

PolAm

A Publication of the Polish American Cultural Institute of Minnesota

June 2007

Trip to Chicago's Christkindl Market 3

Zamość 4

Vol. 29, Num. 6

The Jamestown Settlement and the Poles

You have no doubt seen more than one article about the 400th anniversary of the settlement of Jamestown in Virginia by the Virginia Company. The anniversary events have been featured in many papers and magazines. Even Queen Elizabeth of Great Britain came to pay homage. But what often is not mentioned is the Polish presence and contributions to the success of Jamestown. (The National Geographic article, however, does include a picture of a crucifix that was uncovered at the archeological site with the notion that it perhaps "belonged to one of Jamestown's few Catholics," who no doubt were the Poles.)

The first year of the colony portended disaster. The Virginia Company, a group of venture capitalists, received a charter from King James I to "colonize and exploit" the Virginia area. As with most companies its primary motivation was to make a profit and a quick return on their investment. The first settlers were instructed to hunt for gold and silver. Even the settlers themselves were not interested in colonizing a new world, but were there to get rich or to avoid troubles back in England and most did not have the skills needed to make for a successful colony. During the first year no one bothered to dig a well and the settlement drank the polluted river water. By October of that year more than half of the colonists were dead.

Captain John Smith wrote the backers in London that he would no longer lead the colony unless they agreed to allow



The Susan Constant, Godspeed and Discovery (top) – re-creations of three ships that brought English colonists to Virginia in 1607 – are moored at Jamestown Settlement's pier for visitors to explore. Early map (above) of Jamestown.

several hardworking Poles with the necessary skills to join the colony. Smith before this time was well traveled and even spent time as a slave in Turkey after being captured in battle. Fleeing Turkey, his path brought him through Poland where he learned about the Poles and

Jamestown continues on page 2

Guest in the home, God in the home

When sitting down to the dinner table it is always a good idea to congratulate the host on the wonderful reception. Poles are convinced that they are an exceptionally hospitable nation and like to be reassured of this...and not without reason. In the past their forefathers often said: "Gość w Dom, Bóg w Dom" "A guest in the home, God in the home," which meant that a guest had to be offered all the best things available. When the best was not forthcoming they would resort to the following expression: "Get into debt, but do it in style." In fact it sometimes happened that the cost of a reception or party would be financed by a loan which then took years to repay. The desire to please guests is still prevalent in Poland today.

—Polish Government Website

'Polish Heroes' Exhibition Opens

An exhibition 'Polish Heroes' has opened in the Jewish Centre in Oświęcim, close to the site of the former Nazi concentration camp of Auschwitz.

It documents the lives of twenty residents of the city of Kraków and the surrounding region who risked their lives to save Jews during World War II.

The exhibition is part of an educational project on the Holocaust and a tribute to some 6,000 Poles who have received the Righteous Among Nations medals from the Yad Vashem Remembrance Institute for rescuing Jews.

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PolAm

PolAm (Permit #31798) is the official publication of the Polish American Cultural Institute of Minnesota and is published monthly with a July/August issue. Non-profit bulk permit paid at Minneapolis, Minnesota. The Polish American Cultural Institute of Minnesota is located at 2514 Central Ave NE, Minneapolis, MN. Please direct all inquiries to our mailing address at PO Box 18403, Minneapolis, MN, 55418-0403, or email us at pacim2006@yahoo.com, or call Steven at 612-822-2322.

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We appreciate your continued generosity and support. Dziękuję.

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Thoughts

Another month, and now a new postal rate increase. I am not sure how the new rates will affect *Pol-Am* since in addition



to new rates there are new categories and sizes. Another thing for me to worry about, but when you read this, it'll all be water over the dam...

I hope.

This month we highlight the area of Zamość, but from the point of view of its place in Polish war history. We strive to provide our readers with a wide variety of articles on history, culture, events, etc., that you probably won't find elsewhere. In doing so, we are always open to contributions from readers and we welcome such endeavors in the hope of enriching the reader's knowledge and understanding of our Polish heritage. Having said that, we always strive to promote the positive aspects of this heritage, since it seems so many others are eager to cast a pall on it, many times without reason. So if you are inspired and moved to write something send it to us for our consideration to:

Pol-Am
 PO Box 18403
 Minneapolis, MN 55418

Not that any of you care to hear of this, but I mentioned back before the New Year that my New Year's resolution was to clear off my desk of its clutter and unorganized mess. I am happy to announce that after four months and twenty days, I have accomplished this no mean feat.

