



# WHITE EAGLE

JOURNAL OF THE POLISH NOBILITY ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION



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EXACTLY 400 YEARS AGO ON OCTOBER 29, 1611, IN THE ROYAL CASTLE IN WARSAW, TSAR VASILIV OF RUSSIA AND HIS BROTHERS BOWED ON THEIR KNEES, BEGGED FOR MERCY, SWORE LOYALTY AND SURRENDERED THE RUSSIAN CROWN TO THE POLISH KING SIGISMUND III VASA.



In 1607, Tsar Vasili made a military alliance with Sweden against Poland. The Polish King Sigismund III responded militarily.

On July 4, 1610, 5,000 Polish elite cavalry, the hussars, defeated the numerically superior combined Russian and Swedish army of about 35,000 to 40,000 soldiers in five hours during the Battle of Kloushino (Kluszyn), under hetman Stanislaw Zolkiewski's command.

On August 27, Moscow surrendered. Russian Boyars signed a treaty and the Polish forces entered the Kremlin. Tsar Vasili IV was captured by Hetman Zolkiewski and delivered to the Royal Castle in the victory parade through the streets of Warsaw.

Over 60 years ago, Jan Matejko's famous 19th century painting, *Hold Ruski* portraying victory over Russia, was placed "under arrest" by the communist regime into the underground storage of the Polish National Museum.

To this day, despite Poland's regained independence in 1989, the public is not permitted to view this famous Jan Matejko's painting.

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## Revision of Website

To PNAF Members, Friends and Interested Parties. We have reviewed comments which we believe have been made in the spirit of professional and historical accuracy and the Executive Committee has begun an updating for the Twenty-first century of the PNAF History and other aspects of its web site.

We begin in this issue with the history of the PNAF and move on to Orders of Merit. Certain representations made by well intended members to public inquiries have lead to a misinterpretation of documents that are almost a century old. With careful research we have begun to clarify certain areas that in the past have let to questions by non members responded to by members without the knowledge or consent of the Executive Committee. The "CONSTITUTION" does not refer to the Constitution of the Republic of Poland but to the Constitution (By-Laws) of the PNAF.

Orders of Merit does not mean that the PNAF does not administer seven Royal Orders but is now clarified as an Eastern European Federation of Fraternal Organizations from several countries which would work together to maintain the Culture, History and awareness of the contributions of the Nobility to their respective countries. Hence the PNAF has two Orders of Merit, the Royal Order of Piast and the Royal Order of Jagiello given by the authority of the Executive Committee and noble membership of the PNAF.

We will continue to revise the web site and clarify and verify source of titles when used in acknowledging individuals to the satisfaction of the PNAF College of Heraldry.

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# Polish Nobility Association [Foundation] Orders of Merit

## A Brief History

Another change, in the structure of society, affected the development of Orders in France. After the French Revolution, the Commune decided to reward citizens, in the military, for their role in fighting for freedom, as well as civilians who benefitted their new society. In 1802, the French Legion of Honor gave commendations for service. By 1805 there were five classes of honor, and they became the prototype for Orders of Merit. In the Legion of Honor, democracy became a part of the new chivalry. No longer was this limited to men of noble birth, as in the past, who received favors from a Sovereign. The Order of Merit was the new society's way of recognizing citizens of merit. The head of state, be the King or President, could now bestow honors upon their citizenry.

The new Democratic society spread through many countries as the old monarchy lost their control. This resulted in existing Orders of Chivalry and Secular Orders being changed and divided. In 1808, the Danish Order of Dannenberg (1671) was divided, by the founding of new Orders of different classes. This was originated before the French Revolution by the French Military Order of St. Louis in 1693, whose three classes were:

- Grand Cross
- Commander's Cross
- Knight's Cross

This then became the pattern for later Democratic Orders. Today the Polish Nobility Association administers two Orders (Awards) of Merit each consisting of one class:

### **The Royal Order of Piast**

The Royal Order of Piasts (one class), was established on January 27, 1927. The Royal Order of Piast is a progressive Order of Chivalry and Merit, given by the PNAF to recognize individuals who contribute to the well being and knowledge of the Polish-Lithuanian Nations.

Its purpose is to protect the absolute independence of the Polish Lithuanian States, and the ultimate recovery of the achievements of the Piast Dynasty; through the realization of a project/movement via "The Slavic Commonwealth of Nations." The main organizer was Rev. Count Chodkiewicz and other Polish-Lithuanian nobles.

Today, the Royal Order of Piast is granted as a Merit Award to a qualified individual regardless of religion, race, sex, or national origin for cultural or humanitarian contributions made on behalf of Poland/Polonia and Lithuania. They must be recognized and have achieved recognition in the criteria for nomination.

