



Polish Union of America NEWS



Official Publication of the Polish Union of America,
a Life Insurance and Fraternal Benefit Society

"A Society of people helping people working toward the future."

Unia Polska w Ameryce

Summer Issue 2011



From the Desk of National President,
James P. Jozwiak

The Polish Union of America is very proud to say that we are one of the most active and visible fraternal, not only in New York State, but in the United States. It is very important not only for bringing our friends and families together, but also preserves our not-for-profit status

It is hard to believe that this was our 9th annual festival! Each year the Polish Heritage Festival committee challenges itself to come up with fresh ideas, events and individuals to showcase the best of who we are. This, I believe, is our greatest strength. This year was no different with the theme "The Best of Buffalo Polonia!"

For your listening and dancing pleasure this year's festival featured the music of: The Knewz, The Buffalo Touch, New Direction, The Concertina AllStars, Scrubby with Phocus Polkas, and Stephanie Pietrzak & the Honky Tonk Band! Plus, the Harmony Polish Folk Ensemble also performed! There were contests, a pageant, Polish/American food, and a huge theme basket auction!

This year the festival's featured attraction was the Batalion Burza! This was their first performance in New York State! The Batalion Burza is a dynamic group of historians who've been inspired by the story of the proud and tragic Warsaw Uprising of 1944. They're driven to deliver the story of Polish people during the Second World War to the audiences across the USA through serious and dynamic living history interpretation, and by supporting like-minded organizations and projects. Their mission is to inspire people with that Polish story so they'll explore history for themselves, long after their work is done.

They believe that educating the public through the use of a variety of meaningful artifacts, engaging storyboards, and energetic personal interpretation in authentic period clothing. They realize their mission by creating a fun, educational, and exciting atmosphere where all who visit can leave with good memories, valuable knowledge, and a renewed respect for the story of the Poles from the 1940s. They also offer consultation and professional services for films and other artistic



endeavors that promote Polish history.

We also received very good coverage from the Buffalo News which ran color photos of festival events on its picture page in its Saturday and Sunday editions. The AM-POL Eagle also printed great photos and an awesome article from which you can read inside on the centerspread of this issue. This year I had the opportunity to appear on Channel 7's Weather Outside with Mike Randall. I was also able to do an interview along with the Batalion Burza on Channel 4's affiliate morning show called, Buffalo Wingit. And we can't forget the great radio coverage we received from Ron Dombrowski's Drive Time Polkas and Norm Skulski's Polish Pride radio shows.

I would like to thank the Polish Heritage Festival committee, the many sponsors, volunteers, and the many families that make the Polish Heritage Festival one of the their annual family events.

Keep in mind that the Polish Heritage Festival is a 501.c.3 not for profit organization and through your continued support and attendance we can continue to achieve our charitable goals.

The Polish Union of America's family events are continuing. Please read and sign up for our upcoming: Polish Union of America's Family Picnic, Buffalo Bisons Polish Day at the ball park, and our 5 day trip, from

Nov. 14 to the 18, which includes:

Oglebay, the Biltmore Mansion in North Carolina which features a Christmas candlelight tour and a day tour of the mansion and estate, and Heartwood's Celebration of Lights! (Check it out on page 6!)

Please lock in your reservations early so you won't miss out on a once in a lifetime experience. Isn't it great to be a part of our Polish Union of America family? I am sure you have friends and family members who would like to be part of our beloved fraternal. Just ask and give them the opportunity.

On behalf of the Polish Union of America I want to congratulate the 2011 scholarship recipients. We are proud to say that this year we will be awarding 72 scholarships to help our members achieve their future goals!

Fraternally yours, *James Paul Jozwiak*

Polish Union of America

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Daniel LaQuay

The Polish Union of America is a non-profit life insurance and fraternal benefit society founded in 1890.

Address:

745 Center Road
West Seneca, NY 14224-2108

Phone: (800) 724-2782 or (716) 677-0220

Fax: (716) 677-0246

E-Mail: punion@ix.netcom.com

Web Site: www.polishunion.com

**Check out
our newsletter online at:
www.polishunion.com/news
in vivid, full color!**

NEWS DEADLINES

The Polish Union of America News is published 4 times a year. The editor strives to get the news out in a timely manner. We look forward to learning about your Lodge activities! Please note the following:

1. As soon as the paper is completed with news articles it goes to print. Be sure to get your news articles to us in a timely manner.
2. E-mailed, typewritten, clearly printed, or faxed articles are preferred. **Photos should be of high contrast so that they can be reproduced.**
3. Submitted material must be accompanied by the name and phone number of a contact person.

