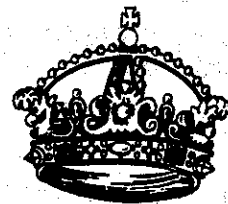




WHITE EAGLE

JOURNAL OF THE POLISH NOBILITY ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION

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The Princess Margarita of Romania Foundation

by Patricia Klecanda, U. S. Director, The Princess Margarita of Romania Foundation

H.R.H. Princess

Margarita is the eldest daughter of King Michael and Queen Anne of Romania, and is recognized as the Crown Princess. She graduated in Sociology, Political Science and International Law at the University of Edinburgh, Scotland. After graduating, Princess Margarita worked in a number of British universities, specializing in medical sociology. Her projects included designing improvements in the aftercare of cancer patients, participating in a five-year international research program on determining factors behind alcohol abuse on behalf of the World Health Organization, as well as participating in developing policy recommendations and preventative pilot projects.

In 1983 she joined the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Rome, as a member of the World Food Day project team, working on the public awareness campaign concerning agricultural programs, nutrition, and poverty alleviation. Three years later she joined the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). In the autumn of 1989 Princess Margarita left IFAD to devote herself entirely to Romania and working with her father King Michael.



Crown Princess Margarita and her husband, Radu Duda.

Shortly thereafter, King Michael and Princess Margarita established the Princess Margarita of Romania Foundation, which was created specifically to respond to the needs expressed by Romanians throughout Romania.

The 18th of January, 1990, was the most important day of her life, when on that day for the first time Princess Margarita stepped onto the soil of her

country. Since that first trip the Princess has been returning to Romania on a regular basis, and has seen firsthand the tragedy that many of us are aware of: children abandoned in orphanages, devastated villages, poverty, and, yes, AIDS—the legacy of decades of ruthless dictatorship and neglect.

Yet, as the challenges grow each day, and she cannot meet them alone, the Princess is asking for your help. So much can be achieved with the support of all who can open their hearts to the suffering in Romania, and take an active part in the country's efforts to rise above the past and prepare the way for the future. It will be the children of today who make a better world for tomorrow, provided they are able to live in a healthy and free society.

Donations to assist the Princess in her vital work may be sent to:

The Princess Margarita of Romania
Foundation
149 5th Avenue, Suite 832
New York NY 10010

E-mail communications may be sent to the following address:
PKlecanda@compuserve.com ☺

This special commemorative issue of WHITE EAGLE appears in recognition of the 20th anniversary of the founding of the POLISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA. The Polish Nobility Association Foundation congratulates the Society on its 20th Annual Conference, to be held in Chicago, Illinois on October 16-18, 1998, at which our own editor, Leonard J. Suligowski, will speak (see page 12 for more information).

GREETINGS

From the Editor's Desk:

This past June 3rd, a reception was held in honor of Crown Princess Margarita of Romania and her husband, Mr. Radu Duda. This was the event of the summer season, held at the Polish Nobility Association Foundation's historic international headquarters, the Villa Anneslie. The Crown Princess had graciously accepted the invitation of President Dr. Roger, Prince Chyliński-Połubiński to meet with residents of Maryland, Washington, D. C., Ohio, and Wisconsin, including His Eminence Cardinal William H. Keeler, representing the Maryland Catholic diocese. We are able to include some photographs of the event, which appear on pages 6-8. The reception was scheduled for the benefit of the Princess's Foundation, the goals of which are described in the article on page one. There was a strong turnout, and Princess Margarita was able to meet and speak with many of the guests.

"Aby nam się dobrze działo!"

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Adopted by the Board of Directors in a Simple Majority Vote, Winter 1997

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Membership includes receipt of the semi-annual Journal *White Eagle*. The Foundation also provides lapel pins for \$5.00, Heraldic Diplomas for \$25.00, a name search service at \$25.00 per name, and copies of the 48-page book *Nobility of the Polish Commonwealth* for \$14.95. To make a donation, or for more information, please contact us at:

Polish Nobility Association Foundation
Villa Anneslie
529 Dunkirk Rd.
Anneslie, MD 21212-2014 USA.

An Interview with Princess Margarita



H.R.H. Crown Princess Margarita, photographed exclusively for the P.N.A.F. by Piotr Rogóyski, P. O. Box 135, PL — 00-967, Warsaw, Poland. All rights reserved.

EXCLUSIVE TO THE WHITE EAGLE

An Exclusive Interview with H.R.H. the Crown Princess Margarita of Romania with Dr. Felix W. G. v. L. Holewinski, P.N.A.F. Trustee, at the Baltimore International College's Hopkins Inn, Baltimore, MD. on June 3, 1998. Dr. Holewinski is Superintendent of Schools in Hilbert, Wisconsin.

Dr. Holewinski: Given your experiences since 1990 when you first went to Romania, what would you describe as the most critical need of the young people in Romania today?

Crown Princess: HOPE!

Dr. Holewinski: Hope?

Crown Princess: Yes!

Dr. Holewinski: Would you care to elaborate?

Crown Princess: Yes, I think it is the critical need of the young people which are the future of the country. They have proven it because they are very pure and are not hung up about the past and they really want to go forward. It's the possibility that they can actually get a good education and they can really do some-

thing for their country and live a normal life in which they can contribute as responsible, creative and constructive members of society. That is what the Foundation is helping to do, helping to give the Romanian people the possibility to create their own futures through education, or for the children who have been damaged, and are living in institutions, to actually live a normal life, so that when they come out of these institutions, they CAN have a future.

