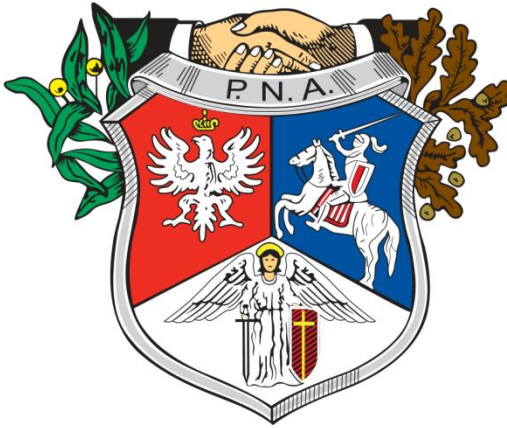


THE POLISH SOCIETY OF CALIFORNIA

Polish National Alliance, Lodge 7 - since 1880



*150th Anniversary Celebration
1863-2013*

*Polish California:
From Pioneers to Silicon Valley*

Saturday, November 9, 2013

The Fairmont Hotel, San Francisco

COMMEMORATIVE BOOK

THE POLISH SOCIETY OF CALIFORNIA

Polish National Alliance, Lodge 7 - since 1880

The Polish National Alliance, established in 1880, is a 230,000 member-strong nationwide fraternal organization headquartered in Chicago. The **PNA is the largest ethnic fraternal benefit society in the United States.** In 1944, the Polish National Alliance helped form the Polish American Congress, a national organization of at least 10 million Americans of Polish descent and origin.

The goals of the alliance are to help members provide for a better future by:

- ❖ **PROVIDING** a range of valued fraternal benefits to our members;
- ❖ **ASSISTING** people in need, including (since the 1890s) student loans and scholarships;
- ❖ **CHERISHING** patriotism and civic involvement in American life;
- ❖ **INSTILLING** broader and deeper appreciation of the Polish heritage in America;
- ❖ **OFFERING**, since 1885, high quality Life Insurance and Annuity products to help members realize their financial aims and to provide security for their loved ones.

Join us! PNA.lodge.7@gmail.com



The PNA logo, or emblem, is a reminder of the January 1863 uprising of Poland against Russia. It was designed by the Revolutionary Government to recognize that the Royal Republic of Poland was a commonwealth of three nations that shared the glories and misfortunes of the state.

The white eagle on a red shield represents crown lands, or Poland proper; the white knight on a blue shield, known as Pogon (the Chase), was the coat of arms of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania. Michael the Archangel symbolizes the Duchy of Ruthenia.

In using this symbol of unity, the Revolutionary Government hoped, without much success, to engage Lithuanians and Ruthenians in the common struggle against Russia.

The January Uprising failed, but a member of the Revolutionary Government, Agaton Giller, inspired the founding of the Polish National Alliance. Consequently, the founders of the Polish National Alliance adopted this symbol for its fraternal emblem.

The "shaking hands" denote PNA fraternalism.

<http://www.pna-znp.org/>

Polish National Alliance - 6100 N. Cicero Avenue – Chicago, IL 60646

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www.polishclubSF.org/PolishSocietyOfCalifornia.htm

150th Anniversary Celebration

The Fairmont Hotel, San Francisco
Saturday, November 9, 2013

EVENT CO-CHAIRS: Tony Zukovsky, President, &
Krystyna Chciuk, Past-President, Polish Society of
California/Polish National Alliance, Lodge 7

COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS (the moniker in 1863):
Krystyna Chciuk, Piotr Kodzis, Phillip Kosiara,
Maureen Mroczek Morris, Anna Maria Słonina Oczóś,
Andrzej Prokopczuk, Christina Smoleń, Frances Strychaż,
Mary Kay Stuvland, Barbara Suroż, Barbara Szlachta,
Caria Tomczykowska, Zofia Zakrzewska,
Anthony Zukovsky

Commemorative Book: Maureen Mroczek Morris

Decorations: Mary Kay Stuvland

Disk Jockey/Audio Equipment: Piotr Kodzis/Łowiczanie

Entertainment: Mary Kay Stuvland

Finances: Frances Strychaż

History Exhibit: Maureen Mroczek Morris

Hotel Liaisons: Caria Tomczykowska, Frances Strychaż

Reception: Anna Maria Słonina Oczóś

Wine Donation Coordination: Basia Szlachta

Other valued volunteers: Natalia Muława,
Joana Smoleń, Zbigniew Stańczyk, Elżbieta Zienczuk



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

November 9, 2013

Polish Society of California

Congratulations to the Polish Society of California on the occasion of its 150th anniversary.

We are a nation of many peoples, traditions and cultures. The Polish people, in California and throughout the globe, take pride in their culture and heritage. Today's celebration honors and preserves traditions that have contributed to California's culture and vitality.

On behalf of the state of California, I extend to your society my best wishes for a memorable celebration.

Sincerely,


EDMUND G. BROWN JR.

Proclamation

City and County of San Francisco

WHEREAS, the Polish Society of California is one of the oldest civic organizations in California and is among the oldest Polish societies in the United States; today, we join in celebrating this organization for their contributions to diversity and inclusion in our communities by preserving Poland's rich culture and language; and

WHEREAS, the Polish Society of California was founded in 1863 to raise awareness of Poland's struggle for independence, the January Uprising; that year, a meeting to support Polish freedom and nationality was convened in San Francisco and chaired by the newly-elected Mayor of the City, the Honorable Henry P. Coon; and

WHEREAS, since then, the Polish Society of California has increased understanding and appreciation of Polish culture, celebrating their resilient spirit and many contributions to the vitality of San Francisco; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco prides itself on values of diversity and multiculturalism as a way of life, and the Polish Society of California continues to build a supportive community for Polish Americans to grow, connect and celebrate their heritage in our City; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Edwin M. Lee, Mayor of the City and County of San Francisco, in celebration of their landmark 150th anniversary, do hereby proclaim November 9, 2013 as...

POLISH SOCIETY OF CALIFORNIA DAY *in San Francisco!*



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City and County of San Francisco to be affixed.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Edwin M. Lee".

Edwin M. Lee
Mayor



Embassy
of the Republic of Poland
in Washington

Washington D.C., October 16, 2013

**The President
and the Committee of Arrangements
of the Polish Society of California**

Dear Friends,

It gives me great pleasure to learn that this year the Polish Society of California is celebrating its sesquicentennial anniversary. Moreover, on this occasion, the Society is honoring the Polish California pioneers and their contributions to the State of California. Unfortunately, due to previous commitments, I will not be able to join you during this important event.

I want to take this opportunity, however, to congratulate and thank one of the oldest civic organizations in the State of California, the Polish Society of California, for its contribution to the growth, stability and prosperity of the community of Northern California, as well as its dedication, throughout these years, to support Poland's struggle for freedom and independence. Without your solidarity and efforts to attract the attention of the American People, Poland would not be celebrating its 25th year of free and democratic elections next June.

I wish you great success during the 150th anniversary celebration and I look forward to future events that recognize the role of Polish Americans and their significant contributions to the State of California.

Sincerely,


RYSZARD SCHNEPF
AMBASSADOR

Warszawa, 16 października 2013 roku

KIEROWNIK
URZĘDU DO SPRAW KOMBATANTÓW
I OSÓB REPRESJONOWANYCH

Jan Stanisław Ciechanowski

Szanowna Pani
Krystyna Chciuk
Prezes Zarządu Polskiego
Narodowego Związku Grupy 7

Wielce Szanowna Pani Prezes,

serdecznie dziękuję Szanownej Pani Prezes za zaproszenie na bankiet upamiętniający 150. rocznicę powołania Polish Society of California przez weteranów Powstania Listopadowego i żałuję bardzo, że obowiązki służbowe nie pozwalają mi na spędzenie tego wyjątkowego wieczoru w gronie Polaków zamieszkałych w Kalifornii.

Przy tej okazji na ręce Szanownej Pani Prezes pragnę przekazać wyrazy uznania działaczom Polonii kalifornijskiej za organizowanie uroczystości przypominających zbiorowe wysiłki naszych przodków o odzyskanie utraconej w XVIII wieku niepodległości. Bolesne doświadczenia powstańców listopadowych 1830 roku i styczniowych 1863 roku okazały się bezcennym źródłem siły i wytrwałości dla kolejnych pokoleń Polaków w ich walce o wolność Ojczyzny.

Uczestnikom bankietu przesyłam życzenia pogodnego nastroju, zdrowia i wszelkiej pomyślności.

Urząd do Spraw Kombatantów i Osób Represjonowanych
ul. Wspólna 2/4, 00-926 Warszawa; tel. 22 661-87-06; fax 22 661-90-73
www.udskior.gov.pl



Consul General
of the Republic of Poland
in Los Angeles

Mariusz M. Brymora

Los Angeles, 23 October 2013

Mr. Anthony Zukovsky
President
Polish Society of California
Polish National Alliance, Lodge 7

Dear Members of the Polish Society of California,

The year 1863, when your great predecessors founded the Polish Society of California, is well remembered in the history of Poland. It was the year of yet another tragic rising in the fight of our brave nation to regain independence. Maybe some of the Polish January insurgents were among the Poles who established your organization one and a half centuries ago. We are grateful to them for not having forgotten the native country and its people. We are equally grateful to all subsequent generations which kept their care about Poland alive until the final victory of democracy in our homeland. Last but not least we are grateful to you, all current members of the Society of California, Polish National Alliance, Lodge 7, for not letting your ties with Poland loosen.

Let me express my sincere congratulations to each and every one of you for your engagement and commitment, and for your efforts which allowed to keep Polishness alive in the Bay Area throughout all these years. I believe that the attachment to Poland that you grew and cherished for all these years, as well as your support for it were instrumental for many of the achievements that we – as a nation – were able to reach. Today, when Poland is about to celebrate 25 years since joining the family of free and democratic states, it is equally important for us all to work together for building its international position and well-being.

As the Consul General of the Republic of Poland, I am pleased and honored to join you on this festive occasion and to wish all the officers, members and friends of your organization good health and strength which will let you continue your wonderful work for many years to come.

With best regards
M. Brymora



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

October, 2013

Dear Members and Friends of the Polish Society of California - PNA Lodge 7,

As you celebrate the 150th Anniversary, it is my great privilege and undeniable pleasure to extend my most sincere greetings and congratulations.

Polish Society of California is one of the oldest Polish Organizations in the United States. It was established to raise awareness of Poland's struggle for existence and financially support the 1863 military attempt to regain freedom known as January Uprising.

In spite of all history's misfortunes since that heartrending time, Poland persevered, thanks to its faithful people scattered around the world and now is a free, democratic, modern European country we are all proud of.

Anniversaries are time for remembering and honoring members who have preceded us and those who are currently working and building our strength in the community.

To all of the Members of the Polish Society of California: Thank you for your dedication, perseverance and patriotism.

Being one of the very original Lodges it is very important to keep the spirit of fraternalism alive and continue in contributing to the bright future of the Polish National Alliance.

Thank you again for your dedication to the organization.


With best wishes to all, I am

Sincerely,

Frank J. Spula, FLMI
President

HONORARY COMMITTEE

R. Christian Anderson, Filmmaker
Caroline Safian Krawiec Brownstone, President, IMMA Ltd
Mariusz Brymora, Consul General of the Republic of Poland
Zbigniew Brzezinski, Former National Security Advisor
Krystyna Chciuk, AK Veteran, Polish School, Scouts, Łowiczanie
Jan Ciechanowski, Minister, Office of Veterans' Affairs, Poland
Salvatore J. Cordileone, Archbishop, San Francisco Archdiocese
Dianne Feinstein, U.S. Senator, California
Thomas Gladysz, Author & Arts Journalist
Robert Hanna, Pioneer descendent
Christopher Kerosky, Honorary Consul, San Francisco
Piotr Moncarz, Chairman, US Polish Trade Council; Consulting Prof., Stanford
Gavin Newsom, Lieutenant Governor, State of California
Andrzej Prokopczuk, M.D., Ph.D., President, Polish-American Congress NCD
Ryszard Schnepf, His Excellency, Ambassador of the Republic of Poland
Frank Spula, President, Polish National Alliance, Chicago
Tad Taube, Honorary Consul, Northern California
Caria Tomczykowska, President, Polish Arts & Culture Foundation
Robert Wieckowski, Assemblyman, 25th District, Fremont
Warren Winiarski, Vintner & Lecturer, University of Chicago
Agnieszka Winkler, Founder & CEO, The Winkler Group
Zofia Zakrzewska, Director, Polam Federal Credit Union



Happy 150th Anniversary!
1863-2013

The Polish Society of California
Since 1880 as Lodge 7 of the
Polish National Alliance

**MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE POLISH SOCIETY OF CALIFORNIA/
POLISH NATIONAL ALLIANCE LODGE 7, & EVENT CO-CHAIR, TONY ZUKOVSKY**



It is my pleasure and honor to address you on the occasion of the 150th Anniversary of the Polish Society of California, which is one of the oldest civic societies in the State of California and the first Polish organization on the Pacific Coast. We dedicate this celebration to the Polish patriots and California pioneers who were the first 70 founding members of the Society, most prominently -- **Captain Rudolf Korwin Piotrowski, Captain Kazimierz Bielawski, Charles Meyer, Martin Prag and Julian Andrzejowski.** We pay tribute as well to the prominent supporters of the Society, such as California pioneer, politician and attorney, **Colonel James C. Zabriskie**, prominent Hungarian physician, **Ludwig Czapkay**, and French-born Jewish financier **Elie Lazard** -- all ardent advocates for Polish independence. All of these gentlemen contributed to the early development of the State of California and, in addition, worked vigorously for the cause of freedom for Poland. Our Society grew and prospered, and in 1880 joined forces, as Lodge 7, with the nationwide fraternal organization, the Polish National Alliance.

It is a significant achievement for any civic organization to endure for 150 years! And what makes me optimistic about the future is that the majority of our Society's current Board are young professionals who joined our 130-member-strong ranks to carry on our traditions and associations with the Polish-American community in San Francisco and to support the fraternal activities and aims of the Polish National Alliance!

We celebrate our 150th Anniversary with the great satisfaction of knowing that the dream of our Founders – freedom for Poland – has been realized. We are excited about the growing presence in the iconic Silicon Valley of California of innovative Polish startup companies.

Great thanks and words of appreciation are due to all of our supporters who made this event possible, most notably our Patrons -- **the Polish American Congress-NCD, the Polish Club of San Francisco, Polam Federal Credit Union, the US-Polish Trade Council, and Taube Philanthropies**, and, of course, our Benefactors, Gold and Silver Level Sponsors and the many others who gave generously of their time and money. Without donors and volunteers we would not be here tonight celebrating our 150th Anniversary. Most importantly perhaps, I'd like to thank the **"Committee of Arrangements"**, the members of which worked long and hard to plan this event. Finally, your presence here tonight, to honor the Polish California pioneers, is a wonderful testimony to the vibrancy of Polonia and its extended community of friends. We hope that you are inspired by what you learn today and have a most enjoyable evening as well. Thank you for coming!

In closing, I would like to congratulate the **US-Polish Trade Council** for organizing this weekend's annual **"Poland-Silicon Valley Science and Technology Symposium"** and warmly welcome to our Anniversary Banquet the participants at the Symposium and Polish representatives of the **"Top 500" program** studying at Stanford and UC Berkeley.

**MESSAGE FROM THE PAST-PRESIDENT OF THE POLISH SOCIETY OF CALIFORNIA/
POLISH NATIONAL ALLIANCE LODGE 7, & EVENT CO-CHAIR, KRZYSZYNA CHCIUK**



It is with great pride that I write this note today. For at least 150 years my fellow Poles and Polish-Americans in California have organized themselves to support independence for Poland and to contribute to American civic life. That is indeed something to celebrate. For much of its history, our homeland has suffered domination and oppression by foreign powers. Poles often have been denied the basic freedoms and rights that in this country we take for granted. The opportunity to honor those of Polish heritage who fought bravely for these rights is our blessing today.

When I am asked why I care so much about “things Polish,” my answers are two: first because *our traditions are who we are*; and second because I have experienced the anger associated with injustice and want very much for it to be contained. Polish culture is strongly rooted in the love of freedom and independence; many sacrifices have been made for those values. Most of our countrymen of 1863, known as “Polanders” in the gaslight days of San Francisco, were veterans of prior uprisings in Poland. As exiles in a foreign land they continued to support the homeland by organizing the Polish Society of California 150 years ago. As a Pole I am proud to honor their legacy.

My concern today is with nations, societies, and situations in which people are denied basic human rights and full respect solely because of who they are. Fighting against that evil in the world requires bravery, stubbornness and a love of freedom. Polish culture is resilient and exhibits these values, but we must be wary of insulation and indifference. We must not tolerate atrocities and we must vigorously support communities that foster mutual respect for human dignity regardless of race, creed or color. Events such as this that honor the accomplishments of our predecessors are very important reminders for all of us to cherish and promote freedom.

If I were asked to give advice to Polonia, this is what I would say: Teach your children Polish traditions and tell them your story; our cultural legacy is the most important gift you can give to them. Know your history. “Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it” (George Santayana). Help each other and those in need. Be yourself and be proud of who you are.

THE HISTORY OF THE POLISH SOCIETY OF CALIFORNIA 1863-1880

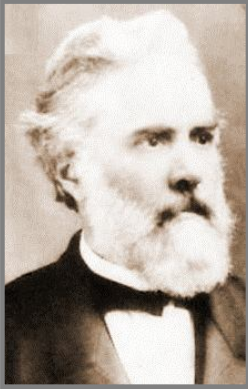
Tonight we are celebrating 150 years since the founding of the Polish Society of California in San Francisco (since 1880, also known as Lodge 7 of the Polish National Alliance). To tell the story of the Poles in San Francisco it is necessary to include a brief history of Poland, because what united the Poles of the City in 1863, and what kept them together subsequently, was their wish to see Poland a free and independent country.

CENTRAL POLISH SOCIETY OF THE
PACIFIC COAST.—Organized May 1st, 1863.
Meetings held monthly in the Russ House. Number
of members 70. *Officers*—President: C. Bielawski;
Vice Presidents: C. Meyer, C. Piotrowski, and Dr.
L. J. Czapkay; Treasurer: Martin Prag; Secreta-
ries: J. W. Andrzejowski and C. H. Berlin, Trus-
tees: Woyeiscihowski, L. Czaykowski, I. Palecki,
C. L. Luniewski, and M. Greenberg; Representa-
tive for the Interior: C. Piotrowski.

