

Polish Christmas Open House at Museum



On **Saturday, December 8th**, the Polish American Cultural Center Museum at 308 Walnut Street in historic Philadelphia will sponsor its annual **Christmas Open House. Everyone is invited.**

Admission is FREE.

The schedule for the Christmas Open House is as follows:

- 11 A.M. to 11:45 A.M.** Snacks and refreshments will be served in the 4th floor meeting rooms of the Polish American Cultural Center.
- 12 Noon to 12:30 P.M.** Children's Magic Show in the Exhibit Hall on the first floor.
- 12:30 P.M. to 1 P.M.** Sw. Mikolaj will visit the Museum and have a treat for every child.
- 1 P.M. to 1:30 P.M.** The children will sing Koledy.

Admission is FREE to everyone and Sw. Mikolaj will be available to take pictures with the children, so bring your camera.

Refreshments will be served from 11 A.M. to 2 P.M.

For more information about the Christmas Open House on Saturday, December 8th, call the Museum - Monday through Friday between 9 A.M. and 4 P.M. - Call 215-922-1700.

During the Polish Christmas Open House the Museum Gift Shop will be open from 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. The Gift Shop is open Monday through Saturday between 10 A.M. and 4 P.M.



Special Christmas Greetings



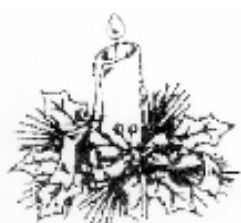
**Christmas Greetings
To Our Troops Overseas
THANK YOU
Camwin Co. LLC**

Wishing you a very
Merry Christmas, and may your
New Year be filled
with happiness and health
Dr. Eva Matczak



**Merry Christmas!
Happy New Year!
Robert Zogorski, LLC
The Real Estate Auctioneers**

**A Blessed Christmas and Happy,
Healthy and Prosperous New Year!
Wesolych Swiat Bozego Narodzenia
oraz Szczęśliwego Nowego Roku
Theresa Romanowski**



**Christmas Greetings from
the Staff and Parishioners of
Sacred Heart Parish,
Clifton Heights, PA and
St. Hedwig's Chester, PA**

J World Travel • Nina Tyra

2626 E. Allegheny Avenue • Philadelphia, PA 19134
(215) 634-6006

From the Desk of
Michael Blichasz, President
Polish American Cultural Center
and
Polish American Congress
Eastern Pennsylvania District
PolishAmericanCenter.org



Dear Members, Friends, and Supporters,

It seems like it was just a few months ago that we were talking about the year 2000 and all the changes the turn of the century would bring. Here we are approaching 2008, and preparing to celebrate several special anniversaries. In August 2008, we will mark the 20th anniversary of the opening of the Polish American Cultural Center Museum in Philadelphia, and also in 2008 we will mark the 100th anniversary of Polish American Social Services, a service which started in 1908 to help welcome new immigrants arriving at the South Philadelphia Immigrant Station located at Washington and Delaware Avenues. On October 1st we mark the 400th anniversary of the First Polish Settlers to America at Jamestown, Virginia, in 1608. In October Polonia will also mark the 75th anniversary of the Pulaski Day Parade in Philadelphia. In addition to these special anniversaries, there will be several efforts to celebrate Polish pride sponsored throughout 2008.

At this time, the officers and members of the Polish American Congress ask for your continued participation and cooperation, so that together we can celebrate our achievements and spread the word about our accomplishments to the general public. As always, thank you for supporting the Polish American community, its organizations, churches, schools and businesses. Your participation is appreciated, and we ask that you help us by spreading the word to others by inviting friends to visit the Museum's Internet site at: **PolishAmericanCenter.com**. This site has many links. Check them out and place your email address in the **EMAIL Guest Book**.

Our website has helped immensely to highlight the efforts of Polonia. In the last few years, the online edition the Polish American News has helped us attract new friends and supporters. The Polish American News highlights activities sponsored in Southeastern Pennsylvania in cooperation with our Tri-State Polonia members from Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware. View the Polish American News at: **PolishAmericanNews.com**. Spread the word and support upcoming activities.

During this special time of year, I join with the Board and Directors of the Polish American Cultural Center Museum and the Polish American Congress, Eastern Pennsylvania District, to wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Best wishes also from all of us in the Blichasz family, **Wesolych Swiat Bozego Narodzenia i Szczęśliwego Nowego Roku!**

399th Anniversary of the First Poles in America

On Monday, October 1, 2007, Polish Americans marked the 399th Anniversary of the arrival of the first Polish settlers to America at Jamestown, Virginia in 1608. A reception was held at the Polish American Cultural Center Museum, 308 Walnut Street in historic Philadelphia, to celebrate the occasion.

During the reception, a duplicate of the plaque at Jamestown, VA, donated by the Polish Falcons of America for the 350th Anniversary in 1958, was displayed at the museum, courtesy of Ben Stefanski, President of the Polish Cultural Center in Cleveland, Ohio, Dorothy Gajewski, and the Polish American Heritage Association of Berks County.

Historian Dorothy Gajewski saw the original plaque in Jamestown, VA. She inquired if the Polish American Heritage Association of Berks County could borrow the plaque for a short time. Since this was not possible, the museum director at Jamestown, Joe Gutierrez, came up with a plan to make duplicates. Ben Stefanski underwrote the production of two plaques, one for his organization in Cleveland and another for Gajewski's organization in Berks County. The plaques are to be displayed throughout the country for the 400th Anniversary of the arrival of the first Polish settlers at Jamestown. Dorothy Gajewski notified the Cultural Center of one plaque's availability for the Cultural Center Museum, which is presently being displayed.

As plans are being made for the 400th Anniversary in 2008, you can find more information about the First Polish Settlers in America and their many accomplishments at Jamestown, VA on the Polish American Cultural Center Museum's Internet site at: PolishAmericanCenter.org/FirstSettlers.html, or at: PolishPioneersInJamestown.org



**Visit the Polish American Cultural Center
on the Internet at: PolishAmericanCenter.org**