

# PAHA

# newsletter



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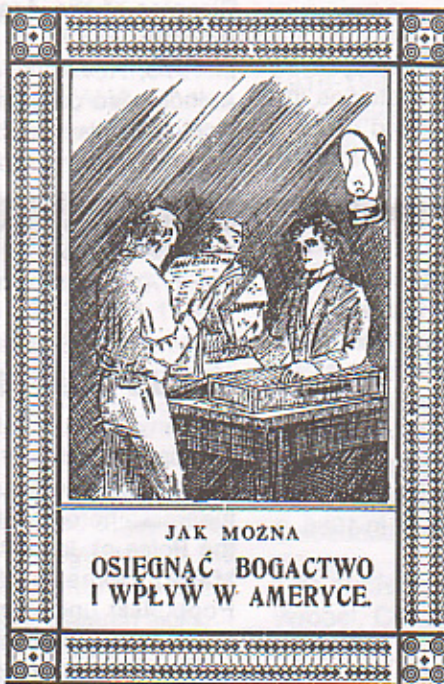
## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT ON 2000 CONFERENCE** By Thomas S. Gladsky

The Polish American Historical Association held its 48th annual conference at the Marriott Hotel in Chicago on January 6-8. The program featured approximately 35 scholarly papers and presentations by academic and professional leaders from universities, Polish American organizations, newspapers, and journals.

According to Karen Majewski, Executive Secretary, about eighty individuals attended our sessions, including about twenty non-member drop-ins from the concurrent conference of the American Historical Association. I was also very happy to see such a large turnout by Chicago's Polonia. It was gratifying to see our university and professional people working together.

Three of the sessions which attracted strong audiences were those on "Chicago's Poles," "Polish Fraternals: Past, Present, and Future," and "Polka! Polka! Polka!" In another session, Stuart Dybek, nationally acclaimed writer and Chicago native, read from works in progress. Dybek, a Professor of

Creative Writing at Western Michigan University, is known for his stories of Chicago's south side Chicago neighborhoods. His essay "Field Trips," which he read at the conference, appears in the February 2000 issue of *Harper's*.



*How to Acquire Wealth and Influence in America* ([Toledo: Paryski]: 1911)

Approximately one hundred PAHA members and their guests attended the Awards Banquet held at the Polish Museum on Saturday evening, January 8. Dr. Donald Pienkos, Awards Committee Chair and Master of Ceremonies, presented twelve awards on behalf of the Polish American Historical Association.

At its Board of Directors meeting, PAHA voted to hold the summer Board meeting in Kraków, Poland, in conjunction with the meeting of the Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences in America, scheduled for mid-June at the Jagiellonian University. The Board also approved transferring PAHA accounts from Penn Federal to Mesirow Financial of Chicago.

PAHA's next conference is scheduled for January 4-7, 2001, in Boston.

## **PAHA MEMBERS HONORED BY POLISH GOVERNMENT**

At the 27th annual Orchard Lake Ambassadors Ball, held on January 16, 2000, General Consul and Minister Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Poland, Ryszard Sarkowicz of Chicago, granted awards to several members of PAHA. Chancellor of the Orchard Lake Schools **Msgr. Stanisław Milewski** received the Officer's Cross. The Chevalier's Cross was presented to **Dr. Thaddeus Radzilowski**, President of St. Mary's College and former president of PAHA. Another former PAHA president, **Dr. John Bukowczyk** of Wayne State University, received the

Gold Cross. Also awarded the Gold Cross was **Dr. Janusz Wrobel** of St. Mary's College.

In a separate ceremony on January 30, **Dr. Walter Drzewieniecki**, president of the Polish Cultural Foundation, Buffalo, New York, received the Order of Merit from Polish Consul Czesary Dziurkowski. And in December, 1999, **Rev. Philip S. Majka**, pastor of St. Patrick Church in Fredericksburg, Virginia, was awarded the Cavalier Order of Merit at the Embassy of the Republic of Poland.



**SISTER ELLEN MARIE  
(ADMIRABILIS) KUZNICKI.9  
CCSF, Teacher, Historian**

Sister Ellen Marie (Admirabilis) Kuznicki, 82, a Felician Sister for 63 years, died in Villa Maria Infirmary, Buffalo, New York, on February 21, 2000. The former Helen Kuznicki entered the Buffalo Province of the Felician Sisters in 1936, and took her final vows in 1938.

