



Research Remembrance Recognition

10th ANNIVERSARY

est. 17 IX 2001

A Message from the President

by Stefan Wiśniowski

Dear Kresy-Siberia members,

As I reflect on the 10th Anniversary of our group, I think of the wonderful community that we have created or at times recreated. A community sharing a unique history of wartime dispossession (loss of homes) and depatriation (loss of homeland) - yet remaining loyal to Poland and to their roots - even to the 2nd and 3rd Generations.

It has been especially gratifying that over the past 10 years, our group has grown to over 1000 members and has brought together families, neighbours and friends who were scattered to the four corners of the world, sometimes after 70 years, sometimes long after they had given up on ever seeing each other again.

It is significant that this project has helped to give a voice to those who died and could not speak for themselves, as well as to the many Survivors and their families who felt isolated and unable to speak of these experiences - whether due to the personal traumas they endured, or to the government cover-ups conducted by the Soviets and their World War 2 Allies in the West.

Equally significant and gratifying has been the way that this project has connected with people in Poland as well as people outside Poland. From Poland, we have enjoyed the generous support of the Polish Senate and the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Veterans Affairs and Culture. Their leaders, Senate Speaker Bogdan Borusewicz, Foreign Minister Radosław Sikorski and the late Veterans Affairs Minister Janusz Krupski, became our Honorary Patrons in Poland. Polish associations partnering with us include Wspolnota Polska, the Siberians' Association (Zwiazek Sybirakow) and the Settlers' Association (Zwiazek Osadnikow). Institutional partners include the IPN, the Army Museum in Bialystok, and the National Archives. We have also benefited greatly from the support of our Polish corporate sponsors, the Bank Zachodni WBK, Momint, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Siemiatkowski Davies Lawyers, and Trinity Corporate Services.



In the West, our Honorary Patron was the late past President of the Polish Government-in-Exile, Ryszard Kaczorowski. We also received support from key associations such as the Polish Ex-Combatants (SPK), the Settlers Association (Ognisko Rodzin Osadników Kresowych), the Association of Poles from India (Kolo Indian), and numerous other Polonia groups all across the West. Our Foundation Advisory Committee includes academics both from Poland and from the West. And our Honorary Chaplains - Father Lucjan Królikowski from the USA and Chief Rabbi of Poland Michael Schudrich - also symbolise our multi-ethnic and multi-religious character, like our beloved Kresy were prior to World War 2.

