within one mile of the above described land.

It was agreed that Hof would give \$150.00 cash and pay the railroad freight on the lumber required for the church. His company would also supply 700 running feet of logs to be hewed or sawed into heavy timbers, and would allow stone to be quarried on his lands free of charge.

By January of 1897, Hof was convinced that Sobieski would be a proper place for a new church. And so, the first church that would become St. John Cantius Parish was built. There were approximately 12 resident families in Sobieski

who received construction help from the congregations in Pulaski and Krakow. Prior to the church's erection, the people traveled for services to surrounding churches in Little Suamico, Duck Creek (Howard), Pulaski, and, later Flintville.

The Franciscans in Pulaski shared a part in the founding of St. John Cantius parish. Fr. Jerome Schneider is considered the organizer of the parish, and Frs. Anthony Wisniewski and Francis Manel took temporary care of the new parish during its infancy.

The congregation grew steadily as Hof sold more land and settled more Polish families in the area. Within four years, the church proved to be too small. On August 4, 1902, a group of parishioners wrote to Bishop Messmer expressing the need for a larger structure. They also petitioned the bishop for a permanent pastor, since the Franciscans had announced that they were unable to assume a full time pastoral role.

In view of this decision, a diocesan priest from Flintville celebrated Sunday Mass. The first resident pastor, Rev. Francis Nowak, arrived in 1905. Diocesan clergy would serve the parish for the next eighty-seven years, with intermittent help from the friars in Pulaski. In 1992, the friars assumed pastoral care of the parish in the person of Fr. Regis Burzynski. Fr. Gerald Prusakowski who, by diocesan directive, brought the congregations of St. John Cantius and St. Joseph in Chase together in 2007 as St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish, succeeded Fr. Regis in 1995.

### Chase: St. Joseph Parish

In the late 19th century, when much of southwestern Oconto County was still woodland, people of various ethnic backgrounds were busy homesteading the territory. It was a slow and gradual process. The Catholic Church in Wisconsin by Harry Heming (T.J. Sullivan, Milwaukee, 1896), stated:

At Chase, there are five German Catholic families. The

distance from Chase to Flintville is about eight miles, which is traversed by them several times each year in order that they may attend divine services at the mother parish. Occasionally the pastor goes to Chase and says Mass there for the accommodation of a few old people who are



unable to undertake so tedious a journey.

Chase, with 250 citizens, was a small township. Approximately half of them were Catholic, the rest being Lutheran, Methodist, and Polish National. Most of the early pioneers were German, Polish, English, and Irish.

In A Story of Pittsfield and Suamico, Lizzie Rice Johnstone (Kuypers Publishing Co., DePere, 1928) wrote:

The post office was called 'St. Nathans', in honor of Mr. Nathan Chase, who owned con-

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## POLISH NEWSBYTES

COMPILED BY ROBERT STRYBEL

### Poland supports Trump's decision to retaliate against Syrian regime

Polish President Andrzej Duda has expressed support for US President Donald Trump's decision to fire upon the Shayrat Air Base in response to Syria's use of chemical weapons against civilians. Dozens of people including children were killed in the regime's assault, "In the face of this act of unimaginable barbarity, the civilized world could not remain indifferent," Duda said in a statement. "Poland strongly condemns crimes committed against civilians and calls on the entire international community to engage even more strongly in the restoration of peace in Syria, to stop the madness of war and interrupt the spiral of violence."

### Poland's unemployment rate of 8.2% – a 26-year low

Poland's jobless rate dropped to 8.2% in March, the lowest level for the month in 26 years, Poland's Labor Ministry announced. That may seem high by US standards where the March jobless rate was only 4.5%, but in Europe 8.2% is below the European average and lower than most countries. The highest rates have been noted in Greece (23.1 %) and Spain (18.0 %), the lowest – in the Czech Republic (3.4 %), Germany (3.9 %) and Malta (4.1 %). In the early 1990s after Poland had dumped communism, unemployment averaged 17% countrywide with regional figures as high as 30-40% in certain depressed areas.