In addition to a Certificate for Secondary School Librarianship, Sr. Ellen Marie received a B.S. in Social Work from Canisius College in Buffalo, an M.S. from Medaille College, and a Ph.D. from Kansas State University. She taught in elementary, junior high, and high school school for many years, before becoming an instructor in Social Science at Villa Maria College in Buffalo in 1961. She also served as Chair of the Language and Social Science Department and as College Historian. After 29 years at Villa Maria, she was awarded the title Professor Emerita in 1996.

Sr. Ellen Marie began research on the educational system of the Felician Sisters as part of her doctoral studies in 1967. 1996 saw the publication of a book based on her dissertation, *Journey of Faith: The History of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Province of the Felician Sisters*, Buffalo, New York, 1900-1976.

Besides being a member of the American Association of Teachers of French, the American Historical Association, and the Kosciuszko Foundation, Sr. Ellen Marie was a life member of PAHA, serving as president in 1977. Throughout the 1970s and 1980s, she was a member of the PAHA Council. She also served as PAHA Associate Newsletter Editor from 1973-1979, and Editor from 1979-1984. In 1982, she received the Mieczyslaw Haiman Award, and the first Distinguished Service Award, in 1986.

**ARTHUR HALICKI**

Arthur Halicki of Southfield, Michigan, died on October 6, 1999 at the age of 79. In 1910, Halicki's father, Walter, a native of Poland, founded the Halicki Travel Agency. Until his death in 1935, Walter Halicki helped exchange foreign currencies and arrange ship passage between Europe and Detroit. As ocean travel waned, Arthur Halicki and his brother Leonard began selling real estate and insurance policies, filing income taxes, and writing letters on behalf of foreign-born customers involved in labor or financial disputes.

In 1980, when the family home was razed for General Motors' Poletown plant, Arthur Halicki donated cartons of documents to the Burton Historical Collection at the Detroit Public Library. The unique collection includes more than 80,000 passenger tickets and bound travel books covering journeys made between the

United States and Europe between 1910 and 1935. With donations from the Halicki family, the Walter Halicki Papers have been processed and microfilmed. The Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan is indexing the names.

**BISHOP ARTHUR H. KRAWCZAK**

Retired Detroit Auxiliary Bishop Arthur H. Krawczak, 86, died January 13 in Livonia, Michigan. Bishop Krawczak had been a life member of PAHA since 1961. Krawczak studied for the priesthood at Sacred Heart Seminary in Detroit and SS. Cyril and Methodius Seminary in Orchard Lake, before being ordained in 1940. In 1951 he received a Master's Degree in Social Work from Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. In addition to assignments at several Detroit-area parishes, Krawczak worked with the Catholic Youth Organization, the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and the Campfire Girls. He also served as Director of the Archdiocesan Refugee Resettlement Program, and Vicar of the Warren-Center Line Vicariate. In 1973, Rev. Krawczak was ordained a bishop for the Archdiocese of Detroit. Before retiring in 1982, Bishop Krawczak also served as Coordinator of Archdiocesan Central Service Officers and Regional Bishop for the Northeast Region. Detroit's Cardinal Adam Maida remembered Bishop Krawczak as a "driving force behind Catholic Services... [who] had a special bonding with the Polish American community."

**COL. ANTHONY K. PODBIELSKI**

Anthony K. Podbielski of Bayonne, New Jersey, died February 3, 2000, at the age of 91. He had been a longtime PAHA member, and wrote numerous monographs on the Polish heroes of the U.S. Revolutionary and Civil Wars, the Poles at Jamestown, the Polish settlement of Panna Maria, Texas, and other Polish American subjects. Podbielski underwrote a local General Pulaski Essay Contest and, with his son Thaddeus, authored the 75th anniversary history of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church of Bayonne, published in 1973. He was very actively involved in the project to enshrine the heart of Ignacy Jan Paderewski in the Chapel of Our Lady of Czestochowa in Doylestown, Pennsylvania, and in the transfer of Paderewski's body from Arlington National Cemetery to St. John's Cathedral in Warsaw. The Paderewski Memorial Medal which he presented to George A. Bush in 1994 is now in the George Bush Presidential Library Center at Texas A & M University. The many groups which have honored Podbielski include the General Pulaski Monument Committee and the Polish American Congress. PAHA awarded him a Certificate of Achievement in 1991. In 1992 he received the Silver Insignia of the Order of Merit from the Polish government.

**SISTER ELLEN MARIE,  
PAHA PRECEPTOR**

-Eugene Obidinski, Prof. Emeritus (Sociology)  
State University of New York at Oneonta

It the Polish American Historical Association ever presented its own "academy" awards for outstanding achievement over the years, Sister Ellen Marie Kuznicki, CSSF, probably would have been honored for the best performance in many supporting roles.

