



WHITE EAGLE

JOURNAL OF THE POLISH NOBILITY ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION

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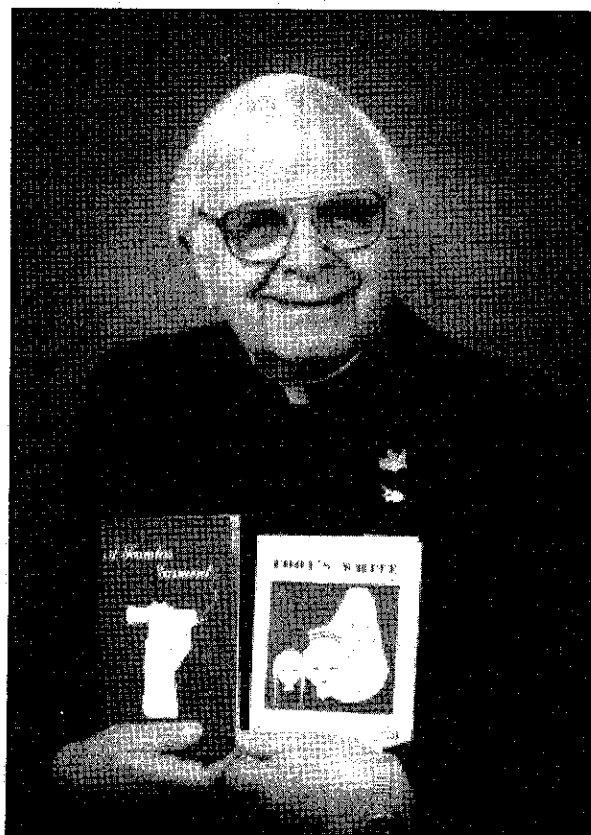
SPRING/SUMMER 1997

Writer, Artist, Movie Actor... Meet Our Chaplain!

by Leonard J. Suligowski, Editor

With this issue we would like to take the opportunity to introduce the membership to one of our trustees—a man of God and of peace who has faced the brutalities of war and its aftermath, but has learned to live and accept the realities of today. With the help of divine inspiration, he has been able to share some of that inspiration in the form of perceptive writings, and through his talent for painting. Through the arts and literature he has provided us with his special insight on how to deal with the realities of today. I write of Monsignor John Abucewicz, (ret.) author, painter and chaplain of the Polish Nobility Association Foundation (since 1976)—who, with all these accomplishments, even found time to be a movie actor, appearing in the film “Sands of Iwo Jima” with John Wayne!

Msgr. John was born of Polish immigrant parents in 1920 in the town of Lowell, Mass. (also the home of Mr. Ed McMahon, famous from Johnny Carson’s “Tonight” show), where he attended St. Stanislaus parochial school. This was followed by his graduation from Lowell High (Ed McMahon graduated a year later) and subsequently his matriculation from Boston College and entry into St. John’s Seminary in Brighton, Mass. Upon ordination in August of 1944, he was assigned to St. John’s Polish parish in Salem, where he served as assistant for four years, at which time he was transferred to St. Hedwig’s parish in East Cambridge. He had been there only eight short months when he was released by Bishop Cushing to serve as chaplain in the U. S. Navy, entering as a Lt. Jr. grade. After twenty-two years of service



Msgr. John A. Abucewicz

(1949-1971) he was separated with the rank of full Commander.

It was while he was in the service, stationed at Camp Pendleton, California with a Marine detachment, that he was asked to take part in the movie “Sands of Iwo Jima.” He played the part, naturally, of a Catholic chaplain, and was seen anointing a wounded Marine. His tour of service took him to both the Korean and Vietnam campaigns.

After his retirement from the Navy he had several options open to him to continue as a man of the cloth. But he stated to Cardinal Law that as long as he could breath and move, he would offer his clerical services wherever he may be

needed, in whatever parish designated, even though he was officially retired. So, for the next twenty-two years he faithfully fulfilled the duties of a “Good Samaritan,” offering his strength and assistance so that others of the cloth would not have to undergo the stresses of clerical life under difficult circumstances. Due to the Archdiocese of Boston’s difficulties with the shortage of priests, Msgr. John was able at last to return to his home parish in Lowell Mass, where he served diligently, and for the 18 years prior to his full retirement he had been designated its pastor.

Now Msgr. John has been able to devote his free time to his hobby, painting. Becoming interested while yet in the Navy, he considers himself a rank amateur; however, in the past 40 years he has painted some 18 original Madonna renderings and over 100 additional paintings. Considering he’s also penned three novels, he has been able to fill his time in a very productive manner.

His involvement in the field of painting came via a quirky introduction by a family he knew while in the Navy. One evening, after dinner, the family members brought out some oil painting accouterments and stated, “Now, we’re all going to paint!” Msgr. John openly admitted that he couldn’t even draw a straight line, but the family merely shrugged it off. After receiving some words of encouragement and some simple tips, he began to paint his simple rendition of a still-life, and found, to his amazement and enjoyment, that it didn’t turn out half bad after all... From that moment on the blood of the masters began to churn and swell within him, and

after many attempts and much perseverance, he became hooked on the medium. Since then at every opportunity he has been producing masterpieces (as it is in the mind of every painter, eyeing his finished work). He has applied the renderings of the Madonna on personal Christmas cards he sends out to his close friends.

In addition to his achievements as a painter, Msgr. John has also had two novels published, *Fool's White* and *A Seamless Garment*. (The photograph on the front page shows the proud author holding these works). The proceeds from the second book were donated to the blind children in Poland and to the "Home of Peace," a girls' orphanage in Jerusalem, staffed by Polish nuns. He recently completed his third, *Cast the First Stone*, the story of Mary Magdalene; it is now in the hands of a literary agent, with very good prospects of being published soon.

As if this weren't enough, Msgr. John also wrote a play, *Revolutionnaire Extraordinaire*, the story of Nicholas Copernicus, back in 1973, commemorating the 500th anniversary of Copernicus. And, finally, he has authored a musical history of the city of Lowell, called *Lowelliana*, covering the Third Industrial Revolution location. Will wonders never cease??

Your editor first made the acquaintance of Msgr. John in 1975, through a strange set of circumstances involving Polish heraldry. After an exchange of letters, a package arrived from Msgr. John, and inside was found a most rare and remarkable item: an original Polish verification of the clan Radwan, issued by the (then) Polish Heraldic Office. The rarity lay in the fact that it was printed, not on paper, but on a "chamois skin," and was still legible from the 19th century! There were some additional notations written in the margin in Russian, which I was able to have translated and returned to Msgr. John. In all my years dealing with mid-European heraldry, I have yet to come upon another type of arms verification such as this one! Msgr. John obtained it from an aunt as a result of a trip to Poland.

