

# GŁOS POLEK

POLISH WOMEN'S ALLIANCE OF AMERICA

SUMMER NO.2 MMXVII



TADEUSZ  
KOŚCIUSZKO  
1746 – 1817



# About Us and Our Newsletter

**GŁOS POLEK** Urzędowy Organ  
**ZWIĄZKU POLEK W AMERYCE**  
Wychodzi cztery razy w roku

## THE POLISH WOMEN'S VOICE

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## On the Cover

Clockwise from top left: Kościuszk monument by sculptor Antoni Popiel in Washington D.C.; fragment of sculpture by Marian Konieczny in Philadelphia, PA; newly refurbished Kościuszk monument by Gaetano Trentanove in Milwaukee, WI; and Kościuszk monument by Leonard Marconi in Detroit, MI.

See Cover Story on pages 10 -12

## NEXT DEADLINES FOR "GŁOS POLEK"

Fall 2017 issue:

Deadline for articles is July 1

Winter 2017 issue:

Deadline for articles is October 1

## HOLIDAY HOURS

PWA Offices will be closed  
on the following days:

*Memorial Day, Monday, May 29*  
*Independence Day, Tuesday, July 4*

**You can also contact us by email or visit [www.pwaa.org](http://www.pwaa.org)**

If you have access to the Internet you can contact Polish Women's Alliance of America at the following email addresses or call our toll-free number at **888-522-1898**.

Secretary-Treasurer Antoinette L. Trela – [secretarytreasurer@pwaa.org](mailto:secretarytreasurer@pwaa.org)

*Głos Polek* Editors – [editor@pwaa.org](mailto:editor@pwaa.org) or [mp@manning.com](mailto:mp@manning.com)

*Patroness of  
Polish Women's  
Alliance  
of America*



*Our Lady of  
Częstochowa*



*The PWA emblem  
depicts two women,  
one in America and  
one in Poland, extending  
hands to one another  
in a gesture of  
friendship and  
solidarity*

*PWA Motto*

*"The ideals of a woman  
are the strength of  
a nation"*

*Polish Women's Alliance  
of America  
A fraternal benefit society  
serving the Polish  
American community  
since 1898*

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

*Dear Members and Friends,*

We are deeply saddened to share with you the news of the death of Honorary President Helen V. Wojcik on March 28, 2017. She was 96 years old. Helen Wojcik served as Vice President of Polish Women's Alliance for four terms under President Helena Zielinski, and then as National President for two terms, from 1987 to 1995. But her entire life, even before she became a national officer, was very much dedicated to the PWA. Her mother, Weronika Siwek, was an active member and she signed Helen up right after she was born. Helen often accompanied her mother to meetings, and later she attended dance lessons, youth conferences, and conventions, and then she herself assumed leadership roles, both in her Group and her Council, finally running for national office. Her life spanned the major events of the 20th century and of PWA's incredible growth and achievements. She will be missed! We extend our sincere condolences to her family and friends. You can read about her tenure as PWA President on pages 4 and 5.

2017 was declared by UNESCO as the year of Tadeusz Kościuszko, commemorating the 200th anniversary of his death in 1817. Kościuszko was a hero of two nations, having fought both for the freedom of Poland from Russian occupation and then for the independence of the United States during the Revolutionary War. You can read about his life and accomplishments on pages 10 and 11 and see the many monuments erected in his honor in the US on page 12. The PWA Book Club also features a number of books about Kościuszko's life that you might be interested in (see page 8).

May is a special month — not only is it the most beautiful month of the year as spring is in full bloom, it is also the month devoted to the Blessed Virgin Mary. And we celebrate Polish Constitution Day on May 3rd, Mother's Day on May 14th, and the 119th anniversary of the founding of Polish Women's Alliance on May 22nd. This year, we are also celebrating World Press Freedom Day with a Spring Luncheon and Fundraiser for the PWA Archives Preservation Project at Loyola University Chicago. Council 27 is organizing the event on May 21st in Chicago with a panel of Polish American journalists who will speak about the history of and the challenges facing the ethnic press in the 21st century. Please join us for an interesting and informative afternoon (see page 8).

In the Youth section (page 14) you will find a listing of the 2017 Easter Coloring Contest winners. We congratulate all of our youth members who participate in our contests year after year and who are inspired to explore their Polish heritage. Our youth members are our future and we are always trying to find ways to reach out to you and have you engage with PWA on the local and national level. Please send us your photos and comments from any PWA events that you attend with your families. We'll be happy to publish them in the *Głos Polek*.

*Wishing all of our members a Happy Month of May and  
all of the mothers, grandmothers, godmothers, aunts, and other significant  
women in our lives a Happy Mother's Day!*

Faternally,

Polish Women's Alliance of America





## IN MEMORIAM

### PAST PRESIDENT OF POLISH WOMEN'S ALLIANCE OF AMERICA HELEN. V. WOJCİK 1920 – 2017



*Honorary President Helen V. Wojcik (right), Maryland Senator Barbara Mikulski (center) and National Treasurer Olga Kaszewicz (left) in Chicago in 1996 during a book signing of Mikulski's book, "Capitol Offense." PWA members who joined the event pictured in the back row include District III President Evelyn Lisek and President Delphine Lytell.*



*PWA 110th Anniversary Dinner in Chicago, 2008, front row from left, Secretary-Treasurer Antoinette L. Trela, National President Virginia Sikora, Honorary President Helen V. Wojcik, and Vice President Sharon Zago. Second row from left, National Directors Helen Simmons, Dawn Muszynski-Nelson, Marcia Mackiewicz Duffy, and Felicia Perlick.*

Members and officers of Polish Women's Alliance of America mourn the passing of Honorary President Helen V. Wojcik on March 28, 2017, in Summit, Illinois. She was 96 years old. She was predeceased by her husband of 52 years, Stanley, and her brothers Joseph, Alex, and John Siwek, and by her sisters Jeanette (Chwierut) and Alice (Stec). She is survived by her brother Frank Siwek of Florida; her children Nancy Workman (Gaylord), Kenneth (Karin), Marlene Radcliffe (Guy), and Larry (Eileen); her grandchildren Cassandra Workman (Keith Williams), Marlana Radcliffe (Zachery Tracer), and Michelle and Jacqueline Wojcik; and great-grandchildren Damian and Elijah Williams. She was also a loving aunt and great-aunt to many nieces and nephews, all of them members of PWA. We extend our heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of Helen Wojcik and to her fellow members in Group 743 and Council 13.

Helen Wojcik was born on September 15, 1920, in Chicago to Frank and Weronika Siwek, both immigrants from Poland. She spent her entire life in Chicago and was very active, both in her Polish parish and in many Polish American organizations. Her mother was a dedicated member of PWA and took on leadership roles in the organization, at the group, council, and district levels; and she bequeathed to her daughter a love of the PWA, volunteerism, activism, and all things Polish. Helen started out as a member of her Garland and quickly became a hard-working member of her Group, participating in meetings, conferences, and fundraisers. In due course, she took on further leadership roles and by 1971, she ran for national office as Vice President and served in that role for 16 years under President Helena Zielinski. After President Zielinski retired, Helen Wojcik succeeded her as National President and served for two terms, from 1987 to 1995.

Helen Wojcik's life spanned the major events of the 20th century and accompanied PWA's incredible growth and achievements in those decades. She was witness to turbulent and historic events in Poland – from World War II and the communist regime that followed, through the election of Pope John Paul II and the rise of Solidarity, to the election of the first democratic government in Poland after 50 years of occupation and communist rule. Much of this history played out under Helen Wojcik's tenure as president.

When she was elected to her first term, Poland was in its last years under communism and when the first partially free democratic elections were held in 1990, a new era of open cooperation between Poland and Polonia was about to begin. President Wojcik traveled to Poland numerous times, meeting with representatives of the new government and of charitable institutions, as well as with other political, religious, and cultural leaders. She was part of the Polish American delegation that accompanied the remains of Ignacy Jan Paderewski to his final resting place in Warsaw in 1990, and she was there in 1992 with Vice President Delphine Lytell and *Głos Polek* editor Maria Loryś when specially equipped vans for handicapped children funded by PWA members were delivered to two institutions in Tarnów and Kudowa Zdrój. She also traveled to Rome to meet with Pope John Paul II.

In the US, she served for many years as Vice President of the Polish American Congress (PAC) and in that capacity participated in the outreach and fundraising activities needed to help PAC fulfill its mission, both at home and in Poland. She served as Co-Chair of the PAC Committee for the refurbishment of the Statue of Liberty and establishment of the Immigration Museum on Ellis Island in 1985, raising over a million dollars from the Polish American community. She met with four sitting US Presidents, including Gerald Ford, Ronald Reagan, George H.W. Bush, and Bill Clinton.

At PWA, Helen Wojcik oversaw the computerization of the organization's insurance records, billing, and sales, as well the computerization of the production of the *Głos Polek*, all big steps and considerable changes to the way PWA conducted its day-to-day business. She introduced a series of sales seminars in the states where PWA was active and brought about a professionalization of the sales force, along with the promotion of many new insurance products.

As Honorary President she was instrumental in 1998, the year of PWA's 100th Anniversary, in the effort to grant Honorary Membership to Senator Barbara Mikulski of Maryland, a member of PWA since birth and a true supporter of Polish American causes. This was the first Honorary Membership awarded by the PWA in over 50 years since Helena Sikorska was honored in 1943. Helen Wojcik retired after two terms in office and was granted the title of Honorary President in 1995. Delphine Lytell succeeded her as National President.

Helen Wojcik continued to serve as an advisor to the National Board after her retirement and also continued to remain very active in PWA activities. A few years ago, a Scholarship Endowment Fund in her name was established and it is hoped that this will be a way that Helen Wojcik will continue to touch the lives of PWA members in the future. She will also live on in our memories.