In January 1863
in the eastern
part of Poland
insurgents took
up arms against
foreign rule by
Imperial Russia.

1863 San Francisco City Directory

In San Francisco, on May 1st, 1863, Polish political exiles, many of whom had fought in Poland's 1830 Uprising against Russian tyranny, established "The Polish Society of the Pacific Coast" to attract financial and moral support for Poland's January Uprising. The American Civil War was in full swing; Americans who supported the Union Cause were the first to embrace what the newspapers of the time called "the Appeal of the Polanders".



The first priority of the Society's co-founders, **Captain Rudolf Korwin Piotrowski** and **Captain Kazimierz Bielawski**, was to raise awareness of Poland's struggle for independence and to raise money for the insurgents. To that end, the Polish Society welcomed not only Poles, but all persons committed to liberty for Poland. Under the leadership of the two former military captains, 70 persons sympathetic to the Uprising enrolled in the Polish Society of the

Captain Bielawski Pacific Coast in the Spring of 1863. Members were an ethnically diverse group from many faith traditions, all of whom were ardent supporters of an independent Poland. The Polish Society was originally headquartered at the Russ House Hotel on 235 Montgomery Street (built in 1847 by pioneer **Emanuel Charles Christian Russ (Riensi)** a German immigrant of Polish descent who became one of the City's most successful assayers).



**Captain Rudolf Korwin Piotrowski, Courtesy of
the Polish Museum of America in Chicago**



Such was the fervor of the newly formed Society that on May 22nd, only three weeks after its inception, the Polish Society of the Pacific Coast organized a “**Grand Mass Meeting in Favor of Polish Freedom and Nationality**” -- the only successful public gathering about the Uprising in all of the United States “on such a scale that many Americans took part in it, among whom were the Mayor of the City [Dr. Henry Coon] and numerous political émigrés of other nationalities living in California” (Florian Staszik). The capacity crowd at **Platt’s Music**

Grand Mass Meeting 1863 Hall (now the Mills Building, on 220 Montgomery Street) is a *Who’s Who* of 1863 California.

Lending their support for aid to Poland were “three future mayors, two future governors, two future U.S. senators, the publishers and/or editors of four daily newspapers and four weeklies, the president *pro tem* of the state senate and three other legislators, two associate justices of the California Supreme Court and three future justices, the U.S. Attorney, the superintendent of the U.S. Mint, and California’s secretary of state and its controller, the state’s leading scientist (geologist J.D. Whitney), three generals of the militia, and a platoon of industrialists, bankers, judges, shippers, importers, merchants, lawyers, manufacturers, and the owner of Woodward’s Gardens.” (L. Ludlow and M. Mroczek Morris. *The Tossplot and the Diva*, 2015). Such outspoken and enthusiastic support brought visibility to Poland’s struggle for independence. More than \$8,000 was collected as a result of the campaign to aid Poland [nearly \$250,000 in today’s terms]. Funds were sent to Paris and thence to the insurgents.

The societies composing the Slavonic alliance, consist of the Polish society of California, the Dalmatian Benevolent society, the Croatian B. S. "Zoni-mir," the Slavonic Illyric M. B. society, Golden Gate lodge No. 93, C. S. P. S.; F. V. Sasínek assembly 33, N. S. S. of America; California lodge No. 135, Z. S. B. J.; Servian-Montenegrin L. and B. society; Servian club; Bohemian Sokol of San Francisco; Slovak Gymnastic union, branch 238, S. C. U. of America; Bohemian Sokol of Oakland.

In 1873, the Polish Society of the **Pacific Coast**, which had been organized by Bielawski and Piotrowski in 1863 to support Poland's Uprising, became the Polish Society of **California**. In 1880, to

more effectively support freedom for Poland, and to extend fraternal help to Poles in America, the Society joined the newly established fraternal organization, the **Polish National Alliance (PNA) as Lodge 4 (later designated as Lodge 7 in Council 4)** and subsequently became known by the dual names "Polish Society of California" and "PNA Lodge 7". In 1904, PNA Lodge 7 was one of 13 organizations comprising the **Slavonic Alliance of the San Francisco Bay Area**.



The **Polish National Alliance** (national office, Chicago) provided social assistance and educational funds to those in need, supported cultural and educational activities, and encouraged participation in the American electoral process. PNA supported two Polish-American initiatives to erect monuments in Washington, D.C., one honoring **General Tadeusz Kościuszko** and the other, **General Kazimierz Pułaski**, both Polish-born, American Revolutionary War heroes.

In addition, the Polish National Alliance assisted post-WWII refugees and Cold War exiles, and lent major support to Poland's Solidarity labor movement (*Solidarność*) in the late 1980s.

A prominent Polish-American in San Francisco in the 1860s was **James Cannon Zabriskie**. The Zabriskie family came to the USA in the 1600s. Colonel Zabriskie, an attorney in Sacramento and San Francisco, was an enthusiastic supporter of Polish independence.

The quote below is from a local newspaper, describing a ceremonial quartz walking stick, like the one pictured below, presented to Col. Zabriskie by Captain Rudolf Korwin Piotrowski of the Polish Society.



“Polanders of California, to their true friend, Colonel J.C. Zabriskie, San Francisco 1863”

French-born Jewish businessman Eli Lazard and his brothers were prominent San Francisco bankers and importers from the time of the California Gold Rush. Eli Lazard was appointed chairman of a committee to solicit and collect subscriptions in San Francisco in aid of the cause of Poland.

The Polish Society Bids Farewell to Elie Lazard

Elie Lazard left
San Francisco in 1866 for
his hometown, Paris.

Entry from the 1866 City Directory: **Lazard Freres** (Alexandre, Simon, and Elie) 65 Pine St., NY; and Lazard Bros. 60 Old Broad St., London; and 10 Rue Ste., Paris; Bankers 205 Sanson, San Francisco

TESTIMONIAL TO MR. LAZARD.—Mr. E. Lazard, who leaves for Europe by steamer to-day, received the following flattering testimonial from his Polish friends yesterday:

SAN FRANCISCO, January 9, 1866.

Elie Lazard, Esq.:

DEAR SIR:—The Polish Committee of California learns with a sincere regret your departure from their midst. Your noble heart endeared you to every one who knew you. Your liberal deeds in behalf of Poland, and of liberty, shall remain forever engraved in the hearts of every lover of freedom and of every true son of Poland. In our last struggle, as President of the Polish-American Society on the Pacific Coast, you have firmly and nobly upheld the cause of our unhappy country. Receive here our most heartfelt thanks for your exertion.

However much we shall miss you here, we know, and every son of Poland knows, that wherever Elie Lazard shall be, there will be a staunch, a true friend of Poland, and of liberty.

With profound respects and sincere affections, we have the honor to remain, your most obedient servants,

C. MEYER,
MARTIN PRAG,
DR. L. PAWLICKI,
R. KORWIN PIOTROWSKY,
K. BIELAWSKI,
J. ANDRZEJOWSKI, Secretary.

Obituary of Rudolf Korwin Piotrowski

Death of a Polish Patriot and California Pioneer.

By many friends and acquaintances will be sadly felt the news of the death of the well known and generally respected California pioneer, Captain R. K. Piotrowski, at the age of nearly 70 years. He was born in Poland in 1814. He fought bravely for the independence of his country in the memorable struggle of Poland against Russia in 1831. Notwithstanding his youth he was promoted to the rank of Sub-Lieutenant on the field and decorated with the golden cross "Virtuti Militari," the highest distinction then in the Polish army. He came to California at about 1844 and at first engaged in mining. Soon afterwards he bought a large tract of land on the Sacramento river, where, in company with one of his fellows-at-arms, he founded a colony called Sebastopol, a small, thriving place at the present day. At the time of the civil war he warmly espoused the cause of the Union. He was always a Republican and was appointed by Governor Pacheco Commissioner of Immigration, which office he filled up to the expiration of his term, to the highest satisfaction of his superiors and all parties concerned. He was also one of the founders of the Polish Society of California and an active member of it to the very last. Unfortunately of late he was afflicted with ey soreness and was compelled to undergo a painful operation in this city, which proved unsuccessful. This affected his health, already shattered by an advanced age and many disappointments. About a year ago he left San Francisco for New York and thence sailed directly to France, seeking restoration from the eminent physicians of Paris. Some time afterwards he retired to a small place in the department of Charente Interieure, where after a short illness he breathed his last peacefully on the 21st of February last, in the company of his only daughter.

1883

This newspaper obituary notes that Captain RK Piotrowski "was one of the founders of the Polish Society and an active member of it to the very last"

**POLISH SOCIETY OF CALIFORNIA/
Polish National Alliance, Lodge 7 OFFICERS**

President: Anthony Zukovsky

First Vice President: Barbara Suroż

Second Vice President: Phillip Kosiara

Treasurer &

Financial Secretary: Frances Strychaż

Recording Secretary: Christina Smoleń

Sergeant-at-Arms: Adam Kodzis

Doorkeeper: Wiktoria Stefańczyk

PRESIDENTS OF THE POLISH SOCIETY OF CALIFORNIA, 1863-2013

Kazimierz Bielawski
Rudolf Korwin Piotrowski
Władysław Pawlicki, M.D.
Antoni Czarnecki
Enos Ireneusz Flieger
Feliks Majeranowski
Franciszek Gruszczyński
Paweł Brzuza
Aleksander Zmudowicz
Feliks Gottlicher
Wiktor Wielgosz
Florian Niklasiewicz
Lucjan Markiewicz

Katarzyna Pich
Otto Kuklinski
Władysław Sawicki
Emelia Schneider
Bolesław Wojtycki
Wiktor Strachura
Roman Nowalkowski
Dominik Widak
Helena Kurek
Jan Smelski
Krystyna Chciuk
Iwona Stefańczyk Szarek
Tony Zukovsky

Adult Division, Polish Society of CA/PNA Lodge 7

Baird, Susan	Kosiara, Phil	Smelski, Stephanie
Basikowski, Zygmunt	Kryston, Katherine M	Smith (Szarek), Susan
Bottorff, Angeline	Kukula, Ted J	Smoleń, Christina T
Brillhart, Cathy J	Lewandowski, Zygmunt	Smoleń, Joana M
Bruks, Nicolas A Z	Mazur, Barbara	Spaulding, David R
Butler, Halina T	Mazur, Krystyna	Stachura, Irene A
Capodanno, Stephanie T	Mazur, Michael	Stefańczyk, Daria
Carey, Elizabeth R	McCubbin, Maria T	Stefańczyk, Wiktorja
Carey, Jeannie F	Moncarz, Piotr D	Stefańczyk-Szarek, I.
Carey, Joanna M	Mongird, Chelsea	Stelmach, Ala
Carey, Kathleen D	Mongird, Kendall	Strychaz, Frances
Chciuk, Krystyna	Mongird, Marek	Strychaz, Renata
Cook, Kenneth	Mongird, Megan	Stuvland, Mary Kay (paid by Łowiczanie)
Dettmer, Robert J	Morris, Maureen M	Suroż, Barbara
Drelich, Richard	Mrzyglocki, Diane	Suroż, Margaret
Dunphy, Wesley D	Novak, Jean M	Suroż, Wiesława
Filipowski, Piotr	Ondricka, Theresa	Szablicki, Wiktorja
Gadek, Jarosław	Padlo, John	Szarek, Andrzej
Gadek, Ryszard	Panek, Thomas Jr	Szarek, Katarzyna M
Głodek, Helena	Peterson, Eva M	Szymczak, Teresa
Głodek, Jakub	Phillips, John W	Trochta, Barbara
Głodek, Waldemar	Phillips, Susan	Trout, Basia
Gowen, Leslie	Phillips, Victoria	Trout, Lora K
Grycz-Hernandez, K M	Plonski, Władysław	Trout, Lucas W
Grycz-Hernandez, Maciej	Porambo, Felicia A	Trout, Roger
Grycz-Rose, Wanda	Przybyl, Hedy	Walan, Liseli
Hartzell, Loretta A	Rackowski, Barbara	Wasak, Chester
Helten, Catherine L	Rackowski, Christin	Whitney, Steven C
Iwanyc, Josef	Re, Jeremy R	Widak, Diane A
Janiszewski, George	Riley, Theresa	Wierzbianańska, Elizabeth
Jasinski, Anne M	Rodrigo, Lenette A	Wierzbianańska, Teresa S
Jasinski, Dorothy J	Rollis, David	Wilusz-Flores, Janet
Jasinski, Francis J	Rollis, Patricia	Wojcik, Harry J
Jasinski, Michael F	Rudkosky, Michael J	Wolny, Alicja J
Kamienski, Andrzej	Shicker, Zofia B	Wolny, Christopher J
Kamienski, Robert A	Sikora Joseph	Wolowski, Edward W
Karpinska, Maria	Sikora, Jurek H	Wolowski, Heddie
Kelly, Brian M	Sikorski, Jan	Wolowski, Nancy J
Kelly, Daniel J	Sikorski, Małgorzata	Wycisk, Paul A
Kelly, Stephen J	Słonina-Oczko, Anna M	Zadworski, Monica M
Kicinski, Maria K	Smelski, Erica E	Zagata, Andrzej
Klimowski, Yvonne	Smelski, Henry	Zukovsky, Anthony
Kodzis, Adam J	Smelski, Matthew J	
Kolasinki, Ewa	Smelski, Nicole E	

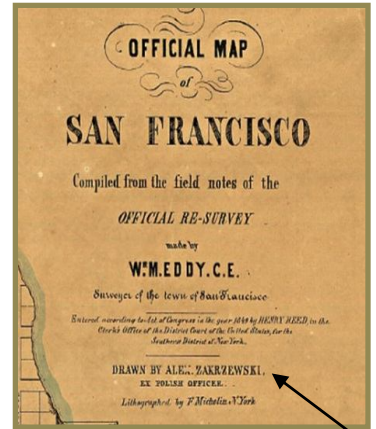
Youth Division

Filipowski, Maksym; Filipowski, Oskar; Kapusta, Klaudia; Kapusta, Konrad; Kiaser, Kasen J; Kiaser, Kloe;
Martin, Grycen F; Sikorski, Piotr B; Strychaz, Adam; Strychaz, Mason; Strychaz, Matthew; Strychaz, Riley

OUR LEGACY

PROMINENT POLISH PIONEERS

Trained as an engineer in the Topographical Corps of the Army, this veteran of the 1830 November Uprising, **Aleksander Zakrzewski** pursued his career in California. In 1849 he drew the **first Official Map of San Francisco** that hung for a time in the Mayor's Office. He is also known for *publishing* a lithograph entitled "View of the Procession in Celebration of the Admission of California, Oct. 29th, 1850" (Lithograph by Zakreski [sic] & Hartman).



**1849 Zakrzewski-drawn
Map of San Francisco**



UCSF Toland Hall Mural

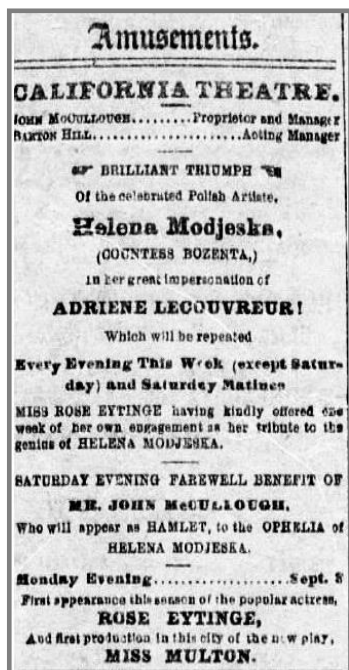
In 1849, **Dr. Feliks Paweł Wierzbicki**, another veteran of the 1830 Uprising, wrote the **first book printed in the English language** in the soon-to-be State of California: *California as It is and as It May Be: A Guide to the Gold Region*. He also authored the first book on California mines. Dr. Wierzbicki was a prominent member of the California Medical Society. His portrait can be seen in Toland Hall at UCSF Medical Center in a mural of the history of medicine executed by Polish-Jewish artist, Bernard Zakheim.



1865 RR Map by Bielawski

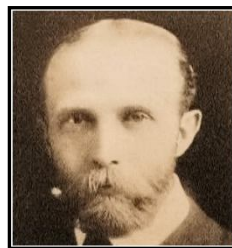
Captain Kazimierz Bielawski, the first President of the Polish Society of California, surveyed Spanish land grants in California, and reportedly assisted in the purchase of the State of Alaska from Russia. As an expert surveyor and civil engineer, he drew and published a railroad map of California and Nevada in 1865.

Long-time Polish Society member **Martin Prag**, a highly esteemed and successful merchant, served on the "Committee of Arrangements" for the "Grand Mass Meeting in Favor of Polish Freedom and Nationality" in 1863.



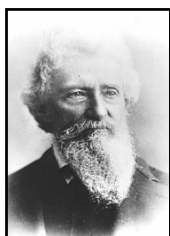
World-renowned Shakespearean stage actress of the late 19th Century, **Helena Modrzejewska** (who went by the shortened name "**Modjeska**"), began her career in San Francisco with the help of local expatriates – Captains Rudolf Korwin Piotrowski and Kazimierz Bielawski, and also **Władysław Pawlicki, M.D.** (socially prominent surgeon); **Julian Horain** (Journalist); **Gen. Krzyżanowski** (Union Army, Civil War); **Aleksander Bednawski** (Civil Engineer and Surveyor), and **Captain Franciszek T. Lessen** (Treasury Agent), all of whom were associated with the Polish Society of California.

Andrzej (André) Poniatowski (the great-nephew of the last king of Poland, Stanisław August Poniatowski) established the Sierra Railroad Company. He brought to the Bay Area the first hydroelectric power lines from dams in the Sierra Nevada. Poniatowski established the Sierra Railroad Company, and formed the Standard Electric Co., now Pacific Gas & Electric.



Andrzej Poniatowski

Captain Rudolf Korwin Piotrowski was another veteran of Poland's 1830 November Uprising. He was appointed a California Immigration Officer in 1873 by his friend, Governor Newton Booth (and later reappointed by Governor Pacheco). Piotrowski played a key role in naming the mining camp town "Sebastopol" on the Cosumnes River (sometimes misidentified as today's Sebastopol). Piotrowski's Sebastopol, in Sacramento County, no longer exists. His larger-than-life personality inspired Nobel-prize winning author **Henryk Sienkiewicz**, years later, to create the literary character **Zagłoba** – a beloved figure in Sienkiewicz's fictional books about Poland, known collectively as **The Trilogy**. Piotrowski's friend, **Captain Franciszek Michał Wojciechowski** (Francis Mitchel) was Sienkiewicz's inspiration for his Trilogy literary character **Longinus Podbipięta**. Henryk Sienkiewicz lived in California for about two years -- for a time with Helena Modjeska in Anaheim and later with Franciszek Wojciechowski in Sebastopol; he is best known in America for *Quo Vadis*.