Until next month,

Steven Ukasick

Steven Ukasick, *Editor*

Jamestown continues

their work ethic and skills in glass blowing, soap making, boat building, etc. The London Company relented and Poles were sent to the colony in 1608. Their first act was to dig a well.

By 1619 the colony was successful and its colonists began the first representative body in America; but the Poles, being Catholic and foreigners, were not allowed to vote. As a result the Poles stopped all their work until they received their right to vote—the first workers' strike in America. The matter was referred to the Royal Court in London and they sided with the Poles.

There has been little research into what became of these first Polish immigrants to America. Did they assimilate with the English? Did they return to Europe? Do their descendants live among us yet today? Even their names are in dispute since the source of those mentioned cannot be verified. But we do know they were there and were important in the success of the colony and in that we can all take pride.

—Steven Ukasick

New and Generous Members

(Please note: according to the IRS, donations in 2007 and thereafter to non-profit 503 (c) 3 organizations need an acknowledgement from the organization in order to be deductible. The Polish American Cultural Institute of Minnesota board of directors has determined that the tangible value of membership and newsletter is \$15. Therefore all contributions above \$15 are donations and will be acknowledged as such. Acknowledgements will be sent out in the near future; please be patient since we have several hundred to process.)

<i>New:</i>	<i>Sponsor:</i>
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Lightning and Ashes by John Guzowski

A Review by Tom Kiseleski

I recently read forum member John Guzowski's heart-wrenching collection of poems, "Lightning and Ashes." Through his poetry, John recounts the very personal experiences of his family in a Nazi German slave labor camp, Displaced Persons camp, and immigration to the U.S.

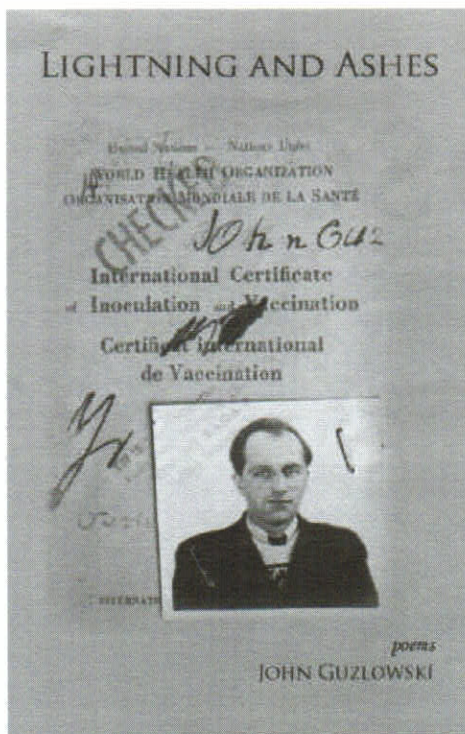
This collection is not for the squeamish. The physical, psychological, and spiritual pain that John's family and other Poles endured is vividly portrayed for the reader.

Ever read a book that moved you to tears or laughter? Great literature grabs the reader emotionally by the coat lapels. And poetry dispenses with the superfluous, going straight for the emotional bottom line. Through "Lightning and Ashes" I felt a bit of the fear, pain, cold, hunger, and misery experienced by John's family. I also shed a tear or two.

John's poem's beg the questions, "How could this have happened?," "How could one human being be so cruel to another?," and, finally, "How did these people possibly survive?"

Those that did survive were often reticent about their Holocaust experiences. John allows us behind the locked doors to share their, and his, bitter memories.

I've never been an ardent fan of poetry because of the extreme difficulty in deciphering much of it. Is there a poetry



confederacy out there that purposely seeks to make the material so incomprehensible? "Lightning and Ashes," thankfully, is extremely readable and understandable.

I highly recommend John Guzowski's "Lightning and Ashes" to members of the Polish American Forum. It is available from the publisher, Steel Toe Books www.wku.edu/~tom.hunley/steeltoebooks or through Amazon.com.

London's growing appetite for Polish Food

Polish cuisine is becoming rather popular in England and it's not just the Poles who are driving this trend. Polish food and drink is the fastest growing ethnic food market in Great Britain. Here's a sample menu from "Wodka" and "The Baltic" two Polish restaurants owned by Jan Woroniecki.