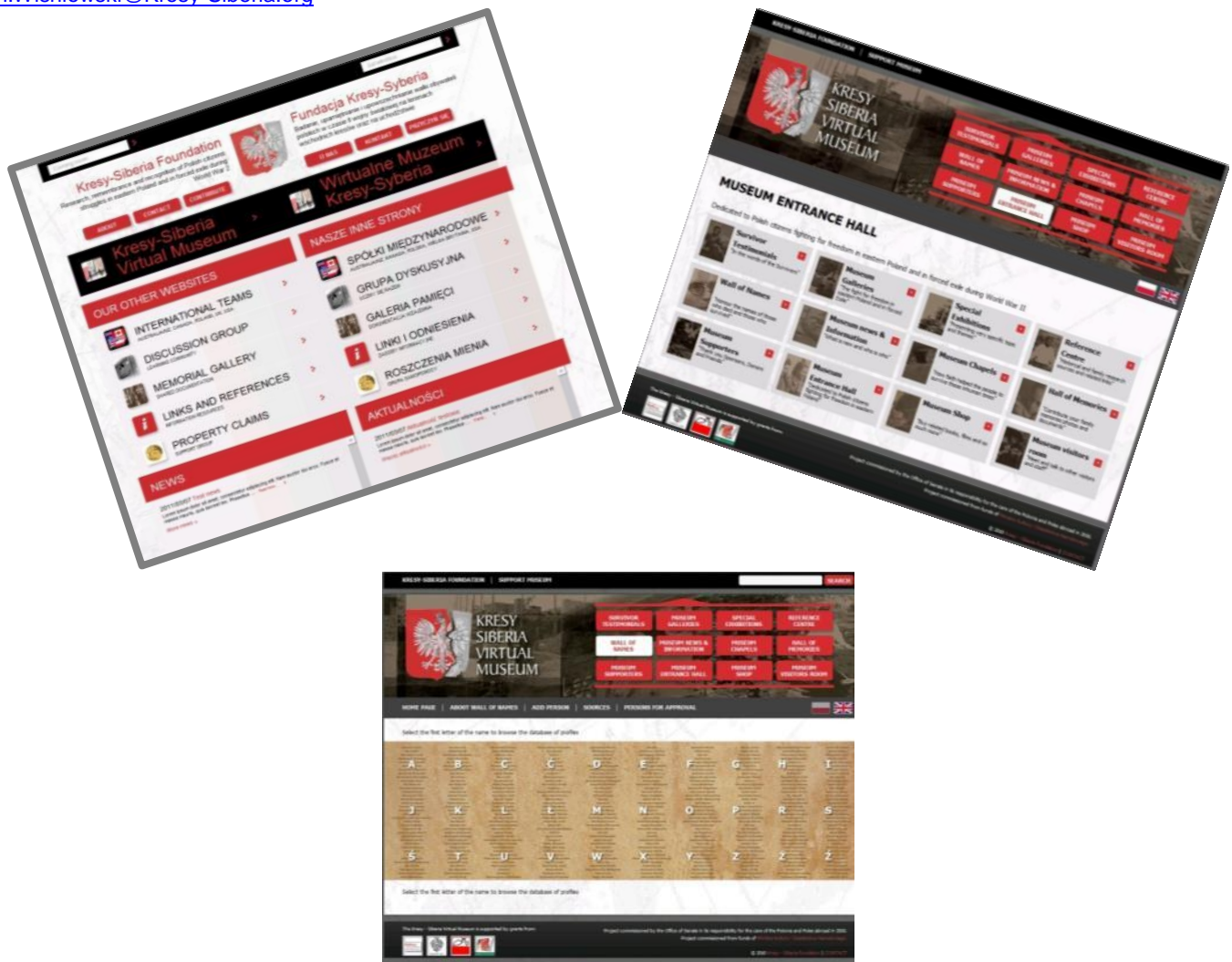
I would emphasize that our mission now is to gather and preserve the testimonies, photos and documents of the remaining Survivors while the youngest of them - now in their 70s, 80s and 90s - are still with us to share their stories. We do this so that we can share these histories and experiences with the world and with future generations, through the power of the internet and our Virtual Museum at www.Kresy-Siberia.org. I would ask for help from those who share this desire, and who can contribute their stories, their historical materials, their time and talent, or their financial support to make this mission a reality.

I would finally take this opportunity to thank all those who have made this project possible over the past 10 years, and all those who continue to work selflessly to take it forward into the future. We have accomplished much, and we have much still left to accomplish.

Best regards,
Stefan

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STEFAN WIŚNIEWSKI, Founder and Foundation President
Stefan.Wisniowski@Kresy-Siberia.org



The Organization

Fundacja Kresy-Siberia

PRESIDENT:

- Stefan Wiśniowski

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

- Aneta Hoffmann (Chair)
- Krystyna Szybowska (Deputy)
- Louise Blazejowska
- Tadeusz Koscinski (*ret. 2011*)
- Witold Lukszewski
- Jerzy Neisser
- Eva Szegidewicz
- Maria Szonert

Kresy-Siberia (Australia) Ltd.

DIRECTORS:

- Stefan Wiśniowski (Chair)
- Louise Blazejowska (Public Off)
- Lucyna Artymiuk
- Robert Czernikowski
- Frances Gates (*ret. 2011*)
- Sophie Skarbek

Kresy-Siberia (Canada) Inc.

