

**ODDZIAŁ POLSKI
POLISH CHAPTER**

Chair:
Monika Rogozinska
Vice Chair:
Tomasz Schramm, Ph.D
Mariusz Ziolkowski, Ph.D
Address:
ul. M. Gandhiego 19 m.39
02-645 Warszawa, Poland
Tel/fax: +48 22 848-46-30
Cell. +48 693660667
M.Rogozinska@rp.pl
schramm@amu.edu.pl
mziolkowski@uw.edu.pl

THE EXPLORERS CLUB



POLISH CHAPTER
ODDZIAŁ POLSKI

**WORLD CENTER
FOR EXPLORATION**

Honorary Chair
Sir Edmund Hillary
(1919-2008)
Honorary President:
Don Walsh, Ph.D
President:
Lorie Karnath
Address:
46 East 70th Str.
New York, NY 10021, USA
Tel: (212) 628-8383
Fax: (212) 288-4449
www.explorers.org

REPORT FROM THE ACTIVITY OF THE POLISH CHAPTER OF THE EXPLORERS CLUB 2010

Board of the Polish Chapter of The Explorers Club (elected on January 23rd 2009):

Chair: Monika Rogozinska, FI '93

Vice-Chair for Programs, Education and Recognition: Prof. Mariusz Ziolkowski, FI '02

Vice-Chair for Finances: Prof. Tomasz Schramm, FI '98

Audit Committee: Maciej Kuczynski, CO '82, Jacek Wacławski, FI '07

Staff: 0

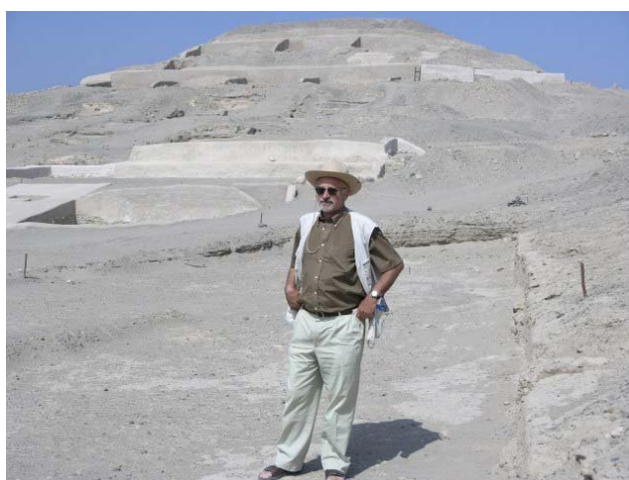
1.) In 2010 the Polish Chapter of The Explorers Club hailed two new members:

Ewa Wojcik, one of most prominent world speleologists. She took part in over 60 expeditions, discovering new caves or new parts of caves in Europe, Asia and both Americas, and beating women records in reaching depths.

Prof. Giuseppe Orefici (Italy), archaeologist and architect. He took part in a number of expeditions to South America, leading some of them. He discovered an unknown centre of Zoque culture in the jungle of Mexico. For over 30 years he has carried out the research program in Cahuachi, ceremonial center of the Nasca culture at the Nazca Desert (Peru). He is also founder of the Museum Antonini, and co-director of a research project in Tiwanaku (Bolivia)



Ewa Wojcik, FI'10, during the reconnaissance expedition to the massif Atashgah (West Kurdistan) October, 2009 (Credit: Marcin Kubarek)



Prof. Giuseppe Orefici, FI'10, in front of the Great Pyramide in Cahuachi, ceremonial center of the Nasca culture, June, 2006 (Credit: Monika Rogozinska)

2.) The Chair of the Polish Chapter, Monika Rogozinska took part in The Explorers Club Annual Meetings (Chapter Chairs Dinner, Chapter Chairs Meeting, meeting with the new members of The Explorers Club e.t.c). The presence of the Polish Chapter Chair at The Explorers Club Annual Dinner at Waldorf Astoria was possible thanks to the donation of Piotr Chmielinski, the member of The Explorers Club.



