



Polish American Historical Association Newsletter

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Message From The President



Dear Friends,

Perhaps only the president of the Polish American Historical Association can fully realize at any given moment how talented and dedicated are the officers, board members, and general

members of this organization. It is for this very reason that I begin again with acknowledgement of some of the people who have made and are making this a productive year for PAHA.

In May PAHA held a very successful midyear meeting in Buffalo, New York. Not only did the officers and board members present attend to the important matter of reviewing reports, examining finances, and conducting business, but we also had the opportunity to renew valuable contacts with the Polish American community of Buffalo and with a host of Polonian organizations in the region. The success of the meeting and other events which were arranged are due to the remarkable efforts of Dr. Anna Mazurkiewicz of the University of Gdansk, the 2nd Vice President of PAHA, whose tireless work arranged and managed the two-day round of meetings and programs. Beyond this, special thanks also go to Dr. James Pula, Professor of History at Purdue North Central, Treasurer of PAHA, and

Editor of *Polish American Studies*, &  [See p. 2](#)

What Happened In Buffalo?

Polonia of Buffalo, New York extended a hospitable and gracious welcome to the members of the Polish American Historical Association who held their midyear meeting in Buffalo, New York on May 15-16, 2013.

On May 15, 2013 the Polish Arts Club of Buffalo sponsored a lecture by Professor Jim Pula entitled "Kosciuszko's Return to America." Attendance was 150 members and guests. Charles Peszynski and Alfred Karney of the Polish Arts Club and PAHA president Tom Napierkowski also addressed the audience. During the social hour after the lecture, Alfred Karney congratulated Dr. Anna Mazurkiewicz and thanked her for her energetic outreach and high visibility in Buffalo Polonia during her academic year as Kosciuszko Foundation visiting professor.

On May 16, 2013 the Polish Studies Program at State University of New York at Buffalo hosted the PAHA Board meeting which was followed by the tour of the Polish Room



 [See p.3](#)

PAHA'S ANNUAL MEETING IN WASHINGTON, D.C. – 2-5 JANUARY 2014

PAHA's 2014 Annual Meeting will be held in Washington, D.C. on January 2-5, 2014 as part of the American Historical Association's Annual Conference. The PAHA Meeting Program is included in the middle of this newsletter (pages 8-9). The proposals have been selected by a panel chaired by Dr. Grazyna Kozaczka, PAHA Vice-President.



Message from The President, continued from p. 1

to Dr. John Bukowczyk, Professor of History at Wayne State University and PAHA Council member, both members representing PAHA well—Dr. Pula delivering a lecture on “Kosciuszko’s Return to America” before the Polish Arts Club of Buffalo and Dr. Bukowczyk serving as keynote speaker at a joint scholarly session with members of the Polish Studies Program, the Department of Transnational Studies, and the Department of History of the State University of New York at Buffalo. It should also be noted that at this meeting the officers and board members of PAHA agreed that PAHA will join as Co-Sponsor of a conference at the University of Warsaw in June 2014; indeed, PAHA has already contributed two panels to the conference and will hold its 2014 midyear meeting in Warsaw in conjunction with the Conference. Thanks to Professor Mieczysław Biskupski, council member of PAHA and President of the Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences of America, for his role with these arrangements.

As a quick review of the contents of this Newsletter will demonstrate, under the direction Dr. Grażyna Kozaczka, Professor of English at Cazenovia College and First Vice-President of PAHA, an impressive annual meeting of our organization has been organized for January 2014 in Washington, D.C. The range and scope of scholarly sessions are a tribute to Dr. Kozaczka’s dedicated work. Additionally, the Embassy of the Republic of Poland has agreed that, barring unforeseen complications, it will host PAHA’s Awards Reception; and His Excellency Dr. Ryszard Schnepf, the Polish Ambassador to the United States, will open the conference. There is, however, one aspect of PAHA’s mission which can and should be improved. The Polish American Historical Association is committed not only to promote research on Polish American history and culture; it is also dedicated to the dissemination of that research. We have done the former job well; through our scholarly journal, *Polish American Studies*, the publication arrangement we have with Ohio University Press, and special projects such as the publication *The Polish American Encyclopedia*, PAHA has led the way in studying, analyzing, and preserving the history and culture of America’s Polonia; but it has not disseminated that information adequately. I am asking every member of PAHA to take a lead in rectifying this situation. Libraries, public and private, are generally more than eager to receive requests from patrons for the purchase of new materials; usually it takes little more than a call to a reference librarian or a library administrator to make such a request. If your local academic or public library does not include in its holdings *The Polish American Encyclopedia* or the appropriate books which have been published through Ohio University Press, please request that it acquire these books. Similarly, if you are a teacher, please review the texts published through Ohio University

Press and any appropriate texts for use in your courses. Polish Americans and members of the Polish American Historical Association cannot be content to talk among themselves; we all need to get the word out about our history and culture. Our failure to do so is a disservice not only to our parents and grandparents but to our children and grandchildren.

Thomas J. Napierkowski
University of Colorado at Colorado Springs
PAHA President

Paderewski Competition II

The Second American Paderewski Piano Competition was held in May 2013 at the Colburn School of Music in Los Angeles. The First Prize accompanied by two other prizes and an invitation for concert tours were awarded to **Peter Toth** of Hungary, who previously won several Liszt competitions and is the foremost Liszt interpreter of his generation. The Second Place Winner **Krzysztof Ksiazek** of Poland was also recognized for the best performance of Paderewski. The Third Place Award went to **Ning-Yuen Li**, Hong Kong, China. **Christine Wu** was recognized as the Best American Pianist in the Final Round. **So-Young Choe** of Korea was the Jury’s Choice and received an invitation to perform in Poland.

The Competition Jury consisted of eminent pianists: Adam Wibrowski, Wojciech Switala, Lee Kum Sing, John Perry, and Wojciech Kocyan, Professor at Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, and Artistic Director of the Ignacy Jan Paderewski Music Society, the organizer of the Competition. They listened to 25 candidates selected from over 60 submissions by the Selection Jury consisting of: Dmitry Rachmanov, Janet Favreau and Wojciech Kocyan. The Competition events included a recital by Piotr Kosinski who won the first prize in 2010, and a masterclass by distinguished jury members, Lee Kum Sing and Adam Wibrowski. For more information visit www.ijpaderewski.org.



Professor of History at Wayne State University and UB's Dr. Keith P. Griffler, Chair of the Department of Transnational Studies and Dr. Victoria W. Wolcott, Professor of History. This lively session, chaired by Dr. Grażyna Kozaczka (Professor of English at the Cazenovia College) and entitled "Ethnic and Not Quite White: Poles and Others in Urban America," was attended by some forty members of UB Faculty and students, as well as members of Polonia.

The academic session was followed by a reception sponsored by the University at Buffalo, SUNY (The Polish Studies Program, Department of Transnational Studies, and the Department of History). The reception served as an opportunity to welcome the participants of the Polonia round table – members of both the academic and cultural Polish-American organizations. Buffalo's Polonia favorably responded to the invitation extended to them on behalf of PAHA and UB's Polish Studies Program. There were representatives of not less than 15 different organizations present during this meeting chaired by PAHA's Dr. Anna Jaroszyńska-Kirchmann, Professor of History at the Eastern Connecticut State University. The round table was opened by the Director of the Polish Studies Program at UB – Dr. Janina Brutt-Griffler, Professor and Chair, Department of Educational Leadership and Policy. During the discussions revolving around the general theme: "Insights and Perspectives on Polonia from

collections at the UB Lockwood Library organized and visited a book exhibit of the Ohio University Press Polish and Polish-American Studies Series – both prepared in cooperation with Molly Poremski (International Languages & Literatures Librarian). With the invaluable help of Marta Cieslak, a graduate Assistant at UB, two more events were prepared on campus. In the afternoon, there was an academic session featuring PAHA's Dr. John Bukowczyk,



Polish American Organizations" each organization had a chance to present their activities and efforts to preserve and promote the Polish-American heritage.

