



## POLAND – land of the white eagle

BY ROBERT STRYBEL

Anyone coming to Poland and hoping to catch a glimpse of a white eagle in the wild or even at a zoo is out of luck. Such a species does not exist in nature and never has. But there is no shortage of the nation's white eagle emblem on public buildings, monuments and war memorials, on Polish ships at sea, on coins and paper money as well as numerous souvenirs.

One legend maintains that Poland's legendary Prince Lech came upon a white eagle's nest, took it to be a lucky omen and decided to build his castle there. He named the settlement Gniezno (place of the nest), and it was to become

Poland's first ancestral capital. His two brothers Czech and Rus went on to set up Bohemia (today's Czech Republic) and Ruthenia (now Belarus and Ukraine).

Poland's national emblem was patterned on the mostly brown-feathered "orzeł bielik" or White-tailed Sea Eagle (*Haliaeetus albicilla*) and is a close relative of America's Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*). Did the legendary Lech see the eagle in bright sunlight that made the bird seem white? Or was it a rare albino specimen? The answer is buried in the mists of lore and legend. The fact remains, however, that for centuries it

has been the white eagle that has ruled the roost on heraldic shields, medieval banners and various emblems.

The first known depiction of the Polish eagle appeared on the denarius coin minted during the reign of Boleslaus the Brave, Poland's first king, crowned in 1025.

The oldest surviving portrayal of the Polish eagle emblem appeared on a denarius coin from the reign of Bolesław Chrobry (Boleslaus the Brave), Poland's first monarch. The crude etching on the coin has led to a debate among scholars to whether it truly depicted an eagle, or maybe a peacock, rooster or dove.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**June 2 (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month), 5:00 PM** – Polish Mass in Wisconsin Dells. Saint Cecilia Catholic Church, 603 Oak St, Wisconsin Dells, WI.

**June 13, 6:00 PM** – PHS Board Meeting  
Perkins, 2800 S Oneida, Green Bay, WI. You are invited!

**June 14-16, 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/>

**June 24, 6:30 PM** – Pulaski Area Historical Society, Board of Directors Meeting  
Pulaski Community Education Office, 132 Front St, Pulaski, WI.

**July 11, 6:00 PM** – PHS Board Meeting  
Perkins, 2800 S Oneida, Green Bay, WI. You are invited!

**July 6 (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month), 5:00 PM** – Polish Mass in Wisconsin Dells. Saint Cecilia Catholic Church, 603 Oak St, Wisconsin Dells, WI.

**July 5** – Newspaper article deadline.  
Submit articles to Malgosia at [malgosiadaugherty@yahoo.com](mailto:malgosiadaugherty@yahoo.com).

**July 18-21** – 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 22 (Monday), 6:30 PM** – Newspaper distribution meeting  
255 Terraview Dr, Green Bay, WI.

The eagle subsequently eagle on the seals of several Dukes of Poland's founding Piast dynasty) in the years 1222-1236. But it was Przemysł II, Duke of Wielkopolska (Poznań region) who first placed a golden crown on the eagle's head and served as Poland's king for one year. All the Polish kings who came after him followed suit, although the designs varied depending on a given century's dominant heraldic style.

When Poland was partitioned in the late 18th century by its three aggressive neighbors – Russia, Prussia and Austria – the white eagle was replaced by the emblems of the occupying powers. But it still seen on the banners of Polish insurrectionists fighting to regain their country's independence throughout the 19th century and on into the 20th. When Poland finally re-emerged as an independent state in 1918, the crowned white eagle became the official emblem of the Rzeczpospolita Polska (Republic of Poland).

The eagle again went underground following the fourth partition of Poland by Nazi Germany and Soviet Russia in 1939. The country emerged from World War II as a Soviet



photo: Wikimedia Commons

puppet state 20 proc. smaller than before the war. The communist regime stripped the eagle of its crown as if to proclaim that Poland was no longer a fully sovereign state. But



photo: Wikimedia Commons

Jagiellonian Eagle on the prayer book of Anna Jagiellon from 1582

the pre-war Crowned Eagle was upheld by Polish communities world-wide and it officially reappeared in Poland in 1989, when Poles finally threw off the Soviet yoke.