### Stable Poland between two declining empires – Stratfor chief states

George Friedman, founder and head of the private intelligence agency Strategic Forecasting, Inc. said in a recent interview: "In Europe your

(Poland's-RS) geographic location on the great North European plain together with your strong, uniting national consciousness, which enable you to take risks and demand sacrifices, will enable you to supplant (existing) power centers. When we look at Russia and crumbling Germany and then look at Poland we see an exceptionally stable and well-managed state. Maybe not marvelous, but a very decent one." Strafor, sometimes called the "shadow CIA," is regularly consulted by governments concerned about security threats.

### Łódź vying with Minneapolis and Buenos Aires to host 2022 Expo

A delegation from the Pairs-based International Expositions Bureau has visited the city of Łódź which is competing against Minneapolis and Buenos Aires to host the 2022 specialized expo. To compete, a city must demonstrate its preparedness to host the event and provide the proper funding. To be chosen, a city has to gain the support of more than 50% of the 169 member states of the Bureau International des Expositions. Once a thriving textile center, the city experienced economic decline in the 1990s but moved ahead into a period of urban revitalization. Its former textile works have been transformed into offices as well as residential and leisure facilities.

### Poland's LOT Airline launches first ever Warsaw-LA line

High-comfort Boeing 787 Dreamliners are servicing LOT Airline's recently launched first-ever regular Warsaw to Los Angeles flights. "California is not only an ideal vacation destination but also an increasingly important business center," remarked LOT's Corporate Communications Director Adrian Kubicki. "LOT is Central Europe's only airline of-

fering direct flights to Los Angeles. The flights depart from Warsaw four times a week – on Monday's, Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays," he added.

### Brown bears pose a threat in Poland's mountain areas

Normally brown bears, found mainly in Poland's mountain and wilderness areas, avoid humans and are rarely



Photo: Pixabay

seen. The exception is mother bears with cubs which can react aggressively at the mere sight of an intruder. Recently a forest-services worker was mauled by a ferocious ursine that wounded his arms, legs and chest. Despite his injuries the man managed to reach his car where his friends were waiting and drove him home, from where he was rushed by helicopter to the nearest hospital. Each year, several such incidents are reported in Poland.

## Hania (10)

A NOVELLA  
BY HENRYK SIENKIEWICZ

In the last episode Hania ran off with Selim before she was to leave for Europe in order to avoid the illness sweeping the country.

A field hand told Henryk that he saw Hania leave with a young man in a horse-drawn carriage. Henryk felt he could catch up to them to bring Hania back. The storm which had been threatening, now broke out in fury. Henryk thought the rain and resulting mud would slow the carriage carrying Hania, giving him a chance to catch up with her. As he neared the carriage, Selim turned toward him brandishing a gun and threatening to shoot. Henryk did not back off. Selim fired and hit Henryk's horse. They fell to the ground. Henryk stayed with the horse until it died. When he realized he was close to the Ustrytski's estate, he set off to see if he could borrow a horse to continue his chase.

After hearing Henryk's story, Pan Ustrytski suggested he himself ride to Selim's village to get Hania, and Henryk return home so there would be no trouble. Henryk decided he could not let Selim get away with his plan. He

wrote a challenge to Selim to meet with pistols or swords the next day to settle the matter. Pan Ustrytski agreed with Henryk's plan for a duel and offered to carry the letter to Selim.

An hour later Henryk arrived home. There were many lights on and a lot of activity on the property. Father Ludvik came out the door hushing Henryk who asked if Hania were there. Father Ludvik stated that she had been brought home by Selim's father. She was now in bed because she arrived wet, cold, and with a fever. Henryk ran into the house. He did not want to see Hania – she would be too ashamed – he only wanted to be sure she was at home. As he approached her room, Vengrosia, an old servant of the family, came out. Henryk asked her, "How is she?" "She is quite sick. It is good that the doctor is here." responded the servant.

As Henryk was deciding whether he should go in to see her or not, Father Ludvig approached and told him that his father wanted to see him. It was one o'clock in the morning. Henryk struck his forehead with his hand thinking, "I have to fight Selim at five in the morning."

(to be continued)

### THANK YOU NEW MEMBERS, RENEWING MEMBERS, AND DONORS!

The Polish Heritage Society of Northeast Wisconsin is pleased to welcome new Lifetime member **Yulie Manske** of Oshkosh. We are pleased to welcome new members the **Jerry Halkoski Family** of Oconomowoc, **Susan Mikos** of Shorewood, **Conrad Brzostowicz** of Muskego, **Joan Malcheskane** of DePere, and **Chester Dudkiewicz** of Green Bay. Four of these new members were gift memberships. Witamy!

