



Polish American Historical Association Newsletter


Volume 69 Number 1 April 2012



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

Writing the customary “President’s Letter” is an easy task, if almost superfluous, since all that is really necessary is to refer you to this edition of the PAHA Newsletter to get an idea of the broad and impressive range of organizational activities in recent months, and those to come. To proceed in roughly chronological order:

The recently completed 2012 annual meeting was, by common consent, a terrific success. Held in Chicago, the natural capital of Polish America, this was our best attended conference in several years. PAHA gratefully acknowledges the generous assistance of the Consulate of the Republic of Poland, which opened its doors to us to host our awards reception. The accomplishments of the impressive list of honorees are recorded in the Newsletter, and attest to the vitality of the Polish American scholarly, civic, and artistic community.  [continued on p. 2](#)

PAHA’S ANNUAL MEETING IN CHICAGO

The 2012 Annual Meeting of Polish American Historical Association was held on January 5-7, 2012 in Chicago, Illinois, the most Polish of American cities. The participants could learn a lot about Polish-American history and culture, including a special session dedicated to Polonia in the Windy City. The meeting, a part of the American

Historical Association's Annual Conference was held at the Sheraton Chicago Hotel and Towers (301 East North Water Street, Chicago, IL 60611). The Conference Program, selected by a panel chaired by Professor Neal Pease,




PAHA President, featured a number of sessions and concluded with an Awards Ceremony recognizing achievements in the fields of Polish American studies and culture. The Polish Consulate in Chicago, with the Honorable Consul General Zygmunt Matynia, hosted the event and PAHA President, Prof. Neal Pease distributed the Awards.

Photo Credit: Maja Trochimczyk

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PAHA GOES TO GDAŃSK! CONFERENCE “EAST CENTRAL EUROPE IN EXILE”



The Spring PAHA Board Meeting will take place at the University of Gdańsk in Poland, in conjunction with the Conference: “East Central Europe in Exile: Patterns of Transatlantic Migration.” This event will bring together scholars of migration from both sides of the Atlantic. PAHA is a proud partner in this University of Gdańsk’s endeavor, supported by the Slovak Academy of Sciences, Charles University of Prague, Historical Archives of the Hungarian State Security, Hungarian Cultural Institute in Warsaw, and the Museum of Emigration in Gdynia. An Honorary Patronage of the Pomerania Province’s Voivode as well as University of Gdansk’s Rector was extended over this event. A result of international cooperation fostered by the Visegrad Fund, this conference attracted well over fifty scholars from thirteen different countries. More than fifteen PAHA members will deliver their papers at various sessions organized from May 31 to June 3, 2012.  [see p. 3](#)

PAHA continues to take satisfaction in the enthusiastic reception of the recently published *The Polish*



American Encyclopedia, edited by our own Professor James S. Pula, with the collaboration and contribution of numerous PAHA members. The *Encyclopedia* has appeared to excellent reviews and impressive accolades, and already has established itself as a landmark event in scholarship in our field.

In the coming summer, PAHA will hold its midyear meeting in Gdańsk, Poland, in connection with the conference "East Central Europe in Exile," May 31-June 3, hosted by Uniwersytet Gdański. Many PAHA members will be numbered among the scholars participating in this international meeting. Our thanks to our colleague, Professor Anna Mazurkiewicz of Uniwersytet Gdański, for her excellent work in organizing the conference.

Looking ahead to next year, our next annual meeting will be held in the "Big Easy," New Orleans, in January 2013, in conjunction with the conference of the American Historical Association. You will find the call for papers on p. 5 of the Newsletter, and please consider submitting a proposal.

Hoping to see many of you both in Gdańsk and New Orleans!
PAHA

Neal Pease
President

The opening session was dedicated to Polonia in the Northeastern U.S., with papers by Barbara Pułaski and Francis Woleński (the Polish community in Clinton, Mass.); Monika Wołoszyn-Domagala (linguistic identity of Polish heritage speakers), and Anne M. Gurnack (New York City Polonia). The second session focused on the history of Polish-American organizations and stirred a controversy with two papers about Polish-American Congress. The legacy of Edward Moskal, former PAC President, inspired a highly spirited discussion after positive papers by Donald Pienkos and Joanna Wojdon. Maja Trochimczyk presented the achievements of Helena Modjeska Art and Culture Club in Los Angeles and Pien Versteegh focused on Polish-American organizations by women. The session on Anticommunism in Transnational Perspectives included papers by Marek J. Chodakiewicz, Wojciech Jerzy Muszyński, Ieva Zake, and Tania Mastrapa, with comments by John Radzilowski. Diverse topics in Polish-American history, from Pułaski (Angela Pienkos), to the Polish Brigade (Piotr Derengowski), Solidarity (Sarah Grunberg), and Piast Institute's Survey (Thaddeus C. Radzilowski) concluded the proceedings of the first day. The four Saturday sessions started with an overview of Polish and Polish-American literary themes. Sylvia Dapia researched Gombrowicz in Argentina; Stuart Dybek's Chicago attracted the attention of Grażyna J. Kozaczka; the creativity of Tadeusz Wittlin inspired Peter Obst; and the travels of Grotowski in America fascinated Magda Romańska. Chicago, the capital of Polish America, deserved its own session, with Victoria Granacki tracing the footsteps of Ignacy Jan Paderewski; Małgorzata Kot outlining the history of the Polish-American Museum; Joanna Wojdon returning to issues of Polish-American Congress' and James Pula delighting the audience with a criminal story of the "Greasy Thumb" (Jake Guzik), an associate of Al Capone. Religion in Polish America was the focus of John Radzilowski, Adam Walaszek, Theodore Zawistowski, and Charles Z. Kaczyński, with comments by Margaret J. Renczewicz. Two book sessions focused on Brian McCook's *The Borders of Integration* (Pien Versteegh), and *The Katyń Order*, a novel by Dough Jacobson (Thomas J. Napierkowski).



POLISH AMERICAN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION 2011 AWARDS 

At the PAHA Annual Meeting, during a Reception organized by the Polish Consul, on January 7, 2012, the Association bestowed its Annual Awards for the year 2011 on the following distinguished individuals and organizations.

