

CALENDAR LISTINGS (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6)

new friends) a beautiful celebration of the Birth of Christ - you are cordially invited! We hope that all of our members and their friends will be able to join us on Sun. Dec. 14 at Leonardo's II Restaurant located at 2021 Brunswick Pike, Business Route 1 in South Lawrenceville. For more information call Henry Talarsky 609-587-7311.

CHRISTMAS EVE DINNER - WIGILIA

MARYLAND - The Polish Heritage Association of Maryland will hold its Annual Wigilia, Christmas Eve Dinner on Sunday, December 14th at the Holy Rosary Church (Undercroft) 408 South Chester Street, Baltimore. Social hour 3 pm. Sharing of Opłatek, dinner, singing Kolendy/Christmas Carols at 4 pm. Reservations required. No tickets sold at door. Please RSVP by December 9th. For tickets & information call 410-342-7969.

HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE AT ARTS CENTER

NEW JERSEY - The Clifton Arts Center Gallery will present "Holiday Open House" on Thursday, December 4th, 2008 from 4-6:30 pm. The public is welcome to visit and see the current art exhibit by the Art Centre of New Jersey and the annual holiday decorations display. Music performance will be provided by the Clifton High School Music Department and light refreshments will be served. The Clifton Arts Center Gallery hours are Wednesday through Saturday: 1pm- 4pm. Group tours are available by appointment. Admission fee is one dollar. For more information check the website at: www.cliftonnj.org. The Clifton Arts Center is a branch of the Clifton Health Department designated to serve the well-being of the citizen through various cultural arts and educational programs to the local community. The Clifton Arts Center is located on the grounds of the Clifton Municipal Complex near the intersection of Clifton and Van Houten Avenues.

CLIFTON ASSOCIATION OF ARTISTS

NEW JERSEY - The Clifton Main Public Library, on Piaget Avenue at Rte 46 East, has mounted a show of the works of the members of the Clifton Association of Artists. This exhibit is on display through November 30. Virtually all media are represented from oils to watercolor to pastel, painting and photography. There is no set theme for this year's show but a number of works reflect the Fall and holiday season. The show is mounted in the activities area to the left of the main entrance, and is free. The art may be viewed during regular library hours. For information contact the Clifton Main Public Library at 973-772-5500. The Clifton Association of Artists, composed of professional and amateur artists, was started in 1963 when a small group of artists who had been painting together decided to open its ranks to all residents of Clifton and nearby communities. The group meets monthly from October through May at the Senior Citizens Center in the Clifton Municipal Complex. All meetings are open to the public.

TOMS RIVER CLUB ANNOUNCES TRIP

NEW JERSEY - The Polish American Club of Toms River will be holding a bus trip to the Hilton Casino in Atlantic City on December 11, 2008. Please call Bill Tomaszewski at 732-349-0908 for tickets. All are welcome. You do not have to be a member of the club.

BIRTHDAYS

NEW JERSEY - Birthday wishes to Ed Radomski, proprietor of the Silver Star Inn on Speer Ave., Clifton, who will celebrate his 89th birthday on November 30th. Happy Birthday Ed, from your relatives, friends and the Post Eagle Staff. *Sto Lat!*

NEW JERSEY - Birthday wishes to Irene Flack of Jackson, celebrating her birthday Dec. 1st. Happy Birthday from your sister Dorothy, relatives and all your friends at the Bayway Polish Club. *Sto Lat!*

NEW YORK - Birthday wishes to Julia Orski of Bayville, who will celebrate her 10th birthday on Dec. 3rd. Special birthday greetings from your parents, Ed & Kiki Orski, Cioci Helen & Debbie, relatives, friends & Peanut too. *Sto Lat!*

SOUND-A-BOUNTS FAN CLUB

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO: Eleanor Zdanowicz, MA; Elizabeth Williams, FL; Joseph Fichera, MA - Nov. 27.

JIMMY STURR FAN CLUB

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO: William Munson, Watertown, CT - Nov. 28. Shannon Hirsch, Highland Lakes, NJ; Anthony Mottle, Stone Ridge, NY - Nov. 29. Peter Wyrshyhora, Cohoes, NY - Nov. 30.

ANNIVERSARY WISHES TO: Michael & Jean Ragan, Union, NJ - Nov. 27. Charles & Marion Bristow, Jr., Tampa, FL - Nov. 28.

Legacy of Frank Gedrowicz Lives On

As this past October 18, 2008 drew closer, my thoughts and memories of Frank Gedrowicz, who would have celebrated his 100th birthday on that date were brought into sharp focus! Frank was a dedicated, caring and conscientious "gentleman" who helmed the Paul P. Bogatko Endowed Scholarship at Syracuse University with extreme professionalism. His work on behalf of the Paul P. Bogatko Endowed Scholarship at Syracuse University made a profound and lasting impact on the students who receive the awards. His legacy will live on as young men and women who were those recipients become tomorrow's leaders with the kind of insights that incite positive and lasting change for our world.