We are also pleased to recognize members renewing since our previous issue's deadline: **Barbara Styczynski**, **Theresa Beerntsen**, **Susan Ciolek**, **The Russ & Gertie Lotto Family**, **the Rhonda & Greg Rozanski Family**, **Roger Pomprowitz**, **the John & Christine Laka Family**, **the Adam & Eugenia Muller Family**, **Mary J. Drella**, **Marvin Gorski**, **Dave Schonke**, and **the Robert & Anita Kirschling Family**.

Bardzo dziękuję to **Theresa Beerntsen** for her kind donation included with her renewal!

Thank you for your support and interest in our Polish Heritage. If you have any status inquiries about your membership, please feel free to contact me. Also, your board officers' contact information is listed in this newspaper and on the phsofnew.org website.

Paul M. Zwicker, Treasurer ([zwickerp@aol.com](mailto:zwickerp@aol.com))



**POLISH HERITAGE SOCIETY**

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**MEMBERSHIP:**  Individual per year \$20  Couple/Family per year \$25  Lifetime Member \$200

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Electronic payment available on our website: [www.phsofnew.org](http://www.phsofnew.org)

**What articles do you like to read the most:**  Polish News  Events in WI  Recipes  Traditions/History  
 Famous Poles  Language info  News from the Board  Polish stories  Other \_\_\_\_\_

For any address changes please contact:

**PAUL ZWICKER**  
**255 TERRAVIEW DRIVE**  
**GREEN BAY, WI 54301**

Please indicate the types of activities in which you might enjoy volunteering:

- Arti Gras (Feb)  Art Street (Aug)  
 Paczki Day Party (Feb)  Input to Newsletter  
 Easter Party  Polish Mass (Oct)  
 Public Relations  Christmas Party  
 Board Membership  Other talents to share:  
 Polish Music event  
 Website Design

\* for PHS use only to send event reminders

# Polish/Polonia events and celebrations

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Polish America in rivers, lakes and fountains. It may add an interesting touch to any picnics or outings being held on or around that date.

■ **Dzień Ojca – Father’s Day (US: June 15; Poland: June 23):** Most Pol-Am dads will not appreciate flowers the way our mothers might, but depending on their interests we can get them a good Polish-themed book, CD or DVD and/or a bottle of imported Polish spirits. (The choice includes: many brands of clear, white Wódka or the flavored varieties such as: Żubrówka, Wiśniówka, Winiak, Żołądkowa, Jarzębiak, Starka, Złota Woda, Balsam Pomorski and many more, You can treat Tata (Dad) to a home-cooked Polish meal or take him out to a Polish club or restaurant for dinner.

■ **Święto Niepodległości USA – US Independence Day (July 4):** The Fourth of July is celebrated by Americans of different backgrounds, and Polonians have also added their own specific flavor to the event over the years. One way is to visit schools and/or set up exhibits at the city hall, local museum, public library, etc., highlighting the contribution of American Revolutionary War heroes Tadeusz Kościuszko and Kazimierz Pułaski. Pol-Am lodges, parishes and Saturday schools can provide a Polish contingent

(marching group, band, folk dancers, float, etc.) to take part in the local Fourth of July parade.

■ **Festyn pierogowy – Pierogi Fest:** An annual event celebrated in Whiting, Indiana is the Pierogi Fest. Besides the titular pierogi, this event features various Polish delicacies and celebrates different aspects of our cultural heritage with a festival and parade. Taking place this year over the weekend of July 29-31, it regularly attracts fest-goers from neighboring Illinois, Michigan and points beyond. Details at: [www.southshorecva.com/events/pierogi-fest](http://www.southshorecva.com/events/pierogi-fest)

■ **Powstanie Warszawskie – Warsaw Uprising (August 1):** This date marks the anniversary of the outbreak of the 1944 Warsaw Uprising, Nazi-occupied Europe’s biggest anti-German insurrection which lasted 63 days. After it was suppressed, Hitler ordered Warsaw to be leveled to the ground. In Polonia it can be celebrated with memorial masses, exhibitions in public buildings, patriotic assemblies or, circumstances permitting, an historical re-enactment.

