

Historic Reflections from the Polish American Cultural Center Museum in Philadelphia, PA • June / July**June 20, 1954 - Michael Sobolewski (Born)**

Michael Anthony Sobolewski is known in the rock music world as **Michael Anthony**. He is the former bass guitarist and one of the founding members of the rock band Van Halen. He is currently the bass player in Chickenfoot with former Van Halen vocalist Sammy Hagar and guitar virtuoso Joe Satriani. He also is marketing his own brand of hot sauce called Mad Anthony's Hot Sauce.

June 21, 1918 - Ed Lopatynski (Born)

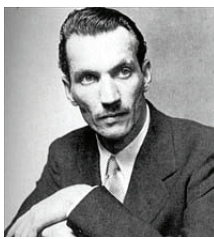
Ed Lopatynski is known professionally as Ed Lopat, a star pitcher for the New York Yankees during the period when the Yankees won five World Series in a row between 1949 and 1953. He was a "Lefty" that specialized in "bending curveballs." Ed Lopat later became manager of the Kansas City Athletics.

**June 22, 1866 - Kazimierz Zorawski (Born)**

Kazimierz Zorawski was a renowned mathematician whose work in differential geometry and fluid mechanics contributed greatly to the fields of science, mathematics, astrophysics and physics. Zorawski's work earned him a place among other Polish notables such as Nicholas Copernicus and Marian Rejewski.

June 23, 1892 - Mieczyslaw Horszowski (Born)

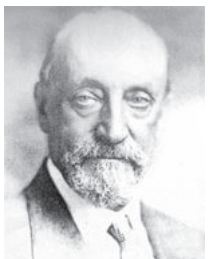
Pianist Mieczyslaw Horszowski was an internationally acclaimed pianist and music teacher whose performances were widely recorded. Mieczyslaw Horszowski was also a teacher at the Curtis Institute and continued to teach and perform until shortly before his death in Philadelphia in 1993 at the age of 100 years old.

**June 24, 1914 - Jan Karski (Born)**

Jan Karski was a Polish World War II resistance fighter and scholar. In 1942 and 1943, Jan Karski, reported to the Polish, British, and American governments on the situation in Poland, the destruction of the Warsaw Ghetto and the Holocaust.

June 25, 2004 - Dr. Thaddeus Gromada (Presentation at the Library of Congress)

Dr. Thaddeus Gromada, the Executive Director of the Polish Institute of the Arts and Sciences, on this day in 2004, gave a presentation at the Library of Congress, outlining the issues of Poland's entry into the European Union.

**June 26, 1940 - Ralph Modjeski (Died)**

Ralph Modjeski, internationally respected bridgebuilder, was the son of famous actress Helena Modjeska. He built the Benjamin Franklin and Tacony Palmyra Bridges on the Delaware River in Philadelphia and designed and built 30 other bridges across America.

June 27, 1959 - Janusz Kaminski (Born)

Janusz Kaminski was born in Poland on June 27, 1959. He immigrated to America and attended Columbia College in Chicago. Janusz Kaminski is a two-time Oscar winner cinematographer and film director. He also won the Academy Award for best cinematography twice in the 1990's - one for "Schindler's List" and the other for "Saving Private Ryan."

**June 28, 1996 - Jan Lorys (Became Director of the Polish Museum of America)**

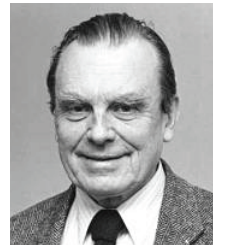
Jan Lorys became the Director of the Polish Museum of America in Chicago on this day in 1996. We congratulate Mr. Lorys on a job well done and encourage you to visit the Polish Museum of America, located at 984 North Milwaukee Avenue in Chicago, Il.

June 29, 1941 - Ignacy Jan Paderewski (Died)

Ignacy Jan Paderewski, pianist and composer, became the most noted statesman of Poland to the United States during and after World War I. In 1919, after World War I, Paderewski became the first premier of the newly-created Republic of Poland. His heart is enshrined at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa in Doylestown, PA, and his remains are buried in the crypt at St. John's Cathedral in Warsaw, Poland.

