#### **Polish Arts Club of Trenton**

# Seventy-Five and Going Strong: A History from 1947 to 2021

# By Donna Chmara

#### **An Idea Becomes Reality**

Three sisters stepped out onto a cold wintery day in 1946 and boarded a train from Trenton to New York City. Their destination was a meeting at the Columbia University Klub Polski. Afterwards, as they walked back to the train station, the foreboding sky had turned into a snowstorm. For years, neither rain, sleet, nor snow had dampened their enthusiasm. But this time, Charlotte Bielawski Yess, Loretta Bielawski (Daunis), and Frances Bielawski Potkay had an exciting idea.

Let's organize a club in our own community to celebrate the rich cultural and historic heritage we inherited from our parents, and their parents. Let's reach out to the many people of Polish descent living in the Trenton area.

The train pulled into the station, and by the time the three sisters reached their homes, the Polish Arts Club of Trenton had been born.

The three daughters of Mary and Albin Bielawski took their idea to a group of likely members on March 17, 1946 at the Stacy-Trent Hotel in Trenton. They got a huge green light and many willing hands. Edward A. Krupa, grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Bielawski recalls, "I was ten-years-old, but I still remember how excited the grown-ups were. My parents and aunts and uncles kept planning how to organize the club."

Edward's father, Edward W. Krupa, would become the 1958 and 1959 president of the Polish Arts Club. The boy Edward grew up, and in his father's footsteps, he become club president in 1974.

The founders formed a Constitution and By-Laws and agreed on the following goals: contribute culturally and socially to the community, promote activities that celebrate Polish culture and history, and create a scholarship program to encourage young people of Polish heritage to pursue higher education.

They also elected the first officers: President, Frank Krupp; Vice President, Stanley Winowicz, Sr; Secretary, Lee Wojciechowski; and Treasurer, Robert Zielinski. Decades later, in 2007, Loretta Bielawski Daunis received the Cavalier's Cross of the Order of Merit from the President of Poland for her lifelong service to Polonia.

The idea born on a train from New York to Trenton in 1946 has flourished for 75 years and beyond. The original goals continue to be the foundation of club activities today. Let's look at the energy of the early years as members met these goals with hard work and joy.

# A Big Goal and a Two-Figure Balance: 1946-1971

With only a modest two-figure balance, the club launched its scholarship program. One solution to fund this ambitious goal was the Polonaise Ball, held for the first time on January 18, 1947 at the Stacy-Trent Hotel in Trenton. With a strong commitment to the idea, members contributed donations and asked local establishments to sponsor ads for the program book. Businesses purchased full and half-page ads, and the Ball blossomed into a major community event. Among notables who served as Master of Ceremonies over the years were Trenton Mayor Donal Connolly, Mercer County Executive Arthur Sypek, and musical celebrity Leon Fornal.

The Polonaise Ball evolved based on custom and member preference. For the first ten years, the highlight was coronation of the queen and her court of six attendants. The first queen was Emily Porzuc (Sawczak). Then between 1957 and 1976, formal presentations of young ladies into society capped the evening. The first debutantes were Joan Barelkowski, Joan Elenewski, Carol Kozlowski, Constance Slowinski, Marion Kopec, and Virginia Demski. Since 1977, the focus has been the scholarship students and recognition of an honoree for outstanding service to Polonia and the larger community.

Proceeds from the 1947 Ball enabled the club to award its first \$300 scholarship to Hedwig Golembiewski. One additional \$300 scholarship was awarded each year between 1948 through 1951. In 1949 the club hosted an Open House for college students to discuss concerns regarding their careers. By 1954, the scholarship was raised to \$500 until it grew to \$1000. By 1971, the club had awarded over \$20,000 to deserving students.

The camaraderie and unity of purpose grew as members organized holiday celebrations, picnics, tennis tournaments, Sadie Hawkins dances, and beach gatherings. One beach party featured a luau with coconut trees, Polynesian food, and an ethnic dancer. The club held a Country Fair with displays and contests in September, Halloween parties in October, and November Nocturne dinner dances on moonlit fall evenings. For installation dinners of new officers, members created skits, rehearsed, sewed costumes, and competed for prizes. Past president, Edmund Z. Potkay, was given a testimonial dinner upon his appointment as Judge in Lawrence Township.