***May she rest in peace. Cześć Jej Pamięci!***



*President Helen Wojcik, Vice President Delphine Lytell, and a friend: PWA donated two vans for special needs children.*



*From left, Maryland State President Victoria Lukaszewska, US Senator from Maryland Barbara Mikulski, and President Helen Wojcik.*



*Installation Dinner, 1991: from left in front row, National Treasurer Olga Kaszewicz, Vice President Delphine Lytell, President Helen V. Wojcik, Honorary President Helena Zielinski, and Secretary General Maria Kubiak. In back row, from left: National Directors Lillian Pesdan, Regina Solms, Virginia Sikora, Clementine Mashinski, and Albina Swierzbinska.*



## **COUNCIL 40 CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY**



Polish Women's Alliance of America, Council 40, of Wilkes-Barre, PA, recently held its annual Children's Christmas Party at Happy Pizza, Plymouth. Shown in photo are the participants together with Santa Claus who presented each attendee with a Christmas present. The children also received bags of cookies and candy. Prior to Santa's visit, each child made a Christmas ornament under the direction of Cheryl Hillard, District XIV President, and then they enjoyed a pizza party along with their families. In photo, front row from left: Matthew Maciejczyk, Caitlin Trainor, Christian Howard Wojciechowski, Riley Wojciechowski, Santa Claus, Lilianna Nicholson, Camilla Nicholson, Serenity Lostrick, and Christopher Maciejczyk. In back row from left: Rebecca Prociak, Justice Shoats, Dylan Cassetori, and Matthew Prociak.

## **DISTRICT I CHRISTMAS PARTY**



The District I Christmas Party/Oplatek was held together with the Group 821 celebration on January 14, 2017, at the Polish Highlanders Hall (Związek Podhalan w Ameryce) on Archer Avenue in Chicago, IL. The annual event features a Christmas pageant, Polish Christmas carols, and delicious Polish food. In the photo above: District I President Lidia Filus and members of various PWA Groups. Celebrating and preserving our Polish traditions is an important part of the mission of PWA and events like these should have our support and we should be sure to include our youngest members in them so they can learn more about beautiful Polish customs.

## **PWA Archives Preservation & Digitization Project at WLA Loyola University Chicago** *Donations received through April 26, 2017*

### **ANGELS (\$1000 - \$3000)**

Polish American Congress Charitable Foundation

### **PATRONS (\$500 - \$1000)**

Mr. & Mrs. J. (Trela) Schoen, PWA Gr. 211 IL  
Connie & Jean Trela, PWA Gr. 211 IL  
PWA Group 419 - District 4 Buffalo, NY

### **BENEFACTORS (\$100 to \$500)**

Barbara Mirecki, PWA Group 693 - D1 IL  
PWA Group 211 - D1 IL  
Bozena McLees - IL  
PWA Council 27 - D1 IL  
In Memory of J.W. Schoen Jr. IL  
PWA Group 752 of Los Angeles, CA - D13  
PWA Group 426, Barbara Miller, Pres. - D1 IL  
Jane Kurtz & Paul O'Hanlon, PWA Group 579 - D11 NE  
PWA Group 689 - D10 NJ  
PWA Group 743 - D1 IL, Helen V. Wojcik, President  
PWA Group 423 - D1 IL  
Regina Jablonski - PWA Group 87 - D7 OH  
PWA Group 451 - D5 MI  
PWA Group 114 - D1 IL  
PWA Council 13 - D1 IL, Barbara Miller, President  
PWA District 9 CT - Sophie Marshall, President  
PWA Group 185 - District 9 CT  
PWA Council 19 - D1 IL  
PWA Council 2 - D2 PA  
Mrs. Dorothy Polus, Past President PWA District 1  
PWA District 3 IN - Evelyn Lisek, President

### **FRIENDS (under \$100)**

Wladyslawa Mutafchiev, PWA Group 211 - D1 IL  
Kathleen Pine, PWA Group 31 - D1 IL  
Janina Piotrowski, PWA Group 43 - D1 IL  
Margaret Zalewski IL  
Katie Dermont IL  
Karen Kielar, PWA Group 211 - D1 IL  
Barbara Ameen, PWA Group 776 - D8 MA  
PWA Council 15 - D10 NJ  
Lucy Petkowski, PWA Group 128 - D3 IN  
In Memory of Helen R. Fabiszak, Trustee PWA Gr. 763 - D12 MD  
In Memory of Catherine Mazon, PWA Gr. 763 - D12 MD  
David & Lucille Fabiszak & Family, PWA Gr. 763 - D12 MD  
Lidia Rozmus, PWA Group 822 - D1 IL  
Irene M. Lestage - Trustee PWA Council 28 - D8 MA  
Irene M. Lestage - Vice President PWA Gr. 776 - D8 MA  
Louise Golda, President PWA Council 15 - D10 NJ  
Mary H. Kornak-Szostek - PWA Group 598 D10 NJ  
Eric Hieber - in memory of Malgorzata Hieber PWA Gr. 31  
PWA Group 305 - District 3 IN  
PWA Group 562 D3 IN - E. Lisek, Pres.; J. Kesel, Sec.; C. Lisek, Treas.

**Thank you! Bóg zapłać!**

## Group 211 Member Crowned May 3rd Parade Queen in Chicago



Group 211 member Julia Szumny of Darien, Illinois, was crowned the 2017 Queen of Chicago's May 3rd Constitution Day Parade, which took place on Saturday, May 6th. Julia is 21 years old and a student at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign where she is majoring in Advertising, Public Relations, and Communication. She is a graduate of Downers Grove South High School and of the Henryk Sienkiewicz Polish Language School. At the University of Illinois she is the vice president and treasurer of the Polish Students' Club "Zagloba" and she volunteers and is engaged in social work, helping the disadvantaged.

As part of her crown, Julia received an educational scholarship of \$2000. Congratulations, Julia. You make us proud! We wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

## Marie Skłodowska Curie Polish School in Chicago's May 3rd Parade



Students, parents, and teachers of the Marie Skłodowska Curie Polish Language School in District I took part in the 126th May 3rd Polish Constitution Parade in downtown Chicago, which was held on Saturday, May 6, 2017. This is an annual tradition and many students and family members take part in one of the largest celebrations of the Polish May 3rd Constitution in the world. Hundreds of thousands of people view the parade as it makes its way from Chicago's beautiful lakefront to the center of the city. The Polish Constitution, ratified on May 3, 1791, is the second-oldest democratic constitution in the world, following the US Constitution of 1787 and preceding the French Constitution by a few months.

## Group 822 Member Presents Exhibition at Polish Museum



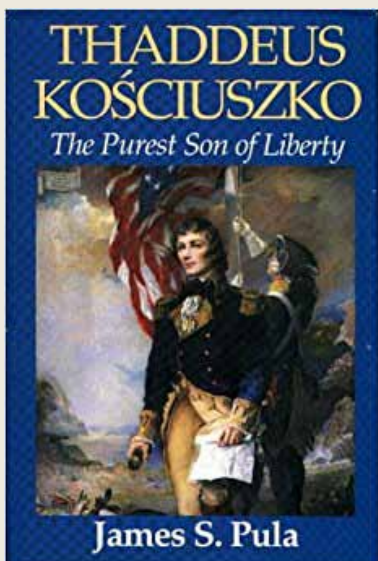
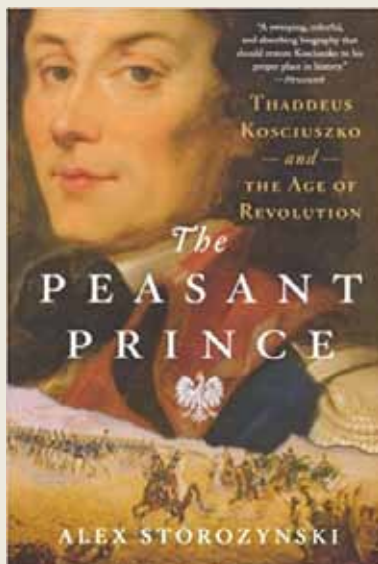
*At the exhibition, from left: photographer Iwona Biedermann, filmmaker Jan M. Zamorski, and artist Lidia Rozmus.*

On Saturday, April 8, Group 822 member and Polish editor of *Głos Polek*, Lidia Rozmus, held an opening at The Polish Museum of America in Chicago of her exhibition entitled "In Silence." The exhibition consisted of 18 paintings of haiga, which is a Japanese art form of sumi-e paintings combined with haiku poems, of 18 photographs, and a film. The haiga and haiku were created by Lidia Rozmus, the photographs were by Iwona Biedermann and Lidia Rozmus, and the film by Jan M. Zamorski. Each object was presented in English, Polish, and Japanese, and an artist's book was also available for purchase highlighting the exhibition objects. Rozmus is an acclaimed haiku poet and artist of haiga (which includes both haiku and paintings on rice paper in black ink). The film represented nature evolving during the four seasons and underlined the need for silence as we contemplate the beauty of nature and of the life evolving around us. The exhibition will travel to Japan and Poland next. Congratulations to Lidia on this successful and unusual exhibition!

## PWA Archives Preservation Project at Loyola University

Sincere thanks to all PWA members and friends who have donated to our Archives Project through the end of April, listed on page 6. Please join us at our May 21st Spring Luncheon and Fundraiser in Niles, Illinois, observing World Press Freedom Day, the proceeds of which will also benefit this worthwhile cause. See details of the upcoming event on page 8 and please be sure to join us for an interesting afternoon and help us raise more funds to preserve the PWA archives for future generations of scholars and researchers. To download a donation form, go to [www.pwaa.org](http://www.pwaa.org).





## PWA BOOK CLUB

This quarter, since our issue of *Głos Polek* is dedicated to the achievements of Tadeusz Kościuszko, we present several offerings to you: three books about his life (all available from Amazon.com and from the Polish Museum of America Gift Shop in Chicago), and one book with an accompanying CD that is suitable for children (also available from Amazon.com or the PMA). Bring this unique and intriguing figure of both Polish and American history into your home with the books and films listed below.

And be sure to watch the short PBS trailer about Kościuszko's life here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ns3BRjoq4XA>

### BOOKS

*The Peasant Prince: Thaddeus Kościuszko and the Age of Revolution*, Alex Storozyński, 2009

*Kościuszko: A Biography*, Monica M. Gardner, 2006

*Thaddeus Kościuszko: The Purest Son of Liberty*, James S. Pula, 1998

*Twice a Hero: Polish American Heroes of the Revolution* (with CD) Dirk Wales and Lynn Ihlen Peterson, 2007

### FILMS

*Kościuszko: A Man Ahead of His Time*, PBS documentary with reenactments, 2015.

