



Polanki, Inc.

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Polanki Meeting November 10

On Friday, November 10, Polanki's regular meeting will be held at Villa St. Francis at 7:30pm in the dining room.

SPEAKERS: Lynn Adams and Jessica Ullstrup will be presenting on their recent trip to Poland with Global Volunteers.

HOSTESSES:

Lynn Adams
Lucy Reasoner
Susan Konecny
Jennifer Konecny
Lorraine Grzechowiak
Teresa Frankowski
Carol Powers

From the President's Desk

Thanks to everyone who helped make the Soup Festival a success. Although, I was out of town and unable to attend, I heard that it was a wonderful event. The Holiday Folk Fair is coming up on November 17-19. We need plenty of volunteers to work in the Cultural Booth and Sales Booth, so if you can help out, please sign up. I know many people look forward to shopping in the Polanki Sales Booth. The Christmas Eve display to showcase this year's theme of Celebrating the Culture of Welcome will be wonderful. The Holiday Bazaar is also coming up on December 3. We can always use volunteers to help out in the Sales Booth. Don't forget to mark your calendars for this year's Christmas Party on December 10 at Polonez. The menu will feature a wide variety of Polish delights as well as a few American favorites. As always, you can bring your donations to the party for the annual raffle to benefit Laski. Fall has flown by. I can't believe it's already November.

I hope everyone has a Happy Thanksgiving!

Denna Flemming

“Busia” or “babcia” – ongoing controversy

By: Robert Strybel

Across our American Polonia, one of the most widely held notions is that “busia” (sometimes spelled “busha”) is the Polish word for grandma. And invariably, some of the more recent arrivals from Poland will contest that belief. “No, the word for grandma is ‘babcia’, not some ‘busia’,” comes the reply. For years that good-natured controversy has raged at the bars of Pol-Am clubs and more recently on online Polonian discussion forums.

In defense of “busia” one can hear the argument “that my grandmother was born in Poland and everybody always called her ‘busia’!” Some claim that “busia” comes from a certain part of Poland or that it is the low-class way of calling grandma, the high-class way being “babcia.” So who is right?

Let me start by saying that Polish is a language rich in variant forms. In English the endearing forms of John are Johnny and in some cases Jack, and that’s about all. In Polish the diminutives for the first name Jan (John) include Janek, Janko, Janeczek, Janeczko, Januœ, Jaœ, Jasio, Jasiu (in peasant dialect), Jasiek, Jacœko, Jasieniek, Jasiulek and probably a few more.

So it is with grandma. The authoritative multi-volume *S³ownik Jêzyka Polskiego* (dictionary) of Kar³owicz, Kryñski and NiedŸwiedzki (Warsaw, 1905) lists the following forms: “babka, babcia, babciutka, babeczka, babusia, babuœ, babuchna, babunia, babuñcia, babuleñka and babulinka.” The “busia” version is not among them.

That means that “busia” is a strictly Polish-American term – part of an indigenous Polonian culture like polka music which is unknown in Poland. Nobody knows when, where and why the first American with Polish immigrant roots uttered the word “busia.” It could have originated as baby talk by someone too young to say “babusia”, one of the forms listed above. Whatever the case, it somehow caught on and can now be heard from the Eastern Seaboard to the West Coast, from the northern states down into Florida, Texas and the southwest.

The Polish-American experience has produced two basic types of what might be termed Polonian speech patterns. One was “Polglish”, comparable to the “Franglais” (English-influenced French) of Québec. It retained basic Polish grammatical structure but added Polish endings to many English words. The result was nouns such as “kara” (car) and “stryta” (street) and verbs such as “drajwowaœ” (to drive a car) and “klinowaœ” (to clean).

The above practice was typical of the immigrant newcomers and their U.S.-born children. Those who spoke little or no Polish often peppered their English with certain Polish words or phrases. It is they who could be referred to as “the busia crowd.” Usually those expressions were only spoken and rarely written down. So when the rare occasion to write them did occur, you ended up with things like “Happy Birthday Busha” or “Merry Christmas Chacha!”

Pol-Am pet names, special words, jokes and baby talk varied from family to family, but more often than not encompassed the following areas:

FAMILY MEMBERS: different forms of babcia/babcha/bopcha, busia/busha, babci/bopchee, dziadzia/jaja, dziadzi/jajee, ciocia/chocha/chacha/ wujek/vuyek.

