



POLISH AMERICAN News

February / March, 2007

Museum's Historic Reflections Project

The Polish American Cultural Center Museum in Historic Philadelphia presents Historic Reflections from Polish and Polish American history on the Polish American Radio Program. The reflections are organized in a daily format. Some of the dates may be the birthday or death date of a prominent person. Other dates may celebrate a milestone in a prominent person's life such as a career promotion, invention date, or some accomplishment that contributed to science, medicine, sports, or entertainment history. Other dates may be an anniversary of a historical event in Polonia or Poland's history. Some days may be a random reflection just to take a moment to celebrate the positive aspects of our cultural heritage.

Below is a transcript of the historic reflections aired on the radio program for the days of January 20th to January 26th.

A daily calendar for the entire year is now being completed and will be put on the Museum's Internet site in the near future.



Brief Outline of Historic Reflections:

January 20th - We remember **Wladyslaw Lokietek** known as Ladislaus the Short, of the Piast Dynasty, was crowned King of Poland in 1320.



January 21st - We recognize the accomplishments of **Kazimierz Proszynski**, who built the first cinema camera in the world. This apparatus for taking photographs and projecting pictures was built in advance of others presenting their patents. Kazimierz Proszynski also made the first pocket-film-camera and devised a method of synchronizing sound and film tracks.

January 22nd - We recognize the accomplishment of **Jozef Tykocinski**, a Polish engineer and inventor from Wloclawek, Poland. In 1922, Tykocinski publicly demonstrated for the first time that sound was possible to be on the film in motion pictures. He was awarded the sound-on-film patent in 1926.



January 23rd - We salute a Polish American priest, **Fr. Casimir Zeglen** who was the pastor of St. Stanislaus Church in Chicago. He invented the first bullet proof vest in the 1890's, using an inflexible four ply silk cloth weave that resisted penetration by a bullet. Fr. Zeglen's story was featured on NPR, National Public Radio.



January 24th - We salute the accomplishments of **Stephanie Kwolek**, a Polish American chemist from New Kensington, Pennsylvania who discovered Kevlar, the material now used in bullet proof vests. She is honored throughout the world for her discovery which has saved many lives. Stephanie Kwolek is the recipient of many awards and was inducted into the National Inventors Hall of Fame in 1995.



Polish American Cultural Center
308 Walnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106
(215) 922-1700

When You're in Philadelphia's Historic District Visit The **Polish American Cultural Center Museum Exhibit Hall**
308 Walnut Street
Featuring Polish History and Culture
Open 10 AM to 4 PM
FREE ADMISSION

January through April
Monday to Friday

May through December
Monday to Saturday

Gift Shop is Open During
Regular Exhibit Hall Hours

Closed on Holidays

Visit the **Polish American Cultural Center Museum** on the Internet at: www.PolishAmericanCenter.org

Featured on the web site are brief outlines of Great Men and Women of Polish Heritage, information about Polish customs and traditions, and information about organizations and activities in the Polish American Community.

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Historic Reflections Project Continued

January 25th - We remember **Witold Lutoslawski**, pianist and composer born in Warsaw, Poland. Witold Lutoslawski was one of Poland's significant composers since Chopin and won the Order of the White Eagle, Poland's highest honor.



January 26th - We remember **Wiktorek Labunski**, Polish pianist and composer that was the director of the Kansas City Conservatory in Missouri from 1941 to 1958. Among his many musical accomplishments, Wiktorek Labunski received an honorary Doctorate Degree from the Curtis Music Institute of Philadelphia and was also a guest conductor of the Warsaw Philharmonic.

You can hear this week's historic reflections on the Saturday Radio Program at: PolishAmericanRadioProgram.com

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308 Walnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Telephone: (215) 739-3408
PolishAmericanCongress.com

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