THE PERFECT POLISH MENU

STARTERS

Zurek
Sour rye and smoked sausage soup

Sledz
Herring fillet salad with dill cucumber, potato and red onion salad

Kaszanka
Black sausage with pickles, red cabbage and pear puree

Pierogi
Dumpling filled with cheese, potato and spring onion
Warm smoked eel with bacon, spinach and potato

Blinis
Herring, smoked salmon, aubergine mousse or caviar

MAIN

Schabowy
Breaded pork escalopes with sauteed mushrooms

Kulebiak
Pastry filled with salmon and spinach

Summer Bigos
Polish hunters stew with new potato

Golabki
Cabbage leaves filled with pork, rice and tomato sauce

Golonka
Roast pork shank with beans, tomato, mushroom and herb broth

Roast duck with red cabbage, apple and raisins

PUDDING

Racuchy
Apple fritters with vanilla ice cream

Nalesniki
Crepes filled with sweet cheese, raisins and almonds

Szarlotka
Apple pie with cinnamon ice cream

Honey vodka ice cream with caramelised nuts

White chocolate cheesecake

Sour cherry creme brulee

WITH THANKS TO LONDON'S WODKA AND BALTIC RESTAURANTS

Chicago Christkindl Market with the Polish American Cultural Institute of Minnesota

November 30th–December 1st, 2007

Pack your mittens, hat & silk underwear and join us as we explore the largest authentic Christmas market outside of Europe. Sip hot, mulled spice wine and enjoy European foods as you browse. Please Note: You must be able to walk a minimum of 3 city blocks.

Trip Includes:

- travel via deluxe motor coach

- 2 room suites with refrigerator & microwave (double occupancy)
- 4 meals: 2 Hot Full Breakfasts
2 Dinners
- Christkindl Market shopping
- European delicacies
- Watch European Artisans create everything from hand-blown ornaments to cuckoo clocks
- Over 50 vendors-all outside on Daley Plaza, Downtown Chicago

- Shopping at the Chicago Polish Markets
- Price per person: Double Occupancy — \$250 Single Occupancy — \$390. Make your check made payable to "PACIM" and enclose a list of people in your party. Mail to: Irene Jaworski Colston
5357 35th Ave S
Minneapolis, MN 55417-2121
Reservations MUST be received by October 1st. Limit of 38 guests, for more information, call Irene at 612-729-5911.

Zamość

and the Nazi Libenstrom Plan

by Joseph Beben

Zamość is one of the twelve places in Poland on the UNESCO World Heritage List. Its Main Square, with its Italian-style loggias, is a classic and hardly touched by the ravages of the Second World War, which saw 38% of the buildings and infrastructure of Poland destroyed. Zamość is in the southeast of Poland, near the Ukraine border, and not visited by many American tourists on their first venture to Poland.

But Zamość has a more sinister side to it for Poles. First, the 12,000 Polish Jews in the town of 29,000 were murdered by the Nazis, the last by March 1943. In late 1942 the grand Himmler experiment of removing the remaining Poles from the area and resettling it with Volksdeutsche, good people of German blood, began. It was the first attempt to implement a broader plan to gain room for the Reich by expanding eastward. The Nazis foresaw as many as 50,000 German settlements in Eastern Europe stretching from the Baltic to the Black Sea. They were to be a shield for the German homeland against the Russians while, at the same time, an instrument for squeezing the economic lifeblood from any Poles remaining in central Poland.

In the Zamość and Lublin areas and a little further to the south near Rzeszów, massive demographic changes began. The Germans evacuated 300 villages, uprooting 110,000 Polish peasants to make room for SS men and the Volksdeutsche to settle in the area. The colonists mainly were to come from Bessarabia and Bukowina. About 93,000 people of German origin lived in the eastern crown lands of the former Austrian-Hungarian



Empire and it is unknown how many actually moved to Poland. But it is known that 10,000 Poles perished in the course of this “ethnic cleansing.” And over 100,000 others were sent either to camps in Zamość and Zwierzyniec, to Auschwitz or Majdanek or to villages in the Lublin and Warsaw districts. Half of the Poles (50,000) were sent to Germany for forced labor. Numerous villages were completely destroyed. In many of these villages, the Germans organized mass executions.

More than 30,000 children were taken away from their parents. Many perished through lack of care while others were deliberately murdered by the Nazis. This was one of the cruelest aspects of the German occupation of Poland during WW II.

Other children deemed to possess suitable racial characteristics for reclamation, under a process called *Eindeutschung*, were screened for adoption by Nazi Party and SS members. An entire group of these Polish children, numbering approximately 4,500, were sent to centers for processing in the *Lebensborn* program. This program had two main components. The first was the encouragement of non-marital pregnancies between Aryan youths

with the off-spring raised as Nordic supermen. The second, and more disturbing aspect of the program, was the kidnaping of children from occupied territories and the distribution of these children to “Aryan” families. Very few of these kidnapped children were ever reunited with their real parents.

