



The Polonian

Baltimore's Polish Community Newsletter

Fall 2002 Issue

Treatment of Foreign Students Protested

The Polish American Congress and all its representative organizations have been conducting meetings based on recent articles by Baltimore Sunpapers Staff Writer Wally Roche. What he had uncovered is a program under the direction of the US State Department that grants 4-month work/study visas to 20,000 students worldwide during the summertime. A program that is working for some, but for many others, an experience that should make some US employers ashamed for the way they have treated these guests to our country.

Our concern began with learning of the plight of 4 Polish students that had paid nearly \$2000 to enter the program. Upon arrival in the US, they were left stranded in New York City for 3 days until "their" advisor was available to give them guidance. After the 4 finally arrived in Baltimore, they were shuffled off to Abington MD, in an isolated rural apartment 7 miles from where they were to work and immediately intimidated to sign a contract for housing *at approximately 3 times the going rate for rental apartments.* The contract initiated by McDonalds Restaurant Representatives, where they were to work, also stipulated each student to pay a \$200 cash security deposit Transportation back and forth to their work at McDonalds was \$15! The checks at the end of the workweek were \$0.00 because of apartment rent and miscellaneous deductions As we have found out, the case of these students is similar to stories being played out throughout the whole US by unscrupulous employers who take advantage of students.

The action the Polish American Congress-Maryland Division has taken is twofold: first to assist the students we are aware of, and second; to initiate action through our State and Federal Governmental Agencies to investigate the sources and causes that have allowed certain US Corporations to deprive the students of their lawfully deserved wages.

To provide immediate relief to 2 of the students, low cost housing was found by PAC member Krystyna Osowski in Baltimore City, near the location where jobs were also found. Currently, the other students are employed in menial jobs near Rehoboth Beach but by the time this newsletter is read, we hope to have all the students in Baltimore gainfully employed with money in their pockets for their return to Poland in October.

A 'Resolution' was passed by PAC Maryland Division which we have asked our State and Federal Representatives to take action on behalf of us, their constituents, to thoroughly investigate the deceptive practices of some employers of the students, which for the companies involved, is a source of "cheap labor". We, as residents of Maryland and Citizens of the United States, are disgusted with this abhorrent practice. The National Office of the Polish American Congress is preparing to take similar action to stop the abuse that they are aware of nationwide.

If you would like to join us in this effort, you are welcome to our next meeting of the PAC on Thursday Sept. 5th at 7 PM at the PNA 1627 Eastern Avenue, Baltimore.

Charles J. Slomski-President
Polish American Congress-Maryland



Installation of Officer's Banquet

Earlier this year, a banquet was held for the officers and members. Everyone in attendance enjoyed the event. The Polish community was represented by all its organizations. The atmosphere and camaraderie was wonderful.

Michel Snyder, Master of Ceremony, introduced Wesley Musical, Commissioner of District 6, who gave a very moving and informative presentation. James E Mislak, President for his 13th year, was recognized for his dedication and stalwart effort toward the accomplishment of the 3rd and 4th floor Senior apartments.



The Officers of the PNA are:

Jim Mislak	President
Agnes May	Vice-President
Jerry Jaremczuk	Vice-President
Barbara Sampson	Treasurer
Lynn Regent	Recording Secretary
June Johns	Financial Secretary
Peggy Snyder	Sergeant of Arms
Bud Johns	Sergeant of Arms



As always, the Krakowiaki Dancers of PNA Lodge 339 were extremely busy during the 2001-2002 season. In addition to performing at the Polish Festival in June, performing at the Towson University children's summer program and our annual Family Picnic at Merritt Point Park, they also attended a camp in Orchard Lake, Michigan where the children studied the Polish language, song, dance, arts and crafts, and met other PNA youths from around the nation. Please contact Peggy Snyder if your family is interested in joining the Krakowiaki Dancers.