*Chapter Chair Meeting. From left:
Benjamin H. Hulsey - St. Louis Chapter
Jim Chester - "Explorers Log", Canada Chapter
James S. Westerman - Chicago/Great Lake Chapter
Monika Rogozinska - Polish Chapter
Roy Alexander Wallace - Atlanta Chapter
(Credit: Monika Rogozinska)*



*106 ECAD at Waldorf Astoria
From left: Joanna Chmielinska
Jim Fowler - Honorary Chairman
Norman Baker – Director
Monika Rogozinska
(Credit: Monika Rogozinska)*



*106 Explorers Club Annual Dinner at Waldorf Astoria.
Speaking Eric Anderson - President of Space Adventure, a company which sends tourists
to the International Space Station (Credit: Monika Rogozinska)*

(Inspired by the ECAD „On the Cusp of Infinity: Exploring the Universes Out There”, Monika Rogozinska published the article in the Polish Daily „Rzeczpospolita”:
<http://www.rp.pl/galeria/61991,540418.html>)

3.) On March 26th, an international session “25 Years of Italian-Polish Archaeological Research in the Andes” was held in the Kazimierzowski Palace of Warsaw University under the honorary patronage of the Rector and of the Polish UNESCO Committee. The organizers of the session were: The Center for Pre-Columbian Studies at Warsaw University and the Polish Chapter of The Explorers Club, with the cooperation of The Polish Society for Latin America Studies, Institute of Archaeology at Warsaw University and the Scientific Circle “Puerta del Sol”.

The session was attended by scientists from Spain, France, Belgium, Italy, Switzerland and Poland. The event was accompanied by the ceremony of nominating Prof. Giuseppe Orefici member of the Polish Chapter of The Explorers Club and by a recital of opera arias given by Rachel Fluhmann. On that occasion the exposition devoted to the Italian-Polish archaeological research at the desert of Nazca and Tiawanaco, headed from the Polish side by Prof. Mariusz Ziolkowski, FI '02 was also presented.

On March 27th, the participants of the session visited: Chopin Museum in Warsaw (before its official inauguration), Chopin Museum in Zelazowa Wola – the place of birth of the composer, the palace at Nieborow and a XIXth century textile factory in Zyrardow - candidate to the UNESCO List of the World Heritage. The program of the excursion was prepared and realized by Monika Rogozinska, Prof. Mariusz Ziolkowski and Janusz Milewski – the volunteer of the Polish Chapter.



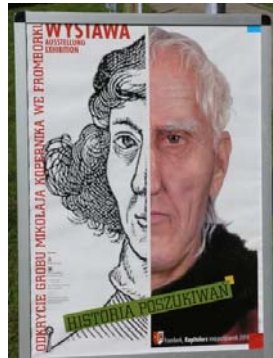
The participants of the session visited Chopin Museum in Zelazowa Wola – the place of birth of the composer (Credit: Monika Rogozinska)



The visit in the palace at Nieborow From left: Prof. Giuseppe Orefici, Monika Rogozinska, Prof. Mariusz Ziolkowski, Janusz Milewski (Credit: Monika Rogozinska)

4.) On behalf of the Polish Chapter of The Explorers Club Monika Rogozinska attended the solemn burial ceremony of Nicolaus Copernicus' (Mikolaj Kopernik 1473-1543) remains in the Frombork Cathedral. Remains of the great astronomer were found under one of the altars of this Cathedral. The grave was in poor condition. Identification was possible thanks to hair found in the book owned by Copernicus and robbed by Swedish army during Swedish invasion to Poland in XVII c. The book is kept at the library of the University of Uppsala in Sweden. DNA of hair matched DNA of bonds.

Nicolaus Copernicus – Catholic priest (canon), astronomer, physician, translator, artist, diplomat, administrator, economist, canon lawyer, is a father of modern astronomy. His book *Revolutionibus Orbium Coelestium* described heliocentric model our Universe with the Sun at the center.



