



**listopad/November 2018**

To cultivate, enhance, and promote the understanding of the Polish language, culture, and arts;  
To project the accurate and true image of the Polish American;  
To promote cordial and cooperative relations among the members and the community-at-large;  
To be a non-sectarian and non-partisan organization in south-central Pennsylvania

**[www.polamhar.org](http://www.polamhar.org)**



## Wigilia Christmas Eve Supper Celebration

HOST: :  
Polish American Association of Harrisburg

WHEN:  
Saturday, December 8 at 5:00 PM

WHERE:  
Linglestown Fire Hall 5901 Linglestown Road Harrisburg, PA 17112

**Please RSVP no later than December 2**

The Association will provide fish, beverages and a special guest visit from Santa Claus with presents for the children. Additionally, "PIAST" Polish- American Folk-Dance group from will perform carols.

Wigilia is free to members. Guests will be charged \$10 each and \$5 for each child between the ages 6-12. There is no charge for children under age 6. All are asked to bring a meatless side-dish or dessert to share.

Dear Parents, please let us know as soon as possible how many children will be at the Christmas Eve Supper Celebration.

Wesołych Swiat, Bozego Narodzenia i Szczesliwego Nowego Roku!



## **Polish American Heritage Month**

Polish-American events held during October included the following:

On October 4 the opening bell of the New York Stock Exchange was sounded by Poland's Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki. Prime Minister Morawiecki was in New York for a one-day visit with a primarily economic focus. During talks at the NYSE Prime Minister Morawiecki emphasized Poland's economic stability and invited increased American investment in Poland. Following his stop at the NYSE, Prime Minister Morawiecki paid his respects at the 9/11 Memorial, where he laid a wreath in memory of the attack's victims. Later he attended the event "Poland: The Can-Do Nation" in New York's Harvard Club. The Prime Minister's speech at the conference emphasized the great economic progress Poland has made since the fall of communism. Prime Minister Morawiecki's visit came at an exciting time for Poland, which had recently been upgraded to the status of "developed market," the first former Eastern Bloc country to achieve this title.

Poland's Jazztopad Festival was held in New York City from October 3<sup>rd</sup> to the 6<sup>th</sup>. Jazztopad is a major jazz festival held annually in Wrocław and attracts some of the world's top jazz musicians. For a number of years, Wrocław's festival has hosted branch-off events in other cities, including New York. Once again Jazztopad served as an opportunity for Polish jazz artists to showcase their work to a broad international audience.

On October 7 thousands of people dressed in red and white walked down Manhattan's Fifth Avenue. New York's Pulaski Day Parade has been an annual celebration since 1937, and the theme this year was "Poland on the Centennial of its Restoration to Independence, 1918-2018." On Sunday, October 14, Philadelphia held its own festivities, which took place on the Benjamin Franklin Parkway. This was the city's 85th annual Pulaski Day Parade. October 11 is General Pulaski Memorial Day in the United States.

On Sunday, October 14, the Polish Embassy, in partnership with the Embassy of Lithuania, once again hosted the annual Kosciuszko Freedom Run. This was the event's "Centennial Edition," marking the 100th anniversary of regaining independence for both Poland and Lithuania. The main event was a 5K run through the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historic Park, along with a 1K kids' run and a picnic afterward.

On October 16, 1978, Cardinal Karol Wojtyła of Poland was named Pope John Paul II. 2018 marks forty years since that momentous day. One of the giants of the 20th century, the priest from Kraków inspired millions around the world. John Paul II had a great impact on his homeland, which he helped guide through the fall of communism and the peaceful transition to a free and democratic country. His memory will always have a special place in the hearts of Poles. On Tuesday, October 16, the Saint John Paul II National Shrine in Washington, DC hosted a "watch party" broadcasting Cardinal Wojtyła's 1978 selection as Pope in Saint Peter's Square.

## **Poland's Centennial of Rebirth Event in Washington, DC**

On November 13, over 800 guests took part in celebrations of Poland's centennial of regaining independence hosted by the Embassy of the Republic of Poland at the headquarters of the United States Institute of Peace in Washington, DC. They were greeted by Ambassador Piotr Wilczek, who emphasized the excellent relations between Poland and the United States. "History has shown that we are stronger together than separate, that when we act in solidarity the world listens. And as new times bring new challenges, the strong and enduring Polish-American alliance will respond with effective and innovative solutions," the Ambassador said.