Among the organizations who were represented during the meeting were (in the order of speakers): The Polish Studies Program at UB (Janina Brutt-Griffler), Polish American Historical Association (Prof. Thomas Napierkowski, President), The Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences of America (Prof. M.B.B. Biskupski, President), The Józef Piłsudski Institute of America (Dr. Iwona Korga, Executive Director), The



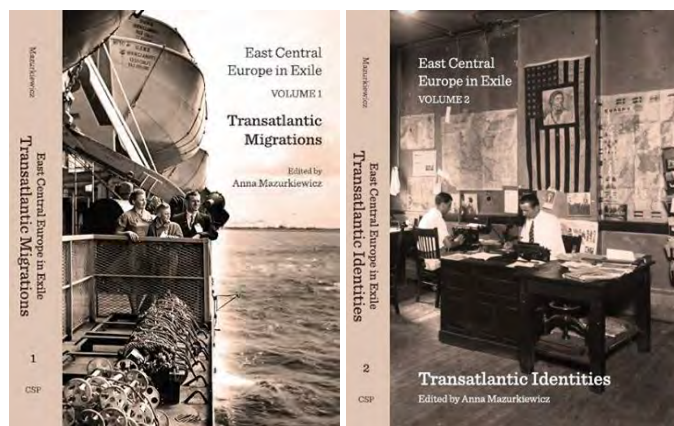
Kościuszko Foundation WNY (Prof. Peter Gessner, President), The Permanent Chair of Polish Culture at Canisius College (Mary Lou Wyrobek, Committee Chairman), SUNY Buffalo State E. H. Butler Library (Wanda M. Sławińska, Curator, Fronczak Room Collections), Polish American Congress WNY Division (Richard B. Sołdecki, President), The Polish Arts Club of Buffalo, (Charles Peszyński, President), The Polish Legacy Project in Buffalo-WWII (Andrew Golebiowski, President), The Polish American Journal (Mark Kohan, Editor in Chief), Am-Pol Eagle (Roger Puchalski, Chief Editor), Niagara Polish Cultural and Historical Society (Alfred Karney), Buffalo Rzeszow Sister Cities, Inc. (James Serafin, President) and Syracuse Polish Home (Robert Synakowski, President). The discussions continued late into the evening and resulted in reinvigorating of the warm relations between PAHA and the wonderful Polonia of Western New York.



New Books Published by PAHA Members



East Central Europe in Exile



EAST CENTRAL EUROPE IN EXILE, published by the Cambridge Scholars in 2013, consists of two volumes with chapters written by both esteemed and renowned scholars, as well as young, aspiring researchers whose work brings a fresh, innovative approach to the study of migration. Altogether, there are thirty-eight chapters in both volumes focusing on the East Central European émigré experience in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Editor Anna Mazurkiewicz organized an international conference that gave rise to this important publication, a must for every immigration scholar.

The first volume, *Transatlantic Migrations* (ISBN 978-1-4438-4725-4) focuses on the reasons for emigration from the lands of East Central Europe; from the Baltic to the Adriatic, the intercontinental journey, as well as on the initial adaptation and assimilation processes. The second volume *Transatlantic Identities* (ISBN 13 978-1-4438-4891-6) is slightly different in scope, for it focuses on the aspect of negotiating new identities acquired in the adopted homeland. The authors contributing to *Transatlantic Identities* focus on the preservation of the East Central European identity, maintenance of contacts with the “old country”, and activities pursued on behalf of, and for the sake of, the abandoned homeland. Combined, both volumes describe the transnational processes affecting East Central European migrants.

List of Contributors. Volume 1, Part I: Emigrants, Exiles, Refugees: Jože Pirjevec, Agata Biernat, Harriet Napierkowski, Arnold Kłonczyński, Ján Papánek, Slavomír Michálek, Béla Nóvé, and Maja Trochimczyk. Part II: Transatlantic Crossings: Aleksej Kalc, István Kornél Vida, Oskar Myszor, Jan Daniluk and Anne M. Gurnack. Part III:

Putting Roots Down: M. B. B. Biskupski, Mary Patrice Erdmans, Dorota Praszałowicz and Daniel Černý. Part IV: Immigrant Worker Integration: Pien Versteegh, Brian McCook, Silvia G. Dapía and Małgorzata Patok.

Volume 2, Part I: Transatlantic Transitions: Thomas J. Napierkowski, Jelena Šesnić, Grażyna J. Kozaczka, Anna D. Jaroszyńska Kirchmann, Francis D. Raška, and Piotr Koprowski. Part II: Between Cooperation and Conflict: James S. Pula, Piotr Derengowski, Stephen Leahy, and Ieva Zake. Part III: Interethnic Exile Political Organizations: Martin Nekola, Anna Siwik, Arkadiusz Indraszczyk, Anna Mazurkiewicz and Pauli Heikkilä. Part IV: Exiles and Intelligence Services with articles by Katalin Kádár Lynn, Magdolna Baráth and Patryk Pleskot. To order visit the website of Cambridge Scholars Publishing, <http://www.c-s-p.org>



Gromada's Volume on Oskar Halecki



Thaddeus V. Gromada edited a volume about historian co-founder of PIASA and PAHA: *OSKAR HALECKI (1891-1973): Eulogies And Reflections* (Tatra Eagle Press, 2013), \$7.99 - 80 pp. Preface by Jerzy Wyrozumski ISBN 978-0-9849187-1-3.

The 40th anniversary of the death of Oskar Halecki, one of Poland's most distinguished historians and the 100th anniversary of his Jagiellonian University doctorate received “sub auspiciis imperatoris” in 1913 prompted his former Fordham University student to publish this book. It contains moving inspirational eulogies delivered at a Memorial Service held on October 20, 1973 in New York City that gave vivid testimony to the greatness and humanity of Oskar Halecki. These tributes paid by prominent American, Polish, Lithuanian, and Ukrainian scholars and notables were never published nor made public. The book also includes recent reflections written by two of Halecki's former Fordham University students, Dr. Taras Hunczak and Dr. Thaddeus V. Gromada. An addendum enriches the book with pertinent documents, letters and photos.



"Maska," Polish for "mask," was a word I heard many times growing up in the 1940s and 50s in the Mont Pleasant section of Schenectady, New York. The "Maska Dramatic Circle" was where Dad, Stanley Jacob Zych, and Mom, Sophie Victoria Korycinski Zych, met in 1936. Now, many years later, opening their Maska scrapbook full of play programs, newsletters, news clippings and pictures, I am surprised and delighted to learn more about who they were as young people, before they married in July 1940.

The scrapbook was Dad's and contains Maska's first program from Sunday, November 1, 1933. As I read the contents, both in English and Polish, I realized that this was more than a family history, more than a recounting of the young adult lives of my parents: it is the history of a community of first generation Americans, the children of the Polish immigrants who came to Schenectady in the early years of the 20th century, hoping for a better life.

The Maska community was largely centered in Mont Pleasant (Schenectady's 9th Ward). Few people had cars and most community members lived within walking distance of the Polish Home managed by the Polish National Alliance on Crane Street, the site of their "theater." The Saint Adalbert's Polish Roman Catholic Church was also located on Crane Street, but Maska was not affiliated with it.

