



Polish American Historical Association Newsletter

ISSN 0739-9766 Vol. 72, No. 1 April 2015



PAHA's Annual Awards at the 72nd Annual Meeting in New York, January, 2015



Awardees and Hosts at the Awards Reception at the Consulate General of the Republic of Poland in New York

During its 72nd Annual Meeting in New York, at the Consulate General of the Republic of Poland, the Polish American Historical Association announced the winners of the organization's annual awards for 2014. PAHA Awards recognize researchers, artists, historians, and community activists who made a major contribution to Polish American culture; this year's awardees include Prof. Neal Pease of University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee; Dr. Anna Mazurkiewicz of the University of Gdańsk; Poland, Ms. Terry Tegnazian –the co-founder of the Aquila Polonica Publishing; Dr. Karen Majewski, Mayor of Hamtramck, MI; and Dr. Alex Storożyński, former President of the Kościuszko Foundation. Consul General, Hon. Urszula Gacek welcomed the guests and recounted the history of PAHA and its role in the documentation and promotion of Polish American history and culture. Established in 1942, PAHA is the premier international scholarly association dedicated to the study of Polish emigration and immigration to the Americas.


 [Continued on Page 3](#)

Message from The New President

By Grażyna Kozaczka

Dear Friends,

I feel deeply honored by your decision to entrust me with the leadership of the Polish American Historical Association, especially that I am following in the footsteps of such recent presidents and eminent scholars as Dr. Neal Pease and Dr. Thomas Napierkowski. I am also grateful to all PAHA members for electing an experienced and creative team of Officers, Dr. Anna Mazurkiewicz, Dr. John Radzilowski, Dr. Anna Jaroszyńska-Kirchmann, Dr. James Pula, Dr. Maja Trochimczyk, and Dr. Pien Versteegh, as well as twelve Council Members. I will do my best to continue the work of previous presidents to realize

 [Continued on Page 2](#)

Reflections on 2014: The Karski Year

By Wanda Urbanska

Principals at the Jan Karski Educational Foundation were proud to have played a significant part in obtaining milestone recognitions for the late Jan Karski in 2014 while celebrating the centennial of his birth. The ball began its mighty roll in the fall of 2013, when the Polish Parliament declared 2014 to be the Year of Jan Karski. The following April, the United States Senate paid tribute to the great Pole with a rare resolution (Senate Resolution 371), which passed unanimously and recognized Karski's courage, initiatives and accomplishments.

 [Continued on Page 6](#)

to realize our organization's mission of promoting the study of Polish American history and culture.

PAHA's achievements are many and they become especially visible during our annual meetings. This year's Annual Meeting in New York City, held on January 2-4, 2015, in conjunction with the American Historical Association, attracted an impressive number of both American and international scholars. We were able to organize eight sessions, which were all very well attended. Our program would not have been this successful if it were not for the help I received from Dr. Thomas Napierkowski and Dr. Pien Versteegh. The Awards Banquet hosted by the Consulate General of the Republic of Poland gathered both awardees and guests thanks to the efforts of Dr. Anna Mazurkiewicz and Dr. Iwona Korga. Conference presentations, the business meeting, as well as formal and informal discussions that followed, suggested themes and posed questions, which will certainly find their way onto the agenda for PAHA's midyear meeting to be held at Cazenovia College in Cazenovia, New York, on June 9-10, 2015. In addition, the next year's annual meeting is already being planned under the direction of First Vice President Dr. Anna Mazurkiewicz with the help of Executive Director Dr. Pien Versteegh. The meeting will be held in Atlanta, Georgia, January 7-10, 2016. The theme of the upcoming conference is "Global Migrations, Empires, Nations and Neighbors." I would like to encourage all PAHA members to share their research in Atlanta.

PAHA, as any organization wishing to remain relevant to the changing times, has to consider periodically if it realizes its goals, if it creates a space for scholarly achievement, if it addresses the needs of its members, if it attracts new members, and if it communicates effectively utilizing all the new means of communication. I believe that we have entered a new era in the history of Polonia and the Polish Diaspora. It is hard not to notice the slow disappearance of old Polish American communities and parishes, the "graying" of Polonian organizations, the change in the social networking of young people, the growing scholarly interest in comparative studies rather than the focus on a single ethnic group, the explosion of interest in migration studies among scholars in Poland, as well as the drastic change in Polish migration patterns after the 2004 accession of Poland to the European Union. All these pose a great challenge but also create an exciting opportunity for PAHA to participate in this twenty-first century evolution of Polonia and the Polish Diaspora.

The leadership of a president is only as effective as is the teamwork of the organization's officers and council as well as the support its membership. Let us all continue to work together for PAHA's continued success.

*Grażyna J. Kozaczka
Cazenovia College*

President of the Polish American Historical Association

Paderewski Festival in Raleigh N.C.



On November 13-16, 2014 the first Annual Paderewski Festival took place in Raleigh, N.C., organized by eminent Polish pianists, Adam Wibrowski (Artistic Director) and Barbara Stann, in collaboration with the Honorary Consul of Poland, Dr. Mark Fountain (President of the Festival), and his famous pianist wife, Brenda Bruce. The Festival seeks to cultivate knowledge about "the musical life and creativity of Ignacy Jan Paderewski, who enriched the lives of millions around the world through his performances, including four in Raleigh. The Festival further seeks to honor his efforts in returning Poland to sovereign political status." Three concerts by prize-winning pianists (Andrew Tyson, Poland's Krzysztof Książek and Hungarian Peter Toth) and four lectures (by Fountain, Wibrowski and Maja Trochimczyk) were spread over the four days Festival in the entire city: the City Museum, Meredith College, Smedes Parlor at St. Mary's School for Girls, and the North Carolina Museum of Art. All halls were filled to capacity and the audiences included both the local Polonia (with many researchers and professors in biological and engineering professions), and the luminaries of cultural life in the Triangle area - the greater Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill, with NCSU, UNC and Duke Universities and about 2.2 million residents. Come to enjoy the music next November! www.paderewski-festival.org



Neal Pease



Anna Mazurkiewicz



Terry Tegnazian



Maja Trochimczyk, Tom Napierkowski

The Mieczysław Haiman Award, offered annually to an American scholar for sustained contribution to the study of Polish Americans, was presented to **Dr. NEAL PEASE** – Professor of History, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee for his extensive record of valued publications in the field of Polish and Polish American history, including a prize-winning book on the Roman Catholic Church in interwar Poland: *Rome's Most Faithful Daughter: The Catholic Church and Independent Poland, 1914-1939* (Ohio University Press, 2009). A recipient of PAHA's Swastek and Oskar Halecki Prizes, as well as a Past President of PAHA, Dr. Pease serves on the Board of the Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences of America, and is the editor of its journal, *The Polish Review*. Simultaneously he is a member of the PAHA Council and of the editorial board of *Polish American Studies*.

PAHA presented the Oskar Halecki Prize that recognizes an important book or monograph on the Polish experience in the United States to **Dr. ANNA MAZURKIEWICZ** of the University of Gdańsk, Poland. She served as the editor of *East Central Europe in Exile*, vols. 1-2: *Transatlantic Migrations* and *Transatlantic Identities* (Newcastle upon Tyne: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2013). This outstanding two-volume work, takes up an extremely significant area of research in the broad field of Polish American studies, namely the experience of emigration and resettlement in a new homeland. The books include contributions by thirty-eight scholars from North America and Europe that examine aspects of both the Polish emigration and settlement experiences, along with those of other peoples from East Central Europe. Dr. Mazurkiewicz's effort makes an inestimable contribution to scholarly research and knowledge in the important field of emigration studies – and with special attention to the experiences of peoples who are all too often overlooked in discussions of this subject.

The Amicus Poloniae Award that "recognizes significant contributions enhancing knowledge of Polish and Polish American heritage by individuals not belonging to the Polish American community" was given to **Ms. TERRY TEGNAZIAN**, the co-founder of the Aquila Polonica Publishing dedicated to issuing books about Poland in World War II. A graduate of Brown University and Yale Law School, Terry Tegnazian became interested in the Polish experience of World War II while reading memoirs of key Polish Underground leaders. She was moved by the stories of the Poles' incredible courage during World War II—an aspect of the war she had not previously been aware of. In addition to being a hands-on publisher involved in all aspects of each Aquila Polonica title, Terry has written about Poland in World War II for the *Wall Street Journal Europe* and the *Warsaw Business Journal*, she's been interviewed on national television, and has presented numerous lectures in a wide range of venues: colleges, museums, libraries, etc.

