



Polish American Historical Association Newsletter

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Invitation to PAHA's 74th Annual Meeting in Denver, CO, January 5-7, 2017



During the 74th Annual Meeting of the Polish American Historical Association in Denver, Colorado, eight sessions will explore a variety of topics associated with the Polish American and Polish émigré experience, from migration patterns, to ways of establishing and cultivating national identity surrounded by different cultures and languages. PAHA's annual award winners will also be announced. The meeting is held in association with the American Historical Association's 131st Annual Meeting on the subject of "Historical Scale; Linking Levels of Experience" (www.historians.org). Registration for PAHA's Annual Meeting is free of charge and does not require AHA registration: www.polishamericanstudies.org/registration.html.

► *Read the Meeting's program on pages 14-15.*



Letter from the President – by Grażyna J. Kozaczka



Dear Friends and Colleagues,

As I consider all the projects that PAHA as an organization and PAHA members as individual scholars have been involved in during the last few months, I cannot help but notice the incredible timeliness as well as urgency of our study of (im)migration, especially in view of recent social and political developments on both sides of the Atlantic. Christy Wampole, writing for *The New York Times*, aptly described the challenges facing our world. She asserted that "We've arrived at a strange juncture in history, one that puts two world systems at odds: the first, and older root system that privileged 'vertical' hierarchy, tradition, and national sovereignty; and the second, the 'horizontal' globalized latticework of cybernetic information transfer and economic connectivity" (May 30, 2016). At this "strange juncture" our research of the past and present patterns of (im)migration should gain added importance.

For PAHA, both spring and summer were busy seasons with our successful and stimulating mid-year meeting held in mid-May at the elegant Skalny Welcome Center on the campus of St. John Fisher College in Rochester, New York as well as with two June meetings in Kraków, Poland. I am very grateful to the Polish Heritage Society of Rochester and especially to Dr. Frederic J. Skalny, a long-time friend of PAHA, and to Ms. Kathy Urbanic and Mr. Jerald Rachfal for their invitation to the Skalny Welcome Center, and for their friendly and generous welcome. Thanks to their efforts PAHA Board members were able to tour the Polish parish church of St. Stanislaw Kostka in Rochester and to meet with many representatives of Rochester Polonia during two lovely receptions. It was heartwarming to see a vigorous Polish American community proud of its past and full of ideas and hope for its future.



Prof. Adam Walaszek, US Consul Walter M. Braunohler & President Grażyna Kozaczka in Kraków, June 2016

► Letter from the President, continued

The mid-year PAHA Board meeting allowed us among other topics to formulate the plan of celebrating PAHA's 75th annual meeting and the 70th anniversary of PAHA as an autonomous organization, both coming up in 2018. The board decided to explore a possibility of organizing an international conference abroad or in one of the major Polonian centers in the USA. This could not only provide a forum for PAHA to showcase the research conducted by its members but could also feature migration scholars and representatives of other ethnic groups thus fostering a comparative approach to ethnic studies.



In Kraków: 1) Prof. James Pula; 2) Prof. Grażyna Kozaczka, US Consul Walter M. Braunohler, Prof. Alan Kraut, American University; and Prof. Dominic Pacyga, Columbia College; 3) Prof. Anna Jaroszyńska Kirchmann.

Many of the PAHA members met again only a couple of weeks later in Kraków, Poland where they actively participated in the biannual workshop "American Ethnicity and Ethnic Community Building" organized by Professor Dorota Praszalowicz (PAHA Board Member) and co-sponsored by the Jagiellonian University, Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences, the United States Consulate General in Kraków and PAHA which took place between June 6-7, 2016. PAHA members were active in presenting papers during the workshop: Mary P. Erdmans discussed "The Role of the State in Polish Political Emigration and Re-migration, 1960-2000," James Pula asked "Is the New Immigration Really New? A Comparison of 1910 and 2010," Anna Jaroszyńska-Kirchmann presented "The Disappearing Act: Urban Renewal and the Disintegration of the Ethnic Community in Willimantic, CT," while Grażyna Kozaczka considered "Mapping Immigrant Home(land)s in Recent Polish American Autobiographical Fiction." This workshop provided a perfect opportunity for PAHA members to exchange ideas with an international group of scholars representing such academic centers as University of Leipzig, Germany, University of Vienna, Austria, University of Stavanger, Norway, University of Warsaw, Poland and several others. We were also able to share our ideas with Mr. Walter M. Braunohler, US Consul General and Ms. Pamella De Volder, US Consul for Press and Cultural Affairs during a reception organized at the private residence of the Consul General.

PAHA has also showed strong presence during the planning stages of the Fifth Congress of Polish Scholarly Societies Abroad to be held in October 2017, in Kraków. During the informal and formal meetings with the representatives of Polska Akademia Umiejętności, the Polish government as well as Polish scholars from all over the world, we worked on an agenda and a list of topics and issues to be discussed during the upcoming Congress. The importance of this Congress to the Polish side was underscored by the presence of two representatives of the Polish Government at all our meetings. Director Romuald Lanczkowski of the Senate of the Polish Republic and Ambassador Leszek Hensel of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs were responsible for contacts between the Polish government and different Polonian organization all over the world. Ambassador Hensel spoke eloquently about different government initiatives to support Polish immigrants and ethnics living outside of Poland. The Polish government estimates the number of Polish immigrants and ethnics to be about 20 million worldwide with only 6% of them belonging to Polonian organizations. The Polish government is especially interested in supporting Polish programs at foreign universities, Polish language instruction abroad, and scholarly conferences, as well as securing collections of Polish archives and libraries abroad. Ambassador Hensel identified areas of special concern to be the lack of success in organizing Polish

scientific and scholarly communities worldwide and political difficulties in supporting individuals claiming Polish descent in Ukraine, Belarus and in Lithuania. The overall expenses of the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the support of Polonia exceeded 20 million Polish Złoty in 2015.

As members of The Polish American Historical Association, we should all be very proud to see PAHA included as an equal partner in such important meetings which result in decisions that shape Polish governmental policies towards the Polish diaspora worldwide and which publicize our work within the global Polonian community at such a "strange juncture in history." And as I am looking forward to PAHA's 74th Annual Meeting in Denver, Colorado, January 5-7, 2017, I am filled with gratitude to all PAHA Board Members whose help and advice allowed me to lead our organization for the past two years. I am especially grateful to PAHA's First Vice President, Dr. Anna Mazurkiewicz and I wish her success as PAHA's next President. With Dr. Mazurkiewicz at the helm, PAHA is in very good hands, indeed.

Grażyna J. Kozaczka,

President of the Polish American Historical Association

Post Scriptum: I have just received the sad news of the passing of Dr. Frederic J. Skalny of Rochester, NY. I would like to express my sincere condolences to his family and friends. PAHA lost a great friend and supporter.



IN MEMORIAM FREDERIC J. SKALNY - *by James S. Pula*



September 17, 2016, was a particularly sad day in the history of the Polish American Historical Association and all of Polonia. On that day it lost a tireless supporter of its Polish heritage, a serious proponent of education, and a long-time benefactor and friend of PAHA.

Born in 1938, Frederic J. Skalny earned his B.S. degree at the State University of New York at Geneseo, an M.A. from Indiana University, and his Ph.D. from the University of Buffalo. With a life-long interest in education, his career included college teaching and corporate training, but he was also active promoting education by establishing a scholarship program in his parents' memory and managing other scholarship programs established

by family members that provided assistance to more than 700 students at the University of Rochester, Rochester Institute of Technology, St. John Fisher College, and other institutions of higher learning. He also served as a principal member of the Board of Trustees of Joseph and Irene Skalny Charitable Trust and the Louis Skalny Family Foundation and was active in funding improvements to the Skalny Science Center and establishing the Joseph S. Skalny Welcome Center at St. John Fisher College and founding the Skalny Center for Polish and Central European Studies at the University of Rochester. His exceptional efforts in this field of endeavor were recognized with the Mayor's Renaissance Award from the city of Rochester, the President's Medal for Service to St. John Fisher College, and the *Plus Ratio Quam Vis* award for distinguished service to the Jagiellonian University in Kraków, Poland.

Frederic combined his belief in education with an abiding love for his Polish heritage that he pursued vigorously throughout his life. An active member of the Rochester-Kraków Sister Cities Committee, the American Council for Polish Culture, and the Polish American Historical Association, he supported the renovation and preservation of an impressive sgraffito of Nicholas Copernicus at St. John Fisher College as well as the collection and retention primary sources and cultural objects important to the history of Rochester Polonia. As president of the Board of Directors of the Polish Heritage Society of Rochester, he was the founder and editor of *Rochester Polonia News* and initiator or energetic supporter of countless programs to promote Polish heritage and culture. Frederic was an exceptional champion of the American Council for Polish Culture and the Polish American Historical Association to which he extended not only liberal funding but his own expertise on history and Polonia. His exceptional contributions to the promotion of things Polish were recognized with a Cultural Achievement Award from American Council for Polish Culture, the Distinguished Service Award from PAHA, and the Cavalier Cross of Merit from Republic of Poland. Possessed of an inquiring intellect, a well-developed sense of humor, and a generous spirit, he will be greatly missed by all who knew him and the hundreds of people who benefitted from his strong community service philosophy.



Dr. Iwona Drąg Korga and Dr. Czesław Karkowski arrive at the Skalny Center.



Kathy Urbanic gives a tour of St. Stanislaus Kostka Church to PAHA President Dr. Grażyna Kozaczka.



PAHA Board deliberations, presided over by President Kozaczka.

Polish American Historical Association organizes two meetings each year: the Annual Meeting held in early January, in association with the American Historical Association Conference, and the Mid-Year Meeting held in May, and scheduled in collaboration with a local Polonia organization. Typically the Mid-Year meetings include site visits to Polonian places of interest and a public lecture by one of our distinguished scholars.

The 2016 Mid-Year Board Meeting was preceded by a public lecture by Professor James Pula of Purdue University, discussing "Poland in World War II." The lecture was followed by a reception organized by the Polish Heritage Society of Rochester (PHSR) at The Joseph S. Skalny Welcome Center at St. John Fisher College. The Skalny Center was the site of the two-day Meeting, that was dedicated to mapping out strategic plans for the organization's future, including celebrations of its anniversaries, 75th anniversary of its founding as part of Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences and 70th anniversary of becoming independent of PIASA.

The second day commenced with a site visit to St. Stanislaus Kostka Catholic Church, including a Mass in Polish and a tour provided by Kathy Urbanic of the Polish Heritage Society of Rochester. The church's recently restored interior includes many Polish accents, icons of Our Lady of the Bright Mount, Pope John Paul II, and frescoes with St. Stanislaus Kostka and Polish royalty and religious figures associated with strengthening Christianity in Poland. The Polish Heritage Society was generous enough to offer not one but two receptions including a Polish banquet, filled with traditional dishes at the Polska Chata restaurant in Rochester. The dining room was decorated with antique photographs documenting the history of Poles in Rochester, dating back to 1880s. This history was also presented in a book edited by Kathy Urbanic and Jerry Rachfal, and donated to PAHA during the festivities. The gift was reciprocated by PAHA President who donated books to the Polish Heritage Society of Rochester.