Prompted by requests from families, the club revived the joyful tradition of Christmas caroling. Appearing in their homes, the carolers sang and were offered homemade refreshments. Parties for children included Polish Christmas carols and Santa arriving with gifts. These types of social activities were always paid for by the members attending, as is still the case today.

On the tenth anniversary in 1956, Governor Robert B. Meyner issued a proclamation honoring the club for its community service. Mayor Donal J. Connolly designated February 4, 1956 as Polish Arts Club Day in Trenton to highlight its vital presence in the community. And well beyond the first decade, prudent investment and management of funds has kept the club on a solid footing to organize meaningful events open to the public, such as:

Lectures by persons prominent in government, arts, and sciences. Participants learned about Nobel Laureate in Literature Henryk Sienkiewicz (1846-1916), and Polish author Adam Mickiewicz (1798-1855). The club held a panel discussion on Polish American involvement in the political process. Keeping abreast of the times, the club sponsored a speaker on Guided Missiles.

<u>Musical performances</u> of classical music, including that of composer Frederick Chopin, showcased young talent. With opportunities to play publicly and a generous club donation, Marion Zarzeczna went on to become a successful concert pianist. Encouraging her career, club members chartered a bus to attend her New York City debut.

Exhibits from regions of Poland. A Polish Folk-Art Exhibit, chaired by member Stella Krupa, ran for two Sundays. Over 1000 people came free of charge to see crafts, artwork, designs unique to Poland, and to enjoy Polish pastries.

A literary contest was open to all local high school students with the winner receiving a \$50 savings bond.

Music festivals. A Spring Festival, chaired by member Estelle Trocki, on the stage of the War Memorial Building included traditional songs by a women's chorus. The Tatra Mountaineer Group performed intricate and seldom seen dances from the mountain region. Three years later, they returned to present a play about life in the Zakopane region of Poland.

<u>Fashion shows.</u> Local establishments provided suits, dresses, gowns, and furs. These latest fashions were modeled by the club's very own ladies at the popular annual fashion show at the Stacy-Trent Hotel.

Education pamphlets. The club prepared and distributed pamphlets about Polish contributions to Western culture. One topic was *Ignacy Jan Paderewski – Pianist, Composer, Statesman*. Another was *A Thousand Years of Christianity in Poland – Poland's Millennium 966 – 1966* which was distributed to the audience at a concert of the Greater Trenton Symphony.

Ethnic food and books. Proceeds from Polish Night, a lavish feast of ethnic food, were used to buy numerous books relevant to Polish culture. Educators at St. Hedwig, St. Stanislaus, and Holy Cross Schools valued these donations. Books in Polish or translated from Polish into English were also donated to area libraries and hospitals.

The club added a feature at the Polonaise Ball that lasted two decades by reviving the tradition of formally presenting grown-

up girls into society. Dressed in long white dresses and escorted by their fathers, each young lady was introduced at the Ball as having stepped into the adult world. An Evening Times article from 1968 captures the splendor of the event. "A little bit of Old Poland came to life Saturday night in the Hotel Hildebrecht ballroom, where beneath the glittering chandeliers and great festoons of blue tulle, five Polish belles were presented to Trenton society. Members of the Polish Arts Club...opened the festivities by promenading to the melody of Frederick Chopin's Polonaise in A Flat, most beloved of Polish music. But after that, the evening clearly belonged to the girls."

#### **Growth and Continuity: 1971 – 1996**

Governor William T. Cahill proclaimed Polish Arts Club of Trenton Day in conjunction with the 25<sup>th</sup> annual Polonaise Ball. Celebrating a productive quarter century, the challenge ahead to keep the pace set by the founders. Social events continued, including a disco party, card parties, dances, summer pool parties, and gatherings by the beach. The serious work also continued.

The year 1973 ushered in the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Nicholas Copernicus (Mikolaj Kopernik). The father of modern astronomy was honored with readings, lectures, and dinners. Later in 2003, the club hired Family States, Inc. to present a play at the Church of Saint Ann in Lawrenceville entitled, "Nicholas Copernicus, the Center of Light."

During this phase, the custom of presenting young ladies to society was replaced by choosing an honoree. The spotlight fell on persons of merit who have devoted their talents to promote the well-being of the Polish American and the larger community.

