



THE

Polish CONNECTION

SPRING 2016

NEWSLETTER FOR DONORS AND FRIENDS PUBLISHED BY POLISH HERITAGE ALLIANCE, INC.

POLISH FEST 2016

The 35th annual Polish Fest will be held June 17-19, 2016, at the Henry W. Maier Festival Park on Milwaukee's scenic lake front. This year's Polish Fest is sure to have something for everyone to enjoy. Every day you can find a mix of Polish and Polish-American entertainment from folk dancing to rock, pop, country, classical, jazz and polkas. Our food vendors and bars offer something for every taste, and our marketplace will tempt you with Polish goods from here and around the world.

Join us for Polish Fest's Opening Ceremony on Friday at 6:00 p.m. on the Miller Contemporary Stage. Everyone is invited to attend as we officially open the festival and thank the many sponsors and volunteers who make our festival possible every year.



Be sure to visit the Cultural Village where we will be having a 35th anniversary display with pictures and memorabilia on exhibit for a nostalgic glimpse of the past. The Cultural Village will also feature folk art, genealogy, cooking demonstrations and a Polish Forum with speakers on a range of Polish topics.

Stop by and visit our newly located Maly Sklep along with the Polanki sales area reflective of a traditional Polish Store in Poland. Polish Bunnies and the Polish Sheepdogs return to the festival this year.

This year Polish Fest welcomes on Friday, the Capuchins' Run/Walk for the Hungry, a 5K chip timed run and a non-competitive walk. The perfect event for those who want to help Milwaukee's hungry while having a great time at Polish Fest. Participants in the walk will enjoy free admission from 5-6:00 p.m. on Friday. Registration for the walk can be found at www.support.thecapuchins.org or by clicking through from the Polish Fest website, www.polishfest.org.



Chopin Vodka has returned this year as our Official Vodka of Polish Fest. We will be featuring Chopin Vodka at our Vodka Bars and Lounge, along with our popular spirits tastings. Also, Polish Fest is proud to welcome Tiger Energy as our new sponsor of our Tiger Energy Non – Stop Polka Stage. And, of course being the only ethnic festival to import our beer direct from Poland -Tyskie will be featured not only in the bars, but in 2 beer gardens, one in the Cultural Village and one by the Tiger Energy Non-Stop Polka Stage.

Polish Fest will be continuing its tradition of 50¢ Friday this year with 50 cent admission on Friday from noon to 5:00 p.m.! The celebration will continue Friday evening with \$5.00 admission from 5:01 until midnight. Polish Fest also is happy to offer free admission from 8 p.m. to midnight on Saturday night with the donation of three or more



food items to the Hunger Task Force. On Sunday, you can enter the festival for the reduced price of \$4.00 after attending the Polish Fest Mass at 10:15 a.m., in which Archbishop Jerome E. ListECKi will be presiding. In celebration of Father's Day on Sunday, dads of any age enjoy free Polish Fest admission from 4-6:00 p.m. when accompanied by their child of any age. Finally, Polish Fest honors our United States military personnel with free admission by presenting a military ID.

Thank you to all of our volunteers for their countless hours of help throughout the year in making Polish Fest a success. Thank you to the Managing Committee for their guidance and leadership, as well as to the Polish Heritage Alliance Board for their support. See you at Polish Fest 2016!

*~ Jeff Kuderski, Polish Fest Director
and Interim Executive Director*



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

DZIEKUJEMY

Greetings,

Spring is finally here!

The Garden Committee has been busy planting flowers, weeding and making the entrance to the Polish Center more welcoming and attractive. If you enjoy gardening, they are looking for volunteers to help; contact Sandy Je T'aime at (414) 761-0020. They meet at the Center on Tuesdays at 4:45 p.m. and Thursdays at 8:45 a.m.

We had our second Member Social on April 12. Members attended for free and could bring a guest as a potential new member. There were a lot of guests that attended and most became members that evening. Thank you to Janet Protasiewicz and Jeff Kuderski for a great event, and to Jimmy Locke for providing the accordion music.

Now that we have paid off the mortgage, there will be a Free & Clear Party towards the end of July. Those who have contributed to the campaign will receive an invitation.