Dr. Jan Strencel (John Strentzel), medical colleague of Dr. Pawlicki, was a pioneer horticulturalist of the State, and father-in-law to naturalist **John Muir**. He was an authority on all questions relating to fruit and a staunch supporter of "The Cause of Poland."

THE CAUSE OF POLAND.—The following letter was recently addressed to the Polish Committee in San Francisco :

ALHAMBRA (near Martinez), Nov. 7, 1863.
To the Polish Committee—Gentlemen: From notices in the papers, I perceive that you are again busy in collecting contributions for our suffering brethren. The rigors of a northern Winter are already upon them; every day's delay freezes the heart's blood of many a patriot; let each hundred dollars collected be immediately dispatched on the wings of lightning to the Central Committee. Each hundred dollars will procure fifty kozachs (sheep skin coats)—each kozach a ransom for a life. Inclosed please find an order for one hundred dollars, on Gale & Co., for the Polish Committee.
Yours, very truly,
DR. STRENTZEL.



Dr. Marcel Pietrzycki, graduate of San Francisco's Toland Medical College, became one of the best-known physicians in the State of Washington.

Gabriel Sowulewski was a pioneer Yosemite trail-builder. He is one of the small group of people buried in Yosemite

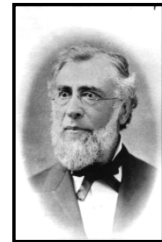


National Park.

Sowulewski's Yosemite Grave

Charles Meyer, merchant, pioneering industrialist and philanthropist, was Vice President of the Polish Society in 1863 and a designated Political Agent, appointed by the Polish Revolutionary Government to raise funds to aid Poland. He was also President of the First Hebrew Benevolent Society and a congregant of Temple Sherith Israel.

Rabbi Elkan Cohn, of Congregation Temple Emanu-El, in 1863 was a Trustee of the Polish Society. He was among the group of people designated to raise funds to aid Poland.



Rabbi Cohn

Thus, before California was admitted to the Union in 1850, the Polish pioneers of California had established a firm foothold in San Francisco. By 1863 the **first formally organized association of Poles** in our State was created to support independence for Poland. **Today, Poles, and people of Polish descent, contribute to our State in all walks of life.** Among the most prominent of the Polish initiatives in the Bay Area are those from the iconic Silicon Valley. Annually, in Silicon Valley, Polish and Polish-American scientists, technologists, and engineers participate in the **Poland-Silicon Valley Science and Technology Symposium** organized by the US-Polish Trade Council.

**Tonight we salute the accomplishments of ALL of Polonia,
"From Pioneers to Silicon Valley".**

Zakrzewski's 1849 Map of San Francisco



San Francisco, Nov. 29, 1894

Mr John Muir
Dear Sir.

Receive my best thanks for
your book published about "The Mountains
of California" presented to me.

The deeply thought observations about their
formation, and the masterly description of
the beauties of nature contained therein, form
a fit and very interesting sequel to the series
of "Picturesque California" published pre-
viously under your Editorship.

With kindest regards to all my friends
in Alhambra valley I remain respectfully
Yours
C. Bielawski

Letter to naturalist John Muir from
Captain Bielawski of the Polish Society

A Short History of Poland

To fully appreciate the story of the Polish California pioneers it is helpful to understand some Polish history. The story of Poland is a tale of long stretches of foreign rule, and repeated attempts by Poles to evict foreign occupiers and to reclaim self-rule.

The arrival of the Slavs on the land known today as Poland gave rise to the Piast dynasty and the adoption of Christianity in **966 – the year when Poland was “born”** as a nation. The Jagiellonian dynasty of Poland was closely tied to the Grand Duchy of Lithuania, culminating in the establishment of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth in 1569.



Constitution of May 3, 1791, by Jan Matejko

The Commonwealth (the **First Polish Republic**) was one of the largest and one of the most populous countries of 16th- and 17th-century Europe, with some 390,000 square miles and a multi-ethnic population of 11 million at its peak in the early 17th century. The

Commonwealth was established in July 1569, but the union between

Poland and Lithuania had begun earlier when Lithuania's Grand Duke became the king of Poland (1386). During the years of the Commonwealth, Poland was a very large and very multi-ethnic country. One out of three inhabitants of Poland at that time was not ethnically Polish.

The landmark **Polish Constitution of May 3rd, 1791** is a symbol of the Polish people and of their struggle for liberty, justice, and honor. It is recognized as the second earliest document of its kind, created just a few years after the Constitution of the United States of America; it was the first constitution written on European soil. The constitution established a democratic philosophy of humanitarianism and tolerance.

The Partitions: The Russian Empire, the Kingdom of Prussia and Habsburg Austria divided the Commonwealth lands among themselves in **1772** -- the **First Partition** of Poland. Two decades after the first partition, Russia and Prussia carried out another land grab -- the **Second Partition, 1793**. After the unsuccessful Kościuszko Uprising, Poland was **partitioned for a third time in 1795**. The Commonwealth ceased to exist. Thus, **three times in the second half of the 18th century Poland lost its sovereignty** by territorial seizures from neighboring countries. Poland regained its independence as the **Second Polish Republic in 1918**.





Poles and *Polonia* (the Polish diaspora) celebrate **Poland's Independence Day on November 11th** to mark Poland's liberation in 1918 after 123 years of occupation. For 21 years Poles enjoyed their long-sought-for freedom – the

dream that had galvanized the Poles in **San Francisco in 1863** to unite as the Polish Society of California. **Józef Piłsudski** (Chief of State) played a major role in creating the 1918 **Second Republic of Poland**.

Between 1939 to 1989, Poles were forbidden to celebrate National Independence Day. After the collapse of the socialist/communist government, the holiday gained particular significance. Today, major celebrations are held in Warsaw's Piłsudski Square. Patriotic gatherings and parades for Independence Day take place all over Poland. **In San Francisco, at the Church of the Nativity, 240 Fell Street, Polish scouts and Polish veterans will commemorate Independence Day: Sunday, November 10th, 2013, 10:30 a.m. Please join us!**



In **August 1939**, Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union made a secret agreement (the **Molotov–Ribbentrop Pact**) that defined Poland as territory to be invaded, conquered and divided. World War II began with the invasion of Poland by Nazi Germany and Soviet Russia. **Between 1939-1941 millions of Poles were deported to Siberia** and others were **deported to Germany**. The **Warsaw Uprising of 1944** was a heroic and tragic 63-day

struggle to liberate Warsaw from Nazi-German occupation undertaken by the **Home Army** (Armia Krajowa or AK) -- the **Polish resistance movement** (the largest in any Nazi-occupied country). "Rising '44" failed. About **16,000** members of the Polish resistance were killed and thousands of ordinary citizens were executed during the Uprising. In total, the country of Poland lost **over six million Polish citizens** during the Second World War – three million of whom were Jews.

After WWII, Poland became a client state of the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union influenced Poland's internal and foreign affairs and controlled the Polish Armed Forces. Red Army forces were stationed in Poland until 1989. The **People's Republic of Poland** (PRL) was the official name of Poland from 1952 until 1989. The Polish United Workers' Party became the dominant political party, making Poland a Socialist state.

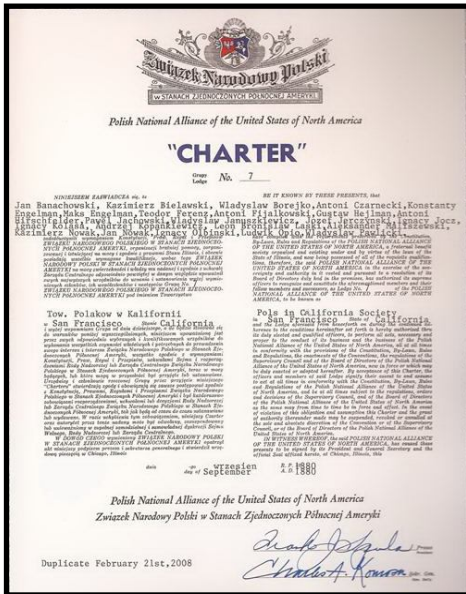
The Solidarity trade union (***Solidarność***) federation emerged in 1980 at the Gdańsk Shipyard under the leadership of **Lech Wałęsa**. Solidarity was a broad anti-bureaucratic social movement using the methods of civil resistance (e.g., strikes) to advance workers' rights and social change. It was the first non-communist-party-controlled trade union in a Warsaw-Pact country. Solidarity boasted 9.5 million members by 1981. The Polish government attempted to destroy the union during the period of **martial law** in the early 1980s. In the end the government was forced to negotiate with the union. Round-table talks between the government and the Solidarity-led opposition led to semi-free elections in 1989; the Polish communist party and its allies were guaranteed a majority of lower house seats, but allowed opposition parties to gain representation. All subsequent elections, beginning with the 1991 election were fair and free. 1989 is considered the year that democratic rule, the **Third Polish Republic**, was established. A Solidarity-led coalition government was formed in December 1990, the year that Lech Wałęsa was elected President of Poland.



Pope John Paul II and Lech Wałęsa

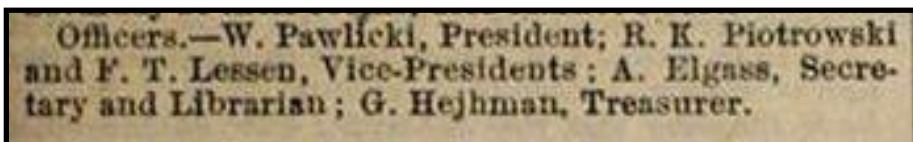
<http://www.magnumphotos.com/C.aspx?VP3=SearchResult&ALID=2K1HRGTATAT>

The Polish National Alliance, Lodge 7



In 1880 the Polish Society of California joined the Polish National Alliance as Lodge 7. Since that time, **the Society has always used both names** “The Polish Society of California” and “PNA Lodge 7.” PNA is a national organization whose home-office is in Chicago. PNA offers fraternal and educational activities for its members and friends, including sports-youth events, organized camp outings for children and teenagers, organized Easter and Christmas events, college scholarships,

national spelling bees, coloring contests, and support for Polish language schools and dance groups. Since 1885 PNA has offered insurance to its members. Women gained full PNA membership rights beginning in 1900. The Polish National Alliance is a long-time sponsor of Łowiczanie Polish Folk Ensemble of San Francisco.



1880 Officers of the Polish Society of California / PNA Lodge 7



Dożynki (Photo W. Głodek)

Lodge 7 sponsors an annual Fall harvest festival (Dożynki) and annual Easter and St. Nicholas Day events.



**Polish Society/PNA Lodge 7
Easter Event at the Polish Club
in San Francisco**



Easter photos by T. Zukovsky

Święty Mikołaj Potluck



Sunday, December 9, 2012
1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Polish Club, San Francisco
3040 22nd Street, at Shotwell



Celebration of St. Nicholas Day



**Entertainment at the
dinner-dance, 2011,
following District 16's
Sejmik (council
meeting). The banquet
celebrated 131 years of
The Polish Society of
California/PNA Lodge 7.**



**Sejmik (Council) Delegates,
2011 at the Polish Club**

Members of Lodge 7 participate annually in the PNA-sponsored choreographers' seminar in Michigan at St. Mary's of Orchard Lake.



**Choreographers' Seminar,
Orchard Lake, Michigan**



In 2011, the Polish Club in San Francisco hosted District 16's "Sejmik" (council meeting). The dinner-dance that followed the Sejmik celebrated 131 years of PNA Lodge 7.



**Piotr Filipowski, Polish Club
Sejmik Banquet 2011**



**Łowiczanie Polish Folk Ensemble of
San Francisco, sponsored by
PNA & the Polish Club, performing in
Golden Gate Park**

**Sejmik banquet, 2011 at the
Polish Club in San Francisco**

Program for the Evening

Cocktail Reception & History Exhibit (Hosted Wines & Vodka)

Fountain & Crystal Rooms	6 pm
Instrumental Duo	Susan Worland & Nikolai Prisikar
String Trio	B. Komerniczak, P. Walerowski, S. Worland

Banquet & Entertainment

Venetian Room	7:30 pm
Welcome	Anthony Zukovsky
Master of Ceremonies	Zbigniew Stańczyk
National Anthems	Dalyte Kodzis and assembled guests
Invocation	Rev. T. Rusnak (Nativity Church, S.F.)
Łowiczenie Choir	<i>Gaude Mater Polonia</i> K. Chaberska, M. Jaworski, D. Kodzis, K. Mokrzan
Multi-media presentation:	"From Pioneers to Silicon Valley" Maureen Mroczek Morris
Dramatic reading	Capt. R. K. Piotrowski's speech of 1863 delivered by Actor Marek Probosz
Łowiczenie Choir	<i>Dumka na dwa serca</i> K. Mokrzan & K. Chaberska
Mariusz Brymora Teresa Abick	Consul General of Poland, Los Angeles Polish National Alliance, Chicago
Dance Suite by Łowiczenie	Mazur, Waltz and Polonez

Grand Polonez for Guests

Dancing Until Midnight	Disc Jockey, Piotr Kodzis
------------------------	---------------------------

PERFORMANCES BY THE ŁOWICZANIE CHOIR & FOLK ENSEMBLE

Gaude Mater Polonia (O ciesz się Matko-Polsko)

(Rejoice Mother Poland)

Probably the most popular medieval Polish hymn of the First Polish Republic (the Polish Lithuanian Commonwealth) written in the 13th–14th century in memory of St. Stanisław Szczepanowski, Bishop of Kraków. Polish knights used to sing this hymn after victory in battle, presumably to one of the Gregorian melodies associated with the Eucharistic hymn, *O Salutaris Hostia*, on which it is based.

Latin	Polish	English
Gaude, mater Polonia	O ciesz się, Matko-Polsko, w sławne	Rejoice, oh Mother Poland
Prole faecunda nobili	Potomstwo płodna! Króla królów	Rich in noble offspring,
Summi Regis magnalia	i najwyższego Pana wielkość	Mighty works of the greatest King
Laude frequenta vigili	Uwielbiaj chwałą przynależną	Worship with incessant praise

Dumka na dwa serca (A Slavic Folk Song “Dumka” for Two Hearts)

From the movie based on Nobel Prize-winning Polish author, Henryk Sienkiewicz’s historical novel, *Ogniem i mieczem* (*With Fire and Sword*). The novel is the first volume of a book series known to Poles as The Trilogy -- historical fiction about Poland.

Dance Suite by Łowiczanie Polish Folk Ensemble of San Francisco: *Mazur*:

(Stanisław Moniuszko, *Halka*) (choreography by Mary Kay Stuvland); *Waltz*:

Jak długo w sercach naszych: (How Long in Our Hearts) (choreography by Mary Kay Stuvland); *Polonez* (Music by Wojciech Kilar from the film *Pan Tadeusz*) (choreography by Piotr Łącki)

ARTISTS’ BIOGRAPHIES



Marek Probosz as Henryk Sienkiewicz from the film *Sienkiewicz in Love*

Marek Probosz, born in 1959 in Żory, Poland, is a film and theater director, screenwriter, writer and actor. He graduated from the Polish Film School in Łódź. Probosz has starred in over 50 films that have won awards at key international festivals. His most known credits are: playing R. Polański in the Warner Brothers’ film *Helter Skelter*, and Witold Pilecki in the feature film, *The Death of*

Captain Pilecki, winner of the Special Jury REMI Award at IFF, Houston’07. Recently, Probosz recorded for *Audible.com* an

audiobook about Polish World War II hero Witold Pilecki ***"The Auschwitz Volunteer: Beyond Bravery"***, Winner of the Best PROSE Award 2012 and the Benjamin Franklin Silver Award 2013.



Katarzyna Chaberska, mezzo-soprano, has studied opera and voice for over 15 years, both in the US and in Poland. She has not only studied with world-renowned vocalists, but has competed successfully at the State and National levels in the U.S., and has performed in a variety of operas and musicals.



Jolanta Jankowska studied architecture and music in Poland, where she also performed with a band, taught music and movement to children, and created dance choreographies. Currently Jola works with local schools in Marin County, with art festivals and with Łowiczanie Polish Folk Ensemble of San Francisco as Director of the Łowiczanie Chór (Choir). Jola is also a successful professional in the world of real estate.



Marek Jaworski completed his musical education at University of Łódź in Poland. Currently a professional photographer with MarGo Photography, he continues to enjoy singing with the Łowiczanie Chór. Marek has performed for the past eight years at the annual Slavic Choral Christmas Concert, and with a smaller men's chorus for a variety of local Polonia events.



Dalyte Kodzis, soprano, received her Bachelor's of Music in 2006 from UC Santa Cruz and has performed many roles on the professional opera stage. Recent roles include Georgina in Pocket Opera's *The Haunted Manor*, Leona in Pocket Opera's *La Belle Helene*, and Alla in *Solidarity* with Goat Hall Productions.



Bogdan Komorniczak has played and sung Polish traditional music for many years, including at the annual Polish Festivals in Roseville and Martinez, and he participates annually, since 2009, at the "Poetry by the Bay" program. Bogdan performs his favorite Polish folk songs on guitar, banjo, ukulele, charango, hurdy gurdy (lira korbowa) and harmonica. While Bogdan does not avoid "the stage," his first love is to sing around a campfire in the company of good friends.



Krzysztof Moksza, tenor, was born and raised in Kraków, Poland. He moved to San Francisco in July of 2012. He sang in several choirs in Poland and Germany and currently dances with Łowiczanie Polish Folk Ensemble of San Francisco. He is Assistant Director of, and sings with, the Łowiczanie Chór (Choir).



Łowiczanie Polish Folk Ensemble of San Francisco is a group of skilled and dedicated dancers, singers and musicians who present traditional music, song and dance from Poland. The Ensemble presents vibrant programs for concerts, festivals and special events. The repertoire features authentic Polish material from both the nobility and the countryside, performed in exquisite museum-quality costumes. The Polish National Alliance is a long-time supporter of the Ensemble, and since its inception Łowiczanie dancers rehearse weekly at the Polish Club in San Francisco.



