Polish Women's Cultural Club Newsletter

September (Wrzesień) 2019

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Polanki Meeting September 13

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

PROGRAM: Polish Treasure Rummage Sale, proceeds going to Laski. Ladies, please bring Polish items that you need to move on so you have room for new treasures or items that you are just not using any more.

HOSTESSES: Sue Holcomb

Marjorie Piechowski
Heddy Moskaluk
Loretta Nyland
Joyce Broderick
Diane Ullstrup
Jessica Ullstrup
Sue Zblewski

Upcoming Events

September 21- Polish Spirituality Retreat at the Conservancy for Health and Healing led by Claire Anderson

September 28- Help beautify the Kosciuszko Gardens from 10noon at Kosciuszko Park on Lincoln Ave. at 9th St.

October 19- Polish Genealogy Interest Group (see flyer on pg. 6)

October 27- Soup Festival at Blessed Sacrament

*Looking for members willing to serve on the committee. Contact Anne Wal if interested.

November 22-24- Folk Fair at State Fair Park

December 1- Holiday Bazaar at the Polish Center

December 15- Polanki Christmas Party, Pulaski Inn, Cudahy

Community Corner

Mondays, September 9-30 & October 7-14, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Conversational Polish Class for Beginners, \$85 per person at the Polish Center

Tuesdays, September 10-October 15, 4:00-10:00 p.m. Beer Garden and Patio Party at the Polish Center

Thursday, September 12, 7:00 p.m., The Polish Gray Samaritans: America's First Peace Corps at the Polish Center

September 15, Dożynki (Harvest Festival) at Polonia

September 16, 6:30 p.m. Mushroom Soup Cooking Demonstration at the Polish Center

September 21, Dome Lightning at the Basilica

October 6, Auschwitz Concentration Camp Exhibit Opening and Lecture at the Polish Center



Mondays, October 7-28, \$10 per person, Beginning Genealogy at the Polish Center

October 13, 2:00 p.m., *I Sing to Myself and the Muses!* A Concert of Polish Renaissance Poetry and Folk Music at All Saints Lutheran Church

October 10, 6:30 p.m., Polish Plum Cake Cooking Demonstration at the Polish Center

November 2, Loaves and Fishes Gala at the Historic Pritzlaff Building in Downtown Milwaukee -Benefits the preservation of a magnificent landmark, the Basilica of St. Josaphat

December 31, Polonia's Gala New Year's Eve Ball





September

9/02 Nancy Rydell Joanna Frączek 9/04 Mirosław Rogalski 9/07 **Judy Chattin** Diane Ullstrup 9/12 9/13 Barbara Mueller 9/16 Joanne Barndt Susan Mullikin 9/17 Teresa Frankowski 9/21 9/29 Heddy Moskaluk 9/30 Dana Michaels



Our Deepest Sympathies to...

Sustaining member Shirley Sternig's mother-in-law, Elsie Sternig. passed away on August 29th at the age of 95.



Get Well Soon...

Sustaining member Lorraine Grzechowiak had a stroke and will be going to rehab.

Life member Jadwiga Korasz recently had surgery and we wish her all the best on her recovery.

Polish Women's Group Preserves Basilica and City's Heritage

(written by Jeffrey Jensen, for the St. Josaphat Basilica Foundation)

Susan Mikoś and Edith Malson, both past presidents of Polanki, the Polish Women's Cultural Club of Milwaukee, recently joined 14 additional members of the organization on a special and fascinating guided tour of the renowned Conrad Schmitt Studios in New Berlin, WI.

The entire group was captivated, understandably, as they interacted with the artisans and craftsmen responsible for restoring the splendor of stained glass windows from churches around the world and were witness to the workmanship and attention to detail required of them.

Moreover, they all shared a vested interest in being there, after all, as they wanted to see how their generous \$50,000 donation to the St. Josaphat Basilica Foundation was being spent to replenish and repair windows of our own Basilica.



The women of Polanki, Milwaukee's Polish Women's Cultural Group toured Conrad Schmitt Studios to see the stained glass restoration process. Polanki contributed \$50,000 to the restoration of the west bell tower window. Their generosity in helping to preserve the Basilica's beautiful interior helps make it one of the top things to do in Milwaukee for visitors.

"Polanki is a dynamic organization with more than 100 dedicated members interested in showcasing Polish culture," Mikoś said. "Our great strength is that we've been able to evolve with the changing times. We want Polish culture to be presented in a true way, accurately, and have tried to maintain certain standards and maintain a positive image."

Indeed, the recent gift particularly earmarked for the window restoration project is just the latest benevolent gesture by Polanki, a group that has maintained a longtime commitment of supporting the Basilica and its efforts to showcase its Polish roots. Polanki has been active now for more than 65 years and has been promoting Polish traditions and preserving Polish heritage in a great number of ways in addition to its support of the Basilica.

