

April 10, 2010

Recent news from Poland has shaken the world. On Saturday, April 10th 2010, the President of Poland, Lech Kaczynski, his wife Maria and 94 others, among them many of the country's top leaders within the government, parliament, armed forces, clergy and community organizations, perished in an airplane crash near Smolensk, Russia. The high-level delegation was on its way to ceremonies commemorating the 70th anniversary of the massacre of thousands of Polish officers at Katyn. Many family members of the Katyn victims were also on board of the president's plane.

*Texas Representative Eddie Rodriguez and Matt Curtis, Communications Director from the Office of Mayor Lee Leffingwell, made arrangements for a **book of condolence** to be open at the **Texas State Capitol** building in Austin for all who wish to convey messages of sympathy to the people of Poland. Representative Rodriguez is hosting the Public Condolence Book at the Capitol available for contribution **Monday and Tuesday, April 19 and 20, 2010, from 9:30 am – 5 pm** both days, in the E2 hallway on the 2nd floor of the Capitol Extension.*

*A **memorial Mass** will be held on Tuesday, **April 20th at 7pm** at **St. Mary's Cathedral** in Austin, Texas. Many Polish Clergy, including Bishop John Walter Yanta, are expected to attend. The Mass will be open to the public. St. Mary's Cathedral is located at 906 San Jacinto Blvd. The website is www.smcaustin.org.*



April 2010 - Austin Polish Society Newsletter

Dear APS Members and Friends,

Austin Polish Society is sharing APS activities with members through our monthly newsletter. Members can review APS events and find out what APS is planning for April – May 2010. We appreciate the volunteer hours of our members and friends and the great attendance at all of our events! Thank you!

Please remember for current information and updates check the **Austin Polish Society website** at <http://www.austinpolishsociety.org/>.

Do you have a news item or announcement for the Austin Polish American community? Please send your item with a contact name and phone number to mmwgawron@gmail.com. Deadline for news items is the 20th of each month.

Want to advertise or place a notice in the APS newsletter? Send your information to info@austinpolishsociety.org. Thank you!

Polish Language Classes

The Austin Polish Society now has 18 students registered for Polish Language Classes! These APS sponsored classes are led by Ms. Magda Szatanik Boudni. Students are learning about the Polish language, arts, history and culture. Classes are being held at the First Unitarian Universalist Church of Austin, 4700 Grover Avenue, Austin, TX 78756-3108.

For more information, please see: www.austinpolishsociety.org. If you have questions, Ms. Szatanik-Boudni may be e-mailed at: magdaszatanik@gmail.com
Thank you!

SXSW and APS Welcomed Polish Artists in 2010

Polish graphic artist, Leszek Zebrowski and two Polish bands participated in 2010 SXSW events. Mr. Zebrowski from Szczecin, L.Stadt from Lodz and Pustki from Warsaw all made an impact on Austin audiences. Mr. Zebrowski's dramatic and unique film, music and theater posters turned many heads at the Flatstock 24 exhibit and drew dozens of Polish poster fans to his booth. L.Stadt played at several local clubs and went on to play in Houston and in the Dallas-Ft. Worth Metroplex. Pustki had good exposure and played at several venues.

Leszek Zebrowski presented a couple of free workshops and had a good turnout. Mr. Zebrowski expressed his thanks and appreciation to APS and to members for their invitation to come to SXSW and for the opportunities to exhibit his posters, provide demonstrations of his craft and for the hospitality of our organization.

