

# Syracuse Polish Community Home

915 Park Avenue, Syracuse, NY 13204

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

Our 94<sup>th</sup> Year!

471-9348 ~ 471-9351

founded 1919

Winter 2013 Zima

## OPLATEK DINNER



## DANCE

Polish Home Lifetime Member Charlie Hollis is reviving the time-honored tradition of hosting a holiday gala, which in years past was promoted by the Polonez

Men's Choir. The Oplatek Dinner Dance will be held at the Polish Home on Saturday, January 26, 2013 at 5:30 P.M.

The event is named after the oplatek wafer that is used by Poles at Christmas time to greet guests and wish prosperity for them in the coming New Year. In Poland and all over Europe, Gala events are held throughout the Christmas season until Karnawał (*Mardi Gras*).

Celebrate with us as we support our Polish Home. Music will be provided by the Melody Lane Band from Rochester.

Tickets are only \$30 per person and include a carved turkey and beef buffet. For more information, call Charlie at 558-8888 or the Polish Home at 471-9348. Tickets are available at the Polish Home bar. Pick up your tickets now!

## Membership Party

There will be a party for all paid 2013 members on Saturday, February 16, 2013. (Dues are still \$20.00 per year, and can be paid at the door.) A complimentary buffet will be provided and Brian Langdon will be our DJ. Call 471-9348 by February 1<sup>st</sup> for reservations.

## DO WE HAVE YOUR EMAIL!

Due to the ever rising costs of printing and postage, we are trying to streamline our mailing list for the printed newsletter. If you would like to receive your newsletter by email and also receive PH updates more often, please make sure we have your email address. Send a quick email to [syracusepolishhome@yahoo.com](mailto:syracusepolishhome@yahoo.com) and we will add you to our email list. Thanks.

## PLAV News!!!



A \$100,000 grant from the national Polish Legion of American Veterans organization was received by our PLAV, Post 14 to be used to renovate a room for the use of veterans. The room will be situated behind the bowling alleys. Construction is taking place now. The project will be something in which our club can take great pride. A section of the vintage bowling alleys is being renovated for Polish Home use as well. Stop in and see the progress in this worthwhile project as well as the repairs from all the 2012 water damage.

This generous investment of the PLAV into the Polish Home has opened vast possibilities for renovating the bowling alleys into an old style café with two alleys, utilizing the space long left sadly neglected.

However, in order to complete the transformation and rectify the recent water damage, we are required to update to current building codes. To do this, we are in great need of additional funds. Any donations will be gratefully accepted. **We are seeking any Polish Home members with fundraising ideas and skills to step up to the plate to get this moving quickly. Time is of the essence with regard to building permits, etc.**

## Polish Home Dues Due NOW!

Please remember that Polish Home membership dues should be remitted as soon as possible. They are still \$20.00; that is less than \$1.67 per month! Encourage your friends to join. Bring them in to our downstairs bar to watch a game or enjoy a Saturday night meal prepared by Matt, Tom, or Steve (and Viki). We also have pancake breakfasts on the first Sunday of the month. Only with your support can we continue to build on the foundation that was begun almost one hundred years ago. Visit our web page

[www.syracusepolishhome.com](http://www.syracusepolishhome.com) or our Facebook page: Syracuse Polish Home, to learn about upcoming events.

## +IN MEMORIAM+

Bob Klimek  
Rev. Edmund Piłat  
Floyd Schill  
Genevieve Wysocki  
Henry Dudzinski  
Clifford Auth

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

First of all I wish a Happy New Year to Everyone!

Finally this newsletter is getting out after one of the most productive and most beautiful summers AND autumns in recent memory, as well as the beginning of the holiday season. I say beginning because we are still celebrating just like in Poland and the rest of Europe.