Watch trailer in English here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ns3BRjoq4XA>

*Kościuszko: Poland Will Yet Dance (Jeszcze Polska zatańczy)*, documentary, 2015.

Watch on YouTube in English: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Lr7bCYTtcw>  
Watch on YouTube in Polish: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jpslqqBCpuM>

## Sunday, May 21 Council 27 Spring Luncheon and Fundraiser World Press Freedom Day

Join us for an interesting afternoon exploring women's voices and fraternal voices in journalism as we observe World Press Freedom Day. A panel discussion with women journalists from local media outlets and fraternal organizations will be followed by a buffet luncheon and raffle to benefit the PWA Archives Preservation Project at Loyola University. Location: Lone Tree Manor, 7730 N. Milwaukee Ave., Niles, IL. Entry at 11:30 a.m. Free parking on site. Tickets: \$35. Cash Raffle and Book Table. Contact: Antoinette Trela at 847-323-1005 for more info or to make a reservation.

## How to Pronounce Kościuszko?

Poland was under German occupation in 1940 when New York City Mayor Fiorello H. La Guardia named the new Meeker Avenue Bridge between Brooklyn and Queens in honor of Kościuszko. Fifteen thousand Poles and Polish-Americans attended the ceremony. "I am confident that Poland will live again," John J. Bennett Jr., the New York State Attorney General, told the crowd.

It was a stirring gesture and a fine reminder of America's indebtedness to Poland. It has also caused nothing but problems ever since. New Yorkers have struggled to master the Polish pronunciation of the name, or they have invented their own. Now that the new Kościuszko Bridge was opened in April of 2017, the question of how to correctly pronounce its name is once again on New Yorkers' minds—and tongues.

"There are many variations regarding Kościuszko's pronunciation," Marta Hausman, the public diplomacy assistant at the Polish consulate general in New York, acknowledged by email. "The closest one is: ko-SHCH-OO-SH-ko." That is much more in line with such customary local pronunciations as "Kos-kee-OOS-ko" or "Kos-kee-OSS-ko." But it is easy to understand why state officials—and many New Yorkers—simply resort to calling it the "K Bridge." See a photo of the new K-Bridge on page 12.



## "WARSAW AUTUMN" MUSIC FESTIVAL – 60TH EDITION

Warsaw Autumn (Warszawska Jesień) is the largest Polish festival of contemporary music that attracts an international audience and much critical acclaim and attention. For many years during the communist regime, it was the only festival of its type in Central and Eastern Europe. It was founded in 1956 by two composers, Tadeusz Baird and Kazimierz Serocki, and officially established by the Board of the Polish Composers' Union. It is an annual event, normally taking place in the second half of September, which lasts for eight days. In 2017, the dates are from September 15 to 23.

This is the 60th anniversary of the festival, officially called the 60th Edition by organizers, since twice (in 1957 and 1982) the event was cancelled for political reasons. The festival's aim was (and continues to be) to present new music from Poland and from around the world. It has over the decades showcased some of Poland's best modern composers, including Lutosławski, Górecki, and Penderecki. This year, the acclaimed Chicago-based composer Marta Ptaszyńska will present a world premiere.

To learn about the program and schedule of events, please keep checking the website at <http://www.warszawska-jesien.art.pl>.



**Mother's Day - May 14th**  
**PWA Founder's Day - May 22nd**  
**HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY TO ALL!**  
**HAPPY 119TH BIRTHDAY TO PWA!**

## MAGDALENA ABAKANOWICZ SCULPTOR, 1930–2017



On April 20, 2017, one of the most prominent Polish artists died at the age of 86 in Warsaw, Poland. Magdalena Abakanowicz's work addressed the human condition, the relationship between man and nature, and social and political histories pertaining to her experience in Soviet-occupied

Poland. Internationally renowned, she is represented in museum collections and sculpture parks around the world.

Abakanowicz, who once described her sculpture as "a search for organic mysteries," first attracted critical attention in the 1960s with large, three-dimensional woven pieces made from sisal that she unraveled from discarded ships' ropes. Her best-known work comprises installations of human figures, headless, cast in iron or bronze, or modeled in burlap, and amassed in large groups. An impressive assembly of 106 such brooding figures called "Agora" was installed in Grant Park in Chicago in 2006. The permanent installation is a gift of the artist to the city.

Abakanowicz left her mark by powerfully evoking the weight of political oppression and the desperation of the individual, even as she created each form by hand, emphasizing the individuality that remains, even in a crowd.

## "THE ZOOKEEPER'S WIFE" NOW A MAJOR MOVIE

The time is 1939 and the place is Poland, homeland of Antonina Zabinska and her husband, Dr. Jan Zabinski. The Warsaw Zoo has flourished under Jan's stewardship and Antonina's care. But when Poland is invaded by the Nazis, Jan and Antonina are forced to report to the Reich's newly appointed chief zoologist, Lutz Heck. The Zabinskis soon begin working covertly with the Polish Resistance and put into action plans to save the lives of hundreds from what has become the Warsaw Ghetto by hiding them in the zoo. Based on Diane Ackerman's book by the same title, which was published in 2007 (and a PWA Book Club selection at the time), this is now a major Hollywood movie, starring Jessica Chastain and Daniel Bruhl, directed by Niki Caro. It was released in March 2017 and will soon be available on DVD and On Demand. Be sure to watch this amazing story of ordinary Polish citizens' extraordinary courage and valor pitted against great odds, at huge risk to themselves and their loved ones. A heartbreaking and heartwarming story. See movie trailer here: <https://video.search.yahoo.com/yhs/search?fr=yhs-Lkry-SF01&hsimp=yhs-SF01&hspart=Lkry&p=trailer+for+Zookeeper%27s+Wife#id=2&vid=16a6d442297db7159e9d9e6f694d012f&action=view>



# 2017 Celebrating the Year of Gen. Thaddeus Kosciuszko (1746-1817)



American Revolutionary War Hero and Freedom Fighter for Poland

## Tadeusz Kościuszko – Hero of Two Nations

2017 is declared the Year of Tadeusz Kościuszko around the world, acknowledging the 200th anniversary of the death of the Polish national hero and American general, an international icon of the struggle for freedom and independence. Kościuszko was a Polish military engineer and leader who became a hero in Poland, Belarus, and the United States. He is considered one of the most brilliant generals of Poland, and his influence in the world is even commemorated at the highest mountain of Australia, Mount Kościuszko, named in his honor.

Tadeusz Kościuszko occupies a unique place in the Polish national memory as Head of State during the uprising called Kościuszko's Insurrection, and as Commander in the victory at the Battle of Raclawice (1794). Kościuszko is at the same time a model patriot and a symbol of freedom not only for the Poles: he has a special reputation in the American tradition, and also in Europe (he was granted the title of Citizen of Honor in several European cities). The universal values of struggle for freedom, democracy, and human dignity (including the freedom of other nations), of which he was an exponent, allow the celebration of such a day with an international dimension, thanks to the patronage of UNESCO, approved in its General Conference.

The special affection for Kościuszko in the US comes from the Fort Mifflin fortification in Philadelphia, the protection of the Delaware River bank against a possible British invasion. Kościuszko initially served as a volunteer in the service of Benjamin Franklin, but on October 18,

1776, Congress promoted him to Colonel of Engineers of the Continental Army. In 1778, Kościuszko was in charge of improving the defense ramparts at the fortress in West Point, where he would perform a great work that until today is praised. His excellent judgment on the battlefield and meticulous attention to detail in the American defense thwarted British attacks, and eventually Kościuszko was promoted by Congress to the rank of Brigadier General.

In 1784, this, he returned to Poland, where he received the title of Naczelnik (Commander-in-Chief) of all the Polish-Lithuanian forces that fought against the Russian occupation. Kościuszko began to mobilize the population with the intention of securing enough volunteers to counter the Russian army, larger and more professional, hoping that neither Austria nor Prussia would intervene. Kościuszko assembled an army of about 6,000 men, including 4,000 regular soldiers and 2,000 new recruits, and marched towards Warsaw, obtaining the victory at the Battle of Raclawice on April 4, 1793. Kościuszko was wounded months later in the Battle of Maciejowice on October 10, and captured by the Russians. Shortly thereafter, the uprising ended with the Battle of Prague and the later massacre, where (according to a contemporary Russian witness) Russian troops killed about 20,000 Warsaw residents. The third partition of Poland that followed ended the existence of the Polish-Lithuanian state during the next 123 years until the Constitution of the Second Polish Republic in 1918, when Poland and Lithuania were to separate.





## Tadeusz Kościuszko in America

*As pure a son of liberty as I have ever known*

— Thomas Jefferson on Thaddeus Kościuszko

The Polish nobleman's innovative military engineering helped the American patriot's ragtag army overpower the mighty British Redcoats in several key battles.

Born into landed gentry, in the Polish province of Polesie in February 4, 1746, Andrzej Tadeusz Bonawentura Kościuszko, graduated at age 20 from the Corps of Cadets in Warsaw and went on to study military engineering in Paris. Like many Europeans of his time, the young Polish student became captivated with the Revolutionary activity in the New World. He volunteered to join the American rebels shortly after the Declaration of Independence was first read in 1776. By then aged 30, he was commissioned a colonel and given a salary of \$6 a month. His first undertaking was planning forts along the Delaware River. Kościuszko then moved on to help with the defense of Fort Ticonderoga. Partly due to disregard of Kościuszko's advice, Ticonderoga was toppled; in retreat, Kościuszko felled great pine trees and flooded fields to slow the pursuit of the British. This bought the rebels time to prepare for their first major victory of the war: Saratoga. At Saratoga, Kościuszko fortified Bemis Heights overlooking the Hudson. His ingenious design contributed to the surrender of 6,000 British troops. The Battle of Saratoga became known as one of military history's most famous struggles for independence and proved to be a turning point in the war. It was after this British defeat that the French entered the war on the colonials' side.

