



Polanki, Inc.

The Polish Women's Cultural Club of Milwaukee Newsletter

November (listopad) 2022

NOVEMBER 16, 2022

MEMBERSHIP MEETING 6:30 P.M.

POLISH CENTER OF WISCONSIN

6941 South 68th Street, Franklin, WI 53132

Hostesses: Louise Cieslak, Susan Cieslak, Suzanne Holcomb, Diane Holytz, Susan Mikoś, Elaine Posard,

Program: Robert Thompson, an acclaimed bassoonist and UWM Professor Emeritus, will recall an important project in Polanki's history: the 1985 *Bassoon Concerto* by Polish composer Andrzej Panufnik, commissioned with Polanki's support and dedicated to the martyred Solidarity priest Father Jerzy Popiełuszko. For the world premiere in 1986, Maestro Panufnik conducted the Milwaukee Chamber Orchestra, Professor Thompson played the bassoon solo, and Polanki hosted a memorable reception. [See story on pages 4-5].

To join the meeting by Zoom:

<https://wisconsin-edu.zoom.us/j96403758692>

To join the meeting by telephone:

312 626 6799

Meeting ID: 964 0375 8692 Passcode: 165776

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From the President's Desk



Photo courtesy of Laurie Ufnowski

Happy November...

I can hardly believe it is already November and Holiday Folk Fair and Thanksgiving are right around the corner. Everyone is getting very busy with holidays approaching and we all have many things that need to get done.

With that being said, we still need volunteers for Holiday Folk Fair (November 17, 18, 19 and 20) and the Christmas Bazaar (December 3). I am asking all members who haven't signed up already to please volunteer for a couple of hours if you can - ***we really need your help.*** The volunteer lists will be available at our next meeting but please contact me before then if you can volunteer. ***I would really like all time slots filled by our meeting so we can get tickets to you at the meeting and avoid using the mail if possible.***

Also consider donating an hour or two to our Polanki Library – contact Susan Mikoś if you can. It would be greatly appreciated. More information appears later in the newsletter about the library.

We have also been asked to decorate the Christmas Tree at the Polish Center. I will share details at the November meeting, ask for volunteers, and set a date when members will be available to get this done. Again, this is a nice way for us to work together with the Polish Center.

I want to say “Thank You” to all who volunteered for Fungi Fest. It was a great success and we had nice sales. Jean did a wonderful job with the “Fungi” merchandise and our tables looked really nice. I know our Bazaar tables will be fabulous as well. These sales really help our treasury as well as promote us as an organization in the community.

I also want to highlight some upcoming events at the Polish Center. They sound wonderful so please plan on attending if you can. More details on these events will be provided at later dates.

12/10/2022 – Wigilia – 5:00 pm—reservations are due by December 2.

12/12/2022 – Our own Ewa Barczyk will speak and do a book signing, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

01/26/2023 – Holocaust Remembrance Day Lecture, 6:30 p.m.

02/16/2023 – History Lecture, 6:30 p.m.

02/26/2023 – Emily Fons show – American songbook. (Details to be announced)

Please remember our Polanki Christmas Party is **Sunday December 18th at the Polish Center**. Nadine Flemming and her committee are working hard to make this a beautiful event. More information will be coming out shortly. I am hoping you can all attend. It really is a highlight of my holiday season. It helps me get in the warmth and spirit of the beautiful Christmas season.

Finally, I want to wish all of you a Beautiful, Blessed and Happy Thanksgiving. I hope you all will be able to enjoy the time with family and friends. Looking forward to seeing all of you at our meeting.

Laurie Ufnowski
2022 Polanki President



If you know of any Polanki members who are sick, please contact Judy Chattin, who is serving as Co-Chair this year with Edith Malson.

Edith Malson (414) 744-9412
Judy Chattin (414) 425-7965



November Birthdays

11/04 Margaret Cieslak-Etlicher
11/07 Amy Konecny
11/08 Susan Konecny
11/10 Janet Rydlewicz
11/15 Bette Dulka Anne Wal
11/18 Dorothy Fennig
11/21 Helen Miller
11/22 Kathy Murkowski
11/29 Camille Shaw
11/30 Joan Shrout Alena Wadzinske

December Birthdays

12/03 Janet Protasiewicz
12/05 Elaine Posard
12/07 Shirley Sternig
12/08 Susan Browne
12/13 Diane Laus
12/14 Denna Flemming
12/16 Jane Dunn Jean Wroblewski
12/20 Maria Adamiec
12/21 Carol Knudson
12/26 Halina Sosnowski
12/30 Therese Kurszewski