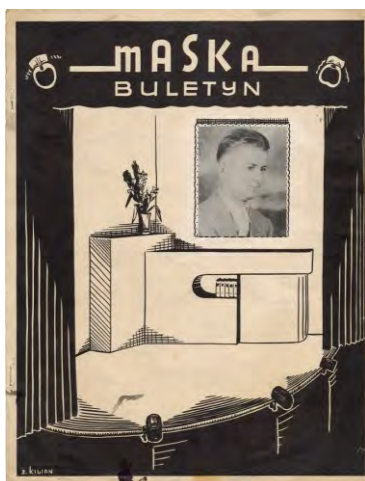
The scrapbook presents the record of Maska's history through February 7, 1939 on seven typed pages, entitled "Maska Dramatic Circle." It begins: "Maska Dramatic Circle was created on January 20, 1933 at the home of one of the organizers, Daniel Budnick. The latter with Joseph Czyzewski developed the idea of a Polish Group in the City... In the spring of 1933, the first set of officers was chosen and the name MASKA was formally adopted. By May the membership had grown to about 60..."

At that time, the General Electric Company and the American Locomotive Company were young and growing enterprises. The scrapbook pages list members, including my Father, who gained employment at GE in the late 30s. Advertising in the play programs makes it evident that there were many small businesses owned by the Polish immigrants. Non-Polish owned businesses and several local politicians also advertised in the programs Maska's first season of plays began in the fall of 1933. The first program, given on Sunday, November 1, 1933, at the Polish Home on Crane Street before a capacity audience, consisted of two one-act plays: *Znawca Kobiet* (Connoisseur of Women) and *Słowiczek* (Nightingale). This first program proved that Maska possessed not only dramatic talent, but also good voices. Maska existed from 1933 until 1942, presenting more than 55 plays, all in Polish. In 1946, there was an attempt to revive the group, but no record was found that this revival occurred.

Over its lifespan, Maska had more than 160 members. These young folk were bi-lingual. Many attended St. Adalbert's School, as I did, transitioning to the public schools after the 8th grade graduation. Maska members included my Father's older brother, Matthew Zych, who served in a technical function, and my Mother's younger siblings, Wanda and Alexander Koryciński. My future aunt, Jane Wrażen, who would marry my Mother's older brother, Peter, was also a Maska member.

The Maska Dramatic Circle was supported by dues, ticket sales, advertising in the programs, a newsletter (*Maska Buletyn*), and donations from the community. The list of patrons cumulatively numbered nearly 500 and included community members and local political figures.

The organization's newsletter *Maska Buletyn* first appeared in December 1938. The Buletyns were bi-lingual; some contained a play program. They were filled with humor, gossip and advertising – revealing the vitality of the local Polish-American community. Each Buletyn profiled a prominent Maska member, including my parents, depicted on the covers of two issues from 1939 (designed by Z. Kilian).



Maska Buletyn covers with Stanley J. Zych (February 1939) and Sophie Victoria Koryciński (May 1939)





A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR



The richness and diversity of topics of interest to our readers never ceases to amaze me. In this issue we have notices about two 150th anniversaries: of the Battle of Gettysburg and the Polish Society of California. Piotr Narloch came from Poland to participate in the three-day re-enactment of the battle as a

member of the Polish Brigade. The event was massive and unforgettable – with 200 cannons and 300 horses, as well as thousands of “soldiers” in Grey and Blue. Prof. James Pula was invited to participate in this event, but I doubt that he spent his days lying in a ditch... At the same time, Maureen Mroczek Morris informs us of the sesquicentennial of a distinguished San Francisco institution, established in 1863 to fundraise and generate support for the Polish January Uprising.

The Society co-founder, Rudolf Korwin Piotrowski (1814-1883) was a model for Sienkiewicz’s Falstaffian hero, Zagłoba. Maureen Mroczek Morris continues her research into the biography of Capt. Piotrowski, one of the most colorful characters in Polonia history. Simultaneously, Phyllis Budka’s family research has turned into a study of cultural life of the Polish-American community in Schenectady, N.Y., before World War II. Another historical sleuth, Timothy Herrick used my help to identify two sculpted busts of eminent Polish Americans gracing the façade of the White Eagle Hall in Jersey City, NJ., now being converted into a Performing Arts Center.

Polish-American artistic activities continue nation-wide. We are thankful for the gifts of our featured poet, Leonard Kress. In addition to events organized by the Polish Cultural Institute many Polonia groups put on concerts, exhibitions, and film screenings. The second edition of the American Paderewski Piano Competition took place in May. Polish consulates established Polonia Advisory Councils to better connect to opinion-making members of local communities. And, if you wondered, my photo comes from my solo photography exhibit.

Maja Trochimczyk, Ph.D.

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CALL FOR PAPERS



Polish Children’s Literature

The International Committee of the Children’s Literature Association is planning a special country focus panel on Poland, to be presented at the 41st Children’s Literature Association Conference, held at the University of South Carolina in Columbia, SC from June 19 through 21, 2014. The committee invites paper proposals that focus on any aspect of Polish children’s literature. Papers may focus on the origins of and/or developments in Polish children’s and YA texts; Polish children’s literature in dialogue with nationalism and/or cultural traumas; Polish folklore as children’s texts or incorporations of folklore in children’s literature; trends in contemporary Polish YA fiction and non-fiction; Polish children’s authors and traditions in conversation with other traditions in Central/Eastern Europe and beyond; translations of Polish children’s texts into English, or the state of children’s literature studies in Poland. Preference will be given to proposals with the potential to inspire American and international scholars to develop active interest in Polish children’s literature and to integrate it into their own research.

The authors of two papers selected for the panel to accompany a presentation by the Polish Distinguished Scholar (invited by the committee) will be awarded a \$500 travel grant each. The papers must be presented in English and must not exceed the twenty-minute reading time. The committee strongly encourages ChLA members and other scholars with an interest in Polish children’s literature to submit paper proposals for the session. Send 500-word abstracts with up to 250-word bios to the International Committee, Children’s Literature Association, at info@childlitassn.org with the subject line “International Committee Paper Submission.” **The deadline for submissions is November 23, 2013.**

Authors will be notified by December 30, 2013 whether their papers have been selected as part of the panel. Authors whose papers cannot be accommodated in the panel may then choose to re-submit their papers through the general call; the deadline for submitting proposals to the 2014 ChLA conference is January 15, 2014.



Polish Brigade at the 150th Anniversary of Gettysburg by Piotr Narloch



The celebration of the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg was expected to be special. All historical organizations interested in Civil War have been invited: thousands of invitations were sent to re-enactment groups, the media, writers and Civil War enthusiasts from all around the world. The organizers have made a huge effort to prepare the staging of three of the bloodiest days in the history of the United States. We knew we could not miss it. One of our goals when we started as a reenactment group in Poland in 2008 was a trip to the United States to participate in celebrations of the anniversary of this battle. Then it seemed quite unreal, but we made it – the 14th volunteer infantry regiment from Louisiana, *The Polish Brigade*, consisting of five soldiers, including one non-commissioned officer, arrived in Gettysburg, took part in the battle and went down in history...

For the reenactment of the battle more than 20 thousand re-enactors arrived from all fifty states and 16 countries, mainly from Europe. Among the foreigners, I met some Germans that I knew from European ACW re-enactment events. We also met the Italians, who, like us, “were” soldiers of the 14th Regiment of Louisiana. In our unit many foreigners served, so we were not surprised that our Italian colleagues decided to participate in that very regiment. There weren’t many units in the Confederate Armies that could boast of such spectacular achievements as the Polish Brigade.

The sites for the re-enactment battles and camps for the two armies were located just a few miles from the Gettysburg National Military Park, among some small overgrown hills and rolling meadows. It was difficult to count the encampments of individual regiments, brigades, divisions. You could get lost in an anthill of tents scattered over the vast stretches of meadows and forests. In addition to the infantry camps there were also separate camps for the cavalry (more than 300 horses!) and artillery (close to 200 cannons). This all created an atmosphere of a big military camp. As the eye could see soldiers everywhere strolled in ragged grey or navy blue uniforms, the sounds of drums could be heard in the distance, singing, shouted hoarse commands, whinnying of horses, rattling of cannon wheels on bumpy tracks and sounds of gunshots. Together we prepared meals, cared for weapons, fireplace and high morale of our troops. . . Band of Brothers, thrown somewhere in the Pennsylvania woods waiting for orders. Walking around the camp I got to know people in different shades of uniforms, Confederate and Unionists. Many of them started their adventure with reconstruction over 40 years ago.

