



# POLISH AMERICAN News

February / March, 2006

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



### 2006 President's Message

Dear Members, Friends and Supporters,

Every year at this time we reflect on what was accomplished in the past year and look forward to the new year. For your review there is a complete report on our united efforts in Southeastern Pennsylvania. All that was done was possible because many individuals representing our organizations, churches, schools and Polish American media did their best to help Polonia in America remain a vibrant part of the "Great Ethnic Mosaic of America".

At this time we also measure the impact that we have made on the community at large. Our efforts continue to grow in electronic media, especially on the Internet and through announcements on the daily Polish American Radio Program. All of the information about media contacts is listed in this newspaper. Your feedback is important to everyone involved. Don't hesitate to let us know about your suggestions and as always your participation is very much appreciated.

In 2006, we are marking the 30th Anniversary of the renovated Kosciuszko House and the 20th Anniversary of the Polish American Cultural Center. Read more about these historic events and spread the word about all of the information listed in this newspaper.

Working together, we will continue our mission of keeping people proud of the efforts of Polonia as we share our Polish heritage within Polonia and with the general public.

### 1706 - 2006 • Ben Franklin 300 Philadelphia, is a year long celebration of Benjamin Franklin's Birthday in the Philadelphia area.

During 2006, more than 100 Philadelphia area cultural and art institutions, hotels, restaurants and retail organizations, will be offering a Franklin flavored experience for visitors. The Polish American Cultural Center Museum will be highlighting Benjamin Franklin and his meeting with Casimir Pulaski in Paris.



Portrait by Michael J. Deitz



For more information visit:  
**franklin300.org.**

### Polish Americans Honor Benjamin Franklin



During the **300th Anniversary of the Birth of Benjamin Franklin**, signer of the Declaration of Independence and internationally known inventor, the City of Philadelphia has many events and exhibits to celebrate the occasion. During the celebration, Polish Americans are honoring Franklin and remembering General Casimir Pulaski. In 1777, Benjamin Franklin, an American diplomat, and Casimir Pulaski, an exiled freedom fighter from Poland met in Paris, France. During their meeting, Franklin persuaded Pulaski to come to America and join the colonies in their fight for independence. In the Polish American Cultural Center Museum at 308 Walnut Street, historic Philadelphia, the painting of Franklin meeting Pulaski commemorates this historic event. Franklin is known all over the world as the man who discovered electricity, while Pulaski is known as the Father of the American Cavalry, who died at the Battle of Savannah, during the American Revolution.

For more information about the Franklin 300th Celebration and events in historic Philadelphia visit: [www.gophila.com/ben](http://www.gophila.com/ben)



**Polish American Cultural Center**  
308 Walnut Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19106  
(215) 922-1700

When You're in Philadelphia's Historic District Visit The  
**Polish American Cultural Center Museum Exhibit Hall**

308 Walnut Street  
Featuring Polish History and Culture  
**Open 10 AM to 4 PM**  
**FREE ADMISSION**

January through April  
**Monday to Friday**

May through December  
**Monday to Saturday**

Gift Shop is Open During  
**Regular Exhibit Hall Hours**

**Closed on Holidays**

Visit the Polish American Cultural Center Museum on the Internet at: [www.PolishAmericanCenter.org](http://www.PolishAmericanCenter.org)

Featured on the web site are brief outlines of Great Men and Women of Polish Heritage, information about Polish customs and traditions, and information about organizations and activities in the Polish American Community.

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Join the  
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## Newsletter

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Telephone: (215) 739-3408  
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