Directory Updates

Please make the following updates in your 2022-2023 Membership Directory:

New Member

Therese Kurszewski
10166 S. Nicholson Road
Oak Creek, WI 53154
kurszeth64@gmail.com
Cell: 815-543-2805

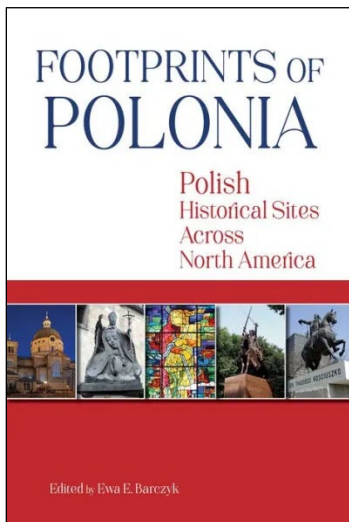
Joyce Broderick
10200 W. Bluemound Rd. **Apt. 407**
Wauwatosa, WI 53226
(414) 207-8869

Lynn Adams cell number **414-628-0852**

Dana Michaels **Apt. #1.**

Book Signings by Polanki Authors

Two Polanki Active Members, Ewa Barczyk and Susan Mikoś, will be doing readings and book signings.

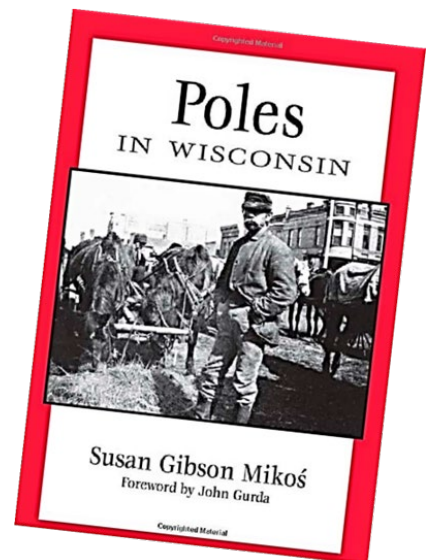


Footprints of Polonia, edited by Ewa Barczyk, is a unique publication, which catalogues the available information about the most important historical sites connected to the history of Polonia in the Western Hemisphere, and at the same time provides interesting and entertaining stories of places and people worth remembering. The guide is filled with color illustrations, and includes informative prologues by Stanislaus A. Blejwas and Anna D. Jaroszynska-Kirchmann.

December 12, 2022
6:00-8:00 p.m.
Polish Center of Wisconsin
Ewa Barczyk

In her addition to the People of Wisconsin series, author Susan Mikoś traces the history of Polish immigrants as they settled in America's northern heartland.

Presented by Elmbrook Historical Society
Free and Open to the Public
Monday November 14, 2022, 7:00 p.m.
Brookfield Public Library Community Room
1900 N Calhoun Rd, Brookfield, WI



Sir Andrzej Panufnik

Compiled by Marjorie Piechowski

Sir Andrzej Panufnik was born September 24, 1914, Warsaw, Poland and died October 27, 1991. His father was an instrument maker and his mother a violinist and his first teacher. He began composing at age nine, studied composition at the Warsaw Conservatory (1932–36), graduating with Distinction in both composition and conducting. He then studied conducting at the Vienna Academy (1937–38). He completed his studies in Paris and London and returned to Warsaw just before World War II to look after his parents.



In Nazi-occupied Poland, with public concerts banned, he arranged a massive amount of music for two pianos, which he played in underground concerts with his friend and contemporary Witold Lutosławski. He also performed with his Jewish violinist friend Tadeusz Geisler. Despite the Nazi terror in Warsaw, at great personal risk he conducted illegal concerts and composed patriotic resistance songs, including the still-famous *Warszawskie Dzieci*. During the war he lost most of his closest relatives as well as every note of music he had composed in his first 30 years, including two symphonies destroyed by fire in the Warsaw Uprising (1944).

After the war he resumed his career, conducting the Kraków Philharmonic (1945–46) and the Warsaw Philharmonic (1946–47). He had to seek out musicians, young and old, scattered all over Poland. From 1947 he was guest conductor with a number of European orchestras. His compositions also were gaining attention and won a number of awards but the Polish Communist officials began criticizing the style and content of his works.