DIRECTORS:

- Krystyna Szybowska (Chair)
- Henry Sokolowski (President)
- Krystyna Freiburger
- Stefan Wiśniowski

Kresy-Siberia (UK)

DIRECTORS :

- Mirka Wojnar (Chair)
- Eva Szegidewicz (Secretary)
- Monica Janowski (*ret. 2011*)
- Linder Ladbrooke
- Jerzy Neisser
- Martin Stepek (*ret. 2011*)
- Krystyna Szybowska
- Stefan Wiśniowski

Kresy-Siberia Foundation (USA)

DIRECTORS:

- Maria Szonert (President)
- Lisa Frac (Treasurer)
- Eugene Bak
- Marek Chodakiewicz
- Franciszek Herzog (*ret. 2011*)
- Witold Lukaszewski
- Stefan Wiśniowski



Ten years ago, Stefan Wiśniowski set up the Kresy-Siberia discussion group on Yahoo. From an initial handful of members, the group has grown to over 1,000 members worldwide.

Over the years, the group has shared their stories, their knowledge, and their precious photos and documents. By 2008 this collection had grown to over 5,000 artefacts, and a cohesive way to share this collection, and to tell this history, became a necessity.

The Kresy-Siberia Foundation was established in 2008 in order to allow us to apply for government and private grants (in Poland and abroad) and enlarge our focus from an Internet Discussion Group, to the developers of the Kresy-Siberia Virtual Museum, which was launched 17 September 2009.

Additional non-profit organisations were established in Australia, Canada, the UK, and USA, to allow us to apply for local grants in these countries. These organizations have also applied for charitable status in their respective countries, thereby providing donors in those countries with tax deductible receipts. This is currently pending for Canada, but already in effect in Australia, the UK, and the USA – as well as in Poland.

Each of these organizations is run by a number of volunteer executives, who donate their time and their energies to set up and maintain their legal corporate entities, meet all regulatory demands, prepare and file grant applications, plan and execute events, and cooperate amongst themselves in order to advance the shared objectives of Research, Remembrance, Recognition and to develop the Virtual Museum project and the Survivor Testimony project.

Events and Activities

There have been a number of occasions over the years when Kresy-Siberia Group members have had the opportunity to meet in person, and/or to work on the organization of events and presentations. Following is a sampling of these ...

AUSTRALIA

17 Sept 2009: K-S (Australia) Ltd. co-hosted an event at the Polish Consulate in Sydney, launching the Kresy-Siberia Virtual Museum. An article was published in Puls Polonii about the event and the Virtual Museum.

Feb 2010, Stefan W. attended the 60th anniversary of the arrival of the General Langfitt in PERTH, with the Polish Consul.

In March 2010, K-S (Aus) Ltd. launched a pilot with the Polish Consulate in Australia to scan Survivor photos and documents, in the course of their respective travels across the country.

Also in March 2010, K-S (Aus) agreed to auspice the "Remember Me" film project.

10 April 2010: Following the tragic plane crash at Smolensk, KS (Aus) Ltd. circulated a media release from the Foundation President to Australian and Polish media, organisations, Kresy-Siberia (Aus) members and Polish Australians.

Also in April 2010: Stefan presented the KSVM at a seminar on Katyn at the Sydney Consulate.

Oct 2010: Stefan gave a speech at a "Remember Me" event and spoke about the work of KSF and KS (Aus).

Nov. 2010, the KSVM was launched in Melbourne during the Polish Festival. The Polish Consul was one of the guest speakers. The event was attended by 60 Sybiraks and their families.

Feb 2011, a joint event with the Australian Society of Polish Jews was held at the Jewish Holocaust Centre. "The Forgotten Deportees – Polish Exiles in Siberia" involved a panel discussion with Siberia exile survivors and their descendants. Prof. Stephen G. Wheatcroft moderated and the panel speakers were: Krystyna Kynst, Stefan Wisniowski and Zofia Skarbek.

Jan/Feb 2011: Special screenings of Peter Weir's film "The Way Back" were held in Sydney and Melbourne.

June/July 2011: KS(Aus) co-hosted an IPN exhibit called "Operation AB to Katyn", along with the Polish Consulate.

CANADA

10 Feb 2009: Henry Sokolowski and Krystyna Freiburger presented the planned KSVM at an event at the Polish Consulat in Toronto.