**June 30, 1911 - Czeslaw Milosz (Born)**

Czeslaw Milosz was an internationally respected Polish poet who received the 1980 Nobel Prize in Literature. In 1960, Czeslaw Milosz immigrated to America and settled in California. He became an American citizen and was a teacher at the University of California, Berkeley. In addition to his many poems, he wrote a work of non-fiction, "The Captive Mind" which is available in book stores all over the world.

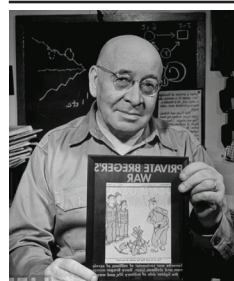
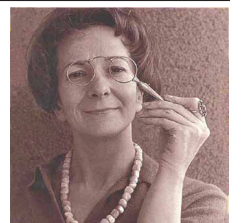
**July 1, 1926 - Benjamin Franklin Bridge (opened)**

Opened in 1926, the Benjamin Franklin Bridge was built by Ralph Modjeski, a proud son of Poland. It was a proud day for Modjeski, and a great time for Poles throughout the world as Poland was a free nation and immigrants from Poland

continued to be invited to America to be part of the Industrial Revolution and become a growing part of America's great mosaic. Polish workers were part of the team that helped Modjeski build the bridge which was first named the Delaware River Bridge.

July 2, 1923 - Wislawa Szymborska (Born)

Wislawa Szymborska was a Polish poet, essayist and translator. As the winner of the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1996, and numerous other awards, Wislawa Szymborska is considered one of the most important Polish poets of our time.

**July 3, 1879 - Alfred Korzybski (Born)**

Alfred Korzybski developed the theory of General Semantics, which states that human beings are limited in what they know by (1) the structure of their nervous system and (2) the structure of their languages. Alfred Korzybski published many books in the United States and lived in Lakeville, CT until his death in 1950.

July 4, 1934 - Marie Sklodowska Curie (Died)

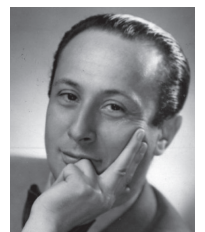
A noted chemist and physicist, Marie Sklodowska Curie was born in Warsaw, Poland, on November 7, 1867. The Marie Curie-Sklodowska Institute in Lublin, Poland was founded in 1944 to further scientific research and learning. The Marie Curie-Sklodowska Institute also has a Polish Language and Culture Center with excellent courses in Polish language, culture, folklore and folk dancing.

**July 5, 1879 - Wanda Landowska (Born)**

Wanda Landowska was a Polish harpsichordist whose performances, teachings, recordings and writings played a large role in reviving the popularity of that instrument in the early 20th century. Wanda Landowska, who spent her last years in Connecticut, was the first person to record Bach's Goldberg Variations on the harpsichord.

July 6, 2000 - Wladyslaw Szpilman (Died)

Wladyslaw Szpilman was a Polish pianist and composer. He is well known as the protagonist of the Roman Polanski film, "The Pianist", based on Szpilman's autobiographical book recounting how he survived during World War II.

**July 7, 1980 - Marika Dominczyk (Born)**

Marika Dominczyk is a Polish-born American actress who has appeared in such films as the Forty Year Old Virgin and many television series including ABC's Brothers & Sisters. Marika recently landed the lead role of Lara in "I Hope They Serve Beer in Hell". The film is due to be released in 2009.

July 8, 1925 - Dr. Alina Szczesniak (Born)

Dr. Alina Szczesniak emigrated to the United States and became the world's leading authority on food texture. She was a food scientist and researcher for General Foods Corporation for 34 years.

**July 9, 1926 - John Dingell (Born)**

We salute Representative John Dingell of Michigan, son of Polish immigrants and currently the longest serving member of the House of Representatives, with the second-longest term of service in the House ever. Sto Lat Representative Dingell!

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