President Grażyna Kozaczka thus summarized the visit of PAHA Board to Rochester: "The 2016 Midyear Meeting of PAHA was held at the Skalny Welcome Center, St. John Fisher College in Rochester, NY where PAHA received a very warm welcome from the Polish Heritage Society of Rochester (PHSR). I am very grateful for all the help and support PAHA received from Dr. Frederic Skalny, Jerry Rachfal and Kathy Urbanic of PHSR as well as from other board members. The three day meeting started on Saturday evening (May 21) with an interesting and well attended lecture by Jim Pula on



Lecture by Prof. James Pula. Photo by Pien Versteegh.

Poland in WWII and was followed by a lively reception hosted by PSHrR which provided an opportunity to explain the work of PAHA to the members of the Rochester Polish American community. The following two days of business meetings were very productive and exciting as among other topics we also discussed our plans to celebrate in 2018 two major milestones for PAHA: PAHA's 75th Annual Meeting and the 70th anniversary of PAHA becoming an autonomous organization."



Dr. Kozaczka with Ms. Urbanic and Mr. Rachfal and the gift of the Polish Heritage Society of Rochester, a history of Poles in the local community.

Photos by Maja Trochimczyk



Society of St. Casimir, est. 1887, the first Polonia organization in Rochester, photo from 1904.



Polish Americans at Book Expo America, Chicago, May 2016



Polish American book titles were well represented at the Book Expo America (BEA) and BookCon Chicago (May 11-14, 2016), which is the largest book show in the US. Held in Chicago this year, the event's featured country was Poland. The Polish exhibit was managed by the Book Institute in Kraków and the Polish Cultural Institute in NYC, in collaboration with Aquila Polonica, a publisher of books on WWII experience in Poland and beyond. Terry Tegnazian, the Editor of Aquila Polonica, was asked to organize a "Books in English" section within the Poland exhibit and collaborated with PAHA President, as well as Polish American Publishers, Moonrise Press, and USC Polish Music Center. The display included a generous selection of fiction and non-fiction books on Polish history published by Aquila Polonica; as well as Polish American history books, including Anna Mazurkiewicz's *East Central Europe in Exile*, Anna Jaroszyńska-Kirchmann's *The Polish Hearst*, Marek Żebrowski's *Paderewski in California*, and *Across the Atlantic: The Adamowicz Brothers*, by Zofia Reklewska-Braun and Kazimierz Braun. Polish American literature was represented by Stuart Dybek, Donna Urbikas, Maria Pilatowicz, and other writers, as well as many poetry collections: John Z. Guzlowski's *Echoes of Tattered Tongues*, Oriana Ivy's *April Snow*, Stuart Dybek's *I Sailed with Magellan*, Linda Nemec Foster's *Amber Necklace from Gdańsk*, Maja Trochimczyk's *Slicing the Bread* and the *Chopin with Cherries* anthology, and Cecilia Woloch's *Carpathia*. PAHA Newsletter Editor, Maja Trochimczyk, had an extensive presence at the BEA, with eight books, four of her own (in addition to poetry volumes, two books on Fryderyk Chopin), two with her contributions (by Anna Mazurkiewicz and Sławomir Dobrzański), and two that she published at USC Polish Music Center (Koffler) and Moonrise Press (Adamowicz brothers).

BEA 2016

A Selection of BOOKS IN ENGLISH

About BEA's Guest of Honor

POLAND

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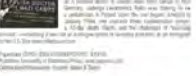
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FICTION, LITERATURE & POETRY



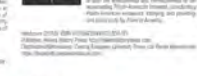
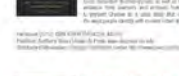
BEA 2016 BOOKS IN ENGLISH

BIOGRAPHY, AUTOBIOGRAPHY & MEMOIR



BEA 2016 BOOKS IN ENGLISH

HISTORY - MISC.





Philadelphia Chapter of Kościuszko Foundation Introduces Polish Cultural Salons - by Agnieszka Gerwel



The longstanding tradition of King Stanisław August Poniatowski's Thursday Dinners inspired the Kościuszko Foundation Philadelphia Chapter to organize Cultural Salons. Thursday Dinners took place in Warsaw in the years 1771-1782, in the Royal Castle during the winter months, and in the Łazienki Palace during the summer. They usually lasted three hours with the participation of thirty guests. Of historical importance, they became places of intellectual and social exchange, where guests frequently read poetry. Thursday dinners gave birth to the first Polish literary magazine, entitled: "Zabawy przyjemne i pożyteczne" 1770-1777. King August's

dinners, unlike the Kościuszko Foundation Cultural Salons, were frequented exclusively by men. Portraits of some of the guests are on view at the Yellow Room in the Royal Palace.

The first salon of poetry and music, inaugurated by Yolanta Roman, Kościuszko Foundation President, with the help of Margaret Zaleska, was graciously hosted by Elżbieta and Jan Sozański at their lovely home in Berwyn, PA. The evening's formal part began with a brief history of the Salons presented by the hostess, followed by poetry readings featuring works of Czesław Miłosz, Zbigniew Herbert, Adam Mickiewicz, Tadeusz Różewicz among others, and a light-hearted reading of Polish proverbs. Casey Palowitch, to the delight of the audience, played Chopin's Waltzes and Nocturnes. The evening was completed with *hors d'oeuvres* and Light Fare and a souvenir photograph, a "must" at each Salon.

The June Salon presented us with award winning sibling violinists, Ania and Piotr Filochowski. Born in Warsaw, they charmed the audience with a recital featuring compositions by Chopin, Schubert and Bizet. Piotr is a graduate of the Philadelphia Curtis Institute of Music, while Ania will complete her studies there next year. They perform globally and are top prize contestants of numerous violin competitions in the United States, Italy, Austria and the Czech Republic. Ela and Wes Bochenek hosted this unforgettable afternoon at their elegant Newtown residence.

At our most recent Salon, we were introduced to Mr. Ryszard Druch at the Victorian Gothic Siverstone Bed and Breakfast run by Yola and Aldek Roman. Young artists of the Druch Studio and Gallery spent a weekend at the Inn, painting en plein air. Their art was beautifully displayed on the veranda as the guests began arriving on a sunny Sunday afternoon. The Jaz Smulski Band, presenting selections from the Great American Songbook, performed at an evening concert. At the end of the festivities, we celebrated Yola's birthday with delicious desserts.

Each Salon is unique, highlighting a distinct aspect of Polish culture. These events take place at private homes of the Philadelphia Chapter Kościuszko Foundation members and friends. Through the Salons we share our love of Polish literature, music, art and cuisine. Guests are invited to contribute their favorite wine or refreshments. In addition, each Salon host receives partial reimbursement to cover their expenses. Salons are a wonderful promotion for the Kościuszko Foundation. They also allow the guests to learn more about each other's interests and passions. Salons are planned for each April to celebrate the National Poetry Month in America.



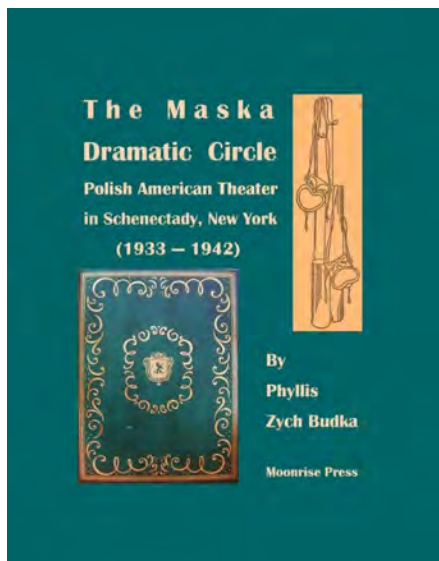


The Wall Street Journal's "Five Best" feature of August 22, 2016, names *The Auschwitz Volunteer: Beyond Bravery* by Captain Witold Pilecki as one of the five best books on wartime secret missions. *The Auschwitz Volunteer*, published by Aquila Polonica in 2012, is the first time that Witold Pilecki's most comprehensive report about his secret undercover mission at Auschwitz has been published in English. Nicholas Kristof of the *New York Times* describes Pilecki as "one of the great heroes of the 20th century" and the book as "a historical document of the greatest importance." According to Jewish News, this volume is "certain to become a standard reference work in every major Holocaust library collection." *The Auschwitz Volunteer* won the prestigious PROSE Award for Autobiography & Memoir from the Association of American Publishers (the only independently published book to win a PROSE Award that year), as well as a Silver Benjamin Franklin Award from the Independent Book Publishers Association. It was a Featured Selection of the History Book Club and a Selection of the Book-of-the-Month Club and the Military Book Club, and has been translated into several languages, including German, Portuguese, Italian, and Chinese.

The Germans opened the Auschwitz concentration camp in June 1940. In September of that year, Pilecki, an army officer in the Underground, volunteered for an almost certainly suicidal secret mission: to get himself arrested and sent to Auschwitz as a prisoner, where his mission was to smuggle out intelligence and build a resistance network among the prisoners. Barely surviving nearly three years of starvation, disease and brutality, Pilecki accomplished his mission before escaping in April 1943. His clandestine intelligence reports from the camp, received by the Allies as early as 1941, were among the first eyewitness evidence of what was going on at Auschwitz. The book carries an introduction by Professor Norman Davies and a foreword by the Chief Rabbi of Poland. It is available in hardcover, trade paperback, ebook and audiobook. More info at: www.polww2.com/AboutAuschwitzVolunteer and www.polww2.com/AuschwitzVolunteerWSJOnline.



