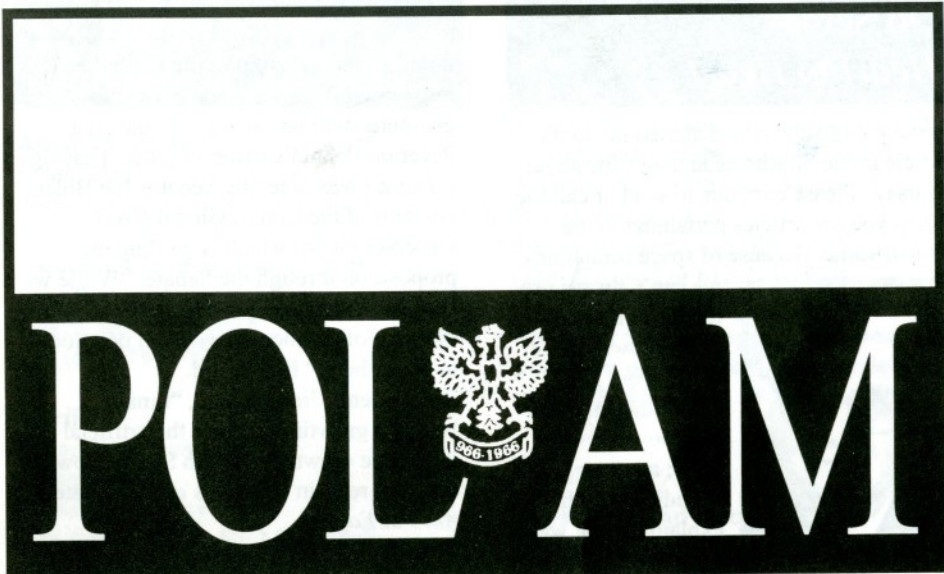


"Keep Alive This Heritage"
John Paul II

A Newsletter About Polish Culture
And Current Events

Polish National Union of America
A Fraternal Benefit Society
Minnesota Branch



NATO Protocol Sent To Senate

On February 11 President Bill Clinton instructed the United States Senate to vote to reverse 350 years of European history by admitting Poland into the North Atlantic Treaty Organization alliance.

The U.S. Senate will now begin final floor debate on the treaty amendment which is expected to be put to an actual vote in the latter part of March. Poland's entry into NATO will integrate her into Europe, a tie which began to erode and was subsequently severed starting in the middle of the 17th century.

Polish Americans were represented at the 35-minute ceremony signing the President's letter of transmittal of Poland's NATO protocol to the U.S. Senate. Attending were Federation of Polish Americans Political Action Committee President Mark Lazar, Vice President Dale F. Denda and Board Member Marilyn Piurek. Also in attendance were Polish American Congress President Edward Moskal, National Executive Director Les Kuczynski and from the PAC Washington Office Myra and Casimir Lenard. Representatives of the Central and East European Coalition and the NATO Enlargement Ratification Working Group were also present.

In opening remarks before an audience of over 250 luminaries of Washington's political, defense, congressional and lobbying communities, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright highlighted the role played by ethnic Americans in bringing about that truly historic ceremony. She also recalled the importance of the peaceful revolutions of Central-Eastern Europe in bringing down the Berlin Wall, which was pictured next to the podium in the or-

nate Benjamin Franklin Treaty Room at the Department of State.

Albright emphasized that taking in new countries simply means that "they'll be a part of Europe where wars don't happen."



Enlargement proponents: Former Secretary of State Alexander Haig is pictured with Federation of Polish Americans Vice President Dale F. Denda at the signing ceremony for the letter of transmittal to the U.S. Senate of Poland's protocol to joining NATO.

Honored guests included the foreign ministers of the three candidate countries, including Poland's Bronislaw Geremek. President Clinton praised Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic for their immense efforts in changing the face of Europe and readying themselves to join the world's most successful military alliance.

The transmission of the treaty protocols represents only the third time in the 50-year history of NATO that new members are being invited to join.

NATO Protocol continued on page 2

Who Will Tell Our Story?

By Mark Kochan

Boxes in archives in Orchard Lake, Chicago, Scranton, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, New York City, Buffalo, Detroit, St. Paul (to name just a few places), are veritable treasure troves of Polish American history. Program books, newspapers, business directories, journals, board minutes and recordings hold the stories that literally define American Polonia.