An accomplished military architect, he designed and oversaw the construction of state-of-the-art fortifications, including the defense of the Hudson at West Point, New York. So thorough were the Pole's fortifications, that the British never mounted an assault on the Point. One of the more imaginative links in the colonel's defensive plan, proved to be a 60-ton chain which stretched across the Hudson to block British ships. In 1783, at war's end, in recognition of his services, the Continental Congress promoted him to Brigadier General, honoring his "meritorious service."

### *Return to Poland*

Following the American Revolutionary War, Kościuszko returned to his homeland to fight the occupying Russians.

After being wounded 17 times during the battle of Maciejowice in 1794, the bleeding Kościuszko was taken prisoner by the Russians. After two years in prison, Czar Paul I granted the Pole amnesty on the condition he never return to his homeland.

### *Back in America*

The ailing military man set off once more to America with a twofold purpose: to receive care for his war wounds and to collect pay still owed him for his military service. On August 18, 1797, throngs of Philadelphians lined the wharves to welcome the Polish-born Revolutionary War hero and engineering genius back to the United States. The mob carried him on their shoulders while bands played and cannons fired fusillades of homage.

Upon his return to Philadelphia, Kościuszko moved into a humble boarding house (still standing). Here the feted Kościuszko convalesced while receiving admirers daily. Vice President Thomas Jefferson came by frequently for political discussions. Philadelphia ladies, taken by the handsome hero, had their pictures sketched by Kościuszko himself. Those who visited make up a veritable Who's Who of the then-capital in 1798: eminent architect Benjamin Latrobe, Joseph Pemberton, Constitutional Convention statesman William Paterson, and numerous military figures including Chief Joseph Brant. Perhaps the most compelling visitor to call upon Kościuszko was Chief Little Turtle of the Miamis. In the capital to negotiate a border settlement with the government, Little Turtle had a memorable gift exchange with Kościuszko. The chief gave the Polish warrior a combination tomahawk and pipe and in return Kościuszko gave Little Turtle a fine jacket and his spectacles, which were admired by the chief.

Kościuszko was awarded \$12,260.54 back pay from Congress. In addition, Congress gave him 500 acres of land along the Scioto River in what is present-day Columbus, Ohio.

Restive and yearning for Poland, Kościuszko left the United States in 1798 but never made it back to his homeland. He died in exile in Switzerland in 1817. The urn containing his heart rests at the Royal Castle in Warsaw.

## Kościuszko Monuments in the USA

*A monument is an expressive symbol. A good one, looked at for even a few minutes, will remain in memory for years, or even for an entire lifetime. Monuments are the milestones in a nation's history.*

— Andrzej Pityński, sculptor



There are many sites, bridges, buildings, schools, roadways, streets, parks, towns, and even a mountain, as well as ships and airliners named after Tadeusz Kościuszko worldwide. Over 200 monuments abound, not only in the United States and Poland, but also in Australia, Belarus, Brazil, Finland, France, Great Britain, Hungary, Lithuania, and Serbia, among other nations. Kościuszko monuments range in style, size and type: mounds, obelisks, inscribed slabs, plaques, paintings, busts, statues—equestrian and other.

Below, a list of some of the monuments in America that would be terrific to visit during this year of Kościuszko. Keep your eyes peeled for the named bridges and highways as you travel.

### WEST POINT, NY

Kościuszko Monument located on Fort Clinton Parapet of the U.S. Military Academy above the Hudson River. The pedestal was designed in 1825 by John Latrobe; the statue by D. Borja was added in 1913. Kościuszko devised the defenses of the West Point garrison from 1778–1780 during the height of the Revolutionary War.

### NEW YORK CITY

A new Kościuszko Bridge, linking Brooklyn and Queens, was opened on April 28, 2017. The original bridge had been dedicated by Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia in 1940 but it was badly in need of repairs. The new bridge is the first major bridge built in the city since 1964. The governor of NY, the mayor of NYC, and representatives of the Polish Consulate attended the dedication ceremonies on April 28th.

### BOSTON, MA

Erected in 1927, to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the enlistment of Kościuszko into the Continental Army, the statue is the work of Theo Alice Ruggles Kitson, one of the most prolific American female sculptors in bronze in the 1890s and early 1900s.

### WASHINGTON, D.C.

Located in Lafayette Park across from the White House, the monument is the work of the Polish sculptor Antoni Popiel and was dedicated by President William Howard Taft in 1910.

### PHILADELPHIA, PA

Thaddeus Kościuszko National Memorial, at 301 Pine Street. The home of Kościuszko where he resided for under a year in 1797, to recuperate from battle wounds. He welcomed notables of the day discussing science, social reforms and the American political scene.

Kościuszko Monument at the corner of the Benjamin Franklin Parkway and 18th Street. A 20 foot bronze statue by Marian Konieczny, dedicated on July 3, 1976, is the gift of the people of Poland to the people of America on the occasion of the 200th anniversary of American independence.

### MILWAUKEE, WI

The equestrian Kościuszko monument by sculptor Gaetano Trentanove was erected in 1905 in Kosciuszko Park, funded by the Polish American community.

### CHICAGO, IL

The Kościuszko equestrian monument on Solidarity Drive is the 1904 work in bronze by Kasimir Chodźński. It underwent conservation and was relocated from Humboldt Park to the city's lakeshore in 1978. The Polish Women's Alliance contributed funds for the relocation.

### DETROIT, MI

Kościuszko's equestrian statute at Michigan and 3rd Avenues is a gift from the people of Kraków in 1976, honoring the American Bicentennial year. It is a copy of the statue that stands at Kraków's Wawel Castle, the work of Leonard Marconi, a Polish sculptor of Italian origin.

### CLEVELAND, OH

Kościuszko holds a sabre aloft in this monument by sculptor Gaetano Trentanove erected in Wade Park in 1904.

### ST. PETERSBURG, FL

Statue in Williams Park at Third Street North and Second Avenue North.

There are over 200 monuments of Tadeusz Kościuszko in the U.S. The only American hero who has more monuments dedicated to him than Kościuszko is George Washington.



## Notable Polish Americans

*In this issue celebrating the legacy of Tadeusz Kościuszko, the third installment of our series highlighting Polish Americans, we present a person related by vocation and patriotic service to our hero, who was a military strategist, a general, and an engineer: General Edward L. Rowny*



**General Edward L. Rowny** has several connections to Kościuszko, first through his military service, but as also an engineer and as a strategist for peace and democracy on an international level.

While at West Point Academy, in 1939 Gen. Rowny formed an unofficial group, the Kościuszko Squadron, consisting of cadets of Polish origin. In 2003, at the behest of the Polish Veterans of Massachusetts, Gen. Rowny, together with his sons, helped restore the Kościuszko Garden at West Point which had fallen into disrepair, establishing the General Edward L. Rowny Family Endowment assuring the upkeep of not only the Garden, but of the Kościuszko Fortifications and Memorial. The Kościuszko Squadron, resurrected in 2005, has since donated its time to maintain these sites.

On April 29, 2017, Gen. Rowny was honored as a Polish Hero with the Kościuszko Foundation Medal of Recognition at their 82nd Annual Ball held at the Plaza Hotel in New York.

General Edward Leon Rowny was born in Baltimore, Maryland, on April 3, 1917. This year he became a centenarian! He received a B.S. degree in Civil Engineering from Johns Hopkins University in 1937 and entered the United States Military Academy at West Point, graduating as a second lieutenant in the Corps of Engineers in 1941. He holds advanced degrees in engineering and international affairs from Yale and American University. During college, he was one of the very first Kościuszko Foundation grantees who studied at the Jagiellonian University in Kraków, Poland.

His distinguished career is astonishingly varied, one that includes service as the commander of the 317th Engineer Combat Battalion, commander of an infantry division, pioneering new techniques of armed helicopters, and the development of Army doctrine on the employment of tactical atomic weapons. He served as a Commanding Officer in World War II, Korea, and Vietnam War, a military advisor to five U.S. Presidents, Chief Strategic Arms Negotiator with the rank of Ambassador, and as President of the American Polish Advisory Council. In 1973, Gen. Rowny was assigned as the Joint Chiefs of Staff Representative for the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT II) with Russia in Geneva. All of his appointments were characterized with selfless service, integrity, and leadership.

He was awarded the Presidential Citizens Medal by President Ronald Reagan in 1989. In 1993 he was named a Distinguished Military Graduate from West Point. Gen. Rowny's military decorations include two Distinguished Service Medals, two Legions of Merit, four Silver Stars and the Bronze Star Medal (combat).

Instrumental in the return from America to Poland of the remains of Ignacy Jan Paderewski in 1992, he became president of the Paderewski Living Memorial to perpetuate the legacy of the great Polish patriot and composer. In 2004, he established the Paderewski Scholarship Fund to bring Polish university students to Georgetown and George Mason Universities to study American style democracy.

In 1992, Gen. Rowny published *It Takes One to Tango*, an anecdotal account of his service to five Presidents: Nixon, Ford, Carter, Reagan, and Bush. He published an autobiography, *Smokey Joe and the General*, in 2013.

Edward L. Rowny has been one of the principal architects of America's policy of peace through strength. As a military man, an arms negotiator, a presidential advisor, and an advocate for Polish American causes, he has served mightily and nobly for the principles of peace and freedom.

## 2017 EASTER COLORING CONTEST AWARDS

Congratulations to all the Easter Coloring Contest winners listed below, and thanks to all the young artists who entered this year's Contest. We are amazed at the talent that we see in our young members from year to year, and we truly appreciate your taking part in this annual event.