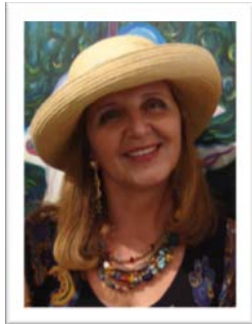
The **Mieczysław Haiman Award**, a life-time achievement award offered annually to an American scholar for sustained contribution to the study of Polish Americans, was presented to **Dr. Anna Jaroszyńska-Kirchmann**. She is Professor of History at Eastern Connecticut State University, where she teaches American history. A past winner of PAHA's Halecki and Swastek awards, she has been President and First Vice President of PAHA. She has recently served as an associate editor of *The Polish American Encyclopedia*.



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Here comes the spring again! This is our 69th year and in 2013 we will celebrate our 70th anniversary!



Despite its senior age, PAHA is young at heart and energetic, boldly embracing new media and forging new collaborations. Thanks to the efforts of Prof. Steven Leahy, we now have a Facebook group with about 180 members. In order to post news about our awards, events, and deadlines, I established a blog, PAHAnews.blogspot.org. The site has three editors, Pien Versteegh, John Z. Guzowski and myself. Check it out and do not forget to send us your own success stories for the "Personalia" page – by email. If you have any letters, diaries, or documents in Polish about your or your family's emigration to America, contact the organizers of the Polish Museum of Emigration in Gdynia, Poland. They are now seeking donations of this material. PAHA's own donation ceremony will coincide with a conference on *East Central Europe in Exile* at the University of Gdańsk, Poland, where the Board will meet in May 2012 and 15 PAHA scholars will present their research.

There are many fascinating aspects of Polish-American history, many new books, and events. Documenting our collective past is now more important than ever.

Maja Trochimczyk
PAHA News Editor

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The Oskar Halecki Prize, recognizing an important book or monograph on the Polish experience in the United States, was awarded to Prof. James S. Pula, ed., *The Polish American Encyclopedia* (McFarland and Co., 2010). Dr. Pula is the obvious choice for his excellent editorship and guidance in the publication of *The Polish American Encyclopedia*, certain to become a landmark reference work in the fields of Polish and Polish American history.

The Amicus Poloniae Award recognizing contributions to the field by someone not of Polish ancestry went to **Dr. Pien Versteegh**. As Executive Director of PAHA, Versteegh has effectively performed all of the administrative functions of the organization.




The Distinguished Service Award recognized **Ms. Cheryl Pula** as the individual member of PAHA who has rendered valuable and sustained service to the organization. Pula (the sister of Prof. Pula) read the entire manuscript of *The Polish American Encyclopedia* twice - once in draft form and once in page proofs. The first time she listed 71 pages, single-spaced, of errors, missing information, or unclear statements. The second time she noted over two dozen pages of corrections of the page proofs. In addition, she authored about 20 individual entries.

The Creative Arts Award was bestowed on **Dr. John Z. Guzowski**. He is Professor Emeritus of Literature at Eastern Illinois University, and a noted poet. He has published the well-received works *Lightning and Ashes* and *Third Winter of War: Buchenwald*. Beyond that, he has made major contributions to Polish-American culture by promoting the works of other Polish American poets and writers.



The Joseph Swastek Prize for an outstanding article published in the previous years in *Polish American Studies* recognized the work of **Dr. Robert Szymczak**, "Cold War Crusader: Arthur Bliss Lane and the Private Committee to Investigate the Katyń Massacre, 1949-1952," (*Polish American Studies* (67), Autumn 2010). Professor Szymczak is Associate Professor of History at Penn State University, Beaver. His article is a fine study of the efforts of a onetime U.S. ambassador to Poland to uncover the truth of the Katyń atrocity, making excellent use of original research.

The Skalny Civic Achievement Awards honor individuals or groups who advance PAHA's goals of promoting research and awareness of the Polish-American experience and/or have made significant contributions to Polish or Polish-American community and culture. The 2011 Skalny Awards recognized the following persons and institutions.  [see p. 4](#)



Prof. Pease with Maria Ciesla



Prof. Pease, Hon. Aurelia Pucinski and Frank Spula



Sharon Zago, VP, Polish Women Alliance



Paul Odrobina, VP, Polish National Alliance



PAHA 2011 Award Recipients

Dr. Bożena Nowicka McLees and **Dr. Frank Kujawiński** of Loyola University of Chicago, developers of their university's Polish Studies program. The late Dr. Frank Kujawiński and Dr. Bożena Nowicka McLees have been successfully active in their work to expand Polish Studies program at Loyola.



Dr. Bożena Nowicka McLees, Prof. Pease

Maria Ciesla, Director of the Polish Museum of America, has been very effective in the work of the Polish Museum of America which is associated with the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America and includes major collections and holdings dedicated to Ignacy Jan Paderewski, Polish artists, writers, politicians, and community activists.

Hon. Aurelia Pucinski, Member of the Appellate Court of the State of Illinois, was recognized as a leader in the Chicago Polonia, supportive of cultural matters in Polonia, and perhaps the most visible culturally active elected public official of Polish heritage in Illinois. (Portrayed with Mr. Frank Spula, President of the Polish American Congress and Polish National Alliance and a past recipient of the Skalny award in 2003.)

Sharon Zago, Vice President of the Polish Women's Alliance of America, has long been a strong promoter of her fraternal involvement in community cultural matters.

Paul Odrobina, Vice President of the Polish National Alliance and past president of the Michigan Division of the Polish American Congress, is involved with his organization's cultural outreach and before assuming the vice presidency of the PNA was very active in cultural matters in Detroit. See his remarks on p. XX of the PAHA Newsletter.

Ewa Barczyk, Director of the Golda Meir Library of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, is a longtime supporter of Polish cultural activities at the Library and University and President of Polanki, the Polish Women's Cultural Club of Milwaukee, one of this country's most active community groups.

St. Mary of Nazareth Hospital of Chicago, founded by Frances Siedliska in 1894 to serve the city's Polish community, ministers to people of all races, creeds, and national origins. In 1902, Dziennik Chicagoski labeled it the "Pride of Polonia Chicagoska." The hospital has, over the years, promoted Polish identity and culture in innumerable ways.

Gabriela Pawluś Kasprzak, **Krystyna Cap**, and **Mark Kohan** were recognized for their meritorious contributions to *The Polish American Encyclopedia*. Gabriela Pawluś Kasprzak authored an essay on the Polish experience in Canada. Krystyna Cap authored more than two dozen excellent entries. Editor Mark Kohan provided the entire back files of the *Polish American Journal* to assist in identifying possible entries and locating specific information.