Thank you to Heddy Moskaluk for tirelessly running bingo each and every week for the last 10 years. Heddy will be retiring as of July and Sharon Garcia and Ray Gwiazdowski will be taking over.

The next PHA General Membership Meeting will be held on Thursday, September 22, 7:00 p.m. At this meeting there will be the election of 4 Directors and the Treasurer. If anyone is interested in running for the board, please mail your nomination papers to Dave Borowski, Chair of the Nominations Committee at the Polish Center of Wisconsin.

Polish Fest is just around the corner - June 17, 18 and 19 marking our 35th Anniversary! There will be some new food vendors this year - The Stuffed Pierogi Truck and the Venice Club. Look for the Maly Sklep, the Polanki sales booth and the 35th Anniversary Exhibit in the Cultural Village this year. Enjoy a Tyskie beer, imported directly from Poland, as well as many new souvenir items. Advance tickets are available at the Polish Center. If you'd like to volunteer, please call the Polish Center at (414) 529-2140.

Thank you to all of the volunteers who help throughout the year, we wouldn't be able to do all that we do without your support!

Ken Skowronski
President, Polish Heritage Alliance



Elzbieta Tokarska (violin)
and Kamil Tokarski (piano)

The PHA Cultural Committee thanks the sponsors of our April 23 concert, Polish Music for Piano and Violin, featuring music by Fryderyk Chopin and Henryk Wieniawski. Your generous support makes it possible for the Polish Center to continue presenting a variety of programs that promote pride in our Polish heritage.

GRAND:
Polanki, the Polish Women's
Cultural Club of Milwaukee

FRIENDS:
ABCO Building Corp.
Janine Adamczyk
Conrad Kaminski
Max A. Sass & Sons
Tri-City National Bank

MEMORIALS

*We appreciate the
generous contributions
received in memory of*

SOPHIE BRUSKIEWITZ

LUCRETIA KIELY

May they rest in peace

THE GRAND REOPENING OF THE CLUB 38

This past November, the Polish Center Gala was a recreation of a cabaret in a Pre-World War II Warsaw nightclub - the Club 38. Attendees enjoyed cocktails, appetizers, a silent auction, a wine pull, a fine four course dinner, music of the John Schneider Orchestra, and dancing. It was a wonderful fun-filled evening.

For the 2016 Gala, to be held on November 5, we will fast-forward two decades to the Autumn of 1958.

The tragedy of the heroic Warsaw Uprising in August and September 1944 to free Warsaw from the grip of the occupying Nazi forces ended on October 2nd. With that, Hitler ordered the complete destruction of Warsaw. By the time the Nazis departed in defeat by the Russian army in January 1945, 85% of the city was in ruins. The Club 38 was no more.

Henryk Lewandowski, the founder and owner, fortunately survived. John Schneider and the members of his orchestra survived as well, thanks to

being in Finland during the Uprising. Henryk was able to reopen the club in November 1958 in a new location on Poznanska Street between Wilcza and Hoza. Only a few blocks away from the original location on Marszalkowska Street. During the construction of the new Club 38, Henryk found a statue of the Warsaw Mermaid (Warszawska Syrenka) in the rubble, intact and in superb condition. The Mermaid is now on permanent display in the Club. Having your picture taken with her would make a fine memento of your attendance.

The club is now very popular with the citizens of Warsaw. Maybe the decor is not quite as opulent, as these are the days of Communist suppression and a miserable economy, but the food is great - thanks to former friends of Henryk - and the music is better than ever. If for no other reason, Porter, Berlin, Carmichael, and Arlen composed a lot of new music after the war.

November 5, 2016 is a date to be saved. Join your fellow revelers at the new

Club 38 for another fun-filled evening. The Gala Committee's plan is to again feature cocktails, appetizers, a silent auction, a fabulous four course dinner, the John Schneider orchestra and dancing.

The Gala is the Polish Center's major fund raiser of the year. The 2015 Gala raised over \$13,000 which helped free us from the mortgage on our property and building. Ticket prices alone did not earn this amount of money. Generous donations by members, friends, and local businesses contributed to our success. During the next several months, consider attending the Gala and becoming a donor. As our building ages, more maintenance and replacements are necessary. New doors and window frames, floor refinishing, painting, and a newly paved parking lot are items that require funds.