Nikolai Prisikar, from Moldova, worked as a musician and conductor after earning his Master of Arts degree in Music and Music Education at the National Cultural Education College and the Moldovian National Conservatory. Nikolai serves as a rehearsal accompanist for the Sacramento Ballet and works as a professional musician (keyboards, piano and accordion) and as a music conductor.



Paweł Walerowski, cellist, was formally trained in his native Poland where he graduated from the Music Conservatory in Poznań. Paweł's credits in San Francisco include recording for singer-songwriters, premiering musicals, playing for a circus production, subbing for the Berkeley Repertory Theater and performing with the ViBO String Quartet and ViBO Simfani. Paweł also serves as music director for several Bay Area groups.



Susan Worland is a violinist and fiddler with a special love for Polish music, in particular the music of the mountains, on the border of the Czech and Slovak Republics. She has played with Łowiczanie Polish Folk Ensemble of San Francisco for many seasons, and also with Polish dance groups in New England and Canada.



Mary Kay Stuvland is artistic director/choreographer for Łowiczanie Polish Folk Ensemble of San Francisco. She serves as Deputy Consul for Honorary Consul Tad Taube. She has over 30 years' experience as a dance instructor and performer. She earned her certification in Polish choreography and ethnography in Rzeszów Studium in 2010.

Mary Kay has created Polish dance suites for Polish folk ensembles, as well as for Pocket Opera. Mary Kay teaches public dance workshops for children and adults. Her work in the Polish community has been recognized with the *Amicus Poloniae* and *Pro Memoria* awards, bestowed by the Republic of Poland. Mary Kay is a member of the Polish National Alliance, Lodge 7 (membership paid by Łowiczanie), on the Boards of Directors of the Polish Club of San Francisco, of Łowiczanie Polish Folk Ensemble of San Francisco (VP), and the San Francisco-Kraków Sister Cities Association (founded by Tad Taube and Christopher Kerosky).

Hosted Beverages

Ceja Vineyards (Napa – Sonoma)

Clos du Val (Napa) donated by Dominik Drozdowicz

Darioush Estate Wines (Napa)

Enkidu Wines (Sonoma)

Epoch 2010 Estate Blend, Paderewski Vineyards (Paso Robles)
(exclusive doner of banquet red wines)

“J” Sparkling wine (Healdsburg) donated by
Joy Zamoyski Koch & David Koch

Megawine Import/Export : Merlot selection

Muir-Hanna Vineyards (Napa) donated by the Hanna Family

Potocki Premium Vodka, donated by Jan-Roman Potocki

Cold Stone & assorted other wines from the Polish Arts & Culture
Foundation

Wine Trading Company, San Francisco (mixed selection of whites)

Banquet Menu

Starter

*Spinach Salad with Roasted Pears, Candied Walnuts and Goat
Cheese with Balsamic Maple Vinaigrette*

Entrées

*Beef Tenderloin with Morel Mushrooms & Terrace Rosemary Jus,
Crushed Fingerling Potatoes, and Market Vegetables*

~ or ~

*Pistachio-crusted Pacific Sea Bass
Lobster Scallion Sauce, Asparagus Lemon Risotto*

~ or ~

*Roast Game Hen with Fingerling Potatoes, Fig-Pecan Glaze,
& Natural Jus*

~ or ~

*Garlic & Rosemary Marinated Portobello Mushrooms
Savoy Cabbage, Butternut & White Bean Ragoût,
Roasted Beet Reduction*

Desserts, Coffee and Tea

*Lemon Raspberry Meringue Tart, Shortbread Crust,
Raspberry Meringue, Raspberry Jam & Coulis*

~ & ~

*Dark Chocolate Cheesecake, Chocolate Cookie Crust,
Whipped Cream, Blueberry Cardamom Compote*

POLISH SOCIETY OF CALIFORNIA

150th Anniversary Celebration

PATRONS (\$2,500-\$5,000)

Polam Federal Credit Union
Polish American Congress, Northern California Division
Polish Club Inc., San Francisco
Taube Philanthropies
US-Polish Trade Council

BENEFACTORS (\$1,000)

Bay Laurel Group LLP (William Adasiewicz, Esq.)
Caroline and Louis Brownstone Family
Maja Kieturakis and Maciej Kieturakis, M.D.
Walter J. Morris (Władysław Mroczek) Family
Polish National Alliance, Chicago
Hugh Stuart Center Charitable Trust
Tadeusz Ungar Foundation

GOLD LEVEL SPONSORS (\$500)

Anonymous
Barbara and Janusz Bryzek
Polish National Alliance District 16
San Francisco-Kraków Sister Cities Association
Anthony Zukovsky

SILVER LEVEL SPONSORS (\$300)

Łowiczenie Polish Folk Ensemble of San Francisco
Helena Modjeska Art & Culture Club
Caria Tomczykowska
Elżbieta Wierzbiańska
Zofia Zakrzewska

FRIENDS AND WELL-WISHERS

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Krystyna Chciuk and Family
Vivian J. Coe Family
Barbara J. Cosentino
Władysława Dziewanowski
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Joseph Klammer
Beata Mazur
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Polish Literary and Dramatic Circle
John Paul II School of Polish Language
Polish Scouting Association
Halina Rueger
Kathleen Rueger
Kenneth Solak
Strychaż Family
Syntax Films: Albin R. Pomnichowski
Mary Jo Wisneski Johnston



San Francisco, 1913: Polish Falcons commemorating Poland's 1863 Uprising

IN-KIND DONATIONS

Krosno Art Glass Sculptures, Hand-blown in Poland
The Polish-American Congress, Northern California Division

Commemorative Book Printing (Contribution)
The Consulate of the Republic of Poland in Los Angeles

Disc Jockey
Piotr Kodzis

Display Cases, Table Decorations and Venue Decorations
Polish Arts and Culture Foundation

History Exhibit, Slides and Commemorative Book
Maureen Mroczek Morris

Master of Ceremonies
Zbigniew Stańczyk

Performances, Sound System, Table & Venue Decorations
Łowiczanie Polish Folk Ensemble of San Francisco

DANCERS

Katarzyna Chaberska, Dominik Dąbrowiecki, Darren Lipski,
Witold Dudziński, Waldemar Kapusta, Phillip Kosiara,
Brennan Kreller, Aleksandra Kozak, Karolina Mokrzan,
Natalia Mulawa, Anna Pasnik-Szymańska, Aleksander Poppe,
Christina Smoleń, Joana Smoleń, Mary Kay Stuvland,
Barbara Suroż, Adriel Taquechel,
Małgosia Wojciechowska, Elżbieta Zienczuk

Support for Acquisition of Paintings of Captain Piotrowski
Zofia Chciuk

Invitations
Basia Szlachta

Mass Mailing
Polam Federal Credit Union

Posters
Barbara Suroż

California Newspaper Reports of the Grand Mass Meeting of 1863

(Speeches and remarks **transcribed as printed** in 1863; emphasis added)

Daily Alta California, SAN FRANCISCO, SATURDAY, MAY 23, 1863

Mass Meeting of Sympathizers with the Polish Revolution

LARGE AND ENTHUSIASTIC DEMONSTRATION, ETC.



Pursuant to the call published in the daily journals of the city, a mass meeting of the friends of the revolutionists of Poland, now struggling against the tyranny of Russian domination, crowded in Platt's Hall last evening. **And a mass meeting it proved to be in fact as well as in name.** Whilst the audience

was assembling, a fine band of music played a number of soul-stirring airs in front of the hall. At the hour the meeting was called to order the spacious edifice was thronged, a large number of ladies occupying the galleries and private boxes. The audience on the main floor was composed of the **representatives of almost all nations.** The Hall was tastefully decorated with flags, shields, streamers and banners. Conspicuously on the centre wall, and immediately in the rear of the stage, was suspended the flag of Poland—a white eagle on a red field. After the Hall had become packed, the band took their post in front of the stage and discoursed more music.

THE ORGANIZATION.

The **immense assemblage** was called to order by W. A. Cornwall, Esq., simultaneously with the advent of the President and other officers on the stage. The following named officers were elected unanimously:

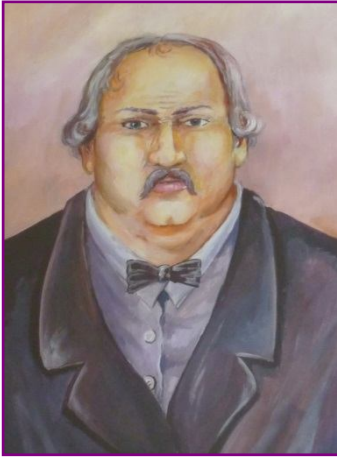
President:—H. P. Coon.

Vice Presidents --E. F. Beale, A. G. Abell, D. J. Oliver, H. A. Cobb, Peter Davidson, S. C. Hastings, Nathaniel Holland, Louis McLane, Eugene Casserly, H. H. Haight, Louis Cohn, Sam. Knight, Eugene Sullivan, G. W. Bell, N. Larco, **E. Lazard**, M. C. Blake, Sol. Heydenfeldt, C. A. Crane, J. A. Donahoe, W. H. Sharp, W. H. Culver, A. B. Forbes, Peter Donahue, James Paul, Delos Dake, Dr. Stoddard, H. Seligman, R. B. Woodward, John Middiction, Mr. Sabati, John Currey, George K. Pitch, Wm. A. Woodward, Dr. F. Loehr, E. Derbee, G. W. Guthrie, T.H. Selby, Thomas Bedley, Mr. Lesser, J. J. Ayers, Thomas Mooney, L. Sawyer, A. F. Babcock, P. Mebius, R. B. Swain, Col. Cazneau, A. C. Benham, **Newton Booth**, Gen. Kibbe, Jos. Mollitor.

Secretaries—W. A. Cornwall, F. MacCrellish, Edward Conway.

On motion of **Col. Zabriskie** the following gentlemen were appointed a Committee on resolutions, *i.e.*: Messrs. **Zabriskie**, Frank Sonle, Judge P. W. Shepherd, Solomon Sharp. **Dr. Coon**, on taking the chair, briefly thanked the audience for electing him to the Presidency.

SPEECH OF CAPTAIN RUDOLF KORWIN PIOTROWSKI

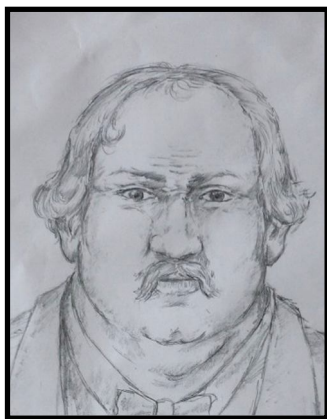


This gentleman, a hero of oppressed Poland, **made a thrilling eloquent speech, which at brief intervals was vociferously applauded.**

Mr. President – LADIES AND GENTLEMAN: -- Twenty millions of human beings this day, perhaps this very minute, are fighting for life or death. They are Poles. Who the Poles are, what right they have to their nationality and liberty, what services they have rendered to civilization, Christianity and humanity at large, stronger intellects than mine, far more eloquent voices of my distinguished friends who shall follow me on this stand, will tell you better than I can. But I am a Pole. **I and my countrymen here are willing and anxious, as well as our brethren at home, to fight for our country,** and to seal with our best hearts' blood, the love, the fidelity to our beloved Poland! To conquer or to die, is the wish of Poles at home! To conquer or to die is our wish here also! **But broad lands and extended oceans separate us from the battlefields of our struggling brethren.** Shall we then here remain quiet? Shall we stand here useless, cowardly spectators of this heroic struggle of our countrymen? No! Heaven forbid! **Poles! we have a great mission to fulfill.** We have a noble task to achieve here, and with the help of God we shall do it. The brave sons of Poland at home grapple unarmed with the iron-clad foe. We have to furnish them arms, and those arms must be, shall be, more powerful than the destroying powder, more terrible than the rifled cannon. Those arms, brethren, are the **potent voice of a free people,** which is more effective than lightning, which is louder than the thunder of Heaven. **Let us provoke the sympathy of Americans, of all free men of the world,** and we have that voice. Let it then be heard beyond the continent and the seas! Let it thunder like a death-knell in the ears of our tyrants, and it will appall their hearts. It will paralyze their arms! Let it be heard at home and every Pole will become a hero?

Mr. President— Polish liberty was murdered in the broad daylight, in the face of the world. But the Almighty God, in his goodness, gave an imperishable vitality to that nation. Seven times since that atrocious murder, the sons of Poland rose and battled with the oppressor; unsuccessfully it is true, but energized by their unspeakable wrongs, urged

on by their undying love of liberty, maddened by their despair, **they rise again and struggle anew for their freedom.** May God Almighty bless their efforts this time! It is the first time that all the Poles, without distinction, united in this holy crusade. Tottering age, feeble childhood, manly youth and delicate women — **peasants and princes, Christians and Jews, all are up, fighting for their nationality, for their liberty.** Weaponless they fight, but their hearts burn with purest patriotism. Great as is the gigantic power of the tyrant, they are hopeful in the justice of their cause. They believe in the sympathies of freemen. They are confident in the goodness and mercy of the Almighty. They go willingly and shed freely rivers of blood on the altar of their adored country. **Americans! Freemen of all nations! Shall you not be with them in this noble work?** Shall you see the sword and fire annihilate a people and not help them? Shall you see Poland expire again before your very eyes and not stretch a helping hand? Oh, no! God will not permit it.



And now I address the noblest portion of the Creator's work, the ladies of America! You who are always willing and ready to succor misfortune, to dry the tears of sorrow, to help the sick and the sufferer. You who, like angels of mercy, bring consolation, hope, and even joy to the despairing. When, where will you find a broader, a nobler field for the exertion of your sacred ministry? Helpless age, desolate wives, heartbroken husbands, afflicted orphans, all in despair, by thousands, by millions, stretch their imploring hands towards you and call for help! Oh help them, they will bless you; help them, they will pray for you. And such prayers, believe me, will reach the throne of the Almighty.

Freemen of the whole world! Sons of the immortal heroes of your immortal revolution! Stand up manfully and give a verdict worthy of your fathers, worthy of yourselves. **Say boldly, that nationality and liberty shall rule the world! Say bravely, that tyranny ought and shall be annihilated! Say generously, say patriotically, that Poland shall live, that Poland shall be free!**

MR. WILLIAM HAMILL'S SPEECH (Irish-born; published the Catholic *Monitor*)

He was a finished scholar, and possessed an extensive and accurate knowledge of general and classic literature. After leaving college, he was appointed first teacher in the academy of the distinguished Doctor Cahill, a position which he held for several years, and resigned in order to accept an engagement as sub-editor of the *Dublin Nation*, with which journal he was connected for some years. Subsequently he held various offices of importance and honor, among others that of Inspector of National Schools in Ireland. He was the founder and editor of the *Glasgow Free Press*, a leading Catholic organ still in existence. On his arrival in California, he established and edited with marked ability, the *Catholic Standard*. He was also the founder and first editor of the *Monitor*. In 1865 he was appointed Principal of the Union Grammar School, and was acknowledged to have no superior as a teacher. Perhaps the most conclusive proof of his competency and devotion is found in the fact that the members of the first class, which was immediately under his charge, since grown to manhood, have ever loved him with a filial tenderness, and mourn his demise with the most poignant and profound sorrow.

William Hamill's Obituary

swell the cry which resounds through Christendom for the liberation of Poland. The oligarchs of the world looked coldly on whilst a nation was nominally effaced by a band of despots—the multitude must assert their might and compel their governments to a true representation of popular will. For Poland, the peoples of the earth are her diplomatists, and their sympathies are her only treaties.

SYMPATHY WITH THE POLISH REVOLUTION.—The Board of Supervisors last evening accepted an invitation, from the Committee of Arrangements, to attend a mass meeting in favor of Polish freedom and nationality, to be held at Platt's Hall on Friday evening next.

It behooves us to perform our function in that behalf and zeal as best we may. The treaty by which **the civilized of the world declare Poland a free nation, from the Ukraine to the Baltic, declare her dismemberment a crime against God and man** which the people must efface and the tyrants of the world atone. Affix our sanction to the great decree promulgated throughout the world, and which may be read thus: By the visible ordination of Almighty God, and His manifest Providence in sanctioning the national soul of Poland, through trials the most terrible ever encountered by a people, **Poland is entitled to a distinct nationality—inalienable and indivisible. The boundaries of nations cannot be made by protocols; they are assigned by God and sooner or later His laws will vindicate themselves.** The line drawn on a map by such a character as Catharine of Russia across Lithuania and Volhynia, taking all the land east of it, is a poor barrier against the natural laws which give to the component parts of a body its affinities and power of cohesion.

Sir: Such a cause as called us here tonight cannot be imperiled or injured by the inefficiency of the advocate. **The just of mankind, of whatsoever nationality, are the advocates of Poland,** and wheresoever they are at liberty to pronounce in her favor, their utterance is distinct and unmistakable. **Happily it is in our power to give some emphasis to the public voice, and to**

It will detract nothing from general principles and established facts that the base traitor, Frederic Wm. of Prussia, by the most flagrant desertion that history records, from a sworn ally became the plunder of the remaining portion of Poland, and despoiled the land he was bound to protect. **Such partitions as these, you will readily agree, cannot last; but it is our duty to shorten their duration by all possible means.** And, Sir, to that end we can do much. Just as in a community or individual nation, "public opinion" is potent for good, so the aggregate opinions of nations make a power which no one country can long withstand. The measure of achievement possible by this public opinion is the earnestness and vigor with which it is pronounced and urged. And it is therefore, Sir, that **it is not without hope of practical results that we meet here tonight. For I trust we will now inaugurate such measures as will make our voices heard and our sympathies felt.**



There is an underhum which swells to a tornado, and

tyrants have learned to distinguish its ominous mutterings. **Let us swell the cry of liberty for Poland,** until its power shall pierce the palaces of Petersburg and the dastard heart of the Prussian policeman who makes his realm a guardhouse for Russia. Austria, indeed, may not be soothed or terrified. The deep damnation of her part of the infamous spoliation argues such unutterable baseness that she is clearly beyond the reach of human feelings. As Wm. Cobbett once said of a similar ingrate, we, in pondering over her past and present relations to Poland, may say **"We would suffocate with indignation if contempt did not come to our relief."** **Let us briefly glance at the facts.** From the close of the seventeenth century, from 1680 to 1683, Europe was constantly in dread of falling a victim to the Turks.