GREETINGS

From the Editor's Desk:

We hope all our readers had a pleasant Easter season, and that they now can look forward to another bright summer, filled with all the joyous activities in which the warm summer sun invites us to partake.

With this issue we introduce another Trustee member of the Foundation, who has been with us from the very beginning. I refer to Msgr. John Abucewicz, the Foundation's chaplain, and truly a man of many talents... We continue to receive interesting news from our monarchical contributors overseas, and many new points of interest are included in this issue.

Again, my thanks go out to all who provided invaluable assistance by submitting their local newsworthy input. Now it's back to work preparing for the Fall/Winter issue. Have a most enjoyable summer!

"Aby nam się dobrze działo!"

*All material submitted for publication becomes the property of the Polish Nobility Association and subject to editing for content and available space.

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POLISH NOBILITY ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION

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For genealogical, heraldic and historical purposes, titled members are recorded with their former/hereditary titles.

Since 1976, Msgr. John has been the spiritual guiding light of the Polish Nobility Association Foundation as its chaplain. He has subsequently been honored by Dr. Roger Prince Chyliński-Połubiński with the awards of the Royal

Order of Piast, and the Sovereign Hospitaller Order of St. John. He is also the recipient of the order of *Polonia Restituta*.

As far as Msgr. John is able to recall, he is the only Navy chaplain ever to celebrate Mass underwater. In 1957, while attached to the naval re-training command in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, he was invited by the captain of the submarine, U. S. S. Albacore, for a training cruise at sea. While the sub was running beneath the waves, Mass was being celebrated aboard what was then the fastest nuclear powered boat the Navy had. This submarine is now a museum at Portsmouth.

On a much lighter note, no story would be complete without recalling at least one anecdote from Msgr. John's earlier artistic career in 1960, while he was stationed at the Bethesda Maryland Naval Hospital. It seems a nurse had her watercolors on exhibit, and invited Msgr. John to show some of his works as well. Msgr. John made up some announcements and had sent one to President John Kennedy, knowing full well that the president was a true patron of the arts. Some three days later a letter arrived from the White House, and the contents explained that "The President and Mrs. Kennedy sincerely congratulate you on the occasion of the birth of your baby!"

Well, after the initial shock of the moment wore off, the humor of it all took its effect. During the laughter, a thought crossed Msgr. John's mind. This mail mix-up made him think of the response the White House must have sent to the "other individual," who must have received something to the effect of offering congratulations "on your many works, and hope you have many abstracts." Everyone at the hospital had gotten a kick out of this comedy of errors and will no doubt long remember it—maybe even the poor White House mailroom aide who is perhaps mulling over this

faux pas to this day, and quite possibly wondering why he is still in the mailroom, with no apparent promotion in sight, undoubtedly moaning "Where did I go wrong???" ☞

From Nobility of The Polish Commonwealth

LEGAL STATUS OF THE VARIOUS CLASSES

The nobles were the ruling class with the exclusive right to enjoy full citizenship. Nobility was hereditary in the male line, and an escutcheon was an outward sign of it. The power to ennoble resided originally in the King, but after the end of the 16th century the approval of the Diet was required. As the class consciousness of the nobility grew, attempts were made to restrict admission to the caste. Naturalization of foreign nobles, after 1641, similarly became a matter over which the Diet had sole control. In the 16th century a new conception, that of a scartabellate, developed, whereby the newly ennobled persons enjoyed certain privileges. Only their progeny in the third generation came into possession of full rights of citizenship. This was the only gradation in the ranks of the nobility, who guarded jealously against the rise in station of anyone by reason of hereditary title. By the act of 1638 no noble could accept or use a title which had not been registered in the acts of the Union of Lublin in 1569. The Polish Kings were prohibited from giving titles to Poles but were free to bestow them upon foreigners. Orders were not allowed in Poland. In violation of the law, however, the first order was established in 1705, during the period of political disintegration.

The following were some of the special privileges and immunities enjoyed by the nobility exclusively. They had the right to acquire and own land in the country as well as real estate in the cities, with all the wealth below the surface. The property of the nobles was exempt from confiscation without due process of law. Only to the nobility was the door of the more exalted temporal and spiritual offices open. They were exempt from taxation, making only such contributions as they voluntarily imposed upon themselves, with the single exception of compulsory military duty in case of war. A noble was answerable only to his peers.

THE CHURCH

The Church in early Poland was not only the most influential social institu-

tion, it exercised considerable control over the administration of the state as well. The Church was, in actual fact, a measure of the progress and unity of Poland's early development. It created the schools, encouraged the fine arts, and became a close friend of the King, since it supported his rule as being God's will. It was the leader and moulder, without necessarily being the ruler, of the mind, thought, and development of everyone in early Poland, King, noble, or peasant.

Though the Church dominated the early part of Poland's development, the nobility began to monopolize Poland's cultural development as early as the 12th and 13th centuries. The Church's influence was still powerful, although now the administration and spread of culture was in the hands of the nobles. The nobles, however, became more interested in gaining the power to rule, especially over their own domains. Thus began a steady encroachment on the powers of the King. The King's rule over the state disintegrated as each noble began to exercise more and more authority over his own land. Yet a fusion of religious sentiment and pious hope seemingly justified this structure at this time. It was expressed in the rewriting of an earlier chronicle which reflected accurately the emerging Polish traditional spirit. The lesson, if we can call it such, was: as Bolesław the Brave, one of Poland's earlier Kings, slew St. Stanisław, cut up the body, and scattered his remains, so God has divided Poland, in order that each Prince could reign over a section. And, as the body of St. Stanisław was put together by God, so also will the Kingdom be united.

The position of the central authority and power of the King was continually getting weaker, especially in regard to maintaining the defense of the state. Realizing this, the King of Poland joined Lithuania in an alliance in the late 14th century. The union proved so successful that it was broadened, and within a century a Commonwealth was established. Meantime, the gentry was still getting more and more powers at the expense of the King, until finally in 1573 they gained what proved to be their ultimate power, the right to elect the King. The King continued to reign, but no longer did he rule.

ELECTED KINGS

With the extinction of the illustrious and beloved dynasty of the Jagiellons a constitutional form was established of which the rudiments had already begun to exist. Poland became in fact, and indeed called itself, a Commonwealth, headed by a king elected for life. Nonetheless, despite the full parliamentary democracy established, because of his power to dispose of high offices and large revenues from the royal possessions, the king had great political power and influence on state affairs.