On behalf of Pustki and Mr. and Mrs. Zebrowski, the APS wants to thank the following Polish families and organizations for their support of our Polish visitors:

Thank you to:

- Joanna and Ted Lehr and their sons, Robert and Janek, for hosting Leszek and Mirka Zebrowski for the first week of their visit, supervising the 3 days of Flatstock 24 at the Austin Convention Center, providing trips to the Ladybird Wildlife Center, the Pedernales River State Park and for hosting a BBQ at their home to welcome the Zebrowskis;
- Joseph and Zosia Hunt for taking our guests birding, shopping, hosting dinner and inviting them to the Austin Rodeo;
- Mary and Zbigniew Gawron for hosting the Zebrowskis during the second week of their stay and the band members of Pustki; taking the visitors on trips and providing meals;
- Renata Szowa for providing beds, towels, and furnishings for our Polish guests.
- Marek Peczeniuk for loaning beds;
- Malgorzata Meub for hosting Julia Kolberger, a young filmmaker, and Radek Łukasiewicz, from Pustki, and for hosting a dinner at her home for Pustki bandmembers;
- Marilyn and Paul Kuehlem for providing appliances and sharing their Rockport home with Leszek and Mirka Zebrowski for a wonderful Texas coast weekend;
- Ania Hand for taking the Zebrowskis to see the Caverns in New Braunfels and for a shopping trip;
- The Austin Community College for hosting an outstanding workshop for Leszek Zebrowski—special thanks to Joanna Gutt-Lehr and Vicki Roy (AIGA President) for all their support and preparations;
- James Beard and Sam Coronado of the Coronado Studio for their generous hospitality to Mr. Zebrowski;
- SXSW Director, Ms. Janet Pierson, for inviting Mr. Zebrowski, and to SXSW staffers Kasia McNeilly and Jarod Neece for their experienced assistance and support; and
- Thanks to all of you who helped in so many ways to make our guests feel at home in Texas!

Austin Polish Society and Austin Public Library – New Polish Movie Schedule

Polish films are being screened at several Austin Public Library locations throughout the year. This is another way to introduce Austinites to Polish films. The schedule is on our website and on the APS calendar as well as at

<http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/library/news/nr20100125a.htm>.

Please check on the calendar for times and locations and links to location maps.

APS urges members to attend all of these free screenings. This new partnership between the Austin Public Libraries and Austin Polish Society is a unique opportunity to inform Austinites about APS, Polish films, and culture.

If there are APS members who are interested in volunteering to give a brief introduction to one of the Austin Public Library screenings, APS needs your help. If you have the time and the interest to briefly introduce a film, please call Joanna Gutt-Lehr (512) 750 5263 or Mary Gawron (512) 423-1815. We need presenters for May! Please let us know if you can share your time to this valuable activity!

Interested in volunteering? Have a great idea or talents?

Contact: Gosia by e-mail: gosia.jurczynska@oag.state.tx.us or phone: 512-837-9749 (home) or 512-575-4098 (work). Thanks!

Reminder: The Department of Slavic and Eurasian Studies, University of Texas is loaning Polish language films

APS wants to remind all of our readers that they may now borrow Polish language films courtesy of the Department of Slavic and Eurasian Studies, Center for Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies (CREEES) at the University of Texas, Austin.

Below is the list of films APS donated to the Slavic Department which may be borrowed:

Film Title

Aniol w Krakowie
Barwy ochronne
Bez znieczyulenia
Chlopi. Czesc I - Boryna, Czesc II - Jagna
Danton
Duze zwierze
Dzien swira
Eroica - symfonia bohatera w dwoch czesciach
Gdzie jest general
Janosik
Kochaj albo rzuc
Kornblumenblau
Matka Joanna od aniolow
Mis
Nie ma mocnych
Nic smiesznego
Niezawodny system

Director

Artur Wiecek
Krzysztof Zanussi
Andrzej Wajda
Jan Rybkowski
Andrzej Wajda
Krzysztof Kieslowski
Koterski
Dziewonski
Chmielewski
Passendorfer
Checinski
Leszek Wosiewicz
Kazimierz Kutz
Bareja
Checinski
Koterski
Izabela Szylo

Nikt nie wola	Kazimierz Kutz
Perla w koronie	Kazimierz Kutz
Pociąg	Kawalerowicz
Podwójne życie Weroniki + film dokumentalny "I am so-so"	Krzysztof Kieslowski
Pogrzeb kartofla	Jan Jakub Kolski
Pozegnanie jesieni - koniec swiata jest bliski	M. Trelinski
Prymas-3 lata tysiaci	Kotlarczyk
Rysa	Rosa
Sol ziemi czarnej	Kazimierz Kutz
Sztuka kochania	Jacek Bromski
Trzy kolory	Krzysztof Kieslowski
Uciezka z kina "Wolnosc"	Wojciech Marczewski
Wahadelko	Bajon
Zabij mnie, glino	
Zakazane piosenki	Buczkowski
Zawrocony	Kazimierz Kutz

These films have been donated to APS by the Polish Filmmakers Association (<http://www.sfp.org.pl/en>) thanks to the leadership of director Jacek Bromski, a frequent guest and APS patron.