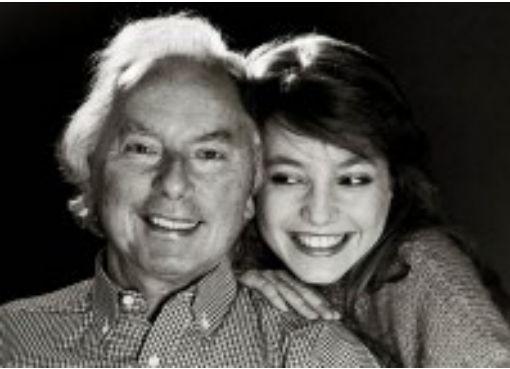
In those early post-war years he began to reconstruct his lost symphonies and other works but decided he must bury the past and start afresh. He kept only three restorations, his five *Polish Peasant Songs*, the *Piano Trio (Opus 1)* and *Tragic Overture*, dedicated to his courageous brother Mirek, a radio operator in the Polish underground. He won international admiration and honors in his own country, the originality of those mid-1940's works establishing him as the father of the Polish avant-garde.

After 1948, with the imposition of Soviet Socialist Realism, Panufnik's situation changed dramatically. As Poland's leading composer, greatly respected throughout Europe, he was under much more intense pressure than his compatriots, bullied to write according to the Soviet imposition of Socialist Realism, artificially "positive" music composed according to the dictates of the authorities. Everything he composed of value was condemned as "western, bourgeois, decadent." In 1949, the centenary of Chopin's death, he was elected Vice President of the Music Council of UNESCO, although the Polish authorities never allowed him to attend any connected ceremonies or concerts.

He worked tirelessly to try to obtain better financial and other help for his fellow composers and cared deeply about the future of Polish music; however, creatively stultified by criticism, restrictions and intolerable political pressures, he ceased to be able to compose, the driving force of his life thus extinguished. In 1954 he made a dramatic escape from Poland as a protest against Communist control over creative artists. This escape resulted in a raft of vicious propaganda and lies about him, followed by total censorship of his name and his music in Poland for 23 years.

Panufnik was a shy man, disliking public life, and his greatest desire was to live quietly and compose in peace. He settled in England, where he was musical director of the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra from 1957-

1959. He became a naturalized British subject in 1961. Life in England was not easy for him. He was independent from the current fashion in composition that dominated the BBC, Paris and New York in the 1960s and 1970s. He stuck to his own aesthetic of constantly seeking new forms and “the perfect balance between intellect and emotion, heart and mind” in his own works. Avoiding publicity but disastrous financially, he managed to disappear almost entirely from the musical scene, devoting himself to his own compositions. At last, however, unfettered by politics or conducting, the following years became the most freely creative of his life.



In 1963 Panufnik won the coveted Monaco composition prize for his still most widely loved and admired work, *Sinfonia Sacra*. In the same year he married the author and photographer Camilla Jessel. They settled in her grandmother’s old house by the Thames in Twickenham with a peaceful studio at the end of their garden where he could compose uninterrupted. His two children, Roxanna [shown at left], also a classical composer, and Jem, a graphic artist, DJ and composer of electronic music, both grew up influenced by his joy in creative work.

By the 1970s Panufnik, although still shy of publicity and deep in his work, was very much part of British musical life and his music was performed by most of Britain’s leading orchestras, with performances at the BBC Proms and at many London Symphony Orchestra concerts.

Eventually, from 1977, Panufnik’s works were gradually performed in the ever-innovative Warsaw Autumn Festival, thanks to the insistence of his fellow Polish composers. Having left as a protest, he refused to return to Poland while the Communists were still in power. In 1990, when democracy was restored, he made a momentous return to the city of his birth for the performance of eleven of his works at the Festival. He was greeted on the airport tarmac by a crowd carrying red roses and brass players performing his *Fanfare*. During this return to Poland for the first time in 36 years, he conducted the European premiere of his last symphony.

