



Spring 2011

## Inside...

- President's Message ..... 2
- Classes & Workshops... 3-4
- Champagne Brunch ..... 4
- In the Gallery..... 5
- Pierogi Festival 2011..... 6
- Circle of Friends..... 8
- Volunteer Form ..... Insert

## From the Executive Director's Desk

BY LEANN LAUNSTEIN



LeAnn Launstein

My head is swimming with all of the upcoming Polish Center activities and all of the new faces and names of everyone I've met! Our first cultural event at the Polish Center this year, a jazz piano concert by Adam Makowicz, was a huge success. We had about 160 attendees who thoroughly enjoyed the music and reception. Thank you to members of the Cultural Committee for planning and volunteering for such a wonderful evening. Your hard work really paid off. Also, thank you to our Banquet & Facility Manager, Tom Rasmussen, for assistance with the fabulous reception after the concert.

"Poland Under Glass" was held at the Mitchell Park Domes on Saturday, January 22 and was attended by 1,724 people. Thanks to volunteers from Polanki, Syrena and Polish Fest and volunteers Camille Shaw and Sarah Vitale. There was authentic Polish cuisine, folk art demonstrations, ethnic dancing, Polish music, games for children, cooking demonstrations, and Polish imports to purchase.

I'm very excited about Pączki Day and can't wait to meet people who stop by to pick up orders. The telephones at the Polish Center are ringing off the hook, so hopefully we're on track to have another successful sale this year.

I'm hoping to see lots of new faces at the Membership Meeting on Pączki Day. We'll have plenty of pączki for you to enjoy. I'll be available to meet you throughout the evening. Feel free to share your thoughts and ideas with me. I'm committed to doing everything I can to make things work smoothly for the organization.

Please help us spread the word that our Fish Fry fundraisers for the Polish Center during Lent will

CONTINUED ON PG. 3



### THE POLISH CONNECTION

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#### Polish Heritage Alliance, Inc.

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### OFFICE:

Monday-Friday  
9 AM-5 PM  
or by appointment

### LIBRARY:

Tuesday 12-2 PM  
Wednesday 6-8 PM  
during Center events  
or by appointment

# President's Message

Greetings,

With the start of the new year, we welcome our new Executive Director, LeAnn Launstein, who joined us on January 5. LeAnn comes to the Polish Center with a successful background in non-profit management as well as government experience as a former Milwaukee County Supervisor. Please stop by the Center and wish her success as she begins her journey with us.

The cell tower contract was signed and we received a \$1500 check from U.S. Cellular which is the payment for the option term. This payment covers 4 months for U.S. Cellular to perform their due diligence. The company is working on their submittal to the City of Franklin and the subsequent public hearing. Monies from the cell tower shall be used for repair, maintenance, and upkeep of the Polish Center.

Mark your calendar for Pączki Day, March 8, which is also our general membership meeting. Please join us at our general membership meeting and enjoy complimentary Pączki.

Fish fries begin March 11 and run every Friday of Lent. Treat your family to a delicious fish fry at a reasonable price and support the Polish Center, too!

Thank you to our bingo volunteers who generously give of their time every Wednesday. We can always use more volunteers at bingo. If you're interested, please contact the Center. Don't forget to tell your friends about smoke-free bingo every Wednesday. The early bird session starts at 6 p.m. with regular session bingo at 7:30 p.m. Great prizes every week! Food specials, too!

Thank you to the Cultural Committee for another wonderful year of great events. In December we had a successful Holiday Bazaar and Champagne Brunch. The Center was overflowing with people admiring and buying the beautiful crafts and also enjoying the great food. The Wigilia once again showcased our Christmas traditions.

This year the Cultural Committee has another great line-up of events that began with a concert by legendary jazz virtuoso Adam Makowicz. Other events planned by the Cultural Committee include a series of cooking classes, workshops on pisanki (decorated Easter eggs) and wycinanki (paper cut-outs), a fall concert of contemporary Polish music dedicated to composer Henryk Gorecki, as well as Mushroom Madness, Family Day, and Polish language classes. Talk about an exciting year - and that's just the beginning!