During the entire event we fought in several decisive skirmishes influencing the course of action of the battle, such as this so important for us attempt to take Culp's Hill. There was also fight on the Wheat Field, for the Devil's Cave and the famous Pickett's attack. There were also cavalry clashes. Also the artillerymen, to the dismay of local residents, conducted artillery duels over the heads



of the huddled soldiers, which lasted for hours. Day after day, no matter the weather – deadly heat or rain, we stood in long marching columns, with full pouches and canteens, ready to fight. The organizers stood up to the challenge to recreate as faithfully as possible each individual battle. In my opinion, the Pickett attack and the attempt to take Little Round Top must have been very close to the authentic historical events (except for the casualties, of course). We set off in the morning to the hardships of the campaign and we came battered back before evening. We drank gallons of water and we cooled the heads and necks with ice. During the fighting, smoke stung mercilessly in the eyes and visibility was limited to 20 meters due to heavy fire. Through the smoke the shouts and harsh commands of the officers were heard, their curses mixed with artillery fire and soldiers’ screams. People were falling down in big numbers and crawled for cover against enemy fire. Behind the battle line, couriers on horse-back systematically delivered new orders from headquarters to the officers. We heard ominous explosions, which pressed us to the ground and threw our banners. We marched in ranks to the fortified positions of the Yankees and performed intricate regiment maneuvers in regiments counting a few hundred people. We hid in the ditches or dense woodlands from the rifle fire. We repeatedly tried to take the Little Round Top. Suffering heavy losses again and again, we were driven back. The terrain was unfavorable for the charge, in dense undergrowth and under intense fire we had to wade through the thickets



The 150th Anniversary Of The Battle Of Gettysburg, *continued from p. 11*



.. several meters uphill. Little remained of my regiment. I myself, in the fifth or sixth attempt to take the hill, fell wounded and sank onto a fallen tree. Sweat poured into my eyes and the rifle barrel burned my hands. The canteen was empty. Moments later the Unionists led a counterattack with bayonets fighting off my comrades. Somehow I have avoided captivity and despite exhaustion managed to sneak to my regiment. A lot of time had passed before I could breathe evenly again.

On the last day of the event we took part in a breathtaking Pickett's Charge. All soldiers from our brigades were placed in three long, deep lines. With the support of our artillery fire, with unveiled banners, we marched on to the Union troops' fortified positions. Despite heavy losses and fatigue, me and my Polish colleagues managed to cross the wall and start hand to hand combat. The rest of our comrades lay on the ground: some were "wounded" or "killed" and some withdrew to regroup. My companion fell moments later, and I had been cut down to the ground by an overgrown artilleryman. I heard above me: "Come with me ... and live!" and I saw the massive silhouette of the first sergeant. I was taken prisoner by the non-commissioned officer from the 72th Regiment of New York. We quickly became friends and since then we e-mail each other frequently...

"Corpses" on both sides lay densely, but fortunately, apart from scratches and bruises, there was no real and serious damage. After each clash, the Blues and the Greys congratulated themselves on the involvement and training, patted each other on the back and returned together, as friends, to their camps. An hour after the battle, we regained strength and the camp life became lively again. Confederate songs were heard and the smell of fried food wafted in the air. It was time to clean our weapons, exchange views and prepare for the next battle. I will never forget a very touching moment when we were bidden farewell by one of the veterans from Kentucky who had tears in his eyes. He could not hide his emotions when he learned that we traveled so many thousands miles just to take part in the celebration of the anniversary. Although we weren't able to change the course of history, we left the battlefield satisfied. Common interests unite people, regardless of the country or origin. During these few days spent in and around Gettysburg we made friends with many of the Grey and the Blue.



The 150th Anniversary of The Polish Society of California, November 9, 2013



The 150th Anniversary Gala of Polish Society of California will take place on November 9, 2013 at the Fairmont Hotel in San Francisco, www.polishclubsf.org/150.htm. The Society is one of the oldest civic organizations in California and among the oldest Polish societies in the U.S. In the Spring of 1863 San Francisco's Polish pioneers wanted to raise awareness of Poland's 1863 struggle for independence (the January Uprising). The *Central Polish Society of the Pacific Coast* (as it was then called) was headquartered at the Russ House Hotel in San Francisco. The first president (and co-founder of the Society with *Captain Rudolf Korwin Piotrowski*) was *Captain Kazimierz Bielawski*. Poles in San Francisco arranged an unprecedented, well-organized public campaign that raised funds for the January Uprising and attracted the support of the general public. On May 22, 1863, a Grand Mass Meeting in Favor of Polish Freedom and Nationality was convened, chaired by the newly-elected Mayor of the City, the Honorable Henry P. Coon. The outspoken and enthusiastic support of many prominent members of the California Senate and Assembly and Civic Leaders in San Francisco for Poland's 1863 struggle for national independence lent prestige to the Polish Society and furthered its goals. More information on the website: www.polishclubsf.org/PolishSocietyOfCalifornia.htm.



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PAHA Board in Buffalo, May 2013 (L to R): Mieczysław B.B. Biskupski, Stephen Leahy, James Pula, Anna Mazurkiewicz, Thomas Duszak, Grażyna Kozaczka, Thomas Napierkowski, John Bukowczyk, Theodore L. Zawistowski, Anna Jaroszyńska-Kirchman, and Iwona Drag-Korga. For more information visit PAHA website: www.polishamericanstudies.org

The Polish American Historical Association is a non-profit, tax-exempt, interdisciplinary organization devoted to the study of Polish American history and culture. Founded in 1942 as part of the Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences in America, PAHA became an autonomous scholarly society in 1948. As an affiliate of the American Historical Association, PAHA promotes research and dissemination of scholarly materials focused on Polish American history and culture, and its European origins. The association's interdisciplinary refereed scholarly journal, *Polish-American Studies*, is published twice a year. www.press.uillinois.edu/journals/pas.html



PROGRAM OF PAHA MEETING, WASHINGTON, D.C., JANUARY 2014



THURSDAY, 01.02.2014

PAHA Registration Desk

Thursday, January 2, 2014: 3:00 PM-3:30 PM
Marriott Wardman Park, Registration Counter A

PAHA Annual Board Meeting

Thursday, January 2, 2014: 3:30 PM-5:30 PM
Marriott Wardman Park, Taft Room

PAHA Registration Desk

Friday, January 3, 2014: 8:00 AM-2:30 PM
Marriott Wardman Park, Registration Counter A

FRIDAY, 01.03.2014

SESSION 1: Protest and Exile

Friday, January 3, 2014: 8:30 AM-10:00 AM
Marriott Wardman Park, Taft Room

Chair: John Radzilowski, University of Alaska Southeast

Papers:

*"In America Forever or Only a Short Time":
Brotherhood of Dispersed Solidarity Members*
Mary Patrice Erdmans, Case Western Reserve University
Jewish Composers of Polish Music in 1943
Maja Trochimczyk, Moonrise Press
*"On or Before January 1, 1972": Detente and the
American East European Exile Programs*
Anna Mazurkiewicz, University of Gdańsk

Comment: The Audience

SESSION 2: Polish Immigrant and Ethnic Women

Friday, January 3, 2014: 10:30 AM-12:00 PM
Marriott Wardman Park, Taft Room

Chair: Maja Trochimczyk, Moonrise Press

Papers:

*What Women Wrote: Polish American Women
Readers and Their Letter in Ameryka-Echo, 1902-69*

Anna Jaroszyńska-Kirchmann, Eastern Connecticut State University

Monica Krawczyk's Rebellious Women – Grażyna Kozaczka, Cazenovia College

Case Study of a c. 1912 Polish Immigrant: The Story of Ludovica Baldyga of Zalas, Poland and Clinton, Mass – Barbara Pulaski, Mount Ida College; Francis Wolenski, Millennium Pharmaceutical Co.