Dr. MAJA TROCHIMCZYK, of Moonrise Press, California, received the Distinguished Service Award "given occasionally to a member of PAHA who has rendered valuable and sustained service to the organization." Dr. Trochimczyk is PAHA's Newsletter Editor and Online Communications Director. She created and expanded the organization's internal and external online and print communications including the newsletters, marketing materials, blog (PAHANews.blogspot.com),



Adrian Prawica, T. Napierkowski



R to L: Karen Majewski with Anna Mazurkiewicz and Maja Trochimczyk



Timothy J. Kuzma & T. Napierkowski

and social media. A member of the PAHA Board since in 2009, Dr. Trochimczyk previously received the PAHA's Swastek Prize in 2007 for the best article published in the *Polish American Studies*, on Polish folk dancing in California (2006). A music historian and a poet, Dr. Trochimczyk published six books on music and five of poetry, including, most recently, *Frédéric Chopin: A Research and Information Guide* (with William Śmiałek, Routledge, 2015) and a poetry collection, *Slicing the Bread* (Finishing Line Press, 2014) based on her parents' childhood memories of World War II.

PAHA's [Creative Arts Award](#) "recognizes the contributions in the field of creative arts by individuals or groups who have promoted an awareness of the Polish experience in the Americas" and was presented to Mr. **ADRIAN PRAWICA**, director and executive producer of the film *The Fourth Partition: Chicago* (2013). The documentary tells a unique and rarely talked about history of Chicago's Polish Community at the dawn of the 20th century. It examines economic and political reasons for the migration of over 4,000,000 Poles to the United States between 1870 and 1920 and focuses on Polish immigrant workers in heavily industrialized Chicago neighborhoods, their community, as well as political activism, which aided Poland in her fight for independence during World War I. See www.amerykafilm.com/thefourthpartition/.

The [Swastek Prize](#) "awarded annually for the best article published in a given volume of *Polish American Studies*, the journal of the Polish American Historical Association" was presented to Dr. **LEONARD KURDEK** for "The Real-Life Story Behind 'Call Northside 777': The Crime, the Conviction, and the Search for Justice" from *Polish American Studies*, Vol. 70, no. 2 (Autumn 2013). The editors consider it a meticulously researched reconstruction of a story with compelling human interest which also deals with the interplay of life with art and Hollywood's depiction of Polish Americans: "A very detailed piece of detective work, it holds the interest of readers from start to finish, is clearly written, and raises a number of very serious and provocative questions about the character of American justice and the consequences of injustice as experienced by a family of poor, working class Polish Americans during the worst times of the Great Depression—a topic that has implications for all disadvantaged peoples."

The [Skalny Civic Achievement Awards](#) "honor individuals or groups that advance PAHA's goals of promoting research and awareness of the Polish American experience and/or that have made significant contributions to the Polish or Polish American community and culture." There were the following 2015 Skalny Award recipients.

Dr. KAREN MAJEWSKI was recognized for her unwavering efforts to revitalize Hamtramck, one of America's oldest and most interesting Polonia's communities located in the heart of Detroit. Majewski was elected Hamtramck's first woman mayor in 2005, since then re-elected twice (2009, 2013). Former executive director of PAHA, she has also organized exhibits devoted to the Polish presence in Detroit, published works related to the Polish American identity, and served as the Curator of Polish and Rare Books at Polish Mission of the Orchard Lake Schools. Dr. Majewski has previously received the 2004 Halecki Award and the Kulczycki Prize for her book *Traitors and True Poles: Narrating a Polish-American Identity, 1880-1939* (Athens: Ohio University Press, 2003). She is a Piast Institute Fellow and a Board Member of the Dekaban Foundation.



T. Napierkowski, Frank Milewski



Thomas Duszak with Pien Versteegh and Tom Napierkowski



From left: Anna Mazurkiewicz, Jim Pula and Iwona Korga



Tom Napierkowski with new President, Grażyna Kozaczka

Photos by: Dr. Janusz Romanski (1,4,5,8, 10, 11, 12), Scott Whittle (2,3,7, 13), Iwona Korga (6), and Marcin Mazurkiewicz (9). More pictures on PAHAnews.blogspot.com.

Mr. TIMOTHY J. KUZMA of Pittsburgh was honored with the Skalny Award for his many faceted, highly productive, and forward looking work as President of the Polish Falcons of American fraternal, his guidance in making the Falcons publication an outstanding fraternal vehicle promoting the Polish heritage that it is, and for his impressive work in making the March 2014 Polish American Summit of national Polonia leaders a success.

Mr. FRANK MILEWSKI of New York – Chair of the Anti-Bigotry and Holocaust Documentation Committees of the Polish American Congress was recognized with the Skalny Award for his continuing and longtime efforts as a Polish American Congress activist in New York, notably his time-consuming work of monitoring American mass media for themes related to Poland and the Polish American community, correcting errors, and fighting defamatory comments in a professional and informed manner.

Dr. ALEKSANDRA ZIÓŁKOWSKA-BOEHM received the Skalny Award for her role in advancing knowledge and appreciation of Polish history and culture in the United States. Ziółkowska-Boehm is a Polish born writer who now lives in the United States. Her widely acclaimed works published in English deal mostly with the Polish experience in Second World War.

Dr. ALEX STOROŻYŃSKI was presented with the Skalny Award for his past leadership of the Kościuszko Foundation. Due to his efforts and incentive, the Kościuszko Foundation moved its operations and communications system to the 21st century. Modernization, enhanced efficiency, greater outreach must also be paired with his widely read and very well publicized biography of Thaddeus Kosciuszko which has generated renewed interest and appreciation of Kościuszko as an American and Polish hero of historic stature: *The Peasant Prince: Thaddeus Kosciuszko and the Age of Revolution*.

The Graduate Student Research Paper Award “recognizes outstanding research into Polish American history and culture by a young scholar in the humanities or social sciences” and was presented to **RACHEL ROTHSTEIN** – Ph.D. Candidate at the University of Florida, Gainesville – for a study entitled “Defending the Remnants: American Jews Respond to Poland’s 1968 Anti-Zionist Campaign.”

At the end of the ceremony, PAHA honored its own. **DR. JAMES PULA** received a Certificate of Appreciation in gratitude for his decades of service as Editor of the *Polish American Studies*. Dr. Pula will remain PAHA’s Treasurer, while the new Editor of the journal, will be Dr. Anna Jaroszyńska-Kirchmann. **MR. THOMAS DUSZAK** received a Certificate of Appreciation for his years of valuable service as Secretary of PAHA. The Awards Ceremony ended with an announcement of the new President, **DR. GRAŻYNA KOZACZKA**.



President Grażyna Kozaczka with Pien Versteegh.



The Honorable Pat Quinn, Governor of Illinois, proclaimed April 24, 2014 “Jan Karski Day” in Illinois for “Karski's remarkable efforts to oppose the Nazi occupation of Poland and to stop the Holocaust.” And the Canadian House of Commons unanimously adopted a motion recognizing Jan Karski as a “Hero of Humanity risking his life to reveal the truth of the Holocaust.”

These honors would not have been possible without the hard work of many organizations and individuals who cherish the values of courage, integrity and compassion for the oppressed that Jan Karski espoused. It is worth noting that Karski Year celebrations resulted from many

initiatives that took place in the years preceding the centennial year. I feel privileged to have led the Jan Karski U.S. Centennial Campaign, which placed Karski's name in nomination for the Presidential Medal of Freedom in December 2011. The award was posthumously bestowed upon Dr. Karski by President Barack Obama in May 2012. Campaign principals invited to the White House to celebrate the acceptance included former Polish Foreign Minister Adam Rotfeld; former Polish Ambassador to the US, Robert Kupiecki; Campaign chairman Andrzej Rojek; Campaign member Sigmund Rolat; Campaign member Robert Billingsley and myself. After the Medal, the Campaign rapidly evolved into the Jan Karski Educational Foundation (JKEF), which together with our sister foundation in Poland, Fundacja Edukacyjna Jana Karskiego (FEJK), were established in October of 2012 with the mission of restoring Karski's rightful place in history.

We at the Foundation recognize our key partners at the Polish History Museum; the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs; the Polish Ministry of Culture and National Heritage; Polin Museum of the History of Polish Jews; the American Jewish Committee; Loyola University Chicago; Georgetown University; Georgetown University Press; and many more. We are proud to have sponsored and led the organization of numerous centennial events in America and Poland.



