

BERKS POLONIA

Mary Ann Zerkowski, President
Polish American Heritage Association of
Berks County

STATE LEGISLATORS AND PAST
PRESIDENTS
TO BE HONORED

On Sunday, August 17, the Polish American Heritage Association of Berks County will hold its annual picnic featuring a summertime clambake at the Lower Alsace Fire Company Picnic Grove, Roosevelt and Columbia Avenues, Stony Creek Mills. During the afternoon festivities, the association will honor State Senator Mike O'Pake and State Representative Tom Caltagirone for their continuing support of the activities of the PAHABC. Also to be recognized for contributing their time, talent, and leadership are the past presidents of the association, Tom Gajewski, Patricia Schleicher, Dorothy Filippini, and Dolores Taras. The Berks County Happy Boombadiers will entertain with their Boombas, and Janet and John O'Such will provide music for your dancing and listening pleasure. For information and reservations call Nancy Hoy at 610.779.5409.



PAHABC TO CELEBRATE THE 400TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE ARRIVAL OF THE FIRST POLISH SETTLERS

During the month of September, exhibits in the Polish American Cultural Center in the Goggle Works, 205 Washington Street in Reading, PA., will be recognizing the valuable contributions Poles have made to the founding of the United States of America. On Sunday, September 28, a representative from the Jamestown Settlement will give a presentation on life during the early days at America's first colony. Since the first Polish settlers distinguished themselves as craftsmen, the Cultural Center will be partnering with the Goggle Works Glass Blowing Studio for a demonstration following the presentation. The celebration will conclude with a reception in the Goggle Works. For more information, contact the Cultural Center Chairlady, Dorothy Gajewski at 610.372.6064.

Yolanda Konopacka DeSipio of
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New CD Highlights Music Enjoyed at
St. Joseph's Church of Camden, NJ



St. Joseph's Church, 1010 Liberty Street, Camden, NJ

The St. Joseph's History Society of South Camden, NJ, is currently selling CDs of their April 6, 2008, recording of "Eucharistic Adoration with RoSewig Vespers" by the St. Lucia's Choir of St. Joseph's Church, Camden, NJ. This historic church has been serving the Polish community for over a hundred years. The History Society is dedicated to the continued preservation of the church and its rich heritage.

In the 1940's, the RoSewig Vespers (1896), composed by Albert H. RoSewig, Director of St. Charles Borromeo Church choir

in Philadelphia, were added to the Forty Hours Service. St. Joseph's is proud to continue to perform the Vespers of this Philadelphia composer, famous for conducting the music at the 1876 Philadelphia Centennial Exposition.

The CD's will be available after the 10:30 A.M. High Mass on Sundays at St. Joseph's Church, 1010 Liberty Street, Camden, NJ. The cost is \$20 with all proceeds benefiting the preservation and restoration activities of the church.

For more information call St. Joseph's Rectory at 856-963-1285. You can also contact Michael Matulewicz at stjhistory@yahoo.com.

From the Desk of
Representative Gene DiGirolamo
 18th District
 Pennsylvania House of Representatives
State Seeks Owners of \$1 Billion in
Unclaimed Property



HARRISBURG – I remind area residents to check and see if the state's Bureau of Unclaimed Property has money for them.

According to the Pennsylvania Treasury Department, millions of dollars in unclaimed property comes into the bureau each year. Currently there is about \$1 billion worth of unclaimed property.

The most common types of unclaimed property are dormant bank accounts, stocks and dividends, uncashed payroll checks, uncollected utility deposits, unredeemed gift certificates and items in safe deposit boxes. In fact, unclaimed property is any financial asset that has been left inactive for a period of about five years.

In an effort to return the property to those who rightfully own it, an online database was created in 2000 to make information more easily accessible. As a result, the Bureau of Unclaimed Property was able to return nearly \$88.8 million to more than 63,000 owners in 2007 alone.

Officials are also cautioning individuals to be wary of services or "finders" who charge fees to help locate unclaimed property. Finders often charge the maximum amount allowed by law, up to 15 percent of the property's value, for making use of the same online-databases that individuals can use free-of-charge.

For additional information on unclaimed property, visit Representative DiGirolamo's Web site at GeneDiGirolamo.com or call the Bureau of Unclaimed Property toll-free at 1-800-222-2046.



From the Desk of
Dr. Janusz Romanski
Vice Chairman of PUL
 in Philadelphia

The Board of the Polski Uniwersytet Ludowy (PUL) is pleased to announce its program of lectures for 2008-2009. Speakers will include such prestigious scholars as Wladyslaw Zachariasiewicz, well-known to the Polonia for his very successful book *Etos Polonii Amerykanskiej*. Regina Gorzkowska – Rossi will speak about Polish culture and ways to preserve it for future generations of Polish-Americans and the entire community. Philadelphia historian Peter Obst will present "Polish History - Historical Markers in Pennsylvania," which will include a photo gallery covering famous Poles who established the prestige of Polish Americans in American society ever since the earliest days of Polish immigration in Jamestown, Virginia, in 1608.

Romuald Roman will speak about his next book, *Direction Philadelphia (Kierunek Filadelfia)*, which covers his family's adaptation to America's new culture, customs and people. Dr. Danuta Piatkowska will speak about her recently-published book, which documents the fifty years of priestly service of Father Lucjusz Tyrasinski to Polonia and the Roman Catholic Church in America.

The PUL Board asks all members of Polonia in Philadelphia to share suggestions for future lectures by emailing John Romanski at jromanski@att.net.

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Trimline Windows, Inc.

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29th Annual Polka Motion

September 11-14, 2008

Rehoboth Beach Convention Center
 Rehoboth, Delaware

For more information, visit rbpolka.com



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