



# News of Polonia

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## Wiadomości Polonijne

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### Paderewski Festival in Paso Robles

Once again the annual Paderewski Music Festival is scheduled to take place in the charming Central Coast town of Paso Robles, California from **November 12-15, 2009**. For the past few years this re-born Festival has grown considerably from a one concert affair to several days filled with music, sightseeing, wine-tasting opportunities and exhibits dedicated to the memory of this great pianist and Polish patriot who was also a Paso Robles landowner.

The opening night concert will be held on Thursday, November 12, in a stunningly beautiful function room of the newly-opened Vina Robles Winery. The **Denali Quartet**—a highly acclaimed, LA-based chamber music group—will present a concert of string quartets by Heitor Villa-Lobos, Henryk Mikołaj Górecki, and Johannes Brahms.

Santa Barbara-based pianist **William Koseluk** will present a recital of works by Edvard Grieg and Ignacy Jan Paderewski at the Cass Winery on Friday, November 13.

**Winners of the 2009 Paderewski Youth Piano Competition** will be featured in a free afternoon concert at the Paso Robles Inn Ballroom on Saturday, November 14. That evening the entire city celebrates its heritage during the "Elegant Evening" event that features open houses of merchants, art galleries, and restaurants in the downtown area of Paso Robles.

At 8 p.m. the Paderewski Festival will present Polish pianist **Hubert Rutkowski** in the Festival Gala Concert. Rutkowski's program features compositions by Chopin, Paderewski, Leschetizky, Fontana, and Gottschalk. This concert will be held in the historic ballroom of the Paso Robles Inn.

Other noteworthy events scheduled for this year's Festival include tours of

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THE WHITE HOUSE  
Office of the Vice President  
For Immediate Release  
October 21, 2009

### Remarks by Vice President Biden in a joint statement with President Kaczyński

Presidential Palace  
Warsaw, Poland

VICE PRESIDENT BIDEN: Mr. President, thank you for your hospitality. And I apologize to your colleagues, when two old friends get together, they tend to talk. You know how diplomats always walk out and say, we had a frank and thorough discussion? Well, we had a discussion friends have, we talked about everything. And had we the time, and were we not cognizant of people's schedules, we probably would have talked for another two hours.

But, Mr. President, I am proud to stand here with you, and I think our meeting was productive. I know of no problem of consequence we have with Poland. I know of no consequential problem. I know of no problem that is not able to be resolved as they emerge. Poland has a decided disadvantage in the relationship -- they own a part of our heart, and that is a disadvantage, Mr. President, we have. My daughter-in-law comes from the second largest Polish city in the world, Chicago. But all kidding aside, it was a great discussion, and we discussed a broad range of mutual interests. I think if I could add on to what the President said, we both see the relationship as being rooted in security, but much beyond that, it's much beyond that. Poland, in 20 years, has moved from a country that in fact we looked at in terms of what we could do for, to a country as to what we can do jointly with, how we can jointly address the problems and opportunities that we face as genuine partners.

So there's a broad range of mutual interests, and our joint commitment to the NATO effort, to Afghanistan on. By the way, I expressed my deep appreciation -- I, like the President, have visited the troops on more than one occasion in Afghanistan. The Polish soldiers in Afghanistan are not just soldiers, they are warriors. They are warriors. They are doing an incredibly difficult job, and I wish every Pole could see just how brave and steadfast they are. You would be incredibly proud, incredibly proud, as I was, to have the opportunity to know and see where they were.

As a matter of fact -- it is just part of my DNA, as they say -- but I'm going to go from here to meet with men and women of the Polish armed forces later today, to let them know how much I truly appreciate -- and I mean this sincerely, this is not a diplomatic nicety. The President and I truly appreciate -- truly appreciate the sacrifices that the Polish military is making. And I'm going to meet with decorated Polish war veterans who have served in Afghanistan.

I understand, like all parents -- my son just got back from a year in Iraq. I understand the anxiety of every Polish mother and father, husband and wife, son and daughter. And I just want you to know it may not be a big deal, but it's a big deal to me. It's a big deal that you all know that we generally appreciate and

*President Kaczyński to page 11*

### Polish American Congress National Directors Meet in Chicago

By *Betsy Cepielik*



President Frank Spula

On October 17 the Polish American Congress National Directors met at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Chicago. President Frank Spula called the meeting to order and appointed Paul Sosnowski of Philadelphia as the parliamentarian. A quorum of 40 (out of 120) delegates was established. President Spula welcomed the guests from Poland and introduced Janusz Kurtyka and his staff from the Institute of National Remembrance (IPN.)