The Polish Film Collection Curator is Ms. Olga Macha, Undergraduate Coordinator/Administrative Assistant, Department of Slavic and Eurasian Studies, Center for Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies (CREEES) at the University of Texas, Austin.

APS and community members who are interested in borrowing films will need:

- driver's license ID number
- current address
- phone number
- e-mail address

Up to five (5) films may be borrowed for two weeks. The library is located in a classroom, in Calhoun Hall, Room 422 (<http://www.utexas.edu/maps/main/buildings/cal.html>) on the University of Texas at Austin campus.

Please call Ms. Macha at 471-3607 to find out what is the best time to come in or to reserve films.

Thank you to Ms. Macha, Dr. Gilbert Rappaport and to the University of Texas for their support and for processing the loaning of films from this outstanding collection of Polish language films.

Contact information:

Olga Macha
Undergraduate Coordinator/Administrative Assistant

Dept. of Slavic & Eurasian Studies
CREEES
Phone: (512) 471-3607
Fax: (512) 471-6710
olgamacha@mail.utexas.edu

The APS Member of the Month – Ms. Bernadeta Kaminska

The “APS Member of the Month” for April is Ms. Bernadeta Kaminska. The APS will be introducing new members and donors throughout the year to our membership. If you are an APS member and interested in sharing your story in an interview, please call either Joanna Gutt-Lehr or Mary Gawron.

The APS values the contributions of all members and volunteers. APS works hard to meet donor and membership expectations. Ms. Kaminska has played a pivotal role in supporting the APS and we are sharing her story with you this month.

Bernadeta Kaminska was born and raised in a small town called Września near Poznan, in central Poland. Ms. Kaminska noted that her town, Września, is known in Poland for a school strike by Polish children that took place in May 1901 in response to the intensification of Germanization, which led to the prohibition of the Polish language at schools. The Polish language had long been tolerated in the schools, so the introduction of German as mandatory language led to protests. Ms. Kaminska indicated with pride that one can visit an old Polish school and museum in her hometown. She added that Września is home to the Tonsil S.A., a company that has manufactured radio, television, communication equipment and other consumer electronics for decades.

Bernadeta graduated from the H. Sienkiewicz High School and moved to Poznan to attend the Adam Mickiewicz University. There, she studied German, specializing in German Linguistics and in the Polish language. In 1989, she moved to what was then referred to as “West” Berlin, Germany, and found herself in the midst of one of the most historical events of the 20th century--the fall of the Berlin Wall. Bernadeta enthusiastically adds “it was a very exciting time in German history and I was so happy to experience the fall of the Berlin Wall and German reunification!”

Next, Bernadeta traveled much farther west and, in August of 1993, found herself in College Station, Texas. She spent several years adapting to a new language and culture. Not destined to be an A&M Aggie, Ms. Kaminska finally came to Austin in 1998. Ms. Kaminska reflects that Austin “is so far away from home in Poland, but it feels like home to me after all these years.”

Bernadeta began teaching German language classes at Austin Community College. She also taught German at Concordia University, Texas State University, and Polish language classes for Informal Classes at UT and Continuing Education at ACC. Bernadeta

emphasizes that she is now “very happy to teach Polish language courses for the Department of Slavic and Eurasian Studies at the University of Texas, Austin. She attributes APS with providing the support to help her seek out a position with UT-Austin. Bernadeta adds that, “teaching was always my passion, and I love teaching both languages, but teaching Polish to the students at UT is very special to me.”

