

POLISH CENTER NEWSLETTER

OF DISCOVERY AND LEARNING



THIS POINT IN TIME

The Polish Center is fortunate to have many devoted friends, volunteers, board members and others who value and support its initiatives. Its mission to create a unique Polish American museum and cultural meeting place has been embraced by many businesses, organizations, foundations and individuals who have shared their talents, labor, and finances to insure its success. The Polish Center's collection of historical

memorabilia is impressive and continues to grow with each day. This is possible because of the dedication and enthusiastic support it receives from friends, who sincerely believe that it is important to safeguard Polish and Polish-American history for future generations. In January of this year, we completed the first two phases in the Polish Center's renovation and construction project, which significantly improve and expand our new facility in order to work more efficiently and to adhere to codes governing public spaces. Our improved space has been enriched with a spectacular new entrance and our galleries continue to grow with attractive exhibits. A week does not go by without the addition of new materials for our collection. We look forward



to the future when we will be in a position to add the planned lecture/concert hall and to complete work on the Polish cottage. We expect that work on the Polish Cottage will begin at the beginning of March, 2011.

Interest in the Polish Center has increased substantially. We have introduced measures which promise to help us respond to the growing demands placed upon us. Recently, a routine has been introduced to aid us in management of our commitments. The Polish Center is grateful to the many dedicated and talented volunteers without whom it could not function during this very intensive period of growth. We have welcomed a number of new volunteers, while many of those who have been with us throughout the last ten years have increased their level of commitment.

As the Polish Center looks to the future, it is important that it serve the needs of the community on which it depends for support. It welcomes the involvement of friends — including representatives of organizations, businesses, and academic institutions — to participate as **CORPORATORS**. The Board of Corporators acts as an advisory group from the community and they are the Polish Center's ambassadors to the community.

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The goal is to have a cross section of persons of various talents, skills, and interests to benefit the Polish Center. There is no limit to the number of incorporators; however, there may be no less than ten members on this board. Although they do not meet as often as the members of the Board of Directors (perhaps once a year), they may volunteer to work on special committees and projects that help the Board make more informed decisions.

Persons selected to the Board of Corporators serve by virtue of either their commitment to the purposes and philosophy of the Polish Center, intellectual strengths, and/or financial assistance. They must be members in good standing with paid membership. In addition, we ask that they make an annual contribution to fundraising by obtaining monetary donations from others (including organizations or businesses) or by their own donation in the amount of \$300 minimum annually. We encourage friends who are interested in helping the Polish Center establish strong community relations as well as a strong intellectual and financial foundation that will last generations to consider becoming corporators.

Once again, in order to better serve its constituency, the Polish Center has introduced a program to prepare museum **DOCENTS**. After a period of instruction, docents will be available to guide visitors through the museum galleries and may be engaged for special tour groups. The purpose of the program is to help guides, who are in effect knowledgeable representatives of the Polish Center, to gain proficiency and confidence in describing its exhibits, history and mission. In fact, there has been a marked increase in the number of groups visiting the Polish Center. A guidebook has been prepared to introduce guests to the Polish Center and its galleries.

Many organizations and individuals express an interest in taking advantage of the services and environment we provide. Among those who have already used our facility include The Kosciuszko Foundation New England Chapter, The Polish Junior League, The Polish National Alliance, The Polish American Congress of Western Massachusetts, The Polish Women's Alliance, The Chicopee Historical Society, and The Chicopee Visiting Nurses Society. Of course, the Polish Center is the official home of the Polish Genealogical Society of Massachusetts. The Polish Center lent itself especially well, this year for a family reunion. Family members of Polish origin met in a distinctly Polish and Polish-American environment.

The Polish Center has been committed to **EDUCATIONAL INITIATIVES** at many levels from its first days. The Center continues its relationship with Elms College and welcomes new opportunities to work together with the Department of Advancement and College Relations at Westfield State University. Most recently, we hosted representatives of Westfield State and the administration of Krosno College of Krosno, Poland. The

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THE MISSION OF THE POLISH CENTER:

To collect and preserve historical objects representative of the material culture of the Polish people in America and in Poland; to prepare exhibits of historical and cultural materials; to help individuals locate information about Poland and the Poles in America; to offer a variety of lectures, conferences, seminars, concerts and other events which promote an interest in Polish and Polish-American culture; to become a living monument that celebrates the contribution of the Polish people to the arts, economy and the sciences; to provide learning resources and programming.

