

Polanki, Inc.

Polish Women's Cultural Club Newsletter

June [Czerwiec] 2016

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Happy Father's Day!!

Polanki Meeting June 10

The June meeting of Polanki, Inc., will be held on Friday, June 10, at Villa St. Francis at 7:30 p.m. in the dining room. The Polish Fest Chairpersons will be handing out tickets, etc. Also, some of you still have time to pay your dues which was due in April. If anyone has books for the book sale, bring them to the meeting.

PROGRAM: All Polish Fest!

HOSTESSES:

Joanne Barndt
MaryEllen DeVito
Nancy Monfre
Katherine Ott
Shirley Rydell
Halina Sosnowski

From the President's Pen

Polish Fest is almost upon us. Thanks in advance to the Polanki members for their handwork and dedication in making Polish Fest a huge success as always. Once Polish Fest is over, we will adjourn for summer break. Enjoy the short, but fantastic Wisconsin summer, but be sure to rest up too as we have a busy fall. We are always recruiting new members, so if you know anyone who may be interested in joining, please reach out to her. All are welcome. I am going to Poland for two weeks at the end of August and early September, so if anyone has any suggestions on where I should go and things I should do, I'm definitely open to suggestions because my itinerary is wide open. As always, feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Denna Flemming, President

Polanki Is About . . .

Sustaining member Janine Adamczyk who once again gave a monetary donation to the scholarship fund.

Get Well Wishes to

Active member Rachelle Ebenhoe who has been diagnosed with cancer. She is requesting that everyone pray for her especially so she makes a

good decision regarding the choice of getting treated or not.

Sustaining member Barbara Mueller's husband who has been very ill.

I apologize to the Members whose birthdays were in May. I don't know why I repeated April but here you all are this month.



5/02	Edith Moravcsik
5/05	Jackie Mielczarski
5/06	Krystyna Matusiak
5/09	Dorothy Broihier
5/10	Deborah Tyszka
5/11	Lucille Trebatoski
5/20	Nadine Murawski Flemming
5/25	Marcia Korducki
5/26	Valerie Lukaszewicz
5/27	Claire Anderson
5/28	Lynn Adams
5/28	Jennifer Konecny
5/30	Shirley Rydell
6/01	Lidia Sobierajski
6/06	Rachelle Ebenhoe
6/15	MaryEllen DeVito
6/16	Urszula Tempska Napora

6/21	Teresa Jankowski
6/23	Joyce Banachowski
	Angela Glowacki
6/24	Janina Zurko
7/04	Elzbieta Walentynowicz
7/10	Adrienne Zuber
7/14	Eva Melenchuk
7/20	Kim Swedowski
7/26	Ann Lalasz
7/28	Katherine Ott
7/30	Laurie Ufnowski
8/01	Elizabeth Wagner
8/05	Barbara Rutkowski
8/06	Loretta Nyland
8/08	Janine Adamczyk
	Kathy Camacho
8/10	Dolores Winkler
	Christine Ostrowski
8/13	Barbara Spalda
8/17	Katherine Ociepa
8/19	Louise Cieslak
8/25	Bernie Jendrzeczak
8/31	Susan Mikoś

Community Corner

Norway House Torsk supper dates for 2016:

Sept. 24
Oct. 22
Nov. 12
Dec. 10

Heddy Moskaluk Granted Life Membership



Heddy Moskaluk joined Polanki November 1978. During the years since that date she was First Vice President, Second Vice President five times, Membership Chairperson four times, and a member of the Auditing Committee four times. Heddy has worked all areas of the Holiday Folk Fair: Food Booth, Cultural Exhibit, and Sales Booth. For Polish Fest Heddy has co-chaired the Cultural Village three or four years as well as working shifts in the Polanki sales booth. She has worked tirelessly in the kitchen for the Pierogi dinner and has made soup many times for the Soup Festival. Heddy certainly deserves Life Membership status as well as a rest!

More Beautiful Churches

by Agnieszka Warnke
translated by Paulina Schlosser
Culture.pl

St. Mary's Church in Gdańsk

The massive tower of the co-cathedral St. Mary's church stretches up above the panorama of Gdańsk and the spacious surroundings. It is said to be the largest brick shrine in Europe. Capable of holding 25 thousand people, the cathedral would have once been able to host the entire population of the city—it was, in fact the case at the time when it was raised. Its completion took some 160 years (1343-1502). During the preceding era of the Pomeranian princes, a small wooden church stood in its location.

