



Alliance News

Toledo-Poznan Alliance quarterly newsletter – Spring 2015

COLLINS CARED TOLEDO CARES

On February 11 the Community came together to pay our respects to our Mayor – to honor his memory and what he truly cared about. I saw many of his colleagues and friends at the ceremony at Savage Hall that evening. There were approximate 2,000 community members who knew and respected him.

Speakers spoke about his truly CARING for the community as a whole. They spoke of his Irish sense of humor, his genuine laugh but most of all his commitment to make Toledo a better place. Hence the slogan

YOU WILL DO BETTER IN TOLEDO

During his short time as mayor he got us through three major crises, the loss of two of our firefighters, the algal bloom crises of Lake Erie and the snow emergencies that Toledo and outlying areas have had to endure.

Mayor Collins spent his life serving Toledo. From his early service in the armed forces and in the Toledo Police Department. He definitely leaves behind a legacy of service and most of all, DEDICATION TO THE COMMUNITY.

Toledo Poznan Alliance extends their deepest sympathy to his wife Sandra Drabik and the rest of his family.

COLLINS CARED, TOLEDO CARES AND WE NEED TO HONOR HIS MEMORY BY SHOWING A BETTER COMMUNITY.

Pat Konwinski



Easter in Poland

Holy week lasts from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday. On Holy Wednesday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday (in Poland it's called Wielki Piątek) and Holy Saturday, as well as Easter Sunday, church plays a big role in families who are Roman Catholic and that would be approximately 90% of people in Poland. Egg coloring takes place on Good Friday, a day of fasting. On Saturday, the Easter basket filled with food such as kielbasa, ham, hard boiled eggs, bread, babka, butter lamb, will be taken to the church in the afternoon for a blessing. Once the food is blessed, it is eaten on Saturday. The blessed food will also be served on Easter Sunday. No food is ever wasted. There could also be a cake in a shape of a lamb to symbolize Christ.

Pisanki - the coloring of eggs where eggs are dyed and decorated with folk art that vary by region, and the tradition goes back centuries. Eggs symbolize spring, renewal and fertility.

Easter Monday is a family holiday and it's called Smigus-dyngus, or Wet Monday, in Polish – Lany Poniedzialek. Men and boys sprinkle water on girls. Traditionally the single girls get picked to get wet.

Wesołego Alleluja!

TOLEDO SISTER CITIES INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL

**APRIL 18, 2015
NOON TO 8:00 P.M.
STUDENT UNION AUDITORIUM**

**Please put this on your calendar.
An afternoon of fun for everyone.
Ethnic entertainment, food, crafts, souvenirs, vendors,
raffles and language corner. Share your pride in your
heritage and learn about other cultures.**

**Tickets \$5.00 for advance sales, seniors and students
General Admission at door: \$7.00 - Children 10 and
under free. See insert.**

Golden Jubilee

At 11:00 a.m. on December 7, 2014 at Immaculate Conception Church, a special Mass was celebrated by Rev. Paul M. Kwiatkowski in honor of his Golden Jubilee of Ordination.

It was a wonderful tribute to Father Paul that was attended by many of his family, friends and loyal parishioners. In attendance were many priest friends and his first grade teacher, Felician Sister Mary Elaine.

Father Paul graduated from Central Catholic in 1957. He has experienced many accomplishments throughout his 50 years. His first assignment was at Our Lady of Lourdes as Associate Pastor. Other assignments were teaching Latin and Music at Holy Spirit Seminary and Pastor of St. Hedwig Parish from 1984 to 1994.

He has been involved in many of our Polish organizations, i.e. Toledo-Poznan Alliance, Echoes of Poland, Polish Roman Catholic Union of America. Father Paul has always been a big part of the Polish Community. Recently he was Pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish (1994-2009) and St. James Parish (1994-2005) and finally as a Latin teacher at Central Catholic starting in 2005.

Father Paul has always believed that a priest must be involved in the many organizations of the parish and has certainly proved this throughout his career.

He has many hobbies, among which are reading the Bible, music, travel and of course playing the violin. In these last years, he has developed an even bigger desire for the Bible, especially the Book of Luke.

A reception, including abundant refreshments, was held after the Jubilee Mass. Father Paul entertained us with a few arrangements on his violin.

Sto lat Father Paul!

Submitted by Pat Konwinski



Renew your membership to TPA

Just a friendly reminder for all to renew your membership. You can use the form on the back of this newsletter and send it in with your check.

Annual Meeting

The Annual meeting of the Toledo Poznan Alliance will be held on Sunday, April 12 at 1:30 p.m. in the Board Room of the Franciscan Center on the campus of Lourdes University. All members are cordially invited to participate in the Annual Report with 2014 highlights, the annual Financial Report, Election of Officers, and planning for the 25th annual Dozynki. Mark the date on your calendar and bring a friend or two. TPA's looking for new board members, and you and your friends could help continue the Toledo-Poznan history. Sumptuous refreshments from Lourdes University will be served.