The group sponsors many cultural programs and concerts throughout the year, hosts a Pierogi Dinner in the spring, their Soup Festival in the fall, participates in Polish Fest in June and the annual November Holiday Folk Fair. The club awards more than \$10,000 a year in college scholarship funds and was a driving force behind the successful effort to restore the General Tadeusz (Thaddeus) Kosciuszko monument in the park named in his honor across from the Basilica.

Kosciuszko was born in Poland in 1746, the Polanki club would want you to know, and came to America intent on using his expertise as a military engineer to help the colonies gain independence from Great Britain. Kosciuszko designed fortifications that helped the Revolutionary Army win critical victories, including the fortress at West Point, which later became the premier US military academy, his crowning achievement.

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Polish Women's Group Preserves Basilica and City's Heritage

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This important bit of narrative is of course no surprise to one Susan Gibson Mikoś, recipient of a Master of Anthropology and Historical Archeology from Brown University, since she authored a book in 2012 published by the Wisconsin Historical Society Press titled, "Poles in Wisconsin." And conveniently enough, if you have an interest in Susan's book or a vast collection of other materials about Poland, the public is welcome to visit the Polanki Library located at the Polish Center of Wisconsin, in Franklin.

Polanki contributed funds to underwrite the construction of the library, established in the year 2000, and today it includes resources dealing with history, culture, language, heraldry, literature, folklore, music, geography, arts and the burgeoning subject of genealogy. The Polanki Library's regular hours are Tuesdays 12 to 2pm, Wednesdays from 6 to 8pm, or by appointment.

Malson, 83, the other former president of the club, is now an advisor on the Polanki Board of Directors and has had an alliance with the group since 1972.

"I have an interest in seeing the group do well. Once you're a Polanka you're a member for a long time," she said. "I think it's an organization that because of the commitment our members bring to our endeavors, I think it will continue beyond our lifetimes."



Save the date!

Sunday, October 13, 2:00 p.m., ticket cost \$10

I Sing to Myself and the Muses! A Concert of Polish Renaissance Poetry and Folk Music

Performed by the Modern Minstrels (Kinga Vnuk, Roman Pikula, Tatiana Migliaccio, Ingrid Tihtcheva)

Presented by Polanki

All Saints Lutheran Church 9131 S. Howell Avenue Oak Creek, WI

Polish Genealogy Interest Group Forming



Have you been researching your Polish family history?

Are you interested in

Are you interested in exploring resources and sharing information?

Join us for the first meeting of the Polish Genealogy Interest Group:

Saturday, October 19, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Greendale Public Library – Community Meeting Room 5647 Broad St., Greendale, WI 53129

Note: additional parking is available in the municipal lot behind the library.

Future meetings will be determined by the participants.

Please RSVP to Susan Mikoś (sgmikos@yahoo.com or 414-332-1728) if you plan to attend.

Meeting hosted by Polanki, the Polish Women's Cultural Club of Milwaukee.

Polish Fest 2019

Cooking Demonstrations at Polish Fest (Pictures taken by Susan Mikoś)



Folk Artists at Polish Fest

(Pictures taken by Susan Mikoś and Jessica Ullstrup)



Polish Spirituality Morning of Reflection

Join us for a morning of reflection on Polish spirituality in the serene setting of the Conservancy for Healing and Heritage (near the Polish Center of Wisconsin) on Saturday, September 21st. Learn about six distinguishable characteristics of Polish spirituality, enjoy personal reflection time, and create your own harvest wreath or bouquet that symbolizes your life. The day will be facilitated by Claire Anderson, Polanki member, author of "Seasons of the Slavic Soul," and Executive Director of Siena Retreat Center in Racine. Dress to be outdoors part of the morning, weather permitting. All supplies will be provided. The day will begin at 9:00 a.m. and conclude at 12:30 p.m. The program is spiritual and not religious in nature and is open to Polanki members only. Space is limited to 18 people; please pre-register by emailing Claire at klaraanders@yahoo.com



General Polanki News

Polanki Library and Gift Shop are located on the second floor at the Polish Center of Wisconsin.

Polanki Library:

Tuesdays 12-2 Wednesdays 6-8

Polanki Gift Shop:

Monday-Friday 9-4



Loose change will be collected at the September meeting for Laski School for the Blind in Poland.

Upcoming Membership and Board Meetings

Membership Meetings

2nd Friday of the month at 7:30 pm at Villa St. Francis

September 13 October 11 November 8

December 15 (Christmas Party)

January 10

Board Meetings

Last Monday of the month at 7:00 pm at Villa St. Francis

September 30 October 28 November 25

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