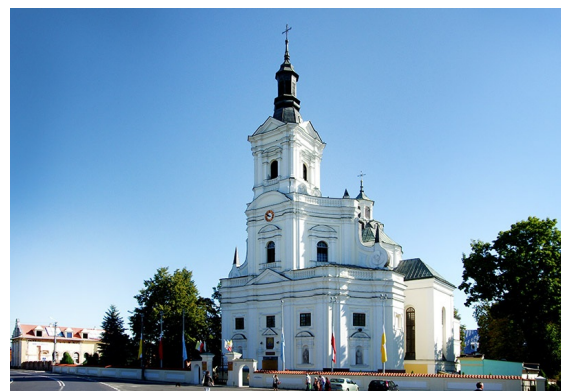


The basilica, also known as the Crown of Gdańsk, managed to keep its historic form in spite of a tumultuous history. Its iconography dates back to the 16th century, and its bright interiors are filled with pillars that support a star-vault, rib-vault and diamond-vault structured ceiling. The main altar of the church is made of oak in a late-Gothic style, and it was built in the years 1510-1517. A famous reconstructed 15th-century astronomic clock stands near the sacristy, and the interiors also boast a 19th-century replica of Hans Memling's **Last Judgement**. A statue of the so-called **Beautiful Gdańsk Madonna** stands in the chapel of St. Anne. Legend has it that a young man carved it all in one night whilst he was locked up in a cell. The magnificent work of art bought him freedom, and it later turned out that he had in fact been imprisoned unjustly.

The post of local bandmaster at St. Mary's church in Gdańsk was once a real honor, (and a very well-paid job), and the composer Johann Sebastian Bach himself is known to have once applied for it. A letter from 1730 has been preserved, in which Bach asks a friend to consider his chances at getting the job.

St. Anne's Basilica in Kodnio

Holy Mary stands against the background of a rainbow aureola, holding the Baby Jesus in her arm and bearing a scepter in her right. This image, which portrays an original sculpture of the Madonna from Guadeloupe, was stored at the papal chapel. In 1631, Mikolaj Pius Sapieha, the grand ensign of Lithuania, was miraculously healed during a mass service conducted in the presence of this painting. Sapieha, the owner of Kodnio, showed his gratitude for divine mercy in a peculiar way—having failed to obtain the permission of Pope Urban VIII to take the painting, he simply stole it.



The painting was first hung in the castle chapel and later moved to the church of St. Anne in Kodnio, in the Podlasie region. Sapieha had the Kodnio church raised in 1629, modeled on St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. The shrine, whose construction took six years, was originally built in a late-Renaissance style, which today is covered over by a Baroque façade. Sapieha had himself buried under a nameless plaque of red granite in the church's porch, in order for the feet of the faithful to step over his grave. The story of the miraculous

painting inspired a novel by Zofia Kossak-Szczucka, entitled **Błogosławiona wina** (editor's translation: Blessed Sin).

Churches of Peace in Jawor and Świdnica

They had to be situated far from the city walls, built with temporary materials (wood, clay, and straw), and they could not resemble traditional churches. Such were the conditions proclaimed by Ferdinand III Habsburg under which he allowed Silesian Lutherans to raise protestant churches. They were to symbolize religious tolerance, and crown the ending of The Thirty Years' War. And yet, two of the three churches (excluding the one in Głogów) still stand unmoved to this day, some 350 years later. In 2001, they were added to the UNESCO World Heritage list.



The Churches of Peace in Jawor (1654-55) and in Świdnica (1656-57), 30km away from each other, are the largest sacral monuments in Europe raised in the timber-framing technique. Designed by the Wrocław-based architect Albrecht von Säbisch, they look very modest from the

outside, while their Baroque interiors resemble theaters, with multi-storied matroneums. The interiors of the Jawor shrine are decorated with 180 paintings, depicting scenes from the Old and the New Testament, while those in Świdnica represent apocalyptic visions as well as a panorama of the surrounding town.

