



# Polanki, Inc.

The Polish Women's Cultural Club of Milwaukee Newsletter

May (mai) 2023

## **Polanki Membership Meeting Wednesday May 17, 2023 at 6:30 Polish Center of Wisconsin Veterans' Room**

**Hostesses: Beth Gavin, Bernadine Jendrzeczak,  
Jennifer Konecny, Susan Konecny, Elena Shebelski,  
and Jeanne Ziebka**

**Program: Tomek Lenkiewicz: Thaddeus Kosciuszko:  
Washington's Engineer, Jefferson's Confidant and  
Poland's National Hero**

**To join the Zoom meeting:**

[https://wisconsin-  
edu.zoom.us/j/94637263548?pwd=YVVuMzBJL1Zx  
R0lPVFEFyM1B2VjNCQT09](https://wisconsin-edu.zoom.us/j/94637263548?pwd=YVVuMzBJL1ZxR0lPVFEFyM1B2VjNCQT09)

Meeting ID: 946 3726 3548 Passcode: 927741  
Dial by your location  
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago) and enter  
Meeting ID: 946 3726 3548

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## *From the President's Desk*



*(Photo courtesy of Laurie Ufnowski)*

Dear Polanki Members: Happy May! I wish everyone a beautiful Mother's Day and hope you enjoy the day with family and friends. May begins our summer season when we all become very busy and the time just flies by. I am looking forward to warmer weather and hopefully more sunshine.

I want to personally thank everyone who volunteered in any way for the Awards Tea. It was an absolutely beautiful event and of course as always our members came through with spectacular sweet and savory treats for our tables. Everyone was so impressed and I heard nothing but wonderful comments.

Kathy Wiczorek created beautiful centerpieces in Boleslawiec pottery that added an extra special flair to the buffet tables. Also an extra special "Thank You" to Judy Chattin and Louise Cieslak for chairing the event and Joanne Barndt and her committee for choosing the award recipients.

### ***President's Message, continued***

We had an excellent group of well deserving students. As members of Polanki we should be very proud of this commitment to our mission. I know all of the students were very appreciative and grateful for the awards. The "Thank You" speeches were all from the heart and they brought tears to my eyes.

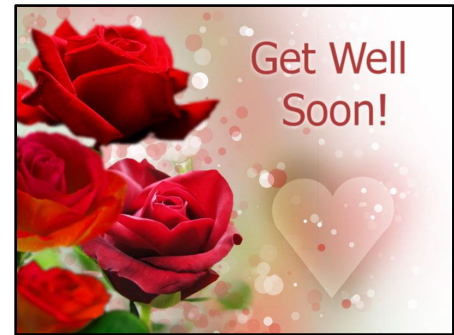
I want to make a plea to all members to please volunteer however you can for Polish Fest. Many hands are needed to make this a success. The Polish Fest Committee is working very hard to make this a great festival for Milwaukee.

Our Polanki committees for the Cultural Village and the Sales Tent have been spending numerous hours so the event is a huge success. Ewa Barczyk and Tamara Johnston have spent countless hours setting up the village so everything is just right. Camille Shaw and Heddy Moskaluk have worked hard to get the demonstrators/vendors so the Cultural Village has wonderful displays of Polish heritage and folk art. Jean Wroblewski is working hard to make sure the sales tent has a beautiful array of merchandise to sell and Diane Holytz has organized the volunteers. Joanne Barndt and her team are organizing the book sale, which always draws interested buyers every year. Polish Fest cannot be done without everyone's help. Please find it in your heart to help however you can.

Finally, I want to thank all of you for putting your trust in me. I continue to try and do my best so that Polanki continues to thrive in the Milwaukee community. I take this position very seriously and I strive to do the absolute best possible of our organization.

Warm regards,

***Laurie Ufnowski***  
***2023 Polanki President***



We have a number of Polanki members needing sunshine wishes this month. The following members are recovering from surgery or other health issues: ***Active Members Nadine Flemming, Jennifer Konecny, Kathy Wieczorek,*** and ***Sustaining Member Angela Pienkos.*** ***Sustaining Member Joan Shrout*** continues her recovery, grateful to attend meetings by Zoom and for cards and calls from Polanki members. ***Life Member Edith Malson,*** Sunshine Co-Chair, is being treated for blood pressure issues.

