

Programs Available for Groups and Classes

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.

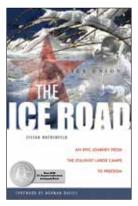
Beginning in February 1940, the Soviets deported 1.5 million innocent Polish civilians to forced labor camps in the frozen wastes of Siberia and elsewhere in the Soviet Union. A year later, in June 1941, Hitler turned on his erstwhile ally Stalin, and invaded the Soviet Union. As a result, the Soviet 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*

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Approx. Program Length: I 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.