Basilica in Święta Góra

Its founder—Adam Konarzewski—wanted the basilica to resemble the Kraków Church of St. Peter and St. Paul. After the founder's death, his wife Zofia nee Opalińska continued his endeavor. She changed her project under the influence of a journey to Italy. The round basilica with a huge copula (17 meters in diameter, 50 meters in height) is a replica of the Venetian Santa Maria della Salute.



The cult of Holy Mary had been developing in Święta Góra since the 14th century but the magnificent shrine was raised later, in the years 1675-1698, in the accordance with the design by Italian architect Baldassare Longhena. Its interiors were given a Baroque and rococo style (with elements such as marble altars and polychromes in the dome depicting scenes from the life of St. Filip Neri). The main altar has a painting of Holy Mary with Child (the Świętogóra Spiritual Rose) and the side altar—a Gothic-renaissance sculpture of Mater Dolorous. During the period of the reformation, Anna Gostyńska ordered for the figure to be chopped up and burned, but neither axe nor fire were capable of touching it. The statue was tossed in a well. It was found a dozen years later, thanks to a bright hue that emerged above the well. The statue was once again placed inside the church.





The Łemko tserkva in Kwiaton

The St. Paraskeva Greek Orthodox church in the lower Beskidy mountains is not only one of the most beautiful wooden shrines in Poland, but also a unique manifestation of the way in which Eastern and Western influences are intertwined in the country. It was created by the Greek Orthodox Łemko minority who had developed their own unique style of church construction. The church is said to have been founded in 1700.

Its traditional, lengthy main body was enlarged by adding on a tower in 1743. The tower is modeled on those found in churches across the Małopolska region.

The wooden construction (made mostly of fir and also with spruce) has undergone a couple of renovations. The interior is now maintained in the tradition of the late Baroque. The presbytery and a decorative framing of the windows are separated from the main nave by the iconostasis painted by Michał Bogdański in 1904. Its wall paintings imitate marble columns and cornices.

Ever since the “Wisła” resettlements action in 1947, the shrine has served Catholics. In 2013, it was added to the UNESCO heritage list.

“A Silesian Jerusalem” in Wambierzyce

Daniel von Osterberg, the owner of Wambierzyce, dreamt of a settlement that would resemble Jerusalem. Starting in 1683, he began to transform the small village in Lower Silesia into a pilgrimage destination. A special gateway leads to the main market square, there is the Siloe pond. Herod’s palace, and mountains called Golgota, Sinai, and Tabor. The surrounding hills are filled with Calvary chapels which form one of the largest complexes of the kind in Europe.



In 1715, the subsequent owner of the town, Count von Göetzen initiated the construction of the present-day Basilica of the Visitation of Blessed Virgin Mary. Its size alludes to the dimensions of Salomon’s shrine in Jerusalem. The stairs leading up to its entry are monumental, with some 56 steps—33 to symbolize the years of Christ’s life, 15 for Mary’s age before motherhood. Richly decorated, the two-storied façade also makes an impression at night, when it is illuminated with 1390 bulbs.



Its late Baroque interiors are decorated with paintings and sculptures. The preaching pulpit and a miraculous figure of Holy Mary deserve special attention, as well as the late 19th-century crib. Its 800 wooden figures were made by Longinus Wittig.

“The Pearl of the Baroque” in Krzeszowo



Monks of the Cistercian order came to Krzeszowo in the late 13th century. They created a precious economic, culture and scientific center of the region—the famous European Cysterian Trail runs through Krzeszowo. The function of the main shrine was fulfilled by a church raised in the years 1728-35 with two huge towers, a building called the European Pearl of the Baroque.

A rich façade is divided into three spheres—the Earthly, the Marian, and the heavenly, the latter bearing numerous pillars and columns with figures of saints by the Prague sculptor Ferdinand Brokoff.

The rococo interior is equally generously decorated, with frescos by Georg Wilhelm Neunhertz, pipe organs with more than 2600 pipes, and richly decorated choirs in the presbytery. But the main element that attracts pilgrims to Krzeszowo is the miraculous painting of Holy Mary the Merciful. The icon is dated by some back to the 13th century, and its legendary author, the ascetic Krzesz, is said to have painted it on the order of and with the aid of angels.