Archivists, most of whom volunteer their time, estimate that more than half of this material is in the Polish language. For this reason, much of it remains uncataloged. While translation to English seems the obvious and simple solution, that service does not come cheaply. In the meantime, these stories sit in silence.

If you are well-versed in both Polish and English, why not consider volunteering your talents to the Orchard Lake Schools, The Alliance Library Collection at the University of Pittsburgh, The PNCC Archives in Scranton, the Polish Museum in Chicago, or The Immigration History Resource Center in St. Paul—just a few of the many Polish American archives across the country that can use your help. For those who do not wish to travel, a friendly visit to your local Polish club or organization may find these groups, too, in need of volunteers. You may also wish to stop by your local Polish parish, since many of the early records of these churches were written in Polish. Your knowledge of the Polish language could be extremely helpful in organizing an archive.

Start At Home. The history of Polonia is much more than these archives hold. It is

Our Story continued on page 3

Subscribe to Pol-Am

The activities of the Newsletter are addressed to anyone who has an interest in Polish culture and education. The capacity to sustain this newsletter, its related projects and programs depends on your generosity. Our objective is to foster the knowledge and appreciation of Polish culture, history and traditions among the Americans of Polish ancestry.
Dziękuję and Bóg Zapłać

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Robert Strybel
Bernard Szymczak

Od Serca Heart to Heart

A couple of subscribers alerted me to the article in the Smithsonian magazine about Warsaw. Please continue to send or call me when you see articles pertaining to the Polish scene. Because of space limitations



we can't always use the items immediately but will place them in our files.

The author of the article now lives in Paris; after corresponding with him explaining that we are a not for profit

organization whose publication is put together by volunteers and sent world wide to about 1200 addresses, he graciously consented to give us permission to publish the article on a one time basis. We toast Rudolph Chelminski with "Dziękuję and Sto Lat!" Save this issue; the Warsaw story is one of the best you will ever see. If you know anyone going to Poland, have them read this account of "the city that would not die." Nowy Świat is my favorite street because it has one of the most famous bakeries and coffee shops in the world—Blikle. When General DeGaulle of France visited Poland after War II, he declared that their "pączki" are the best in the world. There are many tourists that sneak a box of their pączki past customs into the United States. My dream is to someday be able to fly in about a 1,000 of them for our May 1 Festival of Nations celebration. Also on this street you will find the Church of the Holy Cross which contains the heart of Chopin housed in one of its pillars. This church like many in Poland is not heated. When I visited there last February, I envied the ladies who were able to wear hats and kerchiefs on their heads during the services. This February has been a very eventful month and perhaps its most significant event for me was the birth of my fourth grandchild, Janelle Mary Pearson, at 5 lbs. and 5 ounces. I saw her just a couple of hours after birth and a tug at my heart again reminded me that God works his miracles in a myriad of ways—the birth of a child being the greatest. While the media reminds us of the abuse they suffer, would like to get on a podium and say what the world needs is more—stay at home—"Polish Mothering." Perhaps no other nation or peoples hold Mary, the mother of God, in such high esteem. See you in the April issue, God willing.

—Czesław Róg, Editor

NATO Protocol continued

Poland's membership in the US-led NATO means that America's nuclear security guarantee will be extended to the Bug River on Poland's eastern border. That significance was noted by Senator Joe Biden, co-chair of the Congressional NATO Observer Group which is guiding the proposition through the Senate: "While we have looked to you for inspiration in your building of democracy, you can now look to us for help," Biden said.

President Clinton noted, "Finally NATO's growth will erase the artificial line in Europe drawn by Joseph Stalin. Now the decision rests in the hands of the Senate."
Am-Pol Eagle

Quote Of The Day

"I was six times around the world and no other country has touched me the way Poland has."

— Michael Jackson, after signing a letter of intent to build a family theme park in Poland. (5/29/97)

Ask Our Man In Warsaw

by Robert Strybel

Q. A while back you listed English teachers, students and schools in Poland that needed English books, old magazines and other reading matter. I plan to discuss initiating such a project with the local Polish cultural club. Could you please provide the addresses of some people in Poland who are learning English and would appreciate such reading matter?