The success of our Gala will help get this accomplished.

~ Tom Radoszewski,
Gala Committee Chairperson

WARSAW CLUB 38

In the last Polish Connection, these donors for the Warsaw Club silent auction, restaurant tree and wine pull were inadvertently omitted. We apologize for the error. Thank you for your support.

Janine Adamczyk
Alioto's Restaurant
Anonymous
Apple Holler
Arena Americas
AutoZone
Mike Bartels

Beef Jerky Outlet Store
Betty Brinn
Children's Museum
Dick Blau
Bluemel's Garden
Center & Landscaping
Dave Borowski
Heddy & Jerry Moskaluk

Boerner
Botanical Gardens
Milwaukee Art Museum
Milwaukee Burger
Milwaukee Food Tours
Milwaukee World Festival
Milwaukee Youth
Symphony Orchestra
Next Act Theatre

Noodles
Mark Norman
Mike Norman
Museum of
Beer & Brewing
Ned's Pizza
Mineshaft
Nina Nowakowski

POLISH HERITAGE ALLIANCE MEETING

The next PHA General Membership Meeting will be on **Thursday, September 22 at 7:00 p.m.** and will be an election meeting. The Nominations Committee will be in place **by June 1.**

In accordance of the PHA Bylaws, nominations for any elected position may be submitted in writing to the Nominations Committee **on or before August 1** by any member in good standing who has paid their annual dues at least 90 days prior to the meeting.

OPEN POSITIONS: Treasurer and 4 Directors

THE POLISH CENTER'S HIDDEN GEM

Have you ever visited the Polanki Library at the Polish Center of Wisconsin? Located at the end of the hall on the second floor, it is a hidden gem. Not only is it the coziest room in the Polish Center, but it also houses a wealth of knowledge about Poland and Polish Americans.

The library was a longtime dream of Polanki president and community leader Janet Branden. Unfortunately, Mrs. Branden did not live to see her dream realized, but as plans for the Polish Center of Wisconsin neared completion, Rita Michalak proposed that Polanki pledge \$75,000 to underwrite a library for the future community and cultural center. As it turned out, this was only the beginning.

Polanki was fortunate to count among its members three professional librarians, all working at UWM, whose expertise proved invaluable in establishing guidelines, setting policies, and instituting a catalog system. Polanki members salvaged bookshelves and



other equipment being discarded by larger libraries. As if by magic, books began to appear. Most were donated by Wisconsin's Polish community, but Polanki also purchased additional books, as well as sound recordings and popular Polish films.

Nearly sixteen years later, the Polanki Library is bursting at the seams. Its collections include books in English and in Polish. There are nonfiction books on Polish history, geography, religion, art, language, music, and folklore, as well as books dealing with Polish American history and culture. There are volumes of poetry and fiction, as well as a

variety of children's books. The library has a small but rich collection of genealogy reference materials and offers basic assistance with family history research. There are recordings of Polish music, as well as classic and modern Polish films in VHS and DVD formats.

The Polanki Library is open on Tuesdays from 12-2, and Wednesday evenings from 6-8 p.m. It is also open during Lenten Fish Fries and other major public events at the Polish Center, or by appointment (414-858-9357). Everyone is welcome to use the library, and any member of Polanki or the Polish Heritage Alliance may check out books and audiovisual materials for one month. Polanki also sponsors a book group, which meets several times a year to read and discuss books of Polish interest. Everyone is invited to participate.

If you haven't done so already, be sure to check out the Polanki Library at the Polish Center of Wisconsin. You'll be glad you did!