The Center cooperates regionally with the initiatives of other institutions and cultural associations and seeks to maintain a strong working relationship with them. We aspire to be a national organization.

OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 2010

**President: Mr. Joseph Topor, Jr.
Vice-President: Ms. Joanne Gruskos
Treasurer: Mr. Joseph Pieciak
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HONORARY DIRECTORS

**Ms. Jane Bielski Mr. Eugene Gorski
Mr. Anthony Krzystofik Dr. Gladys Midura
Dr. Carla Oleska Mr. John Olko (deceased)
Mr. John Skibiski Atty. John Soja**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mr. Stanisław (Staś) Radosz

two institutions are in the initial stages of establishing a student exchange program. We hope to assist both schools towards developing a successful relationship. We are also in the planning stages of a cooperative academic venture with the Nicholas Copernicus University in Torun Poland. The University has an extensive collection of Polish emigrant records. We could provide assistance to scholars of the University hoping to trace the historical progression of these emigrants after arriving in America. In addition, we hope to assist their students in other pursuits as well.

We are in the process of developing a program that will introduce students in the city of Chicopee to the museum. At this time, we will be working with St. Stanislaus School and the Holy Name School. We will begin by meeting with the teachers of the classes to get their help to maximize their students' visit to the Polish Center in order to make the experience both enjoyable as well as educational. Our goal is to expand the program to other schools in the area.

An excellent example of cooperation between the Polish Center, an academic institution, and the community took place November 17, 2010. The Polish Center and the Fine Arts Center at the University of Massachusetts Amherst cooperated in sponsoring a performance of the spectacular folk song and dance group **MAZOWSZE**. The performance hall was sold out with over 1,900 people attending. There is no doubt that those who attended this performance were delighted not only by the songs and colors of the rich variety of Polish regional costumes but by the beauty and genuine enthusiasm of the performers. Following the performance, those holding VIP tickets were invited to meet with the performers and share a glass of wine with appetizers. The VIP tickets provided "A" seating, a post-show reception and a \$10 donation to the Polish Center. The last time Mazowsze appeared on the Fine Arts Stage was in 1978.

Mazowsze, named after a major historical and cultural region of Central Poland, was established in 1948 and appeared on stage for the first time in Warsaw in 1950. The founders and creators of the repertoire and spirit of the song and dance troupe

were renowned composer and pianist Tadeusz Sygietynski and his wife, actress Mira Ziminska Sygietynska. Mazowsze, like Slask, another well-known folk song and dance company, has traveled worldwide throughout the years. Some would say that the difference between the two companies is the nature of their styles. Slask appears to be influenced more by classical musical performance techniques and ballet.

Thanks to the generosity of Bernat's Polish Deli of 895 Meadow St. in Chicopee, people were treated to a taste of Polish cookies and pastries as they entered the building. They were also treated to the accordion music of Mr. Leo Murawski. There was an exceptionally festive atmosphere in the entrance as many people began to sing along with the tunes. Some may recall Mr. Murawski playing on occasion at the Munich Haus in Chicopee. In addition, the Polish Center erected an exhibit of its new home and its collections. Eryk Jadaszewski and members of the Stefan Czarniecki Division—dressed in costumes from the mid-1600s—mingled with the guests. Many could not resist having a picture taken with them. We certainly hope that we will not have to wait another thirty-two years to see Mazowsze in the Valley.

We are pleased to see that new visitors have seen the Polish Center notices in the weekend section of the Springfield Daily News and information placed with the Greater Springfield Convention and Visitors Bureau. There has been a noticeable increase of guests due to these advertisements.

