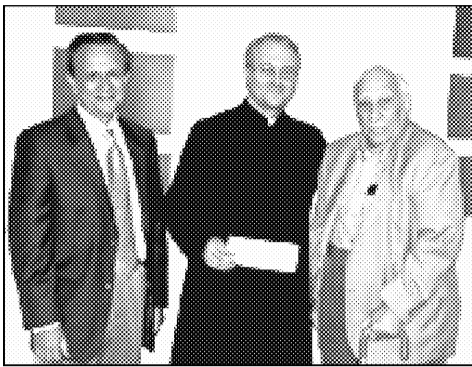


## Two Pinkowskis Gave \$25,000 to heat a church

By: Edward Pinkowski



Jack Pinkowski and his father, Edward, the writer of this report, who came from warm Florida, didn't think twice after visiting St. John Baptist Catholic Church in Wizna, Poland, where their ancestors worshipped since 1526.

The church had no heat. As soon the vespers were over, most of the bundled up children, who had squirmed on wooden planks in front of the visitors, rushed home to get warm. Shortly after, the Rev. Kazimierz Klocek, who was assigned to the large church five years ago, invited our entourage of five persons, including Jack and his wife, Kathleen, me, and two friends, to the rectory for hot tea.

Naturally the lack of a heating system in the church came up again. Father Klocek said that he never had money to install one in the church. Then, in consultation with his father, with whom he has a joint bank account, Dr. Jack Pinkowski made out a check for \$25,000 and handed it to Father Klocek.

It surprised Jack how fast Father Klocek changed the check into more than 40,000 zloty and ordered a state of the art heating system.

"It is our great pleasure to be able to provide you with the funds that we hope will enable you to install the heating system that you indicated was already a priority," he wrote to the priest upon his return to his posts as Director, Institute of Government and Public Policy and professor of public administration, H. Wayne Huizenga School of Business and Entrepreneurship, Nova Southeastern University, Davie, Florida. "We hope that this is being accomplished now and I look forward, personally, to returning once it is completed to share mass with you again. We are very grateful to have the opportunity to help you in this way."

### Wizna

The church in Wizna, which still faithfully rings the Angelus each day and wakes up the present population of 4,794 persons, has no records of the first settlers of Wizna in 1113. Wizna became a city in 1435. Whether there was a church in Wizna between 1113 and 1526 and exactly what kind is shrouded in mystery.

When the people set out to build the present Catholic church in 1526, in low Gothic style, the parish covered a group of villages, including Kokoszki, where the first Pieńkowski family built a log cabin on the side of a brook and, faded as they are, Pieńkowski names are written in the first birth, marriage and death records of St. John the Baptist church. Over the years, the records were kept in the Polish, Latin, and Russian languages. It is impossible to tell if Kokoszki is older than the church.

Following the third partition of Poland in 1795, Wizna's greatness waned. It lost the status of a city in 1870. Wizna suffered the most when 350 German tanks rolled into the town on September 2, 1939, with 42,200 soldiers and aircraft support behind them. Captain Władysław Raginis was the commander of 740 Polish officers and soldiers in Wizna, most of whom were in fortified positions around the town and on a hill along the Narew River. The heroic defense of Wizna lasted for three days. Raginis was severely wounded. On September 10, 1939, in the last pocket of resistance, he took his own life.

The Germans closed the Catholic church and the synagogue in Wizna. It ordered the Jews to leave Wizna in 1941. When they

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## American Council for Polish Culture Pulaski Scholarships for Advanced Studies 2008 - \$5,000 Awards

The Pulaski Scholarships for Advanced Studies Program, which was initially endowed by the Conrad R. Walas family, is administered solely by the American Council for Polish Culture. Qualified applicants must send all of the material described in the two pages attached to this notice so that it is received on or before April 1, 2008 (faxes not accepted). Original copies of all materials must be mailed to the Chairman and duplicate copies to the other four ACPC Pulaski Scholarships Committee members:

Mr. Marion V. Winters, MA, Chairman  
51 Camile Rd.

Webster MA 01570-3148

Mrs. Anna-Mae Maglaty, MS ED 35  
Fernridge Rd.

West Hartford CT 06107-1425

Mrs. Deborah M. Majka,  
MS 812 Lombard St. #12

Philadelphia PA 19147-1308

Mrs. Carolyn L. Meleski, MS 10020  
Reese Rd.

Clarkston MI 48348-1856

Mr. Peter J. Obst, MA

67 Lower Orchard Dr.

Levittown PA 19056-2722

Five scholarship grants of \$5,000 each are available for the 2008 competition. If a copy of the application requirements is not published with this news announcement, a copy may be obtained by visiting the ACPC website: [www.polishcultureacpc.org](http://www.polishcultureacpc.org) or contacting Mr. Winters at e-mail <[mvwinters@charter.net](mailto:mvwinters@charter.net)> or tel. (508) 949-0160. Questions concerning the requirements should be directed to Mr. Winters.

All materials submitted by applicants will become part of the records of the American Council for Polish Culture and will not be returned. Late, incomplete or unsigned applications will not be accepted or returned for correction. The decisions of the ACPC Pulaski Scholarships Committee are final and not subject to review.

### GEN. CASIMIR PULASKI SCHOLARSHIPS FOR ADVANCED STUDIES - 2008

Administered by the American Council for Polish Culture (ACPC) \$5,000 AWARD

#### I. QUALIFICATIONS

A. Applicant must be a citizen of the United States of America and of Polish ancestry.

B. Applicant must be a classified graduate student enrolled at an accredited university in the United States and must have completed at least one year of studies at the graduate level.