Polish American Theater in *Maska Dramatic Circle* by Phyllis Zych Budka



The Maska Dramatic Circle: Polish American Theater in Schenectady, New York (1933-1943) by Phyllis Zych Budka was published in May 2016 by Moonrise Press (ISBN 978-0-9963981-4-5, large format paperback, 254 pages). Designed initially as a family history and based on documents found in an attic, the book was inspired by the involvement of the author's parents Stanley Zych and Sophie Korycinski Zych in the Maska Dramatic Circle in the 1930s and 1940s. While researching this project, Ms. Budka realized that: "no one has told the story of the Maska Dramatic Circle, this unique group of young people, mostly first generation Polish Americans, who contributed so much to the cultural life of their community in Schenectady, New York, between 1933 and 1942. The Maska members were multitalented, hardworking and full of fun. Their world was completely bilingual, with plays in Polish, a newsletter in both English and Polish, and newspaper articles in both the local English newspapers as well as the Polish ones." In nine years they staged at least 51 plays, complete with costumes, stage settings, music and dancing. The book documents these performances

on the basis of a scrapbook of photos, *Maska Buletyns* and press clippings and thus fills in an enormous gap in the history of one of the Polish immigrant communities in America. www.moonrisepress.com

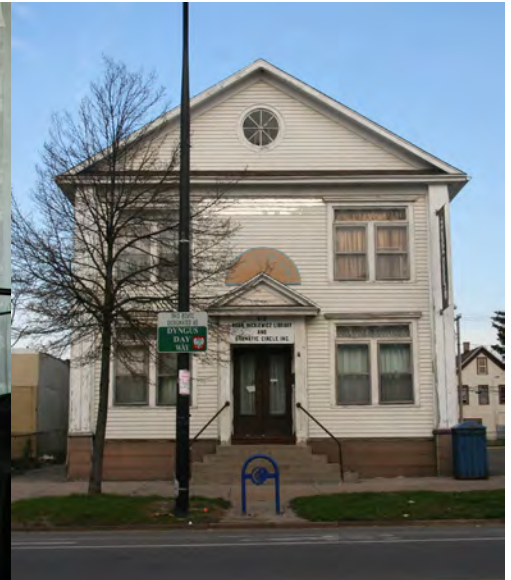
If we are to have a more complete and nuanced history of Polonia we need more local based sources like the one published by Phyllis Zych Budka. Her focus is the Polish American community in Schenectady, N.Y., a midsized industrial city where she grew up and which does not receive much attention from Polonian historians. Based primarily on her parents' scrap book and Polish and English newspapers, it records the amazing theatrical and cultural achievements of the "Maska Dramatic Club of Schenectady," which from 1933 to 1942 produced more than 50 plays in Polish and, in the process, enriched the lives of Polish immigrants and their children.

~ Dr. Thaddeus V. Gromada, Professor Emeritus of East European History



Western New York has a new historic attraction and resource, the Polonia Trail. Sponsored by the Western New York Division of the Polish American Congress, the Polonia Trail is a digital project “dedicated to showcasing important historic sites throughout Western New York that have significance to the Polish American Community.” The first phase of the trail, which was formally launched at a June 29th ceremony, consists of 50 Polish American locations found across Buffalo and Erie County, New York. Inspired by and patterned after Boston’s Freedom Trail, the Polonia Trail sites include St. Stanislaus Bishop & Martyr Roman Catholic Church, the “Mother Church” of Buffalo’s Polonia, the Buffalo Memorial Auditorium the birthplace of the Polish American Congress, the Holy Mother of the Rosary Polish National Catholic Cemetery, the final resting place of Polish National Alliance founder Julian Lipinski and the Adam Mickiewicz Library and Dramatic Circle, home to Buffalo’s oldest Polish reading room and a popular Dyngus Day celebration.

The trail also highlights visits by Polish luminaries to Western New York. Of particular interest are Helena Modjeska’s multiple visits to the stage and Ignacy Jan Paderewski’s lifesaving layover in Buffalo. Each site was researched by historian Gregory Witul and includes a number of photos and a bibliography. The next phase of the Polonia Trail will focus on Polish American locations outside of Erie County and should be completed in 2017. To explore the trail yourself, visit poloniatrail.com



L: James Lawicki, President of the Western New York Division of the Polish American Congress discusses how the Freedom Trail was his inspiration for the Polonia Trail. R: The Adam Mickiewicz Library and Dramatic Circle in Buffalo, NY



Lawicki thanks the many individuals and organizations that made the Polonia Trail possible at June 29th, 2016 launch ceremony held at Buffalo’s Canal Side.



On 29 – 30 October 2016, The King Jagiełło Monument Working Group is organizing The King Jagiełło Monument Unveiling Ceremony in Central Park and a Symposium entitled: “King Jagiełło in New York 1939-2016”, in Polish Consulate in New York. The King Jagiełło Monument Working Group was established by: Józef Piłsudski Institute, Polish American Congress – Long Island Division, Nowodworski Foundation, Association Polonia Technica, Consulate of the Republic of Poland in New York, St. Stanislaus B&M Parish in Manhattan, Prof. Krzysztof Wodiczko of Harvard University, and historian Krystyna Piórkowska.

The statue of King Jagiełło, was originally installed in the Polish Pavilion during the World’s Fair in 1939, and remains in New York City at the location in Central Park since 1945 till now. Currently, overall conservation work is performed, which is scheduled to be completed by mid-October. The Working Group promotes the legacy of King Władysław Jagiełło a symbol of Polish Victory for centuries by organizing symposium in Polish Consulate and monument unveiling ceremony in Central Park. Their goal is to address this historic topic to the US Polonia and

American historic community. The Symposium is scheduled on October 29th (Saturday) between 10:00 am and 5:30pm and will consist of four panels: Stanisław Kazimierz Ostrowski and Polish Art Deco / King Jagiełło and his Concept of a Unified Europe / Historical Sculptures in the Public Domain / Conservation work on the King Jagiełło Statue/ Polish Conservators in the World. All the proceedings will be in English. Registration is required.

On October 30, 2016 (Sunday) the unveiling ceremony of the King Władysław Jagiełło Monument is scheduled for Central Park, New York. The ceremony is planned as follows: Around 80 people will stay at the monument circle, at walkway and square in front of Turtle Pond. There will a banner informing about the event, together with another banner depicting the Battle of Grunwald as a backdrop for children’s performance. The schedule of the event: 1:00 pm – Welcome address, Consul of Republic of Poland and Jerzy Lesniak, President Nowodworski Foundation; 1:00 pm – A brief historical background and history of the monument and the history of King Jagiełło Swords – Wojciech Budzynski; 1:10 pm– Symbolic ceremony of King Jagiełło Monument unveiling; 1:20 pm – Speech by Marie R. Warsh, the Central Park Conservancy; 1:30 pm – Dedication of the Monument by Father Tadeusz Lizińczyk; 1:40 pm – “Battle of Grunwald” presentation by a school theater troupe (approx. 10 students) at the monument plinth, with choir; 2:30 pm – Placing flowers at the base of the monument and a Photo-op; 2:40 pm- Ballads sung with guitar at the monument.





The Emigration Museum in Gdynia presents a two-day international conference on Poles and Polish Diaspora in Latin America: Past and Present. The following papers will be presented.

October 27: Opening Session with papers by Adam Walaszek (*Emigration from Poland and Portugal: two cases. Are they different? 1500-1939*); Andrzej Chodubski (*Cultural and civilisation image of Poles in Latin America*); Renata Siuda Ambroziak (*The problem of leadership among the Brazilian Polish diaspora*), and Rafał Raczyński (*Latin American Polish diaspora at the Emigration Museum in Gdynia*). The second session on historical aspects of Polish presence in Latin America includes papers by: Jerzy Mazurek (*Polish colonial and settlement projects in Latin American countries in the interwar period*); Thaís Janaina Wenczenowicz (*History and historiography: interpretative views on the Polish immigration in the south of Brazil*); Claudia Stefanetti Kojrowicz (*When the Allies Closed the Doors, General Perón Accepted Two Thousand Italian-Polish Marriages in the Post-War Era*); Teresa Sońta-Jaroszewicz (*Wandering life of the refugees of Polish descent from Marseille to South America during World War II*); Aleksandra Pajek (*Brasil in the imagination – hopes and fears of Polish refugees right before leaving Europe during World War II*) and Karolina Baraniak (*Polish diaspora in Chile*). A session on the Polish community in the State of Parana, features papers by: Mariléia Gärtner and Luciane Trennephol da Costa (*The presence of Slavic culture in the interior of Parana state in Brazil*), Lenny A. Ureña Valerio (*Creating a Polish nation from colonies: analysis of the settling colonialism and creating Polish colonies in Parana*), Rodrigo Augusto (*Sustainable territorial development with the cultural identity in the Parana state*), Ancelmo Schörner (*Polish immigration in Palmeiras (PR): the colony of Santa Barbara in the memories of Helena Orchanhenka*), Nelsi Antonia Pabis (*Education and culture: the Polish immigrants' schools in the south of Parana*), Elisabeth Sylvia Janik (*A story of success: Sebastian Woś Saporski and Polish immigration to Curitiba*), and Sonia Eliane Niewiadomski (*Today's panorama of the Polish-Brazilian community in the southern and central parts of Parana*). The evening session is dedicated to Latin American Polish diaspora as a research area, with papers by: Maria Skoczek and Bogumiła Lisocka-Jaegermann (*Poles in Latin American research centres and universities*), Krzysztof Smolana (*About new sources in the history of the Latino American Polish Diaspora*), Joanna Łuba with Dominik Czapigo (*"Developing sources" – presentation of the documentation project by the KARTA Centre and the Ignacy Domeyko Polish Library in Argentina*), Michalina Petelska (*From Guatemala to Gdynia*).

On October 28th the morning session is dedicated to Poles' contribution to the social and cultural development of the Latin American countries, with papers by: Henryk Siewierski (*"Doutor Magico": Piotr Ludwik Napoleon Czerniewicz and his position in the history of medicine and Brazilian culture*); Katarzyna Krzywicka (*Missionary activity of the Congregation of Saint Michael the Archangel in Latin America*); Zdzisław Malczewski (*Polish missionaries in Brazil*); Aleksandra Pluta (*Polish artists' contribution for the cultural life of Brazil and Chile*); Rhuan Targino Zaleski Trindade (*Polish scientist among settlers: Czesław Bieżanko and Poles in the south of Brazil*); Beata Bereza (*Ludwik Margules – triumph of the theatrical style*); Justyna Łapaj (*Polish diaspora and Poles in selected countries of Latin America*). The second session of the day is dedicated to the literary aspects of Polish presence in Latin America, with papers by: Silvia Dapía (*New subjectivity after World War II in The Marriage by Witold Gombrowicz*); Elżbieta Budakowska (*Polish ethnic literature in Brazil in the sociological perspective*); Anna Jamrozek-Sowa (*Successful immigrants. Protagonists of Aleksandra Pluta's tales*); Kalina Sobierajska (*Female traveller, emigrant and cosmopolitan - the portrait of Maria Bochdan- iedenthal*). The afternoon session is dedicated to the language and identity of the Polish communities, with papers by Władysław T. Miodunka (*Polish language in the perspective of Polish-Spanish and Polish-Portuguese bilingualism*); Izabela Stapor (*Szakier, fiżon i trokować – on the lexis of Polishsettlers in Parana*); Anna Kaganiec-Kamieńska (*Polish language and identity in Argentinian Polish diaspora*), Karolina Bielenin-Lenczowska (*Cultural heritage of Brazilians of Polish descent - linguistic and culinary practices*); Katarzyna Rawska (*In search of Argentinian Polish diaspora's national identity*). The conference ends with an evening session on Jewish people from Polish territories in Latin America, including papers by: Maria Luiza Tucci Carneiro (*Accounts of Polish Jews who have survived the Holocaust*); Alicja Głuszek (*Polish Jews in Mexico - origin, memory and identity*); Mariusz Kałczewiak (*Jewish polacos. The meaning and function of Polish identity among the Polish Jews in Argentina, 1915-1939*) and Magdalena Szkwarek (*"You'll end up in Buenos Aires!"- Jews and prostitution. Another aspect of Jewish migration to Argentina at the turn of 19th and 20th century*).