Comment: Mary Patrice Erdmans, Case Western Reserve University

SESSION 3: Between the Revolutionary War & World War II

Friday, January 3, 2014: 2:30 PM-4:30 PM

Marriott Wardman Park, Taft Room

Chair: Anna Mazurkiewicz, University of Gdańsk

Papers:

I Have a Bone to Pick: A Study of the Evidence for the Pulaski Burial – James Pula, Purdue University North Central
Captain Alexander Raszewski's Polish Legion and Other Lesser Known "Polish" Troops during the Civil War - Piotr Derengowski, University of Gdańsk, Poland
Frantic 7 and the American Resupply Mission to Besieged Warsaw, 1944 – John Radzilowski, University of Alaska Southeast

General Bolesław Wieniawa-Długoszowski: The Last True Cavalry Officer of the Twentieth Century - Charles Chotkowski, Piast Institute

SESSION 4: Polish Immigrant and Ethnic Identities

Friday, January 3, 2014: 2:30 PM-4:30 PM

Marriott Wardman Park, Taylor Room

Chair: Mary Cygan, University of Connecticut at Storrs

Papers:

Mediating Nationalism: The Case of Gazeta Katolicka in Interwar Canada – Gabriela Pawlus Kasprzak, University of Toronto Scarborough

Career Patterns of Second Generation Polish Migrants in the United States, 1900-30 –

Pien Versteegh, Windesheim University of Applied Sciences

Respecting the Past, Embracing the Future: A Study of Polish American Public Opinion – Thaddeus Radzilowski, Piast Institute and Dominik Stecula University of British Columbia
Confronting the Dynamic of American Polonia's Sands of Time – Anthony Bajdek, Northeastern University

Awards Reception by invitation only

Friday, January 3, 2014: 7:00 PM-9:30 PM
hosted by Embassy of the Republic of Poland
2640 16th Street NW, Washington, DC 20009

SATURDAY 01.04.2014

PAHA Registration Desk

Saturday, January 4, 2014: 8:00 AM-2:30 PM
Marriott Wardman Park, Registration Counter A

SESSION 5: Polish and Polish American Religious Leaders and Communities

Saturday, January 4, 2014: 9:00 AM-11:00 AM
Marriott Wardman Park, Taft Room
Chair: Theodore Zawistowski, Pennsylvania State University
Papers:
Building the Community: Oblates in the Canadian Polonia – Michal Kasprzak, Ryerson University
Poland's John Paul II: Pope and Cold Warrior in the Americas – Julia L. Sloan, Cazenovia College
Reverend Wincenty (Vincent) Barzyński, C.R.: A Nineteenth Century Transformative Leader for Chicago Polonia – Michael Dziallo, Westchester Public Schools

SESSION 6: Seventy-Five Years Later, Stories of World War II Emerge from Polonia's Basement

Saturday, January 4, 2014: 9:00 AM-11:00 AM
Marriott Wardman Park, Taylor Room
Chair: Mary Patrice Erdmans, Case Western Reserve University
Papers:
The Power of Identity: Polish Children in Exile
Wesley Adamczyk, independent scholar
The Wall Speaks Project – Wojtek Sawa, Warsaw Academy of Advertising
Polish Legacy Project: World War II
Andy Golebiowski, Independent Photojournalist
Comment: The Audience

SESSION 7: Polish Diaspora in America

Saturday, January 4, 2014: 11:30 AM-1:30 PM
Marriott Wardman Park, Taft Room
Chair: Pien Versteegh, Windesheim University of Applied Sciences
Papers:
Polish History Sources in the Library of Congress's Manuscript Division – Frederick J. Augustyn, Library of Congress
Ken Parejko's Remember Me Dancing: A Literary and Historical Record of the Stara Emigracja – Thomas Napierkowski, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs
Crossing the Boundaries of Modernity: The Transatlantic Journey of Polish Peasants to the United States – Marta Cieslak, SUNY Buffalo (State University of New York)
Our Own Language: Ceremony, Performance, and Dialect in the Polish Folk Theater – Mary Cygan, University of Connecticut at Storrs

SESSION 8: Book Forum: The United States and the Rebirth of Poland, 1914–18

Saturday, January 4, 2014: 2:30 PM-4:30 PM
Marriott Wardman Park, Taft Room
Chair: M. B. B. Biskupski, Central Connecticut State University
Comment: Neal Pease, University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee; James Pula, Purdue University North Central

SESSION 9: Pola Negri: Life is a Dream in Cinema

Saturday, January 4, 2014: 5:30 PM
Marriott Wardman Park, Jefferson Room
Chair: Mariusz Kotowski, independent filmmaker



Registration Information



We are looking forward to meeting you in Washington, D.C.

The conference will take place at Marriott Wardman Park, 2660 Woodley Rd NW, Washington, D.C., DC 20008
Phone: (202) 328-2000. Registration information will be available online on PAHA website: polishamericanstudies.org

A registration form is also inserted in this Newsletter.
Everyone is welcome!



POETRY CORNER: LEONARD KRESS

Edited by John Z. Guzlowski



Meeting Miłosz

I met Miłosz but once—he hadn't yet
turned 80. Far from Poland, far
from his perch in the Berkeley hills,

another conference about history and suffering
and witness, he wasn't even the keynote
speaker. That was delivered in perfect

minor pitch by a priest from South Africa,
or maybe a nun from El Salvador.
There were severed-limb visuals

and spontaneous collective weeping
and Miłosz seated at the long table,
silent, palm propping his jaw like the apostle

three seats down from Jesus in Tintoretto's
otherwise bell-and-whistle-boisterous
Last Supper. (Betrayal, beloved disciple,

sycophant, cynic, sidekick, all or none
of the above) his mic like a drained goblet
of Galilean wine. I catch him during a break,

he's leaning on a Corinthian column,
shy and scowling, smoking—not a cigarette
but something home-grown, home-cured

and hand-rolled, packed with dismay,
a smoldering pen or pencil, rising
steam from a container of coffee.

I ask him what he thinks of X
and his eyebrows twitch, I am translating
X, I say, does he have any advice?

Miłosz's attention drifts. Sparkling ash falls,
lead snaps, ink smears, coffee scalds.
He's gone and wherever he's gone,

he's gone fully, to a realm where the dead
are revived just long enough to deliver
their inexorable excuses for not being saved.

Gryzantyny

Two women live in different neighborhoods of the same city.
Every Sunday they meet at the cemetery where their children
are buried. They must travel over an hour to get there—the
grounds of a monastery of Polish and Hungarian monks who
revere a charred icon of the Blessed Virgin. In the 17th
century this icon, burned by Swedish invaders, saved the land
after decades of devastation. Paderewski's heart is also
buried there, in an urn, though neither woman knows where.

They trudge out to the graveyard after mass. They carry
shopping bags of topsoil, trowels, flower pots, bulbs and
votive candles. One brings a watering can, the other a jar
which they fill at a pump near a fringe of trees. After a few
dry creaks water gushes uncontrollably. They groom the
gravesites religiously, on hands and knees, pawing at the
encroaching grass and weeds. One woman's son died of
cancer, almost sixteen. From time to time this woman
carries a second shopping bag—clothes that need mending,
because the other woman takes in sewing. New cuffs, hems,
roomier gussets.