~ Susan Mikoś

WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS

LIFE MEMBER

Valerie Lukaszewicz

RED & WHITE CIRCLE MEMBERS

Magda Soucie
Deborah Zerzanek
Bernadine Ziemia

SUPPORTING MEMBERS

Andrew & Elizabeth Wasielewski
Adrienne Zuber

WHITE EAGLE MEMBERS

Dan Bruskewitz
Johnny Marszalkowski

REGULAR MEMBERS

Patrice Baker & Lisa Vanlerberghe
Edward and Terry Bartkowski
Curt and Michelle Becker
Jan Berzowski
Jessica Berzowski-Perlewitz
Todd and Louise Bray
Marie Bullard
Denise Cassidy
Richard and Mary Cywinski
Carl and Rose Fendrick
Michael Filipiak & Nancy Fletcher
James and Laura Gaffney
Sharon and John Garcia, Jr.
Eugene Gasiorkiewicz
Karen Gasperetti
Albert C. Grams, Jr.
Jerry Hudziak
Korey Inman
Shelley Jankowski

Mark and Cathy Juriewicz
Richard Karanowski
Christine Kazmierski
Diane Kestner
Tracy Klement
Dave and Jean Kriesel
Irena Krzykalski
Cynthia Lepkowski
Sharon McCormack
Danielle Norman
Michael and Martha Norman
Gregory and Holly Orlowski
Bonita Ostrenga
Natalee Peterson & Emil Ovbiagele
Gerald and Lynn Ponec
Teddy Porada
William and Marie Radoszewski
Ray and Judy Roberts
Lauren Sczygielski-Anders

Lynn Shaw
Sharon Staley-Smith
Timothy Stoll
Tom and Mary Ellen Stone
Barb Straszewski
Jerry and Nancy Suberlak
Michele Tate
Steve Taylor
Kathleen Trebatoski
Mary Van Zeeland
Matt Vannes
Steve & Alesha, Elizabeth & Sarah Wal
Marge Weiler
Paul and Maggie Wieland
Anita Wucherer
Vi Zablocki
David Zuehlke

SAVE THE DATE...

THE VODKA EXPERIENCE



Friday, September 23

7:00 pm - 10:00 pm

Sample a variety of flavored and unflavored Polish Vodkas. Snacks, entertainment, raffles and cash martini menu.

POLISH BEER TASTING



NA ZDROWIE!

Friday, October 21

7:00 pm - 10:00 pm

Sample a variety of imported Polish beers. FREE commemorative glass, raffle prizes and snacks!

POLONIA SOCCER CLUB EVENTS

SPRING FESTIVAL

Sunday, June 5

1 pm Mass at the Outdoor Chapel

2 pm Silver Orchestra from Chicago

Polish food and bar, chickens on a spit, soccer, bounce house. \$5 per carload

Questions call Richard at (414) 810-8158

SUMMER FESTIVAL

Sunday, August 7

FALL DOZYNKI FESTIVAL

Sunday, September 18

FALL CULTURAL LINEUP PREVIEW

The Cultural Committee is busy planning a variety of programs that promote the enjoyment of Polish culture and heritage. Visit the Polish Center website and Facebook page regularly for the latest information. Here is a preview of some fun and educational events you can look forward to.

Mushroom Madness

September 11

Wild mushroom identification, cooking with mushrooms, mushroom snack bar, gifts and more. If you love mushrooms, you won't want to miss "Mushroom Madness!"

Art Exhibit Opening

September 11

Figural drawings, paintings and sculpture by various artists

Polish Cooking Classes

Learn to make your favorite Polish dishes. All classes start at 6:30 p.m.

September 26

Biały Ser (farmer's cheese)

October 3

Kopytka (potato dumplings)

October 10

Pierogi

Wycinanki Workshop

Learn the technique of Polish paper cutting (wycinanki) and produce a frameable card with folk artist Bernie Jendrzeczak

Genealogy Workshops

Learn to trace your family history

Andrzejki

October 28

St. Andrew's Day Party

Holiday Brunch

and Bazaar

December 4

Wigilia

December 11

Traditional Polish Christmas Eve Dinner

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

FOR NEW COOKING CLASSES AT THE POLISH CENTER

Staci Joers of Cooking With Class is coming to the Polish Center of Wisconsin. The classes are a benefit for the Polish Center of Wisconsin. For the last 15 years, Staci has made a name for herself demonstrating and serving all kinds of foods in a four county area in Wisconsin. Polish Center classes will generally be one weekday per month from 11:30 to 1:30. Days will vary to accommodate various schedules.

