



To cultivate, enhance, and promote the understanding of the Polish language, culture, and arts;
To project the accurate and true image of the Polish American;
To promote cordial and cooperative relations among the members and the community-at-large;
To be a non-sectarian and non-partisan organization in south-central Pennsylvania

maj/May 2018

www.polamhar.org



PAA ANNUAL PICNIC!!!!!!

Please come 06/09/2018 and spend time with our PAA Family at Pinchot Lake Gifford Pinchot State Park, 2200 Rosstown Rd, Lewisberry (same place as last year). Boat rental, hiking trails, swimming beach, and playground are all available at the park.

The picnic starts at 1pm.

PAA is providing Polish kielbasa and drinks; we are asking all to bring a dish to share. Help with setting up, grilling and clean-up after the picnic is also needed. Thank you for all your support!

Please RSVP to your EVITE invitation indicating the number of adults and children attending. Bring your family and friends, and let us know if you are able to help, we couldn't do it without volunteers.

If you prefer to RSVP by phone and/or need more information, call Marta at 717-318-1539

COST:

Members: free

Non-member: \$5 (individual)

Non-member: \$10 (family)

PARK INFO: http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/cs/groups/public/documents/document/dcnr_004651.pdf

Calendar of Events 2018

Polish Mass

**May 20
2:00 PM**

**Seven Sorrows of the BVM
280 North Race St.
Middletown**

Annual Picnic

**June 9
1:00 PM
Pinchot State Park**



The Embassy of the Republic of Poland in Washington, DC is proud to announce that our *Find Your Kosciuszko* Initiative is a finalist for the 2017 “Historical Event of the Year” award presented by the Polish History Museum.

Find Your Kosciuszko was a series of events organized throughout 2017 in commemoration of the Year of Kosciuszko and the 200th anniversary of the passing of General Thaddeus Kosciuszko. The Embassy’s undertaking included the creation of a special Kosciuszko Means Freedom logo, the production of a short information video about Kosciuszko, as well as several events including “The Purest Son of Liberty: Thaddeus Kosciuszko in America” a seminar organized at the Library of Congress which was accompanied by a display of Kosciuszko related artifacts from the Library’s collection.

The aim of *Find Your Kosciuszko* was to popularize the history and legacy of Thaddeus Kosciuszko in America. To these ends our Embassy encouraged individuals to organize commemorations at their local Kosciuszko monument or namesake across America on the weekend of October 14-15, the 200th anniversary of Kosciuszko’s passing. On that weekend, in Washington, DC, the Embassy organized the Kosciuszko Freedom Run which attracted hundreds of runners, as well as a public wreath laying ceremony at the Kosciuszko Monument next to the White House with the participation of the United States Continental Color Guard and the United States Army Brass Quintet.

The Polish History Museum’s jury has selected the Embassy’s Find Your Kosciuszko initiative as one of five finalists in the category of event for their 2017 Historical Event of the Year Award. The award honor organizers, creators, and initiators of the most interesting historical enterprises of the past year.

The public is encouraged to vote for a winner from among the finalists by visiting the “Historical Event of the Year” website: <http://whr.muzhp.pl/#home>. Voting is open thru May 17. Please note that in order to cast a vote you must select one finalist in each of the three categories (event, exhibit and education), accept the contest terms, and enter an email address.

Thank you for your support!

http://www.washington.mfa.gov.pl/en/news/embassy_s_find_your_kosciuszko_initiative_nominated_f_or_prestigious__historical_event_of_the_year__award

U.S. - Poland Science and Technology Agreement Signed

New perspectives for Polish scientists and universities are expected by the bilateral agreement signed between Poland and the United States

The agreement will be the basis for all projects and joint endeavors carried out by scientists from both countries. The agreement was signed on April 23 at the Department of State by Deputy Prime Minister Jarosław Gowin and Undersecretary Tom Shannon. The conclusion of the new agreement is a clear signal of positive development of bilateral relations with the US.

“This is an important day for Polish science. The signing of the agreement with the American government opens up new perspectives for Polish scientists and Polish colleges and universities,” said Deputy Prime Minister Jarosław Gowin. *“It is also an important day for the Polish economy, since collaboration in science and technology with the United States intensifies joint economic collaboration. Our government has a bold plan – a Strategy for Responsible Development. One of its main objectives is to change the character of the Polish economy to a more innovative one, based on a higher level of research of Polish scientists.”*

“The fact that today the agreement was signed, that today the Polish Chamber of Congress was opened in the United States, that on Thursday the Minister of National Defense Mariusz Błaszczak will come, this is all a sign, that Polish-American relations are in an exceptional phase,” summed up Deputy Prime Minister Gowin.

The agreement for collaboration in science and technology sets the foundation for all projects and joint ventures carried out by scientists from Poland and the US....Direct contact, participation in conferences and expert meetings, as well as joint scientific research are key in building a broad partnership between Poland and the US.

The signing of the agreement will allow for closer cooperation between Polish and American agencies that distribute funds for scientific research and development of mechanisms for co-financing Polish-American research projects. The platform of such activities includes regular Joint Committee Meetings, the next of which will be in the fall of 2018 in Warsaw.

The agreement will be in place for the next 10 years.

http://www.washington.mfa.gov.pl/en/news/u_s___poland_science_and_technology_agreement_signed

Polish Diaspora and Poles Abroad Day

In 2002, the Sejm of the Republic of Poland established the Polish Diaspora and Poles Abroad Day to be celebrated on 2 May. This initiative recognized the "long-standing achievements and contribution of the Polish diaspora and Poles abroad in helping Poland regain its independence, loyalty and attachment to their identity, as well as assistance to the homeland in its most difficult moments."