PAHA's 2013 Annual Meeting will be held in **New Orleans, Louisiana from January 3-6, 2013** as part of the American Historical Association's Annual Conference. Abstracts for papers and panel proposals are now being accepted and should be submitted to the PAHA Conference Coordinator — Professor Neal Pease (pease@uwm.edu), Department of History, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, P.O. Box 413, Milwaukee, WI 53201, USA. Electronic proposals (in email & word format are strongly preferred.) **The deadline for submissions is April 15, 2012.**

Individuals and panel organizers should include the following information when submitting a proposal:

- Paper/Session title(s) (of no more than 20 words)
- Paper/Session abstract(s) (up to 300/500 words, respectively)
- Biographical paragraph or c.v. summary (up to 250 words) for each participant
- Correct mailing and e-mail address for each participant
- Chair (required) and commentator (optional) for the session
- Audiovisual needs, if any. Please be advised that it is unlikely that PAHA will be able to use PowerPoint in its sessions, due to the high cost of rental, or that presenters will be permitted by the hosting conference hotel to bring their own. You may wish to consider distribution of paper handouts as an alternative.

The Polish American Historical Association holds its Annual Conference in conjunction with the American Historical Association (AHA). The full information about the AHA conference can be found at www.historians.org. PAHA members who plan to attend PAHA conference only do not need to register for the AHA conference, but are required to register for the PAHA conference by November 1, 2012. Registration may be done on-line at www.polishamericanstudies.org or by sending the \$20.00 registration fee to the PAHA Headquarters c/o Magda Jacques, Central Connecticut State University, 1615 Stanley Street, New Britain, CT 06050.

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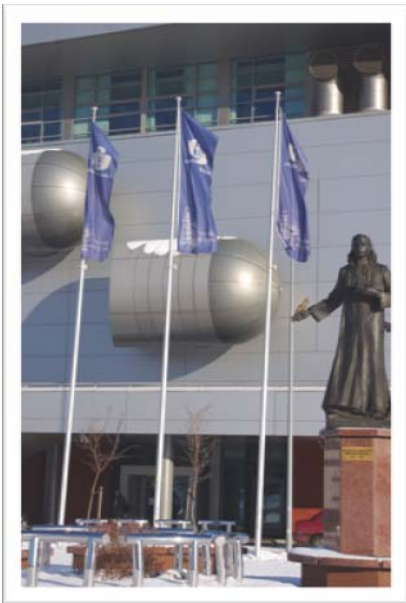
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EUROPE IN EXILE, FROM P. 1



The planned debates will revolve around the issues of reasons for transatlantic migrations, emigrants' travel and adaptation experiences, assimilation and acculturation processes, political activities of the émigrés, as well as East Central European cultural and artistic contributions to local cultures in the Americas. The conference will feature nine sessions of five papers each dealing with a different topic. These scholarly exchanges will be complemented with educational, cultural and social events like visits to local museums, documentary movie screening, sight-seeing tours, at times combined with delicious Polish food tasting. The event will conclude with a foreign scholars' workshop for the University of Gdańsk students entitled: "How to Write Migration History."


For the complete program please see the event's website: eceinexile.ug.edu.pl/en/conference_program/. The list of papers by PAHA Board and Members is on the following page.  [continued on p. 7](#)

Photo credit: Gdańsk University photos by Dr. Anna Mazurkiewicz.

GIFTS OF LETTERS AND DIARIES SOUGHT BY THE EMIGRATION MUSEUM IN GDYNIA

Emigration is an inseparable element of our collective memory. It is the history often overlooked, concealed, even distorted – though it may fill the hearts of Poles with pride. The newly created Emigration Museum in Gdynia is the only place in Poland which will present the history of emigration from the Polish lands. It is also among few institutions of this type in the world where this story can resound in so adequate place, closely related to the topic – a unique building of the Maritime Station, from where thousands of people set off for their voyage that often changed their fate.

The history of emigration is very personal and deeply moving - made up of millions of people's fates. The effort to collect many aspects of Polish emigration under one roof is a challenging, but a rewarding task. Therefore, the Emigration Museum in Gdynia is looking for personal stories, photos, movies, letters, documents, recordings, biographies, souvenirs and any artifacts, which will enable us to create, in co-operation with the Polish Diaspora, a really unique and authentic atmosphere of this place. Moreover, while presenting the unique history of the Polish emigration the Museum seeks to create an archive of Polish expatriates – a computer database of life stories of expatriate families. Under this project we will carry out such activities as the collection of documents and mementos, sources, audio-video documentation, publications, and scholarly exchanges.

The future Museum counts on co-operation and assistance of all research centers dealing with issues relating to emigration and the Polish community abroad. Contact: Karolina Grabowicz–Matyjas k.grabowicz@muzeumemigracji.pl, plenipotentiary of the President of Gdynia for the Emigration Museum. For more details see: www.muzeumemigracji.pl.





East Central Europe in Exile – PAHA Papers, *continued from p. 5*



During the Conference at Gdańsk University PAHA members and board members will present the following papers:

Prof. Silvia G. Dapía (John Jay College, City University of New York, USA), *Argentina's Attempt to Foster Immigration from Eastern Europe in the 1990s*.

Prof. Anne M. Gurnack (University of Wisconsin Milwaukee, USA), *Health Care Services for Polish Immigrants in New York City: 1890-1930*.

Prof. Anna Siwik (AGH - University of Science and Technology, Kraków, Poland), *Cooperation among East European Émigrés. The Socialist case*.

Dr. Anna Mazurkiewicz (University of Gdańsk), *The activities of the Assembly of Captive European Nations (1954-1972) in the light of the "ACEN News"*.

Prof. Anna Jaroszyńska-Kirchmann (Eastern Connecticut State University), *Informal Communication*

Networks in the Polish Diaspora: Letter-writing, Press, and Communities of Emigrants and Exiles.

Prof. Mary P. Erdmans (Central Connecticut State University, USA), *Residential Density and Dispersal: The Acculturation and Persistence of the Polish American Community in Connecticut*.

Dr. Pien Versteegh (Windesheim University of Applied Sciences, Netherlands), *Learning to Move Up. Educational patterns of Polish migrants in Pennsylvania, 1900-1930*.

Dr. Brian McCook (Leeds Metropolitan University, U.K.), *Education in War and Exile: The Polish Experience in Britain*.

Prof. James S. Pula (Purdue University North Central, USA), *Ethnic Cooperation in Antebellum America*.

Piotr Derengowski (University of Gdańsk, Poland), *Polish Voice on Slavery in the United States of America in Mid-19th Century*.