As a Felician sister, she dedicated herself to a call to religious life. However, her vocation extended beyond traditional boundaries of a convent, chapel, or church to professional contributions including teaching, academic conferences, PAHA responsibilities, doctoral dissertation research, and ethnic community events.

Through such outreach effort, she not only helped us understand essential facts of Polish American community life but also--like most skilled social workers--she found time to listen to our problems and suggest solutions.

During one of my many visits in the early 1980s, I described an ongoing disagreement with a PAHA scholar, which was becoming more disruptive than decisive. After listening patiently to my complaints, she suggested a solution. "Cool it," she said. "Just cool it."

Who could disagree with Sr. Ellen Marie? Some other historian may consider that question when reviewing PAHA changes and revitalization during the 1970s and 1980s. After successive terms as Vice President, Sr. Ellen Marie became PAHA's President in 1977 and during the 1980s served on the council for several years before she became editor of the PAHA *Newsletter*.

The PAHA responsibilities as well as teaching duties at Villa Maria College in Buffalo often interrupted other scholarly projects--such as histories of the college and of the Buffalo province of Felicians--which demanded time, extensive documentation, and meticulous research skills.

Such skills and discipline were honed during Sr. Ellen Marie's doctoral dissertation research under Prof. Victor Greene at Kansas State University. Her excellent (1973) dissertation, a history and functional analysis of western New York's parochial schools staffed by Felician Sisters, provides unique insights into parish, family, and neighborhood aspects of Polish American community life. In her 1977 PAHA presidential address, Sr. Ellen Marie described the history of the parochial schools, criticism of school functions, and effects upon ethnic adjustment. The schools, she said, served as bridges allowing students to adjust to American society while retaining important Polish religious and cultural values. Perhaps her efforts within PAHA helped bridge a gap

between older and younger membership factions two decades ago. If so, her supporting role endures.

**KAZIMIERZ GROTNIK  
NAMED BISHOP**

The Very Rev. Dr. Kazimierz Grotnik, PAHA activist and Polish American Studies indexer, was consecrated a Bishop in the Polish National Catholic Church, in a November 30, 1999, ceremony at St. Stanislaus Cathedral in Scranton, Pennsylvania.

Bishop Grotnik was ordained in 1958, and came to United States in 1969. Since 1969 he has been a member of the Bishop Hodur Biography Commission and since 1971 of the PNCC's History and Archives Commission. He is also archivist of the Central Diocese and curator of a museum of PNCC history.

**POLAND 1918-1989y FROM  
RESURRECTION TO REBIRTH**

The Polish Studies Program at St. Mary's College announces its 6th Biannual Conference on Polish Affairs, to be held May 18-20, 2000 at St. Mary's College, Orchard Lake, Michigan. The title of this year's program is "Poland 1918-1989, From Resurrection to Rebirth: Uniqueness and Universalism of Polish Historical Experience in the Twentieth Century within an East-Central European Context." Speakers will include PAHA members **Thaddeus Radzilowski, Anna Cienciala, M.B. Biskupski, John Kulczycki, John Bukowczyk, John Radzilowski, Thaddeus Gromada, Thomas and Rita Gladsky, and Karen Majewski.** Other speakers include Władysław Bartoszewski, Bronisław Misztal, Kazimierz Sowa, Piotr Wandycz, Andrzej Zieliński, Janina Los, Antoni Macierewicz, Zbigniew Siemiatkowski, Bronisław Misztal, Anthony Kruszewski, Richard Starr, Andrzej Stetmachowski, Tadeusz Witkowski, Krzysztof Karasek, Paul Wrobel, Bolesław Klimaszewski, and Marian Owczarski.

The conference is organized by PAHA member Janusz Wrobel, Chair of Polish Studies at St. Mary's College. For further information, contact Dr. Wrobel at 248-683-0339 or wrobel@oakland.edu.

**PIASA TO MEET IN KRAK6W**

The Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences of America, in cooperation with the Jagiellonian University and the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences (Krak6w), will sponsor a Multidisciplinary Conference on Polish and Polish American Studies, to be held at the Jagiellonian University, June 16-18. PIASA's meeting has been officially designated as part of the Jubilee Celebration of the Jagiellonian University, which marks the 600th anniversary of the renewal of the Krak6w Academy in the year 2000. PAHA will also hold its midyear Board meeting in Krak6w in conjunction with PIASA's conference, at which several PAHA members are scheduled to give papers.