Dr. Holewinski: This is sort of a follow-up question. Did you have much of an opportunity to talk to the young people?

Crown Princess: Oh, yes! They were the people I talked to at the very beginning, because they were the people who were in the streets, demonstrating against the dictatorship, and a lot of their companions had actually died for this, and I think that's something that we forget about and we shouldn't, because we have a responsibility to these people.

Dr. Holewinski: And what did they tell you?

Crown Princess: They said they want their history back, as well as a future. That without their past, they can't create the future. They would like to know what I represent and what I know about the country, and how they can do something for their country, but also, they want to come to terms with what has been going on in Romania and the violence in the late 1989 early 1990's and the dictatorship in the last generation. My heart went out to them and I'm trying to do as much as I can for them and talk to them all the time, in fact, and take their advice on many issues, all issues actually. It's no use going in there with your own ideas because they end up being preconceptions and it's very important that you talk to people and say, "Well what is

your experience and what is, in your opinion, the best thing to do?"

Dr. Holewinski: You mentioned a sense of history, to my mind, a people's sense of history really determines at least, the character of its people, their perception of history. Now you've talked about the young people and what the older generation have experienced, what is their perception of history?

Crown Princess: What is extraordinary... well, I can only speak about Romania, maybe not so much in general concepts, but I think what happens is that many grandparents teach a lot to their grandchildren, and that is what is happening in Romania, that the grandparents understood what happened before the dictatorship, under the monarchy, under the democracy of Romania, and they kept that. It became an oral history because, of course, it was forbidden to write it down. The younger generation that are the future of our country are the ones who have learned from their grandparents and are trying to take the traditions forward into the modern world. I think that link is essential.

Dr. Holewinski: Turning to your Foundation, as I went through the way the Foundation is set up, it appears to be very well organized. It has a very well defined infrastructure both inside and outside of Romania. Does your Foundation work in cooperation with other religious and charitable institutions?

Crown Princess: Definitely! Absolutely! Because the whole idea of that is, we work on this to build teamwork and partnerships, because under the dictatorship, under communism, that was completely destroyed, you know. People couldn't relate to one another because the other person might be a spy or might try to destroy them, and people were all individualized, and the whole idea is to build back trust between people. We always work in partnership with other organizations.

Dr. Holewinski: What are some of these organizations?

Crown Princess: Oh, we work with UNITER, which is a theatrical union, a free theatrical union for actors, directors and theater workers. We've worked with N.G.O.'s, "Non-Governmental Organizations," such as "Equilibre" in Romania, which is a French organization. In

our AIDS children's program we are working with an organization called "HELP AIDS UK", which is a United Kingdom Organization. We are also working with the World Health Organization and with local N.G.O.'s including the Romanian chapter of "Save the Children" in Bucharest, the Soros foundation and the National TB program. We are also working with a priest's street children's project. So there are all sorts of projects.

Dr. Holewinski: You have a very impressive resume and I can imagine you have acquired a good deal of experience in a number of organizations.

Crown Princess: In the United Nations....

Dr. Holewinski: Yes, in the United Nations. What has been the role of your father in the Foundation?

Crown Princess: Yes, well, he founded the Foundation. He inspired me and also gave credibility to what we are doing. He gave his name to our humanitarian activities and his wisdom has been extremely important and his knowledge of Romania, his feelings for this country. When people tell you a lot of things and you wonder sometimes where the truth is, he always interprets them, explains them to me, and what it really means, to help me go forward and keep a sense of duty. He is a great democrat as well, and his sense of democracy has been a tremendous inspiration in everything we have been doing.

Dr. Holewinski: I'm somewhat familiar with Romanian history because of my academic background, and I'm interested in eastern European history. Most Americans however, do not have a good background in eastern Europe. It's unfortunate that many of them view eastern Europe as on the "periphery". If you talk to the American public and get them involved and interested in the needs of Romania, what are the main ideas that you would like to emphasize to them?

Crown Princess: A lot of people here came from Europe and they still have a sense of their own roots in Europe and we are a part of that, there is a common ground. That's one thing. The other is that there is a huge sympathy among the American people for Romania, especially for the children, and there's that feeling of great generosity which the American people have which has already been pouring out for Romania. I would like to

keep that contact going. Some people might say we're at the periphery, but a lot of people have been involved with Romania and I would like to keep that involvement going and say that "**We are doing something!**", that the Romanian people are doing something to respond to that generosity from America.

Dr. Holewinski: Looking at the former communist regime and what it did, not just to the people, but to the environment, it was a disaster. I remember reading a number of items and seeing some specials, and I must say, it was horrendous. The work that you're involved in, in the area of the environment and ecology therefore, particularly interest me. I came across something called "The Ecologists' Youth for Romania." Could you tell me a little more about that?

Crown Princess: We've not been able to do much in ecology because we are a small Foundation. We're doing demonstration projects and to do something in ecology is just so enormous. In particular, Germany has taken on that role and so all we can do is something which will have some effect is the education of the young people. A lot of us just got together to plant trees and just have education in schools about ecology. But, it is not really an area that we've a great deal of expertise in, so it's a matter of contributing to any efforts that have been made, especially in the area of education which is the most important thing.