## POLISH NEWSBYTES

COMPILED BY ROBERT STRYBEL

### US Embassy launches visa-waiver campaign for Poles

Warsaw's American Embassy has appealed to Poles who consider applying for or renewing a US visa to submit applications by end of September as it is key to qualifying Poland for the Visa Waiver Program (VWP). "We are launching the #VisaWaiverDlaPolski campaign!" the US Embassy said in a statement. "We have time, until the end of September, to reduce the percentage of visa refusals and thus help Poland join the VWP, but we need help from Poles – let's do it together!" The campaign's goal is to encourage Poles to apply for a visa and simultaneously fulfill all the conditions that must be met in order to receive a visa. "The more candidates eligible for a visa or visa renewal, the greater the chance that together we will achieve the goal and rate of visa refusals will fall below 3 percent," the Embassy said.

### Polish grad students design Martian colony called Twardowski

Graduate students from the Wrocław University of Science and Technology (Politechnika Wroclawska) have designed an extraterrestrial colony for future rigidity

of the Red Planet ahead of NASA's 2020 Mars mission. Named after legendary Polish nobleman Pan, who sold his soul to the Devil and had to spend eternity on the Moon, it is a settlement for 1,000 people comprising housing, goods, services, faculties producing food, water and oxygen. As well as green recreational areas. The design will be assessed at the first stage of a competition organized by the Mars Society. Authors of the most interesting proposals projects will be invited to the USA to present their projects.

### Polański is suing Motion Picture Academy over expulsion

Film director Roman Polański, who fled the US after pleading guilty to having sex with a minor, is suing the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (AMPAS) in an attempt to reinstate his membership. The Academy, an honorary organization which hands out the Oscars, voted to expel Polański citing a violation of its code of conduct. He fled America in 1978 after spending 42 days in jail and pleading guilty to unlawful sex with a minor when he became convinced that an LA Superior Court judge was prepared to sentence him to prison, A

warrant was issued for his arrest and the US authorities have been pursuing him ever since. The Academy honored him with an Oscar for his 2002 film "The Pianist." Polański has now filed a lawsuit in the LA Superior Court to order the academy to reinstate him. It argues that the Academy violated its own rules for expelling members and that Mr Polański has been a member in good standing since 1968.

### The US is the 19th and Poland the 40th happiest country – UN

According to the this year's annual Happiness Report issued by the United Nations, Finland ranks in first place as having the world's most satisfied citizenry. The remaining top ten are Denmark, Norway, Iceland, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Sweden, New Zealand, Canada and Austria. The US was in 19th place trailing behind 15th place Great Britain and Germany (17th). Poland came 40th, ahead of the Baltic States, Hungary and Japan. Ever since the people-friendly Law and Justice party

came to power the Poles' satisfaction level has inched upward from 48th place in 2017 to 42nd last year. Russia was in 68th place and Ukraine in 133rd. Of the 156 countries listed, at the very bottom were Afghanistan, the Central African Republic and South Sudan.

### Poland to scrap zloty when its income approximates the West's

The leader of Poland's governing conservative Law and Justice (PiS) party has said Poland would replace its national currency, the zloty, with the European Union's common Euro (€). when the country's economic becomes comparable that of Western Europe. "We are obliged by the Accession Treaty to implement the Euro, but there is no set date. This is why I can say: we will adopt the Euro, because we are obliged to and we are and will be members of the European Union, but we will do so only if would be in our interest," he explained. "We will adopt the Euro when Poland "reaches a level of living standards and

GDP similar to Germany." Most Poles oppose adopting the Euro, since countries that have done so have seen prices skyrocket.

### Spring drought sparks grass and forest fires in Poland

This spring has been Poland's driest in at least 10 years, and hundreds of forest fires have been the result. Tinder-dry forest floors are ready to go up in flame from a lit cigarette, flying spark, lightning, the sun's ray magnified by a shard of glass or spontaneous combustion. Although the practice is illegal, many farmers traditionally continue to burn grass fields to make them more fertile, and strong winds can spread the flames to nearby woodlands. According to Poland's State Fire Service, since the start of 2019 firefighters had to battle over 4,000 forest fires, nearly 3,200 of them in April alone. Some 35,000 grass and wasteland fires were also recorded.

Six people died and 51 were injured as a result of the conflagration.