Meanwhile the form of election had to be settled. Under the influence of Jan Zamoyski, known as the tribune of the common gentry, the principle was laid down that the king was to be elected by all the nobility and gentry without exception, voting in person, at electoral congresses known as *election viritum*. But in reality usually the views of the high officers of state, i. e., the senators, were decisive, as their lead was followed by the gentry. But this form of election was not satisfactory, for it enabled the politically undeveloped gentry living nearest to Warsaw to have a very powerful influence. Moreover, in all subsequent elections the dislike of *absolutum dominium*, in other words of strong government, was decisive. This explains why the Habsburgs never gained the crown of Poland, though they always put forward candidates, for they were regarded as representatives of reaction and oppressors of liberty.

BELATED RENAISSANCE AND DOWNFALL OF POLAND

The long reign (1764-1795) of the last elected King of Poland, Stanisław Augustus Poniatowski, saw the unfortunately belated internal revival of the nation, and the tragic partitioning and disappearance of the State.

[This is an excerpt from the book *Nobility of the Polish Commonwealth*, published by the Polish Nobility Association Foundation. For more information on how to obtain a copy of this book, see the box on page 8.]

New Educational Program

by Dr. Roger Chyliński-Połubiński

**NEW EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM
EXPECTED TO BENEFIT
THOUSANDS OF POLONIA —PNAF
Journal *White Eagle* Library
Reference Service**

Dear Members:

We are undertaking a new and exciting educational program under the auspices of the Polish Nobility Association Foundation membership.

For many years it has been our desire and goal to assist members of our world-wide Polonia in identifying whether or not their family surname is affiliated with a Heraldic Clan Coat of Arms. With the improved Journal *White Eagle* and the recent publication of the booklet *Nobility of the Polish Commonwealth* (\$14.95 including shipping and handling), we believe we now have an opportunity to better assist members of Polonia in the U. S., Canada, Mexico, Eastern and Western Europe, New Zealand and Australia.

We have added the following libraries to the PNAF Journal *White Eagle* subscription list.

COUNTRIES: Total 21

USA, Library of Congress
Australia, National Library of Australia
Belgium, Ministry of National Education
Bulgaria, Committee of Culture-St. Cyril
and St. Methodius

Canada, National Library of Canada
Denmark, Royal Library
Finland, University of Helsinki-Library
France, Bibliotheque de l'Arsenal
Germany, Deutsche Bibliothek
Vatican, The Papal and The Vatican
Apostolic Libraries

Italy, Biblioteca Nazionale Vittorio
Emanuele III

Liechtenstein, Liechtensteinische
Landesbibliothek

Malta, National Library of Malta
Netherlands, Koninklijke Bibliotheek
New Zealand, National Library of New
Zealand

Norway, University of Oslo-Library
Poland, Biblioteka Narodowa
Scotland, National Library of Scotland
South Africa, South Africa Library
Sweden, Royal Library
Switzerland, Swiss National Library

STATE AND TERRITORIES, PUBLIC
LIBRARY & AGENCIES: Total 53

Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California,

Colorado, Alabama, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming, American Samoa, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands

PROVINCIAL-CANADA Total 12

Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Northwest Territories, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Saskatchewan, Yukon

TOTAL 86 LIBRARIES ADDED TO
SUBSCRIPTION MAILING LIST.

Journals are also mailed to Cambodia, South Africa, Monaco and Saudi Arabia.

Sincerely,

Dr. Roger Chyliński-Połubiński

Baroness von Dassanowsky Honored

Baroness Elfriede von Dassanowsky, internationally renowned culture and arts figure, will be the 1997 recipient of the UNESCO Mozart Medal, "for her efforts in world peace through music." The Director of UNESCO in Paris has announced that the prize will be presented to her at the United Nations in New York. The Baroness celebrated the 50th anniversary of her arts career in 1996 with honors including personal congratulations from HM Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother and HH Diana, Princess of Wales. President and Mrs. Clinton, HSH Prince Hans Adam II of Liechtenstein, and HH Archduke Otto von Habsburg also conveyed well wishes to Baroness Dassanowsky, whose family has been associated with the Austrian Imperial House for 300 years.



As a young protegee of Franz Liszt's pupil, concert pianist Emil von Sauer, she rejected the Nazi regime and their offer of film stardom, and became instrumental in the rebuilding of arts institutions in both Austria and West Germany after the war.

A European opera star and actress, Baroness Dassanowsky is also one of the few female studio founders and administrators in cinema history. She was a star vocal trainer in Hollywood and has gained wide acclaim for her cultural exchange efforts.

February 2, 1996 was named "Elfriede von Dassanowsky Day" in California by the California State Senate, and the Baroness was also honored by the Mayor of Vienna and by the City of Los Angeles in 1996.

"Pope John Paul Cultural Center" Proposed

by Leonard A. Suligowski

"With the exception of the Vatican, there is nowhere people can fully experience the impact which the Papacy has had on the Church, on history, and on cultures worldwide," as stated by Adam Cardinal Maida, archbishop of Detroit.

To help people comprehend the nature of the Papacy, Cardinal Maida has conceived a unique facility now being planned for construction in Washington, D. C. Named for the person who currently occupies the chair of St. Peter, the Pope John Paul II Cultural Center is envisioned by its originator as "a gathering point for the reflection on and discussion of the cultural and sociological implications of papal teaching and ministry."

The Cultural Center, modeled in part after the libraries of U. S. presidents, will be situated on a 14-acre site adjacent to the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. It will include: 1) a museum that will enable visitors to appreciate the historical significance of Pope John Paul II and other popes; 2) a library where students and researchers can probe theological, philosophical and moral dimensions of contemporary issues; 3) an intercultural forum for discussion among world leaders and scholars regarding the cultural and ethical significance of papal teaching; and 4) a setting for ecumenical debate and discussion.

The Center is designed as a series of three pavilions, the Papal museum and library, a great hall, and intercultural forum, enclosing a courtyard inspired by the Vatican Gardens. It will be open to the public, as is the nearby National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, which draws hundreds of thousands of visitors yearly. At least six endowed chairs will be established, each one focusing on a different area of study that is close to the heart of His Holiness. It is anticipated that these chairs will represent various cultural heritages, including Polish, Italian, Korean, Hispanic, Irish and Jewish. Expectations are that the scholars invited to occupy these chairs will engage in scholarly research on Christian culture from their respective discipline's perspectives and

that the results of their efforts will be published. "It is hoped that their thinking and writing will have a significant intellectual impact on our cultures and societies today," the Cardinal said. The library and museum will hold artifacts and displays that will help visitors understand and appreciate the life and teaching of His Holiness, and the great hall will be the site of receptions, concerts, lectures, and art exhibits from all corners of the world and many cultures.