Dr. Holewinski: Has the U.N. done anything in the area of environment?

Crown Princess: I'm sure that the UNEP has been involved. The problem is vast. The late Jacques Cousteau was involved, and there is a Minister of the environment. There is so much to be done in Romania.

Dr. Holewinski: Does your Foundation have any new initiatives? I know I read through quite an impressive list of activities. Are there any newer goals?

Crown Princess: Yes, a Child Development Institute, that's its "working title." We are drawing together all of our projects to do with health and the social welfare of children under a broad umbrella which would treat the whole child, something like a holistic approach. To treat the whole child and be part of the new effort for child development throughout the country. We are going to have a seminar on needs and the partnerships we can build with all sorts of or-

ganizations, with non-governmental as well as governmental, to be a catalyst for all the efforts that are going on now for the children in Romania. That's our newest initiative. It's going to take us some time to set it up.

Dr. Holewinski: What has been the history of your Foundation in the United States? I know you started up....

Crown Princess: In 1991.

Dr. Holewinski: Yes, in 1991.

Crown Princess: And, we filed a 501C3, which of course is for tax exempt foundations.

Dr. Holewinski: Could you tell me more about the American part of the Foundation? I know that Patricia Klecanda, the U.S. Executive Director was involved. How did you get started?

Crown Princess: Yes, we set it up in Romania and Switzerland and I came over here to raise funds for some of our programs. The people I talked with said that you really have to have a Foundation. So, I gathered a group of friends together over dinner and they all agreed to set up the Board. Six days later, we had our 501C3, and that was it!

Dr. Holewinski: That was quick!

Crown Princess: Yes, very quick. It was amazing! The Board was convened and then we had someone to be a representative here and start the fund raising drive and public relations...not public relations... that's wrong, a kind of public awareness campaign, and we acquired Patricia about a year ago, and it has really made inroads into the NGO community. She's fantastic!

Dr. Holewinski: She's very energetic!

Crown Princess: With her background, she has fantastic contacts. She has had many years traveling across eastern Europe so she really has a very good knowledge of that area and knows not to apply any cultural imperialism, not to bring the American model, but to work with the American people that we come into contact with. Applying the best that there is here, into the culture and social situation in Romania.

Dr. Holewinski: Having worked with a number of charitable organizations that have had initiatives in eastern Europe, many of these have run into difficulty and obstacles in getting help where it's needed. Have you experienced problems of getting things to where they're needed most in Romania?

Crown Princess: No. I must say really, we haven't but, maybe it's because we have been slower than other organizations. I have been very aware of this problem, so we took a lot of time investigating the needs, really making sure we were meeting the right needs, and then building a team. Let's say we rebuild a hospital or a village health dispensary, or bring in an educational program in a particular school or area, we were very careful to build the team and to build trust between us and them, to be very strict with what follows, making sure they reach their goals and have an evaluation of the project.

Dr. Holewinski: One of the problems I've seen, it may be a little unique in Romania, is in a number of eastern European countries like Hungary, the Czech Republic and Poland, the old communist party, after losing power, simply changed its name and became socialist and many of its members in the bureaucracy stayed in power. And I'm hearing from many of my friends who have visited eastern Europe recently that there is a very serious problem, these people have become entrenched, and as a result, intransigent. Has there been any of that in Romania?

Crown Princess: Oh, yes! We lost seven years after the so-called revolution with the neo-communists or crypto-communists or what ever you want to call them, who stayed in power, and so, obviously, you can't get rid of everybody. It's a matter of slowly changing perceptions and mentalities and using as much as possible the younger people who have been trained in a different way and have different aspirations for the future of their country. For obviously, this is a developmental process, it's a transition, let's say, which is going to go on for a little longer, and the important thing is to build on the creativity and positive aspects that exist in the country and go forward that way and, it's not easy, obviously, not at all.

Dr. Holewinski: In a number of comments you made, you've talked about the importance of "Spirituality." Would you care to elaborate?

Crown Princess: Yes, I will. My father... what kept him alive in all those years of despair under the dictatorship when he was in exile and couldn't do anything, was his Faith. It kept him hoping for a better future and I think also, being Orthodox—and I'm not saying that any other religion doesn't have that—but

being Orthodox, as my father, there is a great spiritual dimension in the Romanians which has carried them through, much as Poland's Catholic Church has done.

Really, it is essential. Without that, you have nothing. You can't be materialistic and it is very much the opposing philosophy to communism, materialism and determinism. I've learned that by being trusting, sometimes you do things you'd never dare to do, if you were basing it on logic and a material outlook. I think this is the salvation of these countries. This is real Freedom, allowing the spiritual process to happen and not block it in any way. I think this is essential. Man is spiritual after all.

Dr. Holewinski: You mentioned the "Lost Boys." There was an article that appeared in the *New York Times Sunday Magazine* that wrote of the horrendous poverty and deplorable conditions of the youth of Romania, most of them boys.

Crown Princess: Yes, the street children...

Dr. Holewinski: Street children?

Crown Princess: Yes....

Dr. Holewinski: Hundreds of thousands! How do you get a handle on something like this?

