



News of Polonia

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Wiadomości Polonijne

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Free or Home Delivery

Polish American Congress,
The Consulate of the
Republic of Poland
and the Polish American
Historical Association,
present a film and discussion:

Warsaw Uprising of 1944;

Unknown History

By Mrs. Wanda Kościa Rostowska

Producer/Director

British Broadcasting Corporation

Sunday July 27th, 2 – 5 pm

Loyola Marymount University
University Hall 1000, Auditorium
University Hall, LMU Drive
Free Parking below University Hall

Admission fee \$5.00

(Includes reception following event)

The story of the Warsaw Uprising, the single largest atrocity of the war. The greatest and bloodiest military operation undertaken by any resistance movement in World War II has been ignored for decades despite the colossal casualty figures and documented atrocities committed by the Nazi SS. This "unknown" historical event mobilized thousands of Polish freedom fighters against the Nazis to liberate their beloved capital city.

There will be a discussion which will focus on the Warsaw Uprising and bring to life some of the history and events that should be remembered and recognized for the significant role it played in the history of World War II.

Pułaski Day in Warka



U.S. Ambassador to Poland Victor Ashe attended the opening of Vivat Pułaski Day in Warka Sunday, July 6. The event is one of two annual events the town honoring the life of Kazimierz Pułaski, the Polish hero who fought and died for the United States during the Revolutionary War. The Pułaski Museum in the town of Warka honors Pułaski and Polish-American friendship.

The Vivat Pułaski Day event is also a symbolic celebration of American Independence Day. Ambassador Ashe spoke at the event, saying, "General Pułaski was a true Polish patriot who loved freedom so much that when he could not deliver it to his home, he gave his life to help secure freedom for the United States of America. All over America, parks, cities, streets, and other monuments continue to pay tribute to this famous son of Warka and show our gratitude." □

Day of Brotherhood Luncheon in Los Angeles

By: Betsy Cepielik



Frank Kosowicz

The Relief Committee for Poles in the Former USSR (part of the PAC - S. Cal.) was the sponsor of a very well-attended luncheon on July 13, at the Our Lady of the Bright Mount Church in Los Angeles.

After the 12:00 noon mass, guests proceeded to the parish hall and to their respective tables.

Founder, Chairman, and driving force of the committee Frank Kosowicz welcomed the guests and introduced the Master of Ceremonies Zbysław "Bish" Petryka (Vice Chairman of the Committee.) Honored guests were acknowledged: Consul General Paulina Kapuścińska, PAC - S. Cal President Richard Wideryński, Father Henry Noga (Pastor of the Pope John Paul II Center), and Father Stanisław Urbański (from the Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw.)

Father Dariusz Jaros (acting Pastor of the Our Lady of the Bright Mount Church) gave the Blessing. A delicious dinner was served by Turek Catering.

Bish Petryka, Natalia Kamińska, and Zofia Adamowicz presented a poem by Marian Jonkajtys about the Kresy children (Polish children sent to Siberia.) (Kresowe dzieci.) Frank Kosowicz was the recipient of the very prestigious "TV Polonia Award", presented for the efforts of the Relief Committee which was presented to him in Poland last month. A film was then shown about the award ceremony and the Kosowicz travels to the many churches and schools in Lithuania where they were welcomed warmly and thanked profusely for their contributions. They were honored by the singing of school children. Frank and wife Janina personally present many of the donations and travel at their own expense. (Editor's note: We visited some of Frank's recipients in Russia, Lithuania, and Latvia several years ago. At the Polish University in Wilno, there was a huge portrait of Frank hanging in the President's office.)

The Consul General Paulina Kapuścińska spoke about the importance of the Relief Committee's help for Poles who are struggling to keep their culture and her admiration for the Committee's work. Father Stanisław Urbański and Richard Wideryński also had short speeches thanking the Committee for their efforts.

Other members of the Committee, besides Frank Kosowicz and Bish Petryka, are Frank Żurawski (Treasurer), Hanka Gutkowska (Secretary), Józef Ładowicz (Financial Secretary), Zofia Adamowicz, Stanisław Cybulski, Grażyna Dąbrowska,

Americans Celebrate Independence Day in Warsaw



U.S. Ambassador to Poland Victor Ashe and Mrs. Joan Ashe hosted an entertaining and exciting American Independence Day celebration at the Ambassador's Residence in Warsaw on July 3. More than 2,200 people attended to celebrate the 232nd Anniversary of Independence of the United States of America. Ambassador Ashe addressed the guests made up of Cabinet Ministers, government officials, leaders of public and religious life in Poland, and many others and stated that "Just as Americans cherish the fundamental rights set forth in our Declaration of Independence, so too, you in Poland have a special appreciation of liberty." Musical entertainment was provided by the Representative Orchestra of the Polish Air Force and the U.S. Army Dixieland Band. The evening concluded with a spectacular fireworks display. □

Getting Polish citizenship through a grandparent?

By: Robert Strybel,

Polish/Polonian Affairs Writer

Ever since Poland overthrew communism and became a free country in 1989, and even more so after it joined the European Union in 2004, more and more Americans of Polish descent have taken an interest in Polish citizenship.

Apart from the symbolic, nostalgic or cultural benefits of having a passport displaying the Polish Eagle and the words "Rzeczpospolita Polska" (Republic of Poland), such a move offers concrete, practical advantages.

Unlike Pol-Am tourists who require a Polish visa for an extended stay, a Polish American with Polish citizenship may enter and leave Poland at will, find employment, set up a company and buy or sell real estate. And since Poland is now in the EU, he or she can do all those things in any of the bloc's 27 member-states. A Pol-Am businessman therefore has a great advantage over American competitors without such status who are required by many EU countries to apply for special permission.

A popular notion circulating amongst our Polonia is that you can get Polish citizenship if you had Polish grandparents. Basically that is true. However if you think you can simply phone your nearest Polish Consulate, tell them your grandparents were Polish and expect to hear "Congratulations, welcome abroad!", you've got another thing coming! Life in general is far more complicated, and this is no exception.

Poland has what is known as "citizenship by blood" which means that it is possible for even a third-generation Polish American to claim the right to Polish passport. The main condition is that the grandparent would have to have had Polish citizenship. Immigrants who came to America before 1918, when

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