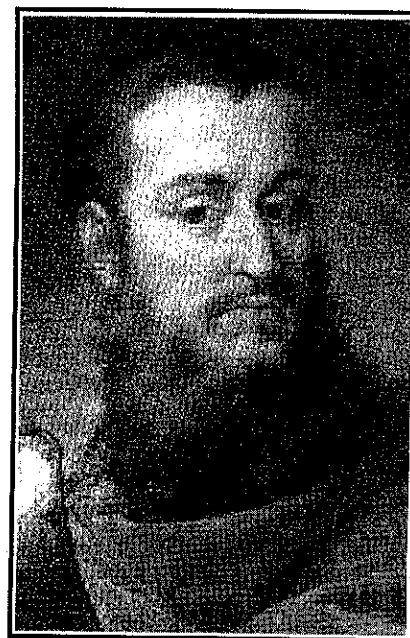
Among the items already a part of the museum's collection are: 1) original manuscripts of books and other works by and about Pope John Paul II; 2) personal effects of His Holiness, including his fountain pen, biretta, white cassock, zucchetto and red shoes; 3) original portraits of His Holiness personally autographed by the Holy Father; 4) more than 100 photographs depicting the Holy Father's public and private moments, as well as some showing Karol Wojtyła as a young man and newly ordained priest, and 5) hundreds of commemorative coins and stamps issued in honor of His Holiness by governments around the world.

Fundraising is now underway to raise at least \$30 million for construction. An additional \$30 million is needed to endow the Center's operation. Taking a leadership role in raising funds for the center are the Catholic Church's 600 Polish-American parishes. A preliminary appeal is now being conducted in the 200 Polish parishes of New York, New Jersey, and New England, in an effort to help fund a Polish Heritage chair at the Center. The Most Rev. Alfred J. Markiewicz, newly-appointed bishop of Kalamazoo, heads this phase of fundraising.

"Although the Cultural Center is by no means a Polish center," said Bishop Markiewicz, "a number of Polish fraternal organizations expressed an interest in being among the first to participate in this program. And it is only natural to begin with the Polish community, given the special affection we Poles have for His Holiness, John Paul II."

All check contributions can be made out to "Pope John Paul Cultural Center Campaign," and forwarded to: Adam Cardinal Maida, 1234 Washington Blvd., Detroit MI 48226-1825. And you could mention that you read of this wonderful undertaking in the Polish Nobility Association Foundation's Journal, the *White Eagle*, Spring/Summer 1997. ☚

Portrait of King Władysław Jagiełło



Above is a portrait of King Władysław Jagiełło (Lithuanian name Jogaila) from *Portrety Królów Polskich* by Marcelli Bacciarelli. Jagiełło (1348-1434), the son of Olgiard, was the Grand Duke of Lithuania 1377-1401. He became King of Poland in 1386 when, on the basis of the Treaty of Krewo, he accepted Christianity and married Jadwiga, Queen of Poland; in 1387 he effected the conversion of Lithuania to Christianity. In 1401 he handed rule of Lithuania over to Witold but retained supreme authority for himself. In 1410 he defeated the Teutonic Knights at Grunwald (see article, page 12). In 1413 he brought about the Union of Horodło. He fought for his sons Władysław and Kazimierz's right to succeed to the throne and toward this goal issued numerous grants to the nobility, even when it limited the power of the king. ☚

INTERNATIONAL NEWS, NOTES, AND CORRESPONDENCE

From the December, 1996 Issue of *Monarchy*

[*Monarchy is the official publication of the Monarchist League, BM, London, WC1N 3XX, United Kingdom. The Polish Nobility Association Foundation welcomes the news of their activities.*]

Koruna Česká

Bedřich Karel writes.....the group "Koruna Česká" (Czech crown) was founded in 1900 after the collapse of the totalitarian Communist system. It is a royalist movement with a program aimed at establishing the Czech state as a constitutional monarchy. Constitutional monarchy is one of the two variations of the existing parliamentary democracies in western Europe, of which the Czech Kingdom, Koruna Česká, sets out to rehabilitate a sensible, cultural and regional patriotism. Although it is a traditionalist movement rooted in history, it is not a movement of the past. On the contrary, in a Europe devastated by republican socialism, monarchy is a movement of the future. For further information, write to: Koruna Česká, Italská 37, 120 00 Praha 2, Czech Republic.

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Poland Honors the Duke of Kent

This past October 17th, the Polish ambassador in London, Ryszard Stemplowski, in the presence of the ex-president of Poland-in-exile, Mr. Kaczorowski, invested H.R.H. the Duke of Kent with the Grand Cross of the Order of Merit on behalf of President Kwaśniewski. The investiture followed the unveiling by the Duke of his portrait, painted by Barbara Kaczmarowska Hamilton, at the Polish Hearth Club in Kensington. Baron Orland Machnikowski and Karl Routledge Wilson attended on behalf of the Monarchist League. The occasion was attended by more than 200 people, and raised 4000 pounds for the charity "Children in Crisis".

The event prompted the publication of an article in the *U. K. Times* which reminded readers that in 1939, General Sikorski mooted the idea of the then Duke of Kent's becoming king of Poland, both to emphasize the nation's independence and integrity in the face of German threats, and also to strengthen

links with Britain. The article concluded by stating that some Poles regard his son, the present Duke, as the inheritor of this plan. (See Fall/Winter issue for article by Baron Machnikowski).

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Plans to promote Monarchist League/CMA

Plans are being made to network with other organizations in the Los Angeles area with similar or overlapping interests to gain support and publicity for the league. Barbara Zampelli and Megan Evans have been selected to be league representatives on the British advisory board. November was the target month to determine whether this board has approved their membership, future information on the outcome will be published at a later date. Mrs. Zampelli will be recruiting with the British American Chamber of Commerce, Daughters of the British Empire, and other organizations of which she is a member. Megan Evan will also make contacts with and disseminate information to the British Isles Family History Group, the Welsh Interest Group, the National Welsh American Foundation, the Daughters of the British Empire, and numerous other local organizations of which she is a member. Contact has been or will be made with local consul generals of foreign countries which are or have been monarchies. So far, contact has been made with the Austrian, South African and British Consulates. The branch has established a library with donations from members. More donations are welcomed. The branch also

has listed items available for sale from league headquarters in London for members (badges, ties, books and other articles). They also have assembled lists of British royal patrons and their societies, monthly British engagement, birthday and anniversary lists for member's interest.