Crown Princess: There aren't hundreds of thousands of street children, there are hundreds of thousands in institutions, and a portion of those are on the street or will go into the streets, and this is one of the biggest problems facing my country, and the government has started reforms which are as large as any economic reforms which they are doing at the same time. It's not going to be easy. I think the problem of children in the streets is a world-wide problem actually. In Asia, South America, and you have them here. I think all the solutions that have been applied, or tried to be applied, are never really going to solve the whole problem. This is a problem that's a lot bigger in Romania. I was talking with pediatricians who are dealing with glue sniffing, the drugs and the children who were born and who will die on the streets. How do you get a handle on this? I think none of us, none of us, have a solution to that. I don't have a magical solution. All we can do is the best we can and use the best theories that exist and the best experiences. I think it's very important to draw together the experiences of all these different countries and try to apply them

to the different cultural specifics for societies to solve this problem. I'm not saying it's going to be easy, not at all. All you can do, in a way, is to alleviate that problem, because it is so huge. I just don't have an instant solution.

Dr. Holewinski: I'm an educator, I've been in education for 30 years...

Crown Princess: Well now, that's certainly one solution....

Dr. Holewinski: Yes, education...

Crown Princess: You know, there are many types of education related to this problem, you name it, but it's a huge problem.

Dr. Holewinski: What is the status of education in Romania?

Crown Princess: It's pretty good at the University level and it's certainly being opened up to the West. But it's been a two-way process. I think many of the people who have come to us have learned a lot, too. Education has been good, and I think certainly since the fall of communism, in about the last ten years. The real potential of education will take flight. I have great confidence in it, actually.

Dr. Holewinski: Do you have any last comments you would like to make, that you would like to share with the readers concerning the Foundation?

Crown Princess: Yes. We are dealing with a specific country, but I think some of the problems we are touching on are universal. We just mentioned the street children and maybe the problem of education after the dictatorship, and I would just like to appeal to the solidarity of people. To the idea of teams and of trying to build a better future for our children worldwide. We're part of that effort, and I hope if the support that we saw this evening, all the people coming out, that they came to the dinner we had at the Polish Nobility Association, it was a great help and a great hope for us in the future. I hope anyone who feels like being involved will become involved and support us, because we also have some very practical programs that are bringing solutions in a very practical way—apart from the general concept.

Dr. Holewinski: Thank you very much, I really appreciated this opportunity to talk with you, and speaking for Dr. Roger, Prince Chyliński-Pożubiński, President of the Polish Nobility Association Foundation and the Baltimore International College, as well as the member-

[concluded on page 10]

H.R.H. Crown Princess Margarita of Romania Honored by the P.N.A.F. Recently in Baltimore

On June 3, 1998, a reception was hosted by the Polish Nobility Association Foundation (P.N.A.F.) and the Baltimore International College (B.I.C.). The receiving line was made up by H.R.H. Crown Princess Margarita; Dr. Felix v. L. Holewinski of Wisconsin; Patricia Klecanda, U.S. Director of the Princess Margarita of Romania Foundation, New York; Dr. Roger, Prince Chyliński-Połubiński, President, P.N.A.F. and B.I.C.; Adele Pratt Simpler, P.N.A.F. Coordinator of Special Events; and Rev. Dr. Kenneth Gunn-Walberg, Eastern States Delegate for the Monarchist League. Also assisting were Leonard J. Suligowski, P.N.A.F. Director of Heraldry, College of Heraldry, and Peter France, who announced the guests as they arrived.

The reception was held on the grounds of, and later inside, the Villa Anneslie, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is both the International headquarters of the P.N.A.F. (with membership in over 26 countries) and main residence of Dr. Roger, Prince Chyliński-Połubiński.

Guests were unanimous in their compliments of H.R.H. Princess Margarita, and expressed enthusiasm for the causes supported by the Princess Margarita of Romania Foundation. The many notables from Maryland and several states included: Cardinal William H. Keeler, representing the Maryland Catholic Diocese; Edward Rach, Ohio; Marjorie Harris; Judge George Helinski; Stanley Ciesielski, President of Polish Heritage of Maryland; Jeff Berger and guest, Delaware; Mrs. Kay Gunn-Walberg of Pennsylvania and daughter Susan; Gary Walsh and Guest, Washington, D.C.; Brig. Gen. and Mrs. L. Robert Castorr; Brig. Gen. and Mrs. G. M. Hall Worthington of the Polish Order of St. Stanislas in Maryland, as well as many other notable guests. Entertainment was provided by the Peabody Conservatory String Quartet, with refreshments supplied by the Mt. Vernon Hotel.

The reception also received media coverage, including articles in the *Baltimore Sun* and *Towson Times*.

The following information is being provided for those individuals wishing to make a personal contribution or who would like more information regarding the Foundation and its activities by communicating directly to:

Princess Margarita of Romania
Foundation
149 5th Avenue, Suite 832
New York, NY 10010
Tele: 212-353-1535
E-mail: PKlecanda@compuserve.com ☞



Arriving at the reception are, from left to right: H.R.H. Crown Princess Margarita; Patricia Klecanda, U. S. Director, Princess Margarita Foundation; Daniel J. Dewberry, Anneslie - St. James; and Rev. Dr. K. Gunn-Walberg, Eastern States Delegate, Monarchist League



The receiving line, left to right: Dr. K. Gunn-Walberg, representing the Monarchist League; Adele Pratt-Simpler, P.N.A.F. Special Events Coordinator; Dr. Roger, Prince Chyliński-Połubiński, Host; Patricia Klecanda; H.R.H. Crown Princess Margarita; Dr. F. v. L. Holewinski, P.N.A.F. Trustee.