Edward Oleasz, Wethersfield, CT

A. Here are a few addresses for starters:

Anna Wasko
Liceum Ogólnokształcące
ul. a Fredry 2
38-420 Korczyna, Poland.
Zespół Szkół Zawodowych (dla anglisty),
ul. Jasna 31
44-100 Gliwice, Poland
Szkoła Podstawowa (dla anglisty)
ul. Szkolna
73-231 Krzecin, Poland
Anna Szczypek (English teacher)
ul. Legionow 99/3
82-472 Gdynia, Poland
Zespół Szkół Ogólnokształcących Nr 3
ul. Powstanców Śląskich 2,
41-902 Bytom, Poland
Bogna Pryl (English teacher)
ul. 1 Armii WP 33E/2
84-300 Lebork, Poland

the story of our parents, grandparents and those before them who made the journey across the Atlantic to better themselves, their families and, ultimately, you and I. These are histories that must be preserved within our families. Do not make the mistake of waiting to "get around to it one day." Every day we delay increases the chance that a living relative will pass on and take with them a veritable encyclopedia of family history. How easy can gathering data be? Very. *Take a notebook or tape recorder to the next family function; you will be surprised how much people are willing to share given half a chance. Once you have the information, document as much of that history as possible. Even if doing so seems a bother, remember that you are a link between your parents and your children. One day, they may find this information invaluable.*

Be sure to ask how your parents and grandparents celebrated holidays such as Christmas and Easter. How does that differ from what is done today? Did your family sing any special Polish songs on birthdays or anniversaries? What family recipes would you like to pass on to your children? Also, consider looking through family photo albums, making certain that *all photographs are labeled* and if possible, dated. While you may know the lady with the sunflower hat is your mother's Ciocia Helen, will your grandchildren?

With the passing each generation, a story gets lost, a name forgotten, a detail overlooked. By documenting and recording as much as possible, we help ensure our family's rightful place in the history of American Polonia.

Belle's Bell. Last month's Polish American Journal pictured a bell, dated 1911 from Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in Adams, Mass., and now at home at the Colorado Belle Hotel and Casino in Laughlin, Colorado.

Polish National Catholic Church archivist and Polish American historian Walter H. Lasinski reports Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish was a PNCC parish and was closed in 1934. How the bell made its way to Colorado is a mystery.

Lasinski says the church building is still in use today as a two-story apartment building. The outlines of the church windows are still visible and the church's cornerstone is still intact. He plans to contact the hotel and find out how they came about owning a piece of Polish American history. *Polish American Journal*

'Poles in America' To be Shown on Public TV

The hour-long show will be telecast during the March pledge (fund raising) programs of the TV stations nationwide. The broadcast is the first affirmative show that Polish-Americans have ever been subjected to on television. It is a brief history of the Poles in America and has numerous interviews with various persons including singer Bobby Vinton and Senator Barbara Mikulski of Maryland on the election of the Polish Pontiff, Pope John Paul II.

Local station KTCA-TV will not run this program during pledge week!

The Polish Parish

by the Rev. David Bialkowski
(At Canisius College)

Maintaining Our Polish Identity Through Customs & Traditions

Conclusion—Juliusz Slowacki once said, Poles could have more if they only wanted more." Our problem has often been our simple inability to want more, perpetuating what Msgr. Peter Adamski referred to as our inferiority complex, expressed well in the Polish saying "Cudzy chwalicie sami nie wiecie, co posiadacie." "You praise everyone else, not realizing what you yourselves have."

Polonia! It is time for us to look and recognize how the treasures of our language, history, customs and traditions is preserved in our parishes. For if we don't, who will? And then when it is all gone, we will have no one to blame but ourselves. Likewise, can we learn from our mistakes, so that no more doors of our Polish churches will have to be permanently closed, simply because Polish people chose not to go to churches their parents and grandparents built? So many of our Polish parishes are beginning to face a crisis as parishioners flee from the city to outlying suburbs. While some will commute 10 to 20 minutes each weekend, too many see no need to make the effort to support a parish outside their neighborhood Catholic church. It is precisely this attitude that is now placing the legacy of these once glorious parishes in the most precarious predicament. We have some of the most beautiful churches. They can not and will not survive without our interest and support.

"Remain faithful to your heritage. Make it the foundation of your formation. Be nobly proud of it. Keep this heritage and multiply it, and pass it on to future generations." - Pope John Paul II

Editor's note: We were able to print only an excerpt of this article from Am-Pol Eagle. Send business size envelope for Fr. Bialkowski's speech.