FAVORITE FOODS: pierogi/pierogies, go³bki/golumpkie, p¹czki/punchkie, babka/bopka, barszcz/bashch, kie³basa/kelbasa/kielbasi/kabassi/kabossy/ kelbassy, etc.

PHRASES: “IdŸ do domu spaœ” (Go home and sleep) and “Daj mi buzi” (Gimme a kiss) were also common. Those who had dogs often ordered their canines “Pod stó³” (under the table) or “do budy” (into the doghouse).

Dousman Stagecoach Inn Museum



Volunteers from Polanki who worked at the Dousman Stagecoach Inn Museum at Christmastime in December 2016 enjoyed a gratis tea at the museum on Sunday, October 1, 2017. Again, the ladies at the museum expressed gratitude for the work Polanki provided at the museum to share our Polish culture. Polanki volunteers also felt most appreciated by the museum.

It was an enjoyable weekend for the museum volunteers and the Polanki volunteers. Margie Hess, Valerie Lukaszewicz and Camille Shaw were recipients of the historical tea.

This Christmas season the museum will be highlighting Laura Ingalls Wilder at the museum. Although we are told the Christmas tea is sold out the museum will be open Saturday, December 2 at 10:00a.m. and Sunday, December 3, 2017 at noon.

Emily Fons Concert

On November 25 there will be a concert by mezzo soprano Emily Fons at the Polish Center, which Polanki is supporting with a sponsorship in memory of Barbara Niemczycki.

Twenty tickets will be distributed at the November membership meeting, so people should check their calendars to determine whether they would be able to attend.

Let Susan Mikos know if you need more information.



Acclaimed by *Opera News* Magazine as one of opera's rising stars, mezzo soprano Emily Fons is enjoying a successful career both in America and internationally. Her program will include songs and arias in English, Spanish, German and Polish.



Community Corner

The Polish Center Annual Gala Fundraiser,
November 11

October

10/01 Joyce Broderick
10/03 Darla Flemming
10/08 Wanda Kosmalski
10/14 Grace Janusz
10/17 Colette VanDe Boom
10/21 Joyce Hryniewicki
10/22 Patricia Koronkowski
10/24 Anne Gurnack
10/25 Anne Heinrich
10/26 Ann Pienkos

November

11/04 Margaret Cieslak-Etlicher
11/07 Monika Sobierajski
11/08 Susan Konecny
11/10 Janet Rydlewicz
11/15 Bette Dulka
Anne Wal
11/18 Dorothy Fennig
11/21 Helen Miller
11/22 Lucy Reasoner
11/26 Ruth Klewin
11/29 Camille Shaw
11/30 Lorraine Grzechowiak

Get Well Wishes To

Active member, Nancy Monfre's daughter, Emily has been ill.

Active member, Margie Hess is having surgery on November 6

Active member, Christine Ostuski had eye surgery

Deepest Sympathy to

Active member, Adrienne Zuber whose husband passed away

Sustaining member, Mary Ellen DiVito whose mother passed away

Upcoming Events

Nov. 17-19	Holiday Folk Fair, State Fair Park
Dec. 3	Holiday Bazaar, The Polish Center
Dec. 10	Polanki Christmas Party, Polonez
Jan. 21	Polanki Book Club, The Polish Center
Apr. 8	Awards Tea, The Polish Center
Apr. 29	Pierogi Dinner, The Polish Center
Jun 15-17	Polish Fest, Summerfest Grounds

Congratulations to

Active member, Jean Wroblewski who will be inducted into the Holiday Folk Fair International Wall of Honor.

2017 Recognition for Years of Membership

5 years

Adrienne Zuber

10 years

Rachel Fingers

Julie Brzezinski Lenkiewicz

Majorie Piechowski

15 years

Joanne Barndt

Diane Ullstrup

Dolores Winkler

Karen Zakowski

20 years

Theresa Markowski

Anna Napiorkowski

John Shaw

25 years

Mirosław Rogalski

30 years

Bette Dulka

Nancy Monfre

35 years

Angela Glowacki

Diane Holytz

45 years

Edith Malson



United Nations Day at Bruce Guadalupe Community School

Bruce Guadalupe Community School in Milwaukee celebrated United Nations Day on October 24th. All students and staff were encouraged to dress in cultural attire and teach about their culture. Ms. Ullstrup's first grade class was exposed to the Polish culture. They tasted chrusciki, handmade by active Polanki members, Diane Ullstrup and Jessica Ullstrup. They viewed pictures from Jessica's recent trip to Poland. They were educated on the Polish folk costume elements, slippers from Zakopane, Polish money the zloty, and Boleslawiec pottery. The day ended by the students learning to polka and singing Sto Lat.