### **HOW DOES ONE QUALIFY FOR AN R.O.P. OR AND R.O.J.**

The Order of Piast (R.O.P.) and the Royal Order of Jagiello (R.O.J.) are awards of merit given to individuals who have contributed significantly to the Cultural, Humanitarian, and Historical promulgation of the people of the Polish/Lithuanian Commonwealth. The nomination process requires:

- A. a recommendation from at least two Polish Nobility Association/Foundation members, who are in good standing.
  - B. a curriculum vitae (Resume) showing the qualifications of the individual in the above stated areas of achievement: Cultural, Humanitarian, and Historical endeavours.
  - C. a vote of the directors of the College of Heraldry. A majority vote is required.
- In the event of a tie, the President of the Foundation will cast the tie breaking vote.

## Orders of Merit *(continued from page 4)*



A cross pate, indented, each cross arm is red with gold trim and each point ending with a silver ball. In the center is a circle of white dots surrounding a blue field upon which is displayed a crowned white eagle. The cross is surmounted on a silver multi rayed star, and can be suspended on a red moiré sash. or the star can be used as a breast decoration on formal wear. The above star is no longer issued, the present day Orders are of one class. A similar cross suspended by a ribbon may be worn as a breast decoration.

The Royal Order of Piast was named after Piast, the legendary 9th century founder of the Piast dynasty, of Poland (c. 840 A.D.)

### II. The Royal Order of the Jagiellon

The Royal Order of Jagiellon was established in 1969 at the recommendation of the late Sigmund H. Uminski, former Grand Chancellor of the Polish Nobility Association Foundation, to recognize the significant role played by Lithuania and the Lithuanian people in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth of Nations.

#### RECIPIENTS

*Sigmund H. Uminski, R.O.P. and R.O.J.* had the unique pleasure of being knighted twice in the same day. This event took place in the chapel of the Felician Sisters Convent, Mother Angela Hall, on February 25, 1975. The ritual ceremony of investiture into the Royal Order of Piast, was conducted by Dr. Roger Chylinski-Polubinski, President of the PNAF. The prince was assisted by Countess Aleciya Orlowski-Andrews who represented the PNAF Board of Trustees.

Sigmund H. Uminski was also accepted into the Sovereign Order of Saint John of Jerusalem, Knights of Malta by Bishop, Prince von Lobkowitz.

The late Sigmund H. Uminski wrote, *Poland Discovers America*, the first volume in a series printed by the Polish Publication Society of America in New York. Uminski was directly involved with the 22-volume history

*continued on page 6*

## Orders of Merit *(continued from page 4)*

as its General Editor. One of his other works *River's Edge* has also received recognition.

*DAVID P.J. SAS-TYSOWSKI, R.O.P. AND R.O.J.* For his years of work in Library research and development, political activities on behalf of Poland and Polonia, Philanthropic contributions David P.J. SAS-TYSOWSKI was presented with both the R.O.P. and R.O. J. awards of merit.

*ALECIJA ANDREWS (nee Countess Orłowska), R.O.P. ,* For her promotion of Polish Culture, having survived a Warsaw labor force roundup by occupying Nazi invading forces, her removal to forced labor in Germany and loss of her family and immigration with Col. Robert. Andrews (later General) U.S.A. pursuing a career in the Arts and promoting Polish Culture.

*Bishop Paul, Prince von Lobkowitz, R.O.P. and R.O.J.* for his enthusiastic support and service as a long time member of the Board of Trustees of the PNAF. The loss of his siblings to the Nazi occupation of his homeland and eventually immigrating to the U.S.A. and founding the Hospice of St. John in Lakeland, Colorado.

*Countess Judith Arz und Arzio, R.O.J.* for her heroic flight during the Hungarian Revolution with her infant son and the loss of her family estates in Hungary and donation of their estate ARZIO in Italy to a Catholic Religious Order of nuns for the perpetual care of her ill husband during his life.

*Princess Tatiana Galitzin, R.O.J.* as a descendant of Gedymin Grand Duke (maternal from Rurik) of Lithuania and founder of numerous Princely Houses some extinct while other prosper with descendants residing around the world.

*Count Leonard Lesczczynski* for his dedication and service as a Board member of the PNAF and hosting the PNAF delegation at the 1983 celebration of the Polish-Lithuanian and allied armies in the defeat of the Turks at the "Battle of Vienna". All members of the PNAF delegation attended the special mass celebrated by His Holiness, John Paul II.