Frank was born in Preczdecz, Poland and came to America in 1914. He lived in Irvington, New Jersey before moving to Manasquan, N.J. in 1960. Frank acquired an Associates degree in mechanical engineering; a B.A. in education, and an M.S. in guidance and counseling from Newark State - now known as Kean University. A lover of learning all throughout his life, Frank initially worked in industry before becoming a teacher of industrial arts at Irvington High School and an adjunct professor at Kean College.

Always active in the community, Frank was involved in Manasquan through the years as a member of the MBIA, the Manasquan Fishing Club, the St. Denis Seniors, the Civic Association and the Old Squan Historical Society. Frank was the last living Founding member of the Manasquan Fishing Club, and was honored in 2005 at their 50th anniversary celebration. He helped to organize the PBA Kids fishing Tournament which has run for over 37 years! He was also a long standing 57-year member of the Manasquan Improvement Association. Frank worked with many children's groups including Boy Scouts and Little League. Through his efforts Frank helped found Little League in his home country of Poland.

Frank Gedrowicz was a life member of the Polish University Club of New Jersey, and served for many years as the chairman of the Scholarship Committee, helming the Paul P. Bogatko Endowed Scholarship at Syracuse University, which supports students of Polish descent. He received the club's Outstanding Citizens of the Year Award in 1992. Frank was a dedicated club member who was highly respected and regarded by his fellow club members.

As the current recipients of the Paul P. Bogatko Endowed

Scholarship at Syracuse University work towards achieving the goals and objectives of their various fields of study, the spirit of Frank

Gedrowicz is most assuredly with them as they feel his pride in their accomplishments. Sto Lat Frank! You will be remembered always.

Polish University Club of New Jersey 2008-2009 Recruitment of Candidates for the Bogatko Scholarship at Syracuse University

All applicants must be enrolled as full-time undergraduate or graduate students at Syracuse University. Polish heritage from either the applicant's father or mother must be present, and all applicants should be United States citizens or permanent residents. A maintained G.P.A. of 2.8 or better is required.

For additional information contact: Mrs. Carol Lee Gorson-Weber, Polish University Club of New Jersey - Bogatko Scholarship at Syracuse University, P.O. Box 148, Mount Freedom, New Jersey 07970-0148. Deadline for applications March 31, 2009.

Polish Literature

(GAINED, NOT LOST)

IN TRANSLATION

By
Ewa Bronowicz



BY HIS HOLINESS JOHN PAUL II
**Crossing the
Threshold of Hope**

Translated from Italian by Jenny McPhee and Martha McPhee
244pp. Alfred A. Knopf, New York. \$15.00

Wisdom through Inspiration, Religious or Not

Pope John Paul II, born Karol Jozef Wojtyla, was pope from 1978 until his death in 2005. A native of Poland, he was the second longest-serving pontificate. In his motherland he is perhaps foremost remembered for his unyielding support for the Solidarity movement which fought against Communism and which contributed to the defeat of the Soviet Union in Eastern Europe in 1989; in the world he became known for his unconditional humanism and extensive teachings about Christianity. Among his numerous writings and publications, "Crossing the Threshold of Hope" sticks out because of its form: a series of practical, down-to-earth questions are answered by the pope as if in an interview.

And an interview it was supposed to be, at first. For the 15th anniversary of his papacy in 1993, the Holy Father agreed to an unusual arrangement: he would be interviewed live on TV by a journalist names Vittorio Messori. The interview never came to be due to the pope's hectic schedule, but a few months later Mr. Messori received a call from the Vatican. The Pope felt that the journalist's questions should not go to waste and therefore responded to them in writing, giving Mr. Vittorio freedom to do with them "what you think is appropriate." This is how the book was born.

One of the most beautiful aspects of the book is the Pope's words of wisdom. "Man does not cease to be great, not even in his weakness," the Holy Father writes in a tone that is both somber and inspirational. Having grown up as a Christian in the predominantly Catholic Poland and having grown out of this Christianity in my late teens, I find the Pope's message of peace and humility no less appealing than it would have been had I still attended Mass. The Pope's erudition, both in the history of religion and in the history of the world, allows Him as well as His readers to draw important lessons for the future, such as acceptance of other religions as legitimate paths to a good life, even if, according to the Pope, salvation can only be obtained through Jesus Christ. This basic message of tolerance is somewhat refreshing from the traditional animosities existing between different faiths, especially in today's world of religious tensions.

If the beauty of the book lies in the Pope's universal messages, then the somewhat disappointing part is that John Paul II is never quite willing to answer the questions on a more personal level. Mr. Vittorio asks about a wide variety of subjects, ranging from the relevance of religion in everyday life to something as intimate as how the Pope prays. The Pope, however, perhaps too conservatively, chooses to converse with the world through a public face, not an individual one, and even if such is the role of all popes, it would be nice to know what this Pope thinks rather than knows about feminism, the last question in the book.

Any questions or comments for Ewa.... You can contact her by visiting her website: www.literatka-nyc.com

**Our Christmas Issue
is now being prepared.**

**CONTINUE THE
TRADITION**

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