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Eastern States News

Interest has been expressed in forming new Monarchist League branches in Washington, D. C., and Virginia, and revitalizing the branch in New York. Members interested in convening information meetings in these or other areas in the Eastern region are urged to contact Dr. Gunn-Walberg (814) 342-0224 (phone or fax). The good doctor also served as the aide-de-camp to H.M. King Kigeli V of Rwanda on his visit to the Villa Anneslie, hosted by President of the Polish Nobility Association Foundation, Dr. (Prince) Roger Chylinski-Polubinski this past fall.

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The European Crown: The International Journal of the Royal Houses of Europe

Pavlovsk Press is offering a unique new publication dedicated exclusively to European royalty, *The European Crown*, to be published bi-monthly.

For further information and order form, address all inquiries to: Pavlovsk Press, the European Crown/Subscription Dept. 103 Bristol Road East, Unit 202, Mississauga, Ontario, Canada L4Z 3P4.

*

I.C.O.C. Publishes Update

The long-awaited update of the I.C.O.C. (International Commission of Chivalry) has been published. After a lengthy period of spotty activity, the group, which began as a committee of a genealogical group in Europe, has addressed a number of touchy issues, including the schism in St. Lazarus and the challenge to the Lippe house orders.

St. Lazarus (the Military and Hospitaller Order of St. Lazarus of Jerusalem) has suffered a schism for more than 10 years with many jurisdictions, led by the American Grand priory, abandoning the then Grand Master, Don Francisco Enrique de Borbon y de Borbon, and

PODZIĘKOWANIE



Your comforting expressions of sympathy are deeply appreciated.

From the family of:

**SUSAN MARIA
Z RODZINY PANI KSIĘŻNEJ
CHYLIŃSKI-POLUBIŃSKI**

August, 1917 — April 14, 1957

Members' Contributions

We would like to acknowledge the following individuals' support for the Polish Nobility Association Foundation activities.

CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED October 29, 1996 – April 8, 1997

Henry J. Berezowski	15.00
Dr. R. Chylinski-Polubinski	694.00
Stanley A. Ciesielski	25.00
Robert J. Gruchala	15.00
Krystyna Gutt	25.00
Edward Rach	50.00
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Ann Yastine	15.00
Christopher Brennan-Zolnierkiewicz	70.00
James P. Dorovich	95.00

Name Search Service

As a service to those who have reason to believe in the possible origination of their family from the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth as nobility, titled or untitled, the Polish Nobility Association Foundation offers a Name Search Service through the extensive archive records maintained by the Foundation's Director of Heraldry.

Searches are based on the spelling or spellings provided by the applicant. The fee charged is for each name searched.

Applicants are requested to provide the most accurate original spelling of the name searched, plus whatever geographical origination data is known. Upon completion of the search, the Foundation provides a written response indicating the results of the name search. In instances where more than one clan coat of arms is identified, the Foundation may recommend further research by the individual or make available a list of genealogists for the applicant to contact. The Foundation in no way makes any representations as to the reliability of the genealogical services provided.

Other Services of the Polish Nobility Association Foundation

- ◆ Semi-annual Journal *White Eagle*, with membership
- ◆ Lapel Pins \$5.00
- ◆ Heraldic Diploma \$25.00 ☞

Edition of Dlugosz Planned

IM Publications in Great Britain has announced plans to publish an abridged English translation of *The Annals of Jan Dlugosz*, a history of Poland frequently cited by heraldry experts such as Niesiecki. This edition, ISBN 1-901019-00-4, was to run 640 pages (240 x 170 mm.), with some 50 pages of contemporary maps and illustrations. It was to be published in late 1996 at an anticipated price of £60, so it may already be available, although information on this was not available as we went to press.

Those interested in learning more should contact: IM Publications, 6 Charlton Mill, Charlton, Chichester, West Sussex PO18 0HY, UK, or call +44 (0) 1243-811334; E-mail can be sent to subs@impub.demon.co.uk, or visit their Web site at <http://www.impub.co.uk>. ☞

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(Annual Dues, January through December)

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Polish Nobility Association Foundation
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choosing the Duke of Brissac of France as their Grand Master. The two divisions of the order are commonly referred to as "the Malta Obedience" and "the Paris Obedience."

The I.C.O.C. has made the practical observation that the Order is in schism and notes both current Grand Masters. It is our understanding that most St. Lazarus members in S.O.S.S. are affiliated with the Malta Obedience, so named as it is internationally administered from Malta. Also noted is the "family feud" amongst the heirs of the late, much-admired Prince Ernst August of Lippe, who was in fact a member of the I.C.O.C. The argument is between his two sons, the eldest having been conceived prior to his parents' marriage; many consider this eldest son, Friedrich Wilhelm, the heir. The real situation, we are told, is who will have the right to claim some German properties formerly held by the East German government.

*

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*

Offer of Braille Version

Finally, as a special service for visually impaired readers, now, by courtesy of a Monarchist member, the facility to transcribe articles into Braille is available. Anyone seeking to avail himself of this kind offer should contact headquar-

ters, specifying the articles to be transcribed, and stating whether they are required on Manila or Braille. This service is free, but anyone using it is asked to supply the chosen material or cover its cost. Please contact the Monarchist League at the address shown above.

*

From the Order of St. Stanislas Newsletter

Sovereign No More...

The Grand Master of the Order of St. Stanislas, responding to the concerns of purists and traditionalists, has approved the change of the name of the Order to the Order of St. Stanislas, deleting the sometimes controversial word "sovereign", which is only used in the chivalric community by the Sovereign Military Order of Malta (S.M.O.M.), which has papal recognition. The feeling was that use of the word implies a head of the Order that is, or descends from, a person who is sovereign in his or her own right, and that the Order concerned has sovereign territory. The issue of use of the word was discussed in the editorial of the last issue of the St. Stanislas Newsletter. Reaction to the article ran roughly 2-1 in favor of eliminating the word if it would enhance the stature of the order in the eyes of the international chivalric community.

*

The formal colonial power members of the Order have pointed out a problem encountered by some of the membership who are new to the chivalric world: that the use of the term "sir," signifying the rank of Knight, is a misnomer. The commonly accepted protocol is that this appellation is reserved for individuals personally knighted by Queen Elizabeth II, the British monarch, into one of the royal or state Orders of which she is Grand Master. Otherwise, the accepted protocol is to use the French term "*CHEVALIER*," abbreviated as *Chev*. On the other hand, there does not seem to be the same concern for the female term *dame*, which is universally used, perhaps because the root of the word is French. Some individuals personally knighted, or who have otherwise acquired membership in the St. John Order started by King Peter II of Yugoslavia, have persisted in using "sir," largely causing confusion or the suggestion that they hold an English knight-

hood. The more discreet do not use it, preferring the postnominal, which indicates the order and the country. [From the Newsletter of the Order of St. Stanislas, Sept. 1996 issue.]