Prof. Dorota Przaszłowicz (Jagiellonian University), *Cooperation and conflict: Polish and German immigrants in the United States in the late 19th century*.

Dr. Stephen M. Leahy (Shantou University, Shantou China), *Two Ends of a Bridge: Polonia and African Americans in Milwaukee, 1960*.

Dr. Ieva Zake (Rowan University, USA), *Experience of political exile and the nature of ethnic prejudice*.

Prof. Grażyna J. Kozaczka (Cazenovia College, Cazenovia, New York), *The Great Divide? Post-war/Post-Solidarity: Polish Immigrants in Semi-autobiographical Fiction by W.S. Kuniczak and Czesław Karkowski*.

Dr. Maja Trochimczyk (Moonrise Press, Los Angeles), *A Century of Musical Exiles and Emigrants: From Jan Pychowski to Marta Ptaszyńska*.

Prof. Thomas J. Napierkowski (University of Colorado, Colorado Springs, USA), *Polish American Literature: A Story of Exile, Emigration, and Adaptation*.

Dr. Harriet Napierkowski (University of Colorado, Colorado Springs, USA), *Navigating the Divide: A Memoir of Post-WWII Exile and Displacement*.

Ewa Barczyk (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, USA) and **Prof. Neal Pease** (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, USA), *The Roman Kwasniewski Photographic Collection: A Visual Record of Milwaukee Polonia*.



5TH WORKSHOP ON AMERICAN ETHNICITY - KRAKÓW, MAY 26-29, 2012



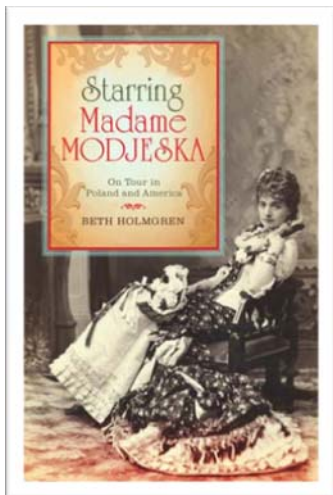
Institute of American Studies and Polish Diaspora of the Jagiellonian University, Kraków, and the Immigration and Ethnic History Society (Organization of American Historians) announce the 5th Workshop, *American Ethnicity: Rethinking Old Issues, Asking New Questions*, to be held at the Jagiellonian University in Kraków, between May 28th and 29th, 2012. The workshop will gather leading scholars of American ethnic and migration studies and will create an opportunity to discuss ongoing research in this field. In contrast to large conferences, which are organized into parallel sessions or huge plenary sessions, the workshop gives the participants the chance to meet and hold discussions face to face. There is enough time for presentations and for comments.

The list of 2012 workshop participants is open. There will be a session devoted to Polish American experience featuring Prof. Neal Pease and Prof. James Pula. The event's organizers invite PAHA members and will cover accommodation in Kraków between May 26th and 30th, but not the travel cost. The workshop proceedings will be published. Contact person: Dr. Agnieszka Małek, aga.malek@wp.pl.



Beth Holmgren, Professor of Slavic and Eurasian Studies and Theater Studies at Duke University, has recently published ***Starring Madame Modjeska: On Tour in Poland and America*** (Indiana University Press, 2011). The biography traces the meteoric rise to international fame of Poland's leading actress, Helena Modrzejewska (1840-1909), who emigrated to the U.S. in 1876. After the failure of her plans to establish a utopian community on an estate in Orange County, CA, she changed her name to Modjeska and quickly became a leading star on the American stage, where she reigned for the next 30 years. During this time, she established herself as America's most esteemed Shakespearean actress, playing opposite such celebrated actors as Edwin Booth and Maurice Barrymore.

Starring Madame Modjeska traces Modjeska's incredible life and career from her birth in poverty in Kraków, to her successive reinventions of herself as a star in both Poland and America, and finally to her enduring legacy. **Prof. Beth Holmgren** is author of, among other books, *Women's Works in Stalin's Time*, editor (with Helena Gościło) of *Poles Apart: Women in Modern Polish Culture*, and translator and editor (with Helena Gościło) of *The Keys to Happiness* by Anastasya Verbitskaya.



Tadeusz Wittlin is probably one of the least known Polish writers who have had an outstanding a career in the United States. Born in 1909, he attended the University of Warsaw earning separate masters degrees in law (1932) and the arts (1933). Soon he gave up the practice of law in favor of a position as an editor on the staff of a satirical magazine, *Cyrulik Warszawski* (Warsaw Barber). By then he had already published a volume of poetry and a novel. When World War II began in 1939 he joined the Polish armed forces and soon found himself in Russian captivity. Freed under an agreement worked out by Gen. Sikorski when Germany turned on its former Soviet ally, Wittlin travelled across Russia to join the Polish Army being formed at Buzuluk in the Southern Ural Mountains. He served as a Public Relations Officer and an editor of *Parada*, a news magazine published for the Polish Armed Forces. After the war he briefly worked in Paris before emigrating to the United States where initially he was a translator and writer for Radio Free Europe and Voice of America. In 1959, he became editor at the United States Information agency's Polish language publication *Ameryka* which enjoyed a large circulation in Poland. In 1961 he brought Genia Galewska, his pre-war fiancée, to the United States from Poland and they were married in Washington, DC.

Wittlin published 16 books that included *Time Stopped at 6:30* (about Katyń), *Commissar: The Life and Death of Lavrenty Pavlovich Beria*, and a set of sketches about his time in Russia, entitled *A Reluctant Traveler in Russia*. His last book was *Szabla i Koń* (The Saber and the Horse), a biography of Gen. Bolesław Wieniawa-Długoszowski in which he included some of his own experiences from the inter-war period in Poland. He died in 1998, followed by his wife Genia in 2012. During their time in Washington, D.C., they kept an open house for Polish writers, artists and intellectuals. Among photographs and papers that were left as a part of his archive is a fascinating study of the passing of the Beat Generation in the early 1960s. This book was at first entitled *Tales from the White Horse Tavern* and later renamed *Left Bank, New York*. It still awaits publication. Additional information about Tadeusz Wittlin may be found at: www.poles.org/DB/W_names/Wittlin_T/Wittlin_T.html



REMARKS BY PAUL ODROBINA – SKALNY AWARD WINNER



The key topic we all discuss in the fraternal system and Polonia at-large is how do we attract new members, especially the young people? This question is not unique to our Polonia but is a



concern even in other non-Polish groups and service clubs. We can market all we can within our budgets but I believe it comes down to bringing into the fold our young people one-by-one by our example. They need to be exposed to what the fraternal do for them to become involved - even to the extent that they be given the opportunity to develop programs that interest their respective age groups.

