P.N.A.F.’s New President

On July 11th representatives of the Board of Trustees of the Polish Nobility Association Foundation approved a reorganization of the leadership of the Foundation effective as of January 1, 2005. Dr. Knaż Roger Chyliński-Polubiński became the Chairman of the Board of Trustees, and Dr. the Chev. Felix Warner von Leski Holewiński became the President of the Foundation. Dr. Holewiński has been associated with the P.N.A.F. for almost thirty years and has served on its Board of Trustees for many years.

Dr. Felix Warner von Leski Holewiński was born August 7, 1943 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, the only son of Felix Holewiński and Celia Grosman. He graduated from Notre Dame Catholic High School in Milwaukee and earned his B.A. and M.A. in History from Marquette University and his Doctor of Arts Degree in History from the University of North Dakota. He also obtained his Specialist Equivalency in Educational Administration from the University of Wisconsin—Superior. While in his Master’s program he was accepted into Phi Alpha Theta, the National History Honor Society, and Pi Gamma Mu, the National Social Science Honor Society.

Dr. Holewiński taught United States and European History at Webster Senior High School 1967—1979, served as Senior High School Principal for the Florence County School District 1980—1985, and as Superintendent of Schools for the Hilbert School District 1986—2002. While a teacher at Webster High School he also taught evening graduate courses in the History of United States Foreign Policy at the University of Wisconsin—Superior, and during a one-year doctoral sabbatical at the University of North Dakota served as a teaching assistant through a Carnegie scholarship grant.

Dr. Holewiński has been active in various capacities in the Catholic Church for many years, serving as a member of the Diocesan Advisory Council of the Diocese of Superior, Wisconsin 1975–1981 and as a Mass lector and extraordinary Communion minister in several parishes. In recognition of his service to the Church he was invested as a Knight in the Sovereign Military Order of Malta, and was eventually raised to the rank of Knight Grand Cross in the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem. In addition, in recognition of his service and contributions to the P.N.A.F., he has been awarded the Knight’s Cross of the Polish Royal Order of Piast and Knight’s Grand Cross of the Polish Royal Order of Jagiełło.

Dr. Holewiński has also been a member of the Monarchist League, is a life member of the Royal Stuart Society, a member of the American College of Heraldry, and an Associate Member of St. Andrew’s Society. His commitment to the study of heraldry has led to his participation in the International Congress of Genealogical and Heraldic Studies in London, Madrid and Dublin, and the presentation of a paper on “The Polish Nobility Before the Partitions” at its London meeting. He had also served briefly on the International Commission on Orders before its recent reorganization, and his coat of arms has appeared in several editions of the International Armorial Who’s Who.

Dr. Holewiński retired from his position as Superintendent of Schools in 2002 and continues to live in Hilbert, Wisconsin, where he devotes most of his time to various orders of chivalry, the Polish Nobility Association Foundation and to the study of heraldry.

Dr. Holewiński’s lineage goes back to several noble Polish families who eventually immigrated to the United States between 1870 and 1893. He is a descendant of Jan Cholewiński, born in Smuszewo, Poland around 1800. The family were members of the “grey szlachta,” prosperous freeholders of modest economic status but from one of the [continued to page 3]
FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

We hope you all had a wonderful Holiday season, and that St. Nicholas was as good as his word. Knowing that there were more smiling faces than usual, as he scooted back to his own abode, he was, we hope, able to digest all those cookies left by the toddlers, and begin making up his next set of plans for travel, and his gift lists....

With this issue we have been able to include most of the comings and goings of the nobility covered with such enthusiasm and zeal by our contributing editor in Great Britain, Ms. Irene Uderska. Our thanks, Irenka, for a wonderful job.

As the lead article explains, at a Board of Trustees meeting this past summer our current president, Dr. Roger Chyliński-Polubiński, decided to step down from that position. Dr. Polubiński assumed the position of Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Polish Nobility Association Foundation.

There is still much turmoil in the world, and we must all pull together and support all of the troops in the world coalition that have volunteered their services in the support of peace. We ask that you pray for all those involved, and pray also for a quick and decisive end to all this unrest. The next time you are in your place of worship, light one small candle, and in time all the light from these candles will verify our support for all those defending the goal of peace in the world once more.

— Leonard J. Suligowski

"Aby nam się dobrze działo!"

POLISH NOBILITY ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION

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For genealogical, heraldic and historical purposes, titled members are recorded with their family hereditary titles. ☺
oldest noble families in Poland. The Cholewinski family is one of the original root families of the noble Cholewa clan, which also includes the root families Cholewa, Cholewicki, and Cholewski. The family originated near Łomża around 1400, but Dr. Holewinski's branch of the family moved into Wielkopolska and settled in villages around the towns of Wapno, Siedomgórza, and Smuszewo.

Dr. Holewinski is also descended, through his paternal grandmother, from one of the most prominent aristocratic families of northern Poland, von Ezelicht-Leski. His paternal grandmother, Leokadia Leska, is a direct descendant of Peter von Ezelicht, governor-general of Torun and a Knight of the Teutonic Order in 1345. The family changed its name to Leski in the 16th century after switching its allegiance to the King of Poland. Leokadia Leska's branch of this family retained its aristocratic status right up to World War II. The family married into several magnate families, including the Czapskis; held various crown positions such as Royal Cupbearers and the Bishopric of the cities of Torun and Chełm; and retained manorial estates in and around Nowe Miasto Lubawskie, where Leokadia Leska was born. Helena Leska, Dr. Holewinski's Grand Aunt, possessed the family's 16th-century signet ring, which depicted the family's armorial bearing of two greyhounds. The ring, however, was lost during World War II when she disappeared in Gdańsk after a bombing raid.

Details on the President-Elect's Coat of Arms

Dr. Felix W. v. Leski-Holewinski's coat of arms is based on his paternal lineage and augmented by supporters and compartment earned as a consequence of his holding the rank of Knight Grand Cross of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem. This coat of arms was developed by the Assistant Herald of the Heraldic Bureau of the Republic of South Africa and is registered in accordance with the Heraldry Act of the Republic of South Africa.

A variation of these arms was also granted by the Spanish Herald and matriculated by the Scottish Lord Lyons.

The blazon of the arms (shown at upper right) is as follows:

Arms: quarterly per fess engrailed, I and IV, Gules, between two carpenter bridles addorsed erect Argent, a sword inverted proper, hilted and pomelled Or; II and III, Azure two greyhounds sejant erect addorsed proper, collared Or; separated by a tapered pallet Argent and on a chief Azure, a wall embattled Gules, masoned Sable.