Save the date – October 18, 2015

Another wonderful "Dozynki" the Polish Harvest dinner is being planned for Sunday, October 18, 2015, at the Franciscan Center of Lourdes University. We will be celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Toledo-Poznan Alliance, established in 1990 with the encouragement of Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur. In the early beginnings of TPA, it was Lucy Szafarowicz and Ursula Zulka-Cauffiel together who built our membership by bringing in many of their friends. It was Lucy Szafarowicz, one of the founding members, who first suggested the Fall dinner of "Dozynki" that is held in Poland to celebrate the annual harvest season.

by Rosalie Hinde

Toledo mayor remembered...

D. Michael Collins, the person I knew was a great person, and a good representative of our city of Toledo when we visited Poznan. Mike and his wife Sandy Drabik, who is of Polish heritage, went on one of my tours to Poland that I organized. It was 2009 when Mike and Sandy joined a group of 16 of us and one of our stops was Poznan. Mike at that time was a City Councilman. We arranged to meet Mike's counterparts in the city government office in Poznan. We were hosted by Andrzej Sobon, Deputy Director in the Mayor's cabinet and several other city officials. Mike was the perfect representative of Toledo, the city he loved. He will be missed.

by Kathy Gabel, editor, TPA News

Apologies to Swiss watchmakers

Visitors to Poland generally have a good time and the time tourists spend in Poland will be much better from this day forward. It's all due to Poland's new optical atomic clock. Scientists say it will keep better time than all previous clocks.

The incredibly accurate clock is ticking away at the National Laboratory for Atomic, Molecular and Optical Physics (KL FAMO) in Poland. Actually, it's not really ticking because this is an optical atomic clock. But, this one is so accurate that it would take billions of years to reach an error of one second. To put this in perspective, if you started this clock at the moment of the big bang, it would have lost only about one-tenth of a second by now.

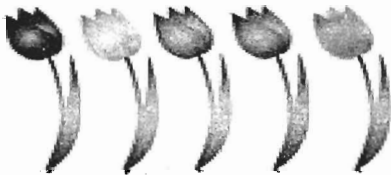
There won't be a nightstand version of this clock anytime soon. It's so big that this timepiece occupies four rooms at KL FAMO. The design of the clock shoots laser beams at suspended Strontium isotopes, which have an atomic half-life that is measured in billions of years. Optical atomic clocks are brand new technology, but they are so much more accurate than the traditional atomic clocks laboratories use for time-based experiments all over the world.

Having a highly accurate way of tracking the passage of time that goes by quicker than the blink of an eye is of vital importance when testing aspects of general relativity and particle physics.

Now that's something you can set your watch by.

By Denny Kutylowski - PolishToledo.com

PACT (Polish American Community of Toledo) is now taking scholarship applications for high school and college students for 2015. Last year, PACT/TPA awarded four \$1,000 scholarships. Go to www.polishcommunity.org where you can find the requirements and download the application form. Applicants do not have to be PACT or TPA (Toledo Poznan Alliance) members. Tell your children, grandchildren, neighbors, friends and other relatives. Scholarships will be award in June. See insert.



Polish Film Wins the Oscar

For the first time in the history of the Academy Awards, a Polish film, *IDA*, won the Oscar for **Best Foreign Film** in 2014. Poland has a long legacy of outstanding films and this first was long overdue.

Ida takes place in Communist Poland during the 1960s. Anna, an orphan raised in a convent, is about to take her final vows as a nun. The Mother Superior suggests that she visit her only estranged surviving family member, Aunt Wanda, before the vow ceremony. A religious and shy Anna goes to see her and finds out that she is Jewish and her real name is Ida. Her parents perished in WWII.



Wanda and Ida journey to their old family house to find out what actually happened. Wanda is a Communist prosecutor, an alcoholic, and is a no-nonsense person who is determined to find out the fate of Ida's family. She is not well-liked, but doesn't take no for an answer. Evidently the parents were murdered and the house is now occupied by a farmer who claims to know nothing about the former owners.

Do they find out who did it? Do they find their burial place? Will Ida turn her back on Catholicism because she is Jewish? Will she return to the convent? What happens to Wanda? You will just have to see for yourself if more dark secrets are unearthed.

Ida was photographed in stunning black and white. You are really in Poland with its bleak landscape in the 1960s. This is a personal tale of moral and spiritual awakening. The film is the latest from Polish director Pawel Pawlikowski. It is 80 minutes long and is in Polish with English subtitles. *Ida* is available from the Toledo-Lucas County Public Library. It can also be purchased from Barnes & Noble or ordered online.

Submitted by Walter Palicki