Pączki & Faworki Time in Polonia

By Robert Strybel

Our Warsaw Correspondent



Pączki (filled Polish doughnuts): Dissolve 2 cakes crushed yeast with 1 c. flour and 1 c. warm milk in a bowl and leave in a warm place to rise. Cream 6 egg yolks with 1/3 c. sugar, add 1/3 c. warm butter and continue to beat in double boiler until mixture thickens. Remove from flame and continue beating until mixture is lukewarm. Sift 3 c. flour onto bread-board, mix in yeast mixture, egg mixture, 1/2 jigger rum, brandy or vodka, 1/2 t. salt, 1 t. vanilla and grated rind of 1/2 a lemon. Knead thoroughly, gradually adding 2/3 c. melted butter. Continue kneading vigorously until air blisters appear and dough no longer sticks to hands. Place in warm bowl and allow to double in bulk in a warm, draft-free place. Roll dough out 1/2 inch thick and cut into circles with glass or biscuit-cutter. Place spoonful of thick jam (rose-hip jam, powidła/plum butter or other) at center of each circle, fold in half pinch ends together and shape into a ball snowball fashion. Fry in hot lard or shortening until brown on both sides. With tongs transfer to paper towel and dust with confectioner's sugar. Paczki may be fried unfilled, and after they have cooled off, jelly (cherry or strawberry are best) can be squirted into the center with a pastry syringe.

Faworki/Chrusciki/Chrust (angel-wing or bow-knot pastries). Mound 4 c. flour on bread-board, make a volcano-like crater at top, in which deposit 4 egg yolks and 1 T white distilled vinegar. With knife blade shovel flour into crater, fold in 1/2 c. sour cream and combine ingredients well. Knead dough until nice and firm, roll it into a ball and then beat the living daylights out of it with a rolling-pin. Reform into a ball and continue beating until air blisters appear. Roll out 1/4 of the dough at a time very thin, keep the rest wrapped in plastic wrap so it doesn't dry out. Cut into 4 x 1 inch strips, make a vertical slit at center and pull one end through the slit to form a bow. Fry briefly in hot lard or shortening until pale golden brown on both sides and gently remove with slotted spoon to paper-towel-lined tray. Dust with confectioner's sugar. Proceed the same way with the remaining dough.