C. Prior winners of an ACPC Pulaski Scholarship are ineligible.

II. APPLICATION (Completion of an application form is not required)

A. Submit a resume, including: a) the name and relationship to you of the nearest family member(s) from whom you ascribe your Polish ancestry; b) a description of your academic and career goals; c) a section

*ACPC Scholarships to page 9*

## Polish sailors in the 15th Annual Pacific Cup

The Polish sailing vessel „Pacific High”, a 40-foot Catalina 400 yacht owned by Andre Skarka, has been entered in the 2008 Pacific Cup. The Pacific Cup is one of the most popular and prestigious trans-pacific ocean races distinguished by the participation of famous yachts and sailors, such as Philippe Kahn and Roy Disney. The 2008 Pacific Cup from San Francisco to Honolulu is scheduled to set sail on July 14th, 2008.

The crew of Pacific High is a group of highly skilled and experienced ocean sailors based in the United States, Canada and Poland. Pacific High is the first Polish yacht to sail in the Pacific Cup since its inception fifteen years ago. The objective - apart from winning - is to enhance the reputation of the Polish sailing tradition abroad as well as amplifying Poland's image as an emerging international partner.

The Pacific High campaign is in logistic stadium of preparations and working toward the goal of equipping the yacht with safety and communication gear required by organizers of the race for transpacific voyage. The crew is organizing two fundraising dance parties „Bal Karnawałowy” for members of Polish South Bay community on January 26th in Campbell and for Sacramento area on February 2 in Polonian Cultural Pastoral Center in Sacramento.

The honorary sponsor of the Polish yacht is Honorary Consul for the Republic of Poland, Christopher Kerosky, Esq. Media patronage will be provided by Polish Sailing Magazine „AGLE” and locally by PoloniaSF.org. The club sponsor is our own Yacht Klub Polski San Francisco.

The Yacht Club of Poland was founded in 1924 and over the years became one of the most accomplished yacht clubs in Poland with numerous sport achievements such as winning world championships and Olympic medals, producing famous circumnavigators and ocean sailors. Yacht Club of Poland San Francisco started to operate in the Bay Area in 2000. Along with the Yacht Club of Poland London, it is one of the only two existing Yacht Clubs of Poland outside of Poland. □

### Our Lady of the Bright Mount Roman Catholic Church

3424 W. Adams Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90018

#### Schedule of Masses

Saturday 5:00 pm

Sunday 8:30 & 10:00am, 12:00pm

Weekdays 8:00 am, 7:30 pm

(All Masses are in Polish)

Ks. Marek Ciesielski, Proboszcz

Ks. Antoni Bury, Rezydent

**(323) 734-5249**

## Polish American Congress Southern California Division

Invites you to attend our meeting

**Sunday, February 20 - 1:30 P.M.**

**Our Lady of the Bright Mount Church Rectory**

**3424 W. Adams Blvd. - Los Angeles**

**Non-members of the**

**Polish American Congress**

**are welcome to attend our meetings**

**to see the many projects we have achieved**

**and are working on for Polonia.**

Information: (626) 577-9797



## Janek's Corner

**Janek Szczepański**  
Mary Magdalena HS  
Poznań, Poland

[janek.szczepanski@gmail.com](mailto:janek.szczepanski@gmail.com)

## A love-hate relationship

When one starts college, one never knows what to exactly expect. With time comes the feeling that one can either love or hate it. However, there are moments when one can experience that it's a love-hate relationship. My friends and I feel so about *Roman Law*.

Roman Law is one of those subjects at the university which one needs to take to become a qualified professional. It is an absolute foundation of the Polish legal system, which is an example of the Civil Law System (contrary to the Common Law System) that originally derives from the Roman Empire. Roman Law is a course of the private law that existed hundreds of years ago, but which has impacted the legal systems of France (Code Civil), Germany (BGB), Austria (ABGB), Switzerland, and Poland, and many others.

I must admit that this is the most fascinating and interesting subject in the first year of law (Logic is nearly as cool as Roman Law though). It focuses on the ancient legal institutions and evaluate on their use nowadays. As a result, this is the initial step to understand what law is really about and where it really comes from.

The course itself is handled in two different ways which include lectures (for all students) and discussion seminars (in small groups of students). At lectures our professor talks briefly about legal aspects that are of our interest (and which are basically transferred, directly or changed, to the Polish Civil Law), and in seminars we discuss the cases that actually happened in the Roman Empire, such as a killing of a slave (considered *res - instrumentum vocale* then), a purchase of a faulty pitcher or ancillary natures. This seems to be a never ending game which is quite similar to the case law that exists now in the US or the UK. However, when one is used to general, abstract legal rules, which are the basis for all adjudications in Poland, trying to give verdicts in the cases brought to us in seminars can be pretty difficult as an introduction to the legal studies.

It all creates the love-hate relationship. There are moments when we (students) throw books away, and moments when we are really excited about it. Once we're done with another part of the curriculum, we feel it is needed. Nevertheless, sometimes it seems really inconceivable to understand unusual institutions of Roman Law because they are so familiar and so different to those existing in the Polish legal system at the same time. This results in long nights of studying and trying to decipher the brilliant ideas of Romans. It leads to happiness, too, which comes with a victory of the unscrambled thoughts (!).

As a result, we are taken on a roller coaster, but it is a sensational and thought-provoking roller coaster that is truly what university life is about. □

### Danuta Delnitz, M.D., Ph.D.

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**Mówimy po polsku**