A small group of volunteers is currently being assembled to assist Staci Joers with the classes. Volunteers are not paid, however, they do receive all the recipes and get to taste food samples.

The duties include dedication of time from 10 am to 2pm. Table setting, cutting and assembly of entrée items that Staci will cook, plating and serving entrees, dishwashing and cleanup will be

needed. Volunteers do stand for most of the time. Volunteers may choose dates and topics of interest to them. No volunteer needs to attend all cooking sessions.

To have your name placed on the volunteer help list call Polish Center member Judy Roberts at (414) 426-0012 or e-mail judyroberts4700@gmail.com Call with questions or comments.

2015 MISS POLISH FEST PAGEANT WINNERS Q & A

CECELIA SUMIEJSKI Little Miss Polish Fest



Likes/dislikes, hobbies, what you like about school?
Reading, school is boring

If I was a genie in a bottle and could grant you any wish what would it be? Puppies – they are cute, cuddly and give wet kisses

What do you like to do for fun? Reading, camping, swimming, riding my bike

What have you learned about yourself? How to wear the crown, learned to smile, greet people, being polite, it's hard

work, look at people and talk clearly, being patient, and have fun.

What one word best describes you? I'm a calm person

Why did you do the pageant? My mom and dad said I should do it.

What was your favorite part about PF Pageants? Least Favorite? Favorite – skipping across the stage. Least Favorite – Talking to large groups

Is this your first pageant you ever did? Would you do this again? Not my first pageant, and yes I would do it again

What did you have to do to be a part of the Pageant? I had to be pretty to win

How did it affect your life? I became smarter. Broke out of my shell, more confident. Loved talking to people at the fish fries at the Polish Center.

Did you get treated like royalty- how did it make you feel with the crown?
Felt like a fairy princess, liked being on stage.

How would you get your friends to try out for the pageant? Its fun, you get to be in parades and ride in a convertible

BRIANNA DUFF Teen Miss Polish Fest



Likes/dislikes, hobbies, what you like about school?
Dance- teaching it and competing. Loves English likes like reading.

If I was a genie what would you ask for? A lot of money but not just for herself.

What do you like to do for fun? Go places with friends, sing in the car.

What have you learned about yourself?
The Polish heritage

What one word best describes you? Bubbly

Why did you do the pageant? Try something new

What was your favorite part about the Polish Fest pageants-least favorite?
The interview- learned a lot about how to answer questions- and the pretty dresses. Nothing for least favorite

Is this your first year? Would you do it again? Yes, and no I will be too old

What did you have to do to be a part? Interviews and practices

How did it affect your life? Got to meet new people

Did it help your confidence self-esteem? Yes, helped build character

Did you get treated like royalty? Kind of. But was just like a normal person

How would you get your friends to try out? Peer pressure- tell them it's fun

HAYLI DONALD Pre-Teen Miss Polish Fest



Likes/dislikes, hobbies, what you like about school? Love school, writing, tae kwon do, hanging out with friends, doesn't like drama

If I was a genie in a bottle and could grant you any wish what would it be? To see my great grandmother

What do you like to do for fun? Sports, softball, baseball, soccer

What have you learned about yourself? Learned to do things that I didn't think I could do. Gave me confidence, boosted my self-esteem.

What one word best describes you? Outgoing – because of the pageants I made more friends

Why did you do the pageant? I wanted to do it, saw it on Facebook and I wanted to be a princess

What was your favorite part about PF Pageants? Least Favorite? Favorite - Meeting new people, meeting other princesses. Least favorite – my mom doing my hair, it took too long.

Is this your first pageant you ever did? Would you do this again? No, I was Junior Miss Polish Fest. In three years will compete for Teen Miss Polish Fest

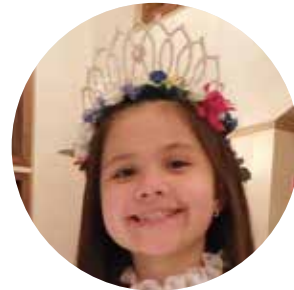
What did you have to do to be a part of the Pageant? Dance routine and during the question part I had confidence in myself to focus on the answers.