June 2009: K-S(Canada) co-hosted a banquet at the SPK in support of the KSVM.

17 Sept 2009: K-S (Canada) co-hosted a KSVM launch event with the Polish Consulate in Toronto. The event was reported by TV Polonia and was published in several local Polonia papers.

11 Jan 2010: Krystyna Szybowska presented the KSVM at a meeting of the Polonia Club of Kingston, Ontario.

4/5 Feb 2011 Henry Sokolowski attended the Katyn Symposium in Cleveland Ohio

10 Feb 2010: Krystyna S. presented the KSVM at the Polish Consulate in Toronto, during a ceremony conferring Siberian Crosses to a group of 20 Survivors and their families.

April 2010: Following the tragic plane crash at Smolensk, K-S (Canada) circulated a media release from the Foundation President to Canadian and Polish media, Polonia organisations, and Polish Canadians.

15 May 2010: K-S(Canada) co-hosted a banquet at the SPK, in honour of Wounded Warriors and in support of the KSVM.

15/16 August 2010: Krystyna S. presented the KSVM and the Survivor Testimony project at the Mineapolis Polish Festival.

26 October 2010: Stefan W. and Krystyna S. presented the KSVM and the Survivor Testimony project to a group of Survivors in Buffalo, NY.

28 October 2010: Stefan W. hosted a get-together of K-S (Canada) members and Survivors at the SPK in Toronto.

12/13 Feb 2011: Krystyna S. participated in a 2-day presentation on Radio Polonia in Winnipeg, dedicated to the 71st Anniversary of the Deportations.

8 May 2011: Krystyna S. presented the KSVM and Survivor Testimony project to a group of Survivors at the Winnipeg SPK.

4/5/6 June 2011: KS (Canada) sponsored the PIS seminar at the U of Toronto, and Henry S. distributed information about the KSVM and the Survivor Testimony project.

POLAND

2 April 2009: Aneta Hoffmann presented the KSVM at the Dom Spotkan z Histoniam in Warsaw.

12 Sept 2009: Stefan Wisniowski presented the KSVM at the Annual Conference of the Association of Military and Civilian Settlers in Warsaw.

17 Sept 2009: Fundacja K-S co-hosted a KSVM launch event with the Polish Senate in Warsaw. An article was published in several newspapers, describing the event and the KSVM.

18 Sept 2009: Cas Majewski presented the KSVM at the Annual Conference of Africans in Wroclaw.

18 Sept 2009: Aneta Hoffmann and Krystyna Szypowska manned a booth at an event re-creating the Soviet Invasion in Warsaw.

10 Feb 2010: Fundacja K-S issued a media campaign called "We remember" which was publicised in a number of Polish newspapers and media.

April 2010: Following the tragic plane crash at Smolensk, Fundacja K-S circulated a media release from the Foundation President to newspapers and online media, organisations, and governmental agencies.

May/June 2011: Fundacja K-S presented the KSVM in Nowy Sacz, Gdansk and Bialystok, attended a conference of schools that are named Sybiracy, and attended the Polish premier of the movie "The Way Back."

8-11 Sept 2011: Aneta Hoffmann and Martyna Karwat presented the African Gallery of the KSVM, and recorded survivor interviews, at the Africans Reunion, Wroclaw

9 Sept 2011: Aneta Hoffmann participated in the Marsz Sybirakow in Bialystok,

attended by some 15,000 people and shown on Polish TV

12 Sept 2011: Aneta Hoffmann attended the Czestochowa ceremony giving the Madonna painting that was in Africa to the shrine.

13 Sept 2011: Aneta Hoffmann attended the showing of the AFO film at the WWII Museum in Gdansk.

U.K.

21 Feb 2009 Stefan Wiśniowski, Jurek Neisser, Aneta Naszynska, Elzunia Olssen, Marek Kepa and Aneta Hoffmann presented a preview of the KSVM at POSK, followed by dinner with members and friends.

22 Feb 2009 Stefan W. presented a preview of the KSVM to the "Ognisko Rodzin Osadnikow Kresowych" (OROK) at the White Eagle Club.