Letter to the Editor

Thank you very much for your letter with the latest issue of your journal *White Eagle*.

I wish you also the best of luck in the New Year 1997 and much success in your creditable work in the matter of royalism!

Bedřich Karel
Vice Chairman, Koruna Česká

Recent Publication

The Polish Nobility Association Foundation, an international not-for-profit foundation headquartered in Baltimore, Maryland, takes pleasure in announcing the release of its publication *Nobility of the Polish Commonwealth* (ISBN 0-9583484-1-3). This long-awaited work is now being made available to the public. The Polish Nobility Association Foundation has long provided aid for individuals seeking assistance related to heraldic research, with limited genealogy information available dealing with the old noble families of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth.

Within its handsome covers are topics concerning the origin of the Polish nobility, from the time of the Piasts to the present. There are several articles translated from such eminent authors as Niesiecki and Konarski, with an in-depth explanation on the origin of Polish coats of arms, titles and their validity, as well as articles covering the translation of key words found in many Polish reference sources and the simple understanding of the Polish language and its intricate usage. Finally, there are pages of maps and photographs to pique your interest.

The booklet, containing 48 pages, is available by direct mail from the Polish Nobility Association Foundation for \$12.95 plus \$2.00 postage and handling. Interested individuals and librarians may inquire at:

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Foundation
c/o Villa Anneslie
529 Dunkirk Rd.
Anneslie, MD 21212-2014 USA

Polish Heraldry: Zaremba

Excerpt from Herbarz Polski, by Kasper Niesiecki, S. J., Lipsk [Leipzig] edition, 1839-1846, translated by Leonard J. Suligowski, illustration by Adam Jonca. For each coat of arms 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 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.

Blazon of the Zaremba coat-of-arms

Arms: per fess embattled, murray and argent. A demi lion rampant issuant sable, langued gules. In base three diamonds 2 and 1 garnished or. For a crest: out of a ducal coronet a lion as in the arms.*

On a brown background, there is an incomplete or half lion, black in color, with its tongue hanging out, the forepaws visible so that the left is slightly above the right, and the tail upturned; the lion is leaping to the right from the top of a white wall with four battlements. Set into this wall are three stones of gold, or, rather, garnished in gold, displayed as two alongside each other, and one below. Upon a crowned helmet is a similar styled lion. This is how the arms were described by Paprocki in his work *Gniazdo*, pp. 801 and 1176, and in *O herbach* on p. 457, by Okolski in Vol. 3, p. 319, in *Klejnoty*, p. 90, and by Bielski on p. 90. Paprocki says the lion faces left on the shield and on the helmet. Okolski says the lion faces the right side and that there are four stones on the wall, whereas Paprocki says only three. As to the ori-

gins of this clan sign, Paprocki, citing Długosz, says only that it was brought to Poland from Germany during the reign of Bolesław Wry-mouth, [1102-1138]. Okolski understands rather that it is from Bohemia, where families can still be found who bear arms with a lion and call themselves Zaremba; and he gives an earlier time for the arms' arrival in Poland, asserting on the basis of some manuscript that among the twelve palatines who ruled Poland in pagan times there was a Zaremba with these arms.



Zaremba (Zaręba) Arms

Bearers of These Arms

<i>Bielakowski</i>	<i>Jabtonowski</i>
<i>Bielawski</i>	<i>Jaraczewski</i>
<i>Boxycki</i>	<i>Jastrzębski</i>
<i>Bulakowski</i>	<i>Noskowski</i>
<i>Celiński</i>	<i>Rudziński</i>
<i>Cerekwicz</i>	<i>Skrzyński</i>
<i>Cielecki</i>	<i>Suchorzewski</i>
<i>Drzewoszewski</i>	<i>Tymieniecki</i>
<i>Ginet</i>	<i>Zajczkowski</i>
<i>Gorzewski</i>	<i>Zaremba</i>
<i>Grabowski</i>	

Kuropatnicki and Małachowski also include the family of Gimel as using this clan sign.

The Zaremba family, of Zaremba arms, in Kalisz province, thus named from their arms or from the properties that comprised their inherited estates, signed their names with various distinctions: Zaremba's from Komorów, Tuliszków, Grabów, etc., but most often

from Kalinowa in Sieradz district, near Sieradz, as you will see below.

[Editor's Note: A very long account follows of numerous individuals who were or may have been members of the Zaremba clan. While fascinating, the passage is too long to repeat here in its entirety, so we have omitted several pages to concentrate on members of the clan who lived after 1600. Anyone wanting a copy of the complete text should send the Editor a request with a self-addressed, stamped envelope.]

Jędrzej and Jan were brothers and heirs to Kamień; the former was prefect of Grabów, the latter of Stawiszyn. Bielski writes of them on page 601 that they were wronged by the inhabitants of Wurms [Germany] and wanted to take their revenge by force and with the sword, but due to a letter from the Emperor, the King of Poland settled the dispute. Of these two, Jędrzej married Bernardyna Mielcz (*Acta Castr. Callis. [Records of the Kalisz Citadel]*, 1575), and he is mentioned in the Charters of 1567 (*Konstytucje*, p. 146) as supposedly marrying a second wife, Dembińska, the daughter of the Krakow castellan. Jan, for his part, married Załczewska, daughter of Fulko, but was killed in a duel.

Marcin Zaremba, prefect of Grabów, served as a Sejm delegate in 1622 (according to *Const.*, p. 8) and 1629, from which post he became a deputy to the fiscal tribunal of Radom (*Const.*, p. 12) in 1633 (*Const.*, p. 35). He died in 1635. The inscription on his tomb in Warsaw states: "When in public and in private he had adorned his youth with knowledge, his character with virtues, prudence with a knowledge of things and languages, he disappointed public expectations by dying too soon" (see Starowski, "*Monumentum*"). Marcin was married his whole life to Barbara Mińska, daughter of royal vice-chancellor Stanisław Miński. Her sister Dorota was wed to Jan Tęczyński, Kraków palatine. Marcin and Barbara had a daughter Dorota, who married Jan Mączyński, heir to Mączniki, Rogaszyce and Piekary. They also had two sons, Stanisław and Marcin.