Phone 410-652-1628 or peggy@comcast.net



Krakowiaki Dancers at Katyn Memorial Ceremony

Polish Festival Committee

On behalf of all the Officers of the Polish Community Association of Baltimore, I take this opportunity to express our heartfelt thanks to everyone who participated in making this years Festival a success. Fortunately, the profit this year will be used for start-up expenses next year, a luxury the committee has not seen for years.

Due to the untimely and surprising resignation of John Balicki in February, I assumed the position of President and quickly set the wheels in motion for the June Festival. Without the assistance and diligent efforts of Basia Ulsch, Helen Maliszewski and Maryann Frederick and the financial generosity of one individual, this Festival would have been cancelled.

A General meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, September 23, 2002 at 7:30 PM at the St. Casimir's Meeting Room on O'Donnell Street. At this meeting a financial report will be given along with a discussion of the direction of the Polish Community Association of Baltimore. Please listen to the various Polka/Polish Programs in the next few weeks for any changes.

Stephen Lesniewski Jr.- President



Polish American Congress Maryland Division

Polish American Congress members was very honored to have been invited to participate in many of the activities surrounding the State Visit of President Aleksander Kwasniewski and First Lady Jolanta. This, only the second State Visit in the presidency of President George Bush, was based on the excellent relations between the Presidents and the good atmosphere and cooperation between both countries. Numerous speeches were given during the three days of ceremonial events, but they are too long to present here, however, sources will be available on-line at our web site, and copies will be available at organizational meetings.



White House South Lawn
First Ladies: Jolanta Kwasniewski-Laura Bush
Presidents: Aleksander Kwasniewski-George Bush

On the extremely hot and humid morning of July 17th, we were assembled very close to the podium on the South Lawn of the White House. President Bush and President Kwasniewski gave stirring speeches of the historical and cultural ties that exist between both nations. President Bush stated that *"This friendship is rooted in our common history and sustained by our common values."* Later President Kwasniewski gave his insight that *"The United States and Poland can do much individually, but together they can achieve much more."* The speeches made us proud to be an American.

Following that ceremony, a luncheon was held at the Department of State where Secretary of State Powell and his wife greeted Poland's President, his wife, entourage, and guests. The theme, of the speeches, is the major role that Poland plays in European security, and as a member of NATO. Poland is known throughout the world as the United States strongest ally in the war on terrorism. Turning to the audience, President Kwasniewski said, *"I raise the toast to your health, to Poland and America and to our successful future in the 21st century"*.



Secretary of State Colin
Powell
President Aleksander
Kwasniewski
First Lady Jolanta
Kwasniewski
Mrs. Alma Powell

At Georgetown University later that afternoon, President Kwasniewski spoke at length about the Polish-Jewish relationship as it exists today.

Ms. Kaya Ploss, Executive Director of the American Center of Polish Culture in Washington DC, hosted an intimate breakfast on Friday for the First Lady Jolanta Kwasniewski because of their mutual friendship and support of the Poland's orphans. A inscribed block of granite from Katyn Memorial was presented to the First Lady of Poland.



Beverly and Chuck Slomski, Mrs. Jolanta
Kwasniewski, Ms. Kaya Ploss

The next general meeting of the Maryland Division of the PAC will be held on Thursday, September 5 at the PNA Hall beginning promptly at 7 PM. Visitors are welcome.

Charles J. Slomski-President
Maryland Division of the PAC

NATIONAL KATYN MEMORIAL FOUNDATION



The gray drabness of winter that had given our Katyn Monument a somber aura has now been replaced with summer's hot bright sun. Unfortunately, this same bright sun, coupled with our current drought, has continued the somber appearance by browning out the grass lawn at the site. Our group has retained a commercial lawn service, which is serving to keep the weeds under control, but it appears installation of an irrigation system will have to be considered. The drabness of the lawn is offset by the attractive flowerbeds some of our committee members have planted and continue to maintain.