The Polonaise Ball had become so popular that it outlived its space at the Hildebrecht Hotel. To accommodate the growing numbers, the event was moved to the War Memorial Building. Months of nimble artistry to prepare decorations, and a week of putting them in place, turned the cavernous venue into a magical world for up to 500 people feasting on delicacies and dancing to the music of Leon Fornal or the Johnny Stavins Orchestras.

The 1976 Polonaise Ball featured 15-year-old Michael Landolfi playing the *Hejnal*, and an explanation of this ritual in the program book. This call to arms reenacts the legend of the bugler on the highest tower of Saint Mary's Basilica in Cracow. He was alerting the authorities to secure all four of the city gates against an approaching attack by Tartar horsemen in the 13<sup>th</sup> century. Suddenly, the bugle falls silent as the enemy arrow pierces the throat of the bugler and the alarm is never completed. Polish soldiers played the *Hejnal* in 1944 when, after severe losses, they captured Monte Cassino in Italy which was pivotal to Allied victory in World War II. To this day, crowds gather to hear the *Hejnal* played every hour from St. Mary's Basilica in Cracow.

The program book from 1976 also describes contributions to the American Revolution during the 1700's by General Tadeusz Kosciuszko and General Kazimierz (Casimir) Pułaski. They had fought a revolution to liberate Poland from Russian and German invasions. Their efforts were thwarted at home, but they came separately to America and fought for independence from England, a revolution that proved successful.

Films and hundreds of books continued to be provided over the years to teachers for classroom use. Among fun activities, starting in 2002, we sponsored coloring contests open to local schools. One topic was a drawing depicting a meeting between Benjamin Franklin and Casimir Pulaski. Student winners received one \$100 first prize, one \$20 second prize, and six \$10 prizes.

Festive celebrations of centuries-old Christmas traditions were held at members' homes beautifully decorated for the occasion. After the first star appeared in the sky, the food was blessed. Then some fifty or more people mingled to share with everyone the Christmas wafer, the *Oplatek*. Friendships were renewed over a dinner of Polish food and lively conversation. The event mellowed into singing Polish Christmas carols, called *Kolędy*, along with American favorites. Polish homes still observe this custom on Christmas Eve as a time to reaffirm the bonds of love.

By the 1990's, changing demographics, passing away of some

early members, and an exit to the suburbs necessitated scaling down some activities. However, the club never veered from the founders' vision of celebrating Polish history and culture, and providing scholarships to students of Polish ancestry. As members work toward these goals, friendship and shared purpose continue to be the backbone of club vitality.

#### True to the Founders' Vision: 1996 – 2021

In 1999, the club received a bequest from the estate of Lubomir J. Zabilski which stated that the gift "Be used as a Scholarship Fund in the memory of Irene R. and Lubomir J. Zabilski." With principal and income, the final amount of the gift was \$148, 977.01. Each year, we honor the memory of these generous donors by strictly adhering to their stipulation that the money be used toward scholarships. This has helped the club maintain a vigorous scholarship program.

In 2015, we increased the scholarships from \$1000 to \$1500 per student. We currently award up to 13 scholarships each year to deserving high school seniors of Polish descent. Through 2021, the club had awarded over 350 scholarships totaling approximately \$390,000. Through the efforts of Marilyn and David Jose, our scholarship students are also recognized with certificates from the Mercer County Board of County Commissioners and the Trenton City Council.

In the 1990's, The Polonaise Ball was moved from the stage of the War Memorial Building to the Trenton Country Club. We have enjoyed delicious food amid elegant surroundings thanks to the gracious sponsorship of members Jim and Lynne Faridy. The evening began with participants forming squares, arches, and twists to the stately music of the Polonaise dance, followed by dancing to the music of the Dennis Ostopowicz Orchestra.

Our Christmas Wigilia is now held at local restaurants, and currently we meet at Leonardo's II in Lawrenceville where tradition still reigns. We begin with a blessing of the food by Father Jacek Labinski, pastor of St. Hedwig Parish in Trenton. We then share the *Oplatek* among all present, feast on Polish food, and sing Christmas *Kolędy* accompanied by music. For many years, we sang to the guitar music of Monsignor Edward Arnister, then pastor of Holy Cross Church. In recent years, we were led by

singers generously provided by member and restaurant proprietor Robert Pluta, and the music of Wojciech Hollender on the keyboard.