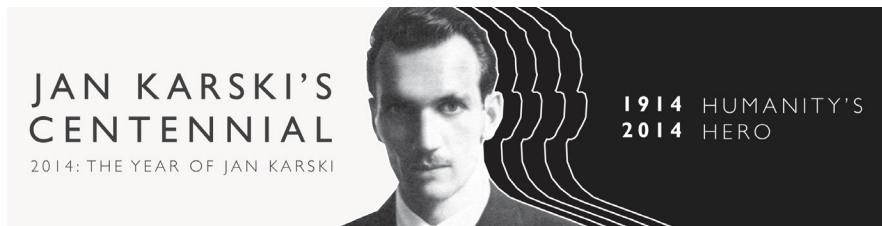
Conferences and panel discussions devoted to the Karski legacy in 2014 attracted many distinguished scholars and educators from all over the world and stimulated discussion not just about Karski and his times, but about the important issues today's world is facing. Most notable were “Responsibility to Protect” at Georgetown University and “Jan Karski 2014 International Conference on Memory and Responsibility” at Loyola University Chicago as well as “Curse of Polish Geopolitics and Today's Alliances” with Peter F. Krogh, former dean of Georgetown's School of Foreign Service. US Ambassador to Poland, Stephen Mull, headlined the significant end-of-the-year international conference on

“Remembrance and Responsibility” in Warsaw

The year 2014 was also marked by the publication of new editions of Karski's books in Poland and America: *The Great Powers of Poland: from Versailles to Yalta* and the Polish edition of *Story of a Secret State*. I am proud that JKEF and FEJK assisted in the creation of these influential re-editions. Another exciting event was the issuance of Karski commemorative coins by the National Bank of Poland. These coins sold out immediately. We initiated and provided historical consultation to this project. Other projects initiated by FEJK include the issuance of the commemorative Karski stamp by the Polish Postal Services the unveiling of a Karski mural in Warsaw, Poland.

In collaboration with Georgetown University, the Foundation sponsored and helped orchestrate world premiere of the dramatic reading, *Remember This: Walking with Jan Karski*, by Derek Goldman and Clark Young, with a mesmerizing performance by Academy Award nominee David Strathairn as Karski. This evolving performance was subsequently staged in Warsaw, New York and Washington DC, with more performances ahead. Another artistic endeavor, which we facilitated and co-sponsored, was the presentation of a play about Karski, *Coming to See Aunt Sophie*, written by Arthur Feinsod, staged by the Crossroad

Repertory Theatre of Indiana State University, in Terre Haute and Chicago. Its earlier premier in Poland was organized by our partners at the Polish History Museum, Robert Kostro and Ewa Wierzyńska. But centennial celebrations and honors were not the only noteworthy component of Karski's year. Our foundation continued promoting such ongoing projects as bringing Karski's *Story of a Secret State* to students, educators, and schools to be included in their curriculum; we organized showings of the exhibition *The World Knew: Jan Karski's Mission for Humanity* (co-created with the Polish History Museum and sponsored by the Polish Foreign Ministry and the National Endowment for the Humanities). This exhibition opened most notably at the prestigious Illinois Holocaust Museum in Skokie, Illinois on September 17, 2014. Numerous presentations about Karski and his legacy were made to educators, Jewish community members and general public. For the first time in 2014, we sponsored the participation of Polish diplomat Rafał Siemianowski in Georgetown University's annual Leadership Seminar at the School of Foreign Service. At our annual gala event in November at the Polish Consulate in New York, we awarded the "Spirit of Jan Karski Award" to Senator McCain, a third recipient of this prestigious award. This honor is granted to those who through their actions have demonstrated the values represented by Jan Karski. Karski – who has been called "Humanity's Hero" and "One Man who Tried to Stop the Holocaust" – has earned his place in history for his courageous mission on behalf of the Polish Underground during World War II. It remains a source of pride for all Poles and people of Polish identification around the globe to see Jan Karski join the pantheon of great Poles who are also global heroes.



Wanda Urbanska,
President,

Jan Karski Educational Foundation
www.jankarski.net

SELECTED CENTENNIAL EVENTS

December 6, 2013 – Polish Parliament declares 2014 as the Year of Jan Karski
January 2014 – Publication of Karski's *The Great Powers of Poland: from Versailles to Yalta* (Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2013).
March 2014 – Karski discussion panel at the 7th Congress of Polish Student Societies, Oxford, UK
April 1, 2014 – United States Senate honors Jan Karski with a Senate Resolution 371
April 24, 2014) – "Responsibility to Protect" conference at Georgetown University, Washington, DC and the world premiere of the dramatic reading *Remember This: Waling with Jan Karski*
May 2014 – "Curse of Polish Geopolitics and Today's Alliances" and "Emissary, Witness, Pragmatist – All Faces of Jan Karski," conferences in Warsaw, Poland
April 2014 – Issuance of Karski commemorative coins by the National Bank of Poland
June 2014 – Special panel devoted to Karski at the Polish Institute of the Arts and Sciences International Conference, Warsaw, Poland
August 2014 – Unveiling of a Karski mural Warsaw, Poland
September 17 – Opening of *The World Knew: Jan Karski's Mission for Humanity* at the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center in Skokie, IL
September 19-20, 2014 – "Jan Karski 2014 International Conference on Memory and Responsibility" at Loyola University Chicago, including the presentation of a play about Karski *Coming to See Aunt Sophie*.
November 4-5 – "Remembrance and Responsibility" International Conference in Warsaw,
October 26-31 – Participation of a Polish diplomat at Georgetown Leadership Seminar at the GU's School of Foreign Service
October 29-30 – Dramatic reading, *Remember This: Walking with Jan Karski*, presented at the IMKA Theater, Warsaw, Poland.

PHOTO CAPTIONS/CREDITS:

Photo 1: Polish History Museum Director, Robert Kostro (in the middle) with other panelists at the "Jan Karski: Memory and Responsibility" conference in Warsaw By Mateusz Gołąb

Photo 2: JKEF Board Member, Ewa Wierzyńska, U.S. Senator Dick Durbin of Illinois and JKEF President, Wanda Urbanska at the opening of the "Jan Karski 2014 International Conference on Memory and Responsibility" at Loyola University Chicago By Bożena U. Zaremba



The main exhibition of the Museum of the Second World War, which is currently being developed in Gdańsk, Poland, will include over 1,600 unique items describing various aspects of the greatest and most destructive conflict in the human history. These 1,600 items were carefully selected from over 32,000 exhibits collected since the creation of the Museum. The multifaceted story of the global conflict will be told in three main parts, sixteen different areas and about thirty separate rooms within the Museum. Through various genuine wartime artefacts, the visitors would be able to learn the story of the war as a phenomenon affecting practically every human being on the planet and of the consequences of the war, visible until this day.

However, only one exhibit was deemed important enough to warrant a special, separate room designed solely for displaying it. Polish contribution to the eventual victory over the Third Reich was significant. Polish fighter pilots proved to be ruthlessly effective in shooting down German planes during the Battle of Britain. Polish land forces captured the notorious abbey of Monte Cassino, blocked the escape routes of German Army at Falaise during the battle for Normandy, and liberated a string of French, Belgian and Dutch cities from the German occupation. Polish intelligence networks reached to every German factory, where the Nazis brought Polish slaves to work for their war machine. Nevertheless, the exhibit in question is not a fighter pilot's badge, not a uniform of Polish infantryman of the 2nd Corps, nor the overalls of a tanker of General Maczek's 1st Armoured Division of Falaise fame. It is stored in a small wooden box, weighs only about 26 lbs, and resembles a typewriter. It is a German Enigma cipher machine.

After the conclusion of the First World War the story of how German naval codes were broken by British "Room 40," allowing the Royal Navy to thwart any German attempt to break the naval blockade, became universally known. Eager to secure their radio communications, German military decided to turn to cipher machines. The Enigma, developed by a Dutch inventor, was among the most complicated. The military version, introduced in late 1920s, was simple in use and immensely secure. Each message was typed in and enciphered by an electro-mechanical device using rotating wheels, which turned at each press of a key, thus changing the position of the internal wiring; in this way, each letter was enciphered separately. The number of possible combinations of internal wiring and settings of the machine was astronomical – a 114-number figure – which explains why the Germans (and many code-breakers who tried to tackle the Enigma cipher) believed it to be utterly unbreakable, even if the enemy had captured an intact machine. Simple change of the settings nullified this advantage in an instant.