Above left, left to right: Dr. Roger, Prince Chyliński-Potubiński; His Eminence Cardinal William F. Keeler; H.R.H. Crown Princess Margarita.

Directly above, left to right: Brig. Gen. M. Hall Worthington, Order of St. Stanislas; H.R.H. Crown Princess Margarita; Mrs. Castorr; and Brig. Gen. Robert Castorr, Order of St. Stanislas. Photographed exclusively for the P.N.A.F. by Piotr Rogóyski of Warsaw.

At left: (seated, left to right) H.R.H. Princess Margarita; Mr. and Mrs. Stanislaw Rembski; (standing) Stanley Ciesielski, President, Polish Heritage of Maryland. Photographed exclusively for the P.N.A.F. by Piotr Rogóyski of Warsaw.

Below left: H.R.H. Princess Margarita; Mr. and Mrs. Stanislaw Rembski. Mr. Rembski is an internationally noted portrait artist.

Below: the Peabody Conservatory String Quartet plays at the reception on the grounds of the Villa Anneslie.





Among the guests enjoying the reception were, left to right: Carolyn Fields; Lillian Lee Kim; Dr. R. Rodney Fields; Mr. and Mrs. Charlest Petr II.



Left to right: Mrs. Carol Ann Stranovsky; Richard Poremski; Judge George J. Helinski. Photographed exclusively for the P.N.A.F. by Piotr Rogóyski of Warsaw.

Order of St. Stanislas Activities

by Cmdr. Chev. Edward Rach, KTJ, CSt.S., 8326 West Prospect Rd., Hillsboro OH 45133

On Thursday, April 30, 1998, a major investiture of approximately 15 Knights into the Order of St. Stanislas occurred in St. Paul's Chapel on the grounds of Columbia University in New York City. Count Julius Nowina-Sokolnicki, Prince Grad Master of the Order, with his wife, the Countess Avril, officiated at the ceremony, followed by a reception and dinner.

Since this writer could not attend, the Count, with his entourage from England, were gracious enough to honor me separately on Saturday as Commander, and appointed me to the position of Acting Prior for the state of Ohio. I can only surmise that a certain good fellow by the name of H. E., Bg. Gen., Chev. Edmund Allen Voyer, GCTJ, GCSt.S., KCOSJ had something of a hand in it.

The most interesting item comes last. In a separate ceremony, with most of the senior members of the Order of St. Stanislas attending, the Grand Master, Count Sokolnicki, awarded to His Imperial Highness, Ali Reza Pahlavi, a scion of the Pahlavi family foundation, the Grand Cross with Star of the Order of St. Stanislas, with the title of Grand Cross Companion, for his participation in innumerable charitable works. Everyone was pleased to have such an illustrious personage added to the rolls of the Order, and we all wish him well. ☺



The illustrious personages attending the investiture included the following: in the front row, from left to right, next to the gentleman is the wife of Count Julius Nowina-Sokolnicki, the Countess Avril; His Imperial Highness, Ali Reza Pahlavi; Count Julius Nowina-Sokolnicki; and E. Wayne Bachus, U. S. Chancellor for the Order of St. Stanislas. In the second row, behind and between His Imperial Highness Ali Reza Pahlavi and Count Nowina-Sokolnicki is Michael Michaelski, Grand Archivist for the Order of St. Stanislas; behind and between Count Nowina-Sokolnicki and Mr. Bachus is the author of this article, Edward Rach. In the back row, author Stanley Kaufman is on the left.

For more information please write to: Order of St. Stanislas, 9 York Place, Castle Gardens, Colchester, Essex, C01 2RF, England.

15th-Century Polish Nobility in the 21st Century

by Count Theodore Topor Jakubowski

The average person in the U.S.A. might well wonder what place ancient Polish hereditary knighthood has in today's society. Indeed, many members of the Polish communities in America might ask the same question. The answer is that it is not possible to understand Polish history apart from a history of the nobility or *szlachta*, as so much of that history revolved around their activities, which were quite different from that of the British landed gentry, in that primogeniture (in which the entire inheritance went to the firstborn) was never practiced in Poland, leading to a geometric explosion of the nobility, and also that this nobility, the *szlachta*, was more of a "power elite" caste than a mere social class, which shaped, carried, and inculcated the knightly virtues in the rest of Polish society. Today we would call them "role models," and the paradoxical truth is that the best way to overcome the individual and mass opinion that Poles belong to a "moronic subculture" is the administration of a generous dose of Polish noble culture.

Now that the ill-advised "melting pot" theory of assimilation has been called into serious question, we are invited, in the interests of multi-culturalism and diversity, to honor our heritage. This is welcomed as long as it is limited to the trivialization of culture when restricted to folkloric music, dance, peasant costumes (to confirm our supposed peasant origins), and ethnic foods. There appears to be an enormous disconnect at work here. The "peasant theory" of our origin does not square with the historical reality that when our grandparents arrived in America, 100 or 120 years ago, they were people who had been "on the run" ever since the three partitions (1772-1795) allowed the Russian Empire to seize the lion's share of what had once been the largest country in Europe.