17 Sept 2009: K-S (UK) co-hosted a KSVM launch event with the Polish Consulate in London. An article was published in several local Polonia papers, describing the event and the KSVM. The event was also presented by TV Polonia.

April 2010: Following the tragic plane crash at Smolensk, K-S (UK) circulated a media release from the Foundation President to UK and Polish media, Polonia organisations, and Polish Brits.

11/12 Sept 2010: Eva Szegidewicz attended the annual OROK conference in Fenton, and presented the KSVM and the Survivor Testimony project.

30 Oct 2010 Aneta Naszynska's Memorial Book was presented to her family by Stefan W. at POSK

19 Feb 2011: Mirka Wojnar and Steven Moss attended the annual OROK meeting in Balham, London.

21 March 2011: Jurek Neisser, Rysiek Grzybowski, and Mirka Wojnar attended University College London for a presentation by Agata Blaszczyk on the UK Polish Resettlement Camps.

17 July 2011: Jurek Neisser, Eva Szegidewicz, Mirka Wojnar, and Jadza Butcher attended the Annual Polish Day at Bletchley Park, Milton Keynes.

23 July 2011: K-S (UK) hosted a members' get-together at POSK in London

6-19 Aug 2011: Mirka Wojnar participated in the Wilno exhibit at POSK in London, where a media presentation that included an introduction by Stefan Wisniowski, digital images of the Virtual Museum, and clips of The Forgotten Odyssey, were shown.

3 Sept 2011: Eva Szegidewicz, Linder & Tim Ladbrooke, Frank Pleszak and his wife, attended the National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire for a SPK ceremony to

commemorate the 2nd anniversary of the unveiling of the Polish armed forces memorial.

10/11 Sept 2011: Eva Szegidewicz attended the annual OROK conference in Fenton, and spoke about the Kresy-Siberia Virtual Museum and Survivor Testimony Project.

U.S.A.

17 Sept 2009: K-S (USA) members Romuald Lipinski and Basia Soja attended a KSVM launch event, hosted by the Ambassador, at the Polish Embassy in Washington.

10 April 2010: Following the tragic plane crash at Smolensk, K-S (USA) circulated a media release from the Foundation President to American and Polish media, Polonia organisations, and Polish Americans.

2 May 2010: Eugene Bąk and Witold Lukaszewski attended the Polish Army Veterans "Reunion of the Survivors of Siberia" in New Jersey.

14 Nov 2010: Maria Szonert met with members of the Sybirak Association in Chicago.

4/5 Feb 2011: K-S (USA) co-sponsored the Katyn Symposium held at the Case Western Reserve University in Ohio. Maria Szonert and Wesley Adamczyk participated in the presentations, panel

discussion and the resulting documentation. A special Katyn Issue of the CWRU Journal of International Law will be published from this symposium in the spring of 2012. The preview of this issue can be found at:

<http://www.case.edu/orgs/jil/>

May 2011: Mari Szonert attended a special ceremony in Boston where a group of 15 Sybiraks were awarded the Siberian Cross, during a very moving mass.

June 2011: K-S (USA) shared some of its archives with the Catholic Relief Services for a display in Baltimore, Maryland featuring their work with refugees, with special attention on Colony Santa Rosa in Mexico.

15 Sept 2011: K-S (USA) co-sponsored a conference entitled "Katyn: Unfinished Inquiry" at Capitol Hill. Other co-sponsors included the Polish-American Congress, the Polish Army Veterans Association in America, the Institute of World Politics, Libra Institute and F. Cox International Law Center of the Case Western Reserve University School of Law. An Expert Report from the Cleveland Symposium that took place in February of 2011 was presented by Prof. David Crane. Congress Representatives Marcy Kaptur and Dennis Kucinich and Senator Mark Kirk spoke at the conference.