The Polish Military wished to try, however. The successful breaking of Soviet codes during the Russo-Polish war of 1919-1921 was an important lesson about the value of reading enemy radio traffic. Polish Military Intelligence, having foreseen the advent of machine ciphers, recruited a group of the most promising young mathematicians from Polish universities. In 1932, one of them, **Marian Rejewski**, starting from rudimentary information about the machine's construction and German radio routines, coupled with the application of mathematics and a formula he devised, managed to recreate the internal wiring of the machine and found a way of calculating the day settings of the machine. Even before Adolf Hitler came to power in early 1933, Polish military intelligence had been able to read German radio traffic. Over the next years Polish methods of breaking the code were refined; in order to simplify calculations, special machines were built to find the correct day settings. Even this simplified description seems not very clear; one should see the professional papers on how Rejewski did this – full of complicated mathematical formulae and detailed descriptions – just to get a glimpse on how daunting Polish cryptologists' task really was. What is even more important in the history of Enigma is the fact that just prior to the German invasion Polish intelligence shared all their knowledge with their French and British counterparts. The latter put this astounding gift to a good use. The Government Code and Cipher School facility at Bletchley Park in England soon grew to be a massive code-breaking centre, where about 10,000 men and women (as compared to a few dozens of men working in the Cipher Bureau of Polish Intelligence) toiled around the clock to intercept, decipher and read German messages. The Polish methods were refined and greatly expanded; new ideas and inventions were conceived,



tested and then applied to crack Nazi communications even more swiftly. New, much more advanced “Bombe” machines were built in great numbers. Various German improvements to the coding routines were tackled with and defeated. Having the resources of one of the great powers at their disposal, British mathematicians/ code-breakers, the brilliant Allan Turing among them, were able to supply the Allied High Command with a stream of invaluable intelligence, which source was hidden under a code word “ULTRA.”

Sharing the Polish code-breaking expertise jumpstarted the British efforts and played a key part in defeating Germany, most notably during the Battle of the Atlantic, on which the ultimate fate of Britain depended. Countless lives of Allied servicemen and the crews of merchant vessels were saved thanks to “ULTRA.” Historians generally agree that it was one of the key factors in the ultimate victory, and probably it shortened the war by a few years.

One can safely say, then, that breaking the Enigma cipher was by far the most important contribution of Poland to the Allied war effort – all the more spectacular, as it was achieved not by force of arms and valour of the men in uniform, but by the power of a singular set of exceptional minds armed literally with pencils and mathematical expertise. Thus, it was obvious from the start that the success of Polish code-breakers would feature prominently in the main exhibition of the Museum of the Second World War. Since the actual work of the code-breakers does not leave much material proofs, the only item that could be used for this was a specimen of the machine they managed to defeat. However, the main problem facing the team was: how to obtain a genuine wartime Enigma machine?



called one of the most significant contributions to the Museum of the Second World War – found among thousands of items donated by institutions and individuals, including many Polish veterans who emigrated to the U.S. and both Americas.

The machine will be displayed in a darkened room and provided with all the necessary captions describing the item itself and the importance of code-breaking. It will be accompanied by a short audio-visual presentation outlining the complexity of the machine, the most important steps leading to the ultimate success, and the key Polish and British personalities involved. In order to attract the attention of the visitors, they would be able to use a multimedia screens with Enigma simulators to encode simple messages and thus to see for themselves that the cipher produced by the machine was truly enigmatic, should one be left without the key to decipher it.

The Museum of the Second World War is being developed in Gdańsk, the city which had been the focal point of the Polish-German conflict prior to 1939 and which has become the symbolic place where the first shots of the Second World War were fired. The Museum is financed solely by the Polish Government. Its main exhibition will cover about 7,000 square meters, making it one of the largest historical exhibitions in the world. There will be also a 1,500 square meters of permanent exhibition space to house travelling exhibits, a conference centre with two auditoria, classrooms, and a library. The Museum is a major publishing house and a research centre focusing on the history of WWII. The advisory board of the Museum includes foremost historians of the war, hailing from many countries around the world. The opening of the main exhibition is planned for Autumn 2016. For more information visit the website: www.muzeum1939.pl/en/home-page

Dr. Jan Szkudliński is a military historian and a translator. Since March 2009 he has worked in the Research Department of the Museum of the Second World War. Photos Enigma cipher machine, photo: Dominik Jagodziński. Visualization of the Museum building, “Kwadrat” Architectural Team.



OFFICERS AND COUNCIL OF THE POLISH AMERICAN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION IN 2015-2016

President: Dr. Grażyna Kozaczka, Cazenovia College

PAHA OFFICERS

Dr. Anna Mazurkiewicz of the University of Gdańsk, Poland – First Vice President
Dr. John Radzilowski of the University of Alaska-Southeast – Second Vice President
Dr. Maja Trochimczyk of Moonrise Press – Secretary and Communications Director
Dr. Jim Pula of Purdue University North Central – Treasurer
Dr. Pien Versteegh of Avans University, the Netherlands – Executive Director
Dr. Anna Jaroszyńska-Kirchmann of Eastern Connecticut State University - Editor of *Polish American Studies*

PAHA COUNCIL

Dr. M. B. Biskupski, Central Connecticut State University	Dr. John Bukowczyk, Wayne State University
Dr. Mary Erdmans, Case Western Reserve University	Dr. Marta Cieślak, Independent Scholar
Dr. Ann Gunkel, Columbia College-Chicago	Dr. Iwona Korga, Józef Piłsudski Institute
Dr. Czesław Karkowski, Hunter College and Mercy College	Dr. Stephen Leahy, Shantou University, Shantou
Dr. Neal Pease, University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee	Mr. Robert Synakowski, Syracuse Polish Home
Dr. Thomas Napierkowski, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs	
Dr. Dorota Praszałowicz, Jagiellonian University, Kraków, Poland	

ABOUT PAHA

The Polish American Historical Association is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) tax-exempt, interdisciplinary organization devoted to the study of Polish American history and culture, and its European origins (EIN 362729972). 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. PAHA publishes a newsletter and a biannual scholarly peer-reviewed scholarly journal, *Polish American Studies* (published by the University of Illinois Press, with past issues on JSTOR, www.press.uillinois.edu/journals/pas/isubscribe.php). The organization sponsors an annual conference, in conjunction with the American Historical Association, which serves as a forum for research in the field of ethnic studies. PAHA membership is open to all individuals interested in the fields of Polish American history and culture, and immigration studies. In 2011, PAHA sponsored the critically acclaimed *Polish American Encyclopedia*, published by McFarland and edited by Prof. James Pula.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT identifies the following goals:

- To promote the study of Polish American history and culture
- To encourage and disseminate scholarly research and publication on the Polish American experience in the fields of history, the social sciences, the humanities and the arts, and advance scholarly collaboration across disciplines
- To support collection and preservation of historical sources regarding the Polish past in America
-

PAHA Newsletter (ISSN-0739-9766) © Polish American Historical Association, 2015. Published semiannually by PAHA and distributed to its members. To join PAHA, or subscribe to *Polish American Studies*, visit the University of Illinois Press website and select an option appropriate for you: www.press.uillinois.edu/journals/pas.html. **Mailing Address:** PAHA at Central Connecticut State University, 1615 Stanley St., New Britain, CT 06050. **Editor:** Maja Trochimczyk, Ph.D., PAHA Secretary and Communications Director: maja@polishamericanstudies.org. **Contributors:** John Guzłowski, Grażyna Kozaczka, Agnieszka Garwel, Anna Mazurkiewicz, Donald Pienkos, Jan Szkudliński and Wanda Urbanska.



Call for Papers for PAHA's 73rd Annual Meeting in Atlanta, GA, 2016



PAHA's 73rd Annual Meeting will be held on January 7-10, 2016 in Atlanta as part of the 130th American Historical Association's Annual Conference. The theme for the 2016 AHA conference is "Global Migrations: Empires, Nations, and Neighbors." It provides an excellent opportunity for the Polish American Historical Association to showcase research carried out by its members, as well as to present it in a comparative perspective. Therefore we invite scholars who work on the Polish American experience as well as those who deal either with migration, ethnic, or regional studies and would like to present their findings within the forum presented by the PAHA. We invite session proposals that foster international, comparative perspectives which include the Polish American experience, as well as individual papers dealing with the above mentioned themes.

