

**Programs  
Available  
for  
Groups  
and  
Classes**

**LIVE PRESENTATIONS**



**AQUILA  
POLONICA  
P U B L I S H I N G**

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LIVE PRESENTATION

# BEYOND BRAVERY: POLAND IN WORLD WAR II —

Learn more about the amazing story of this forgotten Western Ally.

Poland was the first of the Allies to fight Hitler. It was the only Ally invaded and occupied by two enemies (Germany and the Soviet Union). But unlike France, Poland never surrendered.

Poland continued to fight the enemy both within the country and throughout Europe as one of the Allies.

Inside the country, the Polish government-in-exile ran the largest non-communist resistance organization in occupied Europe, while outside the country it fielded the fourth largest Allied military force in the European Theater of the war (and during the most desperate year of the war—from June 1940 when France surrendered, to June 1941 when Germany invaded the Soviet Union—Poland was Britain's largest ally).



Pilots of the legendary Polish 303 Squadron fighter squadron that flew with the RAF



The anchor symbol of the Polish Resistance—"PW" stands for *Polska Walcząca* (Fighting Poland)



**Approx. Program Length:** 1 hour, 15 minutes.

**Program Format:** Multimedia—includes Power Point with historic photos, maps and other illustrations; and screening of four short video segments.

**Presenter:** Aquila Polonica publisher Terry Tegnazian. (Ms. Tegnazian is based in Los Angeles.)

**Past Venues Include:** The Ottawa (Canada) Public Library; the Polish Embassy in Ottawa; Polish Consulates in both Montreal and Toronto.



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LIVE PRESENTATION

# THE RESISTANCE MOVEMENT IN AUSCHWITZ —

The extraordinary firsthand story of the secret undercover mission at Auschwitz.

In September 1940, Captain Witold Pilecki volunteered to get himself arrested and sent to Auschwitz as a prisoner, in order to smuggle out intelligence and build a resistance organization among the prisoners. Barely surviving nearly three years of brutality, disease and starvation, Pilecki carried out his mission before escaping.

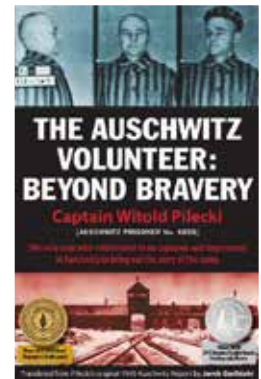
Based on Pilecki's most comprehensive report about his Auschwitz mission, which was published in English for the first time by Aquila Polonica as the award-winning book *The Auschwitz Volunteer: Beyond Bravery*.



Captain Witold Pilecki



The main gate at Auschwitz: "Arbeit macht frei" ("Work liberates you")



**Winner: PROSE Award BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY** from the Association of American Publishers

**Winner: SILVER Award AUTOBIOGRAPHY/MEMOIR** at the Benjamin Franklin Awards

Featured Selection of the HISTORY BOOK CLUB; a Selection of the MILITARY BOOK CLUB and the BOOK-OF-THE-MONTH CLUB

**“One man volunteered for Auschwitz, and now we have his story.”**

— THE NEW YORK TIMES, Editors' Choice



**Approx. Program Length:** 1 hour.

**Program Format:** Multimedia—includes Power Point with historic photos, maps and other illustrations; screening of three short video segments; dramatic readings from the book.

**Presenter:** Aquila Polonica publisher Terry Tegnazian, alone or with an actor. (Ms. Tegnazian is based in Los Angeles.)

**Past Venues Include:** The Polish Embassy in Ottawa, Canada; the Jewish Public Library in Montreal, Canada; Los Angeles Public Library; Hillel at UCLA, Los Angeles.



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LIVE PRESENTATION

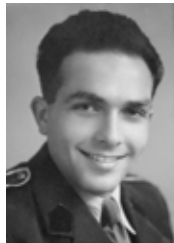
# THE ICE ROAD: AN EPIC JOURNEY —

Explore a little-known aspect of World War II.