Robert Hughes, CPA reviewed the financial statement. Unless money is raised, the financial future is grim. A loan was obtained from the PNA to meet current expenses. Offices need to be maintained in Chicago and Washington. A projected national raffle was unable to take place -- due to the high cost of postage (\$15,000.) The officers are all volunteers and pay their own travel expenses. Interns work in the offices. The Chicago office is manned by Pam Komorowska, who works part time and Washington by Basia Anderson, who works full time. After the first of the year, a plan will be made for fundraising. More communication will be done by e-mail, but addresses need to be corrected. Donations are always welcomed and appreciated. Some of the Directors started the donations.

A proposal was made by the representative from the Polish Chamber of Commerce to sell Polish food, alcohol, and other products, with the profit going to the PAC. This proposal was followed by a motion to do so and was passed.

### Summaries of the Symposium by the Vice Presidents

Dean Anthony Bajdek, Vice President of American Affairs, reiterated that all activity starts at the local level. He was pleased that Ed Martinek, a new division president from Northern California, volunteered to help with the California legislature. (Southern California has not been helpful, because of the distance to Sacramento.) He encouraged Laura Felusiak, the new delegate from Texas to go to Austin and get involved. All PAC members should become involved politically.

Bożena Kamińska, Vice President of Polish Affairs, feels that we now have better ties with the Polish government, representatives, and businesses. She is working with the American Agenda. Wspólnota Polska and the Senate are participating. She attended the ceremonies for the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the free elections in Poland this past summer and

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### The nature and future of communism

By: *Marek Jan Chodakiewicz*

*"International World Politics" Academic Dean and Kościuszko Professor of Polish Studies Dr. Marek Jan Chodakiewicz briefly presents some of the crucial intellectual foundations of communism, and proceeds to examine its continuing role in world affairs.*

Human drive for equality will always be with us. Communism is one of its most rabid manifestations. Therefore its promise will endure, albeit in ever-changing forms. Let us look at the definition, ideology, typology, practice, and phases of Communism. What is Communism? Firstly, it is an ideology derived from Gnosticism. Gnosis is secret knowledge allegedly possessed by the chosen few who aim to herd the unenlightened human chattel to paradise through a revolution. Communism promised an earthly paradise. Marx was a classic Gnostic for he believed that he had a teleological key to the mystery of past, present, and future which would lead to the secular utopia.

Against whom and what is Communism? It is against faith, tradition, freedom, family, patriotism, and, last but not least, private property. It stands against everything that cannot be leveled and controlled.

By what means does Communism operate? By any dialectical means necessary to reach the revolutionary goal. According to needs, the Communists form a "popular front" of all the leftists; they co-opt nationalism, creating "national liberation movements"; or they embrace the exclusionist party line of eliminating everyone, including their own faithful comrades, as "enemies of the people." Thus Lenin, Luxemburg, Mao, Gramsci, or Guzman shared identical aims, while employing disparate tactics.

It is worth stressing that this dialectical nimbleness creates a great deal of confusion among the outside observers. Thus some believe today that North Korea is not a Communist state, but a nationalist one because it has embraced a xenophobic and autarkic policy of *juche*. Others claim that Pol Pot was a racist because he exterminated national minorities, the very same ones who had been overrepresented among the Khmer Rouge before the seizure of power. Still others hope that Castro apparently distances himself from Communism because, although he used to imprison homosexuals in concentration camps, the comandante has recently permitted a gay pride parade to take place in Cuba.

Because of such dialectical contortions of the Communist tactics, one still hears the following, silly liberal saw: if the Communists no longer collectivize through terror-famine, then the system is no longer Communism. If the Communists no longer mass-execute their victims, then it is no longer Communism. If the Communists no longer believe in their ideology, then it is no longer Communism. However, when the Communists suspend their atrocities, it is not because they have abandoned Marxism but because they have decided that their grip on power is firm; the society is forced close enough to

*Prof. Marek Chodakiewicz to page 16*