My personal involvement started at a very young age. My grandfather and father - who incidentally founded a PNA Lodge - would take me to PNA meetings and even community events. It became second nature to be at these gatherings. It was an opportunity to be with my Dziadzia and my Father and it made me feel special. I remember one of the first meetings I attended was when my Grandfather picked me up and let me stand on a table in the back of the room so I could see what was going on. The only thing I remembered was that it became heated at times, however, when the gavel signaled the end of the meeting a barrel of beer was tapped and cigars were lit and everything was good.



My parents also gave me the opportunity to be involved in Polonia through Polish language classes, Młody Teatr (Young People's Theater), and working as a volunteer at many events. I served Polonia at many levels in the PNA my whole life and for 23 years as President of the PAC Michigan Division. I believe, because I was brought along at such a young age to Polonia events it made me more comfortable to belong and participate as I grew older.

Therefore, I say that when you bring your young children to organized Polonia's events they will also be influenced toward a sense of belonging and become more involved in the preservation of our Polish Heritage. I have always believed that you the parents and grandparents through your example can make a great impression upon our youth to participate and carry on our traditions. Your example can make an impression upon them.



SUMMER IN WARSAW COLLEGIUM CIVITAS INTERNSHIPS



Collegium Civitas has launched its fifth edition of its summer internship program that offers students unique opportunity to undertake professional, English-language internships in various public and non-profit organizations in areas ranging from international politics, diplomacy, human rights, civic and political education, civil society, to arts, culture, Jewish history, economics, business, statistics, media and journalism, legal affairs, environment, etc. The program includes 25-30 hours of internship per week. Students can apply for a minimum of 4-week and up to 10-week internships, beginning on May 15, June 1 or June 15. The summer internships end usually around July 31 though it might be extended to August. Interested students can also register for credited academic and internship seminars and a Polish language course

Graduate and undergraduate students can apply. Civitas summer internship program has a rolling admission and interested applicants are invited to submit their applications to the program anytime until April 10 or April 20 depending on the starting date of the internship.

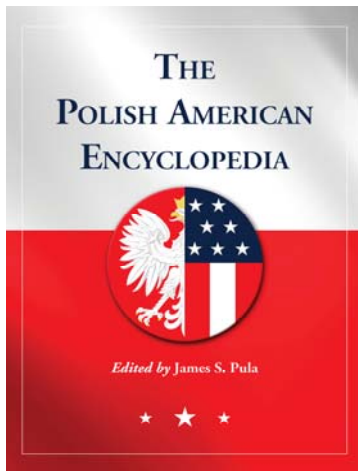
Inquiries about the program can be directed to Olena Tregub, Executive Director, Global Educational Leadership, at olenatregub@globaleducationleadership.org, or tel. 646 670 6089.

For more information visit the site: www.globalyouthleadership.org





NEWS ABOUT THE POLISH AMERICAN ENCYCLOPEDIA



The PAHA-sponsored encyclopedia published by McFarland Publishers continues to draw praise. During its winter conference in Dallas, Texas on January 22, 2012, the American Library Association Reference and User Services Association (ALA RUSA) named *The Polish American Encyclopedia* as one of eleven titles on its “2012 Outstanding Reference Sources” list. *Choice*, the journal of the Association of College and Research Libraries, recommended *The Polish American Encyclopedia* as “essential” and published a positive review:

“The publication of this work is a landmark in reference and ethnic studies and represents an impressive effort on the part of its creators to include significant amounts of regional and ethnic history and culture in an affordable volume. If a public or academic library needs only one reference work on Polish Americans, this is the resource.”

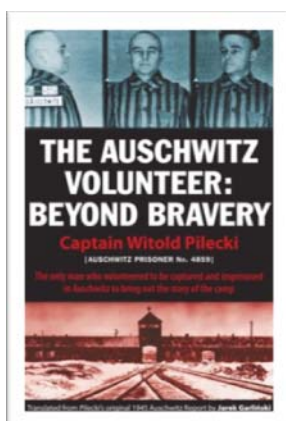
Published by McFarland Publishers in cooperation with the Polish American Historical Association and edited by James S. Pula, *The Polish American Encyclopedia* is the definitive reference work on Polish American history and culture. Its 585 pages are jam-packed with over 1,200 entries richly illustrated by more than 350 photographs. The encyclopedia is designed as a research tool for students, researchers and the general public. In addition to those already acknowledged, PAHA would also like to thank Joseph Zurawski and Jerry Krase for their financial support and scholarly contributions to the success of the Encyclopedia.

“Every major ethnic group has published an encyclopedia detailing its experiences and contributions to American society,” explained editor James S. Pula. “Now, for the first time, Polish Americans have their own encyclopedia to preserve their heritage for their children and grandchildren.” The Encyclopedia includes essays on Polish Americans in organized labor, education, politics, religious life, and other subjects, along with entries that explain the histories of Polonia organizations, the Polish Army in France, the Lattimer Massacre, and other topics. There are also biographies of prominent Polish Americans who made significant contributions to America life. The entries include references for additional information.

To Order Your Copy Contact McFarland Publishers at 1-800-253-2187 or www.mcfarlandpub.com Hardcover (8.5 x 11”) – ISBN 978-0-7864-3308-7 Ebook – ISBN 978-0-7864-6222-3





CAPTAIN PILECKI’S AUSCHWITZ REPORT



The Auschwitz Volunteer: Beyond Bravery, by Captain Witold Pilecki (1901-1948), translated by Jarek Garlinski, is due out on April 30, 2012 from Aquila Polonica Publishing. Pilecki’s reports from his nearly three-year undercover mission as a prisoner at Auschwitz convinced the Allies of the reality of Holocaust. A member of the underground Home Army, he later fought in the Warsaw Uprising and, after the war, was executed by the Communist government. He later received the highest state honors. The report features an introduction by Norman Davies and a foreword by Rabbi Michael Schudrich, the Chief Rabbi of Poland. It has been chosen as a featured selection by several book clubs. Professor Antony Polonsky (Brandeis University) calls this book “a real contribution to our understanding of the history of Poland under Nazi occupation.”