Other Christmas activities included decorating a tree at the Polish and Slavic Credit Union on Olden Avenue, site of the former Chopin Music Store. During a Christmas festival at Divine Mercy Parish, Linda Everett's exhibit captured the atmosphere of a cottage in a Polish village on Christmas Eve. Another year, member Paul Bosse organized the sale of hand-blown Christmas ornaments from Poland along with Polish Heritage cookbooks.

When Karol Nawarynski became president in 2005, he and his wife Mary Ann hosted a barbeque in their home and presented imported Polish delicacies to outgoing officers. This was followed by the presentation "Hollywood in Hamilton" where club members provided information about famous Polish Americans in the entertainment industry.

Karol Nawarynski infused energy into the club with new ideas. He brought in the PKM dancers whose traditional dances in regional costumes have become an anticipated feature of the annual Polonaise. He invited Lidia Kaminska, the first person in the United States to earn a doctorate in classical accordion, to play Johan Sebastian Bach and other composers. He shared his collection of Polish crafts and artifacts which we continue to display at what is now the Polonaise Luncheon. And member Joe Maculaitis arranged for the Trenton Country Club to provide a golf outing for four as a silent auction prize at the Ball which enhances the scholarship fund.

Karol revived participation in the Pułaski Day Parade in Philadelphia. Members wore red and white and had dinner afterwards. For several years we marched next to teachers, parents, and students of Ogniwo Polish Learning Center of Trenton and St Hedwig's Polish School. Erin and Liam O'Brien, grandchildren of Bill and Chris Muszynski, carried our banner. A car decorated with photos of famous Polish people was available to members who might not walk the distance.

The spirit of hospitality prevailed as Lottie Rak hosted a dinner meeting in her home. Fred and Natasha Brodzinski held a pierogi party in their home. Michael and Sylvia Dobrowolski provided two dinner meetings at Mamma Flora's Trattoria in Trenton, followed by a dinner meeting at that location hosted by Eleanor Napiorkowski. John and Julianne Bogdan hosted a dinner meeting at Leonardo's II. As Donna Chmara became president, she and her husband Henry Talarsky had two picnic meetings at their home, and William and Christine Muszynski welcomed us to their home for the first meeting of Bill's presidency.

As an affiliate of the American Council for Polish Culture (ACPC), we hosted the annual board of directors meeting. We welcomed representatives from affiliates countrywide for a weekend of meetings and social events. Subsequently, Bill and Chris led our delegation to Williamsburg, Virginia for the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Polish skilled craftsmen arriving in Jamestown, organized by members Paul Bosse and Peter Obst and sponsored by ACPC. The Muszynskis also participated in a reinternment of General Casimir Pulaski's remain in Savannah, Georgia.

# **Keep Learning and Stay Young at Heart**

One of our meeting guests was a Polish student born in Belarus and studying at Kardynal Wyszynski University in Warsaw. Observing our use of *Robert's Rules of Order*, as a student leader, he said he had learned much about running meetings in an orderly fashion. And after the business portion at meetings, we discuss topics of interest to members and guests. For example, Professor Peter Bogucki, Assistant Dean of Engineering and Applied Sciences at Princeton University, described the presence of human habitation in what is now Poland. He explained the significance of the slides from archaeology digs he had directed in Poland.

In addition, Michael Blicharz, President of the Polish American Cultural Center in Philadelphia, gave an overview of the Polish presence in Philadelphia since 1908.

Translator of Polish books, Peter Obst, described the memorial services in Savannah, Georgia at the burial site of General Casimir Pulaski. On other occasions, he spoke about helpful sources to find family roots, the Warka Museum in Warsaw, electric voltage and electronic devices in Poland, and Frank

Piasecki – a pioneering engineer in transport helicopters and vertical lift aircraft.

We viewed the film "Children of Terror," about survivors Bozenna Urbanowicz Gilbride, a Polish Catholic, and Inge Auerbacher, a German Jew. We then heard the two women speak at Rider University about their ordeal and the need for understanding between ethnic groups. We also watched a DVD, Catholic Poland Crushes the Soviet Invasion of Europe, 1920 A.D., describing how Poland secured its eastern border after World War I.

Donna Chmara presented new Associated Press Guidelines for correctly naming Nazi forced labor and death camps in German -occupied Poland during World War II. Information campaigns by the Polish American community have educated the media that naming the camps as Polish is offensive and inaccurate since such camps never existed under Polish auspices. She provided a German government news release that accepts responsibility for the Nazi death camps in occupied Poland.