How did it affect your life? Had a feeling excitement to being a princess. She would encourage her children to be a princess

Did you get treated like royalty- how did it make you feel with the crown?
Royalty, yes. My friends wanted my crown

How would you get your friends to try out for the pageant? Tell them that it is fun, meet new people, boosts your confidence and helped build my communication skills, break out of my shell. Liked being at the fish fries at the Polish Center and talking to people. Had my picture taken with an elderly couple; that was fun.

ISIDRA MALKOWSKI Junior Miss Polish Fest



Likes/dislikes, hobbies, what you like about school?
Wii Games/Homework

If I was a genie what would you ask for? A lot of money

Why did you do the pageant? Mom signed me up so not sitting at home all summer doing nothing

What was your favorite part? Least favorite part?
Parades, and the dances at the pageant. Didn't have a least favorite.

Is this your first pageant? Would you do it again? Yes, and will do it again when I'm 10

What did you have to do to be a part of the Pageant? Practice doing the fancy walks

How did it affect your life? Didn't change anything, but I made new friends

Did you get treated like royalty? Yes- people would say look at the princess. I got to show it off when I went bowling with friends.

How would you get your friends to try out for the pageant? Tell them what they all got to do

35TH POLISH FEST 2016

The 35th Polish Fest June 17-18-19 at Henry Maier Festival Park (also known as the Summerfest grounds) will feature five stages of entertainment.

The Miller Stage will feature RFD-TV Mollie B's Polka Party stars Mollie B and Ted Lange with Squeezebox. This versatile group will perform each day of the Fest playing a variety of music including polkas, waltzes, fox-trots, 2-steps, big band, and swing.

Opening the Fest Friday afternoon will be the Doo Wop Daddies Gold show featuring your favorite 50's & 60's music.

Also on the Miller Stage will be Grammy nominee John Gora & Gorale who will entertain you Saturday and Sunday afternoon with the sounds of Poland whether it is contemporary Polish music or polka music.

In addition, country music will be featured on the Miller Stage with the sounds of Jim Gaff & BarDog Sitters playing punchy, rowdy country music mixed with some bluegrass, rock and blues on Friday evening. Saturday night will feature the 10-piece horn playing band The Noyz Boyz & Gyrلز with rockin' rhythm & blues hits from the late 50's to today's top hits. Closing out Saturday night will be local favorite 76 Juliet playing all your favorite dance tunes. The Miller Stage will also be the place to the driving rock & roll of The Larry Lynne Band Sunday evening.

The Tiger Energy Non-Stop Polka Stage will feature the award winning sounds of Polka Country Musicians Friday and Saturday Night. Grammy nominee and crowd pleaser, The Polka Family on Saturday night and Sunday afternoon. A highlight of the polka stage will be family band Box On Saturday and Sunday afternoons! Also making their first appearance at Polish Fest will be the TNT (The Natural Talent). Other top bands that will appear include The Knewz, The Buffalo Touch, IPA Tribute Band, and Tony Blazonczyk's New Phaze!

Learn how to polka or brush up on your polka steps with Randy and Ashley Thull's polka lesson Friday & Saturday.

Polish dance groups will once again be featured during the festival on the Chopin Vodka Cultural Stage as twelve

dance groups from around the US and Canada will perform throughout the weekend. The Polish Folk Dance Association of the Americas will once again showcase Polish dance ensembles in the Dance Gala on Saturday evening.

The Chopin Youth Piano Competition will highlight the Chopin Vodka Cultural Stage on Sunday afternoon. Teenage pianists will dazzle with their talent.

Enjoy true Polish contemporary music at Polish Fest. Whether it is Korona on Friday, Profusion on Saturday or Silver Orkiestra on Sunday, there will be Polish classic hits from the 70's to today, disco-polo, and Polish rock.

If that's not enough, Polish Fest 2016 will also feature the country rock sounds of FlipSyde featuring Milwaukee's own Red Deacon, the vintage country sounds of the Whiskey Belles, the polka sounds of Polka Generations, the versatile Bryan O'Donnell Band, rock & roll band Higbee Higbee, oldies with The Greatest Hits, the dynamic Accompany of Kids, and the ultimate party band, Bobby Way and the Fabulous Wayouts.

