

Polish American Congress

Eastern Pennsylvania District

1945

2007



Office and Meeting Place

308 Walnut Street - Philadelphia, PA 19106 - 215-739-3408
Internet: PolishAmericanCongress.com

2006 President's Report by Michael Blichasz Report Period - January, 2006 through December, 2006

The following public activities took place in cooperation with the Polish American Congress, its officers, regional representatives, and member organizations:

- (1) **January through December** - Polish American Congress, EPD, along with Polish American Cultural Center Museum, participated as a Community Partner with Ben Franklin 300 Philadelphia celebration - paying tribute to Ben Franklin & Casimir Pulaski.
- (2) **January 29, 2006** - Polish American Congress, Eastern Pennsylvania District, Annual Meeting and the election of officers, Polish Beneficial Association Hall, Bridesburg section, Philadelphia, PA.
- (3) **February 4, 2006** - General Thaddeus Kosciuszko Annual Tribute Ceremony marking the 30th Anniversary of the opening of the Kosciuszko House at 3rd & Pine Streets, & Luncheon, Holiday Inn Hotel Ballroom, 4th & Arch Streets, historic Philadelphia, PA.
- (4) **February through April** - Eastern PA District of PAC sponsored a voter registration drive through its radio, newspaper and organizational contacts. Voter registration forms are available from the Polish American Congress throughout the year.
- (5) **March 28th and March 29th, 2006** - Pisanki (Coloring Easter Eggs) demonstration, Polish American Cultural Center Museum, 308 Walnut Street, historic Philadelphia, PA, for school students and the public.
- (6) **April 2, 2006** - First Anniversary of the death of Pope John Paul the Great community-wide Memorial Tribute Mass, St. Adalbert Church, Port Richmond section, Philadelphia, PA.
- (7) **April and May** - Polish arts and crafts colorful displays presented to area schools and various groups by Polish American Congress & Polish American Cultural Center Museum volunteers.
- (8) **May 3, 2006** - May 3rd Constitution Proclamation Program, St. Laurentius Parish Hall, Fishtown section, Philadelphia, PA.
- (9) **May 7, 2006** - Third of May Polish Constitution Day Mass, Luncheon, & Youth Progm, National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa, Doylestown, PA.
- (10) **May through October** - Eastern PA District of PAC sponsored a voter registration drive through its radio, newspaper, and organizational affiliates.
- (11) **June 28th through July 4th** - PAC and Polish American Cultural Center representatives participated in the 14th Annual Sunoco Welcome America Festival in Philadelphia, PA.
- (12) **July** - Polish American Cultural Center Museum, in conjunction with the National Constitution Center, both in historic Philadelphia, PA, participated as a Community Partner featuring an exhibit with paintings and literature portraying the signing of the first two democratic constitutions: U.S. Constitution and Poland's Constitution.
- (13) **September 7th through September 18th** - Pulaski Day Observance Committee annual Coloring Contest in Philadelphia, PA area schools. 20,000 entries were distributed.
- (14) **September 27, 2006** - Pulaski Day Proclamation and Polish American Heritage Month Proclamation Ceremony & Reception, Polish American Cultural Center Museum, historic Philadelphia, PA. Coloring Contest winners received awards.
- (15) **September 30, 2006** - Annual Pulaski Dinner Dance, Associated Polish Home Ballroom, Northeast Philadelphia, PA.
- (16) **October 1, 2006** - Pulaski Observance Mass, Cathedral Basilica of SS. Peter & Paul, Philadelphia, PA.
- (17) **October 1, 2006** - Wreath Laying Ceremony, at the portrait of General Casimir Pulaski in front of the Kopernik Monument, 18th & Benjamin Franklin Parkway, Philadelphia, PA, followed by a reception.

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



Dear Members, Friends and Supporters,

As we begin the new year, the officers of the Polish American Congress, Eastern Pennsylvania District, and I want to extend a THANK YOU to all who took the time and made the sacrifice to work for the causes of the Polish American community and Poland. Special thanks to the organizations, churches, schools and the media whose efforts help Polonia remain a vibrant part of the ever growing and changing "Ethnic Mosaic of America".

As you know, in October, 2008, Polish Americans will mark the 400th anniversary of the arrival of Poles in America at Jamestown, VA. In preparation for this event during 2007, we invite you to document your family history. To assist you we have a basic information form to get you started on our Internet site at: PolishAmericanCenter.com. Look for the "Tracing Your Roots" link on the front page. This information can be printed out and shared with family members who can help with this project. If you do not have access to the Internet, call the Museum and a copy will be sent to you. At this time all organizations are asked to plan an event or activity this October to mark the 399th anniversary of Poles in America.

Help us spread the word by sharing the information in this newspaper and invite people to participate in civic events and activities of the Polish American Congress and its member organizations. Your support of the Museum and its activities also helps us demonstrate Polish American pride to the public. Interest in the Historic Reflections aired on the daily program in the Polish language and in the English language on the Saturday broadcast continues to receive great reviews. The next part of this project is to place the reflections on a 365 day calendar on the Museum's Internet site for easy access and so that the accomplishments of these great men and women of Polish heritage can be highlighted by school students in cultural projects. You can listen to the weekly reflection in English on the Saturday program, or hear a rebroadcast of this program, 24-hours-a-day-7-days-a week at:

PolishAmericanRadioProgram.com

2006 President's Report Continued

- (18) **October 1, 2006** - Pulaski Day Parade, Benjamin Franklin Parkway, Center City Philadelphia, PA. Parade televised live from 1 to 3 p.m. on WPVI-TV 6.
- (19) **October 22, 2006** - "Dozynki" Polish Harvest Mass & Festival, sponsored by the Polish American Congress and Polish American Cultural Center Museum. Mass, St. Adalbert Church, Port Richmond section, Philadelphia, PA, concluded with a "Dozynki" Harvest Festival, St. Adalbert Auditorium.
- (20) **October** - Polish American Congress sponsored various events to highlight "Polish American Heritage Month" throughout the month of October.
- (21) **December 9** - Polish Christmas Customs Celebration, Polish American Cultural Center Museum, historic Philadelphia, PA, with a Christmas Open House with Sw. Mikolaj, Polish Language groups and refreshments.

Throughout the year the Polish American Congress conducts various meetings to organize public events and address the needs and concerns of its member organizations and the community at large.

Additionally, it also maintains contact with the national office of the PAC with reference to Polish American affairs as well as with programs and activities involving the needs and concerns of the people of Poland. We are grateful to all who helped and supported the efforts of the Polish American Congress.
"In Unity There is Strength!"

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