■ **Święto Matki Boskiej Zielnej – Feast of Our Lady of the Greenery (August 15):** The feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Poland is best known under the folkloric name: Feast of Our Lady

of the greenery (Święto Matki Boskiej Zielnej). On that day flowers, herbs and the fruits of the harvest are brought to church to be blessed. This custom may also be encountered here and there across Polonia.

■ **Święto Wojska Polskiego – Polish Army Day (August 15):** Coincidentally August 15<sup>th</sup>, 1920 was the day the Polish army defeated the invading Bolshevik hordes at the gates of Warsaw in what has been called “the 18<sup>th</sup> most decisive battle in European history.” It was celebrated in pre-war Poland, banned by the Soviet-installed post-war regime and re-introduced after the fall of communism in 1989. It is celebrated with field masses, military parades and historical re-enactments.

■ **Dożynki – harvest fest:** This event is usually held in August or September, frequently on or around the Feast of the Assumption (August 15<sup>th</sup>). In addition to other fest and picnic activities presented here, the event includes the harvest Mass at which produce, flowers, and herbs are brought to the altar by folk-costumed worshipers to be blessed. Usually the ceremony of harvesters presenting the harvest wreath to the lord of the manor is re-enacted. The occasion could also include a food-making contest for the best dill pickles, pickled mushrooms, powidła (plum butter), pierogi, kielbasa, bread, babka, etc. with a panel of judges handing down their verdict and Polish prizes awarded to the winners.

## The Parishes at Sobieski, Chase, and Little Suamico...

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siderable land in the town. A store, a school and numerous farm houses were located near the mill.... The western half of the long town of Little Suamico is now called Chase.

Since Chase was a little over four miles from its nearest neighbor, Sobieski, it is no wonder that these two settlements would have a connected religious history. As the area around Chase became more populated, there was agitation among the Catholics for the establishment of a church. On February 24, 1910, Bishop Joseph Fox gave his permission and directed the pastor at Flintville, diocesan priest Rev. C.H. Szypa, to oversee the foundation of this new parish.

The first order of business was the selection of a site on which to build the church. Bishop Fox, Rev. Szypa, and members of the congregation toured places around Flintville, Sobieski, Abrams, and Oconto Falls, looking for a suitable location for the church. Eventually the present site was chosen, amid a grove of pine trees.

Rev. Szypa supposedly chose the name of St. Cecilia as

patroness of the parish. Bishop Fox approved and the original cornerstone bore that name. However, before the stone was laid, it was learned that the Catholic Church Extension Society of Chicago had available a grant of \$500.00 for any new church that would be dedicated in honor of St. Joseph. The pastor applied, through the bishop, and the donation was granted – a considerable amount of money in those days. The cornerstone was changed to St. Joseph.

The church was completed and dedicated in the fall of 1912. In 1918, Bishop Paul Rhode placed the parish under the spiritual care of the Franciscans in Pulaski. The first pastor, Rev. Szypa, took care of the parish until that year. Between 1918 and 1951, nearly 20 friars attended to the spiritual needs of the people at St. Joseph. In 1951, Bishop Stanislaus V. Bona gave the Chase parish to the pastoral care of Sobieski, where the pastor was a diocesan priest. They were so “linked” when the Franciscans were once again appointed pastors in Sobieski in 1995. In 2007, both parishes became the new congregation of St. Maximilian Kolbe.

### Little Suamico: St. Pius Parish

The settling of the earliest white men at Little Suamico in 1846, began a period of influx of European and Canadian immigrants of German, French, Belgium, Dutch, Polish, and Bohemian origin.

As early as 1862, priests from Green Bay, Duck Creek, and other locales, held services at the homes of “parishioners.” Land for the first church, built in 1888 and originally named St. Leo, was donated by the Charles Detiege family, and located about a quarter mile west of the village of Little Suamico.

For 22 years (1929-1951), the parish, now known as St. Pius, was under the care of the Pulaski / Green Bay friars. In 1951, diocesan priest, Rev. Thaddeus Koszarek, pastor of St. John Cantius Church in Sobieski, was given charge of the Little Suamico church. The following friars served as pastor of St. Pius.

Br. Jerry Tokarz, OFM is the Provincial Historian of the Assumption BVM Province that was founded in Pulaski, Wisconsin in 1887. A retired educator [graduate of Villanova University] who taught history at the college and secondary levels, he completed a history of the Pulaski Franciscans in 2013. Article above is an excerpt from that work.