This year, we specifically look for proposals in the following areas:

- Polish American experience – all aspects (history, sociology, literature, art, music, etc.)
- Migration patterns, ethnic experience – comparative perspective
- Immigrant women - Labor activism among the ethnics
- Experiences of foreigners in the American Civil War
- International activism of the anti-communist groups in the U.S. during the Cold War

The deadline for submissions is April 15, 2015. Abstracts for papers and panel proposals are now being accepted and should be submitted to the Chair of the Program Committee: Dr. Anna Mazurkiewicz, Faculty of History, University of Gdańsk, Poland, ul. Wita Stwosza 55, 80-952 Gdańsk; email: anna.m@polishamericanstudies.org.

Electronic proposals in email and word format are strongly preferred. Individuals and session organizers should include the following information when submitting a proposal:

- Paper/Session title(s) (of no more than 20 words)

- Paper/Session abstract (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 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 15, 2015. Registration is online at: www.polishamericanstudies.org.



Thaddeus V. Gromada's *My Years In and Out Of 'The Ivory Tower'*



A recently published memoir of Dr. Thaddeus V. Gromada, *My Years In and Out Of 'The Ivory Tower'* is a chronological review of his career. He is the Professor Emeritus of East European History at New Jersey City University and past President and Executive Director of the Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences of America (PIASA). Gromada traces in detail his record of activities and achievements since 1959 as a scholar, teacher, administrator, organizer of academic and cultural events and activist. A selection of his public statements and articles is also included. The book records his effort to function throughout the last half century as a scholar in "the ivory tower" and an activist with "his feet on the ground." PAHA members can purchase the book for a special price \$10 + \$3. S&H.





The Polish American Historical Association's interdisciplinary refereed scholarly journal (ISSN 0032-2806; eISSN 2330-0833) has been published continuously since 1944. It appears biannually and is available world-wide through JSTOR, a database of full-text research journals. PAS is indexed in *America: History and Life*; *American Bibliography of Slavic and East European Studies*; *ATLA Catholic Periodical and Literature Index*; *Bibliographic Index*; *Current Abstracts*; *Historical Abstracts*; *MLA International Bibliography*; *PIO - Periodical Index Online*; *PubMed*; and *TOC Premier*. The journal is also ranked by the Polish Ministry of Science and Education. To subscribe visit: www.press.uillinois.edu/journals/pas.html.

The editors welcome scholarship including articles, edited documents, bibliographies and related materials dealing with all aspects of the history and culture of Poles in the Western Hemisphere. They particularly welcome contributions that place the Polish experience in historical and comparative perspective by examining its relationship to other ethnic experiences. Contributions from any discipline in the humanities and social sciences are welcome. The Swastek Prize is awarded annually for the best article published in a given volume of *Polish American Studies*.

Manuscripts or inquiries should be submitted in Microsoft Word via e-mail attachment to the editor at anna.k@polishamericanstudies.org. Manuscripts are evaluated based on their originality; relevance to the mission of the journal; the clarity of the thesis, presentation and conclusions; and the depth of research based upon the nature of the sources cited. Contributors whose first language is not English should have their work reviewed for clarity prior to submission. The journal employs a "double-blind" review process with each submission being read by a minimum of two reviewers, and usually three. Comments of the reviewers are summarized by the editors and provided to the authors.

Editor: Anna D. Jaroszyńska-Kirchmann,
Eastern Connecticut State University,
anna.k@polishamericanstudies.org

Book Review Editor: Mary Patrice Erdmans,
Case Western Reserve
University, mary.e@polishamericanstudies.org

Book Review Editor for Poland: Anna
Mazurkiewicz, University of Gdańsk,
Poland, anna.m@polishamericanstudies.org

Editorial Board:

M. B. Biskupski, Central Connecticut State University; Tobias Brinkmann, Pennsylvania State University; John J. Bukowczyk, Wayne State University; William J. Galush, Loyola University Chicago; Ann Hetzel Gunkel, Columbia College Chicago; Gabriela Pawlus Kasprzak, University of Toronto, Canada; Grazyna Kozaczka, Cazenovia College; Karen Majewski, University of Michigan; Thomas J. Napierkowski, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs; Neal Pease, University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee; Angela Pienkos, Polish Center Wisconsin; James S. Pula, Purdue University; John Radzilowski, University of Alaska – Southeast; Francis D. Raska, Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic; Dariusz Stola, Museum of the History of Polish Jews, Warsaw, Poland; Adam Walaszek, Jagiellonian University, Kraków, Poland; and Joanna Wojdon, University of Wrocław, Poland.



Zofia Kossak's *The Polish Year* Broadcast by Ted Zawistowski



Ted Zawistowski and Peg Stunkard have been reading *The Polish Year* by Zofia Kossak on internet radio station www.WUUV.org in Port Charlotte, FL. Each chapter in the book is devoted to a month and reflects some traditional Polish customs, legends, myths, folklore, tales and historic figures related to that month. Zofia Kossak wrote *Rok Polski* in England after World War II. It was first broadcast as a series on Radio Free Europe and then published in book form. Ted Zawistowski and Marie Lesniak Jeffries translated the book into English and it was published by the Northern Pennsylvania Division of the Polish American Congress. Currently, it is aired as a series of twelve half-hour broadcasts.

Zofia Kossak wrote some forty books, many in up to ten editions, and translated into as many as fifteen languages, primarily during the interwar period. Her historical novel of the Crusades was written as a trilogy. During the war, Kossak was very active in the Polish Underground and was a co-founder of Żegota, the All-Poland Council for Aid to Jews. She also was a founder of the Front for Poland's Rebirth. Her literary works and resistance efforts were recognized by several awards and medals.



POETRY CORNER: MAJA TROCHIMCZYK

Edited by John Z. Guzlowski



Maja Trochimczyk, poet, publisher, and scholar, has just published a new book of her own poems about the experiences of her Polish family during World War II and the Cold War. The poems in *Slicing the Bread: Children's Survival Manual in 25 Poems* (Finishing Line Press, 2014) are written with the clarity of truth and the fullness of fine poetry. If you feel that you have heard all there is to hear about those troubled times, you will learn in this book that you haven't. Her poetic mixing of family narrative and the memories of other survivors feels like the essential stories our own parents told us when they wanted us to know that there were experiences that we must never forget. Here are the stories of how the people she loved experienced hunger and suffering and terror so strong that it defined them and taught her, and teach us, the meaning of family.

writingpolishdiaspora.blogspot.com

Poet Linda Nemec Foster praises the "unwavering honesty" and "stark imagery" of Trochimczyk's poems that "bear witness to the hate that destroys, to the truth that restores, and to the poetic vision that honors our common humanity." Sharon Chmielarz concurs: "You will remember the taste of this book." More: PoetryLaurels.blogspot.com

Slicing the Bread

Her mother's hunger. One huge pot of hot water with some chopped weeds – *komesa, lebioda* – she taught her to recognize their leaves, just in case – plus a spoonful of flour for flavor. Lunch for twenty people crammed into a two-bedroom house. The spring was the worst – flowers, birdsong, and nothing to eat. You had to wait for the rye and potatoes to grow. The pantry was empty. She was hungry. Always hungry. She ate raw wheat sometimes. Too green, The kernels she chewed – still milky – made her sick.

Thirty years after the war, her mother stashed paper bags with sliced, dried bread on top shelves in her Warsaw kitchen. Twenty, thirty bags... enough food for a month. *Don't ever throw any bread away*, her mother said.

* *Remember, war is hunger.*

Every week, her mother ate *dziad* soup – fit for a beggar, made with crumbled wheat buns, stale sourdough loaves, pieces of dark rye soaked in hot tea with honey. She liked it. She wanted to remember its taste.

The Summer of Love

She would never be as beautiful again as she had been that summer in Germany. Blue eyes shining from under the tightly-tied kerchief, blond curls, shorn short for work. They planted potatoes side by side in the fields. He was tall, kind, athletic, son of the Bauer. She blushed a pretty shade of pink when she caught his eye.

It was their first love, they were so shy led side by side, with jeering cardboard signs, noisy blasts of trombones. A feast for the whole village. Kids ran in circles around them, laughing – *The Polish Pig. The Traitor of our Race.* Bronia and Hans. People poked them, pushed them, shaved their heads. Identical, grotesque, bald puppets, each with a single lock left hanging in the middle of the forehead.

She was sent to Auschwitz.
He – to the eastern front.
It was their last summer.