Bernadeta describes being a member of APS as a “very unique experience.” She credits all of the very active APS directors and members for making it a great organization. “It feels wonderful to have a place and friends, and to share our heritage with fellow members. We all know that everything started in Katarzyna’s (Priebe) living room where we watched Polish movies and had an annual Polish dinner. It’s amazing how much bigger and better the society has become!” Bernadeta notes that her ten-year old daughter, Gheena, always looks forward to APS events. Bernadeta commented “it is very important for our children, who are raised thousands miles away from Poland, to be able to share in our language and traditions. Thank you for giving them this opportunity.”

The APS thanks you, Bernadeta, for sharing the organization with your many Polish language students! APS appreciates their participation and the students appreciate the extra credit they get for being a part of APS events!

Want to share your story? Please contact Joanna Gutt-Lehr at (512) 750-5263 or Mary Gawron at (512)-423-1815 or mmwgawron@gmail.com

POLISH HARMONIES - CHOPIN & BEYOND

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THIS SPECIAL NIGHT FULL OF FANTASTIC MUSIC

You will not want to miss this event! This is a once-in-a-lifetime musical experience featuring musicians from Poland and from Austin. This incredible event will feature internationally known artists inspired by Polish composers.

The guest artists include:

- From Gdansk, Poland: Anna and Arkadiusz Szafraniec-the international couple known as the Glass Duo will be playing a glass harp
- From Warsaw, Poland: Zuzanna Kassak – singer
- Michelle Schumann – Austin pianist
- Justyna Chęsy-Parda – Polish born Austin pianist

Make plans to attend on Saturday, May 15, 6pm, at the Jessen Auditorium at the University of Texas at Austin, in the Homer Rainey Hall, 21st St. at University Ave. [map](#)
The ticket cost for this amazing event is FREE!

For more information please see the Austin Polish Society website at:

www. <http://www.austinpolschsociety.org/>

A Polish Library on the Run

Wstęp po drodze do polskiej biblioteki

The Austin Polish Society is always happy to support and facilitate members' initiatives aiming at enriching our community. One of our members, Ewa Tanska, offered to create and maintain a project that would take our annual Book Exchange event to a new level. Ewa coordinated what she calls "A Polish library on the run":

"Do you have any Polish books sitting on your shelves at home that you have read a few times over ? Do you wish you could borrow or exchange books in Polish on a regular basis? Well, Ewa believes she could try to make it happen. Let's create a collection of used books by donating the ones you can part with. She is willing to be responsible for maintaining such a library and to make the books available to borrowers twice a month: once after Sunday Polish Mass and once after a movie night."

Please email Ewa with any question. She is open to suggestions and welcomes any assistance you can offer.

Please contact Ewa directly at bibliotekaaps@gmail.com



Donations for Austin Polish Society

Thank you for your pledges and donations! The APS appreciates the visionaries who donate to support the APS!

Thank you!

APRIL CALENDAR EVENTS

Thursday, April 1

Time: 7 pm

What: The APS Board Meeting

Where: Priebe Security Services, 7940 Shoal Creek Blvd., Suite 210, Austin, Texas 78757.

Saturday, April 10

What: The APS Polish Language Classes

Where: First Unitarian Church of Austin, 4700 Grover Avenue, Austin, TX 78756-3108.

Saturday, April 17

What: The APS Polish Language Classes

When: 10 am

Where: First Unitarian Church of Austin, 4700 Grover Avenue, Austin, TX 78756-3108.

Tuesday, April 20

A memorial Mass will be held on Tuesday, April 20th at 7pm at St. Mary's Cathedral in Austin, Texas. Many Polish Clergy, including Bishop John Walter Yanta, are expected to attend. The Mass will be open to the public. St. Mary's Cathedral is located at 906 San Jacinto Blvd. The website is www.smcaustin.org.

Saturday, April 24

What: The APS Polish Language Classes

Where: First Unitarian Church of Austin, 4700 Grover Avenue, Austin, TX 78756-3108.