We continue to send flowers and cards to those and others who need cheering up. Please remember these and Polanki members who are confined to their homes with a card, an email or a phone call. They are all very grateful for your support.

If you know of any members who are sick or who would appreciate sunshine greetings, please contact Judy Chattin or Edith Malson, Sunshine Co-Chairs:

Edith Malson  
(414) 744-9412-home

Judy Chattin  
(414) 425-7965-home  
(414) 429-2196-cell  
[j.chattin@sbcglobal.net](mailto:j.chattin@sbcglobal.net)

## A Reminder: Annual Membership Dues

Please note that your annual active or sustaining membership renewal is now due, at the new rate approved during the January 2023 meeting. To renew, fill out the membership form (included with this mailing) and send it with your payment to **Lynn Adams, Membership Chair:**

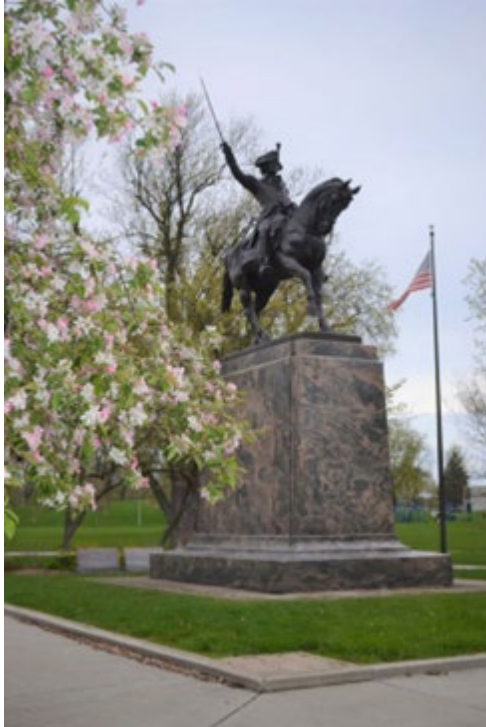
Polanki, Inc.  
P.O. Box 341458  
Milwaukee, WI 53234

***Note that members who have not renewed by May 31 will no longer receive the newsletter and will not be included in the 2023 member directory.***

## Polanki Apparel

Members can pick up their Polanki apparel at the May meeting, in time for Polish Fest and other Polish events this summer. Thanks to Jessica Condit for handling the orders.

\*\*\*\*\*



***Spring in Kosciuszko Park***



## May Birthdays

5/06 Krystyna Matusiak  
5/08 Julie Lenkiewicz  
5/09 Dorothy Broihier  
5/11 Lucille Trebatoski  
5/15 Angela Pienkos  
5/17 Meg Skwierawski  
5/20 Nadine Flemming  
5/25 Marcia Korducki  
5/25 Barbara Stankiewicz  
5/26 Valerie Lukaszewicz  
5/27 Claire Anderson  
5/28 Lynn Adams  
5/28 Jennifer Konecny

## June Birthdays

6/01 Molly Skwierawski  
6/01 June Czarnecki  
6/06 Esther Nowicki  
6/13 Anne Gurnack  
6/16 Urszula Tempaska  
6/16 Jennifer Flores  
6/17 Rita Rose Mauermann  
6/18 Jessica Ullstrup Condit  
6/21 Teresa Jankowski  
6/23 Angela Glowacki



## Condolences

### Jan Adamczyk



Polanki sends our deepest sympathy to the family of ***Sustaining Member Janine Adamczyk***, whose father passed away in March at the age of 99. Jan was born in Poland and faced many challenges in his life. He was sent to two concentration camps and managed to escape both times. He served in the Polish American Army and immigrated to the US in 1950. Jan spoke three languages: Polish, German, and English.



Jan met his sweetheart, Marianne, at a dance hall where he spotted her from across the room. After dancing, they fell in love, married, and enjoyed wedded bliss for 66 years.

Together, they had three children: Irene, Ronnie, and Janine. The family lived on Milwaukee's South side, practiced Catholicism, and attended St. John Kanty. Jan was very proud of his Polish heritage. He loved to Polka and was secretary for the Polish American Club, active at the Polish Center, and worked to make Polish Fest a success.