Submit information to one of the editor:

Christine Jozwiak
PO Box 115
Springville, NY 14141-0115
voice: (716) 592-2501

Lodge Secretary Wedding Announcement



Congratulations go out to Melissa and Shane Jozwiak on their recent marriage. Shane is the secretary of Lodge #210 of the Polish Union of America.

The newlywed couple were married in June at St. Gabriel's R.C. Church in Elma, N.Y., and celebrated afterward with an "old-fashioned" Polish style reception.

Shane is the son of National President James, and First Lady Christine Jozwiak. The newlywed couple currently reside in Lancaster, N.Y.

Polish Union of America Annual Family Picnic

Saturday, August 13, 2011

12 noon - 3 pm

Centennial Park in the West Seneca Town Complex
1250 Union Road, West Seneca, NY

**Rain or
Shine!**

All Polish Union of America members
and their families are welcome to attend.

Admission for children and adults is FREE!

Food and non-alcoholic beverages will be served. Alcoholic beverages are not permitted on Town Hall grounds. There will be swimming available at the town pool and wading pool for adults and children, as well as games for the children, with prizes for the winners. A Chinese auction will also be held. There will be lots of fun for the whole family!

Activity Chairman: National Attorney Wallace C. Piotrowski

Please fill out the registration form and return it by Friday, August 5, 2011.

Annual Family Picnic ~ REGISTRATION FORM ~

Please return this form by Friday, August 5, 2011 to:

Polish Union of America, 745 Center Rd., West Seneca, NY 14224-2108

Name of Adult _____

Name of Adult _____

Name of Child _____ Age _____

Name of Child _____ Age _____

Name of Child _____ Age _____

Name of Child _____ Age _____

2011 Polish Heritage Festival Results



The 9th Annual Polish Heritage Festival Pierogi Eating Contest Winners

- 1st Place** – Jim Glover consumed 28 pierogi in a minute and 37 seconds.
2nd Place – Jeffery Przewozniak who came with the Batalion “Burza”.
3rd Place – Pete Barilovich who also came with the Batalion “Burza”.

The 9th Annual Polish Heritage Festival Bake-Off Winners

- 1st Place** – Karen Gold
2nd Place – Barbara Keating
3rd Place – Carol Ann Siller

Cash for a Year Winner! Dolores Osuch



1st Place Winner, Karen M Gold's Recipe.

Best Anise Pierniki from the 2011 Polish Heritage Festival

Mix together until well blended:
 1 cup lard (do not substitute)
 1 1/2 cups sugar
 Add: 3 large eggs

Dissolve together in a small cup:
 3 Tablespoons hot water
 1/2 teaspoon Hartshorn (baking ammonia which can only be purchased in pharmacies)

After dissolved and water has cooled, add:
 1/4 teaspoon anise oil

Combine: 4 cups flour
 2 teaspoons baking powder

Add flour mixture and water/anise oil mixture alternately with lard/sugar blend. Beat together until well mixed.

Chill dough overnight.

Bake at 325° for 12-15 minutes or until lightly browned.
 Once cookies have cooled, frost with glaze and decorate with colored sugar crystals.

Glaze
 1 cup confectioner sugar
 3 tablespoons cold water
 (you may need to add more if too thick)



Clip & Save
Recipe

Congratulations to Our 2011 Pageant Winners!



The 9th Annual Polish Heritage Festival Pageant Winners

Queen (17 & Up)
Shireen Azizian
 from Amherst, NY

Princess (13 to 16)
Katherine Metzler
 from Springville, NY

Duchess (9 to 12)
Christina LaRussa
 from Cheektowaga, NY

Sweetheart (6 to 8)
Kaitlyn Diedrich
 from Springville, NY

Little Miss (3 to 5)
Sianna Puisienki
 from Cheektowaga, NY

Festival Baby (1 to 2)
Sophia Burrows
 from Dunkirk, NY

Polish Heritage Festival

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by the **AM-POL EAGLE**
Jaroslaw K. Radomski

Hundreds of families traveled to Hamburg, NY on Friday and Saturday, June 10 and 11, to experience the 9th Annual Polish Heritage Festival. The abundance of food prepared in accordance with famous Polish recipes, the best polka bands, amazing folklore dancing groups, many vendors, educational and recreation activities attracted more than Western New Yorkers. In fact many participants came from other states and Canada as the beautiful weather was a great help.