Warsaw, The City That Would Not Die

After Hitler Obliterated It, The Poles Put It Back Together, Brick by Brick

By Rudolph Chelminski

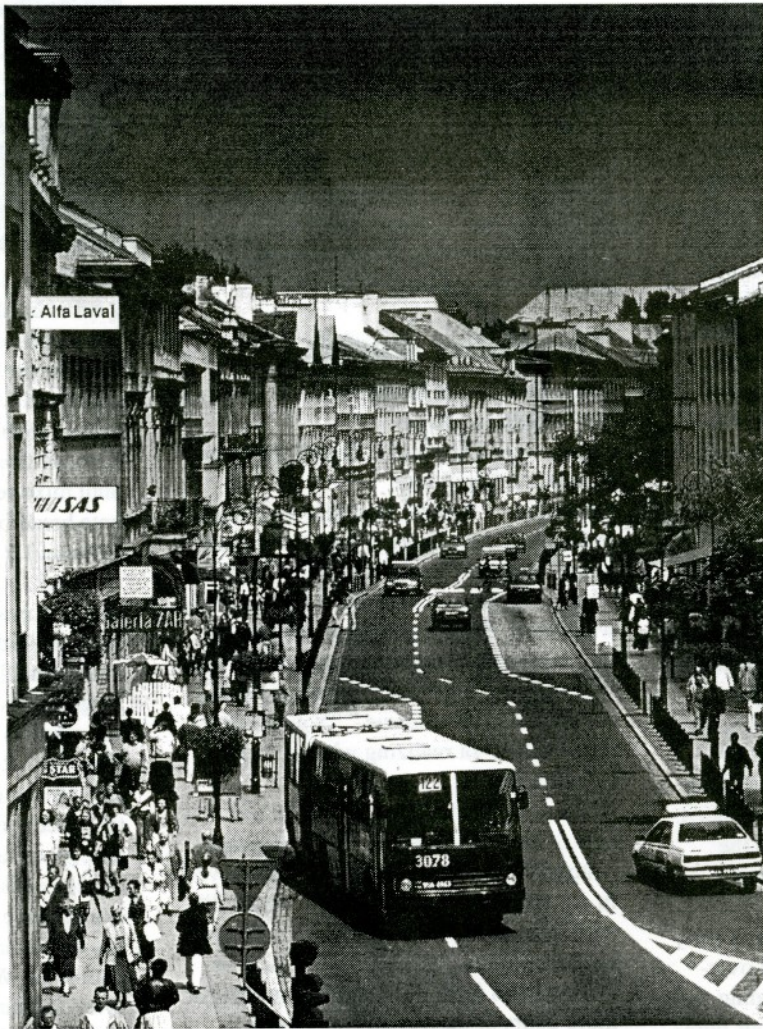
Part One of a Two Part Article

It was about 20 years ago that I met my uncle Zbigniew for the first and only time. He was an old man by then, very poor, very dignified, living in a single room on the back side of a gray apartment block in Warsaw. He had been a cavalry officer during the war, one of those famous Polish lancers who were said to have charged German tanks on horseback. (Sorry to deflate a great legend, but it's not true. "We weren't idiots," he said.) Now he was living out his last years on the pittance of a veteran's pension.

I often think of Uncle Zbigniew when the subject of Warsaw comes up, because the scarcely believable twists and turns of his life are such an apt metaphor for the capital city itself. He had lived through adventures and malevolence such as most Americans cannot even imagine and yet remained the perfect ancien régime gentleman, thoughtful, attentive and courtly, as if nothing much had really occurred. Like the city, he had survived against all logic.

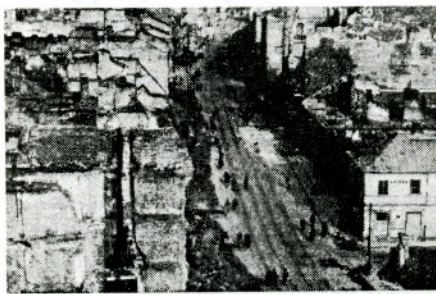
"Do you know the Old Town?" he asked me. "Permit me to show you." We rode a bus past squat, depressingly uniform concrete structures, angling northward over the street called Nowy Świat (New World) and its unpronounceable continuation, Krakowskie Przedmieście. Along Nowy Świat, the style and quality of most buildings began an abrupt sea change, from postwar Soviet quick-lick utilitarian to an otherworldly elegance. Three and four-story stone town houses were interspersed with neoclassical, baroque and neo-Renaissance palaces, churches and monuments. As we approached the Stare Miasto, the Old Town itself, the concentration of architectural masterworks became so heavy that we might as well, I thought, have been traveling through an open-air museum.

Little did I realize how accurate my impression was. This museum was authentic but its exhibits were more reconstructions (or re-creations) than true originals. The grand old historical buildings I was admiring



Poland's capital for a mere 400 years. Nor is beauty its strong suit. In spite of its promising location on a bluff above the Vistula River in central Poland, Warsaw never could compare with such stunning Central and Eastern European capitals as Budapest, Prague or St. Petersburg, and certainly could not come close to jewels like Paris, Rome, Vienna or Stockholm. No, what sets this place apart from all the others is its stubborn perseverance despite its horrible adversity and then its reemergence, perhaps not unchanged but still recognizable with the central core of its identity intact.

Commenting all the way, Uncle Zbigniew led me past the heroic Column of Sigismund III to the Old Town, which is as much the heart and tourist center of this city as Budapest's Castle Hill, Prague's Old Town Square or Vienna's Stephansplatz, places where history fairly leaps out at you, are of theirs. Weaving a path through picturesque lanes and cul-de-sacs, he marched me across the Old Town Market Square,



Today pedestrians crowd busy Nowy Świat (top), but in 1945 (above) only a desolate few walked the same street. Since then, Varsovians have rebuilt its elegant 19th century homes and shops.

were in fact no more than 15 or 20 years old. I was undergoing a concentrated lesson in the difference between Warsaw and the rest of the world's major cities.

Any number of the great European capitals are bigger, richer, more industrialized and older. Warsaw (pop. 1.6 million) has been

where narrow-shouldered 17th-century buildings decorated with polychrome motifs hunched together to peer down at cobblestones, shops and restaurants below, and finally to the turreted barbican and brick walls of the old city's ramparts, from which we could admire the view over the Vistula. It took a deliberate act of will to accept that nearly all of this was not original, but a carbon copy of old Warsaw, painstakingly rebuilt stone by stone, brick by brick, during the early postwar period, after a destruction that was, for all intents and purposes, total.

In 1596, Sigismund III Vasa, king of the vast Polish-Lithuanian union, established his new capital here. In the following centuries, siege after siege underlined Poland's impossible geographical position on an indefensible plain with Russians to the east, Teutons to the west, Swedes to the north and Austro-Hungarians to the south. Time after time, Warsaw was assaulted, taken, pillaged and

MICHAEL APPELT / MARIA ANZENBERGER

WIDE WORLD PHOTOS

subjected to the policies and edicts of its neighbors. But it was not until the very last assault, the one that started World War II, that the city met the full force of its tragic destiny.