Crest: A greyhound sejant erect proper, collared Or.

Wreath and Mantling: Azure and Argent.

Supporter: Two greyhounds proper, collared Or, attached to the collar a protea chain proper, flexed over the back, behind the body, downward between the legs toward the ground.

Special Compartment: A compartment Vert, the upper edge scattered with protea flowers and leaves proper.

Motto: Ad Gloriam Dei, Eius Ecclesiae et Pontificis ("For the Glory of God, His Church and the Pope").

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Foundation Goals for 2005

Dr. Felix W. v. L. Holewiński, P.N.A.F. President

The Polish Nobility Association Foundation is entering a new era in its existence. To be a vibrant and active exponent of the history and culture of the Polish noble class throughout Polish history the Foundation needs to take a new, fresh look at itself as an organization. It needs to evaluate its strengths and weaknesses and set specific goals that will serve as a focus for its work. It needs to evaluate how it does things. It needs to streamline and modernize its approaches in dealing with people and projects so as to project a more visible image throughout the world. In addition, the Foundation must put greater emphasis on its inclusive nature so as to draw into its membership those individuals who hold our common beliefs and interests and at the same time possess those talents and skills that can contribute to the goals of the Foundation.

Towards these ends I am proposing a series of goals for 2005. In addition, I am asking all members of the Foundation to read through these goals listed below and contact me with their comments.

1. Develop a comprehensive five-year action plan for the Foundation which enumerates specific goals for each year, a list of actions aimed at implementing each goal and a process for evaluating the Foundation’s progress as well as provisions for modifying the goals and overall plan as the progress of the Foundation is reassessed each year. Such a plan would provide the Foundation a direction and criteria by which to judge its progress. To achieve these goals the following steps should be taken:

   a. Contact each member of the Board of Trustees and solicit their input for ideas on how to strengthen the Foundation in the years to come.
   b. Encourage members of the Foundation through the Foundation Journal to make suggestions related to the future of the Foundation.
   c. The President of the Foundation, working in cooperation with the Chairmen of the Board of Trustees and using input from Board and Foundation members as well as their own ideas and priorities, will develop a draft of a long-range plan for the Foundation.
   d. This preliminary draft should be submitted to the Executive Committee for review and after any modifications submitted to the full Board for final revision and approval.
   e. The final draft of the long-range plan should then be made known to the full membership of the Foundation through the Foundation’s Journal.

2. The Foundation needs a central project to concentrate its energies, a project to serve as a focus of the Foundation’s ideals and goals. This central project has always been to purchase an abandoned castle or palace in Poland and to restore the structure over a period of time. This initiative should continue to be the central project for the Foundation.

During 2005, therefore, a goal of the Foundation should be to continue to investigate available property in Poland that might be appropriate for purchase and eventual restoration by the Foundation with its ultimate use to be determined at a future date.

3. Because the White Eagle is the most visible face of the Foundation, it is essential, therefore, that it be of high quality and appropriate to the purposes of the Foundation. In particular the prestige and status of the Foundation, both nationally and internationally, is affected by how the outside world perceives this Journal. As a consequence it should be a goal of the Foundation during 2005 to streamline how the White Eagle is put together and published, as well as to review its format and content with an objective of making what is a basically good publication into an even better publication.

4. While 2005 should be devoted primarily to planning there are some minor cosmetic and peripheral matters that could be addressed immediately to facilitate the implementation of any future long-term action plan. Such matters might include the following:

   a. Attempt to increase the Foundation’s membership, possibly setting a yearly membership goal.
   b. Take a new look at the Foundation’s emblem and consider updating its design. In addition, investigate the production of new label pins and blazer patches for the Foundation, as well as a reliable source for quality decorations for the Orders of Plast and Jęziello.
   c. Explore new and updated ways the Foundation can or has used in the past to promote its goals, work and membership, including the booklet The Polish Nobility in the Commonwealth and the development of a brochure related to the Foundation.

I am not naïve enough to presume that it will be an easy task to completely achieve all of these goals in the short term. The Foundation must rather look in the long term. In addition it is of critical importance to involve the entire membership of
the Foundation in the pursuit of these goals. We will only have limited success unless and until the whole membership becomes more actively involved in the pursuit of these goals. As a consequence, as I previously mentioned, the Foundation needs your input and support on these proposed goals and any suggestions you might have which you believe would contribute to the effectiveness of the Foundation.

My mailing address is Dr. Felix W. v. L. Holewinski, P.O. Box 270, Hubert WI 54129, and my e-mail address is felixwholewinski@msn.com. 🎉

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**Dues, Donations, and Fees**

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**Barbara Bromont-Sławińska Organizes P.N.A.F. in Poland**

By inviting these new members to join us, I had only one purpose, to highlight P.N.A.F.'s accomplishments by recognizing the Board’s achievements.

Some of these friends will have heraldic history and arms, some will search for them. But all are in science-oriented professions and business, but most of all fine families. During the invitation I gave P.N.A.F. Lapel Pins to each family.

The list of members:

Prof. Dr. Bohdan M. Zakiewicz, Ph.D. and Mrs. Józefa Zakiewicz

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**PRINCESS ZOFIA JABLONOWSKA**

Dame of Honour and Devotion in the Sovereign Military Order of Malta, died on December 16, 2004.

Zofia was the daughter of HSH Stanisław, 4th Furst Jabłonowski, and was for 68 years the wife of Xavier Pusłowski (1906-1998), the son of Count Władysław Pusłowski. Zofia and Xavier died without issue. With her death the Princely House of Jabłonowski has become extinct.

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**IN MEMORIAM**

**PRINCE EUSTACHY SAPIEHA**

Born on August 7, 1916 in Spusza
Died on March 2, 2004 in Nairobi
As we are informed by the FAMILIES:

sapieha, wodzicki, and beckmann

Mass for his soul was celebrated at the Church of Maria Assumpta, 23 Kensington Square, London W8. on Thursday, March 24, 2004 at 2:30 p.m.
President-Elect Attends Royal Montenegrn Charity Banquet

Dr. Felix W. v. L. Holewinski, the President of P.N.A.F., recently represented the Foundation at several charity events organized by the London Debutant Season Committee in cooperation with the Crown Prince of Montenegro to benefit the newly established Royal Montenegrn Foundation. This Foundation was set up by the Crown Prince and his wife to assist the Montenegrn government to restore various historic buildings and to assist poor children in Montenegro.