The site continues to be an attraction for many residents of and visitors to Baltimore. A drive-by at any time during the day will reveal visitors reading the tablets or gazing up at the historical figures. On occasion, an automobile is stopped in the circle, with someone standing beside it taking photos.

On April 21, we held our second annual commemoration. The day began with a Mass in Polish at Holy Rosary Church, followed by a wreath-laying ceremony at the monument, and then by a reception at the PNA hall including a viewing of a video entitled "The Forgotten Odyssey". The video was very well-received because it depicted more of the KATYN story. The subject of the film was the deportation to Siberia and Kazakhstan of more than a million Poles from the eastern parts of Poland annexed by the Soviet Union. Included among these deportees were the widows and orphans of the murdered KATYN martyrs who lived in those eastern areas. Among our guests and attendees at this commemoration were representatives from the Polish Embassy and its military attachés.

An additional highlight since our last newsletter was the visit to our Monument, on August 17th, of a distinguished Delegation of Economic Advisors, who had accompanied Polish President Kwaśniewski on his official State Visit to the United States. This delegation included the Undersecretary of the Prime Minister's Office, Slawomir Cytrycki, who laid a red and white flower wreath at the Monument. It is pleasing to note that a visit to our Monument was important enough to be included in the very tight schedule of meetings concerning important economic, trade, and other international issues.



In addition to Mr. Cytrycki, the Delegation of Economic Advisors included Mr. Witold Orłowski, Mr. Marek Wejtko, Mrs. Henryka Bochniarz, Mr. Andrzej Arendarski, Mr. Cezary Stypulkowski, and Mr. Marek Jozeflak.

Representing the Embassy of the Republic of Poland were Mr. Wiesław Wodyk, Mrs. Teresa Orczykowska, and Mr. Jacek Dobrowski.

The Katyn Foundation welcoming committee included Chairman William Krol, Past Chairman Alfred Wisniewski, Mr. Richard Poremski and N. Frank Lanocha.

The next meeting of the National Katyn Memorial Foundation will be held at the PNA, 1627 Eastern Avenue, on September 17, at 7:00 pm. New officers and directors will be elected during this meeting. All who are interested in our activities are invited to attend. New members are always welcomed. There are no fees nor dues.

*Article courtesy of N. Frank Lanocha
Photo courtesy of Richard Poremski*



**POLISH LEGION OF AMERICAN
VETERANS
CASIMIR PULASKI –POST 209
Baltimore, Maryland**

The Polish Legion of American Veterans, Casimir Pulaski Post #209, has elected four delegates to the bi-annual PLAV national convention in Connecticut in August. The delegates are Robert Bieschke, Frederick Karr, Stephen Lesniewski and Raymond Dombrowski.

Walter Czawlytko, a member of Post 209, was the winner of the post's 50-50 raffle. He was awarded \$405 for his share of the prize. The post thanks those who participated in this project.

A beautiful executed and framed copy of the Constitution of the United States was prepared and presented to Post #209 by member Herman Kolakowski at the April meeting. The large piece is currently housed at the PNA Hall and will be displayed as soon as an ideal location is found.

Among the items of business at a recent meeting was the swearing-in ceremony for new members of the post. Membership has reached nearly 70 men and women and interested persons are invited to join the group.

Veterans of Polish extraction are urged to read a story related in a book entitled *We Regret to inform You.....*, which deals with the ordeal of Prisoner of war Walter Czawlytko. Mr. Czawlytko, a member of the Army Air Forces in World War II, was trained as an aerial waist gunner and was assigned to the 8th Air Force when he was 19 years old. It was while he was flying his second mission that the crew was forced to abandon the plane and all 10 men were captured and placed in German prisoner of war camps.

When it became evident the war was winding down the prisoners were evacuated and forced to march across Germany in freezing weather, a straggling band of men barely clothed, ill and starving. The Black Death March is recalled, as one of the most inhumane acts ever perpetrated against prisoners.

The Czawlytko story is brief, plainly narrated and riveting. Czawlytko's story is one of 12 such tales of former prisoners of war included in the book. He is a respected member of Post #209.