POETRY CORNER

PAHA Creative Arts Award Winner
John Z. Guzowski



What My Father Believed

He didn't know about the Rock of Ages
 or bringing in the sheaves or Jacob's ladder
 or gathering at the beautiful river
 that flows beneath the throne of God.
 He'd never heard of the Baltimore Catechism
 either, and didn't know the purpose of life
 was to love and honor and serve God.

He'd been to the village church as a boy
 in Poland, and knew he was Catholic
 because his mother and father were buried
 in a cemetery under wooden crosses.
 His sister Catherine was buried there too.

The day their mother died Catherine took
 to the kitchen corner where the stove sat,
 and cried. She wouldn't eat or drink, just cried
 until she died there, died of a broken heart.
 She was three or four years old, he was five.

What he knew about the nature of God
 and religion came from the sermons
 the priests told at mass, and this got mixed up
 with his own life. He knew living was hard,
 and that even children are meant to suffer.

Sometimes, when he was drinking he'd ask,
 "Didn't God send his own son here to suffer?"
 My father believed we are here to lift logs
 that can't be lifted, to hammer steel nails
 so bent they crack when we hit them.
 In the slave labor camps in Germany,
 He'd seen men try the impossible and fail.

He believed life is hard, and we should
 help each other. If you see someone
 on a cross, his weight pulling him down
 and breaking his muscles, you should try
 to lift him, even if only for a minute,
 even though you know lifting won't save him.

Work and Death

At the end
 my father sat in his garden
 in the early morning

the desert in Sun City,
 Arizona, this strange place,
 still cool

the clear light
 tinged with desert blue

the pigeons cooing.

He couldn't lift
 the shovel then, drag
 the bag of topsoil
 from here to there.

He couldn't breathe
 or stand either.
 There wasn't much
 left to him.

But he could nod
 toward an orange tree,
 its roots bound in burlap,
 and point to the place
 where he wanted me
 to plant it.

There, he'd say
 to me in Polish,
 please plant it there.



JOHN Z. GUZLOWSKI's poetry, fiction, and essays have appeared on *Garrison Kellior's Writers Almanac* ("What My Father Believed") and in *The Ontario Review*, *Chattahoochee Review*, *Modern Fiction Studies*, *Nimrod*, *Margie*, *Exquisite Corpse* and other journals here and in Europe. His poems about his Polish parents' experiences in Nazi concentration camps appear in his books *Lightning and Ashes* and *Third Winter of War: Buchenwald*. *Third Winter* was nominated for the Pulitzer Prize in Poetry.

Guzowski received the American Council For Polish Culture's Cultural Achievement Award in 2009. In 2012, he was interviewed by the online journal *As it Ought to Be*. His poems were reprinted in *Redux: A Literary Journal* in April 2012.

Guzowski blogs about his parents and their lives at lightning-and-ashes.blogspot.com. He also maintains the popular blog on Polish-American literature, *Writing the Polish Diaspora*: <http://writingpolishdiaspora.blogspot.com>

Poems reprinted from
Lightning And Ashes
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MIKE KRZYŻEWSKI BREAKS NCAA RECORD – by Raymond Rolak



Coach 'K' is congratulated at the ESPN broadcast table at the Lahaina Civic Auditorium after Duke won the 2011 EA Maui Invitational tournament. Photo courtesy of Rolco Sports Network.

You could feel the energy outside the storied arena, and the buzz was noticeably heightened. Students and young people were begging for tickets. Street cart vendors were selling roasted chestnuts on the corners. Souvenir peddlers were doing a brisk business with tee-shirts and hats. Shortly thereafter and just like that, it was over and everybody was hugging. Duke University basketball players surrounded their coach, Mike Krzyzewski 'Coach K', 64. When Duke beat Michigan State at Madison Square Garden in November 2011 (74-69), 'Coach K' became the NCAA Division-I all-time "winningest" coach. The Blue Devils gave 'Coach K' his 903rd win, breaking the tie with Bob Knight, Krzyzewski's model and mentor throughout his career. After the victory, Krzyzewski went across the court and embraced his mentor. 'Coach K', now in his 37th year of coaching, had played for and had been an assistant for Coach Knight at West Point.

When I asked him what he had said to Coach Knight, Krzyzewski responded, "I just told him, Coach, I'm not sure people tell you this, but I love you, and I love what you've done for me, and thank you." This had transpired after the game amidst jostling cameras, credentialed media and aggressive New York *paparazzi*. The two coaching veterans had hugged for a moment when Krzyzewski leaned over the ESPN television monitors to embrace Knight. Knight had held the previous record. It was a special moment...

Krzyzewski grew up in Chicago and played for Weber High School, a parochial prep school. When he attended the Army Military Academy he was recruited and mentored by Knight. Four decades later, he found himself surpassing his old coach. Knight said in his booming voice, "You've done pretty good for a kid who couldn't shoot." 'Coach K' smiling added quickly, "So I think that meant he loves me, too."

Duke assistant coach Steve Wojciechowski has been around for many of 'Coach K's victories as a member of the staff and as one of his point guards. Wojciechowski was jubilant when saying, "He'd probably have gotten to this a lot sooner if I hadn't played. It's pretty sweet. Not just the wins, but how he did it. He didn't talk one time about the record, which is pretty remarkable."

"It's a special moment," Krzyzewski said of his family and former players being there. "At halftime I wasn't sure we were going to have this moment. We beat a really good team, and I'm glad now we can just move on and just develop our team." His body of accomplishments as a coach have more sparkle than this one game — 11 Final Fours, four NCAA championships, an Olympic gold medal, enshrinement in the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame and 1991 induction into the National Polish-American Sports Hall of Fame. "Ray, to me, it's more relief to get on to the next thing," Krzyzewski said. Next year he is even scheduled to coach the 2012 U.S. Olympic Team in London. His first career victory on Nov. 28, 1975, when Army beat Lehigh 56-29, was the start along the path that led to this all-time win record.