Dr. Holewinski attended a variety of events from September 25 through September 29 held mostly in Sveti Stefan (St. Stefan), Montenegro, the site of the Royal Summer palace on the shores of the Adriatic Sea. The group of thirty participants also traveled through the mountains to Cetinje, the old Royal Capital and the location of the Winter Palace, for a Royal/State Banquet.

At the start of the trip Dr. Holewinski flew to London on September 24, staying overnight at the summer house of David and Jeanne Hallam-Peel in Brighton. Jeanne Hallam-Peel is on the London Debutant Season Committee and was involved in organizing the trip. The Hallam-Peels throughout the trip showed Dr. Holewinski incredible hospitality, which can only be described as being true to the very finest traditions of old-fashioned British gentility, grace and generosity.

In the morning of the 25th the Hallam-Peels and Dr. Holewinski drove to Gatwick airport, where they met the other 27 individuals participating in this charity event. The group took off via British Airways for the 2½-hour flight to Dubrovnik, Croatia.

On arriving in Dubrovnik the group was meet by a fleet of Mercedes which took them for a three-hour drive along the mountainous coast of Croatia and Montenegro to the island resort of Sveti Stefan. The scenery of mountains and sea during the trip was the first introduction of the group to the spectacular beauty of the region.

As the cars rounded a bend in the road, high above the sea, skirting a sheer cliff, the resort came into view, like a fairy tale castle rising out of the glittering blue of the sea. The sight took one’s breath away.

On arriving at the mainland village of Sveti Stephan the road curved down through the village, which was located on the side of a steep hill that descended into the sea. At the bottom the road ended at a park that stretched along a sweeping beach extending along the coast. In the middle of the park was a massive stone causeway that

Above: The Island of Sveti Stefan, where the group participating in this Royal Charity event stayed. Below, the village of Sveti Stefan on the mainland.
extended into the blue-green water of the Adriatic. There, at the far end of the causeway, perched on a red marble outcropping, was the resort. It covered the entire island and resembled a medieval fortress.

In the evening the group attended a white-tie champagne reception and a lobster and sea food dinner hosted by Crown Prince Nicholas II of Montenegro at the Royal Summer palace located on the shore across from the resort. During the reception Dr. Holewinski was introduced to the Crown Prince and had an opportunity to talk to him at some length. The Prince is an architect who lives in Paris; his wife is a designer who while living in Paris travels frequently to Montenegro in engage in various Montenegrin cultural activities. Dr. Holewinski was impressed by the Prince’s friendly, down to earth, outgoing manner which immediately puts one at ease. The Prince is intensely interested in bringing Montenegro more into the light of the western world and in sharing in the benefits of the modernization and economic developments that are taking place throughout Europe, yet as the same time preserving its unique history and culture. As a consequence, the Prince is interested in expanding Montenegro’s potential as a tourist attraction.

Sunday morning members had early morning tea or coffee served in their rooms and had the rest of their morning to themselves. A priest who was supposed to say Mass in the resort chapel could not come because the road to his house had been washed away by the heavy rain that fell the previous night. Dr. Holewinski, therefore, went with several members to explore the village on the mainland and later joined the group at the hotel restaurant for a champagne lunch. The group was then taken by bus into the mountainous interior of the country to a huge mountain lake where they boarded a motor launch to visit two small islands on which were located the medieval Catholic Church of Our Lady of the Rock and a monastery. From there the group was taken across the length of the lake to a picturesque medieval town which everyone

Above, the Royal State Banquet in the Senate Building. Above right, Dr. Holewinski at the State Banquet, wearing a Montenegrin hat. At right, the troupe of Montenegrin dancers who performed at the Banquet.
was given time to explore. The evening ended with an outstanding fish dinner, followed by the ride back to the hotel.

The morning of Monday the 27th was time to simply relax, followed by lunch at a beach restaurant of spit-roasted lamb. In the evening a fleet of Mercedes took the group to the Winter Palace in the Royal capital of Cetinje for a Royal reception and banquet. This ride into the mountainous interior of the country gave the members of the group a good view of western Montenegro. The cars drove up into the mountains, literally into the clouds along narrow roads that skirted the edge of cliffs through numerous picturesque mountain glens and valleys with breathtaking views around every bend. At the outskirts of the city the caravan of cars was met by a police escort, which took the group through the narrow tree-lined streets of Cetinje to the Winter Palace for the reception.

At the Palace the group was shown into several rooms with special exhibits. One room featured a display of the personal weapons of the past kings of Montenegro. It was a beautiful collection of swords and antique hunting firearms, many encrusted with gold and silver inlay and set with precious stones. Equally impressive was a display of all the decorations the various kings of Montenegro received from foreign monarchs, as well as Montenegrin decorations. Most were of the highest rank, including some rare decorations of the most prestigious orders of knighthood from throughout the world, many encrusted with diamonds, rubies and sapphires. The display covered half of the wall of the room and represented a truly outstanding collection.

In the room across the hall were displayed numerous uniforms worn by past kings of Montenegro. Most were foreign uniforms worn on state visits to foreign monarchs previous to World War I. Also in the room were artifacts from Montenegro’s struggles with the Ottoman Empire such as flags, banners, Turkish uniforms and swords.

After a tour of the Winter Palace the group was invited up to the Blue Room for the formal reception. Among those in the receiving line were the Crown Prince and his wife, the President of the Republic of Montenegro and his wife, several government ministers, and the Secretary General of the Montenegrin Union of Employers. After the receiving line the President of the Republic thanked the Crown Prince for setting up his Foundation and all those in the group who, through their attendance at the various weeks activities, had contributed to this fund. We were then shown a short film on the history of the Montenegrin Royal family until the end of the reign following World War I.

The Blue Room, where the reception was held, had a gallery of beautiful paintings of the various royal foreign relatives of the Montenegrin royal family. The paintings include portraits of the members of the House of Savoy, the Italian royal families, Emperor Napoleon II and his wife Eugenie, and numerous portraits of members of the Romanov royal family of Russia. The most stunning, however, were two life-sized oil paintings of the late Czar of Russia, Nicholas II and his wife the Czarina Alexandra. These two incredibly beautiful and lifelike portraits are probably the finest artistic representations in existence of this tragic couple, and dominate the room.