This unique monarchy, Jagiellon Dynasty, was created by the descendants of Guedymine/Gedimin as hereditary Grand Dukes of Lithuania/elected Kings of Poland beginning with Jogaila (Wladyslaw Jagiello, Polish King from 1386-1434). This union made the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth the largest land empire in Europe during its Golden Age. The Royal Order of Jagiello is awarded to individuals for their significant humanitarian/cultural contributions to Lithuania, on behalf of Lithuanians around the world. Individuals must be recognized by their charitable activities, which have a major impact on people of Lithuanian ancestry.



## Orders of Merit *(continued from page 4)*



A Maltese cross, of eight points, each point ending with a silver ball. The cross is blue and edged in gold, and surmounted of a gold patriarchal (double armed) cross. Between the arms of the cross are radiating rays. The decoration is suspended from a blue moiré sash or mounted on a silver multi-pointed star and worn as a breast decoration, and suspended from a grand cordon sash of blue moiré for the Knight's Grand Cross. The Knight's Commander degree is suspended from a neck ribbon. This decoration is also surmounted of a gold crown, when suspended from a sash.

The patriarchal cross, in this decoration, commemorates the conversion of King Jagiello, of Lithuania, to Christianity upon his marriage to Queen Jadwiga of Poland. The above star is no longer issued. The present day Orders are of one class with a similar cross suspended from a ribbon may be worn over the left breast.

### **Registration of the Orders**

The PNA Foundation has officially registered the Orders with the Institute of Orders Researches in West Berlin (in 1974) under Dr. Kletman, Director of the Institute.

### **Historical Information**

In the past, nominees (Chevaliers and Dames) into the Royal Order of Piast and Royal Order of Jagiellon were of noble origin. Applicants for this honor were chosen from the membership of the Polish Nobility Association Foundation. Today anyone regardless of nationality, religion, race, who meets the criteria may be nominated. The Royal Order of Piast and the Royal Order of Jagiellon are the only PNAF Orders of Merit. The Orders are administered jointly by the Chairman and President of the PNAF Board of Trustees.



# THERE ARE PRINCES AND PRINCES

POLISH NOTILITY ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION ARCHIVES—YEAR 1920; REPRODUCED 1928  
WITH LATER ADDITIONS

By: Stephanie Landyn-Chrzanowska, (translated from Polish by A. J. & W. K. Sielinski )

THERE ARE PRINCES AND PRINCES, (1) Princes holding just the title through a long line of feudal Princes of the former Polish Commonwealth, recognized or bestowed upon them to prevent open insurrection against a ruling foreign monarch; (2) Those recognized ages ago in the treaties between Poland and Lithuania known as Ksiaze, or during the reign of the Prussian, Russian or Austrian Monarchs, to secure the Princes neutrality or their cooperation (collaboration) in measures destined to despoil the Poles of Culture and their land.

It is true that during the Bosnian crisis of 1908, Polish restoration was brought nearer when Galician Poles became the “Pets” of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy, but only as long as a war with England, Russia and France was likely. The Austrian Emperor Francis-Joseph, a genial man whose nephew, Archduke Francis Ferdinand, the Habsburg heir was murdered during a visit to Bosnia. Emperor Francis Joseph granted Patents with no stability, meaning or importance than an ordinary sheet of writing paper. They were granted EN MASSE, July 30, 1905 to descendants of former Polish feudal Princes including those having been given earlier Habsburg Titles even if not of the original branch but as surviving untitled members of another branch of the same family, giving them the doubtful and empty honor to style themselves “Furest” and Durchlaucht-Sering Highness”, to gain their good will. The social standing of such a Prince (all sons being Princes and daughters until married Princesses, sometimes styled “Prinz” without qualification of “Hoheit”). By comparison the titles were not as high as that of an English Squire.

Among the numerous members of princely and ennobled “Magnates” (Mandarins) descendants of former feudal Lords, not of Royalty direct, whose title of “Fuerst” (not Prinz) with the qualification of “Durchlaucht—Serene Highness” some Kniaz, in Russia, and one instance “Ksiaze,” viz: Czetwertynski, had been confirmed by the partitioning powers, though in one or two cases recognition of “Principe” had been granted by Italy, recorded in Spain and elsewhere with questionable documentation from government officialdom and for money tendered in the form of registration fees.

Collation—Confirmation and Recognition

Mirski—Russia

Radolin-Radolinski—Charlottenburg

Puzyna—Russia

Drucki-Lubecki—Prussian Reign

Poniatowski—Austria

On July 20, 1905, the Austrian Emperor Francis Joseph conferred by mass grant (Schoenbrunn, Vienna and Ischl, July 20, 1905) the titles of “Durchlaucht” and “Fuerst”, not Prinz on:

Czartoryski, Semi-Royal by marriage with French Royalty and descendant of the Lithuanian Dynastic Dukes.