## Pulaski Polka Days 2019

Come celebrate with us the Polish Heritage Society booth in Pulaski at Polka Days, July 20th and July 21st. On Saturday our craft fair will be open from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. For Sunday, we are preparing a surprise float at the parade starting 11:00 a.m. 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!

On the picture: Our long

time volunteers: Mary Drella, Mike Wichowski and Joann Neily at PHS booth during Pulaski Polka Days.

Interested in receiving an Authentic Polish Recipe from Poland? Just send \$3 (check made out to the Polish Heritage Society of NEW) and we'll mail or email you a special recipe. This month we are featuring a Polish **Vegetable Salad (Salatka Jarzynowa)** you'll be sure to enjoy. Mail to: Malgosia Daugherty, 2601 Philip Ln, Appleton, WI 54915.



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## Thank You New members, RENEWING MEMBERS, and Donors!

The Polish Heritage Society of Northeastern Wisconsin is pleased to welcome new members **Gene Jaros** of Cornville, Arizona, **Shelley Stranz Zahm** of Oconto, **Jessie Glaeser** of Deerfield, **Kasia Niemczyk** of Chicago, the **Richard Kusch Family** of Seymour, and **Jessica Schabow** a gift of member **Dave Drzewiecki**. Congratulations and witamy!

A great number of members renewing since our previous issue's deadline are **Donald Kleczka** of Suamico, **Edward Derengowski** of Green Bay, **Bill Smaney** of Lena, **Barbara Styczynski** of Suamico, **Lorraine Zurawski** of Stevens Point, **Helen Scieszka** of Chilton, **Theresa Beerentsen** of Green Bay, **Rose Meinholz** of Madison, the **Richard & Carol Ann Kichefski Family** of Livingston, Texas, the **Malgosia Daugherty & Aliosha Alexandrov Family** of Appleton, **Susan Ciolek** of Green Bay, **Mary Drella** of Green Bay, **Marvin Gorski** of Neenah, the **Bob & Anita Kirschling Family** of Green Bay, **Mary Matchefts Ho** of Northfield, Minnesota, **Clara Baker** of Stevens Point, **Joan Malcheski** of De Pere, **Anne Wal** of Milwaukee, **Bernadine Simon** of Green Bay, **Chester Dudkiewicz** of Green Bay, the **John & Christine Laka Family** of Appleton, **Dave Schonke** of Green Bay, and **Elizabeth Jarock** of Norfolk, Virginia. It is wonderful to see that the organization is not only gaining, but also maintaining! Dobrze jest mieć Was z nami!

Thank you to **Mary J. Drella** of Green Bay, **Gloria Kaminecki** of Green Bay, and **Chester Dudkiewicz** of Green Bay who included thoughtful donations with their correspondence or membership renewal.

I appreciate the special notes you include with your memberships. Thank you all for your support and interest in our Polish heritage! If you have any membership status or financial inquiries, 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), phsofnew@gmail.com

## MEMBERSHIP FORM

**POLISH HERITAGE SOCIETY**

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

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

**PAYMENT:**  Cash  Check No.: \_\_\_\_\_ New Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Donations to the organization: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Your date of birth  Where in Poland are you from: City \_\_\_\_\_ Area \_\_\_\_\_ I don't know \_\_\_\_\_

**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 \_\_\_\_\_

**How did you hear about us?:**  Website  Social media site like Facebook

Complimentary newspaper at \_\_\_\_\_  Friend or family  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

## GROWING UP POLISH AMERICAN

## “We Are Family”

HELEN A. SCIESZKA, PH.D.

As I am sure was true for many families in my parent's generation when they began their own families they didn't move far from the neighborhood, if at all. That was definitely the case in my father's family. As my paternal grandparents had six children they eventually built a larger house a block east of their grocery store on the same street. The home my parents built and that I grew up in was right across the street from the store, so only a block from my grandparents. One of my father's older sisters built their home about four or five blocks east of my grandparents, again on the same street. And two of my father's younger brothers had their homes one and three blocks west respectively of ours; and of course on the same street. I've often thought the street name should have been changed to our last name. Even in my adult years when I visited my home town and went into a local florist shop I was asked, "You are one of the Scieszka's from over on (the name of the street) aren't you? Whose daughter are you?" Of course looking a lot like my father helped. There was no doubt as to whose family I belonged to.