After the reception the group was ushered back to their cars, which drove them, with police escort, to the Senate building. There the group was met by dancers dressed in traditional Montenegrin customs and were shown through the building, including an art gallery of paintings by Montenegrin artists. There was again a reception with champagne, grappa, and canapes, followed by a viewing of one of the national treasures, the medieval Blue Icon, a representation of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The group were then shown into the magnificent state dining room where the group was served a four-course meal with the main course medallions of Pork Loi. The group was finally served coffee with cheese and fruit and were entertained by dancers representing the various ethnic groups in Montenegro. As Dr. Holewiński was enjoying an after-dinner cigar, he was approached by the Crown Prince, who asked if he had an extra cigar, since it was difficult to obtain cigars in Montenegro. Dr. Holewiński gave the Crown Prince a cigar, after which both shared a friendly exchange.

After the entertainment and speeches the cars took everyone back to the hotel.

Tuesday was the last full day of the trip. At around 11:00 a.m. a motor launch took the group around the island resort and north along the coast to a large fishing and resort center.
The group disembarked and went to a restaurant overlooking the beach which specialized in fish and seafood. There the group enjoyed an outstanding shrimp and fish lunch accompanied by local wine and grappa.

Returning to the hotel the group rested briefly and then went to a pre-dinner cocktail party hosted by David Day, a member of the group. Following this everyone went out to the restaurant patio for the final dinner of the trip. The sitting arrangement was set up at one long table with beautiful place settings and candles. The meal consisted of fish soup, a salad, a shrimp appetizers and a grilled fish, which was outstanding. For dessert the waiters brought out flaming baked Alaska. Coffee was then brought out along with cheese and fruit. There were some farewell speeches and most of the groups went to the bar for an after-dinner drink. This was the end of a perfect day.

On Wednesday the group boarded their fleet of Mercedes, were taken back to the airport in Dubrovnik, and flew back to England. Dr. Holewiński and several other members, however, stayed in Dubrovnik for three additional days to see this extraordinary medieval walled city; then they in turn returned to England. Dr. Holewiński again stayed overnight at the summer house of the Hallam-Peels before boarding his flight back to the United States.

This was not simply a trip but an adventure. While the sights were breathtaking and all the events memorable, it was the people participating in this trip which made the entire experience special. The members of the group were all incredibly gracious to Dr. Holewiński, and their hospitality and cordiality were an important part of the trip making for warm personal friendships which will last long after this trip is over.

Evolution of Surnames Among the Polish Nobility

Dr. Felix W. v. L. Holewiński, P.N.A.F. President

By the 15th century the development of Poland’s class structure paralleled the standardized use of surnames and reflected the desire of individual members of noble clans to distinguish themselves from the rest of society and also from other individual families within a clan. The Polish clan system, however, made no provision for individual family distinctions within noble clans. The wealthiest Princely family might share the same coat of arms with the poorest landless szlachta, whose economic status was no better than a peasant. As a consequence, the noble families looked toward the development of surnames as one way to reflect their status. Hence during this ontological process, the nobility adopted surnames that reflected and were a public expression of their social status as well as their individual status within their clan. The practice was common to other classes and occupations in Poland during this period. The popular saying of the time was “Tell me your name and I will tell you who you are and what your occupation is.” It accurately reflected Polish society by the end of the 15th century.

Prior to the standardization of surnames, members of the nobility were known by their Christian names along with their clan affiliation. For example, consider the name of Bishop Adalbert Jastrzębiec, in 15th-century Polish chronicles. The name Jastrzębiec was not his surname but his clan designation. There were hundreds of families in the Jastrzębiec clan who owned villages and other land holdings. It therefore became an increasingly common practice for someone of that clan to be identified in terms of these holdings. Hence, a wealthy noble of the Jastrzębiec clan who was heir to the village of Byk was known as the Jastrzębiec from or of Byk. Because in Polish the suffix -cki or -ski were used to express the concept of “of”; the noble became known as Bykowski and so named his children. His brother might be heir of the village of Byszew, therefore, he and his children became Byszewski. The consequence of this social development was the proliferation of surnames within the same clan and the sharing of common coats of arms.

R. A. Kozłowski states in his article “An Introduction to Polish Surnames and a Comment on Polish Heraldry,” The Augustan, XV:2, pp. 91-92, that the suffixes -cki and -ski were used to an equal extent to simply denote coming from a particular place. He stated that many villagers took the name of the estate from which they came, and therefore assumed names similar to or identical to those of noble families. This practice, however, was strongly frowned upon by the nobility, who took extreme measures during these times to ensure that their symbols of socio-economic distinction were preserved exclusively within their class. In one case, for example, a peasant who added the suffix -ski to his name so angered the noble on whose land he lived that the noble compelled the peasant to make a public apology which he had to “bark out” from under a table in the noble’s court. As a consequence of such social proscription non-nobles, in general, did not assume surnames during this early period. As will be seen, it was only later, in particular after the partitions and further after the emancipation of the serfs, that non-nobles started to use the suffixes -cki and -ski to create surnames that were similar or identical to noble surnames.

As a consequence of these practices Znaniecki states that the use of common surnames was usually considered automatic evidence of common ancestry, and the matching of surnames to surnames was common practice through the 18th

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century, even though such matching did not in reality represent actual lineage relationships. Cultural attitudes and myths dictated this practice. There was sometimes confusion as to which clan a particular family belonged to because noble families with the same surname might belong to different clans because of shifting family alliances. In such cases family traditions usually identified the clan. In addition, the acceptance of a particular family into a clan was ultimately determined by the clan itself, which was the final arbiter of which families belonged to the respective clans.

In contrast, there were many instances in which a noble would obtain a new village and change the name of the village based on his own surname. A distinction must, therefore, be made between the family “nest” or village which gave a family its surname, and acquired or inherited villages which took their names from the surname of the owner.

The evolution of noble surnames is further complicated because many villages took their names from common terms such as animals, trees, plants, etc. As a result, many villages had the same name. When a noble adopted the name of their village as their surname, therefore, the result was that families with identical names frequently had different clan allegiances and coats of arms.

Not all surnames of the Polish nobility had their source in the name of their estates. Some developed from nicknames for those nobles. Nicknames such as Kielbasa (sausage), Komar (mosquito), Nos (blackbird), Kot (cat), Trepka (sandal) and Żaba (frog) became the root for the surnames of the family members descended from ancestors common known by a particular nickname.

Other noble surnames were developed from patronymic surnames of a common ancestor, founder of the family. Surnames like Adamowicz, Wieckowicz, Krzysztofowicz, or Tyszkiewicz were adopted directly from the common ancestor. Names like Radziwill and Sanguszko were abbreviated from Radewillowicz and Sangułtowicz. These type of noble surnames were most common in Lithuania.

