

# Man hears dramatic account of Solidarity birth

By Teri Banas  
staff writer

While many have read and watched televised reports about the struggles of the Polish people over the past year, one Livonia man had the opportunity to hear about Solidarity's birth from one of its own.

Earlier this year Bogdan Bereznicki of Livonia hosted one of three visiting high-ranking aides to Solidarity leader Lech Walesa.

Bereznicki, 55, a former resident of Redford Township and a member of the board of directors for the Polish Congress of America, learned through some intimate conversations of the internal struggles of Solidarity, its hopes for the future of Poland, and the emergence of an unemployed factory worker as one of the most influential characters in recent Polish history.

Bereznicki, a design engineer at Ford Motor Co., emigrated to the United States in 1948 after serving in the Polish Army during World War II. He talked to the Observer recently in an interview about the response of Polish-Americans to the crisis.

Zbigniew Gryszkiewicz visited with the Bereznicki family in Livonia for three days, during a United States mission aimed at obtaining medical supplies from the Polish-American community here.

**DURING THE VISIT**, Gryszkiewicz talked about Solidarity's formation, said Bereznicki. Gryszkiewicz told of the ruling government's resistance to negotiations with a national union.

"The government realized the danger in this," said Bereznicki. "It had tried to negotiate locally, not with one big union. This was the danger for Solidarity."

Gryszkiewicz told Bereznicki that the government accepted Solidarity after the direct intervention of then Polish Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński. The Catholic cardinal had assembled a group of Poland's "intelligentsia," to counsel the emerging union chief. Among them were doctors, lawyers and economists.

"Walesa, he was a simple folk man, and these experts came from every stratum of national life," Bereznicki said.

Bereznicki was told Solidarity, in its

early stages, never intended to alter the country's political course.

"He said Solidarity did not have aspirations to form a government. Solidarity wanted to improve conditions of Polish workers and the economy. They wanted to make a decent life. Since they were part of Poland, they wanted to control the economic destiny of Poland."

"They did not want a revolution, they wanted a voice."

ACCORDING TO Bereznicki, his guest said the new union then believed the words of Gen. Wojciech Jaruzelski, who said Polish troops would never be used against Polish workers.

"They were not worried of Polish soldiers, their biggest worry was of the Russian army," said Bereznicki.

According to the information Bereznicki received, the Polish forces were ill-prepared for a military response. Of the some 320,000 Polish sol-

diers, about half are drafted and many of them have relatives in Solidarity.

Bereznicki also was told that the Polish Army relies on the Soviet government for ammunition. Those supplies are rationed to a three-day limit.

While Solidarity was still negotiating for its recognition, members received reports that suggested military intervention by the Soviets was imminent.

In the union's formative stages, members received reports of shipments of Polish uniforms and other military supplies to Russia, said Bereznicki, who believes that many of the troops today are Soviets dressed in Polish uniforms.

POLISH-LANGUAGE broadcasts in the United States report that soldiers stationed on the streets in major cities can't speak Polish.

Bereznicki's houseguest also told of an anecdote that illustrated the Communists' disdain for the influence of religion in Solidarity.

During Solidarity's first nationally televised hearings, a crucifix, hung by union members above over the platform of the negotiations, was mysteriously blacked out on the evening news broadcasts. In response to the incident, Walesa began wearing the familiar black Madonna pin on his lapel. When he found that also had been censored, Walesa turned to wearing a rosary around his neck.

"Let them try to take this off," Walesa was reported saying.

Regardless of what happens in the future, Bereznicki believes Solidarity's impact on Polish society will not fade.

"I don't think they'll ever be able to eradicate these 18 months in the history of Poland," said Bereznicki. "Even if Solidarity has to go underground, it will leave its imprint on the spirit of Poland."

Among some of the union's little-known gains has been its publication of revised Polish history books.



Bogdan Bereznicki

**DO-IT-YOURSELF FURNACE CENTER**  
THERE'S A BETTER WAY  
TO GET THAT WARM FEELING  
stop winter dryness in your home with an  
**Aprilaire HUMIDIFIER**  
Custom Sheet Metal  
"Advise Cheerfully Given"  
**FURNACE WORKS**  
37460 Five Mile at Newburgh • Livonia • 464-6462

**NUTRITIONAL COUNSELING CENTER, P.C.**  
NCC  
4400 Town Center  
Suite 250  
Southfield, MI. 48075  
(313) 354-1530  
**A MEDICAL PROGRAM FOR OBESITY**  
— For Patients with or without Diabetes, Hypertension, and/or Heart Problems  
— Medical evaluation and treatment by an Internist with  
— Medical and Nutritional Education and Behavior modification by a Psychologist

**Metropolitan Eye Associates, P.C.**  
Donald S. Beser M.D. & Robert D. Beitman M.D.  
Eye Physicians & Surgeons  
Are Pleased to Announce  
The Opening of an Additional Office Located at:  
7001 Orchard Lake Road  
West Bloomfield, MI. 48033  
855-3346  
By Appointment Only  
Diplomates of the American Board of Ophthalmology

