



Alliance News

Toledo-Poznań Alliance quarterly newsletter – Fall 2018

Wow! What an Event!

The 28th Annual Dozynki was held at Lourdes University on Sunday the 7th of October. There were 170 reservations this year, with an increase of almost 25% over past Dozynki! This year's honoree, Mr. Joe Zychowicz, provided a very nice history of his Family's store, Stanley's Market. The Dozynki began with a procession of nearly twenty adults and children, along with Father Marty Lucas. The playing of Cos Polska by pianist Tom Szor during the procession was a very special moment. The food and gathering were blessed by Fr. Lucas with the traditional kropidlo to bless everyone in attendance. A brief welcome and introduction was done by TPA President Jackie Konwinski and Kathy Gabel (in Polish). The dinner was prepared and served by Malczewski Catering. It was a dinner of mushroom soup, city chicken legs, kielbasa, mashed potatoes and gravy, kapusta, vegetable medley, placek, dinner rolls, coffee and tea and a desert of mini paczki.

The program was comprised of recognizing the four students that received \$1000 scholarships for their essays from TPA and PACT, about their Polish heritage. Three were able to attend with their parents. The money raised again this year from Dozynki will be used for scholarships in 2019 and again to provide some money at Christmas to the Dom Dzieci (Children's Home) run by the nuns in Poland. A very nice display of photos sent to TPA by the orphanage was on display for everyone to see.

Mr. Tom Wisniewski attended and spoke about the progress of the Polish Cultural Center for the Toledo Polonia. Also, a display of the architect's rendition of the building was on display along

with information and brochures to make donations for its construction.

The Dozynki concluded with a raffle and silent auction. Table decorations of chrysanthemums and 17 loaves of Sister Gretchen, of Lourdes University, delicious placek. The silent auction consisted of many wonderful items donated to bid on. Many of the items came from Poland and the bidders were very generous of their bids.

TPA would like to thank everyone that attended and the many volunteers that helped to make this the most successful Dozynki in more than a decade. The Board of Trustee's welcomes members to volunteer to plan the 2019 Dozynki. It is very much appreciated both for the help and the ideas.

by Tom Sorosiak

Polish Cultural Center

Hall of Fame

The Polish Cultural Center Advisory Board has planned a local Polish Hall of Fame induction dinner on the 17th of November 2018 at Brandywine Country Club. A lengthy list of nominations was presented and considered by the Advisory Board. The nominees fell into one of four categories. This year the 8 inductees are: Faith; Sister Ann Francis Klimkowski and Mr. John Augustyniak, Family; Mr and Mrs. Anthony Smigielski and the Walinski Family (Richard, Thadeus, Nicholas and Nicholas Jr., Entertainment and Culture; Mrs Pauline Ortyl and Mr. Marty Blaszczyk, Labor; Ms. Lorraine Kwiatkowski and Joe Szenderski.

The cost to attend is \$75/ person or a table or \$140/couple or a table of 8 for \$500. You can

request a reservation by contacting Tom Sorosiak (419-832-4333) or by mail to PCC, P.O. Box 291, Waterville, Ohio 43566. The PCC Advisory Board requests your support of this annual event to honor these 8 inductees and show your support for bringing an awareness to the contributions made by Polish-Americans in the Toledo area.

PCC (Polish Cultural Ctr.) Update

The Advisory Board of the Polish Cultural Center continues to make decisions which allows the construction of the Polish Cultural Center to become a reality. At the present time the location will be in the Marina District along Front Street across the street from the Maritime Museum and the Willis Boyer freighter. The land was donated to the PCC, as well as the survey work and the architectural drawings. This is a savings of over \$1,000,000! The progress has been slow because of the title work and accuracy in the description of the land and making sure the building is within code on sewers and right-of-ways.

The Advisory Board welcomes anyone who would like to serve on a committee or provide input into decisions along the way. There are many items that will soon need to be discussed about operational issues. Anyone willing to serve or offer suggestions can contact Tom Sorosiak (419-832-4333) or send a note to PCC, P.O. Box 291, Waterville, Ohio 43566.

An account has been created to accept donations on behalf of a loved one, or endowment for construction. Please let all of the Polish-Americans join in this endeavor for the sake of our ancestry and our family members who will follow us in years to come.

by Tom Sorosiak

TSCI GALA

The air was filled with spirit of celebration and excitement at the Toledo Sister Cities International Gala at the Toledo Club on

Saturday, September 15. TPA Board of Trustees members Kathy Gabel, Sister Ann Francis Klimkowski, Jackie Konwinski, Pat Konwinski, Stan Machosky and Susie Nowak attended the 25th anniversary celebration.