On September 27, 2016, Piotr Gliński, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Culture and National Heritage of the Republic of Poland, awarded the Gold Medals Gloria Artis for outstanding contribution to Polish culture to the Polish Museum of America (PMA) and the Piłsudski Institute. During this ceremony, held in the elegant salons of the Polish Consulate General in New York, the Bronze Medal Gloria Artis was presented to Janusz Sporek, a promoter of Polish music in New York. PMA President Richard Owsiany and Managing Director Małgorzata Kot accepted the award on behalf of the PMA. Jarosław Sellin, Secretary of State at the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage, announced this honor on September 15, during the 38th Annual Conference of the Polish Museums, Archives, and Libraries Abroad, held in London.

One of the oldest and largest ethnic museums in the United States, the Polish Museum of America (PMA) is dedicated to preserving the Polish American past for future generations. Founded in 1935 by an initiative of the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America and open since 1937, the PMA celebrates more than 80 years of service to the community. The Museum showcases a unique permanent collection, highlights include: personal and professional mementos of Ignacy Jan Paderewski, inter-war paintings and sculptures; and art and artifacts from the Polish Pavilion at the 1939 New York World's Fair.



On behalf of the Piłsudski Institute, the Gloria Artis was accepted by Dr. Iwona Korga, President and Dr. Magda Kapuścińska, former President and volunteer of the Institute for the last 40 years.

Dr. Korga said: "On behalf of the Piłsudski Institute of America, thank you very much for this great honor. I must admit, however, that the Institute deserved this medal. During our 73 years of activity, the Institute secured the material artefacts of Polish national heritage: one million documents, twenty thousand books, art gallery and historical memorabilia. [...] I accept this medal on behalf of employees and generations of volunteers that created our facility and generously donated their time, knowledge and financial support."



PERSONALIA



JAMES S. PULA published "Civil Rights for Some, Stereotyping for Others: Two Views of the Open Housing Movement of the 1960s," in *Studia Migracyjne-Przegląd Polonijny* (Vol. XLI, no. 4, 121-132) and "Whose Bones Are Those? A Study of the Evidence for the Pułaski Burial," a refutation of the myth that Gen. Pułaski's bones are buried in his monument in Savannah, in the *Georgia Historical Quarterly*, Volume C, No. 1 (Spring 2016). He gave a paper titled "Is the New Immigration Really New? A Comparison of 1910 and 2010" at the "American Ethnicity and Ethnic Community Building" conference at the Polish Academy of Science in Kraków, Poland, and made a public presentation on "Poland in World War II" in Rochester, New York.



On June 17, 2016 the Rector of the University of Gdańsk – Prof. Bernard Lammek officially bestowed BENE MERITO ET MERENTI silver medal to **Dr. Stanisław (Stanley) Marian Garstka** – the founder of the American Polish Research Fellowship at the University of Notre Dame. Stanley Garstka, MD, initiated the exchange program between University of Gdańsk and Notre Dame in 1999. For many years it was administered by the late Fr. Leonard Chrobot (1938-2014).

Stanley Garstka was born in Warsaw on Feb. 22, 1916. In 1935 he began medial studies which he did not complete because of the outbreak of the Second World War. Imprisoned for his underground activities in 1941, he experienced infamous Pawiak prison, and then concentration camps of: Auschwitz, Neuengamme, Dachau, where from he was transferred to Flossenbürg camp (paramedic), and from there to Leitmeritz (subcamp) where while a prisoner he worked as a MD. Upon liberation he migrated to the American zone and by 1947 he had completed his medical studies in Erlangen. Two years later, a married man, he emigrated to the United States.

Living in a modest house in Riverside (California) with his beloved wife of almost 60 years – Dr. Martha Garstka (nee Alsizbaja), Dr. Stanley Garstka opened a golden opportunity to the young and aspiring historians from three Polish universities. Since the signing of the mutual cooperation agreement with University of Gdańsk in 1999 envisioning exchanges occurring „annually in continuity and perpetuity” eleven “recent postgraduates, or junior faculty members at Institute of History UG” went to work and study at the Norte Dame. They were: Jacek Rzeźniowiecki, Anna Muller, Anna Mazurkiewicz, Aleksander Michalak, Tytus Mikołajczak, Aleksandra Hallmann, Barbara Kłassa, Przemysław Różański, Piotr Derengowski, Łukasz Cherek, Domika Hempel. Among them there are current PAHA members and officers.



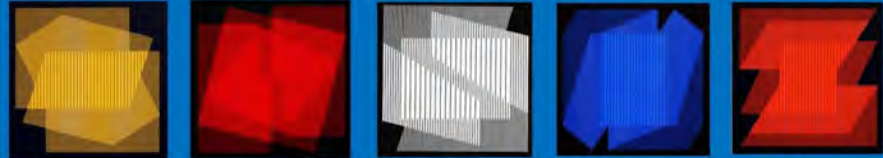
The dedication attached to the medal bestowed on Dr. Garstka reads: “In recognition of exceptional contributions to the development of the study of history, in particular for the development of young scientists from the University of Gdańsk within the framework of mutual cooperation”. The initiative to recognize Dr. Garstka was first put forth by Prof. Mieczysław Nurek (Faculty of History UG). The University-awarded honor was bestowed posthumously a decade after Dr. Garstka’s passing (June 20, 2006). In the meantime, the exchange program with Gdańsk was closed by the American partner in 2014 due to the lack of funds. The medal assures that its founder will not be forgotten.

Photo: Dean of the Faculty of History UG – Prof. Wiesław Długokęcki with Prof. Mieczysław Nurek presenting the medal and diploma bestowed upon Dr. Garstka.





POLISH AMERICAN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION



POLSKO-AMERYKAŃSKIE TOWARZYSTWO HISTORYCZNE

PAHA 74th ANNUAL MEETING PROGRAM – DENVER, JANUARY 5-7, 2017

PAHA Board Meeting

Thursday, January 5, 2017: 1:30 PM-5:00 PM
Colorado Convention Center, Room 204

Immigrant and Ethnic Identity

Friday, January 6, 2017: 8:30 AM-10:00 AM
Colorado Convention Center, Room 304
Chair: Thomas Napierkowski, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs
Creating Identity: Discussion around Kashubian and Polish Identity in Canada and Poland - Aleksandra Kurowska-Susdorf, University of Gdańsk

Pilgrimages to Poland: The Rearticulation of Ethnoreligious Identity in the South Texas Polish Community - Sarah Moxy Moczygemba, University of Florida

The "Other" Patriot: The Gothic Nature of the Polish Catholic Immigrant Other in the Mid-19th-Century United States - Jill Noel Walker Gonzalez, La Sierra University
Comment: The Audience

Constructing Ethnicity in Polish American Literature

Friday, January 6, 2017: 10:30 AM-12:00 PM
Colorado Convention Center, Room 304
Chair: Bożena Nowicka McLees, Loyola University Chicago
Our Little Polish Cousin and the Stara Imigracja - Thomas Napierkowski, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs

"What Are Little (Polish) Girls Made Of?" Performing Gender in World War II Novels for Young Adults By Immigrant and Ethnic Writers - Grażyna Kozaczka, Cazenovia College

The Pelé of Chicago: Janusz Kowalik and the Beginnings of Professional Soccer in the United States Neal Pease, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Anthony Bukoski: Writing from an Outpost of Polishness - John Merchant, Loyola University Chicago
Comment: The Audience

Narrating Migration: Subjectivities and Communities in Poland and the United States

Friday, January 6, 2017: 1:30 PM-3:00 PM
Colorado Convention Center, Room 304
Chair: Anna Mazurkiewicz, University of Gdańsk
Narrating a New "American": Polish Holocaust Survivors in the United States in the 1950s Anna Cichopek-Gajraj, Arizona State University

The People of Hamtramck: What Does It Mean to be Polish American in a Small Midwestern Town? Anna Muller, University of Michigan-Dearborn

What Polish Peasants Said about Capitalism: Narrating Urban Subjectivity in Late 19th- and Early 20th-Century America - Kathleen Wroblewski, University of Michigan
Comment: The Audience

Prominent Poles in the Americas

Friday, January 6, 2017: 3:30 PM-5:00 PM
Colorado Convention Center, Room 304
Chair: Pien Versteegh, Avans University of Applied Sciences
Judge Rozanski: Prosecuting Human Rights Crimes in Argentina - Sylvia G. Dapía, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York

Thomas Lewinski: America's Forgotten Architect James Pula, Purdue University Northwest-North Central

Following Paderewski: An Album of Autographs and Clippings from Brighton, England, 1890-1914 Maja Trochimczyk, Moonrise Press
Comment: The Audience

**Between Europe and North America:
(Im)migration and Social Justice**

Saturday, January 7, 2017: 8:30 AM-10:00 AM
Colorado Convention Center, Room 304
Chair: Grażyna Kozaczka, Cazenovia College
Polish Migrants on the Move: Miners in the Ruhr Area, 1920-30 - Pien Versteegh, Avans University of Applied Sciences

Multigenerational Migration Chains of Families from Babica: An Attempt at Typology
Joanna Kulpińska, Jagiellonian University, Kraków

Political Participation of Persons with Disabilities in the USA and Poland: From History to Modern Trends
Andrey Sergeevich Tikhonov, Kirkland Scholarship Program, University of Wrocław
Comment: The Audience

East Central Europe—What's in the Name? The View from Exile

Saturday, January 7, 2017: 10:30 AM-12:00 PM
Colorado Convention Center, Room 304
Chair: Neal Pease, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Regional Self-Representation of Polish Political Exiles in the US during the Cold War
Anna Mazurkiewicz, University of Gdańsk

Imagining a Separate Slovakia: Anti-Communist Slovak Exiles' Hopes and Dreams
Ellen L. Paul, Fort Lewis College

Milan Kundera's Concept of Central Europe and the Ensuing Discussion Among Czechoslovak Exiles and Dissidents - Francis D. Raska, Charles University

"Not Real Germans at All": The East-Central "Othering" of GDR-Refugees during the Revolution of 1989 - Bethany E. Hicks, Ouachita Baptist University

Author Meets Critic Session for The Polish Hearst: Ameryka-Echo and the Public Role of the Immigrant Press by Anna Jaroszyńska-Kirchmann

Saturday, January 7, 2017: 1:30 PM-3:00 PM
Colorado Convention Center, Room 304
Chair: Mary Patrice Erdmans, Case Western Reserve University

Comments: David A. Gerber, State University of New York at Buffalo; Jon Bekken, Albright College; Robert M. Zecker, St. Francis Xavier University; Anna D. Jaroszyńska-Kirchmann, Eastern Connecticut State University

Roundtable Discussion: Progressive: Polish-Americans for Social Progress—Jamestown through the 21st Century

Saturday, January 7, 2017: 3:30 PM-5:00 PM
Colorado Convention Center, Room 304
Chair: Anna Muller, University of Michigan-Dearborn
Comment: The Audience

TBA: Annual Awards Banquet

PAHA will bestow its awards on a number of deserving individuals and organizations during its Annual Awards Banquet. The exact date and place of this event will be announced separately.

