



# KRESY-SIBERIA Bulletin

Issue 2018-12

## WELCOME!!!

We present you the first issue of the new Kresy-Siberia Bulletin, which will be published quarterly about issues concerning the Kresy-Siberia Group, Foundation and Virtual Museum.

The Bulletin will be distributed electronically to all Kresy-Siberia supporters (volunteers, donors and paid members). In addition, printed copies will be sent to selected institutions.

At the same time, we announce a competition for the name of our newsletter. Please send your proposals by the end of January to Editor Marcin Kawala at the following e-mail address: [Bulletin@Kresy-Siberia.org](mailto:Bulletin@Kresy-Siberia.org).

## THE “GENERATIONS REMEMBER” CONFERENCE 2018

### KRESY – SIBERIA “GENERATIONS REMEMBER” CONFERENCE



100 lat!  
100 years!

Warszawa  
15-17.IX.2018



KONFERENCJA „PAMIĘĆ POKOLEŃ”  
KRESY – SYBERIA

On 15-17 September 2018 we had our 5<sup>th</sup> “Generations Remember” conference. This year we commemorated the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Poland regaining independence and 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the height of the Wołyń Massacres. As in previous years our venue was the History Meeting House (Dom Spotkań z Historią) in Warsaw. This year we had a record number of participants attending the conference. On top of that many more watched the lectures via Internet. The participants arrived from literally every corner of the world – we had people from Canada, USA, UK, Poland, Sweden, Russia, Iran, Australia and New Zealand.



**This year's attendees**

The conference started with Stefan Wiśniowski being formally presented with commemorative medal, which has been minted by the Association of Siberian Deportees (*Związek Sybiraków*). Mr. Pogodziński, the Vice-President of the Association, formally presented this medal to Stefan.



**Mieczysław Pogodziński and Stefan Wiśniowski**

As the President of the Kresy-Siberia Foundation said at the end of the second day, this has been the best conference to date in terms of variety and topics of speakers. Just like attendees, speakers came from around the world. The participants witnessed premieres of two films: “Memory is our Homeland” by Jonathan Kolodziej Durand from Canada and “Madame” by

Narges Kharghani from Iran. We heard some personal stories about Sybiraks (Iwona Januszajtis, Paulina Kaszuba, Tania Sawicka-Mead) and lectures about Kresy (Tomasz Kuba Kozłowski, Wojciech Śleszyński), artists in General Anders' Army (Jan Wiktor Sienkiewicz), Polish refugee camps in Africa and America (Marcin Kawala) and very informative lecture on how people deal with trauma (Amanda Chalupa). After the lectures, our speakers were available for Q&A and discussion.



**Amanda Chalupa, Tania Sawicka-Mead and Marcin Kawala during the discussion after their lectures**

A very important moment was on the second day of the conference when a formal agreement between the Kresy-Siberia Foundation and the Muzeum Pamięci Sybiru was signed to enact and promote cooperation and work between the KSF and the Muzeum Pamięci Sybiru.



**Wojciech Śleszyński and Stefan Wiśniowski after signing the agreement**

The conference ended with the President of Kresy Siberia Foundation introducing new people joining Anna Pacewicz and Tim Bucknall on the Foundation Executive Committee: Robert Czernkowski, Barbara Gdowski, Iwona Krasoń, Stanley Urban and Marcin Kawala..

The third day marked the anniversary of the Soviet invasion of Eastern Poland and is called Sybirak Day. The day's commemorations began at the Katyń Museum with a Holy Mass held outdoors on the grounds of the Warsaw Citadel. At 4pm the Kresy Siberia members proceeded with the Generations Remember March from the Citadel to the Monument to the Perished and Murdered in the East (a walk of about 1/2 km through the streets of Warsaw). The Kresy-Siberia banner was carried prominently and the group had a police escort. During the ceremony, a delegation of the Kresy-Siberia Foundation laid a wreath at the Monument.