We look forward to working together with the **MUNICH HAUS RESTAURANT**, which is only a few minutes walk from the Polish Center. The restaurant is offering Polish lunches with guided tours of the Polish Center for clubs, businesses, and friend get-togethers. Luncheon tours are scheduled primarily for Saturdays and include a lunch menu that includes a choice of 17 entrees and traditional Polish dishes and a special guided tour of the Polish Center galleries. Our goal is to attract groups of individuals searching for a pleasant afternoon outing that pleases the palate while being fun as



well as informative. We are considering expanding awareness of this Polish Center program and others with tour companies as well as The Greater Springfield Convention and Visitors Bureau and The Massachusetts Office of Tourism. A number of groups have already taken advance of the luncheon/tour program. Those interested in organizing such a luncheon tour are advised to call the Munich Haus at 413-594-8788.

The Polish Center has come a long way since 1999 and its beginnings on the third floor of Berchmans Hall on the campus of the College of Our Lady of the Elms. It has demonstrated its potential to develop into a valuable national resource, which also provides affectionate reminders of our beloved heritage. We have truly become a Polish center of discovery and learning.



JANTAR—BURSZTYN

AMBER POLAND'S MOST CHERISHED STONE

Certainly, no Polish museum is complete without an exhibit of amber. Our display—pieces of raw amber, polished amber, crushed amber, and amber with insects—is located in the corridor on the second floor.

To be precise, amber is not a stone but fossilized tree resin. Baltic amber, which makes up most of the world's deposits, is generally considered superior and appears in a wide range of colors or shades. The original Slavic word for Amber in old Polish was Jantar, later substituted for the contemporary term Bursztyn (a corruption of the German word Bernstein).

Amber is warm to the touch, floats in water, and has electrostatic properties (the word electron comes from the Greek word for amber). Amber burns and when rubbed may give off a sweet scent. Baltic amber is about 30 to 65 million years old and may include inclusions of vegetation as well as insect and animal organisms. Its physical qualities fascinated ancient peoples. The Romans, ventured through territory inhabited by proto-Polish tribes to acquire this highly prized material associated with healing properties and captured sun rays.

Today, amber is used in the production of jewelry, as well as the cosmetics and pharmaceutical industries. In ancient times, it was believed that it cured a variety of illnesses either by wearing or ingesting it. The chemical composition of amber may vary so that some can be easily dissolved in alcohol. In Poland, crushed amber is dissolved in 190 proof drinking alcohol (Spirytus) for ten days. A few drops of the solution is then added to water to cure various internal ailments or rubbed on the skin. Like many other folk remedies, it is highly recommended to avoid this practice without the supervision of a qualified physician.

Take note that some amber being sold is not, in fact, real amber. Copal, a very immature form of solid resin resembles amber. It is difficult to say precisely when copal becomes amber; however, most copal is anywhere from a few hundred to only a few thousand years old. It may become sticky when rubbed with the hand or with nail polish remover. Also, some amber being sold may be a plastic forgery.

POLISH CENTER TOURS OF POLAND GHOSTS, TATARS AND MORE



of the country. Many of the participants add a dimension of their own—tasting regional beers—as they progress from one major town to another. Most recently, we visited the Polish Tartar community in the Bialystok region.

The first Tartars settled in Poland in the 14th century. Their history reaches as far back as the time of Genghis Khan. They are made up of no one cultural community. Although they are Muslim, Polish customs, traditions and language have modified their way of life significantly as they adopted the ways of the general Polish population. It is difficult to estimate precisely how many Muslim Tartars live in Poland. There are certainly many more than noted on the most

The Polish Center has always appreciated having the opportunity to offer its members and friends unique heritage tours to Poland. Past tours have attempted to acquaint participants with basic historical and cultural sites while drawing their attention to attractions not customarily visited by most tourists. Ghosts and knights have always been a favorite, though we have also introduced stork sanctuaries, an Arabian horse farm (Poland is known for its history of breeding spectacular Arabians), folk carvers, weavers, and lace makers, as well as producers of Polish Christmas ornaments, Krakow szopka makers and more. Those fortunate individuals who were able to take part in all the past tours sponsored by the Polish Center have



recent Polish census—perhaps, no more than 4,000 Tartars out of about 20,000 followers of Islam. Tartar knowledge of classical Arabic is minimal and there was never only one Tartar language. Today, Polish is their native tongue. An interesting side note: actor Charles Bronson (Charles Dennis Buchinsky) was a descendant of Polish Tartars.