Face of Nicolaus Copernicus reconstructed on a skull founded in a grave. The portrait is known from the Town Hall in Torun, the town where Copernicus was born



Funeral Mass in the Frombork Cathedral was given by the Primate of Poland on May 22nd, 2010 (Credit: M.Rogozinska) (Report from the funeral by Monika Rogozinska at Polish Daily "Rzeczpospolita": <http://www.rp.pl/artukul/484169.html>)



700 years old fortified Frombork Cathedral in a town on a Baltic Sea coast, northeastern Poland. Nicolaus Copernicus lived and worked here as a canon in XVI c. (Credit: M.Rogozinska)

5.) On May 29th, in Auditorium Augustianum, Vatican, a concert featuring Chopin music took place to commemorate the victims of the crash of the Polish presidential aircraft at Smolensk (April 10th). It was organized by Associazione Italo-Polacca Fryderyk Chopin (founded and headed by Prof. Barbara Nowina-Jankowska), with the support of the Senate of the Polish Republic, of the Polish Consulate in Rome, of Circolo Culturale Italo-Polacco della Lomardia and of the Polish Chapter of The Explorers Club, represented by its Chair - Monika Rogozinska.



*Irene Veneziano plays Chopin Mazurkas in Auditorium Augustianum, Vatican
(Credit: Monika Rogozinska)*



*Vatican
(Credit: Monika Rogozinska)*

6.) On June 21st in Cuzco (Peru), former capital of the Inca Empire, the Polish scientific station under the name “Universidad de Varsovia Centro de Estudios Andinos en el Cuzco” was opened. It is directed by The Center for Pre-Columbian Studies at Warsaw University headed by Prof. Mariusz Ziolkowski, Vice-President of the Polish Chapter of The Explorers Club. This prestigious scientific success of Poland has a special meaning for our Chapter. For many years members of the Polish Chapter of The Explorers Club have been very active in the exploration of the Andes. They also have realized a number of initiatives aiming to popularize the work of Polish archaeologists and conservators in the Andes and their discoveries, as well as developing new directions in tourist activities – important for those beautiful and fascinating but poor regions. (The interview with Prof. Mariusz Ziolkowski in „Rzeczpospolita” Polish Daily” http://www.rp.pl/artikul/323814,499464_Polscy_uczeni_w_sercu_Andow.html)



Opening ceremony of Universidad de Varsovia Centro de Estudios Andinos en el Cuzco. From left: Prof. Mariusz Ziolkowski - head of the station and of The Center for Pre-Columbian Studies at Warsaw University, Dr Victor Raul Aguilar Callo - Rector of Universidad Nacional de San Antonio Abad del Cuzco, Jaroslaw Spyra - Ambassador of the Polish Republic in Peru, Prof. Marcin Palys, Vice-Rector of Warsaw University



*Cuzco, former Inca Empire capital, seat of the Polish scientific station
(Credit: Monika Rogozinska)*



*One of the places where Polish archaeologists and conservators carry their work in the massif of Coropuna volcano (6425 m) and surrounding areas
(Credit: Monika Rogozinska)*

7.) On June 28th the photo exhibition “Gods of the Andes” by Monika Rogozińska and Krystian Bielatowicz was opened on board of the replica of Columbus’ sailing ship “Santa Maria”, in the garden of the Museum of Arkady Fiedler (Polish traveler and writer) in Puszczykowo, near Poznan. The exhibition presents photographic documentation of the discoveries and conservation works of Polish and Peruvian archaeologists in the Andes under the direction of Prof. Mariusz Ziolkowski. It received patronage from the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and of the Polish UNESCO Committee.



Opening ceremony of the photo exhibition “Gods of the Andes”. From left on board of the replica Columbus’ „Santa Maria” in Puszczykowo: Marek Fiedler, Monika Rogozinska, Prof. Tomasz Schramm, Arkady Fiedler Jr (Credit: Monika Rogozinska)



8.) Between November 4th and 6th in the Institute of Archaeology of Warsaw University an international symposium took place and was accompanied by the workshop of Maya epigraphy: “Warsaw Maya Meeting. Excavating the Maya Ruins: Methodology, Questions and Results”. It was held under the patronage of the Polish Chapter of The Explorers Club. Its participants were scholars and students from Germany, Slovakia and Poland. On that occasion the exhibition “Discovering the Maya Mysteries: Polish Excavations at Nakum, Guatemala” was opened. The symposium was prepared under the care of the Center for Pre-Columbian Studies at Warsaw University, headed by Prof. Mariusz Ziolkowski and the Institut für Altamerikanistik of Bonn University, headed by Prof. Nikolai Grubbe. In 2003, both centers organized the first on-line course of Maya language, which has proven till today to be a great success.