Stanisław became the bishop of Kiev in 1648, according to *Porządek Elekcji [Election Protocol]*, p. 20, and the abbot of Sulejów. From his youth he sought

*Translator's note: *murray*, dark brown or sanguin, sometimes referred to with the Latin word *brunatre* or Polish *brunatny*. The illustration incorrectly shows the tincture as red.

fame in the military, and having raised a company at his own expense, he fought with it against the Turkish emperor Osman in the battle of Chocim. He also fought courageously in Prussia against the Swedish king Gustavus. As a reward for his services he received from the king of Poland the prefecture of Grabów. Soon afterward Stanisław chose a spiritual life over politics and a military career, and handed the prefecture of Grabów over to his brother Marcin. He then took charge of the bishopric of Kiev and undertook to root out schism in the Ruthenian territories, assembling apostolic missionaries suitable for such work; but rebellion and the Cossack war confounded his holy plans. His brother Marcin wed Urszula Grzybowska, daughter of the castellan of Lublin and prefect of Warsaw, and they had a son, Stanisław.

Jakób Zaremba, dean of the *collegium* at Kamieniec, died in our monastery in Lwów in 1660.

Stanisław Zaremba began his career as a district scribe, later became Sandomierz district judge, a delegate to the 1662 Sejm, and finally deputy for the

district of Rawa (according to the *Const.*, p. 40). In 1666 Stanisław was commissioner of the confederate provinces during the rebellion against King Jan Kazimierz, and he made and signed the peace treaty (see Kochowski's *Climac.* 3, vol. 5). In 1676 he was chosen from the Sejm as executor of King Jan Kazimierz's will (according to *Const.*, p. 26). He was also the co-founder of our Krosno *collegium*, for which he not only built the Church of the Immaculate Conception, to thank God for preserving our fatherland when it was surrounded by enemies during King Kazimierz's reign, but also provided additional grants to the *collegium*, as is proved by a 1667 charter (*Konstytucja*, 1667, p.40. Having thus endeared himself to God, he went to his reward in 1685. Whether Maryanna Kamińska, daughter of the Płock castellan, was the wife of this Stanisław, I do not know.

One female Zaremba married Gliński, and later Achacy Pisarski. Another wed a Chrzastowski of Zadara clan, yet another married Stanisław Bolestraszycki.

Jakób Zaremba was a city scribe of

Sieradz and deputy to the Crown Tribunal in 1728. A Jan Zaremba married Jadwiga Gnatowska and had a daughter Anna and a son Elias by her.

Seweryn Zaremba of Podlasie province signed off on the election of King Jan III. Another Jan Zaremba was a city scribe of Rzeszyca. On top of the Bernardine Fathers' church in Kalisz I saw Zaremba [arms] in marble with the letters "m.z." It must mean that one of the Zaremba's, perhaps Marcin, contributed significantly to the restoration of the church. There is a church of Franciscans in the city of Grabów, beautifully built of stone, which I understand this to be a structure of the Zaremba's.

[Notes added to *Niesiecki's* text by J. N. Bobrowicz, editor of the 19th-century Lipsk edition of *Niesiecki's armorial*]: In the year 1778, Franciszek Zaremba was Piotrków master of the hunt. — Wojciech Zaremba, was seneschal of Radom. — Leon was vice-prefect of Mielnik (Mielnica). — In 1788 Seweryn Zaremba was the treasurer of Sieradz. — Jan Zaremba was the castellan of Spicimierz — Krasicki. ☞

Society of Members of the Dunin Family

by Jan Dunin-Borkowski

THE HOUSE OF DUNIN

The Family Dunin is among the oldest in Poland. However historians are not unanimous as to its origin. Some, after the famous 15th cent. chronicler Długosz, consider its roots to be in Denmark, from where its protoplast, Palatine Piotr Włast, arrived with a great treasure at the court of King Bolesław Krzywousty. Others, while not denying the existence of the legendary Palatine Piotr, claim he descended from the ancient Łabędzie/Łabędzice Family (The Swans), already settled in Silesia for a long time, still others search for other ethymological or heraldic links for the name used by the various branches of the Family (Dunin, Donin, Dunyn, Domin) as well as for the crest, Łabędź (the Swan).

Leaving aside the problem of their origin, it is an undisputed fact that in 13th-14th centuries the Łabędzie—descendants of the Palatine Piotr—formed a powerful family grouping with many branches, settled on a wide area, in par-

ticular in Silesia, the Kraków and Sandomierz provinces and in Kujawy. At approximately the same time the Dunin



Łabędź Arms

version of the family name and the argent or white swan on red field—with certain variations—was uniformly accepted as

the distinguishing crest and was depicted on their coat of arms.

On the other hand, different branches of the of the Family began to use as differencing element surnames deriving from the names of their principal seats, e. g. Dunin-Sulgostowscy (from Sulgostów), Dunin-Borkowscy (from Borkowice), Dunin-Koziczcy (from Kozice), Dunin-Modliszewscy (from Modliszewice) etc.; others preserved as hereditary surname the nickname given to their prominent ancestor, e. g. Dunin-Wasowicz (from wasy, moustache), Dunin-Szpot or Szpotański (from szpotawy, club-footed), Dunin-Ślepś (from ślepy, blind).

Through the centuries, in connection with political, social and economic changes in the country and in methods of conducting the affairs of state, the Family gradually lost its leading role and importance. However, through 1,000 years of Polish history, the Dunins have never ceased to serve their country by their work and necessary blood, always faith-

ful to their ancestral motto: "*Omnia ad honorem.*"

SOCIETY OF MEMBERS OF DUNIN FAMILY

Keeping of close family bonds was a tradition of the Dunin Family, passed from generation to generation throughout the centuries. Fr. Niesiecki, a prominent heraldic specialist, wrote in his fundamental work *Herbarz Polski* that the Dunin Family consists of "... a long line of men and women distinguished in Poland by their eminent deeds and famous for their close family bonds, each member of the House being obliged to contribute one *złoty* to the Family treasury so that assistance could be given to anyone of them in need."

The task of reviving the traditional family bonds was recently undertaken by the late Teofil Tadeusz Dunin-Kozicki. Together with the representative of some other Dunin families—among whom a known historian and collector, the late Jerzy Dunin-Borkowski of Krośniewice, should specially be mentioned—Teofil Kozicki organized in 1992 the First Post-War Dunin Reunion in Lublin. About 30 members took part in this first rally, representing the various branches of the Family: Borkowski, Horkawicz, Kozicki, Mieczynski, Sulgostowski, Szpot, Szpotański, Wąsowicz, Wilczyński, Zuchowski and Dunin *per se* (without addition).

The Meeting decided on the formation of a society, to be registered as "Society of Members of the Dunin Family". It also defined the aims of the Society and elected its first governing bodies: the Chapter, headed by a Chancellor, the Control Board and the Financial (Funds) Committee. The initiator and organizer of the first rally and its Senior member, Teofil Dunin-Kozicki, was elected first Chancellor of the Dunin Family Society.