While there are no registration fees and only the Annual Award Banquet requires a paid registration, all participants of the conference are required to pre-register using our website. They will receive a badge and conference program.

The 74th Annual Meeting of the Polish American Historical Association will take place in Denver, Colorado, on January 5-7, 2017, in association with the 131st Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association, dedicated to the theme of "Historical Scale: Linking Levels of Experience." Both conferences will be held at the Colorado Convention Center in Denver, Colorado.



PAHA Newsletters in Electronic Format



Thanks to the efforts of Renata C. Vickrey, University Archivist, Special Collections and Community Outreach Librarian Elihu Burritt Library, Central Connecticut State University, the Bulletins and Newsletters issued by the Polish American Historical Association since its inception in 1943 have been scanned and saved in jpg and PDF digital formats. The newsletters will be posted on a password protected website, and available to scholars upon request. The materials were found in CCSU library and at the Hoover Institution. The following issues are still missing: PAHA newsletters: v.41:no.4 (1985), and v.43:no.3 and 4 (1987); PAHA Bulletins: No. 2-5, 7, 10, 12-14, 16 (1943-44); No. 21, 24 (1945); No. 31, 32, 34 (1946); No. 54 (1949); and No. 122, 125, 132, 137 (1956).



Submit Your Paper for Publication in the *Polish American Studies*



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

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Send News about Events and Books to PAHA Newsletter and Blog



In addition to sharing information about the publications and conferences of historians and scholars of Polonia, and serving as the association's communications platform, PAHA Newsletter and Blog publicizes the history and current activities of Polonia: new books by Polish émigrés and about Polish émigrés worldwide, brief biographies of notable Polish Americans, announcements or reports from festivals, films, anniversaries, conferences, and other events. Please send your press releases and contributions, with one or two photos, to the Editor, Dr. Maja Trochimczyk, maja@polishamericanstudies.org, in the period from January to March 10 for the Spring edition of the Newsletter and from June to September 10 for the Fall edition. News items to be posted on PAHA blog may be received through the year. PAHA Newsletter is published in a print run of 600, distributed to individual and institutional members, and posted in PDF format on PAHA's website, thus documenting activities of Polonia.



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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, as part of the greater Polish diaspora. 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/subscribe.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.

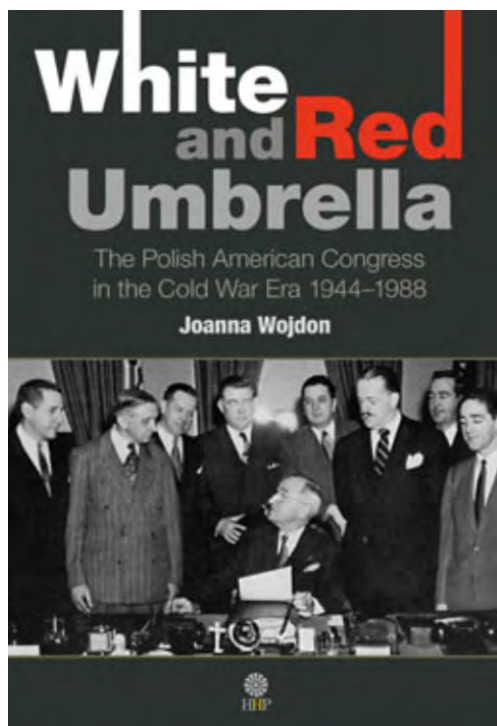
OUR MISSION STATEMENT identifies the following goals:

- To promote the study of Polish American history and culture as part of the greater Polish diaspora.
- 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, 2016. Published semiannually by PAHA and distributed to its members. To join PAHA, or subscribe to the *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 Z. Guzłowski, Grażyna Kozaczka, Anna Mazurkiewicz, Agnieszka Gerwel, Thomas Duszak, Mary Ann Furno, and Peter J. Obst.



Wojdon's *White and Red Umbrella* on PAC in the Cold War Era



Joanna Wojdon has published *White and Red Umbrella. The Polish American Congress in the Cold War Era (1944-1988)* that presents goals and everyday activities of the Polish American Congress under the presidencies of Charles Rozmarek (1944-1968) and Aloysius Mazewski (1968-1988), and is based on the archival research at the Immigration History Research Center and other American and Polish archives. *Based on extensive research, this thorough study is a must-read for anyone interested in Polish American experience in the United States in the post World War II decades.* (Anna Jaroszyńska-Kirchmann, Eastern Connecticut State University)

This is a pioneering work, deeply founded in the historical sources of numerous Polish American, American and Polish archives, press, reports and miscellaneous ephemeral publications. It presents the Polish American Congress' activities in various fields, not only its political actions aimed at full sovereignty for Poland oppressed by the communist regime, but also social and cultural programs responding to the needs of the Polish American community. The book goes beyond the framework of a monograph of a single organization and deals with broader and more significant issues, such as the connections between the lobbying power of ethnic groups and US foreign and domestic policy, and the role of ethnic groups within American society in the 20th century. (Adam Walaszek, Jagiellonian University, Kraków)

<http://www.helenahistorypress.com/book-whiteandred.html>

<http://www.amazon.com/White-Red-Umbrella-American-1944-1988/dp/194359600X>



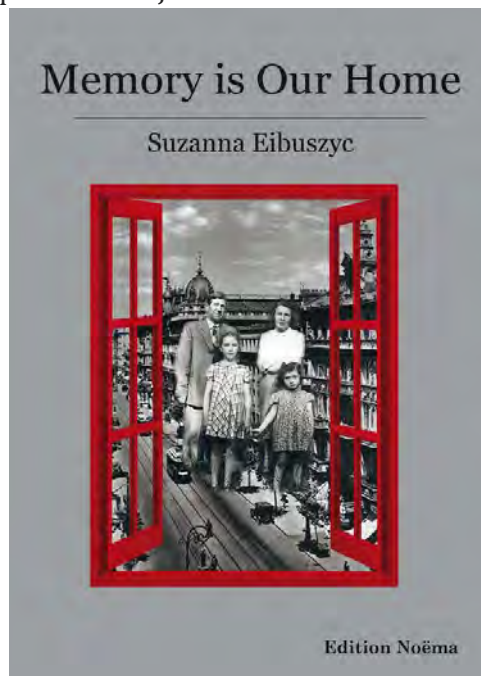
Eibuszyc's *Memory is Our Home* in Polish and English

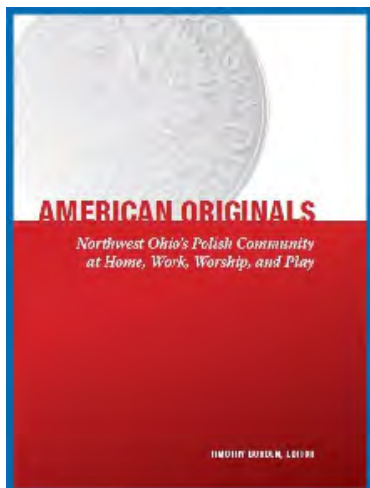


Suzanna Eibuszyc published a book of memoirs of her mother, a Holocaust survivor, in English (*Memory is our Home*, ibidem-Verlag, April 2015, distributed by Columbia University Press) and in Polish (*Pamięć jest naszym domem*, Prószyński, May 2016). The author explains: "I was born in Poland, after the war, where we lived until the late 1960s. I graduated from CCNY with a BA. At the department of Jewish studies is where I first met Professor Elie Wiesel. I received MA from UCLA, and was awarded a grant which allowed me to travel to Poland and Israel. Meeting professor and writer Elie Wiesel made me realize the importance of Holocaust survivors' stories. I insisted my mother write down her incredible accounts spanning some thirty years. It was after her death that I reconnected with Professor Wiesel; he more than anyone else gave me the courage to undertake the journey of writing this book. The ghosts of my childhood came rushing in and ultimately I addressed how growing up in the shadows of the Holocaust aftermath affected me."

The book is written for school-age readers, and contains "a thirty-year account that reveals a vibrant life of Eastern European, twentieth-century Jewish history and culture [...] a portrait of daily Jewish life during the interwar years in Warsaw, Poland, the Poland that was under Nazi's murderous grip and the faith of Jews surviving throughout Soviet Russia and Uzbekistan during WWII, and [...] and Jewish life under a new kind of oppression, communism, that was to follow in postwar Poland."

<http://www.memoryisourhome.com/>





It is estimated that one-third of all Americans can trace their ancestry to someone who lived in Poland at some time (13). While some made their way to New England towns such as Ludlow, Mass., and New Britain, Conn., by 1924 approximately one in every 500 immigrants from historic Polish territory settled on the western end of Lake Erie, in Toledo, Ohio (14).

In *American Originals*, the University of Toledo Press (est. 2010, but roots date back to 2002) seeks to contribute to the history of how Polish immigrants helped shape northwest Ohio's identity of self-reliance, common sense, and celebration (2). As the subtitle states, it does so by examining the four broad themes of home, work, worship, and play. The book is the fourth in the publisher's series on Toledo (est. 1837) and the region's ethnic heritage, with the other works covering Toledo's Hungarian (2002), Irish (2005), and Arab (2010) immigrants. The volume "did not try to create a Toledo Encyclopedia Polonia for readers" (1) but is trying to fill a void that has seen only a few book-length treatments on a subject that spans over a century and

a half (20–27). (Some recent but smaller and more popular efforts at telling the story of Polish Toledoans is Richard Philiposki and the Toledo Polish Genealogical Society's *Toledo's Polonia* [Arcadia, 2009] in the "Images of America" series. And WGTE-TV's 41-minute "Cornerstones: The Polish in Toledo" that first aired on December 10, 1996, and is available for streaming on the WGTE website. WGTE is Toledo's local PBS station.)