The newly formed color guard under the direction of Robert Bieschke has begun service with two appearances on Memorial Day. The first formal ceremony they participated was at St. Casimir's Church on May 27th. Members of the color guard include Robert Bieschke, Woislaw Milan-Kamski, Ben Podowski, Ronald Lesniewski, Dawn Priebe and Commander Raymond Dombrowski.



Above left to right: Alfred Wisniewski, Edwin Solinsky, Robert Bieschke, Woislaw Milan-Kamski, Fredrick Karr and Raymond Dombrowski.

REMINDER: Next meeting Wednesday September 18th, PNA Hall, 7:30 PM

Commander Raymond Dombrowski

Visit us on the web at
www.polishcommunity.com



TRUMPETER

POLISH HERITAGE ASSOCIATION OF MARYLAND NEWSLETTER

I hope that everyone had a great summer, in spite of some excessive heat. Now as we approach fall, our very important monthly meetings will start again, the first on September 15th, in the Joseph Center at 2:30 pm. Guests are always welcome to see how we are promoting our Polish heritage.

On August 2, the Polish Heritage Association of Maryland, Inc, hosted a group of 39 children that were attending a “Kids for Peace Camp” summer program sponsored by Towson University. The children were welcomed to the Patterson Park Pulaski Monument by Edwin Solinsky and given a brief history of General Casimir Pulaski and his significant contribution to the American Revolution. They were then provided a “polish luncheon” including all the ethnic foods that we have enjoyed. They were very pleased. Their final stop was at the Katyn Memorial where they learned there were many other Poles who were massacred during World War II-a story not generally well known or given much publicity. Thanks to Tom Hollowak, all the children were given an “Outline of the History of Poland”, a beautiful chronological presentation of polish heroes, including pictures and other illustrations. It was a great day for the PHA to make others aware of our heritage.

For the 29th consecutive year, the Polish Heritage Association has awarded scholarships to deserving and qualified students for the upcoming school year. This year there were 46 applications received competing for the 7 available \$1,000 grants. In addition, Mr. John Gustin was awarded the third of a four-year - \$2,500 per year grant of the **Stanley and Anna Oltarzewski Memorial Scholarship** as he has successfully completed his sophomore year at the University of Maryland. The other awards included:

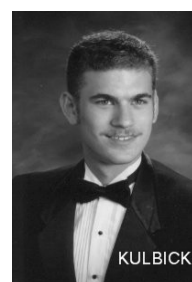
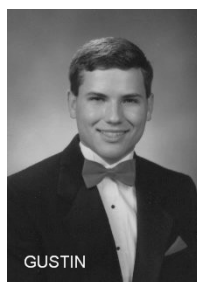
*The **Dr. Josephine Wtulich Memorial Scholarship** awarded to Mr. Szymon Maziakowski.

*The **Dr. Kenneth and Nancy Williams Scholarship** awarded to Ms. Alana Michelle Wase.

*The **Lucy (Loneski) Kelly Memorial Scholarship** awarded to Ms. Luiza Mensaria

*The **PHA scholarship in the name of Stanley Ciesielski** awarded to Mr. Alan M. Kulbicki.

* Ms. Patricia Greenfield, Ms. Stephanie Denk, and Ms. Veronica Jablecki all awarded **Polish Heritage Association grants**.



We applaud and thank the sponsors for their generosity in supporting our Polish youth.

Polish Heritage Association Continued

At the September meeting we will welcome Ms. Kaya Mirecka Ploss, the Executive Director of the American Center of Polish Culture in Washington DC. As a personal friend of Poland's President A. Kwasniewski and First Lady Jolanta and a frequent visitor to Poland, she is well qualified to discuss with us, "Poland Today". Ms. Ploss is well known to us as the sponsor of the polish orphans that she arranges for a two week visit to the United States: with Baltimore having one day with these children. Baltimore has been very generous in support of this program

The second major activity we have planned for this year is the Pulaski Memorial Day celebrations in cooperation with the Polish Legion of American Veterans to be held on Sunday, October 20th. October is Polish Heritage Month and our activity is only one of the month long celebrations by all the Polish American Congress member organizations.