Andrzej Panufnik is one of the most important and original symphonic composers of the second half of the 20th century. His output includes ten symphonies, with Centenary commissions from Sir Georg Solti for the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and Seiji Ozawa for Boston. The London Symphony Orchestra commissioned three works from him and recorded many more of his works under the direction of Jascha Horenstein and then of Panufnik himself. Leopold Stokowski premiered several of his works in the US and then in England. Yehudi Menuhin commissioned his *Violin Concerto* for the Windsor Festival and recorded it with Panufnik conducting. Mstislav Rostropovich premiered and recorded his *Cello Concerto* with the London Symphony Orchestra and the Royal Philharmonic Society commissioned his *Ninth Symphony*, which was premiered by the BBC Symphony Orchestra conducted by the composer. In addition to four concertos, he composed three string quartets, three cantatas, other choral and vocal works, and many compositions for chamber and string ensembles. His works are probably as much recorded as any classical composers of that period.

Panufnik’s autobiography, *Composing Myself*, was published in 1987. He received a knighthood for his services to British music in 1991, the year of his death, and a posthumous Order of Polonia Restituta from President Lech Wałęsa in Poland.

Information retrieved from Britannica, The Editors of Encyclopaedia. "Sir Andrzej Panufnik," Encyclopedia Britannica, 23 Oct. 2022, <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Andrzej-Panufnik> and from Panufnik’s authorized web page. Accessed 11 November 2022.

Kościuszko Monument Update

By Susan Mikoś

We have completed fall cleanup at the Kościuszko Monument. It's hard to believe, but nine years have passed since the monument was restored and rededicated on November 11, 2013. Polanki helped to spearhead the restoration project and was a major donor. Polanki members continue to oversee the monument's upkeep and maintain the surrounding gardens.

Special thanks to Kathy and Juan Camacho, Mary (Moskaluk) Schumacher, Debbie (Moskaluk) Bayer, and Camille Shaw, along with Kosciuszko Park neighbors and friends, for their dedication throughout the season.



Library Update

By Susan Mikoś

Looking for your Polish roots? Help is available in the Polanki Library. Current hours are Tuesdays 11-2 or by appointment.



Polanki at Fungi Fair

Photos by Susan Mikoś



WE Energies Cookie Book Available



Active Member Kathy Wieczorek once again has arranged for Polanki members to get copies of the annual WE Energies Cookie Book, first printed eighty-five years ago. The books will be distributed free of charge at the Polish Center front desk. Recipes are contributed by various members of the local community. Please express your thanks to Kathy when you pick up your copy of the book and enjoy your holiday baking!

Select Polanki in Amazon Smile!

The holiday season is just around the corner. If you shop with Amazon you can support Polanki, at no cost to you, every time you shop! Simply set up Polanki one time as your Amazon Smile non-profit recipient and Amazon will then donate 0.05% of your eligible purchases to our organization. With anticipated delays in the supply chain and shipping, this is a good time to start supporting Polanki with Amazon Smile. **The POLANKI unique charity link:** <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/39-6068373>

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All Souls' Day: The Tradition of Zaduszki in Poland

Author: Culture.pl, published October 30 2014

One of the most important family holidays in Poland, Zaduszki sees people all over the country gather to visit the graves of their loved ones. Throughout Poland, cemeteries glow with lights. Travelling home is a must to celebrate Zaduszki. What once began as a set of traditions to please the spirits of the departed is now an occasion to gather the family and remember those no longer with us.

The word *zaduszki* comes from *dzień zaduszny*, which could be translated as day of prayer for the souls. The eve of the holiday, November 1st, falls on what is also known as All Saints' Day in Catholic communities. In the church calendar, that day is followed by All Souls' Day, the official day to commemorate the departed faithful.

Polish Zaduszki celebrations begin with tending to family graves and surrounding graveyards on the first day, and then extends into the next. November 1st is a bank holiday in Poland and remained free of work even during Communist times, while the following day is not. The Zaduszki custom of honoring the dead thus corresponds with All Souls' Day celebrations in many parts of the world, but has a more profound meaning, and is much more observed in Poland than in most places in the West. In the Polish calendar, Zaduszki is, along with Easter and Christmas, a requisite opportunity to meet with one's extended family.



Powązki Cemetery in Warsaw; photo: Andrzej Sidor/Forum

National Independence Day in Poland

Retrieved from Wikipedia on November 11, 2022: National Independence Day (Poland)

National Independence Day (Polish: *Narodowe Święto Niepodległości*) is a national day in Poland celebrated on 11 November to commemorate the anniversary of the restoration of Poland's sovereignty as the Second Polish Republic in 1918 from the German, Austro-Hungarian and Russian Empires. Following the partitions in the late 18th century, Poland ceased to exist for 123 years until the end of World War I, when the destruction of the neighboring powers allowed the country to reemerge. It is a non-working day and a flag flying day in Poland.