By 1350 the nobility adopted the practice of adding the name of their clan to that of their family name; hence “Piotr Lubomierski, herbu Śreniawa” was used for Peter of Lubomier of the Śreniawa clan, or “Jan Zamoyski, herbu Jelita” for John of Zamość of the Jelita clan. This form eventually changed into a hyphenated form in which the clan designation was placed first, followed by the surname, to develop such names as Korab-Brzesowski and Pobóg-Malinowski. This custom became so popular it endured until World War II.

Another convention used by the nobility was the practice of placing “z” followed by the name of one’s hereditary estate within one’s name. For example the nobleman Jan Chryzostom z Gosławic Pasek, literally translated, meant Jan Chryzostom Pasek from Gosławice (his estate). This ancient practice was revived by the magnates in the 17th century, since it emphasized their socio-economic status and differentiated them from the great mass of nobles and gentry who continued to simply use the suffix -ski. The addition of a “z” became so popular that many members of the middle aristocracy in the 17th century started to also adopt this convention.

Starting in the 19th century, double hyphenated family names became popular. Among other things reflected adoption of a family of less social status by a family of higher status or lineage relationship in which a maternal line of the family held social status higher than the paternal line. One such surname was that of a Count Skarbik-Krzesztofowicz whose mother supposedly belonged to the count lineage of the Skarbik family.

One of the frequent forms to make surnames more prominent was the addition of letters, returning to previously abandoned orthography. Hence, Dąbski became Dembski and Trąbczyński became Trąbczynski. In addition, the practice of introducing double letters became popular. The earliest form of this practice was most likely the addition of an extra “s” to create surnames such as Kosakowski, Liśkowski, or Ossowski. Adding a second vowel became increasingly in vogue in Lithuania when the Radziwill family added an extra “l.” Other common surname alternations included a double “f” and “t.” Some examples of these include Bialożor (Bialożor), Bilewicz (Bilewicz), Bossaj (Bossaj and Bossaj), Dowgiallo (Dowgiallo), Jundzi (Jundzi), Koziel (Koziel), Warbut (Warbut), Strumilo (Strumilo), Scyty (Scyty), Towlock (Tůtőczko) and Wólowicz (Wółowicz).

The German word von increasingly appeared in Polish noble family surnames in those areas located near Prussian, German, and Austrian territories. In German von served the same purpose as the suffix -ski in Polish, and was a designation of one as a member of the nobility. It was used by Polish families along with their regular surname to emphasize the family’s social status when dealing with German or Prussian society. This was especially true of those noble Polish families that had their roots in ancient German noble families. One such example is that of a particular Leski family which traces its origins to the old Prussian von Ezelicht family who were members of the Teutonic Order but changed allegiances to the King of Poland. Some branches and individual members of this family, as a consequence, started to use von Leski as their surname after the partitions.

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5 Loc. cit.
6 Ibid., p. 18.
8 Ibid., p. 209.
9 Catherine S. Larch, ed., Memoirs of the Polish Baroque: The writings of Jan Chryzostom Pasek, A Squire of the
11 Ibid., p. 20.
12 Ibid., p. 24.
13 Ibid., pp. 24-28.
Among Polish noble families that immigrated to France, the appellation de was used to denote noble lineage. The surnames of Polish nobles there developed into such forms as de Bodlewski, d'Ostrowski, and de Perdżynski.11

As mentioned previously, nicknames were used to develop surnames. In addition, however, such nicknames were also used as parts of surnames. Such nicknames were written before the surname and in more modern times separated from the surname with a dash. From the beginning such a practice served to differentiate the older, more prestigious families from those most recently accepted into the same noble clan, or from those pretending to noble lineage through usurpation of noble status. Such nicknames were frequently identical to or a derivation of the clan name. They included such names as Dünin, Jaksa, Skarbek, Łabęda, and Habdank.12

Later nicknames were taken from a locality identified with a particular branch of a family but later adopted by the entire family of that surname. Such an example is the nickname Duśniak for the Rudomina family.

While nicknames had originally been used to distinguish between families of common surnames with varying coats of arms, the use of nicknames became increasingly popular to differentiate oneself from the “drab multitude of nobility” or even by families without noble status who usurped armorial nicknames to pretend noble status. This is likely the case in such family names as Nałęcz-Ratwiński, Bończa-Rudzienśki and Rogala-Pindelski, none of whom can be found in the old lists of Polish nobility.13

With the end of the Commonwealth and the partition of the Polish Kingdom among the three occupying powers, traditional Polish cultural standards, social conventions and law started to break down, as the partitioning powers imposed their own laws and culture on the Polish population. During this colonization period the Powers, therefore, not only exerted physical control over Poland but “strived to impose moral conformity and their own values on the conquered natives.”14 As part of this process the Powers redefined the legal status of nobility according to their own national standards and laws. As a consequence the whole ancient Polish nobiliary system was thrown out and the Polish nobility required to submit prescribed documents and large monetary payments to confirm their noble status. For the great magnate families, and most of the upper and middle aristocracy, there was no problem. They had the resources and documentation to satisfy these requirements. However, most of the lower strata of the nobility, especially the country gentry and the gray nobility, didn’t have either the financial resources or the required documentation. The result of this was that fully 80% of Polish nobility was declassed. This had a particular impact in the countryside, where many previous rural noble families lost their power and influence and in turn the ability to enforce the old traditional Polish social prerogatives and conventions, among these the proscription of the non-noble assumption of noble names. Therefore, where the assumption of noble names by non-noble occurred only in isolated cases in the past, it now became increasingly prevalent, and was accelerated eventually by the emancipation of the serfs. The long-term overall result was that by the middle of the 19th century the traditional surname system of social differentiation had completely broken down, and it became extremely difficult to determine one’s ancestral class status based solely on one’s name. By then it became necessary to do research into family history and trace the use of specific family surnames to determine ancestral social status.15

Recent Honors to Dr. Robert von Dassanowsky

Dr. Robert von Dassanowsky a Knight of the Order of Vitez

Dr. Robert von Dassanowsky, P.N.A.F. member and Representative for the Central United States, was made a knight of the Order of Vitez in September, 2004 for his work in and support of Central European culture and arts. The Vitez-Rend, as it is called in Hungarian, was created as a hereditary knighthcy order of bravery, the “Heroes Order,” by the Imperial Regent of Hungary Admiral Miklós Horthy von Nagybánya in 1920. It was the first noble decoration created after the collapse of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. In exile during the Communist regime, the Order is today again seated in Budapest. Dr. von Dassanowsky received the Order from Arpad Berecky, the Head of the Chuj (formerly Hungary, now Romania) Branch of the Order, who had been personally knighted by Admiral Horthy. The Order’s Grand Master and Patron is HIRH Archduke Josef-Arpad of Austria-Hungary.