The editor of *American Originals* is a second generation Polish American who partially spent his childhood "in the alleyways" (251) of Toledo's historic Polish neighborhoods of Kuhschwantz (south Toledo) and Lagrinka (north Toledo). With degrees in economics, history, and Polish literature and language from Brown University (B.A.), University of Toledo (M.A.), and Indiana University (Ph.D.), Timothy Borden's work has appeared in various journals, including *Michigan Historical Review* and *Northwest Ohio Quarterly*. In total, and including Borden, the edited volume has eight contributors (three men, five women). All except one are either Toledo natives or residents, or current or past graduate students at the University of Toledo. The most notable contributor is longtime (1983–) Ohio congresswoman Marcy Kaptur.

Included in its 258 pages is an introduction, fourteen chapters, references and additional readings, selected discography of Toledo polka bands and musicians, contributor biographies, index, and 57 black-and-white archival photos. The chapters' average page length is fifteen, with the longest chapter ("Polka Bands, Clap Your Hands!") numbering forty-five pages. Five of the fourteen chapters are transcripts from interviews, and two chapters are reprints from articles previously published in *Ohio History* (2007) and *Polish American Studies* (1999). Of the book's many strengths, the most significant is its use of oral history by means of interviewing members of Toledo's Polish community who lived during Polish Toledo's heyday of the early to mid-twentieth century. But the book's main strength—the historical value of oral storytelling and biography—is also its main weakness in regard to the method chosen to convey the story. Rather than the raw, verbatim, question-and-answer interview transcripts that make up nearly a third of its chapters, it would have been preferred that the transcribed oral interviews be turned into smoother flowing, narrative-based chapter articles that are interspersed with quotations from the interviewee. A good example is Dorothy Stohl's lengthy chapter on Frances Stocki (1921–2009), a Polish-born survivor of the Stalin regime.

Those interested in historic Polish immigration to the U.S. in general, and to northwest Ohio specifically, will benefit the most from *American Originals*. Also, polka aficionados will enjoy the attention the distinctly Polish musical genre receives. Because "not everything is here" (2), the work can provide ideas for further research and writing by both amateur and professional historians, or by graduate students in need of a thesis or dissertation topic. Besides chronicling the Toledo Mud Hens minor league baseball team (1883–), Toledo Scale Company (headquarters, 1901–75), and the birthplace of actor Jamie Farr (1934), actress Katie Holmes (1978), and feminist Gloria Steinem (1934), *American Originals* succeeds in explaining "what makes Toledo unique" (2) and why its historic Polish community was once "a force to be reckoned with" (3).

Highly recommended by Francis Kyle, Louisville, KY

Note: This book review was first published in *NEHA News: The Newsletter of the New England Historical Association*, 44:1 (spring 2016), 24–25.



POETRY CORNER by John Guzlowski: *Halina Ablamowicz's Polish Poetry from the Soviet Gulags*



Dr. Halina Ablamowicz is Professor of Speech Communication at Tennessee Tech University published an anthology, *Polish Poetry from the Soviet Gulags: Recovering a Lost Literature*, in 2008 (Edwin Mellen Press). The book focuses on the horrific experiences of the Sybiracy -- the nearly two million innocent Poles who were deported by Stalin to Soviet gulags between 1940 and 1941. The book contains twenty-five poems written by Polish deportees translated into English in collaboration with Kevin Christianson, and an extensive historical introduction by Marek Jan Chodakiewicz.

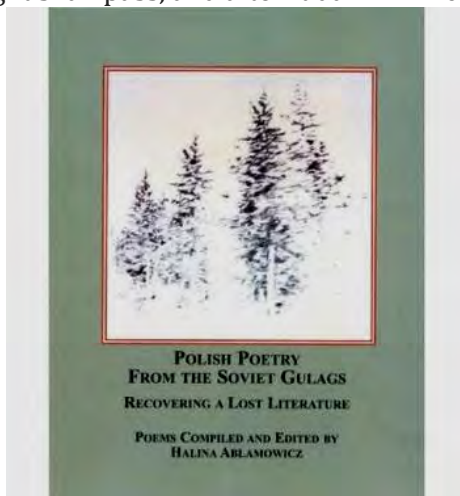
Prof. Ablamowicz and Dr. Christianson collaborated on several other Polish -to-English translation projects including a bilingual edition of Andrzej Bursa's poems (2008, Art-Park, Poland). Their translated poetry have appeared in *New Letters*, *The Formalist*, *The Minnesota Review*, *The Sarmatian Review*, *New American Writing*, *Guernica*, *Poetry International*, *The Ohio Review*, and other venues.



TO MY FELLOW POLES

By Anna Rudawcowa (Sybir 1941)

A wicked fate cast us onto the steppes of
Kazakhstan
A wicked fate forced us into exile into a world
Where each heart is an open wound,
Where each moment lasts for years on end.
A ghastly train took us across rivers
And across the serrated range of the Urals,
Our Homeland's smile -- sad and distant
Grew paler and paler, and finally went out.
Life caught us in its iron gears,
In its steel wheels, entangled us in silver rails.
A host of exiles cast into Sybir
For a grave sin that was not committed.
No need for tears! No need for words of grievances,
Because each complaint will grate on the ear. . .
Oh my fellow Poles! People without a Homeland!
The night shall pass, and after it dawn will come!



LONELY GRAVE By Zofia Metelicka

In far off Siberia there is a lonely grave
Flower blossoms lean over it
While the rustling of the steppe's tall grasses
Brings the quiet sound of grief with the wind.

To look for a cross or a name would be in vain Nobody
remembers whose grave this is
Many years ago flowers were placed there
And a memory lived in minds and hearts.

Those who preserved the memory in their hearts
Have returned to their distant Homeland
But their happiness was not complete, for a part
Of their souls they left behind upon the steppe.

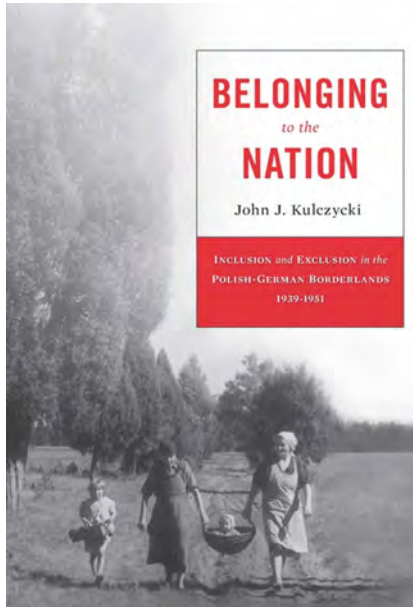
Every year always on that same November Day
When votive candles are lighted in cemeteries
In their thoughts and hearts they'll be there at the grave
Even though the clock of time has obscured its image.

On a sunny summer day perhaps someone young
Will stop and place a small flower there
And in reflection send a sigh to God while whispering
A prayer in the wind's hushed sound.

Since this volume is out of print, and an ebook is long overdue, you can read an essay by Ablamowicz illustrated with poetry excerpts in the Sarmatian Review, 2015.
<http://www.ruf.rice.edu/~sarmatia/105/251ablam.html>



A New Book from Harvard – *Belonging to the Nation* by John J. Kulczycki



A recent book by John J. Kulczycki, Professor Emeritus in the Department of History at the University of Illinois at Chicago, *Belonging to the Nation: Inclusion and Exclusion in the Polish-German Borderlands, 1939–1951*, ISBN 9780674659780, Harvard UP, 2015, 416 pp.), examines the ethnic and national identities of Poland's Western Borderlands during and after WWII. When the Nazis annexed western Poland in 1939, they quickly set about identifying Polish citizens of German origin and granting them the privileged legal status of ethnic Germans of the Reich. Following Germany's defeat in World War II, Soviet-dominated Poland incorporated eastern Germany and proceeded to do just the opposite: searching out Germans of Polish origin and offering them Polish citizenship. Underscoring the processes of inclusion and exclusion that mold national communities, *Belonging to the Nation* examines the efforts of Nazi Germany and postwar Poland to nationalize inhabitants of the contested Polish-German borderlands.

Histories of the experience of national minorities in the twentieth century often concentrate on the grim logic of ethnic cleansing. John Kulczycki approaches his topic from a different angle, focusing on how governments decide which minorities to include, not expel. The policies Germany and Poland pursued from 1939 to 1951 bear striking similarities. Both Nazis and Communist Poles regarded national identity as biologically determined—and both found this principle difficult to enforce. Practical impediments to proving a person's ethnic descent meant that officials sometimes resorted to telltale cultural behaviors in making assessments of nationality. Although the goal was to create an ethnically homogeneous nation, Germany and Poland allowed pockets of minorities to remain, usually to exploit their labor. Kulczycki illustrates the complexity of the process behind national self-determination, the obstacles it confronts in practice, and the resulting injustices.



Conference at the Pulaski Museum in Warka – by Peter J. Obst



A conference entitled: *Poles in America. A Polish-American Conference on the Occasion of the Pulaski Museum's 50th Anniversary* is scheduled for June 27-28, 2017. Presenters will be provided with meals and accommodations. Guests are encouraged to stay and view an exhibit about sculptor Andrzej Pityński's work which will open on July 1 in the museum's exhibition hall. On the following day the "Vivat Pulaski" picnic will take place on the museum grounds. More information will soon be available through the museum's new website: www.muzeumpulaski.pl While the Pulaski museum is preparing to celebrate the 50th anniversary of its founding, the Kosciuszko House Memorial in Philadelphia, PA, a

museum of the US National Park Service, is celebrating its 40th anniversary this year. On Sept. 25 it was visited by Poland's Minister of Culture and National Heritage Dr. Piotr Gliński. The significance of the building was discovered by historian Edward Pinkowski who this year celebrated his 100th birthday. The National Park Service wants to recognize his achievements and is investigating a "sister museums" link with the Pulaski Museum in Warka.

Photos: Kosciuszko Memorial House. Honorary Consul for Philadelphia



Deborah "Debbie" Majka and Minister of Culture Piotr Gliński.



The first reading from a poetry volume, “The Rainy Bread: Poems of Exile” by Maja Trochimczyk took place at the Generations Remember 2016 conference of the Kresy-Siberia Foundation in September 2016 in Warsaw. This volume includes 30 poems about forgotten stories of Poles living in the Eastern Borderlands of Kresy, who were killed, deported, imprisoned, or oppressed after the invasion of Poland by the Soviet Union on September 17, 1939. Some of these brief portraits capture the trauma and resilience, ordeals and miraculous survival stories of the author’s immediate family (from Baranowicze and environs, now in Belarus). Their experiences of displacement, hunger, cold, and poverty during the war are typical of Polish civilians. These fictionalized memories are coupled with depictions of survival of other Poles deported to Siberia, the Arctic Circle, or Kazakhstan; who left the Soviet Union with the Second Corps of the Polish Army under General Władysław Anders; were transported to refugee camps in India or Africa; and ended up in Argentina, Canada, Australia or the U.S. The book

is a companion to *Slicing the Bread: Children’s Survival Manual in 25 Poems* (Finishing Line Press, 2014), with which it shares some poems, including vignettes from the author’s childhood in Warsaw, permeated by the strange rhetoric of the Polish People’s Republic, yet still overshadowed by the war. ISBN 9781945938009, paperback ISBN 9781945938016, eBook.