Please celebrate your heritage at one of the many fun and interesting events at the Polish Center. And don't forget to mark your calendar for the 30th Annual Polish Fest on June 17-18-19.

Janine M. Adamczyk  
President, Polish Heritage Alliance, Inc.

## POLISH NIGHT WITH THE MILWAUKEE ADMIRALS

**Sunday, March 13, 2011 • 5 p.m.**

BRADLEY CENTER • 1001 N. FOURTH ST., MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN



Help celebrate our Polish heritage by watching the Milwaukee Admirals take on the Peoria Rivermen

Tickets available at the Polish Center for \$16

**CALL HEIDI AT 414-529-2140 FOR MORE  
INFORMATION OR TO PURCHASE TICKETS**

## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESK (Con't. from pg. 1)

begin on March 11 and continue every Friday through Good Friday on April 22. We've been preparing and planning to serve hundreds of people each week. The menu will include french fries this year, in place of potato pancakes. Menu details are in the newsletter ad on page 6. Tom has been preparing his recipes, which I've sampled, and I think you'll agree that they are all very tasty. We'll have some spectacular desserts, too! Please let us know if you would like to volunteer to help.

Easter Brunch and Mother's Day Brunch are being held again this year. Jack Norman Catering will be providing the food, which is always delicious. Of course, there will be a glass of champagne to compliment the meal. Please see details on page 4.

It's not too late to purchase your Milwaukee Admirals tickets for Polish Night on Sunday, March 13th at 5 pm. Help us celebrate Polish heritage and raise money for Polish Fest.

In this newsletter, you'll find information about Wycinanki and Pisanki workshops. These are great activities for children and adults. Please notice the age requirements in the article on page 4.

We also continue to have monthly card club meetings and bingo every Wednesday. Meals are available for purchase during bingo at a very reasonable cost. Thank you to all of the volunteers who help with Bingo. It is an important fundraising project. We really appreciate your help!

Please look for more information on what's happening in this issue of *The Polish Connection* or visit our website at [www.polishcenterofwisconsin.org](http://www.polishcenterofwisconsin.org).

## THANK YOU

SPECIAL THANKS TO  
**Mike Kaiser and Economy TV**  
for donating the 5-Disc CD Player  
to the Polish Center.

We now can enjoy beautiful  
Polish music again in our facility.

## Cooking with Class, Polish style

Explore your Polish heritage through the universal medium of food, or discover a new world of culinary delights.

**Thursdays, March 24 - April 7, 2011**

**6:30 - 8:00 p.m. • Fee: \$10 per class**

**THURSDAY, MARCH 24**

### Pierogi

Barbara Godlewski demonstrates the art of making pierogi – half moon-shaped dumplings wrapped around a variety of savory and sweet fillings.



© Kamil Macniak

**THURSDAY, MARCH 31**

### Żurek (White Barszcz)

Poland's cuisine abounds in all kinds of soups. Żurek, also known as White Barszcz, is made from a sour starter called żur, similar to that used in sourdough bread. For Easter, żurek is traditionally served with a garnish of kielbasa and hard boiled eggs.

Heddy Moskaluk and Bernie Jendrzejczak will show you how to make this distinctive Easter soup, which is just as delicious all year round.



© Elzbieta Sokowska

**THURSDAY, APRIL 7**

### Assembling a Polish Easter Basket

With Mary Jo Swider  
A still-popular Polish Easter custom is to assemble a basket containing samples of Easter foods and carry it to church, where it is blessed by the priest. The blessed foods then become part of the Easter meal called Świącone, which means bless-ed. Does your church bless Easter baskets? Learn what should go in the basket, and how to prepare your Świącone table for a traditional Polish Easter.