CU-Colorado Springs Faculty Member Named Colorado Professor of the Year

On November 18, 2004, the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education named Dr. Robert von Dassanowsky, associate professor of Languages and Cultures and Visual and Performing Arts, at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, the 2004 Colorado Professor of the Year.

Von Dassanowsky was selected from among nearly 400 top professors in the United States. A member of the university faculty since 1993, von Dassanowsky currently serves as chairman of the university’s Languages and Cultures Department and directs the Film Studies program. His areas of expertise include German and Austrian literature and culture, international cinema history and film theory, and popular culture.

“Robert von Dassanowsky’s teaching abilities are well known to most of us on campus,” CU-Colorado Springs Chancellor Pam Shockley-Zalabak said. “To have his work recognized nationally is both gratifying and warranted.”

Dr. von Dassanowsky said: “I am very happy that my teaching and my research—which are strongly united—are considered worthy of such recognition. One is only as good as the students allow and the institution supports. I am proud to have brought the first CASE award to CU-Colorado Springs
and hope this honor will find many future recipients among our institution’s impressive faculty.”

CASE established the Professors of the Year program in 1981 and the Carnegie Foundation became the co-sponsor a year later. TIAA-CREF, one of America’s leading financial services organizations and higher education’s premier retirement system, became the primary sponsor for the awards ceremony in 2000. Additional support for the program is received from the American Association of Community Colleges and other various higher education associations.

In 2004 there were winners in 45 states and the District of Columbia. CASE assembled two preliminary panels of judges to select finalists. The Carnegie Foundation convened the third and final panel, which selected national and state winners. Dr. von Dassanowsky was selected from faculty members nominated by colleges and universities throughout the country. &

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Polish Constitution of May 3, 1791 Celebration at the Embassy of the Republic of Poland

by Richard P. Poremski, Contributing Editor and Washington, D.C. Correspondent

Washington, D.C.—Poland’s historic pioneering and visionary Constitution of May 3, 1791, was celebrated here at the Embassy of the Republic of Poland, on April 28, 2004. Polish Nobility Association Foundation member Richard P. Poremski was graciously received by Ambassador Przemysław Grudziński as the designated representative of the PNA(F) and its President, Dr. Roger, Kńaz C. Pohubiński. Ambassador Grudziński remarked to the audience that the Constitution changed the political map of Poland and Europe forever, for the democratic betterment of the people. Ambassador Grudziński reminded everyone that we were also about to celebrate “Dzień Polonii” (Poland’s Day) on the “Second of May”—a special day honoring the world-wide Polonia as declared by the Polish Parliament. He warmly thanked the Polish-American community for all its good deeds and support on behalf of Poland and the subsequent strengthening of the Poland-U.S. alliance.

Ambassador Grudziński’s speech touched on a variety of subjects that included: Poland’s imminent entry into the European Union on May 1, 2004; a continued strong Polish engagement in NATO; the strategic importance of Polish military participation in Iraq to assist it in becoming a stable, peaceful and functioning democracy; the strong and unwavering friendship and alliance between Poland and the U.S.; and the pressing need to include Poland in the U.S. Visa Waiver Program (for which he asked active grass roots support from all Polish-Americans). Lastly, the Ambassador declared that a monument will be raised in honor of the great Polish pianist and statesman, Ignacy Jan Paderewski, who had a profound and everlasting impact on Poland and the friendship between Poland and America. The Paderewski statue will initially be installed in the Polish Embassy’s garden until a more suitable and appropriate location is found in Washington, D.C. &
INTERNATIONAL NEWS, NOTES, AND CORRESPONDENCE

Irena Uderska, Associate Editor and London Correspondent

UK—Tony Blair has banned hunting in England and Wales (it is already banned in Scotland). This move has criminalised countless hundreds of thousands of hunt supporters in the UK (including your London correspondent) as well as members of the Royal Family, including Prince Charles, Prince William and Prince Harry. In the meantime across the Channel in France the Duke and Duchess of Brissac have celebrated the glories of the hunt with a St. Hubert's Day Mass at their ancestral Chateau.

The ban is scheduled to come into force February 18, 2005, and plans are being made for hunt supporters to launch a massive programme of civil disobedience in defiance of the Blair Reich. Over 1,000 hunt supporters (including your London correspondent) took part in a rally on the evening of November 18th at the main gates of Windsor Castle. Ever the yellow-bellied coward, Tony Blair avoided the demonstrators by being smuggled into the Castle through a side entrance. Prince Charles has declared that he will hunt to the very last day.

Every King of Poland and Polish Nobleman has been a devotee of the hunt. Polish soldiers did not fight on land, air and sea so that the Blair Reich could carry out Hitler’s animal rights agenda. This ban will also criminalise British soldiers who are now fighting in Iraq, as several British regiments, particularly the Artillery, have their own hunts.

UK—The Constitutional Monarchy Association, headed by Lord Sudeley, has launched a Student Awareness University Campaign “to increase awareness of the value of the Monarchy among students in British Universities.”

UK—From November 1 to 4, 2004 the Earl and Countess of Wessex, aka Prince Edward and Princess Sophie, made an official visit to Poland. Their itinerary included Warsaw and Kraków, where they officially opened the British Days Festival at Kraków City Hall. They also visited the Salt Mine at Wieliczka.

UK—The death was announced on October 30, 2004 of HRH Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, who at age 102 was the oldest ever British Royal. She was born Lady Alice Montague-Douglas-Scott, daughter of the 7th Duke of Buccleuch. She married Prince Henry, Duke of Gloucester, son of King George V, and is the mother of Prince William of Gloucester, who died in a flying accident, and Prince Richard, the present Duke of Gloucester.

MARY POREMSKI

Mary Poremski, 93, mother of PNAF Baltimore and Washington Correspondent Richard Poremski, was born in the Fells Point neighborhood of Baltimore, MD. In 1929 she married Anthony Poremski. They remained married for 74 years until the passing of Anthony in February 2004. Anthony and Mary settled in Fells Point, on South Bond St., and along the way they raised a family of 5 boys and 3 girls, resulting in 20 grandchildren and 23 great-grandchildren.

She was the definitive homemaker and a legendary cook, and an expert at preparing any Polish dish.