Like Carthage in the Punic Wars, Warsaw was targeted for depopulation and destruction. Visionary as always, Hitler designated the vacated site to be the location of a small to mid-sized outpost of his empire, laid out by one of his preferred architects and peopled by Germans only, with a limited contingent of indigenous slave workers on the other side of the river in the district of Praga—the servants' quarters, as it were. Of all World War II's martyred cities, Warsaw was the only one that was deliberately and scientifically leveled like a public works project.

Warsaw's Golgotha began during a 28-day siege by the German Army in 1939, when shelling and bombing killed 40,000 civilians and 6,000 soldiers and flattened about 15 percent of the city, notably burning out its equivalent of Buckingham Palace or the White House: the Royal Castle where Sigismund III and his successors had lived since the 17th century. That, however, was only the first step. During the five-year occupation that followed, the



HULTON DEUTSCH COLLECTION LIMITED

During the first ten postwar years, there was scarcely an adult or youth who didn't participate one way or another: sweeping, digging or passing bricks.

Nazis proceeded with a systematic process of state robbery, calling in men of intellect and culture to inventory objects of value and supervise their shipment back to Berlin.

The late Stanislaw Lorentz, director of the National Museum in 1939 and again after the war, told me many years later about his surrealist experience with one Dagobert Frey, a fellow art historian with whom he had enjoyed a pleasant scholarly visit in Germany only three months before the war began. Scarcely had the Wehrmacht arrived in town than Frey appeared at the museum, accompanied by an SS officer. "Where are your Canalettos?" he shrieked. After that, things got only worse. When Hans Frank, Poland's new governor-general, arrived, he led a delegation of German officials through the burned but still-standing Royal Castle, setting the example by bashing the head off a gilt Polish eagle and

then leading his colleagues through the rooms, hammer in hand, smashing mirrors, putti, ornate moldings and anything else that would break.

By November 1940, the Germans had created the Ghetto, herding thousands of Jews into a section of Warsaw near the Old Town and walling it up. In the Ghetto Uprising of April and May 1943, some



ROBERT HADINGER / MARIA ANZENBERGER

He marched me across the Market Square, past narrow-shouldered 17th-century buildings, to the turreted barbican and brick walls of the old city's ramparts.

13,000 Jews were killed and the surviving transported to the death camps. Fifteen months later, with the rapidly advancing Red Army's first units just across the river, the Polish resistance unleashed a general insurrection throughout Warsaw.

Historically, insurrections have been something of a Varsovian specialty, causing vexation to invading powers. "Warsaw is the source of all our misfortunes," lamented Frank in 1943, "the focus of all disturbances, the place from which discontent is spread through the whole country."

So it was in 1944, but the uprising proved to be a tragic mistake. The plan was to seize the city just as the Soviets began arriving. The AK (Polish Home Army) and its civilian supporters outnumbered the occupiers but had only light weapons and precious little ammunition. The fight lasted 63 days, but the Red Army never budged from its position across the river. After a repression of unspeakable brutality, the last remnants of the AK surrendered on October 2. Some 20,000 soldiers and 225,000 civilians had died.

Still the Red Army held back. Having allowed the Germans to eliminate the AK as a potential anti-Communist force, Stalin now gave them three more months to finish the job of eliminating Warsaw. The half-million or so persons still living there were expelled. By bulldozer, flame-thrower and dynamite, at least 900 artistically significant monuments were obliterated. In the half-ruined Zamoyski Library, 100,000 original prints, maps and manuscripts were burned,

and the municipal archives met the same fate, as did the 300,000 volumes remaining in the public library. The Royal Castle, although burned out and roofless, was still standing. Carefully, with all the skill of the excellent engineers they have always been, the Germans drilled 10,000 holes in the walls for dynamite charges. At detonation, the walls dropped like a curtain, neatly

sliced off at the base. So it went for the rest of the city.

By the time the Red Army finally moved forward, Warsaw was a silent field of rubble without gas, electricity or water. The rare buildings not blown up were roofless and gutted by fire, the ruins were mined and booby-trapped. The devastation was so appalling that many voices called for simply abandoning the site and building a new capital elsewhere. But like migrating birds, the survivors slowly drifted back, and within four months there were 366,000 in the city living in cellars or simply in the lee of walls.