Sawa's *The Wall Speaks* Exhibition at the Florida Holocaust Museum

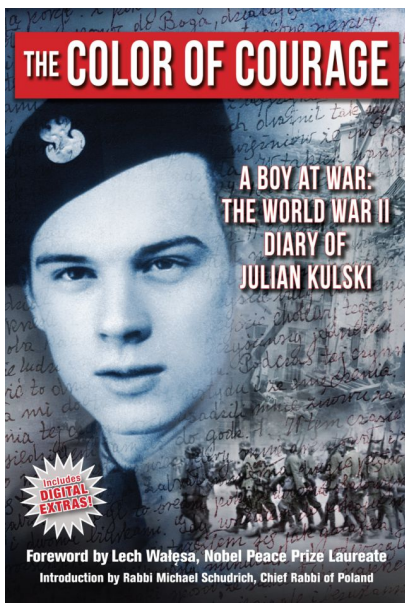


"The Wall Speaks - Voices of the Unheard" by a Polish American artist and film-maker Wojciech Sawa is dedicated to Polish children and teenagers of World War II subjected to Nazi German and Soviet policies best summarized by the words: "We will make you less than human." The multimedia exhibit features large format photography, as well as interactive artifact and video installations. All interviews, photographs and artifacts are a reflection of a personal journey undertaken by the exhibit's author, conceptual and multimedia artist Wojciech Sawa. The exhibit is on loan from the artist at the Florida

Holocaust Museum from January 31 to April 29, 2015 at 55 5th Street S, Saint Petersburg, FL 33701. An online version features black-and-white photos and video interviews of survivors of the German and Soviet invasions, with stories of occupation, underground resistance, concentration and death camps, and repression post-liberation. To read their stories visit: www.thewallspeaks.net. Photo: Rachel O'Hara of *Sarasota Herald Tribune*.



The Color of Courage — New World War II Memoir from Aquila Polonica



"If there is going to be a war,
I do not want to miss it."

—Julian Kulski, age 10

Adopted as a textbook by
Dr. M.B.B. Biskupski.

Available from
www.AquilaPolonica.com

Aquila Polonica Publishing's newest release is *The Color of Courage—A Boy at War: The World War II Diary of Julian Kulski*. This remarkable diary covers Kulski's war experience in Warsaw from ages 10 to 16. The book's foreword was written by Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Lech Wałęsa, with an introduction by Rabbi Michael Schudrich, the Chief Rabbi of Poland. It has been chosen as a Selection of the History Book Club and the Military Book Club. *Publishers Weekly* calls it "at once absorbing, inspiring, and tragic." Dr. Zbigniew Brzezinski says: "Compelling, readable, and very moving!" *The Color of Courage* follows Kulski, a young Boy Scout, as he begins fighting the Germans with small acts of sabotage, is recruited into the Polish Underground Army at age 12 by his Scoutmaster, undertakes a secret mission into the Warsaw Ghetto, is arrested and beaten by the Gestapo, sentenced to Auschwitz, rescued, fights in a Polish Commando unit during the 1944 Warsaw Uprising, and ends the war as a 16-year-old German POW. Kulski wrote his diary in the summer of 1945 as doctor-prescribed therapy for what is now known as PTSD (post-traumatic stress disorder). *The Color of Courage* is a new, enhanced edition of Kulski's diary, which was originally published under the title *Dying, We Live* in 1979 and has been long out of print. For the new edition, revisions and corrections were made in collaboration with the author, who lives in Washington, D.C. This new edition also features an entirely fresh design with more than 150 photos and illustrations, 13 maps, an Historical Horizon section summarizing Poland's role in WWII, Discussion Questions, and a detailed index—*plus an innovative, revolutionary multimedia element* in the form of 11 "Digital Extras" embedded in the book. These are short videos which Aquila Polonica has created from original historical film and audio material to accompany Kulski's story, that are accessed either by URL or by scanning the QR code with your smartphone. Samples: www.polww2.com/SampleDigitalExtras.



Where Are We Heading? Polish Americans and U.S.-Poland Relations: Yesterday Today and Tomorrow (Part II) *by Donald Pienkos*



[Editor's Note] This is the continuation of past PAHA president Donald Pienkos's article from Fall 2014 issue of the Newsletter. The list of reasons for Polish American to be proud continues after the first four. ONE: Poland is an important, if too little appreciated, ally of the United States. TWO: Poland is a democracy and has been a democracy ever since 1989. THREE: Poland is economically sound and prospering. Its progress, since the depression it went through from the mid-1970s into the early 1990s, has been remarkable. FOUR: Polish Americans have much to be proud about in their many contributions to America. Indeed, the Poles' story is a true of progress and success over the past 130 and more years.

FIVE: The organized Polish American community, Polonia, as it existed into the 1970s, is slowly and inevitably diminishing. Today, 19 out of every 20 Polish Americans is American born - two, three, even four or more generations removed from the immigration experience. Many have a non-Polish parent or grandparents. Very few speak Polish or maintain ties with relatives in Poland. In one sense, this is a big "plus" since it is an indication that Polish Americans, in every way, have long since joined the mainstream of American life.

The many Polish organizations created from the 1860s onward were set up to meet the needs of our immigrant forbears and their offspring and to help enable them to function better in an environment that was alien to them in many ways. They did important and valued work. But today things have changed. As a result, the existing organizations of Polonia, which served past generations well, need to adapt to the new and many very real challenges they face - or disappear.

But many of our organizations can survive by meeting the interests and needs of Polish Americans in the ever changing conditions of American life. Most of Polonia's existing organizations have missions and resources enabling them to respond to those Polish Americans who want to get together along heritage lines and who find such activity satisfying. Here they can respond to the small stream of Polish newcomers too. But doing this takes effort, the commitment of precious time, teamwork, and some imagination.

Here are just three recent examples from my adopted home town of Milwaukee that show what people can do.

In the early 1990s one of America's most marvelous churches, the Basilica of St Josaphat, had so deteriorated that some folks worried about a day when its massive dome might collapse upon the faithful below. But local Polish Americans and their friends acted and raised millions of dollars to fully restore this magnificent edifice. In 2000 Polish Americans erected the Polish Center of Wisconsin - an architectural gem whose interior walls are adorned with art that proudly show the Polish heritage to its many visitors. And on November 11, 2013, the 95th anniversary of Poland's independence, the restored monument to Thaddeus Kosciuszko erected in 1905 in Milwaukee's Kosciuszko Park was rededicated - after a fund raising campaign that netted over \$400,000.

Across the U.S. Polish Americans are doing similar work to preserve and enhance awareness of the Polish heritage in their communities. And all of us appreciate our many cultural societies which regularly sponsor musical events, films, exhibits, festivals, and lectures aimed at bringing the Polish experience to the general public.

SIX: Poland's rich culture and history deserve to be far better known in the U.S. Polish Americans in particular need to learn more about their heritage. Here there are real obstacles - one is that so many Polish Americans are descendants of immigrants who arrived knowing little of their own national history and culture and were in no position to educate their children systematically about their heritage. Most came to America before 1914 from an economically oppressed and partitioned land whose foreign rulers' priority was to erase the Polish national identity and even the use of the Polish language. Most Poles who settled here came in search of a better life for themselves and their children - 'for bread' - in the words of the Nobel Prize novelist Henryk Sienkiewicz. For them, their feelings for Poland focused on their concerns for loved ones still in the 'old country'.

Fortunately, there were talented people in this first massive Polish immigration imbued with a twin commitment to Poland's freedom and the betterment of their fellow newcomers. They led the way in building Polonia, its churches, fraternals, and cultural organizations. After 1945, members of the post-World War II Polish emigration added their contribution to Polonia by helping reinvigorate Polonia's existing institutions and creating new ones.

But in truth, the great majority of the children and grandchildren of generations of Polish immigrants, as they entered the American mainstream, were starved for systematic knowledge of their heritage. Sad enough was the near total absence of information about Poland's history and culture in most of our country's schools.

Worse has been the seemingly incessant and ill-conceived attacks on Poland and its history made by ignorant and/or biased individuals who ought to think before they speak and write. For example, when will we see the end to ignorant comments about "World War II Polish death camps" in our newspapers! But here the truth is what counts: Poland's story is interesting, fundamentally positive, and perhaps most important - instructive.