Living so close to each other of course had a few drawbacks. As kids we couldn't get away with anything. But, it had far more positives. One of my elder cousins remembers my grandmother taking care of her; a younger cousin being able to

go fishing with my grandfather; and another what fun it was to be told by Grandpa that they could have a pickle out of the barrel in the store and how they always tried to find the biggest one to eat right there. As one of the older grandchildren I too was blessed with being able to spend time with my grandparents with them living so close. I have very clear memories of my grandmother having me help her in her beautiful garden all while she was telling me about the different flowers. And my grandfather standing in front of the store watching me as I was learning to ride a bike; which turned out to be a good thing on one occasion when I forgot how to brake coming down the hill and he caught me.

Besides my grandparents though were all of the aunts, uncles and cousins!

My younger sister and one cousin the same age were always either at our house or theirs. When I wanted to take piano lessons and we didn't have a piano in our home my aunt and uncle let me use theirs to practice. Sadly that ended up not being one of my talents! But as my aunt was our church organist and girls choir director (my uncle directed the adult choir) she did teach me how to sing so along with my parents and others fostered my love of music. It was the same aunt and uncle I stayed with when my mother was in the hospital when my brother was born.

And when my father was out of work at one point, they are the ones who brought us food. One of their daughters (who was my age and a friend) and I decided at some point that we wanted a hamster and my mother would not allow it in our house, so, of course her parents said "Yes." It was this same cousin at about age 7 or 8 that I got in trouble with in church. Our class was saying the rosary and the two of us were kind of jostling each other and competing to see who could say the prayers faster!

Her mother, my aunt, also showed me how to make the wonderful Polish delicacy – Chrusciki and shared other Polish recipes with me as did my mother. And another aunt taught me how to make rag rugs. Then when I was in the 7th grade and shared that I wanted to study psychology, one of my uncles, who was also my godfather told me I could look through his college psychology books. Of course we seldom left our grandparents home without some kind of goodies: home-made baked goods; candies or fresh vegetables from their garden.

There was always this sense of simply "being there" for each other that I think has been modeled and passed onto all of us from my grandparents; from babysitting to special treats to sending money to family still in Poland.

Even with my mother's immediate family who lived in another part of the same city there was still the daily phone call from my maternal grandmother to make sure that we were all safely home after school.

Of course, when it came to holidays and special celebrations like Baptisms, Confirmations, weddings, birthdays, graduations, religious professions, and anniversaries

all were invited. Gatherings at the grandparents, each others homes as well as my own were common. Plus there were visits to and from the relatives who lived out of town or even out of state. It is why I was gifted to know not only my aunts, uncles and cousins, but also great and great-great aunts and uncles and some second cousins as well. This all gave me such a sense of not just the extended family, but also of its history, which of course is part of my history too. This sense of family also reached out into the community which I will talk about in the next article.

One of the traditions in our family which may not be unique to the Polish or even to my family was the selection of relatives as godparents for the children. My godmother was my mother's sister and my godfather, one of my dad's younger brothers. Both modeled the Catholic Faith for me and of course were always part of my life and most especially the special celebrations that occurred.

But, it was upon the death of my father that I discovered that I had been gifted with what I still tell him he is... 'the best godfather in the world!' The day of my father's funeral my uncle said to me, "I know that I cannot replace your father, but I am here if you need anything." Being a grown woman at the time I have to admit that I was a little surprised, but knowing my uncle I shouldn't have been. He took his role as godfather and the care of my soul very seriously. From that point on he would ask me about my spiritual life, what I was reading and would send me cards and notes when he, himself went on a religious retreat. To this day, even with Alzheimer's his care for me is still very obvious.

As with the majority of families mine had its share of problems, was not perfect and a few drank more than their fair share of beer. But, there was still this awareness of connectedness, of duty to and responsibility for. For me personally there was always this sense of not just being family, and a family who loved and cared for us, but also that some of the aunts and uncles were like second parents, others who were mentors and many cousins who became friends.