© Sebastian Czaplak

Stop in at the Polish Center of Wisconsin for

## PAŃCZKI DAY

**Tuesday, March 8 • 7-11:30 a.m.**

Enjoy a pączek and coffee for \$3.00



# WYCINANKI AND PISANKI WORKSHOPS



**MONDAY, MARCH 21**

## **Wycinanki Workshop**

Learn to make Polish paper cut-outs from 6-7:30 p.m. with folk artist Ryszarda Klim. Fee is \$12 for adults (\$2 discount for PHA members) and \$6 for children 10-12. No children under age 10. Children under 12 must be accompanied by a registered adult. Pre-registration is required. Enroll early. Space is limited.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 16**

## **Pisanki Workshop**

Learn to make pisanki (decorated Easter eggs) using a traditional wax-resist method from 10am-12pm with folk artist Bernie Jendrzeczek. Fee is \$12 for adults (\$2 discount for PHA members) and \$6 for children 10-12. No children under age 10. Children under 12 must be accompanied by a registered adult. Pre-registration is required. Enroll early. Space is limited.



*Celebrate with an elegant Champagne Brunch at the Polish Center of Wisconsin*

*Easter Sunday, April 24  
and Mother's Day, May 8*

**Seatings at 10 a.m, Noon, and 2 p.m.**

### **ALL YOU CAN EAT BUFFET INCLUDES:**

Chef-carved Beef Tenderloin and Pork Loin • Spiral Ham  
Made-to-order Omelets • Polish Sausage • Potatoes  
Chicken Supreme • Beef Burgundy • Pierogi  
Smoked fish • Fresh fruit platter • Assorted Salads  
Assorted Pastries & More!  
Juice, Milk, Coffee, Tea, Glass of Champagne

### **CASH BAR WILL BE OPEN**

Adults \$23.95  
Children 6-12 years \$10  
Children 5 and under free

Reservations required  
Advance payment accepted  
Cash • Check • MasterCard • Visa



**Call 414-529-2140**

## MEET CRIS HAUCK

After receiving over 100 applications for the part-time accountant position and interviewing five candidates, the Polish Center is pleased to announce that Christine Hauck was hired for the position and started work on February 1.

We're so fortunate to have found a professional with a friendly personality who is an accomplished accountant and a specialist in organization.

Cris earned her degree in Managerial Accounting from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, where she was a member of the Accounting Honors Society and the National Deans List. She is very familiar with accounting for non-profits, accumulating 19 years of experience at several different agencies. Cris has also been a community, school and church volunteer for over a decade.

Please join us in welcoming Cris to the Polish Center staff team!



Christine Hauck

## VOLUNTEER AT POLISH FEST

### BE A PART OF AMERICA'S LARGEST POLISH FESTIVAL

Polish Fest is seeking volunteers for the 30th Polish Fest which will be held June 17-19 on the Summerfest grounds.



We need volunteers to help in all areas of the festival including the cultural village, bars, children's area and much more. Because everything at the festival is set up during the week of June 13, we need a lot of volunteers to help with the set up on the festival grounds. If you can spare a few hours of time, it would be a tremendous help to the festival.

If you are interested in helping us with this year's festival, call us for more details or fill out the application enclosed in this newsletter. Visit [www.polishfest.org](http://www.polishfest.org) to learn more about Polish Fest or to download another volunteer form.

## JOIN THE KRAKOW POLISH DANCERS

The Krakow Polish Dancers of Milwaukee County invite family and prospective members to come and find out more about their award-winning company. Interested young men and women - age 9 to 25 - can stop by on Wednesday, March 9th at 7 p.m. at our rehearsal location: Collins-Meyer VFW Clubhouse, 2900 W. Lincoln Avenue in Milwaukee. No experience necessary. For more information, call Annette Kuligowski at 414-383-7177 or email her at [amkuligowski1@aol.com](mailto:amkuligowski1@aol.com).

## EASTER EGG HUNT

SPONSORED BY PNA COUNCIL 8 AND THE POLISH CENTER OF WISCONSIN

**SUNDAY, APRIL 3, 2011**

**12:30 Registration - 1:15 Easter Egg Hunt begins**

Weather permitting, eggs will be hidden outside on the grounds of the Polish Center. Inside, there will be coloring and games for children. Refreshments of juice, milk and cookies will be provided.