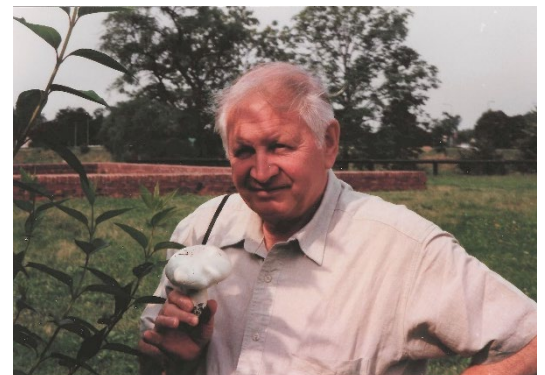
### Jerzy (Jerry) Moskaluk

Polanki mourns the death of Jerzy (Jerry) Moskaluk on Thursday, May 4, 2023 at the age of 95. A long-time ***Sustaining Member*** of Polanki, Jerry was the beloved husband of Heddy "Jadwiga" (nee Dziedzic) for 62 years. Heddy is a ***Life Member*** of Polanki.

He was the loving father of Christopher (Donna) Moskaluk, Mary (Michael) Schumacher and Deborah Bayer and the dear grandfather of Alexandria Moskaluk and Jessica (Andrew) Jennings. He is further survived by his sister, Alicja Edwards, nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Jerry was a proud Cadet of Junacka Skola Kadetów, which he attended from 1942 - 1948. Polanki members and the larger Polish community will recall Jerry's paintings that he exhibited at Polish Fest for many years in the artists' tents. He also made several trips to Poland, where ***Active Member Kathy Wieczorek*** photographed him holding a gigantic mushroom on a trip to Poland in 1997.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a memorial in Jerry's memory to the Capuchin Brothers' St. Ben's Meal Program, PO Box 5830, Milwaukee, WI 53205.





## No Greater Ally: Screening on June 3

Polanki members are invited to a special presentation of *No Greater Ally*, a documentary describing the impact of Poles in combat during the Second World War. A screening of the documentary will be held in the Community Room at the Greenfield Library, located at 5310 West Layton Ave, Greenfield, WI 53220. It will be on Saturday, June 3, 2023 at noon. It lasts about an hour. Polanki members are invited to attend but need to sign up to secure seating. Ewa Barczyk will collect the names of those who wish to attend and will forward the list to the planners of the event. A sign-up sheet will be available at the May 17 meeting; members can also contact Ewa by telephone or email to sign up.

An enormous trove of material, both print and film, exists about the Second World War in Europe. However, precious little of that covers actions by Polish soldiers, airmen, and seamen, despite Poles fighting with distinction in every theater of the war.

To help tell the story and the impact that Poles had in combat, Dan Klosowski, a retired broadcast engineer and U.S. Army First Sergeant and former State of Wisconsin Commander for the Polish Legion of American Veterans, has formed a 501 (c) (3) non-profit called **Freedom For Honor (FFH)** and has assembled a team that has created a documentary telling of Poland's combat forces in World War II. That documentary is several years in the making and has been largely financed by the Klosowski family and the Wisconsin Polish Legion of American Veterans and local PLAV posts. *Polanki also contributed to the completion of this documentary.*

## 2023 POLANKI COLLEGE ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

### EVELYN APLEYARD MEMORIAL AWARD

Marguerite Fortin

M.A., Psychology, California Southern University

### STANLEY F. AND HELEN BALCERCZAK MEMORIAL AWARD

Alyssa Bryl

Ph.D., History/German, University of Wisconsin-Madison

### CAROL BIALEK MEMORIAL AWARD

Jacob Wadzinske

B.S., Computer Science, University of Wisconsin-Madison

### EMILIA BRZYSKI MEMORIAL AWARD

Emilia Wiecek

B.S., Secondary Education/Mathematics, Marquette University

### TOMASZ BRZYSKI MEMORIAL AWARD

Alena Wadzinske

B.S., Biology/Data Analysis, University of St. Thomas

**VERA BUCZKOWSKI MEMORIAL AWARD**

Rima Turner  
Ph.D., History, University of Wisconsin-Madison

**GEORGE GODLEWSKI MEMORIAL AWARD**

Alina Swider  
B.S., Finance, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