Today, although some have stayed in our home town most of my generation and our children are scattered all over the country and parts of the world. And yet, there is still this connection. This is seen through the efforts of cousins who have now worked hard to turn the lot where our grandparents store once stood into a garden named after them. And further, was very evident when a couple of my cousins organized a family reunion a few years back in our home town. Yes, we are all older, have children and grandchildren of our own and yet the memories returned to those days we were still kids playing together in the neighborhood or at our grandparents home. That day and the memories it brought back are true treasures in my life that I think many in the generations following are missing out on...that sense of family that let's us know where we come from, who we are and where we are going.

Helen Scieszka, Ph.D. is a former ad executive, psychologist, professor, Catholic church pastoral associate, Diocesan marriage and family life director; published author of four novels and stories in "Chicken Soup for the Soul" books. She loves reading, travel, music, photography, art, sports, and family genealogy. Please visit her website [drhelenscieszka.com](http://drhelenscieszka.com)

## Can you hear the wedding bells? – marrying a Polish citizen

BY EWELINA NURCZYK

Love is all around us, although sometimes life gets in the way. Two hearts skipping a beat, a romantic proposal and plans for your future together – but what about formalities and law? Read on if you are a foreigner marrying a Polish national.

## Marry me in Vegas

... or anywhere outside Poland, for that matter. If you are a foreigner and your better half is Polish, you are free to marry wherever you want to in the world. However, a Pole needs to visit their local registry office and ask for a special certificate, which states that there is no impediment to marriage pursuant to the marriage with foreigners abroad.

## Let the world know

But if you prefer to keep it private, at least inform your Polish registry office. If you want

your wedding to be officially recognized in the country, you need to look into some formalities. The Polish spouse should provide a marriage certificate, their husband's or wife's birth certificate and their own birth certificate. All documents which are not in Polish should be translated.

Another option is legalizing your marriage through a Polish consulate abroad, but it is a more complex and expensive path.

## Big fat Polish wedding

You can also get married in Poland. Here church weddings are the most popular way of tying the knot, since they combine the traditional wedding ceremony with an easy registration done by priests in civil registry offices. If your Polish fiancé insists on a church wedding and you are not religious yourself – you may encounter some obstacles. It is important to learn what the formal requirements are early in

the process of getting married and try to discuss them with a clergyman beforehand. Do not worry though, everything is doable. Mixed couples of different faiths and backgrounds enjoy joint wedding ceremonies and it is becoming more and more common in Poland.

The registry office wedding ceremony lacks the religious element, but requires the same kind of legal formalities. In both cases, a foreigner will need their valid travel document (e.g. passport), birth certificate, Geneva passport (applicable only to individuals with a refugee status), Polish residence card (if applicable) and a special certificate of no impediment to marriage pursuant to the marriage with foreigners. All documents which are not in Polish ought to be translated.

## Citizenship status

After the wedding, one of the most important issues is staying together and enjoying your time as a married couple, but what if your spouse is not a native of Poland? Getting a citizenship would solve this problem and many believe that

a new passport is naturally acquired with the exchange of wedding vows. However, it is important to bear in mind that marriage does not guarantee that a person is granted a citizenship immediately. The process is longer and much more complex.

For EU nationals the case is a bit simpler. They are entitled to travel and work freely around the European Union up to three months, but even after this time it is not obligatory for them to apply for a residence permit if they are married to a

Polish citizen. However, if a foreigner wishes to obtain a Polish citizenship in the future, they need to undergo the same process as non-EU nationals. In such cases, it is advisory to get a temporary residence permit and then apply for a permanent residence card in the future (precisely, after 2 years of a continuous stay in Poland). Then, after three years of staying in Poland as its permanent resident and three years of being married to a Polish citizen, a foreigner may apply for a full Polish citizenship.

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Mówimy po polsku

# Polish Business Places in Last Quarter of 19<sup>th</sup> Century

Four types of business places were operated by the Poles of Green Bay in the last quarter of the nineteenth century. They were saloons, grocery stores, small hotels, and land agencies.

In 1874, Thomas Wyrzykowski operated a saloon located on Crooks street in the first ward. Similar places were owned by John Gajewski and John Kitt on Main street. John Gajewski also operated the first known Polish grocery store in 1883. In 1898, Stanley Lukaszewicz began a grocery store and meat market at Mason and Twelfth (now Irwin) streets.

