



# Alliance News

Toledo-Poznań Alliance quarterly newsletter – Spring 2014

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## Update on the Dixie Company

As mentioned previously, the traditional jazz group the Dixie Company from Poznan, Poland, is coming to Toledo this May and perform. They will then go on to the Sacramento Jazz Festival in California. We have been in contact with the University of Toledo Music Dept. The head of Jazz Studies, Prof. Gunnar Mossblad, agreed to host the group at UT. Prof Mossblad, himself a jazz player, hopes a possible exchange can take place between the two groups in the near future.

The Dixie Company will be in Toledo May 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> to perform in a 90 minute concert at the University of Toledo Recital Hall located in the Performing Arts Center. The building is across from the Law Center bldg. It is easily accessible from Secor Rd. and parking is free. They will perform each day at 7:00 pm. Tickets will be available from the Lourdes University ticket office in the Franciscan Center. Cost is \$20 for each performance. Tickets will also be available from planning committee members: Sr. Ann Francis Klimkowski, Tom Sorosiak, Kathy Grabel, Charles and Rosalie Hinde, Walter Kosydar, Jackie Konwinski, Stan Machosky, and Walter Palicki. Seating is limited. Plan on getting your tickets early. We hope to see many of our TPA members there enjoying this popular jazz group that has performed throughout Europe.



**Wesołego Alleluja!**

## The Black Madonna Icon in Toledo

Hopefully you had a chance to see the replica of the Black Madonna, - Our Lady of Czestochowa – that was on display on April 2 at the Rosary Cathedral on Collingwood Blvd. on Wednesday, April 2 at a Mass at 7:00 pm. The replica is a part of the international “From Ocean to Ocean Prayer” campaign. Fr. Peter West, planned to conduct a talk on the Black Madonna Icon immediately after the Mass. Fr. West is the vice-president of Human Life International. If you would like more information you can go to the website [www.hli.org/oceantoocean](http://www.hli.org/oceantoocean) or LifeConnection on “facebook, or you can contact [toledoeggie@hotmail.com](mailto:toledoeggie@hotmail.com).

However, if you didn't get to see the replica and would like to see the real thing, the treasured icon of the Black Madonna, you simply must join Kathy Grabel's group going to Poland in September, as part of our mission to promote our relationship with our sister city. The group will most definitely attend a Mass in Jasna Gora in Czestochowa.. For more information on the tour to Poland, please contact Kathy at 419-385-8516, or email: [bokkat@buckeye-express.com](mailto:bokat@buckeye-express.com)



## Walter's reviews ...

### The Magic and Beauty of Amber

Amber is derived from the sap of ancient pines and can be millions of years old. Also known as Polish Gold, it is rare and impervious to the elements that erode and dissolve mountains of granite into sand. Extremely light, its strength, translucence, electromagnetic properties, as well as its pine aroma and power to preserve insects and plants for millions of years, has intrigued artists, alchemists and physicians throughout history. The premise of the movie *Jurassic Park* is based on the theoretical ability of amber to preserve intact DNA (reproductive protein) from the blood of a dinosaur derived from a mosquito trapped in amber.

Medicinally amber has been ascribed to have miraculous healing powers. It has been worn by the nobility for centuries to ward off illness. Worn over the heart, it is helpful for enhancing its strength, according to lore. Continued wear is recommended. It is still thought to help with thyroid and immune disorders associated with the thymus in the chest. Folklore says it shortens the course of fevers, relieves migraines if circled around the head and helps with the relief of arthritis by rubbing on the affected joint. Distillations of amber have been used medicinally for immune support, lungs and general organ pain. No harmful effects have ever been identified in therapies utilizing this precious and beautiful mineral.

*Courtesy of Antoni Kozlowski, Amber Artisan*

### Polish Cold Tart Apple Soup recipe found in an unusual old cookbook

Slice 8 tart cooking apples, cover with cold water; add yellow rind of 1 lemon cut into fine strips, ½ tsp cinnamon, 1 to 1 ½ tsp sugar, 1 or 2 pinches powdered clove and a little salt to taste. Simmer slowly until apples are tender and rub through a sieve.

Put in the refrigerator and chill 3 hrs. Then add the chilled strained juice of 2 average small limes or 1 lemon, and a bottle of chilled claret or red

Burgundy. Melt 2 tbsp of currant jelly and stir in rapidly just before serving, again with 2 ice cubes in each bowl. Dust with fine toasted breadcrumbs and enjoy.

This exotic chilled companion dish was brought to Mr. Baker's attention by a much-travelled friend who motored through Poland in the late 1920s or early 1930s.