“She is among the very last of that great generation of men and women that experienced, survived and triumphed over the earth-shaking events of the Great Depression, during the 1930s, and the earth-shattering event of World War II, during the 1940s,” said son Richard Poremski.

LILLIAN KIM

Lillian Lee Kim, the faithful Anneslie correspondent, died on September 15 at the age of 85. Mrs. Kim’s diminutive size belied a tremendous spirit that made her a valued member of the Anneslie community and a leader in Baltimore’s Chinese-American community as well.

Long-time PNAF Member

Count Sir David Pittman Johnson

Doctor of Philosophy, Grand Cross of the Order Lieutenant for North America, Order of Saint Eugene of Trebizond, 1974-1983
UK—*The Serpent and the Moon* by Princess Michael of Kent has just been published. It deals with the love triangle between King Henri II, Catherine de Medici, and Diane de Poitiers.

* UK—Prince Philip has just written a book *30 Years On and Off the Box Seat* outlining his passion for competition carriage driving.

* UK—The Bishop of Durham has defended the right of Anglican Bishops to live in castles. The Bishop, who lives in Auckland Castle, has pointed to “the deep rooted symbolic values of the Church which are often incarnated in awesome buildings, sculpture and pictures.” He has attacked the forces of commercialism and short-termism.

* UK—The Cervantes Institute, London, has hosted a series of lectures entitled *Women on the Spanish Throne*. The November 9, 2004 talk was called “Queen Sofia: A Story of Realism, Courage and Dedication.”

* UK—Prince Philip led a party of British ex-soldiers to a gathering at Balaklava in the Crimea to commemorate the 150th anniversary of *The Charge of the Light Brigade*. Among the party was the Earl of Cardigan, the descendant of the Commander of the Light Brigade whose charge was immortalized by Tennyson’s poem.

* UK—Princess Anne was the first member of the Royal Family to go fox-hunting since MPs forced through a ban which comes into force in February 2005. The Princess rode out with the Duke of Beaufort’s Hunt. The Dukes of Beaufort are the House of Somerset – the Plantagenet descendants of John of Gaunt.

* UK—Countess Adam Zamoyski, aka the portrait painter Emma Sergeant, has just published a book on last year’s fateful Yuletide encounter between Dottie, Princess Anne’s bull terrier, and one of the Queen’s corgis. It is entitled *Dottie’s Diary: The Curious Incident of a Royal Bull Terrier*.

* UK—Gerald FitzGerald, 8th Duke of Leinster, died at age 90 on December 3, 2004. The Dukes of Leinster are the premier and sole Dukedom, and the premier Marquess and Earl, in the Peerage of Ireland, and Leinster House, which now houses the Dail, is one of their former properties. They have the monkey as their crest and supporter to commemorate the fact that during a fire in Woodstock Castle, Kildare, when John FitzGerald, 6th Baron of Offaly and 1st Earl of Kildare (created 1316) was an infant, his life was saved by the Castle’s tame monkey who broke his chain and carried him to safety.

* UK—The death has been announced of the former British Ambassador to Saudi Arabia, and High Commissioner in India, Sir David Gore-Booth. His father, the late Lord Paul Gore-Booth, was also a diplomat and a Life Peer. Furthermore Sir David was the heir-presumptive to his cousin Sir Josslyn Gore-Booth, the 9th Baronet.

The Gore-Booth ancestral mansion Lissadell in County Sligo was immortalized by W. B. Yeats in his poem “In Memory of Eva Gore-Booth and Con Markievicz.” Constance Markievicz née Gore-Booth was the first woman to be elected to the British Parliament though, as a Sinn Fein MP, she never took her seat. She was married to the Polish nobleman and artist Casimir Markievicz, whose family had an estate at Zywotówka, now in Ukraine.

The marriage took place at the beginning of November 2004 of Don Luis Alfonso de Bourbon, the Duke of Anjou, and Maria Margarita Vargas y Santaella in the Church of Saint Stanislas of Cracow in the Dominican Republic, where the bride's parents have a large property. The bride is a Venezuelan heiress to a multi-million fortune and the descendant of the great Spanish conquistadors, while the groom is the head of the senior branch of the Bourbon family and the great-grandson of both Alfonso XIII and General Franco. The festivities were attended by over 1,500 guests, but noticeable was the absence of any representative of King Juan Carlos or his immediate family, although other members of the Spanish Bourbon such as the Duke of Seville were present.

Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al-Nahyan, the ruler of Abu Dhabi and President of the United Arab Emirates, died at age 86 on November 2, 2004. Sheikh Zayed was a great ruler, a superb statesman, a generous human being, and the principal architect of the UAE. He was also known for his passion for traditional sports and especially enjoyed falconry parties in the mountains in Pakistan.

The *Treasure Houses of Germany Exhibition* is at the Haus der Kunst, Munich, from November 19, 2004 to February 27, 2005. These exhibits come from various Royal and Noble collections belonging to families such as the Counts von und zu Eltz and the Bavarian and Hanoverian Royal Houses.

The Duchess de la Rochefoucauld, née Jeanne de Villiers du Terrage died in Paris on September 23, 2004. By her first marriage to Prince Martin Lubomirski she had a son, Prince Ladislas Lubomirski, and a daughter Isabella, Countess Renaud de Meherenc de Saint Pierre.

The death has been announced of the Canadian officer and ardent Monarchist Colonel Strome Galloway (November 2004). He was a founder of the Monarchist League of Canada and played a leading part in helping to destroy the attempt to reduce the Queen’s importance by transferring her powers to the Governor-General.

Maria Krystyna von Hapsburg, 81, has been granted a special pension by Prime Minister Marek Belka on her return to Żywiec, in Southern Poland, where she now lives in a wing of her family castle. The Mayor of Żywiec and other local officials petitioned the Prime Minister for the pension. The Mayor, Antoni Szagier, is quoted as saying “After all, it is not every town in Poland that has a Hapsburg Princess.”
The Monaco Succession

The 900-year-old enclave of Monaco with its storybook palace looming on a rock above the high-roller casino of Monte Carlo, is in some danger of melting away into France.

Rainier III, the ramrod-straight prince who spent 30 years turning an oddment of history on a speck of barren Riviera coast into a sparkling hideout for the eccentric rich, is 81 and ailing. Nearly everyone defines the principality by its prince. Lucie Rinaldi, a ship chandler at the old port for 40 years, shrugged when asked about a future after Rainier. "We don't know much about what happens up on the Rock. But we know what he has done for Monaco. We will miss him, and whatever does happen next, the place won't be the same."