## PAHA Personalia

**M.B. Biskupski's** article, "Canada and the Creation of a Polish Army, 1914-1918," appeared in *The Polish Review*, Vol. XLIV, No. 3 (1999).

**George S. Bobinski** has stepped down as Dean of the School of Information and Library Studies at the University of Buffalo after twenty-nine years in this position. He is currently on research leave and will be rejoining the faculty in the Fall of 2000.

Mrs. **Jean Bochan** has written a limited edition book of poetry, *Through the Ruins of My Heart*, about the life experiences of her husband, Paul.

**Leonard F. Chrobot**, in addition to teaching in the Sociology Department at Notre Dame, has been appointed Coordinator of the American Polish Research Fellowship Program in the History Department. The Program sponsors up to three junior faculty in History from the Universities of Warsaw, Gdańsk, and Adam Mickiewicz at Poznań, for two semesters of research, study, and teaching focusing on U.S. foreign policy with regard to Poland.

**John A. Drobnicki** has received tenure in the York College Library of the City University of New York. His bibliography of the writings of Eugene Kusielewicz appeared in the Spring 1999 issue of *Polish American Studies*.

**Eugene Dzedzic** has been a vocal critic of Pat Buchanan's claim that the Allies should have abandoned Poland to Hitler in 1939. His articles on the subject have been appearing in Utica, New York, newspapers.

**Bishop Kazimierz Grotnik** was general editor and Theodore L. Zawistowski translator and editor of *Sermon Outlines and Occasional Speeches, 1899-1922* (Boulder: East European Monographs, Columbia Univ. Press, 1999). He also compiled and edited *An Index to Straz--The Guard, Vol.11, Part 1, 1916-1925* and *An Index to Straz--The Guard, Vol.111, Part 1, 1916-1925* (Scranton: Polish National Union of America, 1997).

**Ann Hetzel Gunkel's** Interactive Syllabus/Course Website: "Urban Images in Media and Film" (<http://acweb.colum.edu/users/agunkel/urban/frame.htm>) won Second Prize in the BEA Faculty Interactive Multimedia Competition for her. In November, 1999, her multimedia publication, "Polish Christmas Traditions Website" (Virtual Ethnographic Museum) went up at <http://acweb.colum.edu/users/agunkel/homepage/polxmas.htm>. She presented "Imagining the City: The Pedagogy of Urban Images," at The School of Visual Arts Annual National Conference in New York and lectured on "The Threads of Polish-American Spirituality" to the Archdiocese of Chicago women of the Deaconate.

**Mary Ann Harley**, Assistant Professor of Music History and Literature and Director at the University of Southern California, was one of a panel of judges for the 1999 Wilk Prizes for Research in Polish Music.

**Richard J. Hunter, Jr.**, has published articles in the *Howard Law Review*, the *International Tax Journal*, the *Business Tax Review*, and the *Journal of Legal Studies Education*. He gave papers at meetings of the Midwest Business Administration, the Association for Global Business, and PIASA.

**Harry V. Janoski's** biography appears in *Who's Who in the World*. It was previously included in *Who's Who in America ' Who's Who in the East, Who's Who in Finance and Industry, and Polish American Who's Who*.

**Sandra M. Kay** published articles on Jan Karski, and the last will and testament of Thaddeus Kosciuszko. She is currently researching Michael Speransky and Nijinsky.

**Frank Koscielski's** book, *Divided Loyalties: American Unions and the Vietnam War*, is available from Garland Publishing.

As Legislative Director and Chief of Staff for Rep. Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. (R-Md), attorney **Steven L. Kreseski** continues to work on issues related to the integration of Poland into Nato.

**Anthony J. Kuzniewski, S.J.**, has been Rector of the Jesuit Community at Holy Cross since August, 1998. His book, *Thy Honored Name: A History of the College of Holy Cross, 1843-1994*, has been published by the Catholic University of America Press.

**Kenneth F. Lewalski, M.D.**, has completed two terms as President of the Polonia Scholarship Foundation in Rhode Island, which offers scholarships to Rhode Island high school seniors as well as The Dr. Rudolf Jaworski Scholarship to college graduates entering medical school. Dr. Lewalski presides over the regular meetings and the Awards Day Ceremony held in April.

**Jean Lipinski** has retired as secretary and student at the Columbia University Slavics Department and is now a member of the Lifelong Learners Program.

**Jerzy J. Maciuszko**, professor emeritus at BaldwinWallace College in Berea, Ohio, was honored by the