German resettlement of the Poles from the Zamość region ignited a massive resistance to this initial phase of the Nazi Libenstrom plan. The first large armed action came during the night of December 31, 1942 by Polish underground Home Army battalions. It was “an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth,” bloody retaliation for the brutality shown by the SS. The operation of the partisans in the forests near Zamość and Krasnobrod lasted until mid-February 1943. The Germans used police and army battalions, tanks and warplanes to suppress the resistance. They executed thousands in an attempt to stop the AK and Peasant Battalions. The German administration of Hans Frank finally reported their concerns to Berlin and as a result Himmler issued an order to stop the resettlement action.

So, the United Nations has declared Zamość a World Heritage site because it is a pretty place with historical buildings. To Poles, Zamość represents much more. The proud, defiant Polish eagle (seen just below the center of the tower) is symbolic of a spirit which would protect its children at all cost. Polish children and Polish land would not be given up without a fight!



News

The Polish American Cultural Institute of Minnesota is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and all donations are tax deductible to the extent limited by law. All contributions above \$15 will be acknowledged as donations by written receipt. Please consider including us in your tax and estate planning. We appreciate your generous support.

Przystowia Polskie

Jest to cnota nad cnotami, trzymać język za zębami.

It's a virtue above all virtues, to keep one's tongue behind one's teeth.

Kalendarz

June 17	John Radziłowski Book Signing
Aug 12	PACIM Volunteer Appreciation Picnic
Oct 28	Soup Fest
Nov 30–Dec 2	Bus trip to Chicago's European Christmas Mart
Dec 16	Wigilia

From the President

We have had a very busy spring. Each year we participate in the Festival of Nations put on by the International Institute in collaboration with Dolina Polish Folk Dancers and Polish Saturday School at Holy Cross. Each year gets better than the last. PACIM operates the Polish Café where we serve a variety of traditional Polish food items such as kielbasa, pierogi, sernik, makowiec, raspberry tea, etc. The first day of the festival, Thursday, is student day, and believe me the kids know their Polish food and make a mad dash to our café for their pierogi. If you ever volunteer, Thursday is the day the kids keep you busy until you beg the café master, Martha, to sit down and take a break.

Our participation in the festival would not be possible were it not for the hours and hours put in by volunteers, both from the board and others. Martha Pachnik and husband, Chester, have been coordinating the booth for years and deserve our most sincere praise.

At the same time as the festival is our annual Coach Tour of Polish Chicago and Polish Constitution Day Parade festivities. This year Phyllis Husted coordinated the event and did a superb job for having never done it before. Once again demand outstripped the number we could take so register early next year. While we're on the subject of Coach Tours, Irene Colston will be leading one again to Chicago in November to their authentic Christkindl Market. This one will be popular as well. I'm just sorry I can't get the time off from work to go.

—Steven Ukasick, *President*

Radziłowski Appearance

Former PACIM president, John Radziłowski, will be at the PACIM Library on Sunday June 17th from 1 to 3 p.m. where he will have available for sale the many books he's authored over the years. He will be able to personally sign them as well as talk about his writing. His latest books include *A Traveller's History of Poland*, *Poles in Minnesota*, *On-the-Road Histories: Minnesota*, etc. This will be your last chance to get these books (and save shipping charges) from John and have them signed by him since he is taking a teaching position up in Alaska this fall. So come by on the 17th, buy a few books, drink and eat some good food and refreshments, chat with John and wish him well.

Thanks

Thanks to Stan Remeneski for stopping by with a donation of books. Also Marta and Roy Everson and members of the Columbia Heights Sisters Cities organization. Marta and Roy brought back a 4-CD set of Hans Christian Andersen's fairy tales (translated to Polish). Also a big thanks to Ks. Waldemar Matusiak for his donation of lovely new books and Barbara and Henry Pliszka for the wonderful children's books.

Parades

PACIM members will be riding in the Northeast Parade on June 19 and the Columbia Heights Jamboree Parade on June 22. Give these folks your support as they roll by you. We are still looking for authentic costumes to add to our collec-

tion (of 1) so that we may participate in other community events. If you have a Polish costume you no longer use, please call Judith at 763-571-9602. Thanks.