Poland has a rich history of ethnic diversity and religious tolerance. Indeed, for over four hundred years – from 1386 to 1795, the vast Polish Commonwealth was inhabited not only by Poles but by Lithuanians, Ukrainians, Jews, Germans, Byelorussians, Tatars, and other peoples. The Poles' remarkable thirst for freedom and commitment to human rights is a value Americans can appreciate too - if they knew more about it. But Poland also has its own sad history of dysfunctional government - in the dreadful consequences of the 'liberum veto' and of weak, even corrupt, elected kings, who came to the throne thanks to votes bought by 'campaign money' from Poland's foreign enemies. There is much to learn for Americans here too.

Reading more about the Polish experience can't hurt, especially since a lot of fine material is out there! Two recent examples: John Radzilowski's "Traveler's History of Poland", published in 2007, tells the story concisely, objectively, and comprehensively. Another is James Pula's *Polish American Encyclopedia* (2012), an incredibly informative work that in countless interesting ways presents the Polish American experience and its many-sided connections to Poland. Nowadays we have a growing number of authors, among them Susan Strempek Shea, James Conroyd Martin, Lynn Olson and Stanley Cloud, and Milwaukee's own Douglas Jacobson, whose books on the Polish experience are entertaining, fair-minded, and informative. They are reaching literally thousands of readers – in America and in Poland too.

SEVEN: Poland today is in the position – for the first time – to promote the Polish cultural heritage in America. Here again, imagination, cooperation, and productive effort are needed to make this happen - from the Polish government, from Poland's academic institutions, and its private businesses.

An example that merits a mention: Back in 2001 the "Leonardo da Vinci and the Splendor of Poland" exhibition of the classical art from the museums and galleries of Poland came to America. This exhibition was the brainchild of Laurie Winters, a young and dynamic curator at the Milwaukee Art Museum. Working with the Polish authorities, she brought some eighty outstanding paintings to Milwaukee, most notably Leonardo da Vinci's "Lady with the Ermine". The exhibition won rave notices in the 'New York Times' and around the country. It was then shipped to Houston and San Francisco. Altogether, "Leonardo da Vinci and the Splendor of Poland" was viewed by 400,000 people! But nothing on this scale has happened since.

At the May 2013 national meeting of the Polish American Congress, I proposed that leaders of the major national Polish American fraternal, cultural, professional, educational, and academic organizations hold a well-prepared summit-type meeting to discuss how together they might both strengthen Polonia and build wider knowledge and appreciation of Poland and its cultural heritage. This proposal was unanimously approved. In March 2014 the Summit was held in Pittsburgh - with the leaders of nineteen national Polish American organizations - joined by Poland's Ambassador to the United States - taking part. It was an extraordinary and productive event.

Why was this Summit important, even critical for the future? It is because, in the end, Poland, as real as its economic and political progress has been since 1989, should work more closely with genuine partners in a revitalized community of informed Polish Americans. And a stronger Polish American community is a true asset that benefits Poland and the United States alike.

Let me conclude by returning to where I started. Poland is important to the United States. Poland has been and is a true ally. Poland's people, Americans, and Polish Americans share a wealth of experiences and values with one another. Polish Americans and their American friends, together with the Polish government, can do more to enlighten others about this truth. This is in everyone's best interest. But it won't happen just by itself.

~ Donald Pienkos

**Revised from remarks at the annual national convention of the National Advocates Society and National Medical and Dental Association, in Egg Harbor, Wisconsin August 20, 2013.*

Searching for Your Roots? Join One of the Polish Genealogical Societies

There are nine Polish Genealogical Societies in the U.S. The PSA-America (www.pgsa.org), headquartered in Chicago, was founded and incorporated in the state of Illinois on August 23, 1978. The Society is open to anyone doing research within the borders of the old Commonwealth of Poland. It offers to its 2,000 members from 11 countries access to books, bulletins, meetings and an annual workshop. The Society encourages members to communicate with each other and share leads and research sources (polishamericanstudies.org/genealogy.html).



Did you know that a Polish American, Bohdan Paczyński (1940-2007) was the first astronomer to receive all three awards of the Royal Astronomical Society in England? That an asteroid #11755 Paczyński was named after him? That in 2006, he was given a Henry Norris Russell Lectureship, thought of as equivalent to a Nobel Prize in astronomy?

Born in Vilnius, now the capital of Lithuania (2/8/1940), Paczyński lived there through Soviet and Nazi occupations until 1945 when the family moved to Poland, settling in 1949 in Warsaw. As an astronomer, he was a prodigy: at the age of 18 he published his first scientific paper, "Minima of Eclipsing Variables" - the start of a lifelong fascination with binary stars. After several summers spent with Professor Włodzimierz Zonn in Ostrowik Observatory, he decided to become an astronomer. In 1962-1981, he worked at the Astronomical Institute of the Polish Academy of Sciences (PAN); at 36, he was the Academy's youngest member (since 1961). He received his Ph.D. at Warsaw University in 1964. With Professor Józef Smak, he was a proponent of creating Warsaw's Copernicus Astronomical Center, to celebrate Copernicus' 500th birthday in 1974. Since 1961, Paczyński frequently visited the U.S.; in 1975-76 and again in 1981, he was a Sherman Fairchild Distinguished Scholar. During the second fellowship, in December 1981, martial law was imposed in Poland and he decided to remain in America. Paczyński accepted an offer at Princeton University, eventually becoming Lyman Spitzer Jr. Professor of Theoretical Astrophysics and the first Polish-born member of the National Academy of Sciences (initially a foreign member and since 1984 as an American). He authored over 300 scientific papers about stellar evolution, gravitational lensing and microlensing, variable stars, gamma-ray bursts, and galactic structure. His research focused on a new and unique method of astronomical observations of objects which do not emit light on their own.

Paczyński maintained strong relations with the astronomy community in Poland, and he hosted a steady stream of visitors from his homeland. He initiated OGLE, the Optical Gravitational Lensing Experiment, a cooperation between Warsaw University, Princeton University and Carnegie Institution, led by Professor Andrzej Udalski. The aim of the project was an analysis of dark matter using the microlensing technique.



Most of the observations took place in Las Campanas Observatory in Chile. At least seven new planets have so far been discovered by the OGLE Project. "His influence on the field was enormous," said Professor Spergel of Princeton University. "Entire subfields of astrophysics either would not have existed without him, or would have been radically different." Wrocław University and Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń honored Professor Paczyński with doctorates *honoris causa*. In September 2011, a Medal in memory of Bohdan Paczyński was established by the Polish Astronomical Society (PTA) as the highest scientific distinction awarded in Poland to an individual in the field of astronomy. A professor beloved by students and faculty, he taught astrophysics at Princeton University from 1989 to 2007. I had the pleasure of spending an evening with him and his graduate students at one of the Star Gazing events at Peyton Observatory. Professor Paczyński mesmerized members of Quo Vadis, a Polish Club at Princeton, with observations of nebulae, globular clusters and galaxies through a 12" Schmidt-Cassegrain telescope. It was a unique evening, making us see the incredible complexity of our universe.



Composer Marta Ptaszyńska to Lead Chicago's Ensemble Contempo



Award-winning composer, Marta Ptaszyńska, was recently selected as the artistic director of Contempo, the University of Chicago's renowned contemporary music collective, established 50 years ago. Ptaszyńska, a graduate of Higher Schools of Music in Warsaw and Poznań (with three diplomas, in percussion, composition and music theory), has lived in the U.S. since 1972 and has served as Helen B. & Frank L. Sulzberger Professor of Music Composition at the University of Chicago since 1998. Her works include: *Hymn of the Universe* (text by Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, 2008), *Holocaust Memorial Cantata* (1991-1993), *Polish Letters* (1989) dedicated to *Poles Dispersed Throughout the Whole World*, prize-winning opera about Chopin, *The Lovers of the Valldemosa Cloister* (2008-2009), *Un Grand Sommeil Noir* (poetry by Verlaine, 1977), *Inverted Mountain* for orchestra (2010) and hundreds of other compositions. She currently works on *Missa Solemnis*



ad Honorem Sanctus Johannes Paulus Secundum. Ptaszyńska received many awards and honors from: the Polish government (1995, 2010, 2013), John Simon Guggenheim Foundation (2010), Fromm Music Foundation (2007), American Academy of Arts and Letters (Benjamin Danks Award, 2006), UNESCO International Rostrum of Composers (1986), as well as Jurzy-kowski Foundation's Lifetime Achievement Award (1996) and many prizes from the Polish Composers' Union and Percussive Arts Society. Critics praise her imaginative means of expression associated with percussive instruments. She frequently selects titles relating to space, dreams, light, imagination, the charming domains of decorative arabesques and the living beauty of nature. Her

artistic vision will define the profile of the renowned contemporary music ensemble for years to come.

