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# Polanki Meeting April 13

On Friday, April 13, Polanki's regular meeting will be held at Villa St. Francis at 7:30pm in the dining room.

**SPEAKERS**: Monika Sobierajski, co-founder and current director of Polish Fest's Chopin Youth Piano Competition celebrating its 20th year

**HOSTESSES**: Barbara Januchowski

Terri Cieslak Wanda Kosmalski Pat Koronkowski Edith Malson Laurie Ufnowski

#### From the President's Desk

Similar to tax professionals, April and spring "busy season" has arrived for Polanki! This month, Polanki will host two main events at the Polish Center: the College Achievement Awards Tea on April 8 and the Pierogi Dinner on April 29. If you would like to bring a savory and/or sweet item to the Awards Tea and have not signed up to do so, please contact Nadine Flemming and Denna Flemming. Please plan to attend on April 8 if you can; the students' achievements are amazing and seeing their proud family and friends is such a warming experience.

Jessica Ullstrup and her committee members are well on their way in planning the Pierogi Dinner on April 29 at the Polish Center. There are two seatings—one starts at 11 a.m. and the other starts at 1 p.m. The cost is \$17.00 per dinner and a cash bar will be available. Because of the new rules at the Polish Center that do not permit members to make and bring salads from home, the salads will be purchased from a Chicago deli. Donations for the salads (the cost of ingredients if you previously prepared salads) would be greatly appreciated and can be given directly to Jessica. Pottery and folk art will also be available for sale to members and diners. (Continued on next page)

### From the President's desk continued...

Polish Fest is coming up on June 15-17, 2018, at the Summerfest grounds. Volunteers are needed for the various areas of the Cultural Village, including the Sales Booth. Information and sign-up sheets will be available at the membership meeting on April 13.

Polanki will be participating in two new events this year: a Mulicultural Fair at Lane Intermediate School on May 18 and Cudahy Family Library Day in Poland on September 15. More information about these events are included in this newsletter. Please consider chairing or participating in one or both.

Finally, a big thank you to Jean Wroblewski and her team, Pat Koronkowski, Edith Malson and Bette Dulka, for having the sales booth at the Swiecone on Palm Sunday at Blessed Sacrament Church Hall. Jean, along with her family and Pat, Edith and Bette, did the set-up, sales and take-down. There were record sales of pottery and other items at the dinner and the wooden rolling pins (for display only to assess interest) were the talk of the town! My take-aways from that day—buy a dinner ticket next year (the food looked and smelled incredible) and let's get Jean some help for the sales booth!

Thank you, ladies, for your help and wisdom as Polanki enters its spring busy season!!

Anne Wal

# In honor of Polanki's 65th Anniversary this year!



# Did you know...

Polanki has always been a strong proponent of libraries and books. We have helped to fund the publication of several books and articles relating to Polish Culture, including an issue of the Milwaukee County Historical Society's magazine that was devoted to Polish American topics. In 1966, the year of Poland's Millennium of Christianity celebration, we established the Millennium Book Fund to purchase books on Polish themes for the Milwaukee Public Library. Polanki also sponsored several screenings of Polish films at the Milwaukee Public Library and elsewhere. Polanki members have also prepared numerous Polish Heritage Month displays at the Zablocki and Cudahy Public Libraries. Today, Polanki enjoys the hard-won privilege of maintaining its own library.





#### **April**

4/01 Carol Powers
4/10 Kathy Wieczorek
4/11 Sue Zblewski
4/13 Therese E. Cieslak
4/18 Barbara Januchowski
4/27 Joe Shaw
4/28 Margie Hess

## **Upcoming Events**

April 8 Awards Tea,

Polish Center

April 29 Pierogi Dinner,

Polish Center

June 15-17 Polish Fest,

**Summerfest Grounds** 

## **Community Corner**

<u>Peter Burzyski: Poems of Szymborska and Milosz</u> <u>Monday, April 9, 7:00pm</u> at the Polish Center of Wisconsin

#### Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra

**Saturday/Sunday, April 7-8,** at the Basilica of St. Josaphat, concert and MSO led discussion one hour before, "John Luther Adams's Become Ocean won a Pulitzer and mesmerized audiences."