The Children's Stage features comedic juggler Steve Russell, magician David Seebach, Julie Sobanski, animated illusionist Ardan James, ventriloquist Wayne & Wingnut, Jim Krewski The "Spoon" Man and Mad Science presents Fire & Ice to name just a few of the shows for kids of all ages to enjoy! Children will also enjoy the expanded Children's Area featuring Kohl's Design It! Mobile Lab, Harmony the Face Painter, as well as many more activities!

A highlight of the Children's Stage will be the Pageants on Sunday afternoon featuring girls vying for the title of Little Miss, Junior Miss, Pre-Teen, and Teen Miss Polish Fest.

No matter what your age or what your musical interests are, there's something for everyone at Polish Fest 2016!

~ Janine Adamczyk, Polish Fest Entertainment Chairperson

**FOR A COMPLETE SCHEDULE
CHECK OUT THE WEBSITE
WWW.POLISHFEST.ORG**

GARDEN COMMITTEE UDPATES

Thank you to the new volunteers from the Polish Center as well as the new & seasoned UW Extension Southeast WI Master Gardeners for their help removing the invasive plants in the strip garden and Hosta Garden area.

STRIP GARDEN BY THE PATIO GARDEN: We will prepare the soil to plant this area when Mother Nature allows us to.

ENTRANCE WOODLAND AREA BY HOSTA GARDEN: We removed buckthorn, wild berry bramble, dames rocket and other invasives, excessive dead branches and logs. Invasives take over an area and prevent our trees from natural seedling survival. We will be planting this area soon to prevent garlic mustard from taking over.

PLANTS NEEDED: If you are a gardener and like to share your plants, we need the following to plant in the cleared areas: Lady's mantle, pulmonarias, anemone (spring and fall), Solomon seal, ferns, large leaf hostas, trillium, and jack-in-the-pulpit.

MULCH: We started mulching the needed areas. This prevents weeds, gives moisture to the plants when there is drought, as well as enhances landscaping.

YOU'RE INVITED: The Garden Committee would like your help! We meet Tuesday's at 4:45 p.m. and Thursday's 8:45 a.m. R.S.V.P. Sandy at (414) 761-0020 or gardens@inbox.com



FACILITY COMMITTEE

The Facility Committee, consisting of Mike Berzowski, Keith Triebenbach, Nick Ignatowski, Mike Kaiser, Clark Wantoch, Steve Chybowski, Gerv Rose and Sandy Je T'aime meets several times a year to consider improvements, repairs, replacements and renovation of the building and grounds of the Polish Center.

As you are aware, buildings located at this latitude go through a natural process of weathering, deterioration and related needed repairs. The building is about 16 years old, so things are starting to wear out. In addition to anticipated items, it seems as if something unanticipated always develops, such as this morning's discovery of some challenges with the rain gutters and downspouts.

At present, the Board has approved funding for repairing leaking second floor windows, replacing the West and North doors to the Center and gardening and landscaping improvements, at a total cost of approximately \$25,000.

In addition, there are plans for replacing the Bingo sign drapes and the carpeting, sanding and refinishing the wooden floors in the main hall, improving the parking lot lighting and conducting inspections and assessments of the mechanical components of the building. This set of activities is estimated to cost approximately \$65,000.

Besides the foregoing, studies have been conducted of the parking lot and the cost to replace, improve and possibly

expand it. At this point, estimates for removing and replacing the parking lot approximate \$200,000, not including the cost of additional parking spaces on the southwest portion of the property, estimated to cost approximately \$25,000.

As previously reported, a lot of work has already been accomplished; a lot more needs to be accomplished. It simply costs a lot of money to maintain and improve the Center. We are looking forward to fundraising mechanisms being developed to meet the never-ending financial needs of the Center.

Our collective goal is to have the building and grounds be a model of excellence.