Celebrating Polish Heritage in Portage County  
**2017 POLISH EVENTS**  
*Wisconsin's Little Poland*



**SATURDAY, MAY 6**

Portage County Cultural Fest, 10am-5pm, SPASH, 1200 Northpoint Drive, Stevens Point, WI 54481, art, entertainment, cuisine & crafts from around the world. [PortageCountyCulturalFestival.org](http://PortageCountyCulturalFestival.org)

**SUNDAY, MAY 28**

Polka Pow Wow Spring Fling - 160 Years of Polish Heritage, Moose Family Center, 1025 2nd St. N., Stevens Point, WI 54481, Polka Band, 1-5pm, Polish beverages & dancing, [PolishHeritageAwareness.com](http://PolishHeritageAwareness.com)



**FRIDAY- SUNDAY, JUNE 2-4**

St. Joseph Parish Picnic, 1709 Wyatt Ave, Stevens Point, WI 54481, 715-341-1617, [TogetherInFaith.org](http://TogetherInFaith.org)

**SATURDAY - SUNDAY, JUNE 10-11**

St. Peter's Parish Picnic, 800 Fourth Ave, Stevens Point, WI 54481, 715-344-6115, [SaintPeterCatholic.com](http://SaintPeterCatholic.com)

**SUNDAY, JUNE 18**

St. Stephens Parish Picnic, 1401 Clark Street, Stevens Point, WI 54481, 715-344-3319, [SaintStephenParish.webs.com](http://SaintStephenParish.webs.com)

**SUNDAY, JULY 2**

St. Mary of Mt. Carmel-Fancher Church Picnic, 3395 Cty. Trk K, Amherst, WI 54406, 715-824-3455

**SUNDAY, JULY 9**

St. Bronislava Parish Festival, 3200 Plover Road, Plover, WI 54467, 715-344-4326, [StBrons.com](http://StBrons.com)

**THURSDAY - SUNDAY, JULY 13 -16**

Portage County Fair of Amherst, Amherst Fairgrounds, Amherst, WI 54406, 888-221-4714, [AmherstFair.com](http://AmherstFair.com)

**SATURDAY- SUNDAY, JULY 15-16**

St. Mary's - Torun Picnic, 589 Dewey Drive, Stevens Point, WI 54482, 715-344-2599



**SUNDAY, JULY 23**

Holy Spirit Parish SpiritFEST, 838 Fremont St., Stevens Point, WI 54481, 715-344-9117, [HolySpiritStevensPoint.org](http://HolySpiritStevensPoint.org)

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 6**

St. Adalbert's Church Picnic, 3305 St. Adalbert Rd, Rosholt, WI 54473, 715-677-4519, [SaintAdalbertRosholt.org](http://SaintAdalbertRosholt.org)

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 13**

St. Bartholomew's Church Picnic, 2493 Cty Rd. M, Stevens Point, WI 54481, 715-344-3003

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 20**

Sacred Heart Church Picnic, 7376 Church Street, Custer, WI 54423, 715-592-4221, [SacredHeartPolonia.com](http://SacredHeartPolonia.com)

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 27**

St. Mary's Parish Picnic, Lion's Park - 4th Street & Cty Rd. J, Arnott, WI 54481, 715-592-4330, Church address: 7176 Esker Rd, Custer, WI 54423

**FRIDAY-MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1-4**

Portage County Fair - Rosholt, WI 54473, 715-677-4708, [RosholtFair.com](http://RosholtFair.com)

**FRIDAY-SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8-10**

Pacelli High School Panacea, 1301 Maria Drive, Stevens Point, WI, 54481 715-341-2445, <http://pacelli.spacs.k12.wi.us>

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17**

DOZYNKI Harvest Festival, Moose Family Center, 1025 2nd Street N., Stevens Point, WI 54481, Polka bands, Noon-6pm, Polish and American food, Polish beer, Polka mass, Sun. 10:30am at St. Stephens Catholic Church, 1401 Clark Street, Stevens Point, WI 54481, [PolishHeritageAwareness.com](http://PolishHeritageAwareness.com)

**OCTOBER - MAY**

Sunday Polka Dances at Rookies Sport Pub Banquet Hall, 3425 Church St., Stevens Point, WI, 54481, 715-344-7026. dancing to a new polka band each weekend on a wooden dance floor from 1-5 PM, refreshments available.