Radziwill, Semi-Royal, through their connections with Prussia and Spain.

Sapieha-Rozanski, Poninski, Lobkowicz: Sanguszko-Lubartowicz; and Lubomirski.



## PRINCES AND PRINCES *(continued from page 8)*

Pilsudski, Moscicki and Daszynski, title of Prince by the King of Afghanistan in 1928. They accepted, it seems as officials of the "Republic". Wonder takes us whether they acquired with it the privilege of establishing Harems? However, the enjoyment of their titles had not been of long duration since the "New York Times" in its printed newspaper of September 5, 1928 that his Majesty Amanullah Khan has on his return to the "Land of Rocks, Stones and Sanguinary Fueds" modernized his country on the model of Western Civilization and abolished all titles but his own. Hence the uprising which this caused against the Afghanistan King.

Numerous members of the afore-mentioned families have been born in Germany, France, Austria proper, Westphalia, Berlin, Dresden, Vienna and Paris. The late Prince Radziwill, main shareholder in the company that runs the Casino, Monaco, was according to newspapers a French citizen, yet was charged with a mission by the Polish Government, which therefore has itself set a precedent of extreme importance for those who hold a foreign citizenship, and although born on foreign soil of parents also born abroad are of Polish descent be it only in name.

Moscicki, the newspapers claim is a Swiss Citizen.

Such titles as "Fuerst" fell with the overthrow of the Russian, Prussian, Saxon and Austrian Monarchs but may be restored or revived with a return to Monarchy.

Now that the Romanoffs, the Habsburgs (Lords ruling over the Castle of Hawke) and the Hohenzollern (Lords collecting and imposing high taxes and tribute) have fallen and since the Polish Republic Constitution recognizes no titles at all, their serene Highnesses will have to be addressed officially, and privately if one desires, as plain Mister Czartoryski, Mr. Radziwill, etc., bestowal of honors and appointments. Only "Monsieur" sounds so much nicer. May they, however remain quite serene for in days far removed. The French King's brother too was styled "Monsieur" and his wife "Madame".

Or does the Polish Government shut their eyes to any infringement of the Constitution in that respect, thereby earning the good will of the Magnets. Pilsudski in his ancestry has noble and Princely blood from Polubinski Princes.

If that be so the restoration of a Monarchial regime, recognizing historical titles by courtesy, is a hundred times preferable indeed to what occurred in the sham Republic that existed after the overthrow of the Manchu Dynasty in China.

These few details superficially treated relating to the above individuals are not intended to constitute a sort of "Almanac de Gotha" nor must they be construed in any shape or form as an expression of criticism. It is intended to show various points of view from a historical and social perspective.

"In the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth not infrequently noblemen freed their peasants and enrolled them under their coat-of-arms, while the Kings often knighted entire villages for bravery on the battlefield. In the XVIII Century at the time of the Four Years Diet, the population had increased to ten million, while the number of noblemen according to M. Stersewski, had grown to over 800,000, which is eight to possibly ten percent of the total population. A much larger percentage of nobles then in any other European Country at that time.

"Regardless whether one is noble with or without title or an non noble citizen all should practice Noblesse Oblige to everyone around them. It is usually those who are deficient in finances, education, self confidence or

# SANTO SUBITO - BEATYFIKACJA

## Jana Pawła II - Wielkiego

*By Dame Barbara Bromont-Slawinska*

Kiedy miliony sere wiata  
Wraz z Tobą Ojcie, na Placu w. Piotra konały Kiedy zgasły wiatła Twej komnaty  
Które jeszcze, jeszcze odrobinę nadziei dawały

Jeden, jedyny okrzyk wróć z Wiatry ziemi porwały - 21:37 Santo Subito - więty od zaraz Te słowa zabrzmiały!

Wiedzieliśmy, że odchodzisz - W najlepsze ręce swą spuściznę pracy przekazujesz Otoczony modlitwą najbliższych  
Którzy przy Twoim łoku stali...

Kard. Dziwisz, dostojne duchowieństwo, siostry Sercanki Dziwiem i wierzę głęboko  
Ze trzymając Twój różaniec w ręku  
Z głębi sere po ludzku ptakali.

Kiedy dzwony spiewe Bazyliki Piotrowej Duszy ludzkich sere, atobowiązu glosiły... Ty byłeś już w ramionach  
Matki - Ojca - Nieustannie błagając o przebaczenie o siły.