**JADWIGA KORASZ MEMORIAL AWARD**

Karolina Porzezinska  
B.S., Speech Pathology, Marquette University

**RITA AND EDWARD MICHALAK MEMORIAL AWARD**

Kinga Toczyłowski  
B.S., Business, University of Wisconsin-Madison

**GEORGE AND BARBARA NIEMCZYCKI MEMORIAL AWARD**

Daniel Ballarin  
B.S., Biomedical Sciences, Marquette University

**CLARENCE AND ESTHER NOWICKI AWARD**

Alex Pienkos  
B.S., Chemistry, Marquette University

**KATHERINE OCIEPA MEMORIAL AWARD**

Emily Monfre  
R.N., Nursing, Moraine Park Technical College

**MSGR. ALPHONSE S. POPEK MEMORIAL AWARD**

Veronica Walinski  
B.S., Exercise Physiology, Marquette University

**ELŻBIETA WALENTYNOWICZ MEMORIAL AWARD**

Alexander Sowa  
B.S., Architecture, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

**DOLORES WINKLER MEMORIAL AWARD**

Victoria Chowaniak  
B.S., Biology, University of Wisconsin-Madison

**JOINT AWARDS WITH UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MILWAUKEE:  
VICTOR PODLASKI MEMORIAL AWARD**

Mackenzie Ricard  
M.S., Occupational Therapy, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Madison Nacker  
M.S., Speech Pathology, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Rachel Rabas  
M.S., Library Science  
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

## 2023 College Achievement Awards Tea

*All photos courtesy of Susan Mikoś*



*Award Winners with Joanne Barndt, Ewa Barczyk, and Polish Consul General for Chicago Dr. Pawel Zyzak*



*Pianist Charles Q. Sullivan*



*Floral Arrangement  
by Active Member Kathy Wieczorek*





*Active Member Joanne Barndt,  
Awards Committee Chair*



*Awards Tea Array of Sweet and Savory Treats*



*Active Member Bernie Jendrzeczak and  
Award Donor Richard Brzyski*



*Active Member Kathy Wieczorek and President Laurie Ufnowski*



# May Holidays in Poland

*Compiled by Marjorie Piechowski*

The beginning of May in Poland encompasses three consequent holidays – International Workers’ Day (**Święto Pracy**) on May 1, Polish National Flag Day (**Dzień Flagi**) on May 2 and Constitution Day (**Święto Konstytucji Trzeciego Maja**) on May 3. Together, they form a long holiday weekend, known as **Majówka**.

In many European countries, International Workers’ Day has been celebrated on May 1st since the end of the nineteenth century. In Poland, this holiday was first established in 1889, in order to commemorate the Haymarket Affair – a major labor demonstration and protest that took place in the U.S. in 1886. As weather usually gets better around this time, locals often opt for outdoor activities and family picnics. Occasional marches happen in major cities to promote workers’ rights.

Polish National Flag day was introduced relatively recently, in 2004. On this date, the Day of the Polish Community Abroad is also celebrated. Many Poles live and work abroad, in wealthier EU countries. While May 2 is technically not a public holiday, many Poles take this day off because it is the only date in the calendar that occurs between two national holidays. Thus, it is assumed that much of the country will simply stay closed from May 1-3.



The adoption of the Polish Constitution is also considered to be one of the crucial points in the country’s history and one of the country’s major achievements. The oldest constitution in Europe (and second oldest in the world after the one in the U.S.), it was first adopted in 1791. The official holiday, however, was only established in 1918, when Poland became independent after its partitioning and reinstituted its constitution. The holiday was not celebrated under the communist government, but later, closer to the collapse of the Soviet Union, the holiday was restored. These days, celebrations include parades (including an annual military parade) and speeches from national Polish leaders.

Retrieved from [Polish Holidays: A Complete Guide \(folkways.today\)](http://folkways.today/Polish-Holidays-A-Complete-Guide)

## **Poland’s Constitution: A Priceless Heritage of Humanitarianism**

The annual commemoration of Poland's May 3, 1791 Constitution, which signified the spiritual and moral renovation of the Polish nation after a period of stagnation caused by foreign influences under the Saxon kings, has become a proud and integral part of the civic and patriotic activities in many cities in this country and throughout the world.

To the Poles and their descendants, May 3rd is a national holiday for it bestows upon the Pole a priceless heritage of humanitarianism, tolerance and a democratic precept conceived at a time when most of Europe lived under the existence of unconditional power and tyranny exemplified by Prussia and Russia.