\*Information provided in this brochure was compiled by the SPACVB, based on information & materials submitted from area organizations. The SPACVB assumes no liability for the accuracy of the information represented here. Events and activities are subject to change. Brochure was produced by the Stevens Point Area Convention & Visitors Bureau.

## FROM THE TREASURER

You may now join or renew with the Polish Heritage Society of Northeastern Wisconsin through the website, [phsofnew.org](http://phsofnew.org). We accept secure payment by credit card, debit card, or PayPal direct from your bank account through the PayPal Company.

**Paul M. Zwicker, Treasurer ([zwickerp@aol.com](mailto:zwickerp@aol.com))**

## POLISH CAN BE FUN!

Do you know your Polish heritage?

### Take this little Polish heritage quiz!

BY ROBERT STRYBEL

Choose the letter which corresponds to the correct answer. The answers are at bottom but don't peek or Google, because you'll only be fooling yourself. After all, only you will know how well or poorly you did.

1. The novel "Quo Vadis" was written by:

- a) Adam Mickiewicz
- b) Czesław Miłosz
- c) Henryk Sienkiewicz

2. Poland's capital was moved to Warsaw in 1596 from:

- a) Kraków
- b) Lublin,
- c) Gdańsk

3. At present Poland has a population of:

- a) 28 million
- b) 48 million
- c) 38 million

4. The composer who played an important role in securing Poland's independence after World War I was:

- a) Krzysztof Penderecki
- b) Stanisław Moniuszko
- c) Ignacy Paderewski

5. Thousands of Poles were slaughtered by rampaging Ukrainian nationalists in the:

- a) Katyń massacre
- b) Humań massacre
- c) Wołyń massacre

6. A follow-up celebration the day (or several days) after wedding is known as:

- a) zaręczyny
- b) urodziny
- c) poprawiny

7. The currency now in circulation in Poland is the:

- a) euro
- b) rubel
- c) złoty

8. Which of the following is not a Polish Baltic seaport:

- a) Gdynia
- b) Szczecin
- c) Białystok

9. The current president of Poland is:

- a) Lech Wałęsa
- b) Andrzej Duda
- c) Aleksander Kwaśniewski

10. Many Poles inscribe K+M+B over their doorways on or around:

- a) December 24
- b) January 6
- c) February 2.

CORRECT ANSWERS: 1. c); 2. a); 3. c); 4. b); 5. c); 6. c); 7. c); 8. a); 9. b); 10. b).

Dave and Joan Piekarczyk of Illinois believe:

## Poland is a good place for PolAms to retire

ROBERT STRYBEL

As they approach retirement age, PolAms often consider whether they should stay put, downsize now that there's only the two of them left or maybe move to Florida. Some even wonder whether Poland might be a good place to retire. About ten years ago, David and Joan Piekarczyk of Itasca, Illinois was one couple that decided to follow up on it.

Dave was especially keen on tracing his family roots and managed to touch base with numerous long-lost cousins. Both he and Joan felt Poland would be an excellent base from which to visit different European countries. For most of the past decade that base has been a comfortable condo

to Poland, the Piekarczyks set up their own blog (<http://david-polanddavid.blogspot.com>) which would provide a blow-by-blow account of their activities over the years. For the benefit of Polish relatives not fluent in English, Dave arranged to have it translated into Polish. Anyone even vaguely toying with the idea of retiring in Poland would do well to read it.

The blog tells of the places they have visited, the restaurants and cafés they have discovered, the cultural events they have attended, and the people they have met. During frequent strolls around town, they have discovered many of the quaint nooks and corners of 1,000-year-old Poznań,

it is much easier to stay in touch. They have been back to the US on four occasions and their only daughter has visited them in Poznań.

Before coming to Poland Dave knew maybe ten words in Polish and decided to work on it while in Poland. Joan, who is not of Polish ancestry, also tried but gave up, because Polish is not an easy language for an adult to learn. Instead, she is studying Spanish and with good reason. Dave can now get by in Polish in most situations but the TV news is too fast to easily grasp. "So CNN has been our constant companion and window on the world," he remarked.