Showings of A Forgotten Odyssey (thanks to Kresy-Siberia):

AUSTRALASIA

Adelaide SA, Brisbane QLD, Canberra ACT, Melbourne VIC, Newcastle NSW, Perth WA, Sidney NSW, Russell: Bay of Islands, Auckland, Wellington

CANADA

Calgary AB, Edmonton AB, Hamilton ON, Kitchener ON, London ON, Mississauga ON, Montreal QC, Niagara Falls ON, Oshawa ON, Ottawa ON, Peterborough ON, St. Catharines ON, Toronto ON, Vancouver BC.

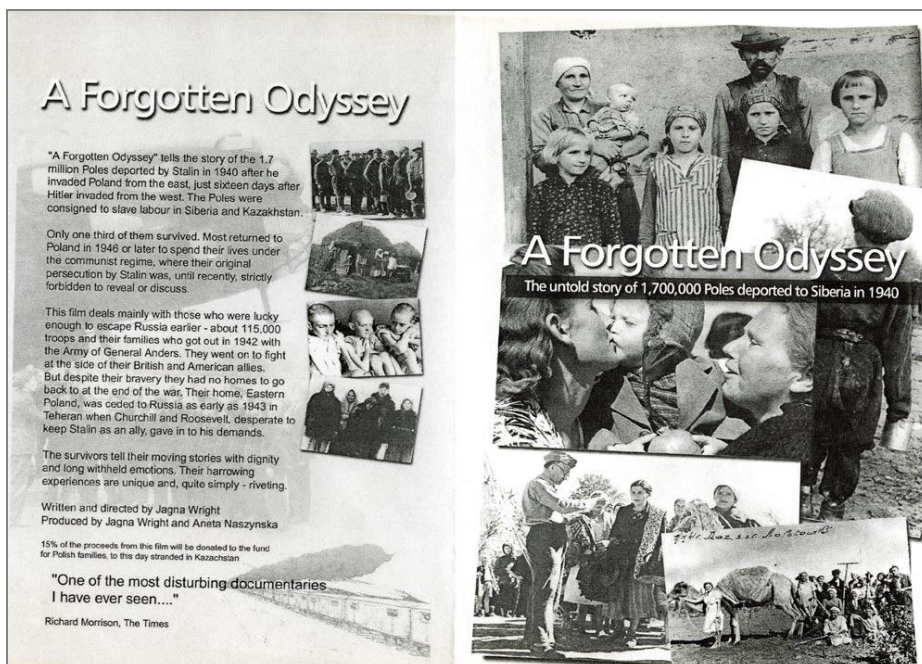
UNITED STATES

Anne Arbor MI, Atlanta GA, Baltimore-Washington, Boston MA, Bridgeport CT, Buffalo NY, Chicago IL, Chicopee MA, Cleveland OH, Davis CA, Denver CO, Detroit MI, Franklin WI, Grand Rapids MI, Hartford/Milford CT, Houston TX, Los Angeles CA, Miami FL, Minneapolis MN, New Britain CT, New York NY, San Diego CA, San Francisco CA, St. Clair Shores MI, Toledo OH, Washington DC.

Note: Kresy-Siberia also hosted the Forgotten Odyssey web site and is currently negotiating with the families of Jagna and Aneta, to continue this work.

Aneta Naszynska and Jagna Wright, RIP

The film that started it all! The brain child of two very passionate ladies who dedicated years of their lives to its production, and then spent years touring the world to present it at showings as well as on public television.



A Big Thank You to all our Volunteers over the years

Excluding our ever-industrious Directors, these volunteers are:

Halina Ablamowicz	Tadeusz Latawiec
Wesley Adamczyk	Mirek Lawrynowicz
Michał Adamski	Eva Ledochowicz
Roman Antoszewski	Andrew Leszkowski Stephen
Bert Bakker	Marcin Lewandowski
Bożena Balut	Romuald Lipinski
Justyna Bartoszko	Janusz Lukasiak
Basia Bartz	Alicja Lukaszewski
Anuradha Bhattacharjee	Casimir Majewski
Wiesław Binienda	Agata Manikowska
Helen Bitner-Glindzicz	Barbara Matuchniak
Anna Bonshek	Krystyna Mew
Jadzia Butcher	Waldemar Mierzejewski
Basia Charuba	Basia Milligan
Jarek Chołodecki	Stephen Moss
Kent Christensen	Jan Niechwiadowicz
Helena Czechowska-Gullotti	John Niemczyk
Irena Czernichowska	Agnieszka Okońska
Tadeusz Dobrostanski	Barbara Orłowska
Aleksander Domaradzki	Tadeusz Pawulski
Andrew Dominik	Julian Płowy
Carol Dove Celinski	Danuta Pniewska
Eva Dryanski	Terry Polewski
Myra Dziama	Sabina Posadziejewski
Janusz Dziurzynski	Elie Rose
Ken Fedzin	Steve Roy Wojciechowski
Professor Ludwik Finkelstein	John Roy Wojciechowski
Marie (Bożena) Gaffney	Jackie Rzepka
Karen Gladysz-Gryff	Roman Sakowicz
Teresa Glazer	Wanda Sawicki
Andy Gołębiowski	Barbara Scrivens
Magda Gołędzinowska	Julie Sheppard (Jachimiak)
Danuta Gradosielska	Sophie Skarbek
Elżunia Gradosielska-Olsson	Jenny Skulski
John Halucha	Roman Skulski
Paul Haver	George Sławek
Krzysztof Hoffmann	Wojciech Śliż
Stefan Jackowski	Barbara Soja Karmazinas
Eva Jankowicz	Jadwiga Solka-Krajewska
Kazimierz Jankowski	Zbigniew Stańczyk
Anne Kaczanowski	Krystyna Styrna
Violetta Kardynal	Stefan Szewczuk
Richard Kasprzak	Halina Szulakowska
Lora Kay	Stasia Taylor
Antoni Kazimierski	Terry Tegnazian
Marek Kępa	Irene Tomaszewski
Krystyna Kotawska-Monka	Claire Turenne-Sjolander
Ted Kowalski	Piotr Uzarowicz
Lynda Kraar	Julia Wach
Marty Kraar	David Walsh
George Krajewski	Roger Watkins
Barbara Kwietnowski	Alexandra Weldon
Tim Ladbrooke	Rich Widerynski

Barbara Wojewódka
 Marcin Wróbel
 Piotr Wróbel
 Monika Wyrzykowska
 Janusz Zajączkowski

Whether your contribution was large or small, whether it involved a few hours, or a few days, weeks, months, and even years, know that your efforts are **greatly** appreciated.

Over the years, our volunteers have:

- Translated documents and video clips
- Digitized documents, photos, and lists of names
- Assisted with the development of the Virtual Museum
- Interviewed Survivors
- Translated and proofread documents
- Assisted with Grant applications
- Assisted with Quality Control and editing
- Set up and filled in spreadsheets
- Contacted media and spread the word about our work
- Assisted other members in tracing their family history
- Written reports, made speeches, been interviewed
- Organized and hosted events
- Assisted with fiscal, governmental & regulatory matters
- Participated in the Board of Directors of their respective countries

If we have inadvertently omitted to name you on this list, please accept our heartfelt apologies for the oversight.







*In the name of the Executives of Fundacja Kresy-Syberia, Kresy-Siberia (Australia) Ltd., Kresy-Siberia (Canada) Inc., Kresy-Siberia (UK), Kresy-Siberia Foundation (USA), and the members of the K-S Group, we extend a huge “Thank You” to **Stefan Wiśniowski**, who has dedicated the last 10 years of his life to all aspects of this endeavor.*

Through these past 10 years, Stefan has been the glue that has kept this group together. His travels to Europe and North America have been occasions for numerous group get-togethers, and public presentations, most particularly in Warsaw, London, Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg, Hartford, New York, Washington, Cleveland, Los Angeles and San Francisco. He has also crisscrossed Australia and been the catalyst for the same phenomenon there.

Stefan will never get back the countless sleepless nights he has spent in the passionate pursuit of Research, Remembrance and Recognition.

We also thank his family for sharing him with us!

Research Remembrance Recognition Quarterly

Kresy-Siberia Foundation
Poland, Australia, Canada, UK, USA