https://www.mso.org/concerts/become-ocean/36488

#### Wisconsin Dells Polka Fest

April 27-29, at the Chula Vista in Wisconsin Dells

#### **Poland's Constitution Day Celebration**

**Sunday, May 3, 7:00pm** at the Polish Center of Wisconsin, Free, Wine and Cheese Event

#### **Cultural Festival- SPASH**

Saturday, May 12, in Stevens Point

#### **Spring Fling Polka Pow Wow**

**Sunday, May 27, 1-5pm** at the Moose Family Center in Stevens Point, Dancing and Polish refreshments available, suggested donation \$10

### **Deepest Sympathy**

Sustaining member, Mary Ellen DeVito's oldest son, Will passed away. He was 33 years old and had valve replacement surgery a few weeks ago.

### **Get Well Soon**

Active member, Carol Powers had surgery to resolve a vascular problem. She is recovering well.

## **Happy Easter!**

Article from Polish Embassy Newsletter March 29, 2018



On behalf of the entire team at the Embassy of the Republic of Poland, we extend best wishes for a joyful and blessed Easter filled with hope, love and happiness.

Easter is one of the oldest and the most important Christian feasts in Poland, with numerous beautiful customs. One of the most popular is the blessing of the Easter baskets. Everyone fills their basket with different family specialties, but some of the most likely things to be found include:

- Bread and salt the tradition of greeting guests with bread and salt dates back many centuries and is a mark of Polish hospitality. In an Easter basket and according to Catholic tradition, bread symbolizes the body of Christ. Salt symbolizes truth and cleansing.
- Butter or sugar lamb symbolizes resurrection.
- Ham or sausage symbolic of God's favor and generosity.
- Horseradish symbolic of the Passion of Christ.
- Baked goods symbolize excellence. Traditional Easter baked goods include the babka and the mazurek.
- Green plants and flowers symbols of spring, new life and rebirth.
- And of course, eggs! Painted, dyed and decorated in all sorts of ways, eggs symbolize new life and Christ's Resurrection.



# **Loose Coins for Laski**

Camille Shaw is starting a new initiative and will be collecting your loose change and donating it to Laski. Bring your change to any Polanki membership meeting. Thank you!

### **Polish Knit Objects**

Please bring your Polish knit objects for the Cultural Booth at Polish Fest. Give to Camille Shaw at the April membership meeting.



### Milwaukee Public Art Museum

Polank is a member of the Milwaukee Public Art Msueum and therefore receives 2 complimentary passes. These passes can be checked out with Edith Malson or at the Polani Lbiarry. Please feel free to use these passes and then return them when you are finished using them.

Note: The first Thursday of every month the Art Museum offers free admission complimients of Meijer.



Pierogi Dinner Update

Polanki's Pierogi Dinner will be held on Sunday, April 29<sup>th</sup> at the Polish Center. The dinner will be \$17 for 8 pierogi, 2 salads, dessert and coffee/tea. The frozen pierogi orders will now be upstairs and the Veterans Room will be open for seating. Polish folk art will be for sale in the main hallway. Due to new policies about bringing in food at the Polish Center we will be purchasing the salads from Montrose Bakery in Chicago. A donation of what you usually spend on y our ingredients will be collected at the next membership meeting on April 13<sup>th</sup> and can be given to Jessica Ullstrup. Thank you in advance for your contribution. Ideal Bakery in Chicago will be used to provide a variety of Polish desserts. To thank you for your help if you volunteer for the event you will be given a special discounted rate of \$12. Simply write "Volunteer" on your order form before you send it to Therese Cieslak. The volunteer sign-up sheet will be passed around at the April 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### **Soup Festival**

With the recent sale of the Norway House, Polanki will have to find a new venue to host our annual fall Soup Festival. If you have any location suggestions please share your ideas with Anne Wal.



**Perfekt Blouses** 

Many members have been inquiring about where to find authentic Polish blouses to wear at our Polanki events. We are considering doing a group order for a blouse similar to the pictured Krakow Blouse with lace. They are a 100% poly-cotton blend and range from \$36-41 based on your size. We would like to order samples of each size so members know what would fit them the best. If you want to look more at this type of blouses and folk costume attire, go to the following website:

http://www.perfekt.krakow.pl/costumes/krakow#photo765

If you are interested in placing a group order, please contact Kathy Wieczorek at <a href="kwieczorek@sbcglobal.net">kwieczorek@sbcglobal.net</a> or (414) 587-9554.