The contest was fiercely and implacably waged between the Crescent and the Cross. The resistless Turk had carried fire and sword through the fairest provinces of Western Europe, and with **200,000 men besieged Vienna.** **Europe trembled,** for the merciless Moslem was literally at her gates. With Vienna and the Danube in his possession, he would dominate all Germany and Italy, and his future there would be as the past in Asia. Day by day the hopes of the besieged waned fainter: dispatches are hurried to the Duke of Lorraine to advance with all the might of Austria, or the Crescent must inevitably wave over Vienna. The brave Starembourg, Governor of the unhappy city, "would not most surely surrender but with the last drop of his blood." But by the 10th of September, most of the garrison were either killed or wounded, and according to the chronicles of the time, "The grave continued open without ever closing its mouth."

The Duke of Lorraine is coming and near at hand, but in vain— all his efforts did not succeed in bringing over the mountains one single piece of ordnance. Three hundred Turkish guns have done their work, and on the 11th a large breach reveals itself through which the assaulting host can pour in overwhelming numbers. But on the midnight of the 11th on the heights of Calenberg, overlooking the Danube and the countless host and terrible array of Turkish power, **70,00 men**, who by stupendous efforts brought twenty eight pieces of artillery over a route still more difficult than that pursued by the Austrians--**inspired only with the love of**



Jan III Sobieski confronts Pasha Kara Mustafa at the Gates of Vienna

freedom and their fellow Christians--with no conquest to make, no territory to gain, no plunder to expect--lay grimly down until tomorrow's sun should give them light to save Christendom or perish.

At 5 o'clock on Sunday morning, the 16th of September, 1683, their leader descended to the plains, and that night installed his forces in the tents of the Turks. Fierce, indeed, but brief was the conflict. **70,000 Poles, with Sobieski for leader, in one hour vanquished utterly the renowned legions of Kara Mustapha, 200,000 strong.**

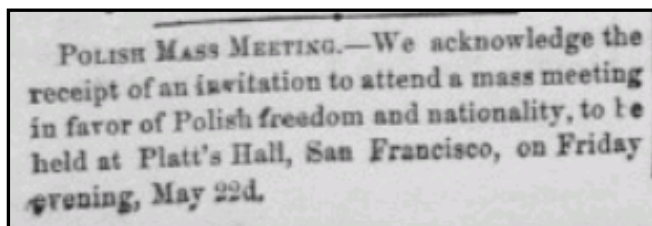
On Monday morning, amid the hosanas of the rescued Austrians, **Sobieski proceeded to the Cathedral of Vienna and himself intoned the *Te Deum* of thanks to God for a ransomed people.**

Invitation from Committee of Arrangements for Polish Mass Meeting, San Francisco.

What, then, but

inextinguishable hatred does this perfidious and ungrateful Austria deserve from true men everywhere? **Twelve thousand Polish lances charged Kara Mustapha's centre**, vowing to reach Vienna or return no more. Austria sends 60,000 bayonets to murder the Poles on their own soil because **they must live freemen or not at all**. Thus has the self-sacrifice and heroic valor of a chivalrous people been rewarded, and in the treatment they have received has been recorded one of the most humiliating lessons which man can learn. For assuredly it is grievously humiliating to be compelled to admit that our species is the same with those who, debased by sordid passions, have not hesitated to commit **the fiendish crime called the partition of Poland!** But, sir, let us turn aside from the contemplation of this melancholy spectacle so aptly called "the bloodiest picture in the book of time," to dwell on a brighter phase of Polish history.

From the first day of her attempted assassination until this date, the world is constantly astounded by such prodigies of valor as no other land can boast. What in the annals of time can compare with the heroism of the struggle now going on? Whilst Russia is at peace with all the great powers, this charmed and proscribed race boldly defy the power of the Czar and his countless hordes of well-armed and disciplined troops. With such weapon as first as fury could devise, they rush on troops supplied with all the best enginery of war. Undaunted by the overshadowing greatness of their enemies' resources, **they rush to combat for freedom because they cannot live in bondage. Death is preferable,** and they accept it freely. **They stop not to calculate the cost of freedom; without it life is an unendurable burden, and they fling it away—not recklessly or in a spirit of bravado, but with the unfaltering purpose and resolute will of noble manhood.**



Greece, in the days of her palmiest renown, does not outshine the glory which today gilds the banner of Polska. Amongst the current events

of last month's history, is one which proudly rivals the feat of Thermopylae. The Polish army is surrounded, and apparently, by all military law, it must surrender—when, in hurried council, it is resolved that two hundred men can, by dooming themselves to inevitable death, keep the enemy in check until retreat is secured. Forth leap the nobles of the land, and claim it as their prerogative to furnish this holocaust to freedom. With joy, the dauntless two hundred range in close column, and charge the Russian host. They perished to a man, but their country's army was saved! Can human power forge fetters strong enough to bind a race of such demigods as these? Can the heart of humanity long endure that these, the noblest exemplars of our divine lineage, shall be used only as hecatombs in the dreadful sacrifices which the molochs of Europe offer to the demon of despotism?

Surely, one at least will vindicate our national character, by demanding that the inhuman slaughter shall cease, and their country be restored to the men who have paid for it so fearful a price. We will not by assenting silence implicate ourselves and our children in the dreadful guilt of this monstrous iniquity. But we **American citizens have a special duty before us.**

What return shall this Republic make in Poland's hour of agony for the services of



Kościuszko

Kosciusko and the life blood of Pulaski? Shall that simple cenotaph at Savannah, of him "who had no country and found no grave"— the first Brigadier of Cavalry commissioned in the service of the United States, be our only memento of the hero of Brandywine? I know, sir, that it is not so, and I think I am not presumptuous in assuring the Polish Committee, and through them their gallant countrymen, that **American citizens generally desire ardently to cooperate in any movement which will afford aid and comfort to their glorious compatriots in their present struggle.**

We recognize the many claims which Poland has to the homage and gratitude of the human race. Not for her brilliant feat of arms and the example of exulted patriotism alone do we revere the name of Poland. **The country which gave Copernicus to the world, and since then a host of historians, poets and most polished writers on every theme of modern science,** commands respect as well as excites our admiration.

In perfection of language, in flexibility, richness, power and harmony, and in the completeness of grammatical structure and system, the Polish language is not excelled by any modern tongue and by few if any equaled. As might be expected, **copious treasures of science, art and literature,** effluent from the glowing mind of so great a people, have enriched our common civilisation, and received from the scholars of the world a fitting tribute to their intellectual greatness. And we, sir, will not deny claims of such a country to our grateful recognition and zealous support.

The history of Poland is the lexicon of liberty, and in its episodes we find the very classics of freedom. From the examples of her patriotism, the world knows how to teach the duties a citizen owes to his country. The evangel of patriotism which she has sent over all nations, shall fructify to her glory, and **restore to her unsubdued children the inheritance of which they were robbed. Poland shall triumph** by the blood of her martyrs.

"Like spectral lamps that burn before a tomb
The ancient lights expire
I wave a torch that floods the lessening gloom
With everlasting fire!
Crowned with my constellated stars I stand
Beside the foaming sea
And from the future, with a victor's hand
Claim empire for the free"

MR. PORTER'S SPEECH (Lawyer and State Senator from Oakland)



Platt's Music Hall

Nathan Porter made a brief, pointed and eloquent address, which was received with enthusiastic applause. The following are some of his remarks:

It is one of the instincts which every American has in his heart to sympathize with any nation struggling for its independence. [Applause] We cannot witness such a struggle as that in which Poland is now engaged without feeling in our

hearts that we must sympathise. [Applause] But it is nothing new for us to sympathise with Poland. We meet men here tonight from Poland, and we have heard her story from the gentleman who last addressed us. **We have heard how Prussia has seized one part of that unfortunate country, how Austria has seized another portion, and Russia another; how Russia, not content with depriving her of her nationality, seeks to deprive her of her religion, and to root out her language** — doing everything to crush out the last remains of a nation which is now struggling for, and deserving, independence.

It is **not for Americans**, who owe so much to Poland, to forget the Poles now. It is **not for naturalized Americans** to forget her, or turn their backs upon her. It is **not for Hungarians**, whose native land suffers a similar oppression. It is **not for Irishmen**, who have felt the iron hand of the Briton. [Applause] It is **not for the native American** who remembers how much Polish valor, Polish sympathy, Polish genius, and Polish blood did for us in our struggle for independence. [Applause] **America is not alone in her debt to Poland**, that noble nation which once protected Christendom against the encroachment of the Mohamedan; that noble nation, which, **while bigotry and persecution reigned elsewhere, alone practiced universal and genuine toleration, giving shelter and religious equality to the persecuted Jew**, and when Cracow fell, one-third of the population there were Jews. **Let not, then, the Jew in our land, forget this fact**, but remember it in her hour of need. It is **not for us Americans to forget that Polish blood flowed for our country**; that Kosciuszko, then expatriated, and fresh from the battle fields of his own country, sought us, and gave new courage and strength to our arms; that Kosciuszko laid down his life to assist us under circumstances similar to those in which Poland now demands our sympathy, and so far as we can give it, our aid.

Do you men not remember that, as boys, thirty year's ago, seeing a lonely man [*Rudolf Korwin Piotrowski*] — a sober, serious, remarkable man— whom people pointed out as an **expatriate from Poland — a soldier of liberty, driven from his own country**, who had sought an asylum in this — a single man, without family [*Editor's note: he had a daughter in France*], cut off from all the ties of home — perhaps a noble in his native land—here felt compelled to support himself by his labor — a music teacher, a teacher of language, an engineer? The gentleman who

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE PACIFIC, }
 San Francisco, May 21, 1853.
 GENTLEMEN:—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 16th inst., inviting me to attend a mass meeting in favor of "Polish Freedom and Nationality," to be held on the evening of the 22d. I regret, gentlemen, that I cannot accept your invitation, as I am compelled to leave the city to-morrow, to be absent a few days. A nation battling for its "Freedom and Nationality" will always raise the cordial sympathy and best wishes of the American people.
 With great respect, I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant.
 G. WRIGHT,
 Brigadier-General U. S. Army.
 Capt. C. Bielowski, C. Piotrowski, and others.

first spoke here this evening, told me, a few days since, that he has been thirty years in the United States [*Editor's note: Piotrowski came to the USA in 1846, so in 1863 he would have been in the USA for about 17 years*]. He came here a young man,

at seventeen years of age [*Editor's note: he was 32 years old when he arrived in the USA*]. He had left his university to take arms for his native land, and was made a captain; but all efforts were unavailing, and **he escaped to this, the land of liberty**, and here he has been waiting for thirty long years, in hopes to see his country once more free. And there are thousands of others in the United States and in Poland, waiting like him, hoping against hope, fearing to express the sentiments of their heart, **longing for the day when the country shall again rise in her former glory, and take her place among the nations of the world**. And there are men who wish to see the overthrow of Polish nationality made perpetual; so there are men who wish to destroy our nationality. **May God speed the day when victory shall perch finally on the banner of the Union**, and may we then have half a million of men ready to start for the battle fields of Poland, and **show how Americans can sympathise with the countrymen of Kosciusko**.

The speech of Mr. Porter was frequently interrupted by loud applause, and he was warmly cheered at its close.

MAY 22. A large mass meeting of sympathisers with the Polish Revolution was held at Platt's Hall, H. P. Coon presiding. A number of addresses were delivered and appropriate resolutions adopted.

RESOLUTIONS

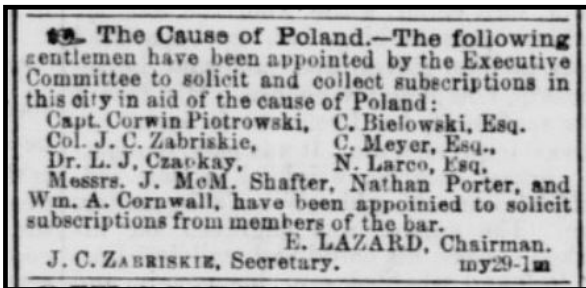
The following resolutions were presented by the Chairman of the Committee,
Col. [James Cannon] Zabriskie:

1. Resolved, That the United States of America is the only government under heaven which secures to all its citizens **equality of rights**, and maintains the great principle of the **sovereignty of the people**.

2. Resolved, That in addition to equal rights and sovereign power, conferred upon and exercised by the people, our fundamental law authorizes and directs Congress to "establish an uniform rule of naturalization," which duty was early performed, and the act is continued to this day, thus opening the portals of governmental rights, and affording ample **protection to the oppressed and persecuted of every land**.

3. Resolved, That it has ever been the policy of the government and people of the United States to express their **sympathy with the struggling patriots of every clime**, thus evincing their high appreciation of an exalted duty, and encouraging the noble efforts of oppressed humanity to strike efficiently, and constantly, for the securement of the **"inalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness"**.

4. Resolved, That we not only regard Poland, like all other nations and peoples, as entitled to all the great rights which appertain to human happiness, but as



preeminently **entitled to national freedom and independence**. For eight centuries, Poland presented an impregnable barrier to the advance of Russian barbarism, and Turkish fanaticism. Her indomitable valor hurled

back the northern hordes and Moslem zealots, and preserved and promoted the civilization of Europe. Her history is replete with evidences of unrivalled progress in the arts, sciences, general literature, statesmanship and heroism. The sacred promptings of duty as well as the exalted obligations of gratitude should have interposed, to have prevented her segregation and absorption. **Policy, as well as justice, demands her restoration.**

5. Resolved, That we tender to the oppressed and struggling sons and daughters of Poland, our deep and heartfelt sympathy, in this, the day of their glory, as well as calamity. **We bid them Godspeed in their Herculean efforts to achieve their independence, and trust, and pray that a benignant Providence will give them victory and liberty.**

6. Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to make all necessary arrangements to **aid the Polish patriots in their present struggle for independence.**

After reading the resolutions, **Mr. Zabriskie** made some remarks, which were much applauded.



Rev. Thomas Starr King

Mr. Starr King made an eloquent address, full of points. He commenced by calling attention to the amicable relations between Russia and the United States; how Russia had for a long time been the only Government in Europe friendly to us; how Catherine refused to let George the Third have troops to assist him in the American war; how lately Russia has been giving us a lesson in emancipation, and so on. But while the speaker acknowledged obligations to Russia, he would not be blind to **obligations, to freedom, and to Poland, to humanity, and to the rights of man.** As to the refusal of Catherine to let George the Third have troops, one reason was, no doubt, that she had need for her soldiers to watch Poland, and perhaps it was the uneasiness of that country which saved us. Mr. King made a number of points, for which we have not space, and closed by reciting passages from **Thomas Campbell's reference to Poland in his poem on the "Pleasures of Hope."** These came in with great effect, and electrified the house; he retired amidst great applause.

Oh! sacred Truth! thy triumph ceas'd awhile,
And Hope, thy sister, ceas'd with thee to smile,
When leagu'd Oppression pour'd to Northern wars
Her whisker'd pandoors and her fierce hussars,
Wav'd her dread standard to the breeze of morn,
Peal'd her loud drum, and twang'd her trumpet horn;
Tumultuous horror brooded o'er her van,
Presaging wrath to Poland — and to man!

Mr. James M. McShafter made the closing speech. The resolutions were put to vote, and were adopted unanimously.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: The President announced the following committee as required by the last resolution: D. J. Oliver, Col. E. F. Beale, **L.J. Czapkay, M.D., Capt. Korwin Piotrowski**, Fred'k MacCrellish, **C. Meyer**, Nathaniel Larco, **J.C. Zabriskie**, **Capt. Casimir Bielawski**, **E. Lazard**, R. B. Woodward, T. A. Selby, Dr. Loehr

Appeal for Poland

California Farmer and Journal of Useful Sciences, Vol. 19, no. 15, 5 June 1863

FELLOW CITIZENS OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA:

The Poles have again resolved to be free, and with noble resolve, have struck for liberty. It is not necessary to enter into a detail of their history and sufferings. The former is recorded in characters of living light, upon the indelible pages of European civilization; the latter presents the blackest page of diabolical barbarity ever written by fiends or men. **This moment all classes, from the hoary-headed sire to feeble childhood, and even delicate and refined womanhood, are struggling against the barbarism of Russia**, with all the energy which extreme cruelty and despair can prompt. They appeal to God for the rectitude and justice of their cause, and to humanity for sympathy and aid.

The people of England, Ireland, France, Belgium, Switzerland, Denmark, and Italy have nobly responded; and **shall Americans fail to appreciate the sacredness of the cause, and the imperative obligations of freemen** in an emergency like this? It cannot be. **You have always sympathized with suffering humanity everywhere.** You have relieved the distresses of the unfortunate of every land. You have contributed aid, and afforded encouragement to the struggling patriots of every nationality.

APPEAL FOR AID—SYMPATHY WITH POLAND.—The great and gratifying demonstration of our citizens in favor of Polish freedom and nationality, held at Platt's Hall, a few evenings ago, shows how universal is the sympathy extended by the people of this metropolis in the herculean efforts of that heroic race to free themselves from the tyranny of the powerful despotism of Russia. The following fervent appeal to our citizens for pecuniary aid: we can but believe will prove to be irresistible, for it must go straight to the pockets as well as to the hearts of all to whom it is addressed:

The Executive Committee now appeals to your generous and patriotic hearts, in aid of a devoted nation, whose very name is the synonym of liberty and chivalry. Messrs. Donahue, Ralston & Co. have consented to receive and transmit to the East, and to Europe, all contributions, under the directions of the

Executive Committee. **Collections in the different localities of the State may be made by committees appointed by the citizens, or by the Agents appointed by the Executive Committee.** Act with promptitude and energy, and you will contribute to strike down the oppressor's power, and free a nation from bondage. At all events your generous, your patriotic deeds will receive the approbation of your consciences, your God and of posterity.

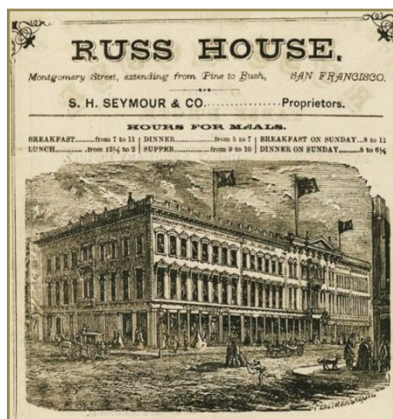
The following gentlemen have been appointed as the Executive Committee: **E. Lazard, Chairman**; N. Larco, D. J. Oliver, E. F. Beale, **L. J. Czapkay, M. D.**, F. MacCrellish, **C. Meyer, Capt. Corwin Piotrowski, C. Bielawski**, R. B. Woodward, T. A. Selby, Dr. Loehr, **J. C. Zabriskie**, Secretary.