Emma Broggi



Avery Kopf



Charlotte Howe



Addison Kopf



Charley DiMonte

Name	Age	District	Council	Group	Place	Prize
<b>Ages 3-4</b>						
Emma Broggi	4	3	21	132	1st Place	\$50 Gift Card
Karson Kava	4	11	25	356	2nd Place	\$25 Gift Card
Cambree Andrew	3	11	25	356	3rd Place	\$10 Gift Card
<b>Ages 5-6</b>						
Avery Kopf	6	1	9	525	1st Place	\$50 Gift Card
Rylyn Sempek	6	11	25	356	2nd Place	\$25 Gift Card
Rita Hall	5	5	3	226	3rd Place	\$10 Gift Card
<b>Ages 7-8</b>						
Charlotte Howe	7	1	13	426	1st Place	\$50 Gift Card
Kerrigan Kava	7	11	25	356	2nd Place	\$25 Gift Card
Sawyer Vlock	8	11	25	409	3rd Place	\$10 Gift Card
Genevieve Howe	8	11	25	426	Honorable Mention	
<b>Ages 9-11</b>						
Addison Kopf	9	1	9	525	1st Place	\$50 Gift Card
Claire Shinnars	10	14	40	288	2nd Place	\$25 Gift Card
Alexia DeBruyn	10	3	21	132	3rd Place	\$10 Gift Card
Sydney Vlock	10	11	25	409	Honorable Mention	
Carter Shinnars	9	14	40	288	Honorable Mention	
Sayge Sempek	9	11	25	356	Honorable Mention	
<b>Ages 12-14</b>						
Charley DiMonte	14	1	27	211	1st Place	\$50 Gift Card
Elena DiMonte	14	1	27	211	2nd Place	\$25 Gift Card
Annika Hester	12	1	27	211	3rd Place	\$10 Gift Card
Shayna Vlock	13	11	25	409	Honorable Mention	
Rebecca Kolano	12	2	2	221	Honorable Mention	
Nicole Limer	13	14	40	434	Honorable Mention	
Grace Kopf	12	1	9	525	Honorable Mention	

## POLISH CONSTITUTION DAY – MAY 3, 1791

Did you know that the Polish Constitution is the second-oldest democratic constitution in the world, enacted on May 3, 1791, only four years after the US Constitution of 1787? The Polish nation has a long tradition of liberal and democratic ideals, which were enshrined in the Polish Constitution of 1791, and they share this tradition with the United States and with France, which enacted its constitution a few months later, also in 1791. Poles around the world celebrate May 3rd as a day of special importance and patriotism with parades, banquets, seminars, and other commemorative events. In Poland, May 3rd is celebrated as the national holiday of the country (like our July 4th).





## PWA POLISH HERITAGE SERIES

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An important part of the mission of Polish Women's Alliance of America is to preserve our Polish language, culture, and heritage — and we have been doing that for 118 years. In recent years we have published seven booklets in the *PWA Polish Heritage Series* that we are happy and proud to offer for sale to you now. The booklets will be a welcome addition to your family library and will also make great gifts for any occasion. You can purchase the set of seven booklets for \$20, including postage. As more booklets are published, you will be able to order them individually for \$3/each plus postage.

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- Polish Composers

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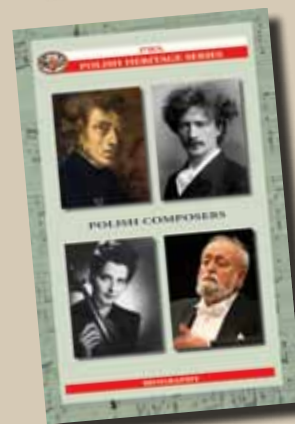
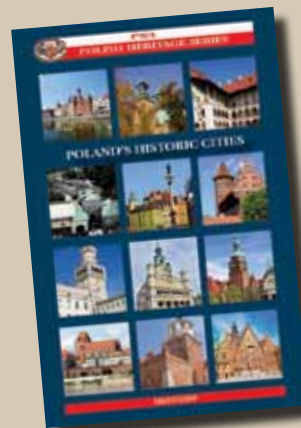
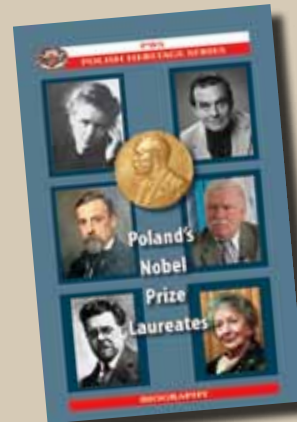
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*We note with sadness the passing of the following PWA members.  
May they rest in peace.*



*(Deaths in January, February, March 2017)*

Gr. No.	Member	City/State
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0015	Mary F Grieco	East Patchogue, NY
0031	Linda K Mattiazza	Peru, IL
0031	Margaret Domanski	Calumet City, IL
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0116	Melissa Wilke	Cudahy, WI
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0126	Lillian Stan	Sycamore, IL
0141	Victoria B Laskowski	Holyoke, MA
0141	Marie R Gorecki	Holyoke, MA
0165	Irena Drzewiecka	Chicago, IL
0165	Rita Szubka	South Holland, IL
0211	Theresa Pauza	Vernon Hills, IL
0211	Florence R Warder	Denver, CO
0211	Dolores Sledz	Sevierville, TN
0221	Lillian Dvorak	Carnegie, PA
0221	Ruth Podorski	Sarver, PA
0221	Jeanne A Staley	Fayetteville, NC
0221	Edna M Lewandowski	Wexford, PA
0221	Joseph Czerniewski	Pittsburgh, PA
0221	Alice A Hucko	Mount Oliver, PA
0221	Florence Petropoulos	Pittsburgh, PA
0221	Cecelia H Dolata	Pittsburgh, PA
0221	Irena Miller	McKeesport, PA
0221	Emily A Bianchetti	Greensburg, PA

Gr. No.	Member	City/State
0221	Rose A Kulczycki	Pittsburgh, PA
0226	Martha Krochmal	Plymouth, MI
0226	Joan Motyka	Warren, MI
0277	Louise A Sitar	Paw Paw, MI
0288	Rena L Wellicka	Muncy, PA
0305	Louise E Szczypiorski	New Carlisle, IN
0326	Wladyslawa Davis	Exeter, PA
0326	Jozefa Balakier	Edwardsville, PA
0348	Bernard J Okuniewski	Ashley, PA
0348	Margie W Krizek	Mesa, AZ
0348	Veronika Gorski	Scranton, PA
0356	Wanda B Schmidt	Omaha, NE
0417	Alice M Moore	North Las Vegas, NV
0419	Tammy Bakowski	Buffalo, NY
0419	Matilda Dzieciuch	Depew, NY
0419	Lorraine Krystof	Omaha, NE
0419	Helen K Zajk	Buffalo, NY
0419	Adeline F Grabowski	Buffalo, NY
0419	Gloria Szeglowski	Buffalo, NY
0422	Helene S Rumanowski	Chicopee, MA
0422	Diane M Kennedy	Springfield, MA
0422	Joan M Trincer	Southampton, MA
0422	Delphine Skiba	Wilbraham, MA
0422	Anne J Nebosky	Chicopee, MA
0422	Henrietta M Boduch	Springfield, MA
0423	Eleonora Drozd	San Jose, CA
0423	Genowefa Supergan	Antioch, IL
0423	Lorraine B Klebek	Long Beach, CA
0427	Helena Pliszka	Onancock, VA
0434	Jadwiga Wilczewska	Pittston, PA
0434	Mary Miskiel	Nanticoke, PA

*We note with sadness the passing of the following PWA members. (cont.)*

Gr. No.	Member	City/State
0440	Dennis Ciolek	Chicago, IL
0450	Carl J Kutzkowski	Wyoming, PA
0450	Marianne Gabler	Rhinebeck, NY
0451	Sophia Tracey	Troy, MI
0451	Josephine D Furtak	Livonia, MI
0469	Margaret Lorei	Waterford, PA
0469	Evelyn M Taris	Spring Hill, FL
0469	Isabelle Prebis	Salamanca, NY
0470	Yvonne E Horvath	Cheektowaga, NY
0470	Emily F Pasek	Buffalo, NY
0480	Jean Ezell	Saint Petersburg, FL
0480	Dwayne E Raczka	Dolton, IL
0480	Antonina Hatke	Lansing, IL
0480	Joan Rudzki	Tinley Park, IL
0480	Betty R Sala	Colorado Spgs, CO
0488	Edwina Baranek	Bay City, MI
0499	Ann Pawlowski	Three Rivers, MA
0499	Michalina W Kalafarski	Ware, MA
0530	John Wolsky	Collegeville, PA
0591	Josephine A Kuklasinski	Jersey City, NJ
0598	Antoinette Przydzial	Philadelphia, PA
0616	Irene A Ulanowski	Sterling Hts, MI
0616	Barbara Kolodziejaska	Bruce Twp, MI
0677	Bernadette T Damato	Rockway, NJ
0677	Eileen T Domalewski	Bayonne, NJ
0680	Irena Kozek	Oil City, PA
0702	Clara F Jakubowski	Dundalk, MD
0721	Betty A Szymkowiak	Natrona Hts, PA
0721	Ronald Wygonik	Pittsburgh, PA
0721	Clara Chilko	Vandergrift, PA
0723	Marianna Adamczyk	Chicago, IL
0743	Emily Kulaga	Plainfield, IL
0743	Virginia Ast	Oak Lawn, IL
0749	Dorothy Gargas	Hot Springs, AR

Gr. No.	Member	City/State
0749	Leon L Grzych	Schererville, IN
0749	Jane Biedakiewicz	Schererville, IN
0754	Jeanne Cocco	Willoughby, OH
0763	Dennis M Jaworski	Essex, MD
0763	Vera McClurg	Catonsville, MD
0763	Evelyn F Homberg	Abigdon, MD
0782	Elizabeth A Campbell	Toms River, NJ
0786	Steven J Oestman	Clinton Twp, MI
0805	Lorraine D Wisniewski	Nottingham, MD
0815	Alice M Gurniewicz	Merrillville, IN
0815	Eleanor M Frankowski	Crown Point, IN
0816	Diana M Kunas	Carbondale, IL
0819	Julia Witek	Albuquerque, NM
0819	Helen V Wojcik	Chicago, IL

*May they rest in peace.*



**IN MEMORIAM**  
**Helen. K. Hibner**  
**Group 211**  
**1912 – 2017**

Group 211 member Helen K. Hibner passed away on January 27, 2017, at the age of 105. Born the daughter of the late Jozef and Antonia (Pajak) Konieczny in Chicago, Helen remained a resident of Chicago until she moved to Palatine, IL in 2006. She was the loving wife of the late Marion E. Hibner, the mother of William D. Hibner, Sr., and the grandmother of Col. William (Elizabeth), Michael (Maryanne), Daniel, and Mark (Kori) Hibner. She was also great-grandmother to seven great-grandchildren. She was an active member of PWA Group 211, the Bodine Old-Timers' Club, and the Bobby Vinton International Fan Club. She was interred on February 2, 2017, in St. Adalbert's Cemetery, Niles, IL. After a long, loving, and meaningful life, Helen will be missed by all. PWA members join in extending deepest sympathy to her family and friends. May she rest in peace.