completed a series introducing them to most all of Poland, highlighting the history and folk culture

Polish Tartars have been full participants in the drama of Polish history; at times fighting alongside their Christian brothers against Muslim invaders. Many of us who are familiar with the story of King John Sobieski and the Turkish siege of Vienna of 1683 may recall that Polish Tartars supported the Polish troops in repulsing the Ottoman Turks. When the king was unable to pay the loyal Tartar troops for their service, they were given land in Poland as well as special privileges.

PROPOSED 2011 TOUR OF POLAND

The Polish Center is planning its sixth tour of Poland in its Introduction To Poland Heritage Series. We would like to provide our friends with some early information to help make plans. At the moment, these plans are still subject to change.

We expect to leave Boston on July 28, 2011 and arrive in Warsaw the next day. From Warsaw, we go to Torun through Otrebusy (Karolin home of the Mazowsze Dance Company, which recently performed at the Fine Arts Center at UMass Amherst) and Lowicz (an especially colorful folkart center). We will stay in Torun (home of Nicholas Copernicus and the ginger bread capital of Poland). We will visit Biskupin (a pre-historic settlement going back to at least 750 BC) and Gniezno (Poland's first capital) and perhaps the very eerie Czocha castle. August 3,

we stay in Kliczkow and visit the Boleslawiec pottery center and Borowski Glass Works. We look forward to time at a Polish spa, as well. August 4, we will leave for Czestochowa (known for Jasna Gora and the icon of The Black Madonna). We will have an opportunity to see how Polish crystal is cut in Zawiercie. The tour proceeds to Wisla in the Beskid Mountains, where participants will, among other events, attend a Festival and visit the Zywiec Brewery. August 8 we go on to Krakow (the Renaissance Capital of Poland) through Wadowice (childhood home of John Paul II). We remain in Krakow, where optional short trips may be selected. The group departs for Boston from Krakow.

For information call PAT/Worldwide Tours at 1-413-747-7702 or 1-800-388-0988 or speak to Stas at the Polish Center 413-592-0001.

POLISH CENTER TRAVELING EXHIBIT

The Polish Center is pleased to set up exhibits at venues other than those sponsored by the Center. During our formative years, it was especially important to us to inform the public of our mission by providing opportunities to view examples of the materials in our collection outside our building. As the work of the Center gained greater recognition and permanent galleries were created to showcase materials, it was determined that it was time to limit the handling and moving of museum exhibit materials outside the building. Still, it was vital to have a creative presence at events to generate additional support of the Polish Center and encourage new visitors.

A traveling exhibit has been prepared with a variety of colorful, large-size photos mounted on four six-foot high cubes made of PVC pipes and Velcro.



Those viewing the exhibit walk around the cubes as if viewing the various exhibits and galleries at the Polish Center. The cubes can be easily erected, disassembled and placed in an automobile along with the photos, which are backed with a heavy board and Velcro tape. The exhibit has been set up three times since its construction in October (Polish Heritage Day at the Enfield (CT) Senior Center, Krakus Festival at the Log Cabin in Holyoke, Mazowsze performance at the Fine Arts Center and at the University of Massachusetts Amherst).

THE KRAKUS FESTIVAL 2010

During the last five years, the Polish Center has held a very special fall benefit banquet entitled “Krakus Festival” to celebrate its accomplishments. Earnings from the Krakus Festival have been used to assist in covering the cost of our new construction. October 29, 2010, the event was held at the Log Cabin on Easthampton Road, located atop a mountain with a spectacular view in Holyoke, Massachusetts.

The new Polish Center traveling exhibit was on view in the dining hall. Two wonderful pieces of art work donated by Fr. Charles DiMascola for a silent auction were included with other auction items. Books authored by Fr. Charles were offered for sale, including the popular cookbook of his mother’s recipes (*Memories of Mamusia; Father’s Mother’s Dessert Book*).