Dla świata - narodów - Ojczyzny co kona Tragedię smoleńską tak niestuszenie podzielona Zstąpi z krzyża na  
zawsze  
I we nas w ramiona.

Kiedy wybuchy słoneczne  
Miliony gwiazd w czarny tunel ustawiaj Kiedy tak widoczne kataklizmy  
Jdło ziemi poruszyły...

Czy wolno nam wątpić Pamiętając Twoje słowa Które wiat z kociołem Zawsze jednoczyły.

Dzi, kiedy dekalog Twych przemyśleń  
Na ołtarzu beatyfikacji nym składamy  
Kiedy z wdzięcznością w skupieniu  
Na słowa homilii Papieża Benedykta XVI czekamy

W głębi duszy oddechem Miłosierdzia Bożego otulone Czekaj Twoje nauki - myśli - czyny -  
By osłonić naszą wiarę  
Chrzestnictwa Koronę.

Bo Santo Subito, to nie tylko okrzyk wiary Wyrwany z piersi milionów, którzy Cię błagali Santo Subito to  
poiska gólgota sere  
Twoim istnieniem zainspirowana

Santo Subito - to Ty ukochany Ojcie więty Janie Pawle II - Wielki

Oraz nasza Matka ziemia  
Twój witoci dziś obdarowana

# PROSBA O WSTAWIENNICTWO BŁOGOSŁAWIONEGO JANA PAWŁA II

*By Dame Barbara Bromont-Slawinska*

Błogosławiony Janie Pawle II, za Twoim pośrednictwem proszę o łaski dla mnie i moich bliźnich. Wierzę w moc mojej modlitwy i w Twoją zbawienną pomoc. Wyproś mi u Boga Wszechmogącego łaski, o które się modlę. Uproś mi dar wiary, nadziei i miłości.

Pan Jezus obiecał, że o cokolwiek w Jego imię poprosimy, to otrzymamy. Dlatego ja, Panie, pełen ufności, proszę Cię o potrzebne łaski, za wstawiennictwem Błogosławionego Jana Pawła II. Wysłuchaj mnie Panie. Amen.

Ojciec nasz

Zdrowas' Maryjo

Chwaa Ojcu i Synowi

*Wrocław, Bazylika Katedralna*

## PRINCES AND PRINCES *(continued from page 9)*

nobility by birth or behavior that act in a most arrogant and ungracious manner to ridicule and mock others". They exist now and always will.

List of Recognized Families of Polish-Lithuanian Princes of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth by: name, source and date of grant or registration/recognition or numerous treaties between Poland and Lithuania.

Czartoryski (DG)	1569	Sanguszko (DG)	1569	KEY: D=Dynastic, HRE = Holy Roman Empire, P=Poland, B=Bohemia, G=Guedymine R=Rurik, L=Lithuania, PA=Papal R=Russia, S=Samogitia, T=Tartare PI=Pinsk, PL=Polock
Czetwertyński (DR)	1843	Sapieha (HRE)	1824	
Gedroic (DL)	1865	Sulkowski (B)	1752	
Jabłonowski (HRE)	1775	Woroniecki (DG)	1824	
Lubecki (DR)	1488	Zajaczek (R)	1818	
Lubomirski (HRE)	1647			
Massalski (DR)	1862			
Ogiński (DR)	1486			
Ossoliński (PA)	1633			
Poniatowski (P)	1764			
Poninski (HRE)	1733			
Puzyna (DR)	1823			
Radziwiłł (HRE)	1547			

## LITHUANIAN DESCENDANTS OF DYNASTIC DUCAL DYNASTY

Borkowski (S)	1499	Szujski (DR)	1534
Glinski (DT)	1505	Swirski (D)	1508
Kurcewicz (DPI)	1528		
Lukomski (DPL)	1564		
Pohorski (D)	1563		
Polubinski (DG)	1399		

# BRANICKI PALACE, BIALYSTOK

PHOTOS BY KSIAZE JAN POLUBINSKI



Branicki Palace (Polish: *Palac Branickich*) is a historical edifice in Białystok, Poland. It was developed on the site of an earlier building in the first half of the eighteenth century by Jan Klemens Branicki, a wealthy Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth hetman, into a residence suitable for a man whose ambition was to become King of Poland. The palace complex with gardens, pavillons, sculptures, outbuildings and other structures and the city with churches, city hall and monastery, all build almost at the same time according to French models was the reason why the city was known in the eighteenth century as *Versailles de la Pologne* (Versailles of Poland) and subsequently *Versailles de la Podlachie* (Versailles of Podlachia). - *Wikipedia*