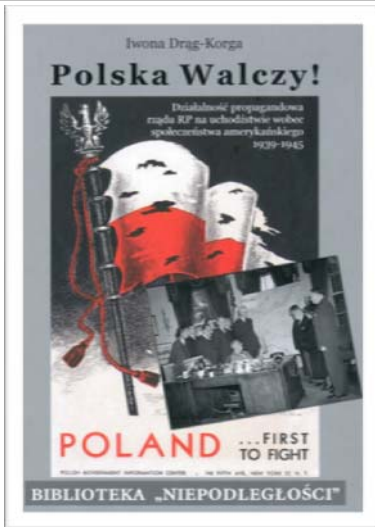
When Mike Krzyzewski speaks in public, he usually highlights family and his modest Polish-American upbringing. He was presented with the game ball from the historic contest and said, "This is for our basketball family and will go into our museum at Duke." 'OUR' was the key word and family is a cornerstone in his mission statement of life. He spoke with feeling about how much it meant for his older brother to be here, especially since the passing of his mother and father. Mickie, his wife of 43 years was there, along with the grandchildren. At this apex moment, he was proud and grateful that his older brother William was there. William has been ailing from the effects of a 40 year Chicago firefighter's career. On this special night he showed that he loves his wife, he is proud of his three daughters, he adores his grandchildren, he misses his parents and he looks up to his brother.

Sto-Lat!

NOTE: Raymond Rolak is the Past Chairman of the National Polish-American Sports Hall of Fame.



IWONA DRĄG-KORGA'S NEW BOOK ON POLAND IN WWII



PAHA Board Member and the Executive Director of the Piłsudski Institute in New York, Dr. Iwona Drąg Korga, published a new book (in Polish), entitled *Poland Fights! The Publicity Activities of the Polish Government-in-Exile in America, 1939-1945 / Polska Walczy! Działalność propagandowa rządu RP na uchodźstwie wobec społeczeństwa amerykańskiego 1939-1945* (Bełchatów 2011, Instytut Piłsudskiego w Warszawie).

This book, based on extensive research in the United States, England and Poland, presents the Polish Government-in-Exile efforts to present Polish war aims to American public and the government in order to gain the support of President Roosevelt for the Polish cause. The Government-in-Exile funded a number of interrelated centers in order to influence American public opinion. The most important was the Polish Information Center, followed by the Polish Embassy in Washington and the consulates. The publicity campaign was strengthened by visits of members of the Government and various Polonia organizations. The

Polish Information Center had the primary responsibility of setting the tone of Polish publicity efforts in the United States during World War II. These public relations activities were greatly influenced by competing visions of postwar Poland held by various political factions in the Polish Government-in-Exile.

The study focuses on the creation of the Polish Information Center, its personnel, funds, its actions and themes related to the Central European federation, its work with American working class and mass media, and the attitude of the Roosevelt administration towards the Polish publicity efforts. The author presents the achievements of Polish information and communications campaigns; describes the main leaders of PIC like Stefan Ropp; and points out challenges for the official Polish information policy created by its opponents, including Communist propaganda activities. This book can be purchased by writing to: I.Korga@pilsudski.org.



NOT QUITE WHITE? A DOCUMENTARY ON ETHNIC RELATIONS



A new documentary film, *Not Quite White: Arabs, Slavs, and the Contours of Contested Whiteness* may be of interest for use in classes in American Studies, Ethnic Studies, Cultural Studies, Race & Ethnic Relations, Whiteness Studies, Polish American Studies, Slavic Studies, Immigration History and related subjects. The film, produced by Silk Road Rising, is available in its entirety online (for free) at: www.silkroadrising.org/video-plays/not-quite-white

Not Quite White, directed by Jamil Khoury and Stephen Combs, explores the complicated relationship of Arab and Slavic immigrants to American notions of whiteness. *Not Quite White* is dedicated to a vision that is anti-racist and rooted in economic justice. The film expands the American conversation on race by zeroing in on whiteness as a constructed social/political category, a “slippery slope” that historically “played favorites,” advantaging Northern and Western Europeans over immigrants from Eastern and Southern Europe and the Middle East.

Inspired by Jamil Khoury's short play *WASP: White Arab Slovak Pole*, *Not Quite White* integrates scenes from *WASP* alongside interviews with Arab American and Polish American academics who reflect upon “contested” and “probationary” categories of whiteness and the use of anti-Black racism as a “whitening” dye. In the history of American whiteness, several groups of ostensibly “white” people have, at different times and for different reasons, been assigned a “conditional” or “partial” white status. Appalachian whites and poor whites were two such groups. Greek, Irish, Italian, and Jewish immigrants also endured periods of “transitional” whiteness, consigned to a sort of white purgatory. The academics featured in *Not Quite White* include: Roxane Assaf, Adjunct Faculty, School of the Art Institute of Chicago; **Ann Hetzel Gunkel**, Director of Cultural Studies, Columbia College Chicago; John Tofik Karam, Assistant Professor of Latin American and Latino Studies, De Paul University; and **Dominic A. Pacyga**, Professor of History, Columbia College Chicago.



The United Polish Genealogical Societies is having its biennial conference in Salt Lake City from April 20-23, 2012. Dr. Barbara Berska, Deputy of the Polish State Archives and Steve Morse are the keynote speakers. A block of rooms is reserved at the Salt Lake Plaza Hotel. Call to make reservations: 1 (800) 366-3684 and mention group number 9197 for reduced rates. The cost for the conference is \$85.00 and the banquet on Monday is an additional \$30.00. For further information, please contact: cjensen@mipolonia.net or vkoselka.pgsm@gmail.com

The Immigration History Research Center at the University of Minnesota seeks information about Polish immigrant letters. A few years ago the IHRC established a new project: Digitizing Immigrant Letters (DIL). So far several different collections of private letters exchanged between immigrants in America and loved ones in their European homelands have been translated into English and made accessible on the IHRC website.

The IHRC is trying to identify archival collections of such letters either in the U.S. or in Poland, and to make contact with scholars who might be studying private correspondence on the axis US - homeland. It is important that Polish letters be represented in the project which seems to be gaining visibility. Perhaps PAHA members could offer suggestions about possible archival letter collections either in the U.S. or in Poland. For more information contact Prof. Anna Jaroszyńska-Kirchmann, PAHA, or directly IHRC at their website: www.ihrc.umn.edu



AQUILA POLONICA AWARDS

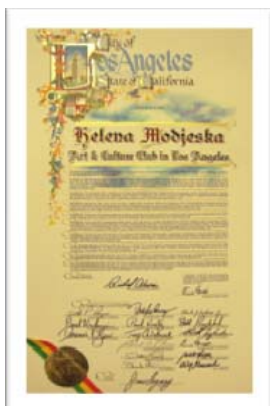


All three of Aquila Polonica's 2010 releases won awards in the **2011 Benjamin Franklin Awards**, the premier awards competition in independent publishing in the U.S. With more than 1,300 entries in competition, Aquila Polonica was one of only a handful of publishers who walked away with multiple available awards. *303 Squadron: The Legendary Battle of Britain Fighter Squadron*, by Arkady Fiedler in an all-new translation by Jarek Garlinski won the top Gold Award for History, and the Silver Award for Interior Design. This is the first English-language edition since 1942, and for the first time in English identifies the Polish pilots by their real names. *303 Squadron* was excerpted in the October/November 2011 issue of Smithsonian's *Air & Space Magazine*. *The Ice Road: An Epic Journey from the Stalinist Labor Camps to Freedom*, by Stefan Waydenfeld, Foreword by Norman Davies, won the Silver Award for Autobiography/Memoir. *Maps and Shadows*, a novel, by Krysia Jopek, won the Silver Award for Historical Fiction.