Dinner was followed by a social hour, after which there was dancing to the music of the Eddie Forman Orchestra and guest appearance of singer Madeline Lukowski.

Most recently, we have begun honoring people at the festival, who we have determined to be exceptional role models for others in the Polish community. These are individuals admired for unreserved support of our Polish heritage and widely acknowledged for their extraordinary talents or remarkable deeds.

This year’s award went to Fr. Charles Jan DiMascola for EXCELLENCE IN MOTIVATING CULTURAL AWARENESS OF POLISH HERITAGE. Simply having ethnic Polish ancestors or what is perceived as a Polish surname is certainly not enough. More likely, Polish-Americans may be defined as individuals with ethnic Polish ancestors who share common interests, speak or understand the Polish language to some extent, or have retained certain customs or cultural traits that originated in Poland. A select few may have acquired an awareness of the history of their culture and openly acknowledge strong ties to their heritage. Fewer still are able to share this interest successfully with others.

A man with “an Italian name but a Polish heart” is how Fr. Charles Jan DiMascola prefers to be identified. Few are as successful as this native of Wilbraham in merging a strong interest in Polish history and culture with the career demands of a high school teacher, and later greatly admired parish priest. Fr. Charles is firmly convinced that Polish culture lends itself especially well to use as an inspirational resource for enlightening both the spirit and mind. His professional

accomplishments include the design of a ring for Pope John Paul II commissioned by the Ecumenical Society of Boston along with a special diptych of Quaker martyr Mary Dyer executed in Massachusetts in 1660.

Fr. Charles received his degree in art at Massachusetts College of Art in Boston and taught art as well as Polish Studies at Palmer High School for 15 years before entering the seminary. In his community, he has lectured extensively on Polish art and most recently produced an event modeled on the “Thursday Luncheons” of King Stanislaw August Poniatowski, who invited artists and literary personalities for lunch and the promotion of cultural exchange. He has inspired other talented individuals to incorporate Polish subject matter in their work including converting an old garage into a Polish Mountaineer chapel. Fr. Charles notes that “it is a little touch of Poland in Turners Falls, Massachusetts”. It is no wonder that Turners Falls can also boast a canon ball from the Swedish siege of Czestochowa in 1655 and the playing of the Cracow Hejnal from the tower of Our Lady of Czestochowa Church since Fr. Charles has served as pastor of this parish since 1986.

Fr. Charles explains, “Growing up with a Polish Mom, in a household of a Polish grandfather with Polish aunts and uncles in a Polish neighborhood, going to the Polish market and attending the Polish Church, being taught my 3 R’s by the Polish nuns, my Italian side only managed to express itself in my appetite for pizza. Everything else was Polish and I thought that that is just the way it was.” As a very devout Catholic, he supports Pope John Paul’s opinion that “awareness of our Polish identity and spirituality gives us the capability of contributing to the common good, and more. He warned us that we have to stop limiting ourselves and begin to understand that our way of life, our Polish history, our Polish traditions, our Polish culture and heritage can strengthen our lives and our faith which in turn will strengthen our families and will strengthen our nation and the world! ...He encouraged us to be proud of what we have...that it is important to feel Polish, and to be conscious of our Polish roots.”

We congratulate Fr. Charles Jan DiMascola on being selected as an outstanding example to others who aspire to share their knowledge and passion for their Polish Heritage.