Please RSVP by Thursday, March 31 so we will know how many children (up to age 16) to expect. Special thanks to Milwaukee Society PNA Lodge 2159 for Easter Bunny. **ADMISSION IS FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.**

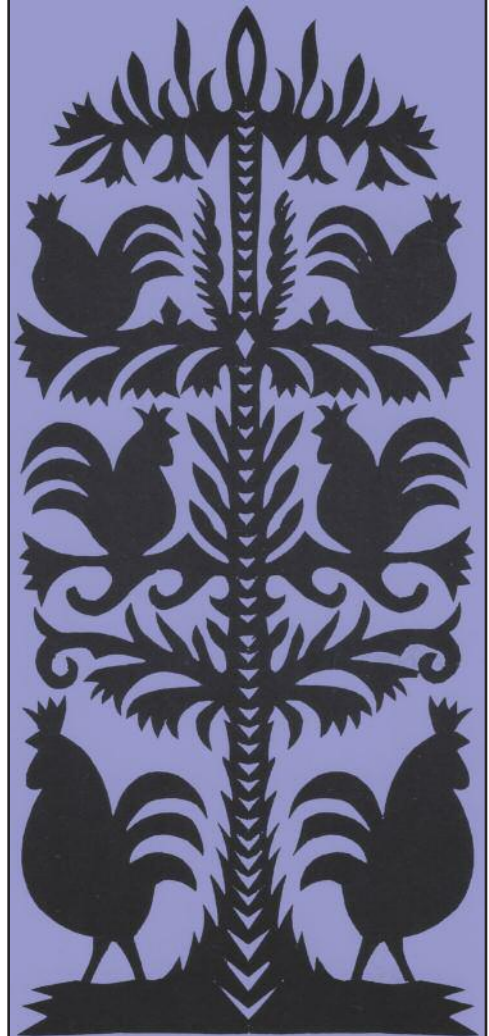


IN THE GALLERY...

# The Art of Wycinanki

POLISH PAPER CUT-OUTS

by **Ryszarda Klim**  
and  
**Bernie Jendrzeczak**



**OPENING RECEPTION**

March 27, 2011  
11am-2pm

**EXHIBIT ON DISPLAY**

March 27 through April 30, 2011

ADMISSION IS FREE AND  
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.



# Polanski

Polish Women's Cultural Club of Milwaukee

presents

## Pierogi Festival 2011



**Sunday, March 27, 2011 • 11 am to 2 p.m.**

Polish Center of Wisconsin

6941 S. 68th Street, Franklin, WI 53132

### Meal Includes

8 Pierogi - choice of meat, mushroom, sauerkraut & mushroom, potato & cheese, sweet cheese, and plum

2 Polish-style Salads • 1 Dessert

Coffee, Tea or Milk

Cash Bar - Polish Beer Available

Adults: \$13 – Seniors 65+ \$11.50 – Children \$6.50

### Frozen Orders

Pierogi • Uszka • Kopytka Finger Dumplings

Visit [www.polanski.org](http://www.polanski.org) for details

Mailing Deadline: Friday, March 12

### Polish Imports Boutique

Boleslawiec Pottery • Carved Wood Items • Books

### Demonstrations

Polish Spring Crafts

Download an advanced reservation form and frozen order form at [www.polanski.org](http://www.polanski.org)

A limited number of walk-in dinners may be available. The cost for walk-in dinners is \$15 adults/seniors and \$10 children.

For more information, contact Geraldine Reszel 414-541-2433 or e-mail [greszel@wi.rr.com](mailto:greszel@wi.rr.com)

### Polish Center Fish Fry

Every Friday During Lent  
**MARCH 11 – APRIL 22**  
Served from 4:30-8 p.m.