## Summer Traditions in Poland

### Świętojański

The longest day of the year is the summer solstice—between June 20 and 21, but it is celebrated on June 23 in Poland, the eve of the feast day of St. John the Baptist, called *Noc Świętojańska* (St. John's Night) or *Sobótki*. Many of the customs stem from pagan rituals of water and fire connected to fertility. After Christianity was adopted in Poland, the tradition did not die but its context was changed. Some elements of the original festival remain, such as the telling of fortunes, floating wreaths on water, jumping over bonfires, and the burning of herbs.

Girls plait wreaths of wildflowers to wear on their heads and they also make wreaths bearing candles to place in the water. These floating wreaths studded with lit candles would tell them what they could expect in their futures. If a wreath circled in eddies, marriage would occur later rather than sooner. If it floated away quickly, then marriage would happen quickly. If it touched another floating wreath, only friendship would result; if it ran ashore, that indicated where the girl's future husband lived. And, if a young man caught the wreath and took it out of the water that night, love could come even sooner than expected.

This enchanting tradition has caught the imagination of Poles abroad and is especially celebrated in the United States and Canada, with wreaths sometimes creatively set afloat in pools when a river is not at hand. In today's Poland, this holiday, often called *Wianki* (Wreaths), is gaining popularity in cities large and small, assuming festival proportions. The most popular celebration is held in Kraków, drawing huge international crowds to music events, sound and light performances, bonfires, and fireworks.

### Matka Boska Zielna

As summer draws to an end, the feast day of Our Lady of the Herbs (*Matka Boska Zielna*), takes place on August 15th, which is also the feast day of the Assumption of Mary. Bouquets of herbs, vegetables, and corn, interwoven with a few flowers from fields and gardens, are blessed. These bouquets are then kept at home until the following year. When there is sickness in the household, the dried herbs are brewed for medicinal purposes, not only for people but for livestock as well. Wreaths incorporating grain and flowers are worn by young women and girls that day.

### Dożynki

In late August, the countryside celebrates the harvest. The holiday (*Dożynki*) is traditionally observed at the end of the summer. The symbol of *Dożynki* is a *wieniec* (wreath), made of a mixture of wheat and rye stalks. The *Dożynki* "wreath" is a misnomer as sheaves of grain are formed into the shape of a grand, domed crown. It is decorated with flowers, ribbons, hazelnuts, and the fruit of the mountain ash tree. Parishes and county associations compete to produce the most elaborate crown, their entries judged by discerning juries. These often large structures are transported by horse and wagon to the church to be blessed, and thanksgiving is offered for the bounty of the land. After church, a harvest festival is held with people dressed in their regional costumes playing traditional instruments, dancing, and feasting late into the summer night.



## Summer Salads – Sałatki na lato

Salads taste best in the summer time. The hot weather is conducive to lighter, fresher meals and the bounty of our gardens and farmer's markets offers a large choice of fresh ingredients—vegetables, fruits, and herbs. Below are recipes for three salads that you can enjoy, either on their own or as accompaniments to grilled meats or a roast chicken picked up at your grocery store. You do not have to slave over a hot stove in the kitchen to enjoy a colorful, tasty, and healthy summer meal!

### Watermelon and Arugula Salad

#### Ingredients:

One half of a watermelon; 3 or 4 cups of arugula leaves; 4 oz feta cheese; 20 pitted black olives; 1 red onion; 1/4 cup pumpkin seeds; 2-3 mint leaves; freshly ground black pepper. For the dressing: 3 Tbs honey; 6 Tbs fresh lemon juice

#### Preparation:

Scoop out the flesh of the watermelon and remove seeds; cut into cubes. Rinse and dry arugula leaves. Cut feta cheese into cubes. The pumpkin seeds can be toasted for a few minutes in a frying pan. Chop mint leaves. Make a dressing from the honey and lemon juice. Place all ingredients in a large bowl and toss gently with dressing. Sprinkle with freshly ground black pepper.



### Potato Salad with Cucumbers and Dill

#### Ingredients:

1 large bunch of fresh dill; 2 lbs potatoes; 2 large cucumbers; 1 small onion; 4 scallions; 1 clove of garlic; 5 Tbs sour cream; 1 Tbs mustard; 3 Tbs mayonnaise; sea salt and pepper to taste

#### Preparation:

Rinse and dry the dill and chop finely. Scrub potatoes well and cook with skins on until tender when pierced with a fork; let cool and then peel and cut into slices. Wash cucumbers and slice thinly, leaving the skin on. Dice red onion and scallions. Peel garlic clove; smash and mince. In a large bowl place the dill, potatoes, onion, scallions, and garlic. In a small bowl, mix sour cream, mustard, and mayonnaise then add the dressing to the potatoes and mix gently. Add salt and pepper to taste. Refrigerate the salad for at least an hour before serving. Garnish with more dill.

### Greek Salad with Feta Cheese

#### Ingredients:

One half of a head of iceberg lettuce; 2 large tomatoes; 1 large green pepper; 1 large red onion; 1 large cucumber; 20 pitted black olives; 4 ozs of Greek feta cheese.

For the dressing: 1/2 cup of extra virgin olive oil; 2 Tbs of freshly squeezed lemon juice; 2 Tbs mustard; 1 clove of garlic, peeled and smashed; 1/2 Tbs dried basil; 1/2 Tbs dried oregano; salt and pepper to taste

#### Preparation:

Wash and dry the lettuce. Slice the tomatoes and green pepper; roughly chop the onion and cucumber. Olives can be cut in half or added whole. For the dressing: Add olive oil, lemon juice, chopped garlic, and herbs to a glass jar. Screw on lid and shake until well mixed; check seasoning. Place all vegetables in a large bowl and then add dressing. Toss gently and top salad with feta cheese cubes.

### Sałatka z arbuza i rukoli

#### Składniki:

Pół arbuza; 3 lub 4 szklanki rukoli; 125 gramów sera feta; około 20 czarnych oliwek; czerwona cebula; garść pestek dyni; kilka listków świeżej mięty; świeżo zmielony czarny pieprz. Sos: 3 łyżki płynnego miodu; 6 łyżek soku z cytryny

#### Przygotowanie:

Arbuza oddzielić od skóry, usunąć pestki i pokroić miększą w kostkę. Listki rukoli opłukać i osuszyć. Ser feta pokroić w kostkę, oliwki i cebulę w plasterki, pestki dyni można lekko zrumienić na patelni. Miętę posiekać. Z miodu i cytryny przygotować sos winegret. Wszystkie składniki włożyć do miski, połączyć sosem i oprószyć świeżo zmielonym pieprzem.

### Sałatka z ziemniaków i ogórków z koperkiem

#### Składniki

1 duży pęczek koperku; 1 kg ziemniaków; 2 długie zielone ogórki; 1 mała cebula; 4 zielone cebulki; 1 ząbek czosnku; 5 łyżek śmietany; 1 łyżka musztardy; 3 łyżki majonezu; sól morską; pieprz

#### Przygotowanie:

Pęczek koperku opłukać, osuszyć i pokroić. Ziemniaki umyć i ugotować w skórce. Następnie ostudzić, obrać ze skórki i pokroić w plasterki. Zielone ogórki umyć i razem ze skórką pokroić w cienkie plasterki. Cebulę i zielone cebulki pokrajać w kostkę. Czosnek obrać i zmiąć. Do dużej miski przełożyć koperek, ziemniaki, zielone ogórki, cebulę, zielone cebulki i czosnek. Następnie dodać śmietanę, musztardę i majonez. Przyprawić do smaku solą morską i pieprzem. Wszystko razem delikatnie wymieszać i włożyć do lodówki na około 60 minut przed podaniem.

### Grecka sałatka z fetą

#### Składniki:

Sałata lodowa – pół główki; pomidory; – 2 duże; papryka zielona – 1 sztuka; cebula czerwona – 1 sztuka; ogórek – 1 sztuka; oliwki czarne – ok. 20 sztuk; ser feta – 150 gramów.

Składniki na sos: Oliwa z oliwek – pół szklanki; sok z cytryny – 2 łyżki; musztarda – 1 łyżeczka; czosnek obrany i zmiądzony – 1 ząbek; bazylia suszona – ½ łyżeczki; oregano suszone – ½ łyżeczki; sól i pieprz do smaku

#### Przygotowanie:

Sałatę dokładnie płuczemy i suszymy. Pomidory, paprykę, cebulę i ogórek kroimy w dużą kostkę. Oliwki możemy dodawać całe. Następnie przygotowujemy sos: do słoika wlewamy oliwę, sok z cytryny, czosnek zmiądzony i przyprawy. Zakręcamy i energicznie wstrząsamy. Pokrojone warzywa wkładamy do dużej miski i polewamy sosem. Delikatnie mieszamy a na wierzch układamy kostki sera feta.



“WISŁA, najslawniejsza Polska rzeka, Princeps Fluviorum Poloniae, Navigabilis albo spustna, nie złote piaski, jak Tagus i Ganges mająca, ale za zboża i różny frukt cudzym krajom komunikowany, wiele Polakom przynosząca złota.” Tak definiuje hasło “Wisła” pierwszy polski encyklopedysta, Benedykt Chmielowski, w swoim dziele “Polskie Ateny”. Tak też opisywał Wisłę Jan Długosz - spustna, spławna, żaglowna, “nadająca się do przewozu wszystkiego, czego potrzeba”. Od wieków dla mieszkańców położonych nad nią osad i miast była Wisła źródłem utrzymania i wraz ze swoim dorzeczem stanowiła idealną drogę transportową.