Unwavering in its honesty, The Rainy Bread is a thought-provoking look at a brutal chapter in history: the Soviet occupation of Poland during World War II and the deportations and repressions that took place in the country’s Eastern Borderlands, known as Kresy. Trochimczyk gives a public face to this history but also reveals the private heart of a family that endures despite horrific loss. With simple language and stark imagery, these poems create a powerful testimony and bear witness to the hate that destroys, to the truth that restores, and to the poetic vision that honors our common humanity. ~Linda Nemec Foster, winner, PAHA Creative Arts Award

Using objects—bread, potatoes, trapdoors, high heels—she guides you through an experience with the madness of World War II and its aftermath when a dictator is judged worse or better by how many fewer millions he has slaughtered. This book needed to be written. This is a fascinating, tragic, and instructive time in history which should not be neglected. Trochimczyk doesn’t lecture; you are riveted by the power of her poems; their narratives flow from her hands as if a Babcia were still guiding them. And maybe she was. You will remember the taste of this book. ~ Sharon Chmielarz



Bez Retuszu / Still Alive – WWII Memoir of Władysław Cehak



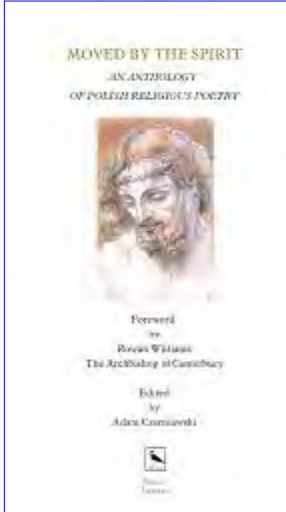
The number of memoirs by WWII veterans and survivors continues to increase. *Bez Retuszu* by Władysław Cehak was published by Rebis Publishing in Poland in 2012, and an English version, *Still Alive*, is forthcoming in 2016. Wounded in the September 1939 campaign, he was captured by the Soviets and spent the war in a Siberian labor camp – described in detail, interspersed with several poignant stories of other prisoners. Towards the end of the war, Cehak was moved to another labor camp in Kazakhstan. He was finally allowed to return to Poland in 1946. The book consists of 22 chapters, each describing a different character encountered in the labor camps, or an aspect of life and work under the inhuman conditions of the gulag.



Władysław Cehak is the father of PAHA Member, Joan Cehak.



"And Jacob was left alone; / and a man wrestled with him / until the breaking of day" (*Genesis* 32: 25-26)



In *Moved By The Spirit – An Anthology of Polish Religious Poetry*, Adam Czerniawski has with singularity, procured each poet's voice out of (a) darkness imposed from without, now palpably heard from within: Kochanowski: "Despair, what have you done? (*Tren XI*); Norwid: "You have no wish to cry/'Eloi... Eloi – Why?" (*Yesterday – And – I*); Staff: "A very/devout/man/Feverishly contemplated God/to declare his longing/But eventually gave up." (*Flute*); Różewicz: "in a mist/I see nothing" (*Doors*); Stroiński: "The dead wander/they walk arm in arm with the living" (*Warsaw*); Szymborska "...darkness crashed from heaven and with it hot gravel and dead birds" (*Lot's Wife*); Herbert: "Only a few behold God/in time all shall behold God/when this will be no one knows" (*Report From Paradise*); Darowski: "With the star of David they vanished/poisoned the air with dioxide of deadly psalms"(*Post-Mortem*); Czaykowski: "So maybe the universe/is god-less/or that beyond the universe there is literally nothing" (*Meditation*); Bursa: "I like St. Joseph best/when they were running away from the police in the night/he carried the Child and the heaviest basket" (*St. Joseph*); Czerniawski: "in the negation of sounds and colours a

pure thought/is born about an imperfect god/I push away my notebook/rub my eyes it's growing chilly I feel tired" (*Gaunilo's Island*). That these are the voices of poets gives pause. The poet stands within a Tradition of inspiration graced by Mnemosyne – Memory – and Her "gift of forgetting", her daughters, the Muses, goddesses who bring "forgetfulness of evils" (William G. Thalmann, *Conventions of Form and Thought in Early Greek Epic Poetry*, John Hopkins University Press, 1984, p. 83). "Poetry remained the repository of the society's myths, its understanding of its own history....Poetry was the way men knew their past and coped with the present.... The mysterious gift of song...was conceived of at least partly independent of man....Through poetry men came into contact with the divine" (Thalmann, 113-14).

Kochanowski's "...climb To heaven, spying on God's mysteries" (*Tren XI*) "raises human life above its normal conditions,..." as "the sight of mortal eyes Proves dim" (*Tren XI*). The loss of a child bears the loss of oneself as the mortal Kochanowski struggles as "my soul I hardly sense/Reason/barely knows itself" (*Tren XVII*). Memory evokes a "We forget/I have greatly erred" (*Tren XVIII*), self-admonishing for an excess of grief that denies mortality and loses favor with God. Reliance on "Your benevolence" (*Tren XVIII*) is ultimately and prayerfully reconciling for Kochanowski whose poetry is a "repository" of faith that his society affirms. "{W}hat was "outside the usual range of knowledge and perception "a feeling of transcendence" also finds its "repository" in Norwid's poetry through sound. Advancing deafness becomes "A deafness sad and rare" (*Yesterday – And – I*) that amplifies "Round God's manger/where the ear still rings with innocents' cries!/My ear is pierced By the pursuing horn" (*Why Not In Chorus?*). For Norwid, "the spirit oozes under stress" (*Mercy*) only to "ascend higher!/There None is and is a Person... 'Where Art Thou?' -There – two- nailed-pierced feet fleeing the globe...There – a million of my words; There – They fly too!" (*To A Deceased*). Orphaned at four years of age; life-long poverty; illnesses; political insurrections; and years in a refuge – all defined Norwid's "here." With declining vision, Norwid could ask: "How can /God's eye endure ugliness all round?" (*Beauty*). Privation of human senses and sensibility quickens acuity of spirit that, for Norwid, implicates "sun-gilded Pride/the screen against God's rays,/So that man, the most ungrateful creature in the world,/ should feel extinguished brightness and night in his eyes" (*Beauty*). For Norwid, poetry unfolds as religious in the original meaning of religious as "returning to over and over full of devoted care"; to a "place" for one's senses wherein memory is re-vitalized in poetic imagination.

Poetry "purged men of the memory of hardship and sorrow" (expression from Thalmann) for 16th century's Kochanowski who could voice unambiguously "Only God halts pain" (*Tren XVII*), and for 19th century's Norwid voicing "The one God reigns from age to age" (*To Emir Abd El Kader in Damascus*). Poets under the scourge of Nazism and Stalinism struggled with the Divine, as epitomized by Różewicz: "I don't believe/from morning till night" (*Thorn*); Staff: "...an ordinary simple cross/Like that on Golgotha/there daily at dusk I join Mary and John" (*Dusk*); Stroiński: "twisted faces of ruins/Those who will come in the far, far future wanting to decipher them/will burst into prayer or blasphemy" (*Warsaw*); Szymborska: "Touched with silence, hoping God had changed his mind" (*Lot's Wife*); Herbert: "The Old Masters/they found

refuge/under an angel's eyelid./I call upon you Old Masters/in moments of deep despair" (*Old Masters*); Darowski: "...Not everyone regretted/cutting the nation's twin life./Alcohol's no use – Lethe of cowards and fools" (*Post-Mortem*); Czaykowski: "So I will now retreat/To measure the cactus shadow with the length of my sleep./*Quieta non movere*". {Don't disturb things that are at peace} (*Garden*); and Czerniawski: "It's good to be a particle of the verifiable world/hence sorrow, the lament for a gesture, a tone, a scent now faded" (*Fragment*).

Unlike their forbears who experienced divinity as both near and remote, though enduring the pangs of mortality that remoteness only underscored, these 20th century poets found themselves in an "infernal life" (*Pan Cogito's Thoughts On Hell*) of a memory of their Judeo-Christian God as under siege: a God who presents as neither near nor remote but "an old painter, God/Bored" (Staff); or as a diminutive god, possible or impossible: "God fell/lies on his back defenceless/dragged/by intelligent ants/Man lifts him with a straw," "God Almighty/hangs on the wall helpless" (Różewicz); or as a God indistinguishable from oppressors "heard more distinctly (in) the heavy rhythmical tread...of steel-shod boots" (Stroiński); or in (a) *Post-Mortem* of God's literal absence: memory, instead, writ large: "Not everyone regretted/the sword cutting/the nation's twin life/the blood-drained hands of biblical tailors/are wind against the pane [...] shake the memory (Darowski); as well in *Garden* where "the greenery still burns/And enchanting silences yet haunt the garden /which once was called *hortus conclusus* {enclosed garden} or paradise lost, which here I have described/from memory" (Czaykowski); or as God-incarnate beyond recognition, a burden that is a Child within the precincts of "Ramases' inhuman architecture" (Bursa); or obscured and replaced as the "unthinkable" found in the mundane, "secular" life of Szyborska's *Miracle Mart*; or in Karpowicz' bold claim on the wisdom of *Ecclesiastes*; or, in irony that "infiltrates this rational society" (*An Attempt To Dissolve Mythology*), and undermines, poignantly alerting to the hidden God - memory at work with a "grain of the absolute/mixed with clay" (*Report From Paradise*); and finally, God couched in the "beyond words" that Czerniawski tirelessly suffers to grasp throughout his poetry – in the words of Gerhard Von Rad, "clutching at God is perhaps the most elemental reaction of man to the divine" (*Genesis: A Commentary*, 321). Imposed godlessness, bereft of senses, sensibility and spiritual faculties, these poets were thrown into an encounter with God that we could liken to St. John of the Cross's "dark night of the soul;" a clutching in the absence of light, perhaps hoping.

The "gift" of the Judeo-Christian God has always been inspiration of which poets are acutely aware. Perhaps these poems depict "struggles to wrest a blessing...a divine vitality...to extort something of (God's) strength" expressed within a range of human passions and perceptions that pathos unleashes when in despair, deep affliction and desolation. A poet is one who "imitates", the precise meaning of which is to "stimulate the presence of one who is absent"(Aristotle, *Poetics*, Chapter 6). Each of these poets, paradoxically, upholds the memory of God, albeit, a God-Incarnate faced within the "dark night" of an horrific reality. Adam Czerniawski has given us an Anthology – a "gathering" – of Polish poets with voices now heard singing-in-unison, and as truly moved by the spirit.