With the Russian sequestration, it did not take long for the Poles living in these "bordering lands," called *Kresy* in Polish, to become the "noble rabble," as Czar Alexander classified that great number of poor or landless nobles, hardly distin-

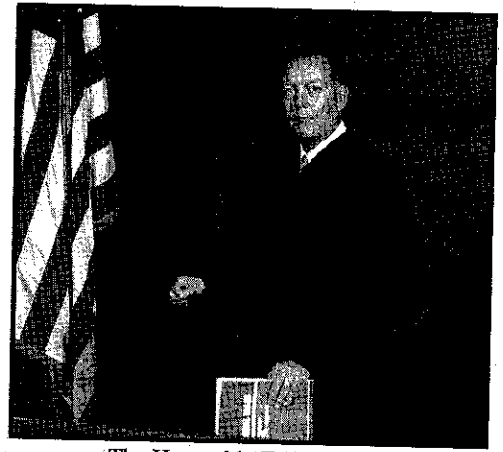
guishable from the peasantry, but imbued with a great pride and individualism, neither of which held much of a place within the despotic Russian Empire. The Poles who found themselves in the Prussian and Austrian sectors not only had comprised a total of about one-third of the Polish population, but found conditions there moderately more acceptable, with a bit more civility and less rigid restrictions.

However, emigrating from Russia was as attractive a hundred years ago as it is today. What had happened was that all the former "power elite" who had been running the eastern 500,000 square miles of the former Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, the nobility of the two nations, were facing ever greater pressure from the Czar — especially after the uprisings of 1831 and 1863 — and saw escape to America as their best option. The bulk of emigration here from Poland originated in the Eastern *Kresy*, and these *Kresy* emigrants were virtually all members of the nobility, as there were few Polish peasants in the East.

To call the emigrants "peasants" is to add insult to injury. If we were to dissect the origins of the typical Polish-American we would find that in the majority of cases that he or she can be traced back to the "lost lands" in the *Kresy*, where the emigrants' ancestors had belonged to the elite, who were not only landowners but had also controlled the civil administrations, the military, clergy, agriculture, and other businesses. About three-quarters of all Polish-Americans have surnames found in the various authoritative collections of noble names.

Membership in the Polish *szlachta* was hereditary. In England, only the eldest son bore the title and held the estate. In Poland both the title (and the family knighthood, *rycerstwo*, in itself) and the lands were shared by all male offspring. The older *szlachta* families had actually forgotten whence came their original acquired nobility, which often originated in the 14th and 15th centuries.

The best I can find in my own Topor clan is that our nobility was classified as



The Honorable Federal Judge
Theodore Count Topor Jakubowski (Ret.)

starodawny, "ancient." Certain branches to the family tree were engrafted in 1764/65, and additionally in later times.

The paramount principle regarding Polish nobility is that it was hereditary. Even some contemporary writers back in the 18th and 19th centuries had spoken of the process of ennoblement, *nobilitacja*. However, in my own family records, my research developed such "ennoblement" as in the case of Rudolf Lambert, who received a *protokół* from the Senate in Warsaw, which was ratified by five privy councilors, three general adjutants with obvious Russian names, and a presiding governor general, Prince Gorchakov (not a panel likely to grant favors to any Pole under their jurisdiction).

Still, this resolute board, acting under Article 59 of the year 1836 (concerning Nobility in the Kingdom of Poland) found in the year 1860 that one Rudolf Lambert had successfully proven his right to hereditary knighthood (*szlachectwo*) by virtue of the fact that his great-grandfather, Nikodem Tadeusz, had been the *wojski* of the city of Mielnick in 1732 (a *wojski* was a mature officer in charge of the local defense when the body of the fighting nobility was mobilized elsewhere).

Incidentally, through the courtesy of Antiquarian Books in Brooklyn, New York, one of the Polish book shops flourishing in recent years, I now possess a copy of a legal instrument notarized by the same Nikodem Tadeusz, in 1737, in his capacity as Registrar (*Pisarz*). He was also Marshal of the Knighthood (using the word *rycerz* and not *szlachcic*, as we might expect).

Space and time do not permit addressing all of the various theories and

opinions as to why it is not legal or permissible to take on or exert the hereditary status of knight, or one of the titles such as Baron or Count (most of which were non-Polish in genesis, being conferred by the Austrian, Prussian, or other sovereigns). Suffice it to say that in my humble opinion, after about eight years of research into the historical and legal basis for claiming any inheritance of historical Polish nobility/knighthood, the inhibi-

tions, which are self-imposed, are caused by misreading history, while those objections from outside come from the mouths of the same people who do not favor letting Poland into NATO.

In conclusion, may I say, we desperately need to overcome our endemic cultural amnesia and link back with the magnetic chain of humanity, to our noble ancestors, and celebrate their and our nobility. To do less is to dishonor our

ancestors, who paid such an immeasurably high price in the defense of European Christianity for lo! these many centuries, for just the accolade of the use of *pan* (Lord) Topor Jakubowski, or for your honorable Polish family name.