In the 1890's group of small hotels was operated by Poles on Main street. The Cooperstown House, or Hotel (no Allen Hotel), located at 617 Main street, was run from 1889 by the Thomas Kolocheski family. The Milwaukee House, directly across the street from the Cooperstown House, was in the hands of Joseph Piaskowski and was built by Philip Kluth, a Pole of Green Bay. There was also the Polonia House between Monroe and Quincy on Main Street. Michael Budzisz owned a saloon and hall on the corner of Madison and Main prior to the year 1898. He later transferred to the northwest corner of Washington and Main streets.

After John Gajewski had first spurred real estate sales to Poles in this area, he was followed by Edward Koldrowicz and his agents Drwenski, Faikel and Liberski. Another Polish real estate agent during this period was John A.B. Olejniczak. In 1898,

Casimir Owoccki was junior partner of the Shepeck-Owoccki real estate firm.

For a small national minority in Green Bay's multinational make-up, Green Bay Poles were quite active in the field of politics. The Polish element of Green Bay was represented in the aldermanic post of Maximilian Ziolkowski in the years 1894 and 1895. Two aldermen then represented a ward. Ziolkowski was one of the two representing the fifth ward in the above year.

In 1898, a Polish political organization existed and was known as the Kosciuszko Club. Its first officers were Casimir Owoccki, president, Michael Jalowiec, vice-president, M. Fruzyrna, secretary Anton Slupinski Sr., treasurer, and John Falynski, marshal. Political views of this club were Democratic. In 1898, this club sponsored Julius Kolocheski for alderman of the fifth ward, but he was defeated. The influence of the Kosciuszko Club waned and it ceased to exist about the year 1905.

In 1904, Edward Koldrowicz was appointed deputy revenue collector, a post he held for over ten years. Brown County had a Polish sheriff in the person of George J. Kolocheski for the two-year term of 1912-1913. In the later year, Frank Gabryszek was an unsuccessful candidate for the office of Brown County treasurer.

Joseph P. Novitski, originally from the town of Eaton, but later living on Green Bay's west side was superintendent of schools in Brown County for a number

of years to and including the year 1913. Stanley Szakowski contested unsuccessfully for the aldermanic position in the second ward in 1915. In 1918, Theodore Chlebowski ran on the Republican ticket for sheriff of Brown County but was defeated.

Since Max Ziolkowski's tenure of office as alderman in Green Bay in 1894-1895, all later attempts of Polish candidates for this position had failed for a period of about forty years. Finally, Dominic Olejniczak, a member of St Mary of the Angels parish, broke the ice in 1936 and emerged as councilman representing the fifth ward. He was re-elected in 1938, 1940, 1942 and 1944.

Also in 1936, Michael F. Kresky was elected for a four-year term as State Senator of Wisconsin from the second senatorial district comprising Brown and Oconto counties. He, too, was a member of St. Mary's parish.

Representing the second ward of Green Bay, Anton Slupinski Jr. was elected councilman in April, 1941, and continued in office until April, 1953.

The record of the longest tenure of office as mayor in the history of Green Bay belongs to Dominic Olejniczak. He was also the first and only one of Polish descent to hold this office in the history of Green Bay. Elected mayor for the first term in 1945, Olejniczak was re-elected for four more successive terms till April, 1955.

Councilman-alderman Joseph Gryboski represented the eighth ward of Green Bay during the years 1950-1954.

## DID YOU KNOW? BY FRANK CZARNECKI



This article is different from those which usually appear here.

Polish authorities are investigating a Good Friday ceremony in a Polish town of Pruchnik that saw children beat and then burn a large straw-filled effigy that was supposed to resemble Judas but was dressed to look like a Hasidic Jew. Footage of the event showed a bystander shouting that the blows against the doll – which had side curls, a Hasidic hat, and a hooked nose – were for Jewish attempts to get compensation for property lost

during the Holocaust and now in Polish hands. Prosecutor Agnieszka Kaczorowska said her investigation into potential hate speech charges would focus on identifying those involved. Pruchnik Mayor Waclaw Szkoła expressed his regret and said he'd work to prevent a repeat of such a ceremony.

Mock trials of Judas, once a common part of Poland's Easter traditions, are now rare.

(from *The Week*, May 3, 2019)

### Consider a gift of Polish heritage!

A several-page custom-researched analysis of a Polish surname will make an unusual and memorable Polish-themed gift for a loved one (or yourself).