Thank you, sincerely, even though late

I hope that the generous volunteers, who worked so hard in the Polish Fest 2017 Cultural Village can accept the cliché “better late than never”. A literal pain in the neck slowed down expression of the Cultural Village co-chairs gratitude.

Polish Fest 2017, despite the Saturday evening deluge was a sure success. Thank you for making the following statement possible. “The people were so wonderful”. 2017 brought great sales, exhibits that people actually spent time reading, speakers who informed the audiences, and much enjoyment interacting with demonstrators and learning about Polish culture.

Thank you for volunteering your time in Polish Fest’s Cultural Village.
Volunteers make the event!

Gratefully,
Cultural Village Co-chairs Anne Wal, Laurie Ufnowski, and Camille Shaw



Polanki Book Club

The next book club meeting will be meeting on January 21 at 1:30 pm at the Polanki Library. The book is The Doll by Bolesław Prus and is classic novel in Polish literature. An English translation is available online through Amazon for about \$10.50 with taxes. Ewa will bring a few copies to the next meeting. Below is a summary from Wikipedia to give you an overview. For more detail about the plot, see <http://www.complete-review.com/reviews/polska/prusb.htm>

The Doll (Polish: *Lalka*) is the second of four acclaimed novels by the Polish writer Bolesław Prus (real name Aleksander Głowacki). It was composed for periodical serialization in 1887-89 and appeared in book form in 1890.

The Doll has been regarded by some, including Nobel laureate Czesław Miłosz, as the greatest Polish novel. According to Prus biographer Zygmunt Szweykowski, it may be unique in 19th-century world literature as a comprehensive, compelling picture of an entire society. While The Doll takes its fortuitous title from a minor episode involving a stolen toy, readers commonly assume that it refers to the principal female character, the young aristocrat Izabela Łęcka. Prus had originally intended to name the book Three Generations.



Upcoming Events

Holiday Folk Fair

Jean Wroblewski will be inducted into the Holiday Folk Fair International Wall of Honor. The induction ceremony will take place at the Opening Ceremony of this year's Holiday Folk Fair on Friday, November 17, at 5:30 p.m. in the All Nations Theater

Cultural Exhibit at Holiday Folk Fair

Holiday Folk Fair is on November 17-19, 2017. Once again, the theme this year is "Celebrate the Culture of Welcome." Polanki's cultural exhibit at Holiday Folk Fair will feature Polish traditions on Christmas Eve that describe its culture of welcome. Volunteers are needed to participate in the exhibit during Holiday Folk Fair. Please contact Anne Wal if you can volunteer at one or more times during the weekend (414-287-1530 or awal@vonbriesen.com). Sign-up sheets will also be circulated at the November meeting.

Past Events

Soup Festival

On Sunday, October 22, on a cold and rainy day, approximately 215 people attended the Soup Festival anxious to try the soups we had this year. Thank you so much to the soup makers, without you, there wouldn't be an event:

Mary Ellen DeVito-Kapuśniak (Cabbage Soup), Laurie Ufnowski-Barszcz Czerwony (Beet Root Soup), Anne Wal-Zupa Szczawiowa (Sorrel Soup), Camille Shaw-Zupa Ziemniaczana (Potato Soup), Anna Rogalski-Czarnina (Duck Blood Soup), Ela Wasielewski and Mike Norman-Grzybowa (Mushroom Soup).

This event takes a lot of people to help make everything come together and I truly thank you all for making this event successful:

- Pat Koronkowski and Barb Januchowski for doing the flowers on the tables and setting the tables on Saturday afternoon
- Judy Chattin and Edith Malson who took over coordinating the reservations when Geraldine was unable to continue
- Dana Michaels for helping on Saturday afternoon setting up the kitchen
- Camille Shaw for coordinating the European Bake Sale
- Nancy Monfre, Shirley Rydell and Bette Dulka for selling the folk art, along with Lynn Adams, Susan Mikoś and Rachel Hooten for selling the pottery.
- Helen Miller and new member Barb Sadowski for selling raffle tickets. The money collected will go to support Laski, the blind school in Poland.

And, to all of the Polanki members and non-members who volunteered, thank you so very much for giving of your time!

Diane Holytz – Chair

Pictures from the Soup Festival on October 22



More pictures from the Soup Festival on October 22



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