POLISH COTTAGE TO BE BUILT

We appear to be getting nearer to completing the task of preparing exhibits for our newly constructed galleries, many of which have sponsors. Most recently Mrs. Phyllis Uzendowski, of Ludlow, set in motion a process which will begin the building of a “chata polska” (Polish village cottage) on the third floor of the museum. The purpose of the cottage is to provide the many Polish Americans whose ancestors came to America from small impoverished villages an opportunity to see how they lived during the first quarter of the twentieth century. The proposed home is made up of only two modest rooms, the czarna izba (dark chamber) and the biala izba (white chamber). Mrs. Uzendowski has given the Polish Center a gift of \$25,000 to sponsor the czarna izba, which is the kitchen, in memory of her husband, John Uzendowski. The kitchen will have a stucco oven and materials we have been collecting in Poland with the help of Dr. Zdzislaw Glebocki at the University of Bialystok. The biala izba, which is the room used for everything else, is sponsored by Mary and Richard Gorecki of PAT/Worldwide Tours of West Springfield and Mr. Walter Wrzesien, Polish Center Board Member and exceptional friend. Work on the cottage will be done by NL Construction of Ludlow. We are grateful to the owners of NL Construction, Janina and Henryk Lupa, for their sincere support and generosity. They are known for the wonderful zoo they established in the city of Ludlow. We are fortunate to have PeoplesBank sponsor the corridor which links the cottage and other galleries on the third floor.

The Polish Center is grateful to PeoplesBank, New Alliance Bank, The Polish National Credit Union, The Aldenville Credit Union, Berkshire Bank, Chicopee Savings Bank, and Freedom Bank for their sponsorship of the main rooms on the first floor. The Coming to America Gallery on the second floor was sponsored by Mr. Walter Wrzesien in memory of his parents Karolina and Jan Wrzesien. The At Home in America Gallery was sponsored in memory of Mr. Robert Lepak by The Irene E. and George A. Davis Foundation. Mr. Antoni Zelechowski honored the memory of his wife by sponsoring the Dr. Krystyna Strozyk Zelechowska Folk Art Gallery and The George Zalewski Kennedy Genealogy Reading Room was named in memory of George Kennedy, a great fan of genealogy research and an especially generous supporter of the Polish Center. Thank you very much for your generous support.

SPECTACULAR EXHIBIT CASES A “MUST SEE”

A short while ago, the Polish Center received two beautiful hand carved antique exhibit cases through the efforts of Polish National Alliance National Director Teresa Struziak Sherman. Both cases are dark oak and about nine feet high. One is approximately 6 feet wide while the other is over seven feet wide. The wider of the two has an eagle carved at the top as well as the words “Tow. Sw. Kazimierza Krol. w Brooklynie (Society of St. Casimier the Prince in Brooklyn). The other sports a carved bust of the father of the American cavalry, General Kazimierz Pulaski. Each has a pane of glass about four feet high and nearly 5 feet wide.

The cases were made over 100 years ago for the Polish National Alliance of Brooklyn and they are a gift to us from them. The cost to deliver such enormous and heavy items would have been prohibitive if it were not for the help we received from the Polish National Alliance National and Brooklyn offices and the efforts of Adam Lesniowski, a young friend of the Polish Center who has just begun a professional moving business (Odd Job Experts).

KOSCIUSZKO IMIENINY

A very special thank you to the Kosciuszko Foundation New England Chapter for the very festive name day celebration to honor Tadeusz Kosciuszko and held to benefit the Polish Center October 27, 2010.

Women were encouraged to dress in white as the ladies in 1772 did. An amber necklace was awarded to one dressed in white and wearing a blue ribbon. This event was modeled on a party held October 28, 1792, at the Sieniawa Palace to honor Tadeusz Kosciuszko. Russia had just crushed the Polish Army, outlawed the May 3rd Constitution, and banned the Virtuti Militari (Poland’s highest military decoration). Officers who received these medals sent the blue ribbons from these medals to their wives and sweethearts. At this party these women wore white dresses with black and azure sashes and braided the blue ribbons into their hair.

Those attending the event at the Polish Center were treated to a piano concert by Artur Wysoczanski, a resident of Wilbraham. He is a very talented 16-year-old musician studying with Prof. Estela Olevsky, a well-known concert pianist on the faculty of the Music Department at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

**WE WELCOME YOU TO
RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP
OR BECOME A NEW MEMBER**

YOUR MEMBERSHIP IS IMPORTANT to us because it allows us to continue our work throughout the year. The Polish Center is a unique institution which depends on individuals such as yourself, businesses, various organizations, and foundations that value its mission to safeguard Polish and Polish American history for future generations. All donations to the Polish Center are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

The Polish Center of Discovery and Learning is an association of dedicated individuals committed to providing learning resources and programming to benefit a broad spectrum of the community interested in Polish culture.

