

Museum's Historic Reflections Project Part 5



September 13, 1964 - Rafal Ziemkiewicz (Born)
Rafal Ziemkiewicz is known as a social science fiction author whose works deal with future governments and the political climate in Europe. He is also currently writing for the Polish edition of Newsweek.

September 14, 1561 - Jan Tarnowski (Died)

Jan Amor Tarnowski (1488-1561) was a Polish-Lithuanian aristocrat. He was Grand Crown Hetman from 1527 and was the founder of the city of Ternopil, where he built the Ternopil Castle and the Ternopil Lake.



September 15, 1941 - Mirosław Hermaszewski (Born)
Mirosław Hermaszewski is Poland's first cosmonaut. In 1978, Hermaszewski spent eight days in the Salyut space station and won an award for his participation in the mission. He eventually made it to the rank of General in the Polish Air Force. Mirosław Hermaszewski is currently retired.

September 16, 1985 - Madeline Zima (Born)

Madeline Rose Zima is an American actress, known for her six years as Grace Sheffield on the TV Series The Nanny or as Mia Cross on the Showtime dramedy Californication.



September 17, 1968 - Jerzy Dąbrowski (Died)
Jerzy Dąbrowski was an aeronautical engineer and designer of the famed PZL.37 Łoś medium bomber. Jerzy Dąbrowski's airplanes were used during World War II and were of superb flying quality. At the end of his career, he worked for Boeing Aircraft Corporation in Washington State.

September 18, 1944 - Walter Shimshock (Shot Down and died in the Aircraft "I'll be Seeing You")

Walter Shimshock was a 19 year old tail gunner on a B-17 Bomber that had been airlifting supplies to the people of Warsaw. During this mission, the "I'll Be Seeing You" was hit by German flak and crashed. Two of the ten crew members on board survived and were captured by the Germans and sent to a Nazi POW camp.



September 19, 1905 - Leon Jaworski (Born)
Leon Jaworski was the famous Polish American lawyer and prosecutor in the Watergate Case. Leon Jaworski also served as a WWII war crimes prosecutor.

September 20, 1960 - James Pawelczyk (Born)

James Pawelczyk is a NASA astronaut and associate professor of Physiology. Dr. Pawelczyk served as a payload specialist in Space Shuttle Columbia from April 17th to May 3rd, 1998.



September 21, 1869 - Henryk Melcer-Szczawinski (Born)
Henryk Melcer-Szczawinski was a Polish composer, pianist, conductor, and teacher. His works include two piano concertos, one in E minor (1892-1894) and one in C minor (1898); a violin sonata (1907), and a piano trio in G minor (probably written 1892-1894).

September 22, 1964 - Bonnie Hunt (Born)

Bonnie Lynn Hunt is an American actress, comedienne, writer, director, television producer and daytime television host. Hunt, who was born in Chicago, Illinois, is the daughter of Alice Hunt, a homemaker of Polish descent, and Bob Hunt, an electrician of Irish descent.

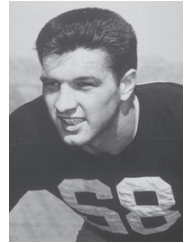


September 23, 2001 - Dr. Stanisław Blejwas (Died)
Dr. Stanisław Blejwas was a history professor and the chairman of Polish studies at Connecticut University and the President of the Polish American Historical Association. Dr. Blejwas was a respected expert in the field of Polish American Studies.

Museum's Historic Reflections Project Part 6

September 24, 2002 - Leon Hart (Died)

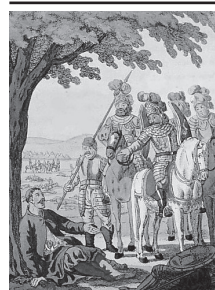
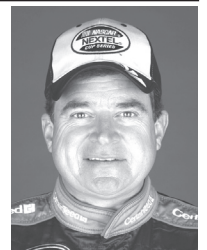
Leon Hart was a great football player who won the Heisman Trophy and Maxwell Award while at Notre Dame and went on to a great career with the Detroit Lions. He was inducted into the Polish American Sports Hall of Fame in 1988.



September 25, 1888 - Stefan Mazurkiewicz (Born)
Stefan Mazurkiewicz was a Polish mathematician who developed the Hahn-Mazurkiewicz theorem that deals with curves and space of curves. He also helped crack the Russian cipher code as a cryptologist for the Polish General Staff during the Battle of Warsaw.

September 26, 1963 - Joe Nemecek (Born)

Joseph Frank Nemecek III is a NASCAR Sprint Cup Series driver and owner of NEMCO Motorsports. He won the 1992 Busch Series championship. He is nicknamed "Front Row Joe" for his tendency to qualify near the front of the field, a term given by former teammate Wally Dallenbach.

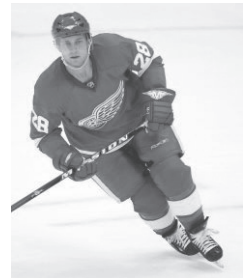


September 27, 1331 - Battle of Płowce (Event)

On September 27, 1331, one-third of the Teutonic Order's Force of Knights under Dietrich von Altenburg left the blockaded peasant town of Płowce. The Poles, under Władysław Lokietek and his son Casimir, immediately attacked in a frontal assault. A few seconds later, Polish detachments hiding to the left of the city in a forest also attacked. In three hours the Teutonic Knights had been defeated and their leader captured. The Polish forces, victorious in this phase of the battle, took prisoner 56 knights, and freed many Polish captives.

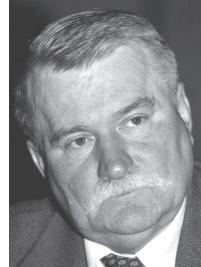
September 28, 1973 - Brian Rafalski (Born)

Brian Rafalski (born in Dearborn, MI) is an American professional ice hockey player who played defense for the Detroit Red Wings in the National Hockey League. Prior to joining the Red Wings, Rafalski played seven seasons with the New Jersey Devils. After struggling to enter the NHL, Rafalski has won three Stanley Cups and become an effective defenseman in the league. In his nine seasons in the league, he has played in five Stanley Cup finals (2000, 2001, 2003, 2008, 2009).



September 29, 1943 - Lech Walesa (Born)

Lech Walesa was President of the Republic of Poland from 1990 to 1995. Walesa was a trade union and human rights activist who is recognized throughout the world for his participation in Poland's Solidarity Trade Movement which helped end communism in Europe.



September 30, 1954 - Barbara Trzetrzelewska (Born)

Barbara Trzetrzelewska, is known by her stage name, "Basia", for her successful music career as a jazz-pop singer in the United States, the United Kingdom and Japan. Basia has two platinum albums to her credit and is noted for possessing a wide vocal range.



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