### **College Achievement Awards Tea**

#### **Entertainment**

Adam Chlastawa, a native of Poland, began playing the piano at age of six. With honors from each academy Chlastawa graduated in 1997 from the music school in Tarnow, Poland and in 2002 from Roosevelt University under the direction of renowned pianist Professor Pawel Checinski. In 1999, Chlastawa was awarded First Prize at the Kosciuszko Foundation Chopin Competition in Chicago. Adam has also won First Prize at the Roosevelt University Concerto Competition and received Second Prize at the Kankakee Valley Symphony Orchestra Piano Concerto Competition. In 1994, Chlastawa was awarded Third Prize at the National Ignacy Jan Paderewski Piano Competition in Poland and in 1996; he received an honorable mention at the International "Arthur Rubinstein in Memoriam" Piano Competition in Bydgoszcz, Poland. Adama is a 2000 Ruth Ramis Music Award Winner and also won scholarships from the Evanston Music Club and the American Opera Society of Chicago.

Chlastawa has participated in various music festivals and seminars conducted by world-famous pianists such as Janusz Olejniczak, Pawel Skrzpek, Bella Davidovich, Menahem Pressler, Lee Kum-Sing, and Jerome Rose.

Adam Chlastawa has performed many solo recitals throughout the US, as well as Poland, Hungary, Taiwan and Japan. He has participated in the program, "Paderewski Piano on Tour," sponsored by the Copernicus Foundation and the Polish Museum of America. Chlastawa has also appeared as a soloist with the Lake Shore Symphony Orchestra performing Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No. 1. www.adamchlastawapiano.com

### **Bakery Drop Off**

Please drop off your sweet/savory items between noon and 1:30pm at the Polish Center on Sunday, April 8<sup>th</sup>. Then please feel free to stay and enjoy the Awards Tea beginning at 2:00pm.



## **Renew Membership Reminder**

Please remember to turn in your membership renewal form to Marjorie Piechowski at the next membership meeting. You can also mail it to the Polanki, Inc. P.O. Box 341458 Milwaukee, WI 53234 or to her home at 4985 North Iroquois Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53217.

### Two New Polanki Events

Polanki was approached by Lane Intermediate School and the Cudahy Family Library to participate in their events involving Polish culture.

The first is a Multicultural Fair on Friday, May 18, from 1 to 3 p.m. at Lane Intermediate School (1300 South 109<sup>th</sup> Street, West Allis, in its Auxiliary Gym). The School is looking for cultural artifacts, food, displays, flags, music, art, posters, dance, educational information, games, and cultural dress. Tables will be set up with cultural representatives hosting a table. Students will be able to walk through the gym and stop and talk to the representatives, sample food, and ask questions and learn. Lane has approximately 530 students in grades 6, 7 and 8. The theme of the Multicultural Fair is "We Are One World."

The second is a "Day in Poland" on Saturday, September 15, at the Cudahy Family Library (3500 Library Drive, Cudahy). The hours are likely to be 10 a.m. to 1 or 2 p.m. The Library is hoping to use its new spaces, including a great room, patio and theater space, to showcase Polish culture. Polanki would be able to sell folk art, pottery and food (if desired). The Library is hoping the Syrena dancers could also perform. Tables could be set up to showcase Polish culture.

Chairpersons are needed for each event. For members who have not yet been a chairperson for a Polanki event, these would be a good place to start. Please contact Anne Wal with your interest.

## **Deadline for Inclusion on Membership Meeting Agenda**

The deadline to be included on the agenda for the membership meeting is end of day Tuesday of the membership meeting week. Given the amount of business that needs to be accomplished at each meeting and to show respect for the speaker's time, it would be best to know in advance of announcements and other new business. Please contact Anne Wal with agenda items.

## **Deadline for Inclusion in Monthly Newsletter**

The deadline to be included in the newsletter is the last day of the month. Please contact Jessica Ullstrup with your ideas.

# Camille Shaw and Anne Wal at the Bal Maskowy on February 10th



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