Help us move forward. We ask you to consider a membership at your level of choice. For additional information call Phone: 413-592-0001, or write to the address below.

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Page 3	Mazowsze Dance Group ad.
Page 4	Polish Center amber exhibit.
Page 5	Tatar mosque in Kruszyńiany—built at the end of the 1700s on a foundation of one constructed earlier in the century. Muslim cemetery. Grave markers for Mustafa and Felicja Safarewicz and Chusein Poltorzycki. Some members of our group with the owner of the Tatar restaurant in Kruszyńiany.
Page 6	Views of Polish Center traveling exhibit.

POLISH CENTER HOURS

1 TO 5 PM DAILY EXCEPT FOR MAJOR
HOLIDAYS AND INCLEMENT WEATHER.
Special arrangements may be made for other hours
and days by calling in advance. Phone 413-592-0001.

E-mail: polishcenter@elms.edu
Website: www.polishcenter.net

We recommend that non-member visitors to the Polish Center galleries donate a minimum of \$5 per person for entry to the museum. Special privileges to members apply.

A wonderful opportunity to
“EMBRACE YOUR HERITAGE”

PLEASE ASK ABOUT MEMORIAL OPPORTUNITIES

*Choose to name an area of the Polish Center after your family
or someone especially important to you, a fraternal organization, or enterprise.*

THE SUCCESS OF THIS VERY SPECIAL CENTER depends on a continued strong expression of interest and support by the College and people like you — the friends of Polish culture! We invite you to become a supporting member (or renew your membership) of the Polish Center of Discovery and Learning at Elms College. **Please encourage others — friends and family—to support the Polish Center.**

___ (Chopin Circle) \$1,000 and above

___ (Copernicus Circle) \$100-\$249

___ (Kosciuszko Circle) \$500-\$999

___ (Matejko Circle) \$50-\$99

___ (Skłodowska-Curie Circle) \$250-\$499

___ (Mickiewicz Circle) \$35-\$49

My Name _____

Address _____

City, State and Zip _____ Phone _____

I would like to receive newsletters and other messages from the Polish Center by e-mail ___ Yes ___ No

My e-mail address is _____

*The Polish Center is a 501(c)(3) organization.
Donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by the law.*

Polskie Centrum Naukowe jest organizacją niezależną i nieochodową.

A special gift of \$ _____ in honor or memory of _____

Please ask about special gift giving (check the box), In addition to special gift giving, families and businesses have an opportunity for commemorative sponsorship of rooms and galleries in our new home.

Please return to:

**Polish Center
33 South Street
Chicopee, MA 01013**

CELE POLSKIEGO CENTRUM NAUKOWEGO

- ☀ Zbieranie i przechowywanie przedmiotów o tematyce historyczno-kulturalnej polskiej ludności w Stanach Zjednoczonych i w Polsce.
- ☀ Po zrealizowaniu celów, pragniemy stać się żywym pomnikiem czczącym pamięć polskich emigrantów i ich potomków jako współuczestników życia kultury, nauki i ekonomii tego kraju.
- ☀ Organizowanie wystawy, warsztatów naukowych, wykładów i seminariów
- ☀ Udzielanie pomocy osobom szukającym informacji i materiałów pomocniczych o Polsce i Polakach w Stanach Zjednoczonych.
- ☀ Udzielanie wsparcia osobom dążącym do wprowadzenia polskich tematów do programów nauczania i utworzenie bazy danych informacji dotyczących Polski i Polonii.

FROM OUR COLLECTIONS

Wall-size illustration of a photograph of the first Polish store in Chicopee established by the Tuleja family in about 1888. Located in a gallery on the third floor of the Polish Center.

Funding for the production of the illustration as well as the acquisition of the antique wagon in the exhibit was provided by Kasmer Kielb, of Wilbraham, proprietor of Advance Welding in West Springfield, MA.



EMBRACE YOUR HERITAGE



33 South St. Chicopee, MA 01013

POLISH CENTER
OF DISCOVERY AND LEARNING