Prince Hans-Adam of Liechtenstein

There's no denying Liechtenstein's billionaire head of state is outspoken.


A financial wizard, Hans-Adam was just 27 when he was entrusted by his father to run the family's vast fortune, which today is estimated to stand at $2 billion.

He has retained Franz Josef's tradition of inviting the principality's 32,000 subjects up to the castle for refreshments on Liechtenstein national day and is said to often jog barefoot in its surrounding woodland to relax. A one-time ski host to Prince Charles, Hans-Adam is also a keen deep-sea diver and a science fiction and archaeology buff.

Resting Place for the Heart of Louis XVII

The heart of Louis XVII, which was cut from the 10-year-old heir to the French throne after he died in prison, was buried in the Royal Crypt at Saint-Denis on 8 June 2004 near the graves of his parents, Marie-Antoinette and Louis XVI.

CORRECTIONS

In the Spring 2004 issue of White Eagle the "Lady Blanka Rosenstein Foundation" was acknowledged for giving a grant of $2,500 to P.N.A.F. The correct name of the organization is "the Rosenstiel Foundation," of New York, NY. We regret the error.

Also the caption for the cover photograph of Rev. Paul von Lobkowitz, born Prince von Lobkowicz, should have explained that the other persons in the photograph were a Hospice of St. John nurse and a baby admitted to the Hospice with AIDS.
Origin of the Pelikan Clan Shield

The following was prepared from an entry in the classic heraldic reference Herbarz Polski (by Kasper Niesiecki, S. J., Lipsk [Leipzig] edition, 1839-1846) by Leonard J. Suligowski. The blazon or verbal description of the arms below is first given in the authentic heraldic style, followed by a translation from the Polish description by Niesiecki. The right and left sides of a shield are identified from the standpoint of the bearer; i.e., the one holding the shield. His right would be your left and vice versa. The tinctures (colors) in heraldry are as follows: azure = blue; gules = red; sable = black; or = gold; argent = silver; vert = green. In heraldry all charges (pictures) on a shield are already assumed to be facing dexter (right side) unless otherwise specified. In Polish heraldry all animals or birds are assumed to be in their natural coloring unless otherwise specified.

Arms: Gules, a Pelican in her piety, argent. For a crest, three Ostrich plumes proper. Upon a red shield, a pelican in silver vulning [wounding itself to feed its young with its own blood], feeding three of its young. (See Okolski, vol.2, page 418 and Paprocki O herbach [On Coats of Arms] page 673).

The original bearer of this shield stood by his commander with great courage and almost at the cost of his life, on the model of the pelican, which, they say, will lay down its life for its fledglings. Aldrovandus and Rev. Cnapius, however, say that this is a myth about pelicans. Others understand that there are two kinds of pelicans: one that lives on water and feeds on fish, and one that lives on land and feeds on snakes and other poisonous reptiles. On this see: Szentivanus, In Curious. Miscel. dec, 2 p. 1. dissert. 10 folio 10.

In France the families of the Pilarenium Consonorum and Collegium Corporis Christi pride themselves on this coat of arms. Theatrum Urbinum, book 6, page 51 attributes to the city of Lwowicz a coat of arms with two pelicans up against each other with wings spread, piercing their breasts for their young, against a red shield, but the white pelicans and their young are white on a green hill.

From his youth John of the Dominican Order, Archbishop of Uppsala, Sweden, was trained for the yoke of God's laws. When St. Jacek [Hyacinth] came to Poland, John was carried away by a desire for a stricter life, and in Krakow accepted the Habit of the Dominicans from St. Jacek's hands. In that habit John displayed with such uncommon virtue in his behavior that in 1233 St. Jacek sent him to Sweden to har-vest the souls of the people around him. John was received gratefully by everyone there and did a great service to heaven among the people, expanding the Order. He asked Jarler, Archbishop of Uppsala, for permission to found a Dominican monastery in Sigtuna, in which many virtuous people left worldly ways to devote their lives to the service of God. Jan was an example to them and motivated them toward perfection. When word of his virtue spread, he was elevated to the position of Bishop of Albo [Abo?], and then to Archbishop of Uppsala. He was a man not only of deep learning and recommended by his monastic life; he was also a caring shepherd for his flock, valiant in promoting the glory of God and untiring in attending to the Lord's vineyard. In 1291, he traveled to France, wishing to go to Anagni and ask Pope Nicholas IV for an archbishop's pallium. A saintly death befell the Arch-bishop there on September 8th. His body was brought from France to Sweden and laid out with reverence at the Sigtuna monastery, accom-panied by miracles which God worked due to his merits. Among those who wrote of him were: Joannes Vastovius in Vitae Aquilonia, Pruscz in Fortress, the Dominican Chronicles, Joan Mag. book 18; and Historia Got. c. 18 Baron. Vol 12, page 362.

*Translator’s Note—It must be noted here that in the Polish description of this shield, Niesiecki does not indicate any coloring, only what it displays. Further on in this description, it is indicated that families in France use this coat of arms, along with the Polish city's civic arms for the city of Lowicz. Yet the description of this civic shield differs with what was found displayed in two different versions of published Polish civic city shields. The 1960 edition of M. Gumowski's Herby Miast Polski [Coats of Arms of the Cities of Poland] shows the two white Pelicans, not facing each other, but back to back, with three conjoined flowers on one stem between them and no baby fledglings shown. The shield is colored Azure. In the 1994 edition of A. Plewako and J. Wnag's Herbarz Miast Polskich [Armorial of Polish Towns] we find yet another version: the two white pelicans are again back to back with a single stemmed flower between them, feeding their three fledglings while standing on a green field. The shield in this version is also blue.

I have found three other sources where the Pelikan shield coloring is displayed as Gules: red; in S. Gorzyński/J. Koczonowski’s Herby Szlacht Chłockich [Shields of the Polish Nobility]; S. Chorzon’s Tabliczka Odmian Herbowych [Table of Heraldic Variations]; and finally Ostrowski’s Księga Herbowa Rodów Polskich [Book of Clan Arms of Polish Families]. There are undoubtedly other reference sources that show the colors of the Pelikan arms with variations; but in the above reference sources, no one has been able to determine the actual colors of the original arms, or to provide more detailed background history of this shield.

The two cited examples above describing the city of Lowicz’s civic arms are to be accepted as variations of the original shield, and drawn by heraldic artists using their “artistic license” prerogatives. As translator of this shield description, I used the coloring from three different sources, all of which displayed the shield as Red.