"Echos" from the North

Constitution week in Morrison County proved to be both exciting and a lot of fun. It all began with the signing of a proclamation by the Mayor of Little Falls earlier in April, proclaiming the week of April 28 to May 6 as Polish Constitution Week. The kick-off for the week was a mass at Our Lady of Lourdes Church followed by a Polish-American dinner. What is a Polish-American dinner? Many of the dishes were Polish recipes but some were foods common to the Polish people but cooked in an American way. The dining hall was decorated beautifully in red and white and Polish music was played throughout the meal. We were honored to have guests from many areas of Central Minnesota including Wadena, Richmond, St. Stephen, Rice, Sartell, and of course many from Morrison County.

On Wednesday May 2nd we again met for rosary and a pot luck supper, with a short meeting.

On Friday May 4th twelve of the Polish Echos boarded the PACIM bus for the trip to Chicago. Phyllis Husted did a marvelous job of planning. She and John Beniek were excellent hosts and made certain we all had a good experience. We marched in the Polish Day Parade, visited the Polish Museum, visited St. Stanislaus Kostka Church and attended a Polish Mass at St. Hyacinth Church. We stopped at other neat places and ate wonderful Polish food. A great time.

The city of Little Falls hosts "Dam Festival Days" (yes, you read it right) on June 23 and 24. This year the Polish Echos will be having a float in the Parade on Saturday June 3 at 11 am. I invite you to join us if you happen to be in the area or please make a special effort; we'd love to have you. If you prefer to bring your own Unit, that would be wonderful, and the Parade Committee would be delighted. If you have any questions or are interested please call me, Phinee Zak at 320-632-2652. Please join us, we'd love to see you and remember, bring a friend.

— Phinee Zak, Polish Echos

Events

Many events are given to us well in advance of the actual date. Please call the contact information to verify particulars. To list your event, contact Judith at judytam@usfamily.net

If you would like more timely and last minute updates to local events, email us at pacim2006@yahoo.com and put "Polish Update" on the Subject line. We'll add you to our Polish Events e-mail list.

June 8–10 *Cesky Den Festival*

Check out this event at Hillsboro, Wisconsin's Czech capital of Hillsboro starting at 6 pm. Friday, June 8th in Firemen's Park with Orv Konop & the OK Dance Band. For more information, see www.ceskyden.com

June 10 *Boże Ciało*

Mass in the Polish language with traditional procession at the Church of the Holy Cross, 17th and University Avenue NE, Minneapolis. Mass begins at 11:30 am. For more information, call 612-789-7238 during business hours.

June 15–17 *Central Wisconsin Polka Festival*

For more information about this event in Merrill, Wisconsin, call 1-877-907-2757.

June 17 *Radziłowski Book Signing*

John Radziłowski will be at the PACIM Library (2514 Central Ave NE, Mpls) on Sunday June 17th from 1–3 pm. He will have his books available for sale. Stop by and get your books signed by the author, chat with him and enjoy some light refreshments. John and his family will be moving to Alaska this fall so this will be your last chance.

June 19 *78th Annual Northeast Minneapolis Parade*

Parade leaves the Canadian Pacific Railroad site (28th and Central) at 6:30 pm. and proceeds down to 14th and

Central. Cheer for the unit from the Polish American Cultural Institute.

June 22 *Jamboree Parade*

Parade leaves the corner of 45th and Central in Columbia Heights at 6:30 pm. and proceeds to the area of 40th and Fifth Street. Cheer for the entries from the Polish American Cultural Institute and the Columbia Heights Sister City Association.

June 22–24 *Milwaukee Polish Fest*

For more information about this event held yearly in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, see www.polishfest.org. Our Dolina Polish Folk Dancers will be performing on Saturday, June 23.

June 22–24 *Ironworld Polkafest*

For more information about this event held in Chisholm, Minnesota, see www.ironworld.com/events/polkafest

July 19–22 *Pułaski Wisconsin Polka Days*

This four-day festival features Eddie Blazonczyk's Versatones and our own Twin City Soundz and is packed with other interesting events. For more information, see www.pulaskipolkadays.com

July 20 *Summer Fest*

Sponsored by the Polish American Club, 1003 Arcade Street, St. Paul. From 5 pm to 7 pm. BBQ and 7 pm to 12 midnight Polish Karaoke. Price is \$5 for both events. People are encouraged to bring finger foods to munch on during the singing. For more information call the Club at 651-774-6748

August 11 *Polish Fest*

Polish food, music, raffles, and games for the children at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church grounds, 22nd Avenue and 5th Street NE, Minneapolis from 11 am to 6 pm. For more information, call the Church at 612-781-9328.