The Polish government, recognizing the special role of the Polish diaspora, considers the cooperation with Polish communities to be one of its priorities. In his address to the Polish

Sejm in March of this year, Foreign Minister Jacek Czaputowicz stressed that the *"Polish diaspora is an extremely important element of the national community. We remember them especially this year, on the 100th anniversary of Poland regaining its independence."*

Believing that this jubilee is important for all our compatriots, no matter where they live, especially on this day, we join in thought Poles abroad, thanking them for their past and present efforts for the good of the country.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs reports that today between 18-20 million Poles and people of Polish origin live outside the country. Many of them are people who remained in the eastern territories after the state's borders shifted. Others, modern migrants, make up the current Polish community in Western countries. The largest Polish community abroad lives in the United States, where over 9.6 million people declared to be of Polish origin in 2012.

http://www.washington.mfa.gov.pl/en/news/polish_diaspora_and_poles_abroad_day

227TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 3 MAY CONSTITUTION

The 3 May Constitution of 1791 was most probably the world's second codified constitution. Its authorship is ascribed to King Stanisław II August, Grand Marshall of Lithuania, Ignacy Potocki, and the priest and philosopher, Fr. Hugo Kołłątaj.

The adopted constitution was inspired by the political and social thought of the European Enlightenment and the 1787 American Constitution. The authors of Poland's basic law recognized that instead of advancing the interests of the few, the government must put the nation first. The document consisted of 11 articles. The first one afforded a dominant status to the Roman Catholic faith, at the same time guaranteeing freedom of belief and practice to other religions. Article 5 provided for the separation of powers into the legislative, executive, and judicial branches. A two-chamber Sejm passed laws; executive power was in the hands of the king and the Guardians of the Laws; while judicial power was exercised by independent courts.

The *liberum veto* (under which a bill could be defeated by any single deputy) was abolished, as were several other features of the parliamentary system previously in force—from then on, all decisions would be passed by majority votes. The king could not approve legislation. He presided over the Guardians of the Laws composed of the primate, two secretaries, a crown prince of age, the marshal of the Sejm, and five ministers appointed by the king: of the treasury, the army, the police, foreign affairs, and the seal. The ministers reported to the king but could only be removed from office by the Sejm. To become effective, the king's rulings required the countersignature of the relevant ministers, who in turn were responsible to the Sejm. An extraordinary constitutional Sejm would convene every 25 years to review and amend the Constitution. A national army was established, and the Constitution placed the peasants under the protection of the government.

Julian Ursyn Niemcewicz, who was involved in the work on the Constitution, recounted the special significance of the day it was adopted: *"How few days in the histories of entire nations when thousands and thousands of people, an entire capital, no, an entire nation I say, would be so exceedingly elated! Such was the third of May; all could see in their*

mind's eye how at last it dispelled the rain clouds that had battered us for so long and our future prosperity dawning on a clear horizon." The Constitution of 3 May reflected Poland's spirit, a spirit which sustained the nation over 123 years under foreign rule and, later, during the long years of communist repression. Despite the many controversies that continue to divide historians and columnists even today, 3 May was a national holiday until 1940. Until the end of WWII and in the Polish People's Republic it was forbidden to celebrate Constitution Day, but the anniversary each year sparked mass anti-communist rallies. According to opinion surveys, Poles today still consider the Constitution of 3 May as one of the most groundbreaking events in the history of their country.

http://www.washington.mfa.gov.pl/en/news/227th_anniversary_of_the_3_may_constitution

May 3rd Constitution Day Celebrated at the Ambassador's Residence

On the 227th anniversary of the adoption of the first constitution in Europe, Ambassador Piotr Wilczek welcomed to his residence representatives of the U.S. administration, Congress and Polonia. Special guest for the celebration was Assistant Secretary of State Wess Mitchell.

"The May 3rd Constitution is cherished by Poles because of the values that it represents, and the spirit that it embodies. During the darkest times of Communism and political oppression, when rights and freedoms were being suppressed, Poles looked back on this document as inspiration. Even though the constitution was short lived, and the freedoms it promised were extinguished by foreign powers, its righteous ideals display that in the end, freedom and liberty do prevail" noted Ambassador Piotr Wilczek.

In his remarks the Ambassador also referred to the very good state of US-Poland relations. He emphasized, that *"Poland and the United States share not only common goals and policies, but more importantly they share common values and a heritage of freedom as enshrined in the May 3rd Constitution."* In this context the Ambassador recalled the numerous high level visits that have taken place in recent weeks and the key areas of US-Poland cooperation.

Secretary Mitchell recalled that Poland and the United States were always trailblazers in the efforts to secure freedom and democracy, which is why Poles and Americans were the authors of the first two written constitutions in the world. He also underscored that Poland is an important ally and partner of the United States, which was displayed by President Trump's visit to Warsaw in 2017.

Ambassador Wilczek noted also that this year we commemorate the centennial of Poland's rebirth. Numerous events are being planned and organized in the United States to celebrate this historic occasion. One of these events will be a special concert on June 2 at the National Philharmonic at Strathmore, co-organized with the Embassy.

http://www.washington.mfa.gov.pl/en/news/may_3rd_constitution_day_celebrated_at_the_ambassador_s_residence

Polish-American Association of Harrisburg

polamhar@gmail.com

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Vice President: *Waiting for a volunteer*
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Carolyn Blaszczyk

Newsletter Editor: Carolyn Blaszczyk

Submissions for the August 2018 newsletter should be submitted to the Editor at 717-889-2623 or cbis2@comcast.net, not later than **July 31.**

Polish Lessons

For individuals and groups, adults and children.

Contact Joanna Rzeszotko: joanna.pu1@interia.pl

Business Ads

Members may advertise at www.polamhar.com for only \$50