Debbie Majka, Honorary Consul of the Republic of Poland for Southeastern Pennsylvania, described her projects with the Polish American community in the region.

Professor Barbara Bochenek, graduate of Jagiellonian University in Cracow and mother of Magda Pluta, gave several riveting talks. As a resident of Poland, she offered perspectives on the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the September 1, 1939 German invasion of Poland, and on the accomplishments of Tadeusz Kosciuszko. She described the Polish partisans' fierce resistance to the puppet Stalinist regime after WWII. Labeled "cursed soldiers" by the Soviet Government, they had to leave Poland to avoid prison or death. And to mark the country's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of independence, Professor Bochenek enlightened us about recent Polish history.

On a lighter note, we had great fun when local artist, Leona Law, took us on a hands-on adventure doing *pisanki*. This is the Eastern European art of egg decorating using wax and dye. We went home with hand painted eggs in time for Easter.

#### The Larger Community

As we learn from speakers at monthly meetings, we also reach out to the larger community. Bozena Bienkowska organized several Valentine's Day dances with huge turnouts of fellow Polish Americans living near St. Hedwig's church. On another occasion, member Linda Everett organized a Polish Heritage dance at the Holy Cross Church auditorium. Before the event, Monsignor Arnister celebrated a Mass for the well-being of the club.

For several years, Paul Bosse, and later Michael Dobrowolski, organized Polish Heritage Night at Trenton Thunder baseball games at Trenton Thunder Ballpark. Before the game, the Polish Arts Club of Trenton led the singing of the Polish national anthem with Polish and American flags waving side by side. We sold 50/50 tickets to hundreds of spectators with proceeds going to the scholarship fund.

As part of our community outreach, President Karol Nawarynski and Vice-President Donna Chmara spoke on several radio programs about the goals of the club and some upcoming events. Member Bozena Bienkowska arranged our attendance at a performance of the Polish Children's Choir and Dance Troupe which was touring the United States.

We enjoy opportunities to work with local schools. We were invited by Chapin School in Princeton to participate in their day devoted to study of Poland. Organized by Paul Bosse, we provided literature and history lessons, conversations on life in Poland today, a play about Nicholas Copernicus, a four-page fact sheet, and displays of costumes, posters, and hand-made crafts. The day ended happily with a Polish lunch for students, teachers, and guests.

For Polish History Month, we sponsored a play at St. Gregory School in Hamilton about Tadeusz Kosciuszko and a coloring contest about his meeting with George Washington. Another year, we provided background information to elementary grade teachers at Incarnation School prior to showing the film, "Casimir Pułaski: Polish American Hero." This was followed by a coloring contest depicting the first Polish craftsmen in Jamestown.

We sponsored an exhibit entitled, "John Paul II the Holy Man: to the Ends of the Earth." at the Church of St. Ann in Lawrence-ville. During one weekend in 2008, we served refreshments to over 1000 visitors as they viewed 200 photographs by professional photographers of the Holy Father's 104 worldwide pilgrimages during his pontificate. The club sponsored the exhibit again in 2017 at St Hedwig's Parish in Trenton.

The Trenton chapter of People to People International, founded by President Dwight Eisenhower, invited our involvement the year they were studying Poland. Donna Chmara spoke about Nobel laureates in literature, Henryk Sienkiewcz, Władysław Reymont, Czesław Miłosz, and Wisława Szymborska. She described Poland's disappearance from the map of Europe for 123 years (1795 – 1918), how the written word kept the country alive in spirit until its geographic rebirth in 1918, and how literature fed the soul of the nation during five decades of communist rule. We then met with People to People members at a Polish restaurant and some of them joined our club.

In 2010, over 300 people attended a program at Mercer County Community College organized by Donna Chmara, chair, Bill Muszynski, co-chair, in cooperation with the Polish embassy in Washington, DC. Based on the book and film by British author Laurence Rees, *World War II Behind Closed Doors*, we learned from newly opened archival material about meetings with Josef Stalin and British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden that led to Poland losing its eastern lands. Professor Marek Konarzewski from the embassy provided insightful commentary on segments of the film. The American Council for Polish Culture, the Trenton Branch of the Polish and Slavic Credit Union, and other donors provided financial support.

We also enjoy having the larger world come to us. Members and guests viewed a movie entitled, "POLIN: A Museum of Jewish Life in Poland." It is located in Warsaw near the memorial to the Warsaw Uprising during World War II.

