

Ryszard Kukliński from 1

rehabilitate Kukliński. Many Poles thought he was not a hero, but a traitor who had broken his military oath. Only in September 1997 were charges of espionage dropped; he finally returned to Poland for a visit in 1998.

The film casts a thought-provoking light on that controversy, which the new film is likely to reignite. Lech Walesa's evasive answers to the question why he as president failed to pardon Kukliński are striking (he says he was surrounded by ex-communists but does not explain why he couldn't overrule them).

Also troubling are the mysterious deaths of Kukliński's two sons in 1994: just a boating mishap and a hit-and-run road accident? Or the belated revenge of his former colleagues? The film cannot answer that. Nor does it answer the question of who tipped off the Soviet authorities that the West had a mole in the Polish military: was it one of the traitors who has since been exposed? Or one who has to this day covered his tracks successfully? □

(Editor's note: This article is an edited version of a January 15 2009 from the *Economist.com* website.)

Legal - J-1 Visa from 3

changing laws and regulations in this area to the particular facts in each person's case. This is an important responsibility because many of the requirements for a successful labor certificate application are counter-intuitive to "real world" employment recruitment. Because some rules are not looked at until near the final stage with the CIS, if the forms are done improperly at the beginning, it may be impossible to remedy.

The attorney will analyze the possibilities of a successful application and assist through the entire process, as well as keeping the employer informed of its obligations. While an attorney cannot guarantee what the results will be of any particular test of the job market, they can assist in drafting the proposed ad and postings, getting the prevailing wage, completing the application forms, answering requests for clarification or assessment notices, and everything else necessary to get the labor certificate approved. The only thing which an attorney cannot do is to interview any qualified U.S. applicants (if there are any); this can only be done by the employer.

In your situation with an approved labor certificate prior to the end of your J-1, you can submit your application to adjust status to green card holder with your employer's immigrant visa petition (Form I-140) and 90 days later you will have a work card and travel authorization. At this stage, CIS will be interested in whether your employer has the money to pay your wage and your W-2 or employer's tax returns (showing a profit) for the year your labor certificate was filed are required. At the moment, these applications are taking under a year if the file is not transferred to the local office for a personal interview. □

Polish Women's Alliance
*Out of state members***WE NEED YOU****Helen Simmons**

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extraordinary find in the history of Polish music of the 20th century. This discovery was celebrated in June 2005 in Łódź, Poland, during the annual Film Music Festival, where Henry Wars' symphonic masterpieces were given a world premiere by the Łódź Philharmonic Orchestra, led by Maestro Krzesimir Dębski and featuring soloist Marek Żebrowski in the Piano Concerto. In November 2005, a gala concert at Bovard Auditorium, USC, also celebrated the Wars manuscript donation. □

Janek's Corner from 4

leaflet once one decides to go for it. Access 24/7, no problems with the vending machine, just call and we'll answer as soon as possible – just engage in the reality check and you'll also be mildly disappointed with lack of service or advertised offerings. How come? The reason for it is probably that Britons are too accustomed to be continuously misled by instant flashes of colour and lovely wordings. Isn't it funny that in such a sophisticated society as the UK's society is believed to be, people live in a total Big Brother world, for real? Personally, I would not like to be treated in such a manner.

Want more?

It seems that, although the first impression of the UK has been rather overshadowed by a culture shock, future visits, may they be long or short, may result in an understanding of a foreign culture. I am sure that travelling makes one open-minded and able to become a successful person in the future. Therefore, it is not right for someone to produce a proper opinion of a country which is entirely based on a single trip for a few days to such an "unusual" place. What counts is not what we are used to; these are the new things that may come along. □

Grohoski's new medal from 4

Legion of Honor. The woman he spotted was Valentine, a schoolmate who was the prettiest girl at his Polish high school back in China. They married in 1963.

Grohoski worked in San Francisco until 1988 as an executive in the automobile parts business, and upon retirement he and Valentine retired to Santa Rosa.

He traveled to the French consular residence in San Francisco to receive the Legion of Honor from Consul General Pierre-Francois Mourier. The Legion of Honor established by Napoleon Bonaparte in 1802, is one of the highest honors awarded by the president of France.

As part of the ceremony, the Santa Rosan proudly played a short film, "One Soldier's Story" was produced by 2008 Cardinal Newman High School graduate A.J. Young of Sebastopol. It features many of Grohoski's taped recollections from Normandy.

Grohoski invited Young, now 19 and a student at Gonzaga University in Spokane, Wash., to accompany him to the Legion of Honor presentation. Young's parents got to go too.

The teen said Thursday it was a powerful experience for him and to have his film be part of France's formal expression of gratitude to Grohoski for his service and sacrifice in helping to defeat the Nazis.