The restoration of Poland's independence was gradual. The date of 11 November is the one on which Marshal Józef Piłsudski assumed control of Poland. It was a day of military ceremony since 1920. The holiday was constituted in 1937 and was celebrated only twice before World War II. After the war, the communist authorities of the People's Republic removed Independence Day from the calendar, although reclamation of independence continued to be celebrated informally on 11 November. The holiday was officially replaced by the National Day of Poland's Revival as Poland's National Day, celebrated on 22 July, anniversary of the communist PKWN Manifesto under Joseph Stalin.

In particular, during the 1980s, in many cities, including Warsaw, informal marches and celebrations were held, with the outlawed Solidarity Movement supporters participating. Typically these marches were brutally dispersed by the communist militarized police forces, with many participants arrested by the security police. During this time 11 November Independence Day marches, alongside the Constitution Day on 3 May celebration gatherings, also banned by the communist authorities, were the customary dates of demonstrations by the opponents of the communist regime. As Poland emerged from communism in 1989, the original holiday—on its original 11 November date—was restored.

The date coincides with the celebration of the World War I Armistice in other countries. All of these holidays and Polish Independence Day are indirectly related because they all emerged from the circumstances at the end of World War I. In other countries, holidays were established in the spirit of grief and horror at the enormous human cost of the war, and they mark the sacrifices of those who fought.

For Poland, however, the tragedy of the war was tempered by what had been accomplished at its end: the restoration of a sovereign Polish state that had been lost entirely in the partitions of Poland, after 123 years of struggle. The Polish holiday is therefore simultaneously a celebration of the reemergence of a Polish state and a commemoration of those who fought for it.



Military ceremony performed on Piłsudski Square, before the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier

POLANKI



College Achievement Awards

Polanki, the Polish Women's Cultural Club of Milwaukee, recognizes students who have demonstrated high achievement and who are committed to understanding, preserving, or disseminating Polish culture and/or language. Awards range in amounts from \$1000 to \$2000.

CRITERIA

1. College junior, senior or graduate student in an accredited degree program during the 2022-2023 academic year
2. U.S. citizen or legal permanent resident
3. Wisconsin resident OR attending a Wisconsin college or university
4. Of Polish ancestry OR have studied Polish language, history, society, or culture OR significantly engaged in Polish culture
5. Minimum 3.0 GPA on a four-point scale preferred

Application Deadline: January 9, 2023

For additional information about the awards or to download an application form, go to www.polanki.org.

Sto Lat! May you live a hundred years

Often sung at birthdays and name days in Poland much like the "Happy Birthday" song in the United States, "Sto Lat" is more versatile as it can be also heard at special events and occasions such as anniversaries, patriotic events and award ceremonies.

Sto lat, sto lat niech ży-je, ży-je nam, sto lat, sto lat
Good luck, good cheer may you live a hundred years, good luck, good cheer

niech ży-je, ży-je nam. Jeszcze raz, jeszcze raz
may you live - a hundred years. Good luck, good cheer

niech ży-je, ży - je nam! Niech ży - je nam !
may you live a - hundred years! One - hundred - years !

Sto Lat (Polish)

Sto lat, sto lat, niech żyje żyje nam.
Sto lat, sto lat, niech żyje żyje nam.
Jeszcze raz, jeszcze raz, niech żyje, żyje nam.
Niech żyje nam!

Sto Lat (English)

Good luck, good cheer, may you live a hundred years.
Good luck, good cheer, may you live a hundred years.
Good luck, good cheer, may you live a hundred years.
One hundred years!

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<i>Financial Review Committee</i>	Judy Chattin Sue Konecny Heddy Moskaluk
<i>Web Master</i>	Dana Michaels

A Note from the Editor

Thanks to all Polanki members who have submitted stories and ideas for stories and meeting programs. If you have ideas for future stories or potential meeting programs, please contact me to submit them at marjorie.piechowsk@sbcglobal.net or 414-963-9055.

Marjorie Piechowski
2022 Polanki Newsletter Editor



(Photo courtesy of Marjorie Piechowski)

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P.O. Box 341458
Milwaukee, WI 53234
www.polanki.org

<i>Editor</i>	<i>Marjorie Piechowski</i>
<i>President</i>	<i>Laurie Ufnowski</i>



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