Member Kirk Everett has brought the world to us by designing a comprehensive website. It features our events, photos, scholarship information. The site also boasts Polish history and highlights a large number of great Polish people.

#### Gratitude

The enthusiasm of three sisters coming home on the train from New York still bears fruit today. We are grateful to the founders of the Polish Arts Club of Trenton. They are no longer with us, but we are the beneficiaries of their wisdom in fiscal and in social values. We inherit their example of cooperation and commitment to community service which is the core of a vibrant organization. Their legacy lives on in current members as we continue to celebrate the Polish spirit.

- Sources 1. Extensive interviews with Edward A. Krupa, 1974 President of the Polish Arts Club of Trenton.
  - 2. Polonaise Ball program books from available years. For many years, they were printed gratis by the White Eagle Printing Company established in the 1920's as a newspaper publisher by Albin Bielawski. It later became a commercial printing company by the Bielawski and Krupa families.

#### First Officers of the Polish Arts Club of Trenton

President Frank Krupp

Vice President Stanley Winowicz, Sr.

Secretary Lee Wojciechowski

Treasurer Dr. Robert Zielinski

Program Chair Charlotte Bielawski Yess

Publicity Chair Edward Krupa, Sr.

# Founding Members of the Polish Arts Club of Trenton March 17, 1946

Charlotte Bielawski Yess Loretta Bielawski (Daunis) Frances Bielawski Potkay Venceslaus Bielawski Helen Jasienski Stanley Kostrzewa John Krol Stella Bielawski and Edward Krupa Edward J. Krupa Frank Krupp Josephine Nyzio Josephine Odorczyk Helen Skrobiszewski Lillian Skrobiszewski Josephine Sondej Valeria Wenczel (Bielawski) Lee Wojciechowski

Stefanie and Stanley Winowicz.

# Past Presidents Of The Polish Arts Club

1946 Frank Krupp	1985 Fred Doolittle
1947 Frank Krupp	1986 Fred Doolittle
1948 Edmund Z. Potkay	1987 S. Paul Bosse
1949 Edmund Z. Potkay	1988 S. Paul Bosse
1950 Vence M. Bielawski	1989 S. Paul Bosse
1951 Vence M. Bielawski	1990 Rafał Ornaf
1952 Eugene C. Pulaski	1991 Rafał Ornaf
1953 Eugene C. Pulaski	1992 S. Paul Bosse
1954 Edmund Z. Potkay	1993 S. Paul Bosse
1955 Edmund Z. Potkay	1994 Kathleen Rak
1956 Eugene C. Pulaski	1995 Loretta B. Daunis
1957 Edward J. Daunis	1996 Loretta B. Daunis
1958 Edward W. Krupa	1997 Loretta B. Daunis
1959 Edward W. Krupa	1998 S. Paul Bosse
1960 Thomas E. Wenczel	1999 S. Paul Bosse
1961 Thomas E. Wenczel	2000 S. Paul Bosse
1962 Dr. Stanley Potkay	2001 John R. Bogdan
1963 Dr. Stanley Potkay	2002 John R. Bogdan
1964 Bronislaw Schmidt	2003 Guenter Harendza
1965 Walter Runowicz	2004 Guenter Harendza
1966 Walter Runowicz	2005 Karol Nawarynski
1967 Walter Runowicz	2006 Karol Nawarynski
1968 A. Thaddeus Bielawski	2007 Donna Chmara
1969 A. Thaddeus Bielawski	2008 Donna Chmara
1970 John Kuprian	2009 William Muszynski
1971 John Kuprian	2010 William Muszynski
1972 Loretta B. Daunis	2011 Karol Nawarynski
1973 Loretta B. Daunis	2012 Karol Nawarynski
1974 Edward A. Krupa	2013 John R. Bogdan
1975 Edward Cywinski	2014 John R. Bogdan
1976 Henry T. Simon	2015 William Muszynski
1977 Henry T. Simon	2016 William Muszynski
1978 William H. Blohm	2017 John R. Bogdan
1979 William H. Blohm	2018 John R. Bogdan
1980 Joan Elias	2019 William Muszynski
1981 William H. Blohm	2020 William Muszynski
1982 William H. Blohm	2021 William Muszynski
1983 Raymond Turek	2022 Donna Chmara
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1984 Raymond Turek