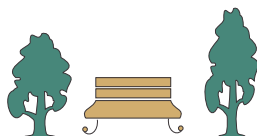
St. Stanisław Kostka cathedral in Łódź



This neo-Gothic cathedral towers above the major Piotrowska Street in Łódź. Meant to resemble the Notre Dame cathedral of Chartres it is the work of the Wende I Zarske cooperative, whose project won against some 37 other concepts from across all of Europe. The design was later additionally adapted by Józef Dziekoński from Warsaw and Sławomir Odrzywolski from Kraków. The cathedral was raised with light yellow brick specially transported from Upper Silesia from 1901 through to 1912. Due to financial difficulties and the outbreak of the First World War,

the 104-meter-high tower was completed in 1927.

The Łódź church is decorated with rosettes, and stained glass (the oldest ones produced in Saxony) and ogive-shaped windows. Beautiful altars were founded by the local factory owners (such as Heinzl), merchants, and workers, and so was the cathedral’s largest bell, monikered Zygmunt. Unfortunately it perished during the German occupation, during which the shrine served as a military magazine. After its liberation, it was restored but suffered subsequent damage in a 1971 fire. Pope John Paul II paid a visit to the cathedral during his fourth pilgrimage to Poland.



St. Roch's church in Białystok

St. Roch's church is a monument of gratitude for regaining state independence. It was designed by Oskar Sosnowski and raised between the years 1927-46. It combines the notion of Holy Mary as a Stalla Matutina with modern architectural solutions. This modernist and expressionist cathedral, raised on the plane of an octagon, is an original architectural rarity of an interwar Europe.



Its modest interior charms visitors with the diamond structure of the ceiling, as well as a stained glass window depicting the Holy Spirit and the Evangelists. Beyond the altar of Holy Mary of the Rosary (to the right) is the chapel of Holy Mary of Ostrobrama, with a copy of the renowned Vilnius painting. The shrine is located on top of a hill, surrounded by a wall with four small towers, typical for the architecture of Poland's Northeastern Borderlands, and its semi-rounded gate resembles the Ostra Bram in Vilnius.

Basilica of Divine Mercy in Łagiewniki



The elliptic shape of the church makes it look like a ship, a refuge for those who trust in Divine Mercy like a contemporary Ark of the Covenant. It was raised between the years 1999-2002, and the design of Professor Witold Cęckiewicz of the Kraków School of Technology was personally approved by Pope John Paul II.

A cornerstone from Golgotha has been placed right at the entry to the shrine. A golden globe of the Earth can be seen behind the main altar, which also serves as a tabernacle. It is surrounded by a wind-smothered bush, meant to symbolize the tumultuous reality of our times (although some like to see in it the representation of the burning bush). Chapels distributed across a scheme of rays are situated in the lower part of the two-story basilica and their interiors were made with donations from the Catholic Church institutions of various countries: Italy, Hungary, Germany, and Slovakia, as well as the Orthodox Church of Poland and Ukraine.

The Łagiewniki of Kraków have become the global capital of the cult of Divine Mercy, visited by more than a million pilgrims each year. The shrine is a part of the Sanctuary of Divine Mercy. Its other components include a new-Gothic cloister with the chapel of St. Joseph, with the miraculous painting of Jesus the Merciful and relics of sister Faustine, as well as a 77-meter high tower, where a panoramic view of Kraków can be marveled at from a height of some 40 meters. With good visibility, one can even spot the Tatra mountain range.

Volunteers Needed for New Cooking Classes at the Polish Center

Staci Joers of Cooking With Class is coming to the Polish Center of Wisconsin. The classes are a benefit for the Polish Center. For the last 15 years, Staci has made a name for herself demonstrating and serving

all kinds of foods in a four county area in Wisconsin. Polish Center classes will generally be one weekday per month from 11:30 to 1:30. Days will vary to accommodate various schedules.

A small group of volunteers is currently being assembled to assist Staci Joers with the classes. Volunteers are not paid, however, they do receive all the recipes and get to taste food samples.

The duties include dedication of time from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Table setting, cutting and assembly of entree items that Staci will cook, plating and serving entrees, dishwashing and cleanup will be needed. Volunteers do stand for most of the time. Volunteers may choose dates and topics of interest to them. No volunteer needs to attend all cooking sessions.

To have your name placed on the volunteer help list call Polish Center member, Judy Roberts, at 414-426-0012, or e-mail judyroberts4700@gmail.com. Call with questions or comments.

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