Something most every retiree has to consider is money. "It would be almost impossible to live on our Social Security money in the US, taking into account rent, health insurance, food, car insurance, etc. Here, we live above what is considered the national income average. We live in a comfortable 80 square meter (861 square foot) flat in a nice location. We have a car, pay for health insurance, pay taxes, eat well, travel, spend money on entertainment, pay all our bills without stress and without touching our savings," Dave explained.

Is Poland therefore the ideal retirement haven? According to the Piekarczyks, it comes pretty close, but no place on earth is perfect. The main thing they dislike about Poland are the nasty autumns and winters with their wind, rain, sleet, snow, slush, and flu seasons when nights are long and the shortest day lasts a mere seven hours. But to every problem there is a solution. Dave and Joan will soon be headed for Spain to check things out. They are already pretty sure they'll spend the rest of their retirement in sunny España.

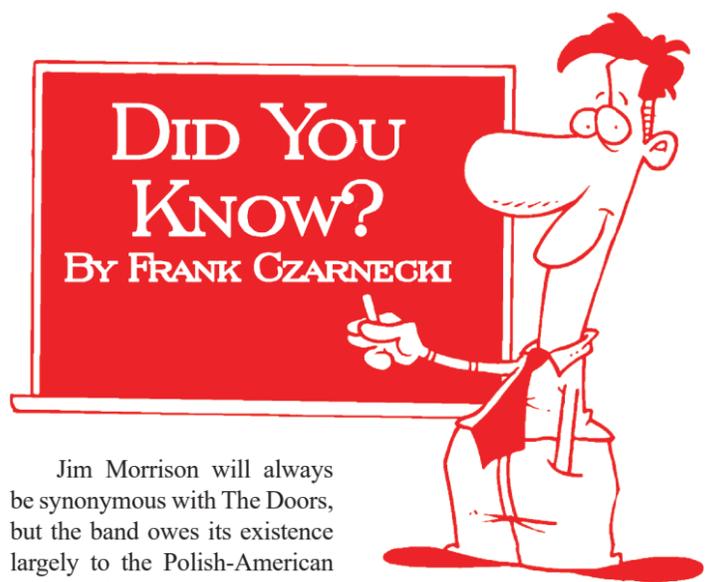


Old Town, Poznań

in the western city of Poznań. During that time, the Piekarczyks have gone through two Fiat Panda mini-hatchback economy cars in which they have zipped around the city, traveled cross-country, and toured Germany, Holland, France, and Britain.

Even before they moved

one of Poland's oldest cities. Having touched base with Polish relatives, their life has included numerous name-day parties, holiday dinners, weddings and the occasional funeral. Sure they miss their kids and grandkids back in the States, but with today's electronic communication



Jim Morrison will always be synonymous with The Doors, but the band owes its existence largely to the Polish-American keyboardist, Ray Manzarek. His signature keyboarding style was so integral to the way the band sounded, it's hard to imagine The Doors musically without Ray. His contributions go beyond his musical ability. He was also the driving factor behind creating the band. Born in Chicago, he met Morrison

while studying at UCLA. After graduation they met by chance in Venice Beach and co-formed The Doors on the spot after Ray heard Morrison sing a few songs. Manzarek then went out and recruited the last two members of the band after meeting them at a meditation lecture.

## POLISH SURNAME CORNER

### Learn all about your Polish last name!

Interested in finding out what your Polish last name means, how it came about, how many people share it, where they are from and what coat of arms (if any) goes with it? Included is a genealogical contact sheet that can help you search family records, draw up family trees, photograph or film ancestral homesteads and graves and even turn up long-lost relatives.



FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:  
[research60@gmail.com](mailto:research60@gmail.com)



Photo: Flickr

## POLISH CHEF

### Rob Kaminski's Great Aunt Doris Recipe for Kolaczki

INGREDIENTS:

- 8 oz package of cream cheese
- 1 cup butter
- 2 ½ cups sifted cake flour

Soften butter and cream cheese and blend together. Add cake flour and mix well. Wrap in foil or saran and place in fridge for 1 hour (roll in a ball first). Roll small amounts

as thin as tissue paper on the floured board. Cut with round or diamond shape cookie cutter. Place small drop of favorite filling in center, bring 2 sides together and seal. Bake at 350° on ungreased pan until they look transparent. Sift powdered sugar over them. Try not to brown them. For fruit filling I use the Solo pastry filling – Apricot or Raspberry, as no one here likes prunes.