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Included is a helpful genealogical contact sheet to help check your family records in Poland, track down ancestral homesteads and possibly even turn up long-lost relatives. For more information please contact: [research60@gmail.com](mailto:research60@gmail.com)



## Celebrating Polonian summer 2019

BY ROBERT STRYBEL

What activities is your family, Pol-Am fraternal lodge, parish, club or other group planning this summer? The same old thing or maybe something new and different? Here are some things to consider.

■ **Father's Day dinner or picnic:** One way to honor our PolAm dads and dziadeks is to hold a celebration at which they will be the guests of honor. It can be a simple backyard barbecue, a picnic in the great outdoors, a dinner at a restaurant or banquet hall. Be sure to feature their Polish culinary favorites and something to wash it down with. The recorded music of their youth including Polish selections or perhaps a live band for dance music will surely be appreciated. This year, Father's Day falls on June 16th. Any of the vitiated suggested for summer festivals (below) can be incorporated into the Father's Day observance.

■ **St John's Eve Festivities:** Any time during the weekend of June 21-22-23 would be a good time to hold this old-style event. It displays features of a mating ritual with lads jumbling over a blaz-

ing bonfire alone or with their maidens. Girls weave floral wreaths containing a lighted candle and float them down a river or stream. Boys wade into the water to pull them out. The girl whose wreath a boy has retrieved becomes his date for the evening (or maybe a lifetime).

■ **Historical Commemorations:** This year such anniversaries include the 30th anniversary of the two-month Roundtable Talks that opened the way to Poland's Independence and the partially-free June 4th election which brought Solidarity activists and anti-communist dissidents to power. Technically, Poland first re-emerged on Nov. 11th, 1918, when World War I ended, but the country needed several more years to re-establish itself within secure borders. Various events in the 1918-1922 period are worth commemorating. This year also marks the 80th anniversary of World War II, mankind's bloodiest conflict. Those anniversaries can be observed with festivals, banquets, exhibits, multi-media events and essay or poster contests as well as sporting events (runs, tournaments, etc.).

■ **Pol-Am patriotic observances:** Any

of the above-mentioned anniversaries as well as Memorial Day, the Fourth of July or Polish Army Day (August 15th), marking the "Miracle of the Vistula" are good occasions to display our attachment to both our Polish and American heritage. Flying US and Polish flags, flag-raising, assemblies and band concerts of patriotic music are among the ways of achieving that end. If a parade is planned in your area, consider having the local Polonia contribute a float or two, marchers, folk-costumed youth, etc.

■ **Polish Summer festivals:** These are always popular family events, and people are known to drive in from neighboring states to enjoy the festivities and the good Polish food. Typically such events include live entertainment and dancing as well as games of skill, strength and chance. Food booths providing take-outs as well as souvenir stands are usually standard. Cooking and folkcraft (wood-carving, pottery, wycinanki) demonstrations are always popular.

■ **Polish Festival Foods:** Most PolAm summer festivals feature an array of Polish comfort foods: pierogi, gołabki, kielbasa z kapustą (sausage & sauerkraut), bigos (meat, mushroom & sauerkraut hunter's stew), flaczki (tripe) potato

pancakes, naleśniki, etc. An alternative approach would be to include any or all of the above but focus on a given dish and bill the event a "pierogi panorama," "gołabki gala," "kielbasa cook-off," "kapusta klatsch" and so on. One way is to have all the food provided by the sponsoring group. Alternatively, food stands or tables can be rented out to outside suppliers (delis, sausage shops, bakeries, individuals).

■ **Assorted Activities:** Polish food is always a big attraction at such events, and the polka dancing is standard, but it might be good to introduce some new elements to the routine. For instance, a Polish trivia quiz (loads of info on the net for this!), Polish 20 Questions or Polish word quiz (how do you say "tree," "kitchen" or "mother-in-law" in Polish?). Circumstances permitting, games of volleyball, soccer, badminton, softball, horse shoes, foot races and tug-o-wars can be held. The Polish sport of Ringo is worth considering (read up on it at: <http://irf.ringo.org.pl/index.php/game-rules/ringo-rules/english>). The wheel of fortune, raffles and gambling tents (where legal) are always popular, and maybe a Polish flea market ("One PolAm's trash is another's treasure!") would also go over.