"He is an amazing man," Young said. "Just to be able to have this friendship with him is something I'm going to remember all my life." □

Your Help is Needed
Get involved in Polonia!**Join a**
Polish Organization**Wanda Wilk from 1**

roaring twenties. Life was good. Only 6 years later would come the beginnings of the Great Depression in 1929 which would last for ten years. She tells me she remembers those times, because she can recall the soup lines across the street where she lived with her mom and dad. Her mother, Lottie Harasimowicz would work day and night caring for her three small children, providing them with food, clothing and a place to live. Lottie would work sewing and cleaning clothes to help those who were less fortunate. She would take money, chickens, or whatever in exchange for helping another human being.

My aunt was able to get a good education, learning Polish, English in her childhood. Despite the Depression, her mother arranged for Wanda to get music lessons. She learned to play the piano. Because it was difficult to afford a piano, she would arrange to go to the local mortuary and practice the organ there. Unfortunately, on occasion the bodies would be aroused and stiffen up into a sitting position at times because the embalming process had not been completed yet.

In 1947, Wanda, her brother, Edwin, mother, and father came to California driving across country with their belongings. They settled in Southern California and had the opportunity to start during the boom years of the 1950s. Housing prospered, and fortunately, they invested wisely in real estate. My aunt with her educational background, became a school teacher in music. She proudly told me how she had one of the Beach Boys in her choir class.

The rest of the story is history. Briefly....

My uncle, Doctor Stefan P. Wilk came to California after studying medicine in Switzerland, and landed a teaching position at UCLA Medical Center and later Queen of Angels Hospital in Los Angeles. He sought out the best Polish woman he could find in LA by attending Polish National Alliance functions, and social events throughout the city. She talked and tried to find the best. He eventually did and arranged to date a school teacher, my aunt, Wanda Harasimowicz. It was immediately love at first sight and they married, and had a beautiful daughter, Diane.

My aunt spent the rest of her life helping others in need. She and my uncle became involved in Polish and Medical society events, helping arrange to get back something to the less fortunate. She always would save whatever clothing and items she didn't need at the time and sent them to Poland to relatives at least once a year. She volunteered at Queen of Angels Hospital, becoming the Auxillary President for a period of time.

She was a special person as you all know. She and my uncle established the Polish Music Reference Center at the University of Southern California, as well as the Children's Medical Care foundation. Music and helping others was the story of their life.

When I was facing uncertainty in my life, with dysfunctional parents, my Aunt and Uncle took me in at the age of 9 and raised me. My mother died at 45 and father at 55 from abuse of tobacco and alcohol.

I was able to gain back some structure and morals in my life which enabled me to go on to higher education, graduating from UCLA Medical Center and working as a family physician and of course, Addiction Medicine specialist. Though the help of my aunt and uncle I am forever grateful to be able to achieve my dream.

I have a loving wife and three children and blessed to have a good life. I was happy to have an aunt and uncle that raised me through my difficult adolescence period, into adulthood. We had a chance to spend a large part of our

lives together during the summers in Lake Arrowhead, enjoying the lake and doing some sailing. My aunt was not especially fond of water, but was always there to help. She always prepared the finest meals, and made our lives enjoyable with her kindness and caring attitude.

I can't remember a bad moment from my aunt. She was never that kind of person. She only wanted to do good for her family and others.

After my uncle, her husband died, there seemed to be a definite loss of my aunt's body and spirit. She was obviously bonded to her husband. The loss of a loved one took part of her away. She has been living in declining health since that time. She will be able to join her husband. God Bless."

In addition to all of the well-known things about her and all the love expressed by those in attendance at her birthday party, below are little known but equally interesting facts about her:

She and her younger brother Edwin were named after a popular song of the time.

She taught herself to drive (taking the family pickup at age 15 for a spin and crashing it into a sack of potatoes)

She had a very high IQ and graduated at 15 from high school as Valedictorian

She was awarded a full scholarship to the University of Michigan

She used to ride in the rumble seat every Sunday on the way to a fried chicken picnic in the park with her family.

She played baseball on a boy's team as a teenager (think about it, this was in the 1930s)

She was a beauty contestant

She competed to be Mrs. California as Mrs. Hollywood in the Mrs. America contest

She was a concert pianist and performed at the Wilshire Ebell Theater

She was the first woman of the Queen of Angeles Hospital Auxiliary to reach 10,000 hours of volunteer service

She was editor of the Lake Arrowhead Yacht Club newsletter for a number of years

She was a frequent contributor to "Luncheon at the Music Center" on the Public Radio Station here in LA

She received her Master's degree in 1976 at age 55 and went on to International renown as a musicologist

She was an accomplished seamstress who made her own ball gowns

She has a great sense of humor.

All in all, she is a remarkable woman whom I am proud to call "Mom". Happy Birthday! Hope to someday be able to follow in your footsteps! □

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