[Editor's Note: we are glad to give Count Jakubowski and other authors an opportunity to express their opinions, and welcome your comments and opinions on the ideas expressed in their articles.] ☞

Contributions, Dues & Donations Received

December, 1997 to June, 1998

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P.N.A.F. LAPEL PINS NOW AVAILABLE

The new P.N.A.F. lapel pins are now available to all members. This is a newly designed creation by Chev. Leonard J. Suligowski. Its tripartite design features the emblems of the Commonwealth of Old Poland, of Lithuania, and of Ruthenia. The pin is red, with the figures of Poland's Eagle, Lithuania's Armored Knight on horseback, and the Angel protector of Ruthenia, all in silver. Anyone wishing the new lapel pin may use the Dues/Order form appearing on page 2 of this issue.



Interview with Princess Margarita

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ship of the P.N.A.F., it was a distinct honor and a pleasure having you here.

Crown Princess: It really was wonderful for me to meet other people from your country having an interest in Europe, not just Romania, which also broadens our way of thinking.

Dr. Holewinski: I'm glad you enjoyed yourself.

Crown Princess: Thank you.

Dr. Holewinski: And I hope that in the future you will pay us another visit.

Crown Princess: Oh yes! I'm looking forward to it. ☞

INTERNATIONAL NEWS, NOTES, AND CORRESPONDENCE

From: French American Friendship Foundation

The French American Friendship Foundation sponsored its annual Mass to commemorate the death of King Louis XVI on Saturday Jan. 17, 1998, at St. Ann's Cathedral in New York City. The mass was conducted in Latin. A buffet reception followed the Mass. The guest speaker was Aurelien de Seze, a descendant of Romain de Seze, Louis XVI's attorney who defended him at his trial. Mr. de Seze discussed the trial and the relationship between France and the United States during his reign.

Polishness On The Internet

By Robert Strybel, Straz Warsaw Correspondent

WARSAW — Whether or not you yourself are into computers, CD-ROM's, E-mail and the Internet, chances are that your children or grandchildren are. Schoolchildren, high school and college students, professional researchers and casual "net surfers" alike now have an incredible amount of knowledge available at their fingertips. Rather than sifting through encyclopedias and other reference works, they have access to what is happening all over the world in every imaginable field in the comfort and convenience of their own homes.

Worth exploring is the amount of wide-ranging Polish-related materials now on the Internet. A recent search of the entry "Polish-American" via AOL Net Find produced an amazing 1,763,146 documents. Not all the documents were of general interest, for they included private messages and various timetables and listings in which the word "Polish" appeared. But many can provide fascinating reading.

For instance, basic information on Poland may be obtained at <http://info.fuw.edu.pl/p1/PolandInfo.html>. Information for Poland-bound travelers, including passport, visa, customs and currency regulations, credit cards, car rental, hotel accommodation, overnight lodgings in old castles, etc., is found at <http://www5.pair.com/poland/main.htm>.

The latest news from Poland, prepared in Polish and English by Polska Agencja Prasowa (the Polish Press

Agency, PAP) will appear on your screen at <http://www.pap.waw.pl>.

Another Polish-related information site is <http://www.pol.pl>. Polish culture and history buffs should find numerous items of interest at <http://ciesin.ci.uw.edu.pl/poland/polhistory.html>. A complete timetable for all Polish trains can be found at [telnet:mars.pg.gda.pl](http://telnet.mars.pg.gda.pl). There is even a corner for men seeking romance and marriage with Polish girls: <http://www.one-and-only.com/browse/MSWPoland.htm>.

Everything you ever wanted to know about Poland's greatest composer, Fryderyk (Frederic) Chopin (1810-1849), can be found on the Internet at <http://www.chopin.pl>. The website includes biographical information as well as a list of his compositions. The information is to be expanded every six months, and is expected to be completed by mid-1999. This is the first website to provide a comprehensive information package on a single composer.

The American Polonia is also well represented on the Internet. By linking up with <http://www.polancon.org/index.html> you will reach the Polish-American Congress's Home Page. Messages and articles on issues affecting the Polish-American community, including timely input by PAC President Edward Moskal, can be found at this Website. The essence of what being an American Polonian is all about was captured by the following statement: "The Polish-American community prides itself on its deeply rooted commitment to the values of family, faith, democracy, hard work and the fulfillment of the American dream."

Poles and Polish-Americans who have made a major impact on society can be found at <http://www.polishworld.com/pwguests/acpc/center.htm>. This computerized database contains information about Polish and Polish-American arts and humanities, Polish and Polonian contributions to the United States and data on Poles and Pol-Ams who have been involved in promoting Polish art.

The Association of Polish-American Professionals is an Internet discussion group that serves as a forum to discuss topics of mutual interest, exchange information and network. It is addressed to American professionals of Polish

descent with an interest in Polish and/or Polish-American issues. The address: <http://www.polishworld.com/apap/apap.htm>.

Nowadays, even books on Polish and Pol-Am topics can be purchased via the Internet. Books on Polish language, culture, history, folklore, cooking, and many other fields are listed at <http://www.bookstore.com/bookstore/>.

The bottom line of the above is simply this: if you are a Polish-American student writing a composition or term paper, a post-graduate planning a dissertation, a teacher assigning your class a topic, or a journalist looking for something to write about, give some thought to your own Polish Heritage! Unlike the olden days, when things Polish were few and far between and required hunting through libraries and archives, every imaginable Polish-related item of potential interest is now available on the Internet. Remember: if we Polish-Americans do not pursue Polish and Polish-American topics, explore Polish/Polonian issues and promote Polish/Polonian interests, others are certainly not going to do it for us!