The following gentlemen have been **appointed by the Executive Committee to solicit and collect subscriptions** in this city [*San Francisco*] in aid of the cause of Poland: **Capt. Corwin Piotrowski, Col. J. C. Zabriskie, Dr. L. J. Czapkay, C. Bielawski, Esq., C. Meyer, Esq.**, N. Larco, Esq., Messrs. J. M. McShafter, Nathan Porter, and Wm. A. Cornwall have been appointed to solicit subscriptions from the members of the bar. --**E. Lazard, Chairman and J. C. Zabriskie, Secretary**

Appeal of the Polanders

Daily Alta California, Volume 15, Number 4807, 23 April 1863

Americans! Friends of Universal Liberty!



Positive news of a **general uprising of the whole Polish nation** against the barbarous oppression of the Russian despotic Government has reached us by the latest telegraphic dispatches, and not the least doubt can now exist in our minds that **all Polanders, without distinction as to their social position or religion, are endeavoring to throw off the yoke of the iron rule of the despotic invaders of their beloved country.** The time has therefore arrived for this **Society of Polanders** here organized to address you, American brethren, the Pioneers of enlightened, universal freedom,

to show your sympathy for the oppressed nation now fighting for their liberty.

Remember that the present is not the uprising of the comparatively small portion of the Polish nation called the nobles, to regain their superannuated privileges; but **all Polanders, even women and children, are spilling their blood in torrents, to gain a National Independence, based upon the same equal rights which your fathers, led by Washington, have so gloriously achieved for this, the country of freemen. Has Poland an undeniable right to a national independence and self-government? She has! Because she possesses all the elements of a distinct and civilized people.**

1st. **She has her own language**, which differs from that of her sisters, the Russian, the Czechish, and the Illyrian, as much as the Italian tongue differs from the Spanish or Portuguese.

2^d. **She has her own literature**, eminent writers in every branch of it, and great men in all the sciences, as the copious libraries of Cracow, Leopold, Posen, and also those of London, Paris and also those of Leipzig can testify. (The principal libraries, those of Warsaw and Ulma, were confiscated and transferred to Russia.)

3^d. **Poland has her written history**, the pages of which team with the great patriotic deeds of her sons.

4th. As the evidence of her power and achievements, **she possessed, in the days of her nationality** and glory, a **territory** embracing 392,000 square miles and 20,000,000 inhabitants. And,

5th. above all, the **Poles have an unbounded love for universal freedom**, and hatred for tyranny and oppression, not only for their own race, but of all freedom-loving nations.

SYMPATHY WITH THE POLISH REVOLUTION.—The Board of Supervisors last evening accepted an invitation, from the Committee of Arrangements, to attend a mass meeting in favor of Polish freedom and nationality, to be held at Platt's Hall on Friday evening next.

Have you seen an uprising of people against oppression since your memorable Declaration of

Independence, of 1776, to the present time, without a Polish Legion fighting with them for their cause? Led by Kosciuzko, Pulauski, Dombrowski, Bem, Dembinski, Wysocki, Kaminski, and Miroslawski, **they bled for the freedom of America, France, Hungary, Italy, Germany and Turkey.**

A distinct language, literature, history and an unbounded love for universal and enlightened freedom—all these elements of a free nation the Poles possess; therefore they have a right to be a free nation, and therefore they have an undeniable right to drive from their beloved country the ignorant soldiery, the barbarian instruments of the Russian Government, which, by all the means of a Machiavellian policy, is making the greatest exertion to annihilate the Polish nationality, and to convert the Poles to blind adherents and obedient soldiers in the execution of the gigantic plan of Czar Peter, the builder of Petersburg, that is, to conquer the whole of Europe and Asia.

Americans, listen to the proofs of the truth of our statement: **the Russian Government has, since the subjugation of Poland, tried all means of an unrelenting, cruel and crafty policy to insult and annihilate her nationality. It abolished the Polish emblem which adorned Sobieski and his warriors in the**

battle for Christianity before the walls of Vienna. It confiscated the Polish libraries. It abolished the Polish high schools, the monuments of Poland's former glory, the witnesses of her advanced civilization.

It prohibited the teaching of the Polish language in the public schools, it diminished instead of increased their numbers, and forced the Polish youth desiring a higher education to travel to the distant universities of Russia.

It deported mercilessly thousands of Polish families to Russia, and replaced them by Russian colonists.

It ordered the predominance of the Russian-Greek church in Poland, that marriages between persons of different creeds should be made by Russian priests, and that their children should embrace the Russian Greek religion. And it last began by a most arbitrary and barbarous execution of conscription laws, to rob Poland of the best of her sons.

An enthusiastic Polish mass meeting is being held at Platt's Hall.

**American
brethren, would
you suffer a**

similar oppression? Are the Poles right to strike a blow against such tyranny? Napoleon the First prophesied, after his downfall, that in this country yet, the whole of Europe would become either republican or be subject to the Cossack knout.

The great battle between the principals has now commenced. The Poles, led by Dembinski, Wysocki, Langiewicz, and Miroslauski, began it; they have scarcely any other arms the scythes, but they began it with the **heroic determination to "conquer or die."** (Words written by a Polish lady to her son in the United States army—copied from the *Sacramento Union*.)

Other freedom-seeking nations will soon come up to the deadly strife. Our neighbors, the indomitable Hungarians, the brave Germans, the fiery Italians, are all ready, and watching impatiently for the signal of their patriotic leaders to join the fight for universal freedom. **All the European nations, the Russians not excepted, (as their recent popular demonstrations in Petersburg and Moscow clearly prove,) express the greatest sympathy with the Polish cause.** In France and England, all kinds of means are devised to provide the heroic Poles with arms.



Americans! citizens of a mighty Republic, standing in the front ranks of civilized nations, we are certain that you also will unanimously manifest your warm sympathy for Poland, and an energetic disapproval of the barbarous and treacherous measures adopted by a

despotic government to suppress the just and holy endeavors of Poland's sons to regain her national independence. She will regain it, and throw off the yoke imposed upon her by the ambitious dynasty of the Romanoffs; **Poland shall become a free nation because her sons are hardy and not afraid to fight and die for liberty; because her daughters are as patriotic as they are lovely; and because public opinion of the civilized world, that mighty advocate of universal freedom, proclaims Poland's cause a just one.**

For the **Committee of the Society of Polanders in California**
Casimir Bielawski, President | J. W. Andrzejowski, Secretary



San Francisco, April 21, 1863, *Daily Alta California* 17 April 1863

The gentleman [Piotrowski] advanced and read an address couched in elegant and fervent language, and replete with expressions of sympathy with the sacred cause of human liberty. He said at the outset that he was a soldier, but not a speaker—that this was his first attempt at addressing an audience—but that his heart was in the cause, although he could not now be where he once was, in the field. Poland, he continued, is in arms. Her blood flows in rivers, and the bleaching bones of Polish sons whiten Polish fields. They who fled from Poland to this western land of freedom and liberty, often sigh on account of their impotence to aid their fellows in bondage. Broad lands and deep seas separate them from their beloved land. Can we help them? Yes: and the speaker **descanted at length on the encouragement which the hearty sympathy of our citizens would afford the oppressed Poles in their present war. He passed a stirring eulogium on Pulaski and Kosciuszko**, and expressed himself certain that the blood of the latter was as red to-day as when it crimsoned the walls of Savannah. He believed their cause to be just. He stood under the Stars and Stripes and he could ask their aid in this desperate contest for freedom. If gained, 30,000,000 of souls would bless America. **The sons of Hancock, of Jefferson and of Washington cannot withstand his country's appeal for sympathy.**

Speakers & Supporters

Grand Mass Meeting in Favor of Polish Freedom and Nationality

E.F. Beale – Military General; Superintendent of Indian Affairs for California

Newton Booth, US Senator from California, made his fortune as a saloon keeper; studied law. Booth was elected to the California Senate in 1862, serving in 1863, and was the 11th governor of California (1871-1875).

Rabbi Elkan Cohn, Congregation Emanu-El, San Francisco; elected in 1860

William A. Cornwall: lawyer; Secretary of State, 1855

A.M. Crane, Senator, 1862-1863

Irish-born **William Hamill, Esq.** was a beloved “pioneer teacher” and the founder and editor of *The Monitor*, a Catholic publication in San Francisco; he died of TB in 1866.

The **Rev. T. Starr King**, “Grand Orator,” was “devoted to the cause of humanity and civilization;” he died in 1864; flags throughout the City were placed at half-mast.

N. Larco, Esq.: importer

E. Lazard, prominent San Francisco and international banker (Lazard Brothers)

Dr. Loehr - physician

F. MacCrellish – publisher, the *Alta California*

Judge James M. McShafter was a civic leader, supreme court judge, and Republican nominee for Governor.

C. Meyer, merchant; prominent member and President of the First Hebrew Benevolent Society; member of the Polish Society of California; appointed as a designated Political Agent for Poland, charged to raise money for Polish causes

Joseph Neumann: Pioneer silk culturist

D.J. Oliver – Pacific Coast Steamship Co.

George Oulton, Senator 1862-1863; State Contoller, 1863-1867

The **Honorable Nathan Porter** was a lawyer and State Senator from Oakland, Alameda County; he was District Attorney in SF in 1863; he died in 1878. “The name of Nathan Porter was a household word all over this commonwealth.”

T.A. Selby – Smelting & Lead Co.

C. Vellimiro: Italian playwright, stage manager and orator

J.H. Warwick, Assemblyman, 1862-1863

William H. Weeks, Secretary of State, 1862-1863

Josiah Dwight Whitney (1819–1896) was an American geologist, professor of geology, and chief of the California Geological Survey (1860-1874). He was the foremost authority of his day on the economic geology of the U.S. Mt. Whitney bears his name.

J. Wolfson: Prominent member of B’nai B’rith, worldwide community Jewish service organization

First Anniversary of the 1863 January Uprising

POLISH NATIONAL CELEBRATION.—The celebration of the first anniversary of the Polish uprising for independence, will take place to-day, as heretofore announced, and will be participated in by a large number of the friends of Poland resident in this city, and visitors from abroad. The Grand Requiem Mass for the repose of the souls of the dead soldiers of Poland will be performed in St. Mary's Cathedral at ten A. M. The social re-union, speaking and banquet will take place at the Military Headquarters, in the Russ House building, this evening, and at ten A. M., to-morrow, (Saturday,) the ceremonies will be concluded with prayers for the dead by Rev. Dr. Henry, at the Synagogue Sherith Israel, on Stockton street.

"Grand Requiem Mass for the repose of the souls of the dead soldiers of Poland will be performed in **St. Mary's Cathedral**... The ceremonies will be concluded with prayers for the dead by **Rev. Dr. Henry**, at the **Synagogue Sherith Israel**, on Stockton Street (*Daily Alta California*, 22 January 1864).

Daily Alta, 23 January 1864: **THE POLISH CELEBRATION**

The celebration of the **first anniversary of the uprising of Poland for national Independence** took place in this city yesterday and was participated in by a goodly number of the **children of the land of Sobieski, Kosciusko and de Kalb**, whose conduct indicated more plainly than words could express it the fact that their whole souls were in the cause of their struggling country. The banquet in the evening, at the Military Headquarters, was a spirited affair and was highly enjoyed by all who participated in the festivities of the occasion. The first address at the banquet was made by the President, **Capt. Bielawski**, who, in conclusion gave as a sentiment "**The Day We Celebrate January 23d, 1863**" which was responded to by **Capt. K. Piotrowski**, who, in turn gave "The United States, the Refuge and Home of all the Oppressed." **Mr. Booth** of Sacramento, late member of the Assembly, replied to this last toast in fitting terms, and proposed as a sentiment "Hungary, the Natural Ally and Friend of Poland." To this sentiment **Dr. L. J. Czapkay** responded ably and eloquently, and gave as his contribution to the toasts of the evening: "Poland and Hungary—twin sisters in political life, progress, and oppression! May their political regeneration and their National Independence speedily be established, that they may unite their influence and efforts with the Great Republic of the United States in extending in the glorious principles of liberty to all nations" which was responded to at length by **Col. J.C. Zabriskie**, who proposed "The birthright of humanity—may its principles be inculcated, and the efforts it inspires be effectual in holding from power the despots of the earth, proclaiming freedom to the captive and universal emancipation and exaltation to all oppressed and degraded nations." This was replied to by **Mr. Choynski** who proposed "Eringo-Bragh! And the rights of man," which was replied to in a characteristic speech by **Mr. Mooney**.

Mr. Lazard, of Lazard Bros., next addressed the guests, proposing "Health and long life to the members of the National Government of Poland." Mr. Lazard was followed by his partner, **Mr. Weil** and others, whose speeches we could not remain to hear owing to the lateness of the hour.

The celebration will close with prayer for Poland, by **Rev. Dr. Henry** at the **synagogue Sherith Israel** on Stockton Street at ten o'clock A.M. to-day.



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Northern California
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**Best wishes to the
Polish Society of California /
Polish National Alliance Lodge 7**

Have a Great Celebration!

It is indeed an honor to be with you on the
150th Anniversary of the Polish Society of California

The Society's **values and aims** are shared by **the Polish American Congress**, established in California 81 years after the Polish Society of California, as the first State Division:

- ❖ Supporting Poland in a time of need
- ❖ Preserving cultural heritage and ethnic identity
- ❖ Upholding the image of Polish-Americans

Please join us to keep these organizations alive and successful!

Success in meeting the challenges facing Polish-Americans in our age depends on staying active and working together. We must adapt our programs to the changing times and changing aspirations of Polish-Americans. To achieve this we need YOU!

Your presence is the key!

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Zdzisław Zakrzewski 1919-2013

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There is one person whom we miss greatly who deserved more than anyone else to celebrate the 150 Anniversary of the Polish Society of California – Mr. Zdzisław Zakrzewski, who in an exemplary way lived by the principles of the Polish Society of California founders. He was the most ardent Polish patriot who fought in his youth as a soldier and airman for Poland's independence in WWII. Later on, as a loyal and successful American citizen, he remained extraordinarily devoted to the Polish cause and the welfare of the Polish-American community in Northern California. A man of outstanding character, he was an initiator, promoter and founder of the majority of significant undertakings in the Polonian community, including the Polish American Congress -- a true leader. His noble and colorful life makes him a worthy peer of the Polish Society of California founders.



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Shana Penn, Executive Director

and our colleagues at

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About the US-Polish Trade Council

The US-Polish Trade Council (USPTC) was formed in 2002 to promote presence of Polish high technology and science institutions and corporations in California, and especially in the Silicon Valley, and so increase cooperation and trade between the United States and Poland.

Our Mission

The US-Polish Trade Council seeks to be your science and innovation technology bridge for building business relationships between the U.S. and Poland. To that goal, the USPTC works in partnership with a network of Polish and American organizations, including: corporate, academic and government entities.

The US-Polish Trade Council has built this trans-Atlantic bridge to:

- Encourage innovative Polish enterprises to buy more from and sell more to U.S. enterprises,
- Encourage innovative U.S. enterprises to buy more from and sell more to Polish enterprises,
- Encourage all forms of corporate, private and governmental investment into Polish enterprises,
- Develop stronger scientific and commercial ties between Poland and the U.S.

What we do

The US-Polish Trade Council can provide the following services:

- Provide potential investors and business leaders on both sides of the Atlantic guidance, advice, and personal connections;
- Contact database of Polish and Polish-American business leaders;
- Facilitate meetings with Polish and American business leaders;
- Organize trade and investment promotion activities, trade shows, symposiums, conferences, panels, both bilateral US-Polish and multinational;
- Promote Poland as an attractive economic destination to business leaders in Silicon Valley/San Francisco;
- Promote Silicon Valley/San Francisco as an attractive market and partnership venue for Polish enterprises;
- Facilitate exchange of ideas and programs between scientific institutions in the U.S. and Poland;
- Provide general information to the U.S.-Polish business community on opportunities and initiatives.

The Bridge Builders:

The US-Polish Trade Council is a group of U.S. and Poland-based international business leaders with professional and technical accomplishments in both Poland and the U.S.

Strategically located in Silicon Valley/Palo Alto, the center of global technology advances, Washington, D.C., Phoenix, Arizona, New York, Katowice and Wrocław, the USPTC connects people to people and people to projects.

CONTACT US!

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US-Poland Innovation Hub Program

In March 2012 US-Polish Trade Council initiated the US-Poland Innovation Hub program (<http://innovationhub-usptc.org/>). The aim of the Hub is to prepare Polish businesses for and assist them in a successful entry and presence in the global market through the extremely demanding US market.

While the Hub companies participate in the training sessions in Poland, potential US partners and investors are identified and contacted to explore their interest in meeting with the Polish entrepreneurs. The crowning step in the Training Program is a preparation for meetings, presentations, and negotiations to be carried out when stepping into the US market.

With the support of talented and experienced alumni of the Top 500 Innovators Program (Stanford University and UC Berkeley, 2011-2013), a program was developed of 5-weekly interactive workshops, lectures and presentations. We are proud to have gathered a team of recognized and experienced experts supporting technology companies in their efforts to expand and succeed in the unique ecosystem of Silicon Valley. We are glad to assist Polish companies in their road to success.

US-Polish Trade Council. Your trusted connection in Silicon Valley.

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April 7, 1950 – July 4, 2011

Wrocław, Poland – San Francisco, CA Serbian Cemetery, Colma, CA

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We express our heartfelt gratitude to the
Polish Society of California, PNA, Lodge 7,
for expanding our community's knowledge of
Polish history, language and culture, and for its
work to stimulate Polish American involvement
and accomplishments for 150 years, since 1863.