**DO BETTER WHAT YOU DO BEST WITH THE HELP OF A COMPUTER SEMINAR SCHEDULE**

INTRODUCTORY BASIC COMPUTER INTRODUCTION FOR THE HOME/MAKER	Jan. 14, 21, 28, Feb. 4	7:00-8:00	\$25
INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTER INTRODUCTION TO THE SOURCE	Jan. 20, 27, Feb. 3	10:00-10:30	\$25
INTRODUCTION TO APPLE & DOW JONES	Jan. 18	1:00	FREE
REC - INVENTORY MANAGEMENT	Jan. 19	1:00	FREE
REC - WORD PROCESSING	Jan. 20	1:00	FREE
REC - GENERAL ACCOUNTING	Jan. 21	1:00	FREE

CALL TO REGISTER  
Apple Computer Authorized Dealer  
NEC HOME ELECTRONICS AUTHORIZED DEALER  
ATARI  
**COMPUTER HORIZONS**  
LIVONIA 37899 SIX MILE RD. (NEWBURGH PLAZA) 464-6502

**Do not be afraid.**  
I have good news for you...  
Today in the city of David  
a Savior has been born."  
Lufe 2:12  
**O'BRIEN Chapel**  
Ted C. Sullivan Funeral Homes, Inc.  
41555 Grand River Avenue, Novi  
Novi 348-1800

**Special Zotos Foam Perms**  
Reg. \$45 Complete \$26.00  
**PERMS**  
\$15.50 & up all week Complete  
Gentle Persuasion Foam Perm \$15.50 complete with set  
Reg. \$50 Now \$31.99 Complete  
**HAIRSETS** \$8.00 Senior Citizen Sets Mon., Tues., Sat. \$6.00  
PRECISION HAIRCUTS \$9.00  
S. O'Connell & Sonne Vics  
**Ann's Hair Designs**  
2222 Westburn - Livonia  
(Five Mile and Middlebelt area-around corner from 7-11)  
Open Every Evening, Sat. 9-5 422-9592

**THE POSTMARK COMPANY**  
A few cents a day will give you a private suite to pick up your personal mail. A phone call can save you an unnecessary trip. 12 Mile-Southfield area.  
For information call  
**569-8230**

The Secret's in the Foam  
REG. \$45.00  
NOW \$30.00 COMPLETE  
Just the look you want? Lots of body and fullness, but gentle and the secret's in the foam. Zotos Texture Foam conditioning perm gives you the silky feel of your hair, and the body's there to stay - permanently. Why not today?  
**Williamsburg**  
HAIR FASHIONS FOR MEN AND WOMEN  
27715 Seven Mile • Livonia 538-1044 538-1045  
**ZOTOS PERMS. ONLY SALONS**

**"No-Sweat" Returns!**  
Let Averill prepare your 1981 income tax return. Last year we prepared over 2,000 returns at an average cost of only \$30 to \$40 (tax deductible). In our private interview offices your return will be handled by an experienced tax preparer in a personal, confidential and competent manner. Averill is a full time, year round, professional tax and accounting service now in its 32nd year.  
**AVERILL TAX SERVICE**  
For your appointment contact our office nearest you:  
340-8348 833-0121  
25974 Now Rd. (at Grand River) 26201 Grand River (near Beech Daly)

**Averill Tax Service**

**American True Value**  
HARDWARE LUMBER & SUPPLY COMPANY  
**ENERGY HEADQUARTERS**  
FIREPLACE WOOD  
• HARDWOOD  
• BIRCH  
• FRUITWOOD  
1/8 Cord or Face Cord Delivery Available  
SLABWOOD Equivalent to 1 Face Cord \$29.88  
KINDLING WOOD FIREPLACE COAL  
ALL FIREPLACE ACCESSORIES  
• TOOL SETS • GRATES  
• LOG BASKETS • STOVES  
• FIREPLACES  
• ETC.  
**50% OFF**  
BULK KEROSENE Special \$1.57  
Michigan's Most Unusual Hardware Store  
31245 EIGHT MILE ROAD (Corner of Merriman) • LIVONIA • 476-6240  
Daily 9-6 Sunday 10-4

**CLEAN 'EM OUT SALE!**  
We're selling out the old to bring in the new  
Closed for markdowns Sunday, Monday & Tuesday  
**Thursday Friday & Saturday**  
Doors open promptly at 9:30 a.m!  
As a Lent's customer you expect and get only the finest. And we won't disappoint you now. Items in our entire store will be drastically reduced up to 50%. Distinguished international designer labels and many other famous makers you'll recognize like Hathaway, Cleo Cassini and many other. Famous makers you'll recognize like Minky Minky, Minky Hutton, Adolfo, Thane, Stanley Blacker, Nicola Mancini and Europe Craft. This is an unprecedented sale in the 43 year history of Lent's Clothing. Don't miss it! Come in now for first choice of the finest selections. Bring only your most discriminating friends. It will be an event to remember!

**LENT'S MENS CLOTHING**  
798 PENNIMAN • PLYMOUTH 453-0790 • 453-5260  
Free Parking in rear of store  
Alterations at cost  
Special Store hours: Thurs. & Fri. 9:30-9:00