Uważa się że na dolnej Wiśle żegluga rozwijała się już w X w. W tych czasach Gdańsk, który w kilka wieków stał się potężnym portem i bogatym miastem, był jeszcze małą rybacką osadą położoną na bagnistych terenach u ujścia Wisły. Tereny te nie zawsze należały do Polski; panowali tam ponad 200 lat książęta pomorscy, potem Polska znowu je odzyskała, żeby je oddać w 1308 r. Krzyżakom. W XIV w. Wisła jako droga handlowa odgrywała ważną rolę, ale Gdańsk znajdował się w rękach Zakonu, a ten utrudniał Polakom dostawy towarów do portu. Dopiero po odzyskaniu dostępu do Bałtyku w 1466 r. otworzyła się wielka droga handlowa, która miała należeć do Polaków ponad trzy stulecia. Bogacili się na niej szlachta i mieszczenie nadwiślańskich miast, takich jak: Toruń, Warszawa, Sandomierz, Kazimierz Dolny, Płock, Włocławek Grudziądz, no i Gdańsk, który zyskał na handlu najbardziej. W XVII wieku miasto liczyło ok. 77 tys. mieszkańców i było jednym z największych i najbogatszych w Europie i spośród nadbałtyckich miast jedynie Kopenhaga mogła wówczas równać się z Gdańskiem. Przybywali to kupcy, marynarze, ludzie nauki i sztuki



“Obóz flisaków nad Wisłą” - Wilhelm August Stryowski (1834-1917)  
- Gdańczanin, malarz, kolekcjoner, konserwator, pedagog.

z całej Europy. Wzniesiono wówczas najwspanialsze budowle, wybudowano ponad 300 spichrzów oraz piękne kamienice. Przybywały tu statki po polskie zboże i drewno; wysokie świerki na maszty okrętowe i wielkie dęby na stropy pałaców i innych budowli, a także po sól i miód, wosk, futra, len, konopie, potaż i smołę. Natomiast polscy kupcy nabywali i wysyłali w głąb kraju m.in. angielskie sukna, francuskie wina, zwierciadła, kryształy, cukier, ryż, przyprawy, śledzie i piwo gdańskie.

W początkach wiślanego handlu do spływu używano prymitywne tratwy (plenice), które po dotarciu do portu sprzedawano razem z towarem. Od XVI wieku z towarami do Gdańska oprócz tratw płynęły już bardziej zaawansowane jednostki jak: komiegi, szkuty i galary. Komiega mogła unieść od ok. 40-60 ton zboża, jej załogę stanowiło od 8 do 12 ludzi, poruszała się przy użyciu wiosel i nie miała masztu. Szkuta miała większą pojemność (do 90 ton zboża), kilkanaście osób załogi, do 10 wiosel, a także żagiel. Znanym statkiem drewnianym stosowanym od wielu stuleci do transportu był galar. Galary miały szeroki, płaski i niski kadłub, a więc bardzo małe zanurzenie, co ułatwiała nawigację. Często na galarach budowano niskie domki, służące flisakom podczas spływu. Galary szły z wodą samospławem, tzn. bez napędu. Z czasem dodano galarom żagle i tak powstał nowy typ łodzi, tzw. krypa.

Spław towarów Wisłą do Gdańska odbywał się dwa razy w ciągu roku: wczesną wiosną i po żniwach i trwał najczęściej kilka tygodni; powrót w górę rzeki był znacznie dłuższy, do kilkanastu tygodni.

Załogę łodzi stanowili zawodowi flisacy. Ocenia się, że w połowie XVII wieku żyło w Polsce około 50 tysięcy “ludzi rzeki”. Flisacy rekrutowali się z chłopów zamieszkujących nadrzeczne wsie. Na czele załogi flisackiej stał retman. To on dowodził tratwą i to od jego umiejętności zależał jej bezkolizyjny spław, a także zdrowie i życie załogi.

Po rozpoczęciu spławu rzadko schodzono na ląd. Flisacy odpoczywali w pokrytych słomą szałasach (budach), znajdujących się na tratwie. Retman zaś odpoczywał w stylizowanym domku, zwanym retmanką. Na łodzi, na paleniskach przygotowywano także posiłki. Rano i wieczorem modlili się do św. Barbary, swojej patronki.

Wkrótce po dopłynięciu do Gdańska, uczestnicy spławu udawali się w drogę powrotną; często pieszo. Tradycją było, że za zarobione pieniądze flisacy kupowali żonom bursztynowe korale czy pięknie zdobione chusty.

Z biegiem czasu stworzyli oni swoje własne obyczaje i słownictwo, ułożyli wiele pieśni i przekazali wiele opowieści, które przetrwały w tradycji do dzisiaj. Folklor flisacki jest ciekawy i barwny, bowiem flisowanie to nie był tylko trudny i niebezpieczny zawód, ale także prawdziwa przygoda.

Wiek XIX i XX ze swoimi parowcami i kolejami przyniósł wiele zmian w sposobie wykorzystywania Wisły i w życiu ludzi, którzy byli z nią związani zawodowo. Dzisiaj flisactwo to historia i tradycja pielęgnowana i kultywowana przez mieszkańców miast, których prosperowanie, niegdyś, zależało między innymi od pracy “ludzi rzeki”.



## Wiadomości z Obowdu VII Wiosna w Cleveland...

Maj właśnie już ogłosił, że rok szkolny w Szkole Języka Polskiego im. I.J. Paderewskiego szybkimi krokami zbliża się do uroczystego zakończenia.

W międzyczasie jednak uczniowie nie próżnowali, bo w ostatni weekend kwietnia byli na wycieczce do Muzeum Dziedzictwa Polskiej Kultury przy Polsko-Amerykańskim Centrum im. Jana Pawła II i w ten wyjątkowy sposób powitali bogaty w święta i pachnący bzami, najpiękniejszy miesiąc wiosny - maj.

Wizyta w lokalnym polonijnym muzeum zawsze wywołuje wiele pozytywnych wrażeń, gdyż można się tu nasycić zapachem polskiej historii i współczesności. O unikalnych, muzealnych eksponatach ciekawie opowiadał gospodarz Centrum – pan Eugeniusz Bąk. On sam jest przykładem żywej skarbnicy wiedzy historycznej, bo w czasie II wojny światowej wraz z rodziną był zesłany na Syberię. Wszystkie związane z tym wydarzenia i przeżycia opisał w autobiograficznej książce. Uczniowie nakarmieni cenną lekcją, wyniesioną z wycieczki, mogli potem z podwójnym, prawdziwie patriotycznym przytupem maszerować w 3-Majowym pochodzie.

I o to przecież chodzi wszystkim, którym zależy na krzewieniu polskości – o uczenie się jej od święta i na co dzień, w parku i w muzeum, w szkole i w domu – i jeszcze o to, by tę polskość przy każdej okazji godnie reprezentować.

Szkole im. I.J. Paderewskiego na pewno nie trzeba o tym przypominać.

*Małgorzata Oleksy*







## Tadeusz Kościuszko (1746 - 1817)

"Był najczystszym synem wolności, jakiego poznałem, i to wolności dla wszystkich,  
a nie tylko dla nielicznej garstki bogaczy" -

*Prezydent USA Thomas Jefferson*

Tadeusz Kościuszko jest jedną z najwybitniejszych postaci w naszej historii, a sława jego sięga także daleko poza granice Polski. Po śmierci stał się przedmiotem kultu i przez okres niewoli pod zaborami, jak i w czasach wojen, był dla Polaków symbolem, który inspirował do walki i dawał nadzieję na zwycięstwo. Kościuszko był człowiekiem niezwykłym jak na swe czasy; będąc wiernym idei „wolność, równość i braterstwo” konsekwentnie wcielał ją we wszystkie działania, i taką postawą wzbudzał powszechny szacunek. Znali go dobrze wrogowie i sprzymierzeńcy. I tak dla Katarzyny Wielkiej Kościuszko był „bestią”, bowiem walczył z Rosją i próbował znieść pańszczyznę, natomiast wodzom Francuskiej Rewolucji był znany jako „Citizen” Kościuszko, i było to zaszczytne wyróżnienie. Napoleon nazywał go „bohaterem północy”, a francuski historyk Jules Michelet pisał o nim jako o „ostatnim rycerzu”. Przywódcy Amerykańskiej wojny o niepodległość powierzali mu budowę najważniejszych fortyfikacji i planów bitew, bowiem był w ich oczach „mistrzem swojej profesji”, a wódz plemienia Miami - „Little Turtle”, w nagrodę za popieranie praw rdzennych mieszkańców Ameryki ofiarował Kościuszcze tomahawk i fajkę pokoju.

Uhonorowali go także najslawniejsi poeci tamtych czasów. W utworze „Wiek Brązu” (1823) angielski poeta okresu Romantyzmu George Byron pisze: „Kościuszko - to dźwięk, który poraża ucho tyrana”. Poświęcili mu swoje sonety także inni angielscy romantycy - Samuel Taylor Coleridge, John Keats and Leigh Hunt, wszyscy trzej w wierszach noszących ten sam tytuł „Do Kościuszki” opiewali heroizm polskiego przywódcy Insurekcji w walce z Prusakami i Rosją. Pół wieku później Juliusz Verne oddał hold naszemu bohaterowi, „umieszczając” jego portret w salonie kapitana Nemo, bohatera powieści „Dwadzieścia tysięcy mil podmorskiej żeglugi”. Kościuszko jest tu w kompanii m.in. O'Connella, Waszyngtona, Lincolna i Johna Brown - „mężów historycznych” jak pisze autor powieści, „których życie było nieustannym poświęcaniem się dla wielkich idei ludzkości”. Inny portret Kościuszki wisi w dworku w Soplicowie w „Panu Tadeuszu”:

„Tu Kościuszko w czamarce krakowskiej, z oczyma  
Podniesionymi w niebo, miecz oburącz trzyma;  
Takim był, gdy przysięgał na stopniach ołtarzów,  
Że tym mieczem wypędzi z Polski trzech mocarzów  
Albo sam na nim padnie.”