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The POLISH ARTS AND CULTURE FOUNDATION

Over the last 46 years, the Polish Arts & Culture Foundation, established in 1966, has arranged dozens of exhibits and symposiums showcasing Poland's rich historical heritage of art and culture at local universities, libraries, galleries, civic buildings and schools. * Concerts have ranged from classical to jazz, and a radio broadcast series on KPFA on the **HISTORY OF POLISH MUSIC** later morphed into cooperation with **STUDIO POLAND** a weekly program on KUSF for more than ten years. Our vast collection of **Polish Music and Film** is now housed at Thornton Library at USC in Los Angeles. * In cooperation with San Francisco's POCKET OPERA, Stanislaw Moniuszko's **HAUNTED MANOR** and **HALKA**, were presented at several theatres to enthusiastic audiences. * The PACF's valuable collections of 200 paintings, 800 posters, 10,000 books, folk art and regional costumes are available for exhibit. * The Foundation initiated the naming in San Francisco of **Lech Wałęsa Street** across from Davies Symphony Hall and assisted the San Francisco Maritime Museum Association in the creation of **Joseph Conrad Square** across from the Cannery at Fisherman's Wharf. * The Foundation donated a large icon of **Our Lady of Częstochowa** to the Sacristy of St. Mary's Cathedral. While still a Cardinal, **Pope John Paul II** said Mass there and a plaque at the entrance to the Cathedral commemorates his 1987 Papal visit to San Francisco. Candlestick Park was the venue for his memorable Mass and the redwood altar from that event now stands in front of the Icon. In 2005, more than 4000 attended His Memorial Mass in the Cathedral and on May 1, 2011, His Beatification was celebrated with more than 1500 people in attendance with representatives from 18 of the 22 nations he visited. Plans for His Canonization on **April 27, 2014** are already underway at St. Mary's Cathedral in cooperation with the Archdiocese of San Francisco, and the Knights of St. Francis from the National Shrine of St. Francis of Assisi in North Beach. * The 2003 Fine Arts Museums of SF exhibit, **"LEONARDO DaVINCI AND THE SPLENDOR OF POLAND"** offered PACF and other local Polonia organizations the opportunity to create a **Polish Spring**. In ten short weeks, over 218,000 guests visited the exhibit at the Legion of Honor and we presented events around the city to showcase Polish culture. * Following that exhilarating time, PACF President, Caria Tomczykowska became the Polish Field Producer of the internationally acclaimed documentary film **THE RAPE OF EUROPA**, about the works of art stolen by the Nazis during WW2. Seen by more than 15 million people at hundreds of film festivals and on PBS nationwide, it is the first American film to show the full history of the fate of Polish art during the war. * We are very grateful to **Andrew Norblin** for a most generous donation in 1975 of 19 of his father **Stefan Norblin's** paintings. In 2010 those paintings were transported to Poland on a long-term loan to the **Polish Ministry of Culture**, for exhibits in Stalowa Wola and Warsaw and then in New Delhi and Mumbai in India. Andrew's parents, Stefan Norblin and Lena Żelichowska died in San Francisco in the 1950s and, after discovering their gravesites in Colma in July 2012, they were laid to rest in the Norblin family crypt at Powązki in their beloved Warsaw. A most serendipitous journey for us all. *December 14th* is the PACF's annual WIGILJA with the Polish Veterans' Club at the Dollar Clubhouse in Rossmoor. 11am to 3pm Christmas Luncheon \$50.00pp. Reservations by December 1st.



Top500 Innovators Program

Top 500 Innovators Science-Management-Commercialization is a prestige governmental program (implemented and funded by Ministry of Science and Higher Education of Poland), which purpose is to raise the qualifications of Polish R&D professionals from various scientific fields with the skills needed to manage cooperative research projects and bring high-technology products to the market place. The idea of the program is to improve the qualifications of Polish experts and researchers in cooperation with the economy, research management and commercialization of the research results, and to ensure (to increase) transfer of the R&D results to the economy.



Top 500 Innovators is a 9-week training program at world's most renowned universities (Shanghai ranking) for top Polish researchers and employees of technology transfer centers. So far, 240 *Top Innovators* have been trained at Stanford University and at University of California in Berkeley. By 2015 there will be 500 program's graduates.

Piotr D Moncarz, Consulting Professor at Stanford University and Chairman of US-Polish Trade Council is the Academic Director of the Top500 Innovators Program at Stanford University. The Top500 participants consist of academic and research individuals as well as employees of technology transfer centers in Poland. The participants come from the most prominent Polish universities and technical schools as well as Poland's biggest cities, including Warsaw, Lodz, Cracow, Wroclaw, Gdansk, Szczecin, Bydgoszcz and Bialystok.

They take part in a number of technology panels and study visits at local firms and agencies in Silicon Valley, including NASA, Exponent, Polycom, and Plug and Play. They meet with employees of the Stanford Office of Technology Licensing and Stanford's lecturers. They are also invited to numerous discussion panels with invited guests, such as Thomas H. Byers - Executive Vice President of Symantec Corporation, Marc Tarpennig one of the founders of Tesla Motors, Piotr Wilam – founder of Onet.pl. The groups also participate in events organized by USPTC, such as the Poland-Silicon Valley Science and Technology Symposium and other networking meetings.

The **Top 500 Innovators** Program seeks highly motivated and dedicated individuals to support the implementation of innovative methods in education, research and technology transfer. For example, the Top 40.3 Group, while working on inter-disciplinary group term-projects, identified key problems that Polish scientists and technology transfer managers face in Poland and proposed recommendations and solutions for improvement, using as the foundation the experience and knowledge gained from the employees of the Stanford University. This raised a series of national debates in Poland and already led to changes implemented in the system.

The Top 500 Innovators Association founded by alumni of the program, aims to create an interdisciplinary platform for cooperation between representatives of the scientific community and representatives of technology transfer centers in Poland, using the experience gained by the alumni at world's best universities. Some of the *Top 500* alumni also became members of *US-Poland Innovation Hub* team. They will provide organizational and coaching support on cultural plug-in into Silicon Valley for the participating firms during all Hub sessions in Poland and help Hub participants to create network with business and science.



More about Top 500 Innovators at <http://top500innovators.org>.

CONTACT US!

2479 East Bayshore Rd, Suite 706
Palo Alto, CA 94303

Join our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/UsPolishTradeCouncil

Phone: +1 (650) 494-4661

e-mail: info@usptc.org

www.usptc.org



ZARZĄD KOŁA AK zatoki SAN FRANCISCO

Z okazji **150** lat powstania
Pierwszej Polskiej Organizacji w Kalifornii
Założonej przez Veteranów Powstania Listopadowego
(z 1830r.), w patriotycznym celu dofinansowania
Powstania Styczniowego w 1863r.,
składa na ręce organizatorów jubileuszu
Grupy 7-mej PNA
życzenia dalszej owocnej pracy.

Halina Butler
Sekretarz

Halina Lerski
Skarbnik

Zbigniew Mróz
Wiceprezes

Krzyszyna Chciuk
Prezes AK

9 listopada, Fairmont Hotel, San Francisco, 2013-go roku



Congratulations to
The Polish Society of California

Celebrating 150 Years!

Sister Cities welcomes new members!

SFkrakow.org

Save the date!
Sister Cities International Annual Conference
31 July – 2 August 2014
San Jose, California



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congratulates the Polish Society of California

on 150 years of outstanding work

honoring and promoting Polish culture.

Bravo!

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Lowiczanie Polish Folk Ensemble congratulates
The Polish Society on its 150th anniversary and
gratefully acknowledges the support of PNA in
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www.polishfolk.org



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www.PolskaFoods.com

**Congratulations on the 150th Milestone Anniversary of the
Polish Society of California, Since 1863!**

East Bay Polish American Association

To the Polish Society of California

San Francisco: 1863-2013

Congratulations from

Anthony and Diane Smerdel

Congratulations from

David R. Waligóra and Monika Kapron

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To the Polish Society of California
San Francisco: 1863-2013

150 BEST WISHES from
IRENA STACHURA and FAMILY
Renata, Marek, Misia | Edward, Chloe, Malina

*On the occasion of the 150th celebration of
"THE POLISH SOCIETY OF CALIFORNIA"
we send our sincere congratulations
Halina Butler and Family*



Związek Harcerstwa Polskiego

Komenda Chorągwi Harcerzy w Stanach Zjednoczonych

składa najlepsze życzenia z okazji

150 lecia istnienia

Lodge 7 PNA – Polish Society of California





**Koło Przyjaciół
Fundacji Jana Pawła II
w Północnej Kalifornii**

4593 Ridgeline Dr.
Antioch, CA 94531

Gratulacje dla Polish Society of California, PNA Lodge 7 z okazji 150 rocznicy założenia jako pierwszej organizacji Polonijnej w San Francisco, Kalifornii oraz za niezłomne propagowanie wolność dla zniewolonej Ojczyzny.

**The Walter Morris (Władysław Mroczek) Family
congratulates the Polish Society of California!**

Cosmopolitan Review

A Transatlantic Review of Things Polish, in English

<http://cosmopolitanreview.com>



*Warm congratulations to the
Polish Society of California*

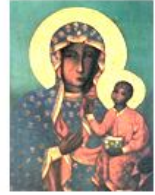
Celebrating 150 years in San Francisco

The Tadeusz Ungar Foundation



Polish Pastoral Center

Kaplica Matki Bożej Patronki Imigrantów
909 Mellus St., Martinez, CA 94553
Phone: 925-779-1027



The parishioners of the Polish Pastoral Center in Martinez value the contributions that the Polish California Pioneers of the Polish Society of California/PNA Lodge 7 have made over the past 150 years, and their dedication to bringing awareness to the cause of Poland's freedom. We thank you for your presence and your continuous efforts.

Parafianie zgromadzeni przy Kaplicy p.w. Matki Bożej Patronki Imigrantów wyrażają wdzięczność pierwszej Polskiej organizacji powstałej 150 lat temu w San Francisco, Kalifornii, której naczelnym zadaniem było uświadomienie Amerykańskiej społeczności o naszej zniewolonej Ojczyźnie Polsce i jej potrzebach w celu odzyskanie niepodległości. Dziękujemy wam za te wszystkie lata i waszą niezłomną postawę na rzecz Polski.



*Congratulations on your
150th Anniversary
Polish Society of California*

May Polish National Alliance Lodge 7 have many more years of success !

From the Commissioners of Polish National Alliance District 16

Ania Karwan and Greg Chilecki

**Major Polonian Organizations
in the San Francisco, San Jose & Sacramento Areas**

The Polish American Congress, Northern California Division

<http://www.pacnorcal.org/>

The Polish Society of California was formed 150 years ago to support Polish sovereignty. Eighty-one years later the restoration of Poland as a truly free and democratic country was still a primary concern of Polish-Americans. In May 1944, more than 2,600 delegates from 26 states representing Polish-Americans from all walks of life gathered at a convention in Buffalo, NY, and declared: "we wish to come to the assistance of the Polish nation... we want... a democratic Poland..." This act represented most expressively nothing less than the realization, nationwide, of the original aim of the Polish Society of California - uniting the Polish-American community for action on behalf of Poland's independence.

Ever since, the Polish-American Congress (PAC) has served Polonia and Poland's cause with utter dedication. Welcoming virtually every significant Polonian organization, secular and religious, the PAC became the authoritative political representative of Polonia. Over the years, it has always been a leading force in bringing domestic and international issues of special interest to Polonia to public attention including to the U.S. Government.

The Northern California Division of the PAC strives to support and bring about change on both a national and local scale. Most recently, together with other PAC divisions, the NCD has have been greatly active in the struggle to modernize the visa system to include Poland in the Visa Waiver Program. On a local level PAC strives to support local Polish organizations in all their endeavors. Most importantly Congress promotes sharing Poland's history, language, and culture with our children and Americans of Polish descent to preserve Poland's rich cultural heritage and ethnic identity. Among many, two important events stand out in which the PAC plays a leading role: the May 3rd Celebration of the Polish Constitution at the Music Concourse in Golden Gate Park in San Francisco, and Poland's Independence Day observance on November 11th celebrated in San Francisco at the Church of the Nativity of Our Lord.

The Polish Club Inc., San Francisco

<http://www.PolishClubSF.org>

The Polish Club (Dom Polski) in San Francisco's Mission District (3040 22nd Street) boasts three member societies, which held their first joint meeting in 1925. The mission of the Polish Club is to serve as a center for the propagation of Polish culture, art, language and community. The Club building (a former Baptist Church) was acquired in 1926 and is used today for Polish cultural events. Łowiczanie Polish Folk Ensemble of San Francisco holds weekly dance classes at the Polish Club on Tuesday evenings.

The **Polish Society of California/PNA Lodge 7** is celebrating its 150th Anniversary this year and is described in detail elsewhere in this Commemorative Book. The **Polish Literary and Dramatic Circle** arranges recitals, lectures, film screenings and book-club discussions to promote the interests of its members in Polish literature, drama and the other arts. The mission of the **St. Stanislaus Benevolent Society** is to give support to Polish Catholic religious endeavors.

The Polish Society of California / Polish National Alliance, Lodge 7

<http://www.polishclubsf.org/PolishSocietyOfCalifornia.htm>

Polish Literary and Dramatic Circle

<http://www.polishclubsf.org/LiteraryAndDramaticSociety.htm>

St. Stanislaus Benevolent Society

<http://www.polishclubsf.org/StStan.htm>



Dom Polski (The Polish Club) 3040 22nd St., San Francisco

Polam Federal Credit Union

<http://www.polamfcu.com/>

From its humble beginnings in 1974 with \$52,000 in assets and one office, to well over \$57-million and four locations in Northern California and one in Connecticut, Polam Federal Credit Union has grown to not only compete with traditional banks but even to outperform them with personalized services, quality of products and dedication to members.

Over the past 39-years, Polam has prospered, never wavering from the core belief that members “are” the credit union; Polam’s purpose is to serve their needs. That very belief was the cornerstone upon which Polam was founded in 1974, and continues to this day.

Polam has always been cognizant of its foundation, the Slavic community, and thus invests in the fine organizations of the community, such as Polish scouts, churches, schools, cultural foundations and the performing arts. These organizations not only keep the Polish spirit alive in the community, but also offer an example to the community of what it means to be Polish, and Polam is a proud sponsor.

Sadly, in March of this year, Mr. Zdzisław Zakrzewski, one of the founders of Polam, passed away at the age of 93. Mr. Zakrzewski and his wife Zofia (who continues to serve on the Board of Directors for Polam) were not only the driving force behind Polam’s success, but left a legacy for future generations to admire and follow.

Polish Parish, Church of the Nativity of Our Lord in San Francisco

<http://www.sfnativity.org/>

First dedicated in June of 1904, the Church of the Nativity of Our Lord at 240 Fell Street in San Francisco has been the gathering place for Slavic Catholics for more than a hundred years. The Archbishop established the parish of Church of the Nativity of Our Lord in 1903. The parish is one of the San Francisco Archdiocese's active ethnic parishes.

Polish Pastoral Center, Martinez
<http://polishpastoralcenter.org/>

The Polish Pastoral Center (PPC) in the Roman Catholic Church serves as an extension of the shepherding role of the Bishop of Oakland to the Polish community in the Bay Area. As a Polish immigrant community, the pastoral center preserves the uniqueness of the Catholic faith and enriches, and is enriched by, the local Church. The focus of the Polish Pastoral Center is spiritual and social-cultural outreach to Polish people and Americans of Polish origin. This religious organization seeks ways and means to strengthen Polish culture and faith and to preserve tradition in concert with the vision of the Diocese of Oakland.

St. Brother Albert Pastoral Mission, San Jose
<http://www.saintalbert.us/index.php/us/>

The Society of Christ serves communities of Polish immigrants and their descendants around the world, including parishioners at St. Brother Albert Church, established in 1986. The Mission is named for St. Albert Chmielowski, a Polish saint canonized in 1989 by Pope John Paul II. The Mission serves Polish Catholics in the San Jose area. Parishioners organize an annual Polish festival in September.

Our Lady of Częstochowa Chapel, Sacramento
<http://www.poloniasacramento.com/>

The Polonian Cultural and Pastoral Center in Sacramento was formally established in October 1985. The Center opened in 1991 and the Chapel of **Our Lady of Częstochowa** was consecrated by the Bishop of the Diocese of Sacramento that year. The Polonian Cultural and Pastoral Center serves Polish Catholics in the Sacramento area. The original members were Polish immigrants who had been activists in Poland's Solidarity movement. The Center organizes many events throughout the year such as picnics, entertainment, dancing, dinners and other social gatherings. The Center supports the local chapter of Polish Scouts and offers Polish language classes for children.

Polish Scouting

The Polish Scouting Association (**Związek Harcerstwa Polskiego, ZHP**) is a coeducational organization founded in 1918. Bay Area Polish scout troops are very active, fostering civic and moral values and preserving Polish traditions. Polish Scouting in exile was established in many Western countries after WWII by Polish political refugees. Scout leaders endeavored to instill the international scouting motto of service to God and country in succeeding generations of youth of Polish descent throughout the world.

Dzięki mądrości Polaków 150 lat temu kiedy zakładano Polish Society of California oraz mądrości ich kontynuatorów w czasach obecnych, działa prężnie w polonijnej społeczności Związek Harcerstwa Polskiego wychowujący w duchu patriotyzmu i polskości polską młodzież. To poprzez niego zrodziła się akcja pomocy polskiemu harcerstwu w Kazachstanie. To z tego ziarna także narodził się wieczór poezji, muzyki, sztuki - „Zatoka Poezji”. Polska była jest i będzie własnością Polaków porzrzucanych po całym świecie. Polska jest w naszych sercach bowiem. Kawałek jej jest także w San Francisco.

John Paul II School of Polish Language
Polish-American Educational Committee of San Francisco, Inc.
<http://polishschool.org/home.html>

The John Paul II School of Polish Language was established over 40 years ago by the Polish-American Educational Committee of San Francisco to teach children the language and culture of Poland. Students learn Polish grammar and orthography, become acquainted with classical Polish literature, and study Polish history and geography. They also have the option to attend catechism classes. Students are enriched by their ability to speak in more than one language, and by contact with Poland's centuries-old Slavic culture. The JP II School of Polish Language also offers language classes for adults.

Łowiczanie Polish Folk Ensemble of San Francisco

<http://www.polishfolk.org>

Łowiczanie Polish Folk Ensemble of San Francisco is a group of skilled and dedicated dancers, singers and musicians, led by professionally-certified instructors, who present traditional music, song and dance from Poland's historic territory and diverse peoples. The Ensemble, now in its 38th season, presents vibrant professional-quality programs for concerts, festivals, school programs, and special public and private events.