Tuesday, April 26

What: *Zmruz Oczy/Squint Your Eyes*

(2001, directed by Andrzej Jakimowski, 87 minutes, English subtitles)

When: Tuesday, April 27, 6:30PM

Where: Austin Public Library, [Windsor Park Branch](#), 5833 Westminster Dr. Austin, TX 78723

Announcements

Polish Catering

If you're planning a party wouldn't you like to surprise your guests with some Polish

meals? It's only a phone call away. A wide assortment of Polish foods for every occasion, you choose-we prepare. Contact: Anna (512) 692 7684, cell 512-897-0125 or Barbara (908) 377-6528, email: polishcatering@yahoo.com

Hiring international interns is the answer for employers who wish to host qualified professionals and add cultural diversity to their work environment. If you have a talented individual in Poland (or any other country) and would like to host them on a J-1 Internship Visa, we are able to help you and the candidate with visa documentation process. We could also recruit highly educated candidates for you!

The J-1 Internship Program is designed for university students and young professionals to train in the USA up to 18 months within their major field of study as a guided work-based learning program.

If you have an individual in mind or would like us to recruit for you, please contact me for more details:

Justyna Okulska
Alliance Abroad Group, L.P.
1221 South Mopac Expressway, Suite 100
Austin, Texas 78746
Phone: +1(512) 904 1154
E-mail: jokulska@allianceabroad.com
www.allianceabroad.com

Violin Lessons

Zawodowa skrzypaczka z pedagogicznym doswiadczeniem udziela lekcji gry na skrzypcach. (North Austin) Dzieci, mlodziez, dorosli. Przystepne ceny.

Professional violinist with teaching certification is available for lessons in North Austin. Beginners, intermediate and experienced students accepted. Reasonable rates. Telephone: 512-291-7660. E-mail: olakas@hotmail.com

Needed:

We are looking for a Polish speaking babysitter to take care of our 4-month-old baby from time to time. The applicant should have some experience in caring for an infant or education in early childcare, be a non-smoker, be at least 20 years old, be able to pass a background check, have a positive attitude, lots of patience, energy, and a big heart for children. We would usually need help in the evening or during the weekend. We live on RR 620/ Anderson Mill. If you are interested please e-mail resume with employment history and education background to marta.nelsen@gmail.com.

Polish Magazines at Sasha's Russian Gourmet Market

Polish magazines (at the cover price) will be available at Sasha's Russian Gourmet Market 7817 Rockwood Lane, #102, Austin, Texas 78757. The telephone number is (512) 459-1449. At present there're six titles under considerations: Polityka, Newsweek, Pani, Wprost, Pani Domu and Krzyzowka z Humorem. Additional titles can be chosen from the attached list, however, in overall there shall be several subscribers for a particular title in order to assure delivery. If you are interested in guaranteed delivery, an order folder can be created for you (note: orders will be canceled if materials are not picked up after the 2nd delivery).

Please notify Ms. Magda Szatanik-Boudni at: sashasmarket_magda@att.net. Please specify which title(s) and the delivery schedule (weekly or monthly) for the material. Titles for Polish materials are listed in the attachment in this e-mail. Please use the list to obtain accurate titles when requesting materials. The APS is grateful to Sasha for all of his support! Thank you, Sasha's Russian Gourmet Market and Ms. Magda!

Polish-English bilingual Babysitter and Mother's Helper available

Polish and English speaking babysitter available weekends and weeknights. I graduated from high school in Poland and I'm enrolled at Austin Community College. I have experience with children of various ages, infants (10 months old), toddlers, and older children. I am currently looking after 3.5 year old boy and 16 month old girl, full time, Monday – Friday. I am loving and gentle with kids, but also very energetic and love to play and engage kids. I can teach children Polish, coach soccer (as well as other physical activities) and help them with homework. I can also help with housekeeping, laundry, organize closets, mow lawns, wash your cars, whatever you may need. I can provide references from Austin Polish Society members. Please contact Patryk at azfalth@o2.pl

Ideas? Suggestions? Praise? Let us hear from you! Please contact Beata at bmghomes@yahoo.com or go to <http://www.austinpolsishsociety.org/>