**Kresy Siberia members and Polish veterans with the banner at the Monument**

The conference was a huge success but it would never have happened without the Conference Committee coordinators (Maciej Czarkowski, Marcin Kawala, Iwona Krasoń, Marek Krasoń and Stefan Wisniowski), the History Meeting House staff and two translators (Anastazia Pindor and Renata Knechciak). The report from the Conference was prepared by Grace Nagecka and the official photographer of the event was Greg Spring - **Thank you!!!**

We are also very pleased that an all-volunteer committee has come together to organize our **Kresy-Siberia 2019 “Generations Remember” Conference** in Warsaw on **14-17 September 2019** so please start making your plans now. Next year we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the re-annexation of the Kresy to Poland and the 80th anniversary of the Soviet invasion of Poland. If someone would like to speak or exhibit at the next year's conference, please send an email with the subject of the presentation to: [Marcin.Kawala@Kresy-Siberia.org](mailto:Marcin.Kawala@Kresy-Siberia.org)



# WE NEED YOU!

## SUPPORT THE KRESY-SIBERIA VIRTUAL MUSEUM

Continually growing since its launch in 2009, the Kresy-Siberia Virtual Museum [www.Kresy-Siberia.org](http://www.Kresy-Siberia.org) is visited on the internet by over 100,000 people every year from all around the world and is our major initiative to preserve and promote the history of Poland's citizens fighting for freedom and survival in eastern Poland and in forced exile during World War II. It already includes:

- over 68,000 personal profiles on the WALL OF TRIBUTE
- over 16,000 photos and images in the HALL OF IMAGES
- over 1,000 Survivor interview excerpts in the HALL OF TESTIMONIES
- 29 exhibition rooms in 9 HISTORICAL GALLERIES
- 9 SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS
- hundreds of links and film and book listings in the REFERENCE CENTER.

However, in the nearly 10 years since its launch, the website has fallen behind fast-moving internet technology, is increasingly afflicted by technical problems and is awkward for people to upload their family photos and information. In order to secure the Virtual Museum and the history that it preserves for the future, we urgently need to repair and rebuild it at an estimated cost of US\$50,000.

Beyond that one-time investment, we need to pay everyday costs just to keep the Virtual Museum running:

- Website server hosting (\$5,000/year)
- IT administration (\$2,000/year)
- Film and produce Survivor Testimony interviews (\$500/interview)
- Process back-log of 100 interviews filmed but not yet in the Museum (\$15,000)
- Scan and catalogue historical photographs and documents (\$40/Survivor)
- Translate Historical Galleries and Special Exhibitions from Polish to English (\$10,000)
- Continually add Special Exhibitions (\$3000/exhibition)
- Continually add thousands of people to the Wall of Tribute (free but needs volunteer time);
- Present educational events, exhibitions and conferences (costs as needed).

You can support this work by volunteering your time and by making a financial contribution of a suggested annual subscription of \$40 (or \$4 monthly) or make a one-time donation.

Depending on your country of residence, you can often deduct this donation from your taxes.

All options are available at: [www.kresy-siberia.org/museum/donate/](http://www.kresy-siberia.org/museum/donate/)

From time to time we also organize collections on the internet and they are always announced on our FaceBook group: [www.facebook.com/groups/KresySiberiaGroup/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/KresySiberiaGroup/) And so on 27 November, on "Giving Tuesday", 80 people supported us with the sum of \$5177. Added to this was a bonus from GlobalGiving, so in total we collected \$6043. **Thank you!!!** But that's not enough to rebuild the website. With nearly two thousand members in our FB group, it should be possible to raise the money we need. As the proverb says: **look after the pennies and the pounds will look after themselves!**



Yes, Christmas is here (or Christmas is all around for the fans of 'Love Actually') so on behalf of the President and Executive Committee of the Kresy-Siberia Foundation and our group administrators, we wish all our Christian Kresy-Siberia members, friends and supporters and their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren joyous and family Christmas and Happy New Year 2019.

We also wish "Hanukkah Sameach" to our Jewish members, and a happy and blessed "Mawlid al-Nabi" to our Muslim members!

#### **Editorial Staff of the Kresy-Siberia Bulletin**

**Bulletin:** [Bulletin@Kresy-Siberia.org](mailto:Bulletin@Kresy-Siberia.org)

**Virtual Museum:** [www.Kresy-Siberia.org](http://www.Kresy-Siberia.org)

**Discussion group:** [www.facebook.com/groups/KresySiberiaGroup](http://www.facebook.com/groups/KresySiberiaGroup)

**Donate:** [www.Kresy-Siberia.org/museum/donate](http://www.Kresy-Siberia.org/museum/donate)

**E-mail:** [Admin@Kresy-Siberia.org](mailto:Admin@Kresy-Siberia.org)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/KresySiberia](http://www.facebook.com/KresySiberia)

**Mail:** Kresy-Siberia Foundation, Marszałkowska 115 p.338, 00-102 Warszawa POLAND

**Telephone:** +48 22 211 88 88

**Twitter:** [www.twitter.com/KresySiberia](http://www.twitter.com/KresySiberia)

**Youtube:** [www.youtube.com/user/KresySiberiaTube/videos](http://www.youtube.com/user/KresySiberiaTube/videos)