The other woman's daughter died mysteriously many years
ago. There was a dispute over whether or not she could be
buried in consecrated ground. The monks intervened. While
the first woman prays for the soul of her son, the second
woman scours nearby graves for a pot of flowers she placed
by her daughter's tombstone the previous week. She can't
find them and begins to shout accusations—the drunk
veterans who just held a memorial, the scouts, the
groundskeeper, even the monks. In her search, she weaves in
and around the polished granite markers. She doubles back
and begins again, so that a pattern emerges. Did you take my
gryzantyny, she asks the first woman, who continues praying.
Her stockings have ripped and bruises are forming on her bent
knees. It would be fruitless to translate *gryzantyny*, they
don't grow on this side of the Atlantic.



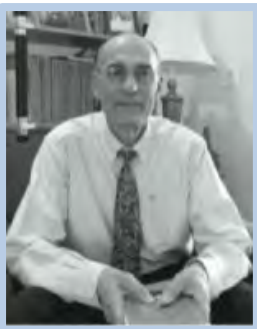


POETRY CORNER: LEONARD KRESS , *continued from p. 10*



Leonard Kress studied religion at Temple University, English at University of Illinois, Chicago, and poetry at Columbia University (MFA), as well as Polish and Slavic folklore at the Jagiellonian University and Indiana University. He has also completed a translation of the 19th century Polish

Romantic epic, *Pan Tadeusz* by Adam Mickiewicz (which is available as a free pdf download from Harrow Gate Press: harrowgatepress.com) as well as poetry by Szymon Zimorowicz and Jan Kochanowski. Kress has published poetry and fiction in *Massachusetts Review*, *Iowa Review*, *Crab Orchard Review*, *American Poetry Review*, *Atticus Review*, *Harvard Review*, etc. His recent collections are *The Orpheus Complex*, *Living in the Candy Store*, and *Thirteens*. He teaches philosophy, religion, and creative writing at Owens College in Ohio.



The **Poetry Corner** is edited by John Z. Guzowski.

To learn more about Polish American and Polish writers and artists, please visit his website, Writing the Polish Diaspora:

<http://writingpolishdiaspora.blogspot.com/>

Recent postings have highlighted the work of Tomasz Różycki, Anna Swir, and Mark Tardi.

Polka Dancing to Eddie Blazonczyk and the Versatones in Coaldale, Pennsylvania

I'd come, even if I wasn't invited,
to dance polkas, obereks, czardaszkes with her.
I'd ping beyond recovery my last-legs-Datsun,
bucking it up into the mountains—turnpike,
tunnel, Minersville, Slabtown, the Ashland
Coal Breaker, flexed like a great bullying arm
to fling gravel into the doglegs of these patches.

Where gold church domes bubble up on the surface
from sizzling underground veins, and tropical
blooms of unmowed Byzantine blue rash
across towns abandoned. Her dad would already be
downing pitchers of the liquefied amber his Baltic
ancestors traded, convinced that enough of it
flushing his system might purge the coal dust.

By the time I'd arrive, he'd be at the urinal,
among others, groaning black piss.
And her mom, terrified that her son, back,
from the city and the sex life there
that all here suspect but don't mention, might drag
some young guy from the line at Mack Truck
into the Chicken Dance or *Fire, Fire*.

Such unequivocal joy—a squeezebox resting
on gut, fueled by six-packs and old ladies
shaking *devils' fiddles*, all so she can hop
and twirl, and thread through dancers thickening
from heat and age like roux. So she can sweat
herself slippery, too slick to hold on to,
changing her outfit, her partner with each new set.



Photo © 2012 by Maja Trochimczyk



“It might be interesting now if some one in Southern California would tell us what became of the prototype of ‘Zagłoba.’” (San Francisco *Call*, 11 February 1906). What became of the prototype of Zagłoba? His ashes, as we have learned, lie in an unmarked grave at Old Ivry Cemetery (cimetière parisien d'Ivry) in Paris where expatriate and political exile Captain Rudolf Korwin Piotrowski spent the last year of his life.

Co-founder of the Polish Society of California in San Francisco, and designated political “agent for the Poles”, Piotrowski spent 33 years as a resident of California, keeping in touch with the Polish diaspora, including Dr. Ksawery (Xavier) Gałęzowski, President of the Polish Committee in Paris and famed ophthalmologist from whom he sought care at the end of his life. Both were commissioned by the Polish National Government to solicit contributions in aid of Poland. As an Agent for the Poles, in 1863 Piotrowski addressed the “Grand Mass Meeting in Favor of Polish Freedom and Nationality” – a convocation put together by the newly formed Polish Society in San Francisco to raise money for the 1863 January Uprising. Piotrowski had a personal stake in the Uprising. His niece was the wife of Jarosław Dąbrowski, an independence activist, and his sister was the wife of Władysław Cichorski, a Colonel in the January Uprising.

In the mid-1870s, when Henryk Sienkiewicz was in California, Piotrowski and his cohorts squired Henryk about the State, introducing the author to another expatriate, Piotrowski’s one-time business partner, Franciszek Michał Wojciechowski (Captain Francis). Wojciechowski lived in the mining camp town of Sebastopol on the Cosumnes River in Sacramento County where Piotrowski owned 240 acres that he had purchased from the Central Pacific Railroad Company in 1875. Captain Francis was to become Sienkiewicz’s prototype for Longinus Podbięta. A year after Piotrowski’s death, his daughter, Angelina Josephine Marie Stéphanie Piotrowska Saint-André sold her father’s property to Wojciechowski, at a considerable profit.

Piotrowski’s granddaughter, Yvonne Marie Amélie Saint-André, married M. Léon Auguste Bauche, 17 years her senior. Bauche, a career captain in the Marine Corps, was the son of Auguste Bauche, the wealthy manufacturer of fireproof safes (a company that still exists). This is what I have been able to find out so far. The Piotrowski research project continues and has grown into a book project, co-author by Lynn Ludlow.



Obituary Of Eugene Dziedzic by James S. Pula



PAHA is sad to announce the passing of its long-time member Eugene Dziedzic, a prominent Polish American community leader in Central New York, on May 14. Born in 1946, he earned a B.A. from SUNY Oswego, an M.A. from Syracuse University, and taught social studies at Whitesboro High School for 34 years before retiring in 2001. The co-author of three books and author of a host of articles on the Polish American experience, he was honored by PAHA with its 1991 Oskar Halecki Prize as the co-author of *United We Stand: The Role of Polish Workers in the New York Mills Textile Strikes, 1912 and 1916*, published in 1990. He was also a recipient of PAHA’s Skalny Civic Achievement Award for his community activism.

A leader in the Utica-area Polonia, he was an officer in many organizations, a mainstay of the annual Pulaski Day commemorations, a frequent contributor on Polish topics to the *Utica Observer Dispatch* newspaper, and taught courses on Polish studies at Utica College. In addition to membership in PAHA, among his many civic activities Gene served as corresponding secretary of the Kopernik Memorial Association of Central New York and was a member of the General Casimir Pulaski Memorial Association, Lodge #2066 of the Polish

National Alliance, the Oneida County Historical Association, and the New York Mills Historical Society. He was also a faithful member throughout his life of St. Mary’s Our Lady of Częstochowa Parish in New York Mills where he served for decades as an usher. Devoted to his Polish heritage, Gene was tireless in his efforts to promote knowledge of Polish and Polish American history and culture in his local community and throughout Central New York. His energy, professionalism, and good humor will be greatly missed by all who knew him.



This year, the Piłsudski Institute is celebrating the 70th anniversary of its creation in New York. The Institute was established on July 4, 1943, on the initiative of prominent Americans of Polish descent including Franciszek Januszewski, Maksymilian Węgrzynek, Lucjusz Kupferwasser, as well as well-known Polish statesmen who emigrated to the United States during World War II: Waław Jędrzejewicz, Ignacy Matuszewski and Henryk Floyar-Rajchman.

The Institute's mission is collecting, storing and making available archival resources, initiating and conducting research on modern Polish history, promoting Polish history and culture in the United

States. The organization has accumulated one of the largest archives of materials concerning Poland in the US, a unique library of 20 thousand volumes, a press collection, an art gallery, and various museum collections and archival artifacts.

