



From the Desk of
Frank Spula
National President
Polish American Congress

Dear Members of Polonia:

I am often asked about the objectives and accomplishments of the Polish American Congress. Since its founding in May, 1944, the Polish American Congress has served as the national umbrella organization for 3,000 Polish American organizations located across the United States. Its mission is to unite Polish Americans

and assist the people of our ancestral homeland, Poland. The PAC unites cultural, professional, religious, veteran, youth, social and media groups all working to maintain and promote an appreciation of Polish history, culture and the Polish language.

The governing body of the PAC is made up of a National Council of Directors elected by their State Divisions and National Organizations for a two-year term. I am honored to have been reelected the National President of the PAC during the National Council of Directors meeting in October, 2006. All elected officers are truly committed to the PAC's mission. We are proud of the PAC's history and its endless efforts to support Poland during the dark days of communist domination following World War II through the Solidarity Movement which led to an independent Poland. We continue to help, as evidenced by Poland's recent acceptance into the NATO alliance. The PAC helps maintain a close bond between America's Polonia and Poland. Polish Americans can justifiably be proud of PAC's achievements over the last 62 years.

The highly respected Polish American Congress Washington, DC Office works diligently to monitor legislation that affects Polish Americans and Poland. It reports its activities to the National Council of Directors, the PAC governing body, and to the public via the news media.

I ask you to support the Polish American Congress divisions and our member organizations. Your participation is important to our continued success and the well-being of Polonia in America and throughout the world.

For more information about the efforts of the National Polish American Congress, visit our Internet site at: **PolAmCom.org**

Wajda Shooting Film on Katyn Massacre

Filmmaking legend Andrzej Wajda brought Krakow to a standstill recently to film "Post Mortem," a screen retelling of the Katyn Massacre. Wajda has long considered this project.

The mass execution of 22,000 Polish soldiers and intellectuals in 1940, and the admission of responsibility on the part of the Russian government in 1990, has personal implications for the director: his father, Captain Jakub Wajda, was one of the officers murdered at Katyn. However, the film takes a different tack, telling the stories of the wives, mothers, and daughters of the slain officers.

The choice of Krakow for the filming is for both personal and historical reasons, since it is not only where Wajda and his mother awaited news about their lost family member, but is also the location from which Germany announced the discovery of the mass graves in 1943. The film is set for a September 17, 2007, release, the anniversary of the Soviet invasion of Poland in 1939.

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Jadwiga Kozdra, President
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Through the year we get ourselves involved in many everyday activities and events, and we often forget about the basics, our friendships and special relationships.

The Holiday season brings the opportunity to exchange greetings with those we greatly appreciate. I am pleased to thank the Pauline Fathers at Our Lady of Czestochowa Shrine for supporting our Polish Language School for the past seven years. I also thank our children, their parents and teachers. They put much time and effort in producing our Christmas Pageant which turned out to be an inspiring show. I wish everyone a superior year in 2007 and invite you and your children to join us.

**Kosciuszko Champion of
Human Rights
Outline of Kosciuszko's Will**

"I, Thaddeus Kosciuszko, being just in my departure from America, do hereby declare and direct that should I make no other testamentary disposition of my property in the United States thereby authorize my friend Thomas Jefferson to employ the whole thereof in purchasing negroes from among his own as any others and giving them liberty in my name, in giving them an education in trades and otherwise, and in having them instructed for their new condition in the duties of morality which may make them good neighbors, good fathers or mothers, husbands or wives and in their duties as citizens, teaching them to be defenders of their liberty and country and of the good order of society and in whatsoever may make them happy and useful, and I make the said Thomas Jefferson my executor of this."

Thaddeus Kosciuszko
5th day of May, 1798

Reprinted from the booklet "Thaddeus Kosciuszko Hero of Two Continents", published by the Polish National Alliance of the U.S. of N.A., Chicago, IL 1995

For more information, you can also visit the Polish American Cultural Center Museum, 308 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, PA, or visit the Museum's Internet site at: **PolishAmericanCenter.org**.

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**Drawing will take place on
Friday April 13, 2007 - 3 P.M.**

Polish American Cultural Center Museum

Proceeds benefit Museum and Cultural Programs
Donation \$10.00. Winner need not be present.

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\$2007 Raffle Request Form**

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