*Source: The Gentleman's Companion, being an exotic cookery book or, around the world with knife, fork and spoon By Charles H. Baker, Jr. c1939.*

### Thick With Poles

*By Denny Kutylowski of www. PolishToledo.com*

Where in Ohio do you have the best chance to bump into another Amerykanin polskiego (Polish-American)? Statistically speaking, it would be in a town that had a high concentration of Polish-Americans. So, the question is what places in Ohio have the highest composition of folks claiming Polish ancestry? According to data extracted from the Census here are the top 10 places in the state.

|    | %    | Town          | Total Pop. |
|----|------|---------------|------------|
| 1  | 45.6 | Hockingport   | 83         |
| 2  | 44.2 | Plumwood      | 179        |
| 3  | 43.7 | Cuyahoga Hts. | 547        |
| 4  | 38.0 | Independence  | 7,079      |
| 5  | 36.0 | Newburgh Hts. | 2,108      |
| 6  | 28.8 | Valley View   | 1,946      |
| 7  | 28.1 | Lansing       | 369        |
| 8  | 27.3 | Rocky Ridge   | 418        |
| 9  | 26.4 | Negley        | 239        |
| 10 | 26.2 | Adena         | 841        |

Hockingport is on the Ohio River not far from Ohio University. Plumwood is near Columbus. The next four are suburbs of Cleveland.

In Lucas County the list of highest concentration of Polish-Americans might surprise you.

|    | %    | Town              | Total Pop. |
|----|------|-------------------|------------|
| 1  | 16.1 | Waterville        | 5,435      |
| 2  | 15.8 | Rossford          | 6,328      |
| 3  | 14.9 | Sylvania          | 18,989     |
| 4  | 14.5 | Millbury          | 1,366      |
| 5  | 13.8 | Maumee            | 14,419     |
| 6  | 12.7 | Berkey            | 264        |
| 7  | 12.5 | Curtice           | 1,314      |
| 8  | 11.5 | Oregon            | 20,118     |
| 9  | 10.6 | Haskins<br>(Wood) | 1,144      |
| 10 | 10.5 | Whitehouse        | 3,893      |

Toledo and Perrysburg trail slightly behind. Over the years the percentage of Polish-Americans in the larger cities such as Cleveland, Toledo and Youngstown have dwindled due to suburban flight.

Always something interesting and enlightening at

[www.polshtoledo.com](http://www.polshtoledo.com)

### Trip to Poland

This year a tour of Poland will be in September of 2014. We already have a group and just a few more spaces are available. So, if you are thinking this is the year you want to go to Poland, don't delay. Next year something might come up and you may not be able to travel, so let's go while you can. For more information, contact Kathy Grabel at 419-385-8516 or email: [bokat@buckeye-express.com](mailto:bokat@buckeye-express.com)

## Bulletproof Poles

by Denny Kutylowski

In the days of the Wild, Wild West, a Tombstone, Arizona physician noticed that a man was saved from a gun shot by his breast pocket silk handkerchief. It prevented the bullet from penetrating. In 1887, he wrote an article titled Impenetrability of Silk to Bullets.

In come the Poles.

A Catholic priest, Fr. Kazimierz Żegleń, used the article's findings to develop a bulletproof vest made of silk fabric at the end of the 19th century, which could stop the relatively slow rounds from black powder handguns. The vests cost \$800 each, a small fortune at the time, equivalent of \$18,710 in today's dollars.

An improved vest, made by Polish inventor Jan Szczepanik in 1901, saved the life of Alfonso XIII of Spain when an attacker shot him. In 1914, Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria wasn't so lucky. The heir to the throne of Austria-Hungary was wearing a silk bulletproof vest when a gun-wielding assassin attacked him in Sarajevo. But, he was shot in the neck and the vest did not protect him. Thus, started WWI.

Jan had quite a bit of fabric knowledge due to his work perfecting the Jacquard loom from France. The Polish inventor had several hundred patents and over 50 discoveries to his name, many of which are still applied today, especially in the motion picture industry, as well as in photography and television. Some of his concepts helped the future evolution of TV broadcasting, such as the telectroscope (an apparatus for distant reproduction of images and sound) using the wireless telegraph, which greatly affected the development of modern telecommunications including today's cell phones.

It's interesting to note a Polish-American, Stephanie Kwolek working for DuPont in 1965, developed the modern Kevlar bulletproof vest.

She was born near Pittsburgh of Polish immigrants in 1923 and has won numerous awards for her work in polymer chemistry.

Kwolek attributes her interest in science to her father and an interest in fashion to her mother. She became the fourth woman to be added to the National Inventors Hall of Fame.

Always interesting stories on Kutylowski's blog linked to [www.polshtoledo.com](http://www.polshtoledo.com)