From 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.]

Monarchist Organizations In Poland

Two organizations are best known in Poland today; unfortunately, only one of them can be described as a "Monarchist Organization." It is the Conservative-Monarchist Club under the leadership of Mr. Arthur Górski. The club publishes a very interesting journal, *Pro Fide Rege Et Lege* (For the Faith, the King and the Law) of a high intellectual standard, and carries on very useful activities promoting conservative philosophy, so much needed in Poland. It associates all those who support the idea of Monarchy.

The second organization is the Polish Monarchist Movement, headed by Leszek Wierzbowski. It is unfortunately extremely popular in the media, and the Monarchy is very often linked with the

Polish Monarchist movement. However, some of the other groups are showing their concerns of how this group manages to display its accumulation of titles.

Apart from these two organizations, there are a few additional minor ones exerting less of an influence. For example, the Polish Monarchists from Wrocław, whose president is a personal friend (Adrian Nikiel). They publish a journal called *Royalista* (the Royalist). There is also a newly established confederation of the Polish Crown, led by Prince Krzysztof Radziwiłł. I also know of the foundation of two additional monarchist movements, but I am not certain if they are still in existence. These are: Count Stanisław Tarnowski's Association of Conservatives; The Monarchists from Katowice; and the Union for the Restoration of the Monarchy, from Warsaw.

*Ireneusz Stanisław Osinski, Pres.,
Association of Polish Nobility*

Diana Website

In the aftermath of the tragic death of Diana, Princess of Wales, earlier this year, dozens of Websites have sprung up across the World Wide Web. League member Ann Brunning has set up a site containing tributes and prayers for the late Princess in honor of her humanitarian work for people all over the world. The address is:

www.aol.com/annannb/princessdiana

Readers with internet access and time on their hands might wish to aim their Web browsers at the following:

Imperial Palaces of St. Petersburg:
<http://www.pallas.web>

Federazione Monarchica Italiana:
<http://www.bccmp.com/benvenuti/fert>

Royaliste (French Orleanist): <http://www.mygale.org/10/francesco/royaliste>

Crown Prince Alexander of Yugoslavia:
<http://www.suc.org/royal/>

From the Journal of the Constantian Society: Events in the House of Habsburg.

On November 20th, 1998, His Imperial and Royal Highness Archduke Otto of Austria-Hungary celebrates his 86th birthday. Born at a time when the Habsburg dominions included most of central Europe, Archduke Otto today is a member of the European Parliament, where he is serving as *rapporteur* for the accession of Hungary. He is the oldest member of the European Parliament, and his elder son, Archduke Karl, is its youngest member. His second son, Archduke Georg, is working for the integration of Hungary into the European Union, and is, says Archduke Otto, "a roving Ambassador, in charge of Hungarian relations with the governments of the European Union concerning the negotiations of Hungary's accession. This means that he has an official office in the working group, which is established in the Prime Minister's office in Budapest, to prepare the accession of Hungary into the European Union."

In Budapest on October 18th, 1997, Archduke Georg married Dutchess Eilika of Oldenburg, the second Habsburg wedding in Budapest since the fall of the communist regime in 1989; Archduke Georg's sister, Archduchess Walburga, married Count Archibald Douglas there in 1991.

Humanitarian, cultural, and monarchist organizations which would welcome financial support include:

King Kigeli's Children
Fairfax Towers
2251 Pimmit Dr. #424
Falls Church, VA 22043

Princess Margarita of Romania
Foundation
149 Fifth Ave. Suite 832
New York, N.Y. 10010

(or)

Princess Margarita of Romania
Foundation
Case Postale 545
CH-1290 Versoix-Geneva
Switzerland

Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial
Fund
Kensington Palace
London W8 4PU
United Kingdom

To contact the Constantian Society for any further news, their new address is as follows:

The Constantian Society
840 Old Washington Road
McMurray, PA 15317-3228. ☎



FRANK S. CHMIEL

P.N.A.F. member Frank S. Chmiel, 91, of Tucson, Arizona, died December 5, 1997. He was a 50-year member of the Sabbar Temple in Tucson, a master mason in the Bayonne Bergen Temple Lodge #099 and A.M. of NJ, a member of the 12th Armored Division Association, and an active member of the Arizona State Genealogical Society, where he found Polish nobility in his ancestry. Our best wishes go out to his widow, Elizabeth McKinney Chmiel of Tucson, and the rest of his family.

Cześć Jego Pamięci!

Leonard Suligowski to speak at P.G.S.A. Conference

Your editor has accepted the gracious invitation of the Polish Genealogical Society of America's President, Paul S. Valasek, D.D.S., to give a lecture at the annual P.G.S.A. Conference, to be held at the Chicago-area Ramada O'Hare Hotel, in Rosemont, Illinois, October 16-18, 1998.

The topics will cover Polish Nobility and Polish Heraldry and their relationship to Polish genealogical research. After the lecture there will be an assortment of visual aids, displaying the various forms of Polish Heraldic art as rendered for many clients seeking to own one of the classic Clan Arms in conjunction with their surname.

For more information visit the PGSA Website at www.pgsa.org or write: Mrs. Bernadine Saelens, 277 Gladys Ave., Elmhurst IL 60126.