Moved By The Spirit - An Anthology of Polish Religious Poetry, edited by Adam Czerniawski, translated by Czerniawski and Iain Higgins, Belfast: Lapwing Publications, 2010, ISBN 978-1-907276-51-4.



Letter to the Editor – by Agnieszka Gerwel



Dear Editor,

Please find the statement below in my article entitled *Famous Polish Americans: Bohdan Paczyński*, p. 17, in the *PAHA Newsletter* from Spring 2015: "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,..." I would like to amend this statement to read the following: "Born in Vilnius, now the capital of Lithuania (2/8/1940), Paczyński lived there through Soviet and German occupations until 1945 when the family moved to Poland,..." This change is based on both, my own views on this important issue, as well as those of Mr. Dan Zamoyski of the Polish Media Issues, who stated: "...We would be very pleased if you would amend this to read "...lived through Soviet and German occupations ..." It is very good of course that both the occupying entities are mentioned, but referring in one instance to a sovereign country (USSR) as the Soviet occupier, it would seem to be more balanced (as well) to name the country of the other occupying entity, not just the stateless "Nazis"."

Best regards, Agnieszka Gerwel (via email, 8/26/2016)



Sybirak, Władysław Czapski discusses his family story.



Tomasz Kuba Kozłowski talks about expulsions from Kresy, and associated personal and national losses, including over 70% of archival and museum holdings.



Dr. Maja Trochimczyk reads from *The Rainy Bread*.

The Kresy-Siberia Virtual Museum, in collaboration with the Association of Siberian Deportees, the History Meeting House of Warsaw, and the Katyń Museum held the "Generations Remember 2016" conference in Warsaw, on September 17-19, 2016. The event was partly supported by the Office For War Veterans and Victims of Oppression of the Republic of Poland, and meetings took place at the Katyń Museum and the History Meeting House in Warsaw. Émigré survivors and their children from five continents participates in the proceedings.

On September 18, the keynote address was given by Senator Anna Maria Anders, Secretary of State, Plenipotentiary of the Prime Minister for International Dialogue. On September 19, presentations started from Stefan Wisniowski's overview of the conference and continued with Dr. Maja Trochimczyk's bilingual poetry reading from *The Rainy Bread: Poems from Exile*; followed by Adrian Palka's (Coventry University, UK) discussion of the post-memory phenomenon in second-generation art, inspired by deportations and exile. Irena Kossakowski-Clarke talked about her book dedicated to her Polish veteran father, *A Homeland Denied*. Filmmaker Dima Panto (Kazakhstan) presented some footage from his documentary film about the "1936 deportations to Kazakhstan" while the Director of the Warsaw Kresy Initiative Tomasz Kuba Kozłowski illustrated an extensive overview of "Expulsion from Kresy, 1946" with maps, charts, and photographs including unique personal memorabilia from his native Lwów (Lviv). "In Exile, 1939 to 1947" – was the topic of a survivor Władysław Czapski, while Jacek Wałaszczyk discussed the fate of "State Police of the 2nd Polish Republic."



PERSONALIA

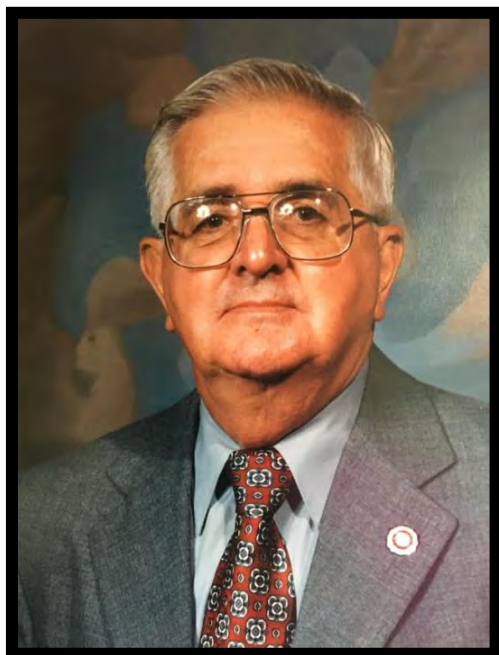


JOHN J. BUKOWCZYK, Professor of History at Wayne State University in Detroit, continues to edit *the Journal of American Ethnic History* and the *Ohio University Press Polish and Polish-American Studies Series*. As editor, he also recently published a collection of essays titled *Immigrant Identity and the Politics of Citizenship* (University of Illinois Press, 2016), www.press.uillinois.edu/books/catalog/52eqh9en9780252082290.html or Amazon.com.

On May 26, 2016, **GRAŻYNA J. KOZACZKA** was honored by the Hon. John Katko of New York, House of Representatives who read into the U.S. Congressional Record her achievement of receiving the "Pole of the Year" award from the Syracuse Polish Scholarship Fund, Inc.



IN MEMORIAM EUGENE OBIDINSKI - by Donald Pienkos



Eugene Edward Obidinski, Ph.D., a longtime member of the Polish American Historical Association and a past Haiman Award recipient passed away on June 13, 2016. He was 82 years of age. He was born in Buffalo, New York and grew up in Scranton, Pennsylvania. He resided in Oneonta from 1970-2014. He earned his Bachelor's degree from Penn State in 1955, his Master's Degree from Fordham University and his Doctorate from the State University of New York at Buffalo in 1967. Dr. Obidinski was a Professor of Sociology at the State University of New York at Oneonta for 25 years and previously at Cedar Crest College, Gannon University (Erie, PA) and Penn State Scranton.

Gene was passionately interested in the culture of the Polish immigrants to America and the traditions they passed on to their children and descendants. He worked with folklorist Helen Zand to produce a book expanding on her earlier writings which was titled *Polish-American Folkways*. This notable work received the Halecki Award from PAHA. Over the years Gene contributed many popular pieces on a variety of Polish American topics to

publications like the *Polish American Journal*, traveled widely with his family, and was active in Catholic charitable work. He was a fine gentleman.

~ Donald Pienkos



IN MEMORIAM JOSEPH A. WYTRWAL



Dr. Joseph A. Wytrwal died on August 26, 2016 at the age of 91. Born in Detroit, Michigan, on October 24, 1924, Wytrwal was a longtime member of the Polish American Historical Association and served as editor of the *PAHA Bulletin* and as Assistant Editor of *Polish American Studies*. He received a Ph.B. and M.A. from the University of Detroit, a B.A. and M.A. from Wayne State University, and an M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Michigan. His doctoral work was a comparative study of the Polish National Alliance (PNA) and the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America (PCRUA), two prominent Polish American fraternals which vied for membership and influence in the formative days of Polonia. Although Wytrwal taught occasional college courses, he spent most of his career in secondary education. He was the principal of Wilson Middle School in Detroit.

Wytrwal remained keenly interested in the minutiae of Polish American history throughout his life. He wrote a wide variety of popular works on Polish American history including *America's Polish Heritage: A Social History of Poles in America* (1961) and *Poles in American History and Tradition* (1969). All of his books were self-published by his own press, Endurance Press, a translation of his surname. Most were collections of chapters loosely, and sometimes, unsystematically organized. His books drew rather heavily on the works of his predecessors and colleagues. Nonetheless, when little scholarship existed in English, on the Polish American community, he worked assiduously and successfully to get his books distributed widely in Polonia. His own prodigious research consisted mainly of anecdotal material drawn from newspapers and magazines. They form a storehouse of material that future historians can draw on to document "the world we have lost."

Wytrwal spent the last several years of his life as a resident of Henry Ford Village elder apartments in Dearborn, Michigan. In 2011, Wytrwal was predeceased by a younger brother, Rev. Alexander J. Wytrwal, who was a priest in the Detroit Archdiocese, and before that by his parents, Joseph and Nellie. Memorial contributions may be directed to the Nicolaus Copernicus Endowment, University of Michigan Department of Polish Studies at: www.i.umich.edu/cpps/donate.html.

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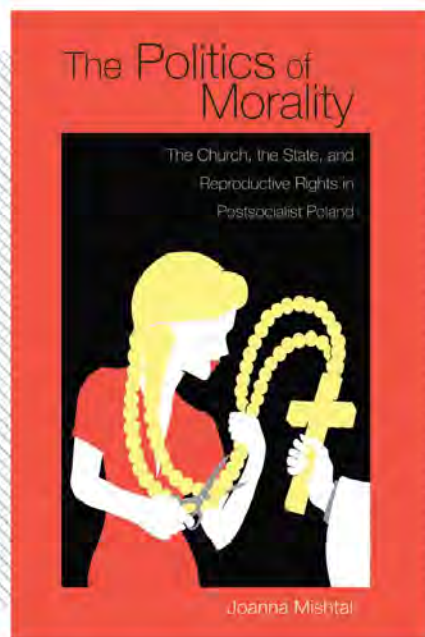
JOHN J. BUKOWCZYK, GENERAL EDITOR



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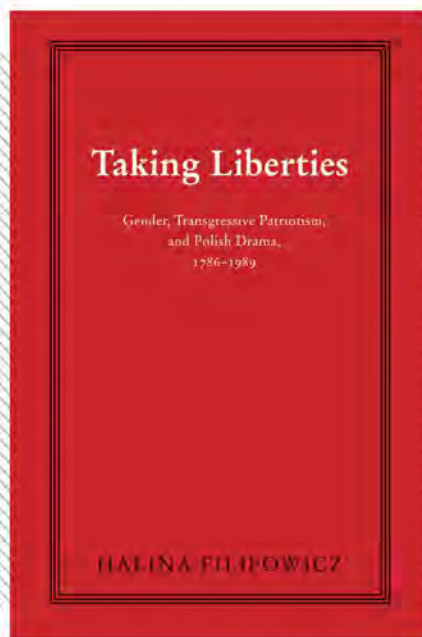
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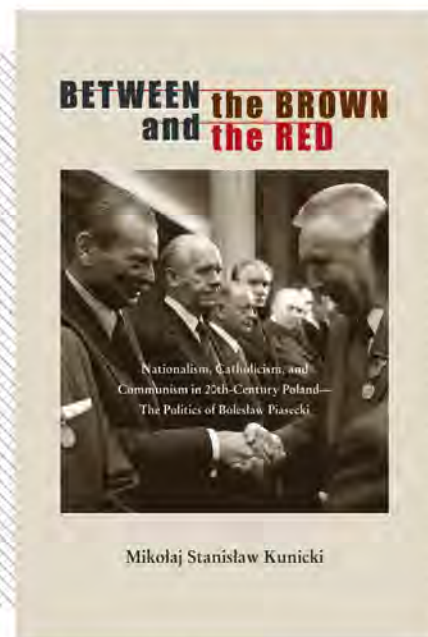


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