#### BUFFET STYLE MEAL INCLUDES

Fried & Baked Fish • Pierogi  
Coleslaw • French Fries • Rye Bread  
Coffee, Tea or Milk

(Children's menu available upon request)



**Carry Outs Available  
Cash Bar**

\$11 Adults • \$4.50 Children 6-12 yrs. old  
Children 5 and under eat free

**For more information or to make a  
reservation, call (414) 529-2140**

POLISH CENTER OF WISCONSIN  
6941 S. 68th Street, Franklin, WI 53132  
[www.polishcenterofwisconsin.org](http://www.polishcenterofwisconsin.org)

All  
Soft  
Cards



**SMOKE-FREE  
BINGO**  
Every Wednesday Night

POLISH CENTER OF WISCONSIN  
6941 S. 68<sup>th</sup> Street • Franklin

Doors open at 4 p.m.

Reasonably-priced food for sale

Early Bird Bingo for \$1,050  
at 6 p.m.

Regular Session Bingo  
for \$1,050 at 7:30 p.m.

SPONSORED BY  
POLISH HERITAGE ALLIANCE, INC.

Proceeds benefit the Polish Center of Wisconsin  
Call 414-529-2140 for more information.



## Monthly Card Games at the Polish Center

**1st & 3rd Thursday  
of the Month  
Starts at Noon**

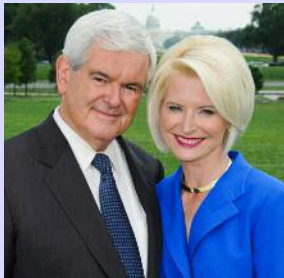
Free and Open to the Public  
Optional \$8 Lunch  
on 1st Thursday  
Cash Bar

**Card clubs and bridge groups  
are welcome! Individuals may  
join a table upon arrival. Play  
sheepshead, poker and more.**

For more information,  
call 414-529-2140

## *Nine Days that Changed the World*

Newt Gingrich, former Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, and his wife Callista will visit Marquette University on Tuesday, March 29, 2011



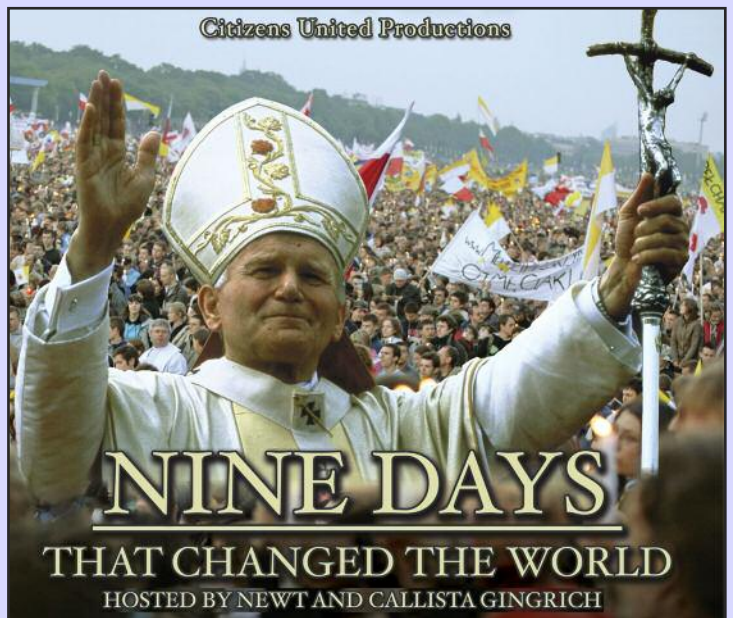
The Gingriches will present *Nine Days that Changed the World*, a documentary they produced about Pope John Paul II's historic visit to Poland in 1979. The 7:00 p.m. screening of the film will include a presentation by the Gingriches, followed by a book and DVD signing.

**TUESDAY, MARCH 29 • 7:00-9:00 P.M.**  
**Tony & Lucille Weasler Auditorium • 1506 W. Wisconsin Ave.**

### **About *Nine Days That Changed the World*:**

Pope John Paul II's historic nine-day pilgrimage to Poland in June of 1979 created a revolution of conscience that transformed Poland and fundamentally reshaped the spiritual and political landscape of the 20th Century.