For 70 years, the Institute has been active in organizing conferences, meetings with well-known Poles and publishing books and primary source materials. During the last five years, the most important project is the digitization of archival materials. Documents from eight collections are already available online at www.pilsudski.org/archiwa/

Every year there are more than 30 programs open to the public organized at the Institute. The programs range from documentary movie screenings, to public lectures, presentations, the promotion of books, as well as exhibitions and educational programs for children and teenagers.

In 2013, the 70 years of existence of the Józef Piłsudski Institute in America are being celebrated with the following series of events:

1. On June 5, 2013, the Institute held a solemn gala at the Royal Castle in Warsaw and in the residence of the Association "Wspólnota Polska." The patron of the event was the Minister of Culture and National Heritage - Bogdan Zdrojewski. The beautiful Great Hall of the Castle was filled to capacity with more than 350 people. Among the invited guests were representatives of Polish government and institutions; prominent members of social, artistic and scientific organizations; as well as many friends of the Institute.
2. In October, the Piłsudski Institute's anniversary will be celebrated in New York City with two events: a Gala at the Consulate General of the Republic of Poland held on October 11, and, the next day (October 12), a Conference on *Polonian New York* with presentations by Dr. Anna Jaroszyńska-Kirchmann from the East Connecticut State University, prof. Mariusz Wołos from the Pedagogic University in Kraków, Poland and Krzysztof Langowski from the Institute of National Remembrance in Warsaw, Poland. The program is available on www.pilsudski.org.
3. Finally, on November 22, a special tribute to prof. Waław Jędrzejewicz and other founders of the Piłsudski Institute will be held at the Polish Consulate.

All the activities of the Piłsudski Institute are founded by grants, donations and membership fees. We welcome everyone who would like to become member or/and volunteer of the Institute. We are grateful for donations of any size. Please visit the Institute to learn more about us. You may contact us at: 212 505-9077 or e-mail: office@pilsudski.org.





New Jersey will soon have a cutting-edge arts complex, and Ellis Island-era Polish immigrants to be thanked. White Eagle Hall, which is more than a century old, was fallow and for sale for years when it was discovered by Ben LoPiccolo. Ben LoPiccolo Development Group, LLC., a company responsible for building condominiums and other construction products in Jersey City – the second largest city in New Jersey. But he realized he had to preserve this distinctive building. “It was a theater,” he said. “I couldn’t make it condos.”

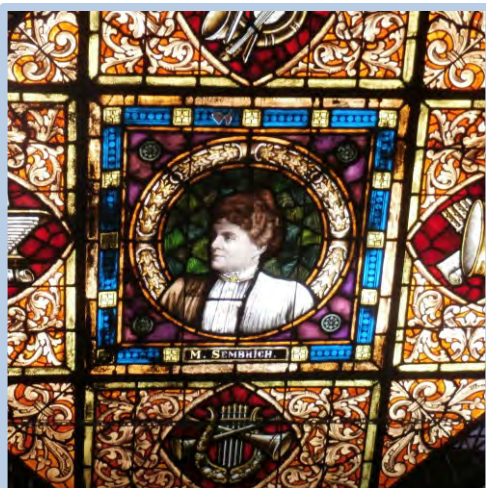
Instead, this four-story, early 20th public assembly facility will be transformed into a 21st century Performing Arts Center. The site-plan, unanimously approved by the city of Jersey City’s Planning Board in May – will retain the original design features while creating a 400-

seat/800 standing theater, a lounge, which will serve as an intimate performance space and art gallery and two restaurants. The theater, scheduled to open in Spring 2014, will showcase a range of events, including concerts and theater, booked by the Jersey City Theater Center. Olga Levina, who is married to LoPiccolo, is the artistic director of the JCTC, which was formed in 2007. “We want to restore not just the building, but the sense of community, embodied in the original White Eagle Hall,” said Levina.

In 1910, the year the facility opened, community and culture – but distinctly of- and-for the emerging Polish-American population – was clearly a priority for the building’s designers. Beneath the emblem of the hall’s namesake – the White Eagle has symbolized the Polish people since the dark ages – are the sculpted concrete heads of four Polish luminaries (left to right): Ignacy Jan Paderewski was a world-famous pianist and composer; General Casimir Pulaski – a Polish military commander, known as “the father of American cavalry” because of his service during the American War of



Independence; General Tadeusz Kościuszko, another hero of the Continental Army and an influential Army engineer; and Henryk Sienkiewicz, famed author of *Quo-Vadis?* and other classics of Polish literature, who became a Nobel Laureate in 1905. Inside the hall, there are two stain-glass skylights, one commemorating Frédéric Chopin, the other Marcella Sembrich-Kochańska (1858 -1936), an internationally famous opera singer, and one of the first stars of the N.Y Metropolitan Opera company – she sang for 11 seasons there. The year 1909 was the silver jubilee of her Met debut, which coincided with the construction of White Eagle Hall. LoPiccolo restored these ornate, colorfully translucent skylights in August. Stunning examples of stain-glass craftsmanship, the visages and surrounding musical symbols – notes, scrolls of sheet music, lyres – as well as filigrees and ornate details had not been visible for decades.



Father Peter Boleslaus Kwiatowski, one of the most effective Polish-American leaders of the Ellis Island Era, built and named the hall. In 1910, immigration was rapidly redefining the U.S. – “The peak year of European immigration was in 1907, when 1,285,349 persons entered the country. By 1910, 13.5 million immigrants were living in the United States. At the same time, the backlash against immigrants was also on the rise. There were clashes between

immigrants and the native-born, between cities (where most immigrants then lived) versus rural dwellers, as well as between the different groups of immigrants. Including monuments to icons such as Pulaski or Chopin – that were clearly Polish but whose accomplishments were recognized around the world, White Eagle Hall sent an undeniable message: Poles were permanent participants in the American experiment.

Father Kwiatowski, after being driven out of his native Poland by Russian occupiers, became the Johnny Appleseed of Polish Catholic churches in New Jersey, responsible for what seems to be half a dozen parishes in Hudson and Essex Counties. Ordained in 1888, “[Kwiatowski] was stationed as curate in several Polish towns, and in 1890, when he was deemed sufficiently experienced to be given a pastorate, he was banned by the Russian government.... Because of the power wielded by the Russians in partitioned Poland, Father Kwiatowski was forced to flee to America, where he as befriended by Father Władysław Kukuoski, then Pastor of St. Anthony’s ...” according to his obituary in the *Jersey Journal* (4/14/1934).

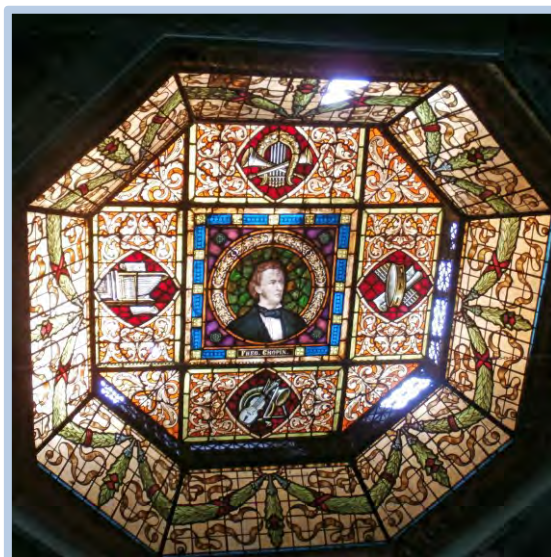
Saint Anthony’s Church was founded in 1884 and is considered to be the oldest Polish Catholic church in the state of New Jersey. From the *Jersey Journal* obituary: “[Kwiatowski] established Polish churches in the surrounding territories among them Our Lady of Czestochowa on Sussex St., and Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Bayonne, the largest Polish Catholic church in diocese of Newark.... Father Kwiatowski established Polish churches in Harrison and Paterson... he established other Polish Catholic churches in Elizabeth, Linden and Irvington.” Along the way – in 1910 – he built the White Eagle Hall, before becoming pastor at Saint Anthony, where he was responsible for doubling the size of the church, establishing a grammar and high school, a convent and an “orphan’s asylum.”