In September 1939, Poland became the only Ally invaded and occupied by two enemies: Germany from the west and the Soviet Union from the east.

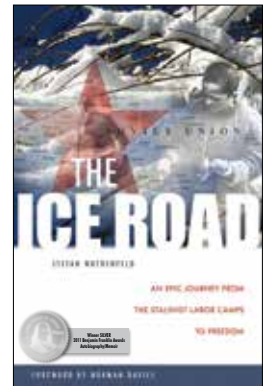
Beginning in February 1940, the Soviets deported 1.5 million innocent Polish civilians to forced labor camps in the frozen wastes of Siberia and elsewhere in the Soviet Union. A year later, in June 1941, Hitler turned on his erstwhile ally Stalin, and invaded the Soviet Union. As a result, the Soviet Union joined the Allies, “freeing” the surviving Polish civilians and prisoners of war to join a newly formed Polish army under General Władysław Anders.

Based on the experiences of teenager Stefan Waydenfeld as detailed in his award-winning book *The Ice Road: An Epic Journey from the Stalinist Labor Camps to Freedom*—surviving the frozen arctic forests while working on the



Stefan Waydenfeld,  
1945

“ice road” to transport logs, escape by river on a raft, chaotic travel by rail and on foot through Central Asia, Kazakhstan and Persia to finally join the Polish II Corps of General Władysław Anders and continue the fight against the Germans.



Winner: SILVER Award  
AUTOBIOGRAPHY/MEMOIR at the  
Benjamin Franklin Awards

A Selection of the  
HISTORY BOOK CLUB and the  
MILITARY BOOK CLUB

“Extraordinary.”

— Anne Applebaum,  
Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *Gulag*



**Approx. Program Length:** 1 hour.

**Program Format:** Multimedia—includes Power Point with historic photos, maps and other illustrations; audio of author and others; some video effects.

**Presenter:** Alice Waydenfeld Faintich, daughter of the author. (Ms. Faintich is based near Charlottesville, VA.)

**Past Venues Include:** The University of Virginia; the Institute of World Politics, Washington, D.C.; Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Virginia; Military Officers of America Association; various book groups and other organizations.



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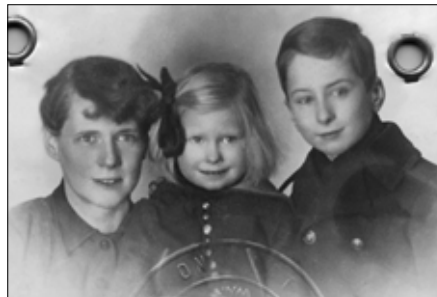
# WORLD WAR II BEGINS —

**A working mother with two young children brings to life the first six months of the war.**

“The German army has crossed our frontiers at almost every point early this morning.”

With this terse announcement by her boss, World War II began for Rulka Langer.

Langer was a Warsaw career woman, wife and mother of two young children, Polish born and bred, and a graduate of Vassar College in the U.S. With her brilliant eye for detail and her fresh and lively storytelling, she vividly brings to life the opening chapter of the titanic struggle between good and evil that ultimately engulfed the world.



Rulka Langer, daughter Ania (age 3), son George (age 8), circa Feb. 1940



**Winner: SILVER Award for Best First Book (Nonfiction) at the Benjamin Franklin Awards**

**A Selection of the BOOK-OF-THE-MONTH CLUB, HISTORY BOOK CLUB and the MILITARY BOOK CLUB**

**“Absolutely one of the best.”**

— Alan Furst, bestselling author of *The Foreign Correspondent* and *The Spies of Warsaw*



**Approx. Program Length:** 1 hour.

**Program Format:** Multimedia—includes Power Point with historic photos, maps and other illustrations; screening of 10-minute Academy Award-nominated historic newsreel *SIEGE* with original film footage of the Siege of Warsaw, September 1939, and other short historical videos; dramatic readings from the book.

**Presenter:** Aquila Polonica publisher Terry Tegnazian, alone or with an actress. (Ms. Tegnazian is based in Los Angeles.)