August 12 *Volunteer Appreciation Picnic*

The Polish American Cultural Institute of Minnesota is sponsoring a picnic at its institute, 2514 Central Avenue NE, Minneapolis to thank all of the people who have volunteered their time during the past year. More information to come next month.

September 21–29 *Tour of Poland hosted by Orest Kramarczuk, owner of Kramarczuk's Sausage Company*

Includes airfare, breakfast and dinner daily, services of a Polish speaking guide, travel by deluxe motor coach, first class or superior tourist class hotels. Cities visited: Warsaw, Poznan, Wrocław, Częstochowa, Kraków, Zakopane. Price: \$2149 per person double occupancy. The tour is almost full so call Carrie at Book It! Travel 612-253-3383 for more information.

October 28 *Polish Soup Festival*

New day (Sunday) and it starts at 5:00 p.m. but the same great soups, Polish bazaar and pierogi to go. Watch this column for more information.

Polanie Club Scholarships

Celebrating our 80th anniversary in October 2007!

The Polanie Club of Minneapolis and St. Paul is offering a limited number of \$2000 scholarships for the academic year 2007-2008. Qualifying applicants are USA citizens or permanent residents of Polish-American ancestry who are Minnesota residents with a GPA of 2.5 or better. Scholarships will be available to those persons, ages 18–25, who are seeking financial aid for further education beyond high school.

Applications must be postmarked by July 1, 2007. Applicants will be notified about the decision in August 2007.

To request an application or additional information, please send a self-addressed and stamped envelope to: Polanie Club of Minneapolis and St. Paul Attn: Scholarship Committee 643 Madison St. NE Minneapolis, MN 55413

People



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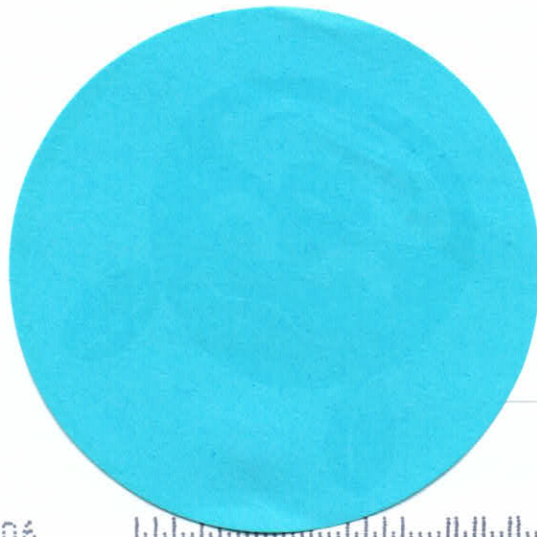


Jan Zamoyski
1542-1605
Polish Magnate & Hetman

Was a major figure in the politics of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. His inspiration was the constitutional principles of the Republic of Rome and so championed the rights of the lesser nobility. He saw the end of the Jagiellon Dynasty in

1572 and worked to ensure that all nobles had the right to vote for the king. In 1580 he founded and built the city of Zamość. He hired the Italian architect, Bernardo Morando, who designed the city as a "renaissance city." Many of the buildings remain and it was placed on the UNESCO list of World Heritage Sites.

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Polish Word Tips

Pogoda, itd. *Weather, etc.*

Deszcz (śnieg) pada.
It's raining (snowing).

Ubierz kalosze.
Wear galoshes (rubbers).

Jest zimno (ciepło, gorąco).
It's cold, (warm, hot).

Ubierz się ciepło.
Wear warm clothes.

Jest słonecznie.
It's a sunny day.

Jest zachmurzenie.
It's cloudy.

Nachodzić sztorm.
It's storming.

Wiatr, słaby wiatr, silny wiatr
Wind, breeze, strong wind

Zamość, Poland



Year of inscription on the World Heritage List:
1992

Location and Site: In eastern Poland, near the borders of the Lublin plateau and the Roztocze rise, Zamość is on the Labunka River. It was located on the trade route that linked Northern and Western Europe to the Black Sea.

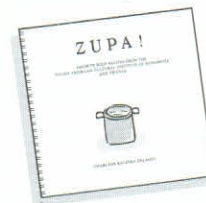
Historical Function: Trade, residence of nobility and culture.

Foundation: End of 16th century A.D.

Population: 66,863

ZUPA!

Favorite Recipes From The
Polish American Cultural Institute of Minnesota
Annual Soup Festival



39 SOUP & 11 ACCOMPANIMENT RECIPES
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