The Ensemble's repertoire features authentic Polish material from both the nobility and the countryside, and is presented in exquisite museum-quality costumes in programs throughout the western United States and in Europe. Łowiczanie also produces a number of annual public cultural events and workshops, such as "Dożynki" harvest festivals (in conjunction with The Polish Society of California/PNA Lodge 7) and "pisanki" traditional egg-dying during the Easter season, and co-sponsors (with the Polish-American Congress, Northern California Division) the annual 3rd of May Constitution Day celebration that takes place in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park. Community services provided by the Ensemble include costume loans for educational programs, and weekly public dance classes at the Polish Club in San Francisco, a supporter of Łowiczanie since its inception.

The programs of Łowiczanie, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, enjoy financial and in-kind support. From the outset of the Ensemble, the Polish National Alliance (Chicago) has provided partial support in the form of quarterly stipends, and the Polish Club in San Francisco has been the "home" of Łowiczanie since 1975, offering rehearsal space and costume storage. Important fiscal sponsors for Łowiczanie include Polam Federal Credit Union, the Polish Consulate in Los Angeles, the California Arts Council, Chevron, the San Francisco-Kraków Sister Cities Association, Taube Philanthropies, and many other entities and individual loyal donors. In-kind support is offered by the Church of the Nativity in San Francisco, and by individuals. Membership is open to all interested persons for Tuesday-night "próba" (practice) at the Polish Club, 3040 22nd Street in San Francisco.

The Łowiczanie Chór (Choir)

The Łowiczanie Chór was established originally as a men's chorus in 2002. Since that time, the *Chór* has doubled in size to its current 14 voices, and is a mixed chorus, directed by Jola Jankowska, assisted by Krzysztof Mokrzan. The talented singers, who often perform in conjunction with Łowiczanie Polish Folk Ensemble of San Francisco, also appear as a separate entity, and in smaller groups, for a variety of Polish religious celebrations and secular events. The Chór receives high accolades for its performances at the annual Slavic Choral Christmas concert, where together with approximately 50 other singers and musicians representing a half-dozen Eastern and Central European cultures, they present a repertoire of traditional Polish Christmas music and other music of the season.

East Bay Polish American Association

<http://www.mjakmartinez.com/>

The East Bay Polish American Association, headquartered in Martinez, was established in 1987 for “church support to Polish-Americans.” **Our Lady of Immigrants Chapel** is an important center for Polish immigrants in the San Francisco Bay Area. Deacon Cichoń and Jesuit priests minister to the spiritual needs of parishioners. The Association sponsors an annual “Street Festival” in Martinez and organizes other Polish cultural events and fundraisers.

Polish Veterans Groups

Polish Combatants’ Association (SPK) & Armia Krajowa (AK) Veterans

Veterans groups play a vital role in the Polish community, promoting patriotism and preserving Polish traditions. Veterans groups are both social and philanthropic. Members of the veterans’ associations are former soldiers of the Polish Armed Forces who fought alongside the Allies during World War II.

Polish Club of Greater Sacramento (Roseville)

<http://www.polish-club.org/>

The Polish American Club of Greater Sacramento was founded in 1959 and incorporated in 1961. The Club promotes Polish heritage and offers Polish lessons for children, organizes dinners and celebrations, including Christmas and Easter Dinners, presents classical music concerts, maintains a library with Polish and English books, and features an annual Polish Festival in September. In 1974, Club members helped establish a credit union for the Polish American community of Northern California. **PolAm Federal Credit Union**, as it is known today, has assets in excess of \$60 million with an office in Sacramento and other Northern California communities, serving people of Polish descent and all others. From 1982 to 1985 the Club assisted with the resettlement of approximately 100 Polish refugee families in the Sacramento area. In 1987 the old Roseville community hall was purchased and became the club house. The club has remained strong and vibrant throughout the years, preserving the customs and culture of Poland in the Greater Sacramento area.

The Polish Arts and Culture Foundation

<http://www.polishculturesf.org/>

The Polish Arts and Culture Foundation was established in 1966 by Wanda Tomczykowska to introduce the wealth of Polish art and culture to Americans. Today, the Foundation is run by Caria Tomczykowska who follows in the footsteps of her mother, tirelessly promoting the best of Polish art and culture in the San Francisco Bay Area. The Foundation's Silver Anniversary was celebrated in 1991, the year that Poland, after years of struggle, realized full restoration of a democratic government. Throughout the years, the Foundation has shared with Americans the wealth of Polish history and cultural achievements. The Foundation is supported entirely by individual and corporate contributions. The Foundation is a nonprofit, nonsectarian organization. The Foundation recognizes that art and culture are timeless treasures to be shared by all people, and that these provide important avenues to universal dialogue and mutual understanding.

Polish-American Engineers Club

<http://www.paecsv.org/>

The Polish-American Engineers Club is a non-profit organization in Silicon Valley that gathers together people from the fields of technology, science, and engineering for lectures and social functions. The goals of the PAEC are: maintaining professional and social relationships; facilitating the exchange of professional experience, and organizing presentations and seminars about technology, business and current social issues; assisting Polish organizations, scholars, and entrepreneurs seeking and developing business in Silicon Valley; helping organize the **Top 500 Innovators program** and other events in cooperation with the **US-Polish Trade Council**; helping with employment issues and life situations; and organizing social events and outings. The PAEC is one of four member organizations of the Council of Polish Engineers in North America. In June the PAEC participated in the World Congress of Polish Engineers in Warsaw. PAEC members co-organize the annual **Poland-Silicon Valley Science and Technology Symposium**.

San Francisco-Kraków Sister Cities Association

www.sfkrakow.org

Mayor Jacek Majchrowski signed a Sister Cities Agreement with the Honorary Consuls of Poland in the San Francisco Bay Area, Christopher Kerosky and Tad Taube, signing on behalf of Mayor Gavin Newsom on July 2, 2009. Aimed at developing and strengthening contacts between the two cities, the agreement encourages cooperation in city management, business development, tourism, as well as educational and cultural exchanges. The Sister Cities Association welcomes volunteers and members to organize and promote educational and cultural exchanges between the beautiful cities of San Francisco and Kraków. Sister Cities is funded by Taube Philanthropies and membership subscriptions.

Other

Honorary Consuls, Christopher Kerosky and Tad Taube

<http://www.youradwokat.com/consul.html>

<http://www.taubephilanthropies.org/node/75>

Honorary Consuls of the Republic of Poland, Christopher Kerosky (San Francisco) and Tad Taube (Northern California), represent the Polish government at Polonian events, and support and promote Poland and Polish culture. **Taube Philanthropies** has facilitated Polish-Jewish dialogue, as part of its mission to promote Jewish life and culture, in the USA, in Poland and elsewhere. Honorary Consul Taube was a major contributor to the **Museum of the History of Polish Jews** in Warsaw.

The Tadeusz Ungar Foundation

The Tadeusz Ungar Foundation is a charitable organization founded by Zdzisław Zakrzewski. The Foundation has given thousands of dollars to support Polish and Polonian causes, including helping the needy in the USA and Poland.

San Francisco Polskis

SF Polskis is a group (one of several “**Polski**” groups) created so that men and women in their 20s-40s who are Polish or have an interest in Poland and who live in the San Francisco Bay Area can socialize. The purpose of the group is to help members find friends and acquaintances through social, recreational, and cultural events and also to share information about other events in the local Polish community. *SF Polskis* meet for “happy hour”, dances, hikes, volleyball, and more. Happy Hours are held on the 1st or 2nd Friday of the month in the evenings. Announcements may be found on Facebook.

There are many other Polish groups and philanthropic associations (such as several **Friends of John Paul II Foundations**) that have formed over the years in the San Francisco Bay Area. Polish soccer clubs and the Yacht Club of Poland are among them. In addition there are **Polish web portals**, newspapers and **newsletters** (e.g., the volunteer-run *Nasza Gazetka* by Gabriel Michta) that inform Bay Area Polonia about “things Polish.”



Black Madonna of Częstochowa

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/arjuna/3055698424/>

Boże coś Polskę (God Save Poland)

Boże coś Polskę served as a patriotic hymn during the January Insurrection of 1863. It is a request for independence that was sought by Poles in a series of unsuccessful uprisings (many the Society's founding members were veterans of one or the other of Poland's uprisings) and finally realized in 1918. Though banned by the Tsarist government, *God Save Poland* became the national and religious hymn that was heard during insurrections, wars and foreign occupations. Post-WWII Poland was an occupied zone of Soviet influence, and Poles continued to pray for Poland's freedom. The contemporary version of *God Save Poland* asks for God's blessings for a free country. *God Save Poland* has always been an intense prayer for independence and peace."



"Though perhaps a small group when compared with other national contingents which left their record in the annals of California, the Poles were nevertheless a highly constructive element in the early life of the State."

--M. Haiman

Music & Songs Performed During the Evening

Biały Mazur: (*White Mazur*) late 19th century; music: W. Osmański. Traditionally danced at dawn.

Białe Róże: (*White Roses*) 1920. music M. "Kozar" Słobódzki; lyrics, J.E. Lankau and K. Wroczyński. This song, which tells the fate of a simple Lancer and his beloved, was sung during the "Battle of Warsaw" 1920.

Bywaj dziewczę zdrowe: (*Farewell My Girl*) early 1830s, November Uprising 1830, a soldier-insurgent lyrically says good-bye to his loved one.

Jak długo w sercach naszych: (*How Long in Our Hearts*) originally composed end of 19th century; music, anon; lyrics 1921(?), K. Krumłowski. Most likely re-written slightly by Fr. W. Gajda during the Silesian uprisings.

Już zachodzi czerwone słończko: (*The Red Sun Is Already Setting*) 1919-21; music anon; lyrics anon or A. Kowalski. A military song connected with the Silesian Uprising.

Maki: (*Poppies*) 1917. music, K. Makuszynski; lyrics S. Niedwiedomski (1920). Also known as "Hey, Girl, Hey My Love." From the first years of Polish independence after the partitions.

Marsz, marsz Polonia: (*March, March Polonia*) 1863, music from a popular Ukrainian song; lyrics Anon; also known as "Czajkowski's March, who was one of the main commanders in the January Uprising 1863.

Marsz, pierwszej brygady: (*March of the First Brigade*) 1917; music, M.D.Tomnikowski; lyrics, A. Halacinski, T. Biernacki. The most famous military song from WWI.

Modlitwa obozowa: (*Prisoner Camp Prayer*) 1939. music and lyrics, A. Kowalski. Said to be the first Polish song of World War II.

Piękne nasze Polska cała: (*Our Poland is Beautiful*) 1833. music, J. Sierosławski ; lyrics, V. Pol. Pol was a poet and a participant in the November Uprising, 1830.

Płynia, Wisła płynie: (*The Vistula River Flows*) Patriotic, traditional folk song of Poland, evoking love of country and its beautiful river, the Wisła.

Pobudka: (*Wake-up Call*) 1863; music, A. Boyarski; lyrics, V. Pol. Written in Lwów for the resistance squads formed after the January Uprising, 1863.

Witaj, mojowa jutrenko: ("3rd of May", or Hello, May Dawn) 1831; music, Chopin, attrib. or popular song of 1831; lyrics, R. Suchodolski. Written on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the Polish constitution of May 3rd.

Warszawianka: (*La Varsoviennne*) 1831; music, K. Krupinski; lyrics, C. Delavigne. The most famous song of the November Uprising of 1830.

Wojenko, wojenko: 1914 (?); music anon. from traditional Silesian folk song; lyrics E. Słowski. One of the most popular songs in the First World War.

Dumka na dwa serce: ("Dumka" [Slavic folk song] for Two Hearts) 1998. music, K. Dębski; lyrics, J. Cygan. Composed for the film "Fire & and Sword," from the H. Sienkiewicz novel of the same name.

Gaude Mater Polonia (Rejoice Mother Poland) mid-13th cent.; music anon; lyrics, Vincent of Kielcza. A medieval Polish hymn written in Latin; royal hymn in the times of the Piast Dynasty.

Mazurek Dąbrowskiego: (Dąbrowski's Mazurka) 1797; music, traditional folk roots, anon.; lyrics, J. Wybicki, written to inspire the Polish legions in Italy, serving under General Jan Henryk Dąbrowski, who were fighting with Napoleon's French Revolutionary Army. Polish National Anthem.

Ostatni Mazur: (The Last Mazur) 1863; music, F. Tymulski; lyrics, L.K. Pomian-Łubieński. Written during the January Uprising 1863, the poet-lyricist was an Uprising participant. The song tells of a soldier who will dance one last time with his beloved before departing for battle.

Polonez Kościuszki: (Kościusko Polonez) 1831; music, Kościusko, attrib. approx 1777; lyrics, R. Suchodolski.

Polonez Warszawski: (Warsaw Polonez) c. 1950; music T. Sygietyński; lyrics, J. Ficowski. First performed by "Mazowsze" folk dance ensemble.

Pożegnanie Ojczyzny/Polonez Ogińskiego (Ogiński Polonez, Farewell to the Homeland), 1794; music, M.K. Ogiński, written following the failure of the Kościusko Uprising in which Ogiński participated.

Rozmaryn: (Rosemary) 1914-1918; music, anon. traditional folk from 17th century; lyrics W. Denhoff-Czarnocki. Popular patriotic song from WWI.

The Star Spangled Banner: 1814; music, J. Stafford Smith; lyrics, F. Scott Key. National Anthem of the USA. The lyrics come from "Defense of Fort McHenry," a poem written by Key during the War of 1812.

Warszawskie dzieci (Children of Warsaw) 1944; music, A. Panufnik; lyrics S.R. "Goliard" Dobrowolski. This song became the symbol of the Warsaw Uprising, although it originated before its outbreak. It was recorded and radio-broadcasted on August 1, 1944, the first day of the Warsaw Uprising.

Learn More: Other Polish California Pioneers

<http://www.polishclubSF.org/PolishSocietyOfCalifornia.htm>

<http://www.polishclubSF.org/Newspapers.htm>

Sources for all newspaper clippings

cdnc.ucr.edu/cgi-bin/cdnc

ChroniclingAmerica.loc.gov

Other: <http://www.sfgenealogy.com>

SUGGESTED READING

1. **"The Attitude of Civil War America to the Polish Insurrection of 1863"**
By Dr. J. W. Wiecezrak. Introduction by Prof. Eugene Kusielwicz.
Commemoration Book, 100th Anniversary Booklet of the Polish Society of California, pages 20-24; Online: <http://www.polishclubsf.org/booklet.pdf>
2. Zamoyski, Adam. **The Polish Way**. New York: Hippocrene Books, 1987.
3. Wierzbicki, Felix Paul. **California As It Is and As It May Be**. San Francisco: Grabhorn Press, 1933.
4. Haiman, Miecislaus. **Polish Pioneers of California**. Chicago: Polish Roman Catholic Union of America, 1940.
5. Sienkiewicz, Henryk. **With Fire and Sword** (The Trilogy, Book I). W.S. Kuniczak, Translator. Hippocrene Books, 1991. **The Deluge** (The Trilogy, Book II, 2 volumes). W.S. Kuniczak, Translator. Hippocrene Books, 1991. **Fire in the Steppe** (The Trilogy, Book III). W.S. Kuniczak, Translator. Hippocrene Books, 1992.
6. Staszik, Florian and Pula, James S. **Polish Political Émigrés in the USA, 1831-1864**. New York: Columbia University, 2012.
7. Tomczykowska, Wanda. **The Silent Heroes: Polish Contributions to California**. Polish Arts & Culture Foundation, 1990.
8. **THE KORWIN LETTERS**: <http://cosmopolitanreview.com/the-korwin-letters/>;
R.K. Piotrowski letters to JI Kraszewski, Prince Czartoryski,
Helena Modrzejewska (Modjeska), and Count Bożenta

Sources of pictures in this book

Captain Bielawski: *Polish Pioneers of California* by Miecislaus Haiman.
Wierzbicki photo: UCSF Toland Hall, taken by Maureen Mroczek Morris
RR Map (Bielawski): Library of Congress, Geography and Map Division.
Poniatowski: www.energy-net.org; Zagłoba: www.kazet.bial.pl
Strentzel: www.sierraclub.org; Rabbi Cohn: www.jmaw.org
3rd of May Constitution: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Constitution_of_May_3,_1791
Independence Day: kobieta.elblog.net; Molotov–Ribbentrop Pact:
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Molotov%E2%80%93Ribbentrop_Pact
Partitions:
[http://www.twcenter.net/forums/showthread.php?498394-Petition-Movement-for-a-DLC-with-a-Expanded-\(possibly-global\)-for-NTW/page18](http://www.twcenter.net/forums/showthread.php?498394-Petition-Movement-for-a-DLC-with-a-Expanded-(possibly-global)-for-NTW/page18)
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Territories_of_Poland_annexed_by_the_Soviet_Union
Sejmik pictures taken by Maureen Mroczek Morris; Easter pictures taken by Tony Zukovsky
Orchard Lake: www.pna-znp.org; Artists pix: provided by artists or Łowiczanie
Muir-Bielawski letters: <http://content.cdlib.org/ark:/13030/kt1c6032x1/>
1863 uniforms:
http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Polish_insurgents_of_January_Uprising_1863_2.PNG
2 Piotrowski paintings: Muzeum Henryka Sienkiewicza, Wola Okrzejska, Poland
Sobieski painting: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Vienna
Kościuszko: <http://polaniecnadczarna.fm.interia.pl/kosciusko%20pod%20polancem.html>
Platt's Music Hall: <http://deyoung.famsf.org/blog/oscar-wildes-wild-west>
Starr King: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas_Starr_King
1863 revolution: <http://www.photographersdirect.com/buyers/stockphoto.asp?imageid=3288972>



It is fitting to pay tribute to the accomplishments of the Polish California pioneers, many of whom were political exiles, on the 150th Anniversary of the Polish Society. Their commitment to independence for Poland united them, and it is to these Polish patriots that we owe our beginnings. Tonight's celebration is dedicated to them and to the first-ever Polish society on the Pacific coast!

Poem for a Polish Exile

Ye exiles, Roaming through the world so helplessly and long,
 When will your weary feet find rest, O broken-hearted throng!
 The wild dove finds its hidden nest, the worm its native clod,
 But Poland's son can only claim of earth a burial sod!

--Julian Ursyn Niemcewicz (1758-1841)

Remember the past, preserve the
 Serenity of your spirit and repeat
 The song of our fathers: for Poland
 Will not perish as long as we live

--Jochin Lelewel
 (1786-1861)

Picture from:

http://www.deviantart.com/morelikethis/artists/356053339?view_mode=2

Booklet by Maureen Mroczek Morris