~ Mike Berzowski,
Facility Committee Chairperson

LENTEN FRIDAY FISH FRIES



LeRoy Wolniakowski, John Saltz & Bob Szews



President Ken Skowronski and Tom Havas



Jeff Kuderski, Interim Executive Director & Nick Ignatowski



Jimmy Locke



Danielle Norman and Erika Oliver



Chrissy Kuderski

BANQUET OPERATIONS UPDATES

There have been many changes in the banquet operations so far this year. Tom Rasmussen has requested to step back from most of the responsibilities for health reasons. When you see Tom working the bar at the next event, please let him know our thoughts and prayers are with him. Erika Oliver has been stepping up to fill the void left behind by Tom.

Both the fish fries and Easter Brunch were very successful, thank you to all the volunteers who made this possible! We are all working hard and developing a long range plan for the next 5 years. Our booking in the banquet area are ahead of last year. We received a restricted donation to upgrade the audio/visual equipment and this will help us book more events. We have a brochure for our

wedding business and this has already resulted in a booking!

As always, if you know anyone who needs a beautiful venue for their event, please remind them the Polish Center is an outstanding choice. Thank you for all of your support!

~ Nick Ignatowski,
Banquet Committee Chairperson

MARZANNA

Marzanna, performed by the Syrenka Polish Children's Folk Dance Ensemble and Polish School of Wisconsin on Sunday, April 3, "drowned" an effigy of Marzanna, the Polish witch of Winter, today at the Polish Center. This ancient Slavic custom signals the end of Winter and the beginning of Spring



SANDHILL CRANE BABIES!



Enjoy these pictures of the Sandhill Crane babies when they were one day old on May 2nd, 2016

© Todd Leech



EASTER BRUNCH

MARCH 28, 2016



HAVE YOUR EVENT AT THE POLISH CENTER!

Wedding, showers, anniversary, or birthday parties coming up? We have some prime dates available. The Grand Ballroom and the Veteran's Room offers a beautiful view of Koepmier Lake and the food is outstanding. Our experienced staff will strive to create a memorable experience from beginning to end.

Please email Erika Oliver at eoliver@polishfest.org or call (414) 529-2140 to set up an appointment or answer any questions you may have.

DIFFICULTY HEARING?

Stop struggling to hear the TV, loved ones, in church or in social settings.

Call **NOW** to check for earwax and a **FREE** evaluation!

KEEP IT LOCAL! We're not a franchise or chain. B.S. Wisniewski Hearing Centers are Catholic owned and run by family. Our grandfather owned B.S. Wisniewski's, WIZZY'S since 1914. We only dispense instruments made in the U.S.A.

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49th & Forest Home - **414-321-2020**



bswhearing.com

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MONTHLY CARD GAMES

at the Polish Center
**1ST AND 3RD THURSDAY
OF THE MONTH**
Starting at Noon

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Optional \$10 lunch on 1ST Thursday
Card Clubs and Bridge Groups Welcome!
Individuals may join a table upon arrival.
Play Sheephead, Poker and More.

For More Information Call (414) 529-2140



POLISH FEST BINGO

Sponsored by Polish Heritage Alliance, Inc.

EVERY WEDNESDAY

DOORS OPEN AT 4 P.M.

EARLY BIRD BINGO	REGULAR SESSION BINGO
6:00 p.m. for \$1,050	7:30 p.m. for \$1,050

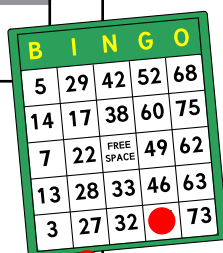
"50/50 Raffle"

Door Prizes Every 3RD Wednesday!

Food is Available for Purchase

Proceeds Benefit the Polish Center of Wisconsin

For More Information Call (414) 529-2140



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WISH LIST

Popcorn Machine
(to be used at Bingo)

New Table
for Front Lobby

Paper Shredder

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



MEMBERS ATTENDING POLISH FEST

Stop by the Polish Heritage Alliance Membership Booth,
show your membership card and receive a commemorative pin.



Phone (414) 529-2140
Fax (414) 529-1055
info@polishfest.org
polishcenterofwisconsin.org
polishfest.org
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Monday-Friday 9 AM-5 PM
or by appointment

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

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