Warsaw began rebuilding. It was a strange, oddly contradictory city that grew up during first heroic period of reconstruction. One way or another people had to be housed, so any walls that were sound enough to bear weight were patched up, roofed and slapped together into living quarters. They were later joined in huge quantity by the soulless Soviet-style prefab concrete blocks that blight urban landscapes from Berlin to the Bering Sea. The apartments were ugly, depressing and small (ten square yards per person), but at least they were warm and dry, and for Poles in those days that was the height of luxury.

Part Two continued in next month's issue.

European-based writer Rudolph Chelminski has granted Pol-Am special permission to reprint his article on a one-time basis. It was originally published in the November 1997 issue of the Smithsonian magazine.

Kultura

News from the Polish American Cultural Institute of Minnesota

From The Library

You are reading what I write—how amazing. I really appreciate your comments.

An anonymous person fixed the drapes in the main room. What a relief to see the light again! Thank you, thank you.

Thanks to Edward Sikorski of Columbia Heights who donated numerous books in like-new condition. Many were hard cover but about a dozen were Polish paperbacks in English. Wonder where he got them?

Dana and Stanley Stawski from Oak Park, Illinois (yes, Illinois), sent four boxes of books. Most notable was the collection of Polish children's books. It was hard keeping them to catalog. Members wanted to take them out immediately. Thanks for your awesome support!

We are investing in a new type of repositionable laminate to protect these books. It is somewhat more expensive than the clear contact paper we have been using but is thicker and easier to use.

Two weeks ago Saturday, I was in the Library and it was immediately visible that

a lot of books had been checked out. Out of our 2,040 books and tapes, 120 had been checked out by 21 different people.

That same day, a member brought back an armful of books, saying that her daughter had gotten an A on her school paper. The knowledge gained, she said, made her daughter more proud of her heritage and she was sharing what she learned with her friends.

Doesn't it just give you goosebumps? It makes up for all those early days when we were open and nobody came in.

We have instituted a budget for the Library and procedures to track expenditures.

Now, we are establishing a buying program. If you feel we are missing books in a certain area, please let one of our librarians know.

Our goal for 1998 is to increase the number of videos we own. Videos are very popular. They are also very expensive, especially if they have English subtitles. If you hear of any sales, please let us know.

—Judith Blanchard, Librarian
571-9602

Festival of Nations

April 30, May 1, 2, 3

We are looking for a few good men, women, and young people to work in our booths at the Festival of Nations at RiverCentre in St. Paul. All volunteers will receive free admittance to the Festival for the day worked.

At the moment, all booths (kitchen, bazaar, and culture), require staff. We are in particular need of people who are knowledgeable in Polish traditions to work in the culture booth. An information sheet is provided to each volunteer about the articles in the exhibit.

However, many times people ask questions unrelated to the theme and it is helpful to have some general knowledge of Polish customs and traditions.

Please call 571-9602 to volunteer. It's a perfect family activity!

PACIM Library

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(lower level)
Minneapolis, MN 55418
612-378-9291

Co, Gdzie, Kiedy
What, Where, When

Events

March 12 & 19

April 16 & 23

Polish Language, History and Culture

Thursday, 7 to 8:30 pm

Columbia Heights Library

40th and Jackson Street NE

Columbia Heights, 782-2805

March 14

Lecture: Self Portrait of Woman in Contemporary Polish Women's Poetry.

by Professor Barbara Kowalik

Saturday, 10 am

Logan Park Community Center

Broadway and Monroe Streets, NE Mpls.

Hosted by Polish American Cultural

Institute of Minnesota (PACIM).

The event is free and open to the public. Dr.

Barbara Kowalik is an exchange faculty

teaching spring semester at the University

of Wisconsin-Milwaukee under the terms of

the U.S. Information Agency's University

Affiliation grant. The visit to Minneapolis

is also funded by this grant. She is an

Assistant Professor at U.M.C.S., Lublin,

Poland. For more information:

(612) 604-0420

March 26

Prepare a Polish Brunch

Thursday, 6:30 - 9 pm

Instructor Anna Sonmore

St. Anthony High School

3303 33rd Avenue NE \$18 includes cost of

product. Information: 586-4530

April 5

Sunday, 3 pm

Frederick Chopin Society presents the

Russian duo pianists Julia and Irina Elkina

in a program of Shostakovich, Debussy,

Rachmaninoff, Messiaen and Mozart.