Mickiewicz umieścił naszego bohatera w towarzystwie współczesnych mu innych bohaterskich, oddanych sprawie wolności Polaków - Tadeusza Rejtana, Jakuba Jasińskiego i Samuela Korsaka.

**Andrzej Tadeusz Bonawentura Kościuszko** urodził się 4 lutego 1746 w Mereczowszczyźnie (Polesie), obecnie Białoruś. Był synem niezamożnego szlachcica, miecznika brzeskiego Ludwika Tadeusza i Tekli Kościuszko z domu Ratomskich.

W 1755 roku Tadeusz rozpoczął naukę w Kolegium Pijarów w Lubieszowie, ale po śmierci ojca musiał przerwać szkołę i wrócić do rodzinnego majątku Siechnowicze. Ta niewielka posiadłość przypadła w testamencie bratu Józefowi, a Tadeusz postanowił wybrać karierę wojskową. Poparcie lokalnej szlachty i stypendium ufundowane przez księcia Czartoryskiego dały mu szansę na podjęcie studiów w Szkole Rycerskiej w Warszawie. Studiował nauki humanistyczne i ścisłe, specjalizując się w inżynierii wojskowej i artylerii. Był wzorowym studentem, zdyscyplinowanym i wyjątkowo pilnym. Po ukończeniu (1769 r.), jako królewski stypendysta, wyjechał Kościuszko do Paryża, gdzie zapisał się na wykłady w Akademii Malarstwa i Rzeźby, jednakże oficjalne studia dotyczyły przede wszystkim wojskowości.

Pięcioletni pobyt w przedrewolucyjnej Francji wywarł poważny wpływ na jego przekonania polityczne i społeczne. Po studiach we Francji wyruszył w podróż po Europie. W Holandii pogłębił znajomość metod budowania mostów, śluz, kanałów i grobli. Odwiedził także Anglię, Szwajcarię, Saksonię oraz Półwysep Apeniński.

Kiedy w 1775 roku powrócił do kraju, Polska była już po pierwszym rozbiórze (1772). Kościuszko nie otrzymał przydziału do armii, gdyż jej liczebność została ograniczona przez zaborców. Nie znajdując też dla siebie miejsca w rodzinnym majątku, gdzie gospodarował jego brat, przyjął posadę nauczyciela córek hetmana Józefa Sosnowskiego. Zakochał się z wzajemnością w jednej z nich - Ludwice, ale ich związek nie miał szans ze względu na różnice klasowe, tak więc, załamany niepowodzeniem Kościuszko wyjechał z kraju. W 1776 r. w Paryżu dowiedział się o walce amerykańskich kolonii o niepodległość. Na tę wojnę Kościuszko wyruszył w czerwcu 1776 roku.

Wkrótce po przybyciu do Filadelfii, 24 września 1776, skontaktował się z Franklinem, któremu zaoferował swoje umiejętności inżynierskie, i zaakceptowany rozpoczął prace nad fortyfikacją miasta. Sławę i szacunek wśród Amerykanów przyniosły mu projekt i budowa fortyfikacji polowych użytych w bitwie pod Saratoga, w której zwycięstwo przesądziło o ostatecznym rezultacie wojny. Już jako naczelny inżynier Armii Kontynentalnej, Kościuszko rozpoczął prace nad swoim kolejnym zadaniem - fortyfikacją West Point. W uznaniu zasług,

uchwałą Kongresu, Tadeusz Kościuszko został mianowany 13 października 1783 r. generałem brygady armii amerykańskiej. Otrzymał też od rządu amerykańskiego około 250 ha ziemi i sporą sumę pieniędzy, która miała zostać wypłacona w rocznych ratach. Wyróżnieniem ze strony współtowarzyszy walki było przyjęcie Kościuszki, jako jednego z trzech cudzoziemców,



Pomnik Kościuszki w Chicago.

do Towarzystwa Cyncynatów\*, założonego przez najbardziej zasłużonych oficerów amerykańskich.

W 1784 r. powrócił do Polski i osiadł w rodzinnym majątku w Siechnowicach, gdzie spędził około pięć lat, oczekując powołania do armii. Kiedy obradujący w latach 1788-1792 Sejm Czteroletni jako jedną z pierwszych reform ustalił liczbę wojska na 100 tysięcy, Kościuszko otrzymał od króla nominację na generała majora wojsk koronnych. Ustalona przez Sejm 3 maja 1791 r. postępową konstytucja i reformy mające wzmocnić Rzeczypospolitą wywołały niepokój Rosji i Prus oraz opór części magnaterii. Zdrajcy wspólnie z rządami obcych mocarstw stworzyli opozycję, zawiązując tzw. Konfederację Targowicką. Na wezwanie targowiczanczyca Katarzyna II skierowała swą armię w granice Rzeczypospolitej. W kraju rozpoczęły się przygotowania do odparcia obcej interwencji. Dokonano reorganizacji armii polskiej, liczącej około 60 tys. żołnierzy, a Gen. Tadeusz Kościuszko otrzymał dowodzenie dywizją. 18 maja licząca 100 tys. żołnierzy armia rosyjska wkroczyła na terytorium Rzeczypospolitej. Armia koronna nie dysponowała wystarczającymi siłami dla powstrzymania wojsk rosyjskich. Kościuszko odznaczył się w bitwach pod Zieleńcami, Włodzimierzem i pod Dubienką, jednak wojna ostatecznie zakończyła się klęską Polaków. 13 stycznia 1793 r. Prusy podpisały z Rosją porozumienie w sprawie drugiego rozbioru ziem Rzeczypospolitej. Polska stała się skrawkiem dawnego terytorium, z liczbą ludności około 4 milionów.

Po zakończeniu walk działacze sejmowego stronnictwa patriotycznego i twórcy Konstytucji 3 Maja przebywający na emigracji w Lipsku i Dreźnie czynili przygotowania do zbrojnego wystąpienia. 24 marca 1794 r. na rynku krakowskim złożył Kościuszko narodowi uroczystą przysięgę jako Najwyższy Naczelnik Siły Zbrojnej Narodowej, wzywając do rozpoczęcia walki. 4 kwietnia 1794 r. pod Raławicami, miała miejsce sławna

bitwa powstańców z armią rosyjską; o której zwycięstwie przesądził atak 320 kosynierów pod wodzą Kościuszki. Aby zachęcić chłopów do masowego udziału w powstaniu, Naczelnik Kościuszko ogłosił ograniczający pańszczyznę Uniwersał połaniecki. Po początkowych zwycięstwach powstańcy musieli wycofać się pod naporem armii rosyjskiej i pruskiej. Klęska wojsk polskich 10 października 1794 r. w bitwie pod Maciejowicami i uwięzienie rannego Naczelnika oraz rzeź mieszkańców Pragi przez wojska rosyjskie skłoniły władzę powstańcze do kapitulacji. Zaborcy zdecydowali o trzecim rozbiórze Polski (1795).

Gen. Kościuszkę Rosjanie uwięzili w twierdzy pietro-pawłowskiej w Sankt Petersburgu. Po śmierci Katarzyny II w 1796 r. jej syn, car Paweł I, uwolnił Kościuszkę, zmuszając go do złożenia poddańczej przysięgi, w zamian za uwolnienie z niewoli 20 000 Polaków. Zgodnie z przysięgą Kościuszko nie miał już powrotu do Polski.

Przez Szwecję i Anglię popłynął do Stanów Zjednoczonych. Wszędzie gdzie się pojawiał witano go jak bohatera, a na ziemi amerykańskiej, wzruszony licznymi wyrazami sympatii jej mieszkańców, powtarzał, iż uważa Stany Zjednoczone za swoją drugą ojczyznę. Zacieśnił swoją przyjaźń z Tomaszem Jeffersonem; często się spotykali, mieli podobne zapatrywania polityczne i przez długie lata utrzymywali korespondencję.

Wiosną 1798 r. Kościuszko otrzymał od francuskiego Dyktoriatu zaproszenie na rozmowy do Paryża. Wyjechał do Francji licząc na możliwość podjęcia działań dyplomatycznych i wojskowych w sprawie Polski.

Rewolucyjna Francja powitała Kościuszkę bardzo uroczystie i z honorami. Francuzi chcieli wykorzystać "kartę polską" w swej wojnie z despotycznymi monarchiami Europy, chodziło im też o przyciągnięcie Polaków do tworzonej we Włoszech polskich Legionów w służbie Francji. W Paryżu kontaktował się z kręgami polskiej emigracji i pomagał organizacji Legionu Polskiego we Włoszech, ale nie przyjął oferty dowodzenia nim, gdyż nie wierzył w Napoleona i był przeciwny wykorzystywaniu Polaków w jego wojnach.

W 1808 r. Kościuszko wyjechał do Solothurn w Szwajcarii. Tam spędził ostatnie lata swego życia. Zmarł 15 października 1817.



Symboliczna mogiła Tadeusza Kościuszki  
w Krakowie  
"Kopiec Kościuszki"





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***"Matka"***

**Stanisław Wyspiański**

Z jej rąk zmęczonych  
urośli kwiaty,  
Z jej dni zranionych  
urodziły się daty,  
Z jej serca miłość cały świat  
objęła,  
Z jej oczu rzeka łez spłynęła,  
Z jej myśli książki się pisały,  
Z jej ust polskie teorie wybiegały,  
Z jej marzeń tablica się wyszyła,  
Z jej szczęścia ja się urodziłam.



*Stanisław Wyspiański "Macierzyństwo"*

**Stanisław Mateusz Ignacy Wyspiański** (ur. 15 stycznia 1869 w Krakowie, zm. 28 listopada 1907 tamże) – polski dramaturg, poeta, malarz, grafik, architekt, projektant mebli. Jako pisarz związany z dramatem symbolicznym. Tworzył w epoce Młodej Polski. Bywa nazywany czwartym wieszczem polskim.

*Stanisław Wyspiański "Róże"*