During the next reunions (Kazimierz 1994, Zakopane and Warszawa 1995) the Society has been consolidated. After the sudden death of its Founder-Chancellor, Jan Kanty Dunin-Borkowski was duly elected as his successor. A Statute was elaborated in accordance with the requirements of the "Law of Societies" for "societies of general character" and adopted by the members. It was approved by the appropriate Regional Court in Warszawa and the Society was formally registered on 12 September 1995.

The Statute of the Society provides i.a. that:

1) The Society can operate on the whole territory of Poland and in such other countries in which members of the Dunin Family have established permanent residence;

2) Membership: Three types of membership are foreseen: ordinary, honorary and sponsoring.

One may become an **ordinary member** on completion of an application form and proving to the Verification Commission his/her descent on the spear or distaff side from a Dunin family. The **honorary** or **membership** may be conferred respectively to a person (not necessarily of Dunin origin) in recognition of outstanding achievements for the Family (e.g. scientific or research work) or for financial supporting the program and statutory activities of the Society;

3) The activity of the Society is based on the voluntary work of its members; the necessary funds are formed by membership fees, other contributions and donations or may derive from profits from statutory undertakings;

4) The aims of the Society are defined as follows:

- to preserve historical records and traces of the Dunins i.a. through publications and other historical works;
- to commemorate the distinguished members of the Dunin Family by publications, works of art, and memoirs;
- to care for the forgotten or neglected Dunin graves;
- to develop family ties and sense of family unity through organizing reunions, conferences and social gatherings;
- to give moral support and material assistance to members in need;
- to collect funds necessary for carrying out statutory programs and objectives.

5) For the realization of the above aims three topical Commissions have been established, namely Historical, Editorial, and Verification, working under the general guidance of the elected Chapter, the Control Board and the Financial Committee.

The composition of the Managing Bodies of the Society is at present (1996) as follows:

THE CHAPTER:

Chancellor:

Jan Kanty Dunin-Borkowski

ul. Orłowskiego 63
04-830 Warszawa

Vice-chancellor:

Janusz Dunin-Sulgostowski
al. Jerozolimskie 51 m. 1
00-697 Warszawa

Members:

Barbara Dunin-Mieczynska
ul. Blinówka 8 m. 3
34-500 Zakopane

Dorota Dunin-Wąsowicz
ul. Pożaryskiego 15 m. 19
04-735 Warszawa

Piotr Dunin-Wąsowicz
ul. Orzechowa 1
05-200 Wołomin

Control Board:

Chairman: vacant

Jarosław Dunin (deceased)
ul. Franciszkańska 2
05-805 Otrębusy

Financial Committee:

Chairman: Mariusz Dunin-Szpotański
ul. Bartoszewicza 3 m. 8
00-337 Warszawa

Purser: Bohdan Dunin-Wilczyński
ul. Górczewska 15 m. 61
01-186 Warszawa

Chairpersons of topical commissions:


Historical: Paweł Kosina
ul. Głowackiego 5 m. 2
38-500 Sanok

Editorial: Barbara Dunin-Mieczynska
ul. Blinówka 8 m. 3
34-500 Zakopane

Verification: Janusz Dunin-Sulgostowski
al. Jerozolimskie 51 m. 1
00-697 Warszawa

Persons interested in joining the Society should contact the Chairman of the Verification Commission for necessary forms and further information.

Membership fee for 1997 is 25.- *złoty*. New members should also pay a single "registration fee" 25.- *złoty*. Due to the higher price of mail, fee for members from abroad is equivalent to US \$15.

[From a message posted publicly on 8 May 1997 to the Internet listserv "GenPol" by Jan Dunin-Borkowski, E-mail dubork@albit.geo.uw.edu.pl] 

A Brief History of Lithuania

by Leonard A. Suligowski

Tracing the history of Lithuania, we must go back as far as the glacial period, during which an extension of the east European plain began to be formed. It became dotted with lakes and rivers at first. The highest elevation reached about 300 meters (approx. 960 feet). Most of the Baltic shoreline came to be separated from the open sea by a long, narrow strip of sand dunes called the Courland Spit, and the body of water that formed behind it became the Courland Lagoon. Klaipėda (Memel), Lithuania's only commercial port, is situated where the lagoon meets the open sea. Lithuania's chief river is the Neman (or Nemunas).

The Lithuanians, along with the Latvians, are the survivors of the Baltic family of peoples who lived in the region in ancient times and traded with the Romans, primarily in the product of amber. Lithuania emerged as a united nation under Grand Duke Mindaugas, who ruled from 1236 to 1263. His successors gradually expanded their rule into what is now Belarus and Ukraine, founding an empire that extended east as far as the Dnieper River basin and south almost to the shores of the Black Sea.

In 1386, Grand Duke Jagiello (Jogaila) married Jadwiga of Poland, accepted Latin Christianity, and assumed the Polish crown as King Władysław II. Under the Jagiellonian dynasty Poland and Lithuania established a connection that lasted more than four centuries. In 1410 they won a major victory over the Teutonic Knights at the Battle of Grunwald (Tannenberg), halting the Knights' eastward expansion and thereby hastening their decline. In 1569 Poland-Lithuania, confronted in the east by the growing power of Muscovy, strengthened the ties between the two peoples by forming the Union of Lublin, which created a new federation with an elective monarchy. Under the reorganized Commonwealth, however, Lithuania lost its separate institutions and gradually was submerged into Poland as a province.

In the 18th century the Polish Kingdom itself was divided among Russia, Prussia and Austria by the partitions of 1772, 1793, and 1797. As a result of this last partition and the post-Napoleonic settlement at the Congress of Vienna (1815), most of Lithuania was absorbed by Russia, and the area along the Baltic coast was given to Prussia. Following

the Russian Revolution of 1905, a resurgence of national feeling developed among the Lithuania population, and after the collapse of the Russian Empire Lithuania regained its independence on February 18, 1918. It began its life as a democracy, but after a coup in 1926 authoritarian rule was set up under Antanas Smetona, who remained President until Lithuania was forcibly annexed by the U.S.S.R. in 1940.

Finally, in September, 1991, after Boris Yeltsin's reformers had gained the upper hand in Moscow, the U.S.S.R. recognized the independence of Lithuania. As with most of the former Soviet Republics, Lithuania has experienced difficulty in making the transition from authoritarianism to democracy, and from a socialist to a free-market economy. The voters complained of unemployment, high prices, and fuel shortages, and when new elections were held in October and November 1992, the Democratic Labor (former Communist) Party defeated Sajudis. Its leader, Algirdas Brazauskas, replaced Landsbergis as president in February, 1993. The last remaining Russian troops were withdrawn from Lithuania. ☞

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