At Wallace Fine Arts Center of

Macalester College in St. Paul

Tickets are \$13 and \$10

Information 822-0123 or 824-1345

April 19

Premiere of Work by Stanislaw

Skrowaczewski. Ensemble Capriccio

Sunday, 3 pm, \$14 (\$7)

Walker Art Center Auditorium

A program of 20th-century chamber works

featuring the premier of a new work by

Stanislaw Skrowaczewski for string trio and

clarinet. For more information call: 375-7650

continued on next page

Membership Form For The Polish American Cultural Institute of Minnesota 612.378.9291

___ Patron	\$100.00
___ Sustaining Member	50.00
___ Sponsor	25.00
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Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

Special interests: _____

I will volunteer for: _____

Send this form and your check to:

PACIM

c/o Danuta Warec

3345 Dupont Avenue South #2

Minneapolis, MN 55408

Co, Gdzie, Kiedy *continued*

April 23, 24 & 25

Ethnic Dance Theatre

Annual Spring Series

Thurs., Fri., Sat. at 8pm at E.M. Pearson Theater at Concordia University in Saint Paul

Tickets are \$17 and \$15

Call (612) 782-3970

April 24

Spring Dinner and Dance

Friday 7 pm

Polish Community Center

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Music by the Joe Glowacki Band

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Pol-Am's Spotlight on Poland

Stokowski Remembered

A sheet of 32 cents stamps was issued on September 13, 1997 depicting famous American composers and symphony conductors. Leopold Stokowski is on three stamps of this 20 stamp pane. Stokowski (1882-1977) was world famous in his time from about the age of 35. His Philadelphia Symphony Orchestra was considered one of the best. He is seen in animation in the Walt Disney classic, "Fantasia" where he is the music director. His accomplishments are too numerous to be mentioned here. (See Chasen's biography.) But there is a minor personal recollection. In 1955, the Detroit Symphony had the honor of being directed by Leopold Stokowski in a premiere performance of a symphony by Polish composer Andrzej Panufnik. A chorus was also required in the performance of this work and the Polish Lutnia Singing Society was chosen to perform the choral part. Leopold Stokowski in

Figures of Poland's Culture & History



Felix Paul Wierzbicki
1815-1860

A physician and writer born in Czerniowce he studied medicine in Warsaw. In 1834 he moved to America to complete his medical studies in Connecticut. He was one of the first trained physicians to practice medicine in San Francisco, a

prominent pioneer of the California Gold Rush era. His book "California as it is" was the first English book published West of the Rockies. A few still existing copies are today worth more than their weight in gold. Dr. Wierzbicki also published the first California paper on the history of medicine and organized the first medical society in San Francisco. Dr. Wierzbicki is memorialized with an impressive mural in Toyland Hall, of the University of California, San Francisco Medical Center.

person came down to the humble quarters of this chorus to check on their progress. He wanted more singers and Lutnia scoured the local Polish parishes and managed to obtain an acceptable number. The concert was a big success although the symphony has seldom been played since. After the concert, Stokowski came down to the Lutnia quarters and drinking and singing continued with the maestro in the wee hours. Artur Zygmunt, now the editor of the Polish Cultural News of Torrance, CA, sang with Lutnia at that time and participated in both the concerts and the subsequent singing and drinking.
—*Polish Cultural News*

Polish Spirit Never Dies

Poles are a people who always sprout again. Their roots go so deep that no oppressor or his ally can dig all the way down to their ends. It is an eternally vigorous nation and its vitality is so great that it will go on living even if it makes no move in self-defense. Even in this passive state it cannot be absorbed or devoured. It is a nation of Eagles and, like that legendary bird, it has

the miraculous gift of rebirth.

Even from the American melting pot which is kept afire by the hope of reducing all nationalities into Anglo-Saxons, a Pole who lives by the ideals of his birth comes out without a blemish on his Polish heritage banner. Regardless of whether or not he still speaks Polish, he invariably shows the characteristics of his blood. Even if the symptoms grow weaker in one generation, they will crop up again in some future generation. In this connection we can compare ourselves to the Irish people who are Irish in no matter what American Generation, and we could paraphrase the English song: "Polish spirit never dies, it doesn't even fade away."

After ages of experience, it is now clear to any keen observer of life, that you cannot run away from being Polish, just as you cannot sever a person from his Polish heritage. It is a vain effort. The world has not yet invented such power or such machinery which could destroy the Poles.
—Straz

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