Polka music lovers had an opportunity to tear off their shoes in music marathons offered by “The Knewz”, “The Buffalo Touch”, New Direction”, “The Concertina All Stars”, “Scruffy with Phocus” and “Stephanie”, then to get a break drinking Polish beer or eating Polish “pierogi”, “golabki” and sausages... and to get back to the dance floor again!

Ludowa Nuta, a Canadian based Polish folk ensemble, dressed in colorful regional costumes, amazed everybody with rarely seen instruments such as the eight foot-long wooden trumpets which they used to perform vigorous folk songs. The Harmony

Polish Folk Ensemble received enthusiastic applause for presentation of Polish dances representative of various regions of Poland. The multigenerational ensemble lured all gathered with shining Krakowski costumes and beautiful performances.

The fun

opportunity to learn Polish vocabulary, draw pictures corresponding to that vocabulary and eat delicious fruit cakes made according to a top secret recipe. The well-advertised



contests – Anise Pierniki Cookie Bake-Off, Pierogi Eating Contest, and Festival Pageant – attracted many as well as did the “Polish Mini Classes” offered by volunteers from the Polish Saturday School at Buffalo led by its principal Mira Szramel. Kids had the

activities of the school resulted in a list of new candidates for Polish Saturday School classes starting next year.

Enthusiasts of Polish history had

at Hamburg was COOL!

many attractions to choose from. Ken Koskodan, author of “No Greater Ally: The Untold Story of Poland’s Forces in World War II,” and Eddie Zawadzki, author of “Poles in the

enriching the U.S.

One of the biggest hits of the festival was “Batalion Burza” a group of young people dressed and equipped with the arms of soldiers of the “Warsaw Uprising” in 1944.

The exhibition provided substantial information of the

“Batalion Burza” of arms, equipment and uniforms.

It successfully brought this unforgettable historic lesson to many. It is worth mentioning that cofounder of the “batalion” – J.J. Przewozniak (a Polish-American) was assisted by Jeff Mogle and Jennifer Schneck (both Americans with German “roots”) and Pete Barilovich (an American with Russian “roots”). This shows an excellent example how young people

can bring knowledge about a painful time in history yet promote the ideas of peace and successful cooperation to

the younger generations. More

information about “Batalion Burza” is available online: www.batalionburza.com.

Vendors of Polish pottery, salt lamps, amber and glass,

as usual, received a lot of attention by many visitors. A lottery,

theme basket auctions gave participants an opportunity to win very attractive gifts. It also served as a way to support orphanages in Poland.

The 9th Polish Heritage Festival in Hamburg proved once more that Polish culture, history, customs, dances, songs and a delicious cuisine are very attractive not only for Polish-Americans, but indeed for all visitors of the Festival, and can bring together thousands of people to celebrate it each year.



heroic fight of the inhabitants of the capital of Poland – Warsaw,

when it was occupied by Germans. It included books, video presentations of archival materials corresponding to the “Warsaw Uprising” and a live demonstration by members of

New World,” were signing their books. Many displays were prepared to show the history of Poland, famous Poles and importance of Polish emigrants



Polish Union of America's



Christmas at the Biltmore

5 Days - 4 Nights

November 14-18, 2011



Oglebay Festival of Lights



Heartwood's Celebration of Lights



Package Includes:

- 5 Days 4 Nights Deluxe Accomadations
- 4 Breakfasts, including 3 Deluxe Continental breakfasts & 1 Buffet Breakfast at the Grove Park Inn
- 4 Dinners including Deepark Restaurant & Wheeling Island Casino
- Visit to Cabela's Wheeling, WV
- Oglebay Festival of Lights
- Daytime Visit to the Biltmore Estate, including the Winery Tour, and Riverbend Farm Village
- Candlelight Christmas Evening Tour of the Biltmore House
- Heartwood's Celebration of Lights
- Rivers Casino
- Deluxe Motorcoach Transportation (Which includes Luggage Handling, snacks, games, prizes, and movies)
- All Taxes & Meal Gratuities

A \$100 deposit will confirm your reservation!

Members
\$669⁰⁰
Per Person
 Double Occupancy

Non-members
\$689.00

Call our office at: **716-677-0220** for more information.