Poland's parliamentary system actually began at the turn of the 15th Century, but a series of defensive wars, internal stresses, outside influences, widespread permissiveness and excessive concern for the rights of dissent brought Poland to the brink of disaster and anarchy in the 18th Century. Urgently needed reforms became imperative.

The May 3rd, 1791 Constitution was the first liberal constitution in Europe and the second in the world, after the Constitution of the United States. Following the American pattern, it established three independent branches of government — executive, legislative and judiciary. Throughout the constitution runs philosophy of humanitarianism and tolerance including: perfect and entire liberty to all people; rule by majority; secret ballot at all elections; and religious freedom and liberty. But, most importantly, the constitution abolished the one vote veto powers of individuals who would undermine proposals, for their own dubious reasons.

The constitution curtailed the executive power of the King and State council. It forbid them to contract public debts, to declare war, to conclude definitely any treaty, or any diplomatic act. It only allowed the Executive branch to carry on negotiations with foreign courts, always with reference to the Diet (Parliament).

In terms of democratic precepts, the May 3rd Constitution is a landmark event in the history of Central and Eastern Europe. The Polish constitution was deemed too dangerous by the tyranny of absolutism still rampant in Europe. Thus Russia, Prussia and Austria decided to wipe out "the Polish cancer of freedom" from the face of the earth. In 1795 partitioned Poland ceased to exist as a state and in terms of national life. She lost the entire 19th century, being reborn in 1918 at the conclusion of World War I. Between 1918 and 1939, the people of Poland were once again free to govern themselves and looked forward to a bright future.

That bright future, however, ended very abruptly with the beginning of World War II on September 1, 1939. Invaded by Nazi Germany from the west and communist Russia from the east seventeen days later, Poland could not withstand the strength of their combined forces. But Poland continued to fight on the Allied side with the hopes of regaining her newfound freedom. The end of the war, however, found Poland betrayed and under the communist yoke.

The Polish government was based on principles far different from those of the Constitution of 1791 unlike the other countries in Eastern and Central Europe dominated by the Soviet Union. The spirit of the Constitution did not die and in 1980, the flame of democracy arose again under the banner of Solidarity.

The Solidarity honored the memory of the "Bill on Government" and after the totalitarian system was overthrown in the parliamentary elections of June 1989, the Sejm of the Republic of Poland, at the request of the Senate on April 6, 1990, reestablished the May 3 Constitution Day.

## **2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

<b><i>President</i></b>	Laurie Ufnowski
<b><i>1<sup>st</sup> Vice President</i></b>	Ewa Barczyk-Pease
<b><i>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President</i></b>	Diane Ufnowski
<b><i>Investment Treasurer</i></b>	Denna Flemming
<b><i>Managing Treasurer</i></b>	Jean Wroblewski
<b><i>Recording Secretary</i></b>	Tamara Johnston
<b><i>Corresponding Secretary</i></b>	Kathy Murkowski
<b><i>Historian</i></b>	Joanne Barndt
<b><i>Publicity</i></b>	Susan Mikoś
<b><i>Membership</i></b>	Lynn Adams
<b><i>Newsletter Editor</i></b>	Marjorie Piechowski

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## **OTHER POSITIONS**

<b><i>Sunshine Co-Chairs</i></b>	Edith Malson Judy Chattin
<b><i>Financial Review Committee</i></b>	Judy Chattin Sue Konecny Heddy Moskaluk
<b><i>Web Master</i></b>	To be named



## **A Note from the Editor**

Thank you to all Polanki members who provided ideas, pictures and stories during this last year. Please note that there are several other volunteer opportunities for the newsletter in addition to writing.

If you have ideas for future stories or potential meeting programs, please submit these to me at [marjorie.piechowsk@sbcglobal.net](mailto:marjorie.piechowsk@sbcglobal.net) or at 414-963-9055.

Marjorie Piechowski  
2023 Polanki Newsletter Editor



*[Photo courtesy of Marjorie Piechowski]*

**Polanki Newsletter** published by

Polanki, Inc.  
P.O. Box 341458  
Milwaukee, WI 53234  
[www.polanki.org](http://www.polanki.org)

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***President*** ***Laurie Ufnowski***

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