

Polish American Congress, Eastern Pennsylvania District (1945-2008)

Office and Meeting Place: 308 Walnut Street • Philadelphia, PA 19106 • 215-739-3408 • Internet: PolishAmericanCongress.com

2007 President's Report by Michael Blichasz • Report Period - January, 2007 through December, 2007

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

- (1) **January 15 through March 15** - Polish American Congress, EPD, along with Polish American Cultural Center Museum, participated as a Community Partner in the Free Library One Book, One Philadelphia project with the museum displaying the book "Thaddeus Kosciuszko" by Francis Casimir Kajencki.
- (2) **January 28, 2007** - Polish American Congress, Eastern Pennsylvania District, Annual Meeting and the election of officers - Polish Beneficial Association Hall, Bridesburg section, Philadelphia, PA.
- (3) **February 3, 2007** - General Thaddeus Kosciuszko Annual Tribute Ceremony marking the 31st 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 21st and March 22nd, 2007** - 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, 2007** - Second 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, 2007** - May 3rd Constitution Proclamation Program, St. Adalbert Auditorium, Port Richmond section, Philadelphia, PA.
- (9) **May 6, 2007** - Third of May Polish Constitution Day Mass, Luncheon, & Youth Program, 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 15th 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 10th through September 19th** - Pulaski Day Observance Committee annual Coloring Contest in Philadelphia, PA, area schools. 20,000 entries were distributed.
- (14) **October 1, 2007** - Time to Celebrate Reception marking 399th Anniversary of the arrival of the first Polish settlers to Jamestown, Virginia, Polish American Cultural Center Museum, historic Philadelphia.
- (15) **October 4, 2007** - Pulaski Day Proclamation and Polish American Heritage Month Proclamation Ceremony & Reception, Polish American Cultural Center Museum, historic Philadelphia, PA. Coloring Contest winners received awards.
- (16) **October 6, 2007** - Genealogy Workshop "Learn To Trace Your Family Heritage", Polish American Cultural Center Museum, historic Philadelphia.
- (17) **October 13, 2007** - Annual Pulaski Dinner Dance, Associated Polish Home Ballroom, Northeast Philadelphia, PA.
- (18) **October 14, 2007** - Pulaski Observance Mass, Cathedral Basilica of SS. Peter & Paul, Philadelphia, PA.
- (19) **October 14, 2007** - 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.
- (20) **October 14, 2007** - Pulaski Day Parade, Benjamin Franklin Parkway, Center City Philadelphia, PA. Parade televised live from 1 to 3 P.M. on WPVI-TV 6.
- (21) **October 28, 2007** - "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.
- (22) **October** - Polish American Congress sponsored various events to highlight "Polish American Heritage Month" throughout the month of October.
- (23) **December 8, 2007** - 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.

I also maintain 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!"

Polish American Congress.com

The Show of Shows

You're invited to enjoy New Years Day all over again by attending the 2008 Show of Shows, which will feature the Polish American String Band and all of the string bands that appeared in the Mummings Day Parade.

The Show of Shows will take place on **Saturday, February 23rd at Boardwalk Hall in Atlantic City, New Jersey**. There will be two performances, at 12 Noon and at 5 P.M.

For tickets or more information, call Ticketmaster at 1-800-736-1420, or visit them on the Internet at: Ticketmaster.com.



From the Desk of
Mary Ann Zerkowski, President
 Berks County Polish American
 Board of Education
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On Sunday, April 13, 2008, during the Scholarship Banquet at the Reading Country Club, the Berks County Polish American Board of Education will award \$30,000 in scholarships to Berks County high school seniors of Polish American descent. The scholarships to be presented are as follows:

Walter Bialas Scholarship	\$10,000
Mary Oziemkiewicz Memorial Award	\$5,000
PABE Scholarship	\$5,000
Stanley B. Lewandowski Scholarship	\$2,000
Edward E. Cwiklinski Scholarship	\$1,000
Edward E. Cwiklinski Scholarship	\$1,000
Dr. Edmund F. Gallman, Jr. Scholarship	\$1,000
Clara Skoraszewski Haage Scholarship	\$1,000
Stella M. Hendel Scholarship	\$1,000
Robert A. Levandowski Scholarship	\$1,000
Stella and Leon Zerkowski Scholarship	\$1,000
Edward E. Cwiklinski Scholarship for Alvernia College	\$1,000

Scholarship application forms and guidelines are available in the office of the Guidance Counselor in all Berks County High Schools. Guidelines and application forms can also be downloaded from our website at www.pabe-berks.org. Applications are due no later than Saturday, March 1, 2008 to: Ronald Savitski, 159 Texter Mountain Road, Wernersville, Pennsylvania 19565-9442. Telephone: 610-693-9792.