The Aquila Polonica Prize – Aquila Polonica has agreed to sponsor a biennial prize to be awarded under the auspices of the Polish Studies Association to the author of the best article written in English during the previous two years on any aspect of Polish studies. This prize was awarded for the first time at the 2011 annual meeting of PSA at the ASEES National Convention in November (where Aquila Polonica enjoyed its second year as an exhibitor). There were so many excellent articles submitted in competition for the 2011 Aquila Polonica Prize that the award was split between two winners: Michael Fleming and Magda Romańska, with Robert Brier receiving Honorable Mention.



THE MODJESKA CLUB AND LEONIDAS DUDAREW OSSETYNSKI



During the 2011-2012 season, the Helena Modjeska Arts and Culture Club has been celebrating its 40th anniversary with a series of cultural events. Partners included the USC Polish Music Center, the UCLA Hammer Museum, the Bowers Museum, Ruskin Art Club, and Jacaranda. The 40th Anniversary Ball was held on February 4, 2012, honoring Consul General Joanna Kozińska-Frybes and bestowing honorary memberships on co-founders and original Board Members, Stefanie Powers and Stefan Wenta. On October 15, 2011, the Club awarded **Second Annual Modjeska Prizes** to eminent Polish actors Anna Dymna and Marian Dziędziel, in collaboration with the Polish Film Festival of Los Angeles. New discoveries about the scope of the Club's achievements were made in the collection of The Polish Museum of America in Chicago, where papers of the Club's founder, actor and director, Leonidas Dudarew Ossetyński are housed.



JOHN J. BUKOWCZYK, Professor of History at Wayne State University, continues to serve as the editor of the *Journal of American Ethnic History*, the quarterly journal of the Immigration and Ethnic History Society (IEHS). He also serves as general editor of the Ohio Univeristy Press Polish and Polish-American Studies Series. For information on the series (or to order books), visit <http://www.ohioswallow.com/series/Polish+and+Polish-American+Studies+Series> . To join the IEHS, click on <http://www.press.uillinois.edu/journals/jaeh.html>.

J. WILLIAM GORSKI had a busy year in 2011, while serving as the First Vice-President of Friends of Polish Art in Michigan, Chairman of the Szopka Competition at the Hamtramck Michigan Polish Art Center, Co-chairman of the Friends of Polish Art competition at Orchard Lake, Michigan and Vice-President and Program Chairman of the Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan and delegate to the Michigan Genealogical Council. He has completed indexing the obituaries from the Hamtramck Citizen newspaper from 1935 to 2000 and in September 2011 he received the Distinguished Service Award from the Federation of Genealogical Societies of America.

DR. DAVID JACKSON, associate professor of political science at Bowling Green State University, published a book *Classrooms and Barrooms: An American in Poland* in 2009 and was nominated for Master Teacher (in 2010 and 2011).

THOMAS J. NAPIERKOWSKI, PH.D. (University of Colorado, Colorado Springs) will be going to Romania in the fall 2012 for six weeks as a Fulbright Specialist.

EDWARD PINKOWSKI AND HIS SON JACK PINKOWSKI, President of the Poles in America Foundation, organized a successful commemoration of Gen. Casimir Pulaski's birthday on March 6, 2012 at the United States Capitol in Washington DC. Present at the wreath laying was Congressman Dan Lipinski (D-IL) and a unit of the Pulaski Cadets from Perth Amboy, NJ, along with other representatives of Polonia.

JAMES S. PULA was awarded the Rudewicz Medal for his contributions to the study of the Polish past in America and was honored with the Halecki Prize for his editorship of *The Polish American Encyclopedia*. He gave a paper on "Cultural Determinism and the Shaping of Polish American Education" at the annual meeting of the American Historical Association, and another paper, "'Greasy Thumb'—The Underside of Chicago Polonia," at the annual conference of the Polish American Historical Association. He published "The Colonial Era: Beginnings to 1776" in *Multicultural America, Volume 6, The European Americans* and a review of Susannah J. Ural's *Civil War Citizens: Race, Ethnicity, and Identity in America's Bloodiest Conflict* in *The American Historical Review*. In addition, he co-edited with Richard Hunter Vol. 57, No. 1, of *The Polish Review*.

BROTHER LEO V. RYAN, CSV, published a series of articles co-written with Prof. Richard Hunter: "Reflections on Twenty Years of Political and Economic Change in Poland" (*Global Economy Journal*, 11 no. 1, January 2011); "Polish Election 2010: Possible Economic and Political Implications" (*The Sarmatian Review*, 21 no. 1, January 2011); "An Update on Polish Foreign Direct Investment – The Story of Intrall Rus: A Case Study" (*International Journal of Humanities and Social Science*, 1 No. 1, 2011). In October 2011, the *Foreign Service Journal* recognized 21 books by foreign service officers, including *Entrepreneurship: Values and Responsibility* (Transaction Publishers, 2011), co-authored by Leo V. Ryan, Wojciech W. Gasparski and Stefan Kwiatkowski.

Aquila Polonica's President **TERRY TEGNAZIAN** was interviewed on the Lifetime Television morning show, *The Balancing Act*, discussing Aquila Polonica's book *The Mermaid and the Messerschmitt: War Through a Woman's Eyes, 1939–1940*, by Rulka Langer. The 5-minute interview is posted at www.AquilaPolonica.com

MAJA TROCHIMCZYK presented a paper on the history of the 40-year-old Modjeska Club at PAHA's Meeting in Chicago and edited an anthology of religious and spiritual poetry, *Meditations on Divine Names* (Moonrise Press, 2012; www.moonrisepress.com/divine.html), featuring 138 poems by 63 poets. In October 2011, she was honored by the City Council of Los Angeles and the Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles for 15 years of volunteering in the Polish-American community in Southern California, including her work for the Modjeska Club.



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