The evening's speakers also included Poland's Minister of National Defense Mariusz Błaszczak, in Washington on an official visit, as well as Senator Anna Maria Anders and Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs Wess Mitchell. Representing the US Department of State, Wess Mitchell recalled that the United States was the first country to recognize Poland's independence in 1918, in a way repaying the heroism of Generals Kazimierz Pułaski and Tadeusz Kościuszko who had supported America in her own fight for independence.

The celebrations were not lacking in artistic and educational elements. Magdalena Wór, a mezzo-soprano of Polish descent living in Atlanta, and Benjamin Schmitt from the US Department of Energy performed the Polish and American national anthems. Widely-acclaimed American pianist Brian Ganz performed pieces by Fryderyk Chopin, including the famous "Heroic" Polonaise, opus 53. Guests also enjoyed jazz interpretations of Polish legionary songs by Kuba Cichocki, a young pianist based in New York. Displays of commemorative coins from the Polish National Bank and an exhibit on the beginnings of Poland's Foreign Service prepared by the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs met with much interest. Guests were treated to excellent food carefully selected by the Embassy's chef Jan Górszczyk-Kęcik and had the chance to take souvenir photos.

The evening's master of ceremonies was Luiza Chwiałkowska-Savage, an acclaimed American journalist of Polish descent. The event was attended by representatives of the US government, including Assistant Secretary of State at the Department of Energy Theodore Garrish, as well as members of the diplomatic corps, students, Polonia leaders and guests from prestigious Washington think tanks and cultural and media circles. The beautiful and modern building of the Institute of Peace was illuminated in red and white for the evening.

The celebrations organized by the Embassy of Poland would not have been possible without the support of our strategic partner Polish Oil and Gas Company (PGNiG), which only a few days earlier signed a major contract with an American company for delivering LNG to Poland, an important step toward increasing Poland's energy security. The event's other sponsors were WB Electronics, the US-Poland Business Council, Smithfield Foods, Merck, Discovery, Lockheed Martin, United Technologies Corporation, Raytheon, and the National Bank of Poland. We thank all of our partners and sponsors for their support!

Sto lat Polsko!

## **Polish-American Association Of Harrisburg**

[polamhar@gmail.com](mailto:polamhar@gmail.com)

### **Officers and Board:**

#### **Officers:**

President: Marta Kossecka-Rawicz  
Vice President: *Waiting for a volunteer*  
Treasurer/Membership: Anna Rossi  
Secretary: *Waiting for a volunteer*

#### **Board Members:**

Marzena Wolnikowski  
Yolanta (Jola) Gorski  
Phil Wysocki

#### **Newsletter Editor:** Carolyn Blaszczyk.

After seven years as editor of the PAA Newsletter, I feel it is time to relinquish this role to another. I hope you have found the Newsletters interesting and informative. My thanks to all who have expressed their appreciation.

### **Polish Lessons**

For individuals and groups, adults and children.  
Contact Joanna Rzesotko: [joanna.pu1@interia.pl](mailto:joanna.pu1@interia.pl)

### **Business Ads**

Members may advertise at [www.polamhar.com](http://www.polamhar.com) for only \$50.00 per year.

### **Packages to Poland**

Contact Anna Rossi: [polamhar@gmail.com](mailto:polamhar@gmail.com).

### **Membership**

If you would like to join our Association please send an e-mail indicating your interest to: [polamhar@gmail.com](mailto:polamhar@gmail.com) or download the membership form at:

<http://www.polamhar.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/MembershipForm.pdf> and send with your payment to: **Anna Rossi, 850 Waltonville Rd., Hummelstown, PA17036**

#### **Yearly Membership:**

\$15 Individual	\$100 Sobieski or Jagiellonka Patron
\$10 Senior (over 65)	\$150 Business/Corporate Patron
\$35 Family	

### **THANK YOU!**

Zainteresowanych przystąpieniem do Stowarzyszenia prosimy o wysłanie e-maila na adres: [polamhar@gmail.com](mailto:polamhar@gmail.com) lub wydrukowanie <http://www.polamhar.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/MembershipForm.pdf> i wysłanie wypełnionego formularza wraz z opłatą na adres: **Anna Rossi, 850 Waltonville Rd., Hummelstown, PA17036**

#### **Roczny koszt:**

\$15 Osoba poniżej 65	\$100 Sobieski albo Jagiellonka
\$10 Osoba powyżej 65	\$150 Business/Corporate
\$35 Rodzina	<b>DZIĘKUJEMY!</b>