Plan Your Biltmore Getaway With Us!

Discover the origin of "A MAN'S HOME IS HIS CASTLE", not to mention the source of "TAKES YOUR BREATH AWAY" and "STOPS YOU IN YOUR TRACKS." Because America's largest home is that awe-inspiring. There's the size: 250 rooms, 35 bedrooms, 65 fireplaces. The art: paintings by Renoir, tapestries five centuries old, and magnificent sculpture. And the setting: 8,000 acres of Blue Ridge Mountain beauty. Then there is the sheer pleasure of all the Biltmore has to offer. Colorful gardens to nurture your spirit. Delicious food and wine to please your palate. And great shops for everything else so you can enjoy yourself completely. And there is no better time to enjoy the pre-Christmas holiday atmosphere, with spectacular decorations and music!

Make your reservations now! Perhaps to celebrate a loved one's birthday, (or your own), or a special anniversary, or an early Christmas gift, or a fantastic getaway before we get out our winter coats and boots. You may even be inspired to decorate and celebrate the Biltmore way this year! (A special bottle of wine from their winery, or maybe just a special ornament to hang on your tree as a fantastic reminder of a special trip!)

And an extra bonus? Leave the driving, and gas fill-ups, to us! And travel with the greatest group of friends and families from the Polish Union of America!

For more more information call the Polish Union of America office at (716) 677-0220 weekdays, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m.

News from Sister Agata

To all our donors and supporters,

In a recent letter, Sr. Agata, director of the nursing home for children in Brzozow, Poland, wrote that the majority of the work in the home is completed. Photos show the children excited about the new paint and furnishings in their rooms. Most of the cleaning was done by the Sisters. Sr. Agata also mentioned that they have been able to take in four more children in the nursing home, bringing the number up to 64 residents.

The Sisters, the children and the volunteers all send their warm greetings, and want to express their sincere thankfulness for all the happiness you have brought to the children through your donations, because they now have a "rainbow" in their house. (a warm and clean environment) They offer a sincere welcome to all who are able to visit them in their home in Poland.

We will continue our charitable work for these children in Brzozow, through our "Special Children with Special Needs" fundraiser, and continue our Christmas gift giving for the children in Jaraoslaw, with our annual "Spirit of St. Nicholas" fundraiser. Look for our article in the next issue of the Polish Union of America newspaper.

On behalf of the Sisters who care for these special children, "Thank you for your continued support!"



Calendar of Events

FAMILY PICNIC

SAT., AUG. 13, 2011

Centennial Park, W. Seneca

Call the Polish Union of America
for details at (716) 677-0220

BUFFALO BISON'S POLISH FESTIVAL NIGHT

**Buffalo Bisons vs
Toledo Mud Hens**

TUES. AUG. 16, 2011

Coca Cola Field, Buffalo, NY

For more information call
Buffalo Bisons at
(716) 846-2018



Buffalo Bison's Polish Night

The Polish Festival Night with the Buffalo Bison's will take place on Tuesday, August 16, at 7:05 p.m. The Bisons will take the field against the Toledo Mud Hens.

A pre-game tent party will take place from 5 to 7 p.m. Live music will be featured by The Knewz, and Polish folk dancing will be performed by the Krakowiacy Dancers from Eugenia's Dance Studio. In addition, a Polish menu will offer Polish sausage, golabki (stuffed cabbage), pierogi, and sauerkraut. A pyrotechnic show will follow the game.

Tickets are \$7 per person and can be obtained by contacting Mark Gordon from the Buffalo Bisons at (716) 846-2018, or Mgordon@bisons.com.



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In Memoriam

*We extend our sympathy to the families
 and friends of recently deceased members.*

<u>Lodge</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>Location</u>
193	Thomas M Celebucki	Schenectady, NY
210	Mary Cisek	Elmhurst, NY
97	Frank Dojka	Niagara Falls, NY
393	Estelle Kiliszewski	Cheektowaga, NY
267	Josephine Leitch	Hobe Sound, FL
270	Tonti Lucia	Pittsburgh, PA
338	Irene Mazuchowski	Tonawanda, NY
230	Sally Pacos	Warren, MI
393	Edward Przybyszewski	Buffalo, NY
362	Linda Rybak	Alden, NY
349	Helen Stawarz	Akron, NY
15	Jan Suwinski	Depew, NY
362	William Urbanski	Cheektowaga, NY