PERSONALIA

MIECZYSLAW B.B. BISKUPSKI just published a new book, issued by Northern Illinois University Press and entitled *The Most Dangerous German Agent in America*. The book discusses the career of a fascinating character who was born in Poland, long active in the United States in the immigrant community, a German agent during World War I and later a Senator of the Polish Republic in 1923.

JOHN BUKOWCZYK, Professor of History at Wayne State University in Detroit, continues to edit the *Journal of American Ethnic History* and the Ohio University Press Polish and Polish American Studies Series. For information on either of these publishing programs, contact him at aa2092@wayne.edu.

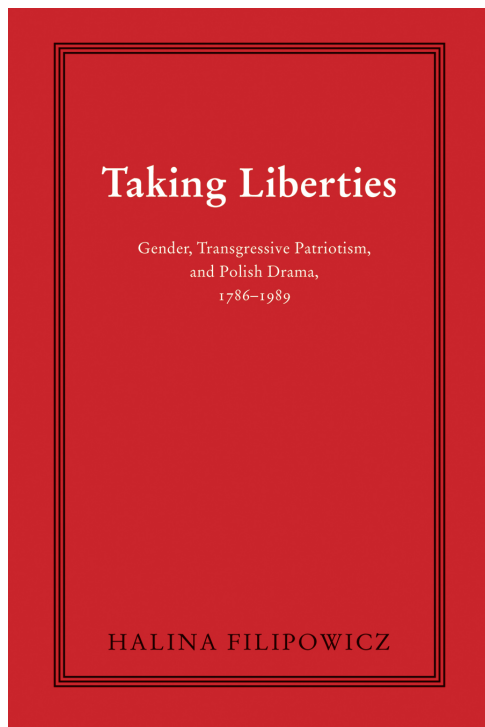
ANNA MAZURKIEWICZ edited and contributed to a volume on coercion in migration: "Od exsilli do exile. Migracje przymusowe w perspektywie historycznej," *Studia Historica Gedanensia*, vol. 5. (Gdańsk: Wydawnictwo UG, 2014). In 2014, she received the Medal of the Commission of National Education for "oustanding contributions" in this field. In September 2014, with A. Ross Johnson, Katalin Kádár Lynn and Giles Scott-Smith she organized an international symposium in Gdańsk on the Free Europe Committee which gathered esteemed scholars from both sides of the Atlantic, featuring as keynote speakers: H.E. President of Estonia – Toomas Hendrik Ilves as well as the U.S. Ambassador to Poland – Stephen D. Mull. Currently, she is in charge of the East Central European section of the central project of the Institute for National Remembrance on Polish Political Emigration (1939-1990) led by Sławomir Łukasiewicz.

JAMES S. PULA published "Remembering Poland, But Not Polonia: The Development of Polish American Historical Memory," *Studia Migracyjne—Przegląd Polonijny* (Jagiellonian University, Kraków), Vol. XL, no. 1, 107-118; "The Great Pułaski Hoax," *Polish-American Journal*, November 2014, 10; "Whose Bones Are Those? A Study of the Evidence for the Pułaski Burial," *Georgia Historical Quarterly* (Winter 2015); and "Polski menedżer Ala Capone," *Mówią wieki* (University of Warsaw), March 2014, pp. 61-64. He also co-presented with Pien Versteegh a paper on "New Amsterdam or New Gdańsk? Polish Settlers in New Amsterdam, 1624-1664," at PAHA's annual meeting in New York in January 2015. He edited *The Polish Review*, Vol. 59, no. 3; *The Polish Review*, Vol. 60, no. 2; and *Polish American Studies*, Vol. 72, no. 1.

In November 2014, **JOHN RADZIŁOWSKI** spoke to a community and university audience at the University of Alaska Southeast, introducing the documentary film *Aleut Story*. The talk and film covered the forced internment of Aleutian Islanders during World War II. In January 2014, he gave a presentation to a community and university audience on the current conflict in Ukraine, the Putin dictatorship, and American policy toward the eastern and east-central Europe. Radzilowski's extensive biographical article on German-American businessman Marvin Schwan, is forthcoming in *Immigrant Entrepreneurship: German-American Business Biographies, 1720 to the Present*, a multi-volume reference project sponsored by the German Historical Institute in Washington, D.C.

MAJA TROCHIMCZYK edited the second, updated version of *Frédéric Chopin: A Research and Information Guide* (Routledge, 2015, with William Smialek), and, with Stanisław Latek, *Lutosławski's Music and Legacy* (Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences of Canada, 2014). Her book of war-themed poems, *Slicing the Bread* was issued by Finishing Line Press in December 2014. Her poems also appeared in the *Apology of Wild Flowers Anthology*, *Poetry Magazine*, *Clockwise Cat* and *SGVPQ*. She lectured on Paderewski at the First Paderewski Festival in Raleigh N.C., and on Ursyn Niemcewicz's American Years at PAHA's 72nd Meeting.

NEW BOOKS IN POLISH STUDIES FROM OHIO UNIVERSITY PRESS



Taking Liberties: Gender, Transgressive Patriotism, and Polish Drama 1786-1989

By Halina Filipowicz

As narrow, nationalist views of patriotic allegiance have become widespread and are routinely invoked to justify everything from flag-waving triumphalism to xenophobic bigotry, the concept of a nonnationalist patriotism has vanished from public conversation. *Taking Liberties* is a study of what may be called patriotism without borders: a nonnational commitment compatible with the universal principles and practices of democracy and human rights, respectful of ethnic and cultural diversity, and, overall, open-minded and inclusive.

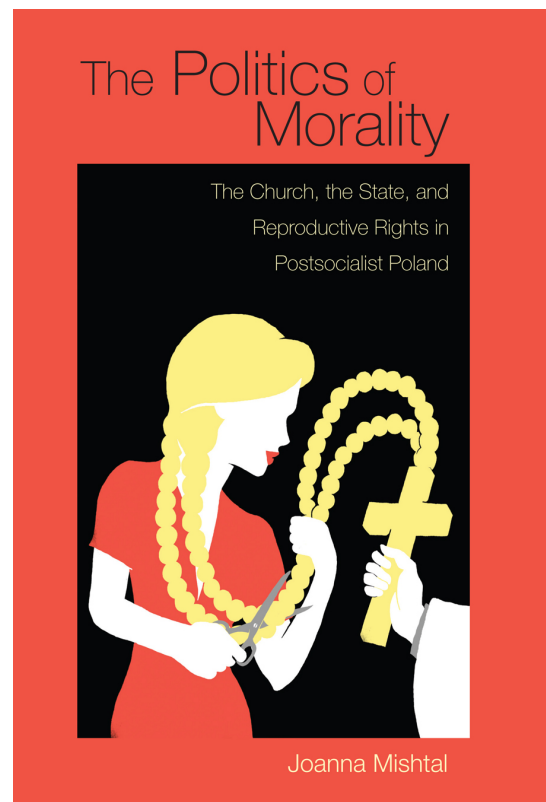
Moving beyond a traditional study of Polish dramatic literature from the eighteenth through the twentieth centuries, Halina Filipowicz turns to the plays themselves and to archival materials, ranging from parliamentary speeches to polemical pamphlets and verse broadsides, to explore the cultural phenomenon of transgressive patriotism and its implications for present-day society.

The Politics of Morality: The Church, the State, and Reproductive Rights in Postsocialist Poland

By Joanna Mishtal

After the fall of the state socialist regime in 1989, Polish society experienced a sense of relief from the tyranny of Soviet control and an expectation that democracy would bring freedom. After this initial wave of enthusiasm, however, political forces that had lain concealed began to emerge and establish a new religious-nationalist orthodoxy. As the church emerged as a political force, it precipitated a rapid erosion of women's reproductive rights, especially the right to abortion, which had been relatively well established under the former regime.

The Politics of Morality is an anthropological study of this expansion of power by the religious right and its effects on individual rights and social mores.





THE KOSCIUSZKO FOUNDATION
An American Center for Polish Culture Since 1925

Presents

**The New
Kosciuszko Foundation
Dictionary**

Polish-English English-Polish

2ND REVISED EDITION

**Two Volume Set
With CD-ROM**



To purchase, visit www.thekf.org. Also available on

www.amazon.com.

The Kosciuszko Foundation, Inc.

15 East 65th Street, New York, New York 10065

Phone: (212) 734-2130 Fax (212) 628-4552 Email: info@thekf.org