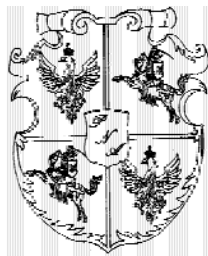
Mark your calendars for November 17th, at which time, following our general meeting at 2:30 pm, pianist Bob Pula will entertain us by playing selections from Chopin's many outstanding repertoires.

The Christmas Program will be held on Sunday December 8th. Details will be provided in the next issue of this newsletter.

Victoria Leshinskie – President 410-962-8611

POLISH NOBILITY ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION

Dr. Roger Chylinski-Podubinski, President of the PNAF and the Baltimore International College (School of Culinary Arts), has been a major contributor to Polish programs in Baltimore. He has sponsored the luncheons for the polish orphans each year; provided housing and meals for Polish politicians and the team that erected the Katyn memorial, and provided assistance to Poland's youth in the United States. Dr. Chylinski-Podubinski is to be congratulated for contributing to our polish community by showing his polish generosity to so many people.



If you would like more information regarding the PNAF you may contact Tom Hollowak, Richard Poremski or Chuck Slomski. You may also access their web site at:

www.angelfire.com/mn3/pnaf/index.html



During a three-week Kosciuszko Foundation program in Rome while studying Polish History, Literature and the arts, Alfreda Jamrosz, had the opportunity to have an audience with Pope John II.

"We all entered this magnificent audience room and the Pope was sitting at the beautiful chair. He was very still, not moving, with his head tilted to the right. Each student knelt down and kissed the ring on his left hand. When I came I told the Pope I was from Baltimore, and he immediately raised his head, looked at me and asked *Baltimore?* He raised his hand and blessed me. I shall never forget that moment"

Alfreda Jamrosz

Veterans Day Memorial Service To be hosted by the General Joseph Haller Post 95

On November 10th, 2002, a Mass at St. Casimir's Church at O'Donnell St. and Kenwood Avenue in Baltimore will be celebrated at 10:00 AM. All service members or service organizations are invited to join as we assemble at 9:45 AM

Refreshments will be served after mass at 1746 Fleet Street, Baltimore

For more information please call the
Post Commander at 410-675-3220
Or Post 95 at 410-276-9195

POLISH NATIONAL ALLIANCE
1627-33 EASTERN AVENUE
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ORGANIZATIONS

Polish American
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Division

PNA Council 21

Polish Heritage
Association of MD

Polish Legion of
American veterans
Post 209

National Katyn
Memorial
Foundation

Local radio Programs

Happy Music Time	Saturdays	1590 AM	12-2:30 p.m.	Connie and Milton, hosts
Echoes of Poland	Saturdays	750 AM	2-2:30 p.m.	Karina Jureko, host
Polka Hop	Sundays	89.7 FM	9-11:00a.m.	Connie and Vince, hosts
Happy Music Time	Sundays	1590 AM	12-2:30 p.m.	Connie and Milton, hosts
Radio Polonia	Sundays	750 AM	12:30-1:00 pm.	Maria Styka, host
Echoes of Poland	Sundays	750 AM	3:15-3:30 pm	Karina Jureko, host
Family Polka Program	Sundays	750 AM	5:30-6:30 pm	Janice and Jay, hosts
Morning Classics	Thursdays	91.1 FM	9-12:00 a.m.	Ed Reback, host

Radio programs on the Web

All Classical Composers <http://www.classicalarchives.com>
All Chopin compositions <http://www.classicalarchives.com/chopin.html>
Polka Music Every day/All Day <http://www.polkaweb.com>

This Newsletter, as well as other organizational material can also be viewed at:
www.polishcommunity.com