*„Warsaw Maya Meeting” in the Institute of Archaeology of Warsaw University.
In the background: photos showing the finds of the Polish archaeologists in Nakum.
From left: Monika Rogozinska, Nicolaus Seefeld, Jan Szymanski, Prof. Arnold Lebeuf,
Boguchwala Tuszynska, Prof. Mariusz Ziolkowski, Prof. Nikolai Grube
(Credit: Monika Rogozinska)*

9.) On December 9th in the Senate Hall of the Kazimierzowski Palace of Warsaw University, the cycle of annual lectures was inaugurated commemorating Prof. Andrzej Wiercinski (1930-2003), anthropologist, the late member of the Polish Chapter of The Explorers Club (FI'93). The first lecture: “The Structures of Numbers and Colors in Ancient Peruvian Proto-Writing” was given by Prof. Gary Urton from Harvard University. The event was co-organized by the Polish Chapter of The Explorers Club, the Institute of Archaeology of Warsaw University and the Center for Pre-Columbian Studies at Warsaw University. Before the lecture the person and achievements of Prof. Wiercinski were remembered by his friends and co-workers.

The previous day, Prof. Gary Urton accompanied by Monika Rogozinska visited Warsaw.



After the lecture at Warsaw University. Prof. Gary Urton is standing under the portray of one of rectors, between Mrs. Martha Chavarri Dupny - Ambassador of Peru Republic in Poland, and Mrs. Teresa Brzoskiewicz (in a hat) - sculptor, author of the bust of Prof. Wiercinski. To the left of the Ambassador: Monika Rogozinska. In the center, Prof. Wlodzimierz Lengauer – Vice-Rector of Warsaw University, on his left Prof. Alina Wiercinska - wife of Prof. Andrzej Wiercinski, on his right Elzbieta Dzikowska, FI '93. Kneeling in the front: Prof. Mariusz Ziolkowski

10.) The Chapter took part in organizing the VIth Warsaw Review of Mountain Films, taking place on December 9-12th. In the part devoted to the exploration in the mountains, Monika Rogozinska presented the achievements of the members of the Chapter, stressing their discoveries in the Andes, and Maciej Kuczynski, CO '82, speleologist, commented on the film devoted to a very difficult and successful rescue operation led by him in the deepest cave on Mexico.

11.) Elzbieta Dzikowska, FI'93, travelled to India to the states of Assam, Anuranchal Pradesh and Nagaland, hardly accessible even to the citizens of India. She brought different artifacts, among them jewellery and clothes of the cultures which are losing their unique character in a globalization of the world, to the Tony Halik Travelers' Museum in Torun, named after one of the co-founders of the Polish Chapter (FI'93) of The Explorers Club and its Vice-Chair for many years.



The woman of the tribe Apatami and dancing women of the tribe Ao in Anuranchal Pradesh in India. (Credit: Elzbieta Dzikowska)

12.) The members of the Chapter gave numerous lectures: on festivities, universities, Universities of the Third Age, schools, festivals e.t.c.

13.) Information about activities of the members of the Polish Chapter and events of the Chapter was published in *The Explorers Log* (prepared by Monika Rogozinska).

14.) The website of the Polish Chapter www.explorersclubpoland.pl was created thanks to voluntary work of its members. Unfortunately, it is difficult to keep it updated because of the lack of funds and full-time staff.

15.) The Polish Chapter did not succeed to realize some projects because of the lack of funds, f. egg. exhibitions accompanied by lectures "Mysteries of the depths. Polish underwater exploration" and the series "The secrets of our planet" in Warsaw. The lectures are not ticketed. For the same reason the Chapter is not able to finance its administrative work.

16.) Annual dues for Members International (250 USD) became too high for scientists in Poland. There is one of reason which delays development of the Polish Chapter.

(Report by Monika Rogozinska)