**Past Venues Include:** The Polish Embassy in Ottawa, Canada; the Polish Consulate in Montreal, Canada; Los Angeles Public Library; Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles.

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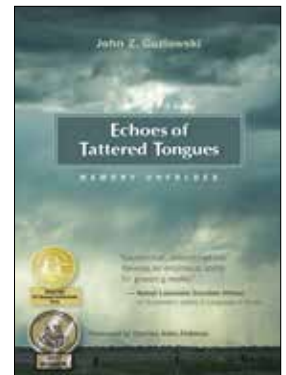
# SURVIVORS: WAR REFUGEE IMMIGRANTS IN AMERICA —

What happens after the shooting and bombing stop, after “peace” returns ... and there is no home to return to?

Millions of immigrants to America have faced this challenge. Weaving together poetry and prose in his book *Echoes of Tattered Tongues: Memory Unfolded*, author John Guzowski tells the story of one war refugee immigrant family. He leads us to a deeper, more visceral understanding of the human costs of war — a timely lesson for today’s world.



The Guzowski family, circa 1958



**Winner: The top GOLD AWARD for Poetry at the Benjamin Franklin Awards**

**Winner: MONTAIGNE MEDAL for most thought-provoking books**

**“Exceptional... even astonished me... reveals an enormous ability for grasping reality.”**

— Nobel Laureate Czesław Miłosz on Guzowski’s poetry



**Approx. Program Length:** 1 hour.

**Program Format:** Author discussion and readings from the book. Video book trailer also available.

**Presenter:** Author John Guzowski, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus of English Literature at Eastern Illinois University. (Mr. Guzowski is based in Lynchburg, VA.)

**Past Venues Include:** The European Union Delegation, Washington, D.C.; Central Connecticut State University; Randolph College, Lynchburg, VA; Hudson Valley Writers Center; Virginia Festival of the Book; Book Expo America; South Pasadena Public Library, CA.



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LIVE PRESENTATION

# EXTRAORDINARY HEROES, DESPERATE TIMES —

The legendary Polish fighter pilots of 303 Squadron.

Summer 1940, the most desperate days of World War II: the Battle of Britain, when the fate of the free world hung by a thread — and a handful of gallant fighter pilots stood firm against the mighty onslaught of the Nazi German Luftwaffe.

303 Squadron was the highest-scoring Allied fighter squadron in the entire Battle of Britain, downing three times the average RAF score with one-third the casualties. What made these Polish fighter pilots so good?

This program draws from the award-winning book *303 Squadron: The Legendary Battle of Britain Fighter Squadron* originally written “live” during the Battle of Britain by Arkady Fiedler, translated by Jarek Garlinski.



303 Squadron CO,  
and leading Polish ace,  
Witold Urbanowicz



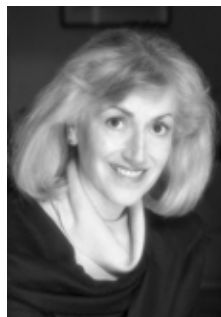
**Winner:** The top **GOLD** Award for History and the **SILVER** Award for Interior Design at the Benjamin Franklin Awards

A Selection of the **HISTORY BOOK CLUB** and the **MILITARY BOOK CLUB**

Excerpted in Smithsonian's *Air & Space Magazine*

**“About as exciting as it gets  
...a must-read.”**

— **WASHINGTON TIMES**



**Approx. Program Length:** 30 minutes.

**Program Format:** Multimedia—includes Power Point with historic photos, maps and other illustrations; screening of a 3-minute film clip illustrating, Hollywood-style, 303 Squadron’s first engagement over England against the German Luftwaffe.

**Presenter:** Aquila Polonica publisher Terry Tegnazian. (Ms. Tegnazian is based in Los Angeles.)

**Past Venues Include:** The Institute of World Politics, Washington, D.C.; the Wilshire Rotary Club, Los Angeles; the Long Beach Rotary Club, Long Beach, CA.



***“PUBLISHING THE WORLD WAR II  
EXPERIENCE OF POLAND.”***

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