Sister Ann Francis, vice-president of the TSCI board, co-chaired the event. She had been busy for months with all the details from invitations and the menu to the entertainment and the program. Sister wrote and compiled the wonderful memory book, *Remembering the Past, Celebrating the Present, Connecting to the Future*. The history of TSCI and the stories of Toledo's 12 sister cities complete with an abundance of photographs were the highlights of the book. Susie Nowak, another TSCI board member, expertly assisted Sister Ann Francis in many ways, especially with signing up sponsors.

Dinner was multicultural reflecting the cooking of some of the sister cities; hummus with lots of vegetables, saffron-spiced curry, kielbasa and potato pierogis, paprikas, small potato pancakes and American chocolate and white layer cakes for dessert. Since TPA is a member of TSCI, Toledo-Poznań Alliance contributed Polish items for a Gift Basket for the Silent Auction; Treasurer Tom Sorosiak obtained a congratulatory letter from Mayor Jacek Jaskowiak of Poznań; and TPA's ad featured photographs of Poznań.

The Greater Toledo International Youth Orchestra provided entertainment during the cocktail hour and dinner. Past and present members of the TSCI board commented on the importance of the organization in their lives. Their comments, illustrated on screen, renewed everyone's dedication and enthusiasm in volunteering to work for peace through the Sister Cities movement begun by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in the mid-1950s. Sister Ann Francis concluded the program with a tribute to the late Ann Galloway who was a founder of TSCI, the Szeged, Hungary- Toledo relationship and TPA, and who served on the National Sister Cities International board.

by Jackie Konwinski

From Pat's desk.....

Trip to Cleveland

Saturday, September 22 a few of us from Toledo Poznan Alliance, Stan and Marilyn Machosky, Jackie Konwinski and myself Pat Konwinski took a trip for the day to Cleveland, Ohio. We had two things planned. One, to see the Polish Cultural Center, to take a tour of their facilities and get some ideas for the one we are planning to build in Toledo.

Lots of Polish treasurers were there - all kinds of pottery, plates, pisanki, paintings, carved wooden items, etc. Of particular interest to me were the maps of Poland and how the boundaries have changed over the years. We got to see their banquet hall which was being prepared for that evening for a reception with Marcy Kaptur, Anna Maria Anders, Senator and Minister of the Republic of Poland and other guests.

Anna Marie Anders was in Cleveland to commemorate her father General Wladyslaw Anders, commander of the Free Polish Army at Monte Casino, through the traveling Trail of Hope exhibit and honor a local survivor of WWII. We were there for the 2:00 p.m. event - a panel of five including Marcy Kaptur and Anna M. Anders for a discussion mainly on Liberty in Europe and how the embassy is not doing enough to promote a more positive image of Poland.

I will not get into all the particulars of the panel discussion which lasted about 1 and 1/2 hours, but I will state this, we live in a world still of much unrest and discord. We here in the United States of America are truly lucky to have our freedom and we must do all we can to preserve it. This was truly an inspiring and enlightening trip.

by Pat Konwinski

British Film

The Toledo Public Library will conclude its "FILM FOCUS Independent Film Festival" movie series with a showing of the award-winning 2008 British film "SOMERS TOWN" scheduled for 6:45pm on Monday OCTOBER 29th at the King Road branch library (3700 King Road, Toledo OH 43617 tel.419-259-5380). This seventy-one minute (one hour and eleven minutes) mostly black and white film is a story about two teenaged boys in the "Somers Town" district of London, England, one (played by Piotr Jagiello) the sixteen-year-old son of a Polish immigrant (played by Ireneusz Czop); at least six other cast members have distinctly Polish names; and Polish dialogue is included. The film is NOT RATED, so although it is described as a "comedy/drama", it is intended for mature audiences.

By David Chelminski

Dziękuję Bardzo, Marcy!

The Kaptur Foundation, part of the Toledo Community Foundation, recently donated \$500 to Toledo-Poznań Alliance. The money was to be used for scholarships in the PACT/TPA Scholarship Fund. These funds helped TPA with its \$2,000 annual commitment to the fund. For a small organization, such as TPA, this contribution was significant.

by Jackie Konwinski

TPA and Wigilia

TPA and PACT will work together to present Wigilia, the Christmas Eve supper on Sunday, December 16, 2018 at 5:30 pm at the Christian Life Center of Olivet Lutheran Church in Sylvania. If you would like to help, call Stan Machosky at 419-882-6625. Please see enclosed flyer.