In *Nine Days that Changed the World*, Newt and Callista Gingrich, along with a Polish, American, and Italian cast, explore what transpired during these nine days that moved the Polish people to renew their hearts, reclaim their courage, and free themselves from the shackles of Communism. Produced in partnership with Citizens United Productions.



**CALL 414-529-2140 BY MARCH 21 TO REGISTER FOR YOUR FREE TICKETS**



## **An Appeal to Preserve a Polish Hero's Monument**

by Donald Pienkos, Kosciuszko Monument Restoration Committee

On Milwaukee's South Side stands a great monument to an extraordinary hero in America's War of Independence, Poland's struggle for freedom, and the idea of liberty and human rights everywhere. This monument honors Thaddeus Kosciuszko (pronounced kosh-CHOO-shko).

Thaddeus Kosciuszko was born in Poland in 1747 and led an eventful life in service to our country and Poland. Kosciuszko came to America in 1776. A trained military engineer, he volunteered in our country's fight for independence and was sent to New York under Gen. Horatio Gates. There in October 1777, Kosciuszko contributed enormously to the first American military victory, at Saratoga, by planning and erecting the fortifications that were crucial to the battle's outcome. Gen. Burgoyne's British army was forced to surrender and this news led France to enter the War on our side!

A year later, Kosciuszko constructed the military defenses on the Hudson River at West Point and prevented a British naval attack. In 1781 Gen. George Washington promoted him to the rank of Brigadier General and Congress made him a citizen of the new United States.

Kosciuszko returned to Poland, where he played a leading role in his homeland's fight for freedom. But this time his efforts failed and Poland fell under foreign domination. Though severely wounded in battle, imprisoned, then exiled, Kosciuszko's fame only grew.

In 1905, our Milwaukee Polish community mobilized to raise the funds to erect a monument to Kosciuszko in the park that now bears his name. For generations, this monument has been the site of countless patriotic and civic events. But time has taken its toll and authorities like the Smithsonian Institution have concluded that the monument urgently needs restoration.

To achieve this goal, a Kosciuszko Monument Restoration Committee is working hard to raise funds. Americans of Polish heritage and all who share our country's values can be rightly proud of what they can do make this drive a success. Please make a tax-deductible donation AND share this appeal with your family, friends, and organizations. Your support will help achieve the restoration on behalf of generations of Americans to come.

**For more information please visit [www.rkmmilwaukee.org](http://www.rkmmilwaukee.org). You can make your donations directly by mailing them to RESTORE KOSCIUSZKO MONUMENT AT P.O. BOX 341458, MILWAUKEE, WI 53234**

## Polish Fest's "Circle of Friends"



On June 17-19, 2011, Polish Fest will hold its historic 30th festival. For the past 30 years we have benefited from the generosity of individuals and businesses, allowing us to bring Polish Fest to our community. Your support helps to ensure our continued success.

Please consider adding your name to the list of supporters for this year's event with a \$250 donation. Each individual making a donation of \$250 will have their name listed under the "Circle of Friends" sign at the Mid-Gate. In addition, each "Circle of Friends" donor will receive 20 complimentary tickets to this year's festival, and two invitations to the Opening Ceremony Reception held on Friday, June 17th.

Thank you for your support!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE SEND YOUR DONATION TO:  
Polish Fest, Attn: Circle of Friends  
6941 S. 68th Street, Franklin, WI 53132.

## SAVE THE DATE: POLANKI ANNUAL AWARDS TEA

Sunday, April 10, 2011

Polanki, the Polish Women's Cultural Club of Milwaukee cordially invites you to save the date for its annual Awards Tea at the Polish Center of Wisconsin.

The awards ceremony recognizes winners of Polanki's 2011 College Achievement Awards competition. For more information, please visit the website at [polanki.org](http://polanki.org).



See you at the  
Membership Meeting  
on March 8th at 7 pm!

June 17-19, 2011



Save the Date:

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Polish Heritage Alliance, Inc.  
6941 S. 68th Street • Franklin, WI 53132-8237

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