I’m unclear as to the exact year – the Photostat of the article in the Jersey Room of the Main Branch of the Jersey City Public Library does not have a date – but on his birthday (he died at age 71 in 1934) – sometime before then but after 1910, Father Kwiatowski gave White Eagle Hall to the Saint Anthony Parish. “Poles of Jersey City to Have Building,” one article’s sub-heading declares. Apparently, Father Kwiatowski “owned” the White Eagle Hall, implying that he bought the original land and funded construction. Did he raise funds, or was he able to fund the project with his own wealth? – I have been unable to answer this query as yet.

In addition, I have been unable to determine what sort of performances or other events were held at the Hall prior to the church assuming ownership. For generations – most of the 20th century in fact – White Eagle Hall was where large community gatherings – and a weekly bingo game – were held – high school graduations, weddings, dances and sporting events – regardless of ethnicity, nearly everyone who grew up in Jersey city in the 20th century has a White Eagle Hall memory. Probably the best known occupant of the hall was Bob Hurley, a Hall-of-Fame basketball coach for 30+ years for the Saint Anthony Friars. Hurley’s teams won 23 state championships, a national record. Rumor is that the last time the building was used was for a 2006 basketball game that Hurley organized.

The reopening of White Eagle Hall is eagerly anticipated by everybody in town, from those who have nostalgic childhood memories to newcomers who came to Jersey City seeking lower rents than just-across-the-river Manhattan and have only known it as a fallow building with faces protruding from the brick exterior. In 1910, Polish Americans gave to Jersey City a building that enabled arts, culture and community and in 2014, the JCTC will make that gift again available for a new generation.

Timothy Herrick is a Jersey City-based journalist and writer. He blogs at Dislocations (blogspot.timothyherrick.com) & TimHrklit.com. You may contact him at Timhrk@aol.com. PAHA News Editor, Maja Trochimczyk, identified Paderewski and Kościuszko.



JOHN J. BUKOWCZYK, Professor of History at Wayne State University, was re-appointed to another five-year term as editor of the *Journal of American Ethnic History*, the quarterly journal of the Immigration and Ethnic History Society. Bukowczyk continues to edit the Ohio University Press Polish and Polish-American Studies Series, a project supported by the Polish American historical Association and the Stanislaus A. Blejwas Endowed Chair in Polish and Polish American Studies at Central Connecticut State University.

JOHN M. GRONDELSKI is the new Deputy Chief of Consular Services at the U.S. Consulate General in Shanghai, China. He arrived July 25 for a three year term. Shanghai is among the top five American diplomatic posts in terms of consular work in the world. His previous post was U.S. Embassy Bern.

ANNA JAROSZYŃSKA KIRCHMANN published the following articles: "Everybody Writes: Editors, Readers, and Their Interactions in the Polish-language Press, 1889-1969." *Journal of American Ethnic History* 33, no. 1 (Fall 2013): 35-69; "'Don't Be Mute!' The Culture of Letter-Writing to the Press among Polish Immigrants in America." *Cultural and Social History* 10, no. 3 (2013): 397-417; "Informal Communication Networks and Letter-Writing in the Polish Political Diaspora." In *East Central Europe in Exile. Vol.2: Transatlantic Identities*, ed. Anna Mazurkiewicz (Cambridge Scholars, 2013), 47-63; *Letters from Readers in the Polish American Press, 1902-1969: A Corner for Everybody*. Forthcoming, Lexington Books (2013), edited by Anna D. Jaroszyńska-Kirchmann; translated by Theodore L. Zawistowski and Anna D. Jaroszyńska-Kirchmann.

ANNA MAZURKIEWICZ completed her Kosciuszko Foundation fellowship at the Polish Studies Program at SUNY at Buffalo (2012/2013) and returned to her alma mater – the Department of History at the University of Gdansk. She has edited two post-conference volumes (see: *East Central Europe in Exile* mentioned elsewhere in this Newsletter), and published two chapters in: *The Inauguration of "Organized Political Warfare" - The Cold War Organizations Sponsored by the National Committee for a Free Europe / Free Europe Committee*, ed. Katalin Kádár Lynn (Saint Helena, CA: Helena History Press, dist. CEU Press: Budapest-New York, 2013). ISBN: 0985943300, ISBN-13: 978-0985943301.

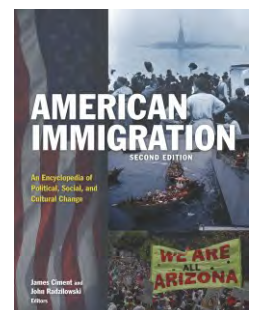
MAUREEN MROCZEK MORRIS is working on a book about Piotrowski, Modjeska and Sienkiewicz that will shed new light on Capt. Rudolf Piotrowski (the model for Zagłoba). <http://www.polishclubsf.org/In%20Search%20of%20Zagloba.pdf>

LINDA NEMEC FOSTER was recently interviewed on Michigan Public Radio (an affiliate of NPR) about her poetry/music project with Hungarian musician Laszlo Slomovits. Their collaborative CD, *Cry of Freedom*, was discussed on MPR's Stateside program with Cynthia Canty. The entire interview (it runs approximately 12 minutes) can be heard at: www.michiganradio.org/post/bulgarian-photography-and-michigan-poetry-inspire-album

JAMES S. PULA spoke at U.S. Military Academy in April on "Kościuszko's Role in the Construction of West Point," was an invited commentator on a Kosciuszko Foundation film on the life of Tadeusz Kościuszko at the annual meeting of the Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences in June, and was the keynote speaker at a conference on "Between Past and Future: Culture, Heritage and Community Development of Polonia in Towns and Small Cities," sponsored by Cape Breton University and the Canadian Polish Research Institute in July. He also was an invited participant in the 150th anniversary commemorations of the Battle of Gettysburg and published "Ethnic Cooperation in Antebellum America" in *East Central Europe in Exile: Transatlantic Migrations from East Central Europe in the 19th and 20th Centuries*.

JOHN RADZIŁOWSKI, Assistant Professor of History, University of Alaska Southeast, is the editor (with James Ciment) of the newly released *American Immigration: An Encyclopedia of Political, Social and Cultural Change* (rev. 2nd ed., ME Sharpe). The four-volume work covers all aspects of immigration from chronological and thematic perspectives. In addition to directing the revision of the 1999 edition, Radzilowski wrote numerous articles in the revised volume.

MAJA TROCHIMCZYK's article on Polish-American composers appeared in *East Central Europe in Exile Volume 1*. On June 30, 2013, she gave a public lecture on pianist-composer Maria Szymanowska, her portraits and career, at the Bowers Museum in Santa Ana, with an eminent pianist Wojciech Kocyan, performing Szymanowska and Chopin. Dr. Trochimczyk's first photography exhibition, *Shadows-Leaves-Roses*, took place in September 2013 at the Scenic Drive Gallery in Monrovia, CA. She has been elected to the 7-member Advisory Council at the Polish Consulate in Los Angeles as Chair of the Culture Committee overseeing activities in 15 states.

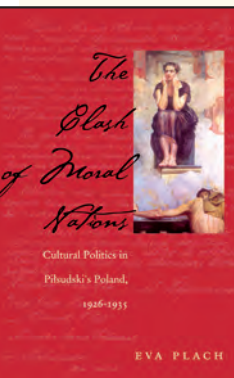




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