When I was living in Kraków, I noticed that there were many winter gala events, as well as *kolędy* (carol) concerts taking place throughout January and into February. The Christmas season continues through to Karnawał (Mardi Gras). In that light, we invite everyone to attend our Oplatek Gala Dinner Dance on Saturday, January 26<sup>th</sup>. Our generous patron and Lifetime Polish Home member **Charlie Hollis** is reviving the traditional Oplatek Dance which was held for many years at the Polish Home and was sponsored by the Polonez Male Chorus. I personally remember being a young teenager volunteering in the coat room for the elegant event. I encourage everyone to join us in celebrating the New Year in style! See you on January 26<sup>th</sup>!

In other news, a lot of work was accomplished recently: You may have noticed the new blacktop on our parking lot, the new gardens in front of the building, and the new wall over the booths in our bar area; We also have new roofs over the front and rear sections of the building. A profound thank you to all who were responsible for taking care of this! Thanks also to the Steves family for the donation of our Christmas tree this year.

As president of the Polish Home, I travel to other Polish communities from time to time. This past October, I took a short trip to Albany to visit my friend Col. Rich Słoma, Polish Home and PLAV member. We had Polish dinner at the Albany Polish Community Center; then later in the weekend shopped at Euro Deli and Market in Latham, NY; and then visited St. Michael's Polish Church in Cohoes; and then finally had a great meal at Muza Polish Restaurant in Troy, NY. If you are traveling around New York State, stop in for a visit! On the way back, I was really on a mission and stopped at the PNA club in Amsterdam to say hello, the Polish Home in Herkimer, which is a great place, as well as the Utica Polish Community Club, near the brewery. I enjoyed my visits at each of these places.

The following weekend, as a National Director of the American Council for Polish Culture, I attended the Fall board meeting in Youngstown, Ohio. A small, but dedicated group of people from around the US meets a few times a year in various Polish communities. I have been able to meet many people involved in their cities and regions and we now compare notes and share ideas and resources.

I am only able to get away from the Polish Home thanks to the dedication of our staff and many other loyal members who volunteer their time to make our club run

smoothly. A huge thanks to Laurel, Tom, Matt, Steve and so many others!

Best wishes to Lillian Sadlocha as she recovers from an unfortunate injury. Get well soon!

Thank you to Nancy Cummings and Jean Edminster for helping with this newsletter. They are the reason it is getting to you.

Finally, a huge thank you to Charlie Hollis for all that he is doing for the Polish Home. He is so incredibly dedicated with his time and financial support, and most importantly PR! Charlie is one of our best promoters. Let's all follow his example...

*Rob Synakowski*

## RECENT RENOVATIONS



*New paneling featuring imported carved wooden plates.*



Thanks Tom & Laurel!

### POLISH HOME DUES 2013

**Accepted now! See the bartender or Karen Galloway at any Polish Home Event. It is only \$20!**

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

We thank you for joining the Polish Home! Only with your support can we continue to build on the foundation that was begun almost one hundred years ago.

The Polish Home belongs to the greater Polish Community of Syracuse and it is our mission to continue to expand our programming and promotion of Polish culture in Central New York.

We regularly serve Polish Dinners on Saturday evenings, Pancake Breakfasts on the first Sunday of each month, and Member Birthday Parties on the last Sunday of each month, as well as many other events. Please check our website: [www.syracusepolishhome.com](http://www.syracusepolishhome.com) or our

Facebook page:  **Syracuse Polish Home.**

*An affiliate member of the American Council for Polish Culture*

## RECENT EVENTS

### ANDRZEJKI 2012

The room was decorated beautifully with every color of the rainbow. Large colorful letters spelling out Andrzejki hung on the stage. The celebration was the second annual Andrzejki party. It is a Polish tradition to celebrate name days rather than birthdays. St. Andrew's day happens to be right before Advent, when all partying ceased until Christmas. Since the rector of Sacred Heart Basilica is Father Andrew Baranski, why not celebrate in grand style? The event took place in the ballroom on Saturday, December 1, 2012. Approximately 200 people of all ages attended and enjoyed the DJ and delicious Polish and American delicacies. Traditional Polish games were offered and Polish and American music was played throughout the evening.



Andrew's day right before when all ceased until Since the rector Heart Basilica is

### BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

Santa Claus was our guest of honor at our December Pancake Breakfast.

### Wigilia 2012

On Sunday, December 16, 2012, a Wigilia Dinner was held at the Polish Home. The ballroom was transformed into Christmas Eve scene. A delicious twelve course traditional meal was served, including sharing of the *oplatek* wafer to wish all a healthy, happy New Year.

### JASEŁKA



On Saturday, December 15<sup>th</sup> children from the Chopin Language School presented a Jasełka – Nativity Play, and were joined by św. Mikołaj (St. Nicholas)!

Our



Website: [www.syracusepolishhome.com](http://www.syracusepolishhome.com)  
**Syracuse Polish Home**

## Sacred Heart Class of 1966

The Sacred Heart High School Class of 1966 has been meeting occasionally at the Polish Home since their 40<sup>th</sup> reunion. Old friendships have been renewed, and new ones generated. Old and recent photographs are shared as well as much laughter. It is the perfect venue for this type of gathering. Think about getting your class together at the Polish Home this year.

### POLISH HOME AWARDED GRANT

The Polish Home has been awarded a grant from the Central New York Library Resources Council for a Syracuse University intern to scan and digitize some of our vintage photos, preserving them for the future. This has been completed and our collection can be found at: [www.nyheritage.org/institutions/syracuse-polish-home](http://www.nyheritage.org/institutions/syracuse-polish-home)

If you have any photos of life in the Polish community over the years, we can scan them and preserve them for the future. Bring them in anytime.



Memorial Day in Pulaski Park

Volunteer Claire Enkosky has been spending countless hours organizing and cataloging our collection of photos, portraits, program books as well as other memorabilia of the Syracuse Polish community.

The Polish Heritage Library continues to acquire some great new books. Topics cover a wide range of interests. These are available to borrow with a valid Polish Home Membership Card. Books can now be borrowed using your current Polish Home membership Card. Please check our website for the Library Catalog. The library will be open on Sundays during Pancake Breakfasts and Birthday parties and by appointment.



Roadside marker in Jamestown, Virginia sponsored by the American Council For Polish Culture



## A Great Venue for a Gathering

Keep the POLISH HOME in mind  
when planning your special events

\* \* \* \* \*

*Our Ballroom can be rented for: Banquets, Weddings,  
Christmas Parties, Birthdays, Baptism, Shower, Graduation,  
Retirement, Reunion, Business Meetings, etc.*

*Let our in-house caterer, Chef Tom  
handle your next party*

\* \* \* \* \*

Call Tom Steves for information & booking:

315-558-1446

Support your POLISH HOME!



*Making Pierogi at the Polish Home*

## FROM OUR PAST



*A recently scanned slide from an event at the Polish Home in the late  
1960s. Bring your old photos down!*



*Chef Tom Steves and Waitress in training Karyna Synakowski*

## DONATIONS RECEIVED

Recently we received over \$950 in donations in memory of Robert Klimek, Eugene Bognaski, and Floyd Schill.

In memory of Robert Klimek: Ralph & Ellen McClurg, Daryl and Ann Zarpentine, Jack Knowles, Jeanette Naster, Jane Plis, Selwach Trust, General Electric Thursday Lunch Bunch, Stephen & Loretta Romaszewski, and anonymous cash donations.

In memory of Eugene Bognaski: Ken & Linda Cheryl Wampler, and Joan and Daniel Kraft.

In memory of Floyd Schill: Diane & Massoud Jourabchi.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

## ALL LOVE COMES HOME

Gene Fisch is a Polish Home Member who is a graduate of New York University and was an accomplished athlete who was voted into the Syracuse Sports Hall of Fame.

He has written a book, All Love Comes Home, dedicated to his parents, Bronislawa and Andrew Fisch, which tells of their heroic struggle to survive in Poland from 1939 to 1942.

The cost of the book is \$30 and may be purchased by calling Gene at 315-214-3915 or 646-675-7517. Checks should be made out to Sto Lat Publishing Company, 340 Liberty Street, Syracuse, New York 13204.

For more information: [www.genefischstory.com](http://www.genefischstory.com)

## JULY BIRTHDAY PARTY



*Standing: Gary Grudynski, Peter Geiskopf, Genevie Zalewski, Eli Marposon; Seated, Virginia Getek Genevieve Purchiaroni, Mary Bartowski, Cecylia Tyminski, Steve Kapusniak, Bernadine Dubiel.*

The July Birthday Party was held Sunday, July 29<sup>th</sup> with 85 people attending, 11 of whom celebrated their birthdays: 1<sup>st</sup> row: Virginia Getek, Gen Purchiaroni, Mary Bartowski, Cecylia Tyminski, Steve Kapusniak, Bernadine Dubiel; 2<sup>nd</sup> row: Gary Grudynski, Pete Geiskopf, Gene Zalewski, Eli Marposon. Missing: Fred Rogusz.

## AUGUST BIRTHDAY PARTY



The August Birthday Party was held Sunday, August 26<sup>th</sup> with 67 people attending, with only 2 of whom celebrated their birthdays: Leslie Felice and Ed Dubiel.

## SEPT. BIRTHDAY PARTY



*Standing: Lorraine Moore, Dottie Bielak, Mark Wierzbicki, Lois Sacco. Seated: Theresa Kociencki and Mary Gasky. Missing from picture: Ted Zamojski*

The September Birthday Party was held Sunday, September 30<sup>th</sup> with 66 people attending, seven of whom celebrated their birthdays.

## OCTOBER BIRTHDAY PARTY



The October Birthday Party was held Sunday, October 28<sup>th</sup> with 75 people attending, ten of whom celebrated their birthdays: Chester Bartkowski, Julia Sliwinski, Lottie Starowicz, Virginia Grosso, Irene Klodzen, Emilia Zychowicz, Edward Grudynski, Heide Holstein, Ryszard Polkowski, and Edward Palkowski.

*December/January Party will be held on Sunday, January 27<sup>th</sup>!*

*Anyone making a reservation and not showing up, will be charged for the dinner, since we now have a caterer, and are charged for all reservations.*

*Lillian Sadlocha*

### PLEASE HONOR BIRTHDAY RESERVATIONS

If you have made reservations, but cannot attend the birthday dinner, please be so kind as to cancel the reservation.

## POLISH HOME MERCHANDISE

We have a supply of Polish Home T-shirts, Żywiec & Okocim beer mugs and glasses; Polish Home 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary glasses, and Żywiec baseball caps for sale. They make perfect gifts. Stop down to see the new display and see the bartenders to purchase.

**Pull tabs are for sale at the bar!**

## BAR HOURS

*The Polish Home opens at 4 pm on Thursday & Friday, noon on Saturday and Sunday. Stop down for one of the best "slow roasted" Roast Beef Sandwiches in the world. Monday through Wednesday, we open at 6 pm.*

*Charlie Cheeseburgers on Mondays from 6:30pm  
If you're not here, you are missing SO MUCH!*



Thanks to our friends from the Rome Polish Home who were here for a nice Polish dinner on Saturday. It was a nice visit.

SINCE 1919



915 Park Avenue, Syracuse, New York 13204

www.syracusepolishhome.com

471.9348

471.9351

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**PAID**

SYRACUSE, NY  
PERMIT NO. 571

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

*zima* 2013 Winter

*Your membership ensures that the Polish Home will continue to fulfill the mission for which it was founded – to be a center for Polish culture in Syracuse. Please fill in this form and send it in or drop off at the Polish Home. Thank you.*

**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP**

**Syracuse Polish Community, Inc.**

**Annual dues are only \$20 per person!**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Ethnic Heritage: Polish  Other \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsored by (regular member) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Upcoming Events**

- Oplatek Gala Ball – Saturday, January 26<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm.
- Polish Dinners – Saturdays from 5:30 pm
- Pancake Breakfasts – First Sundays from 10am-1pm.
- Membership Party – Saturday, February 16<sup>th</sup>

**2013 DUES ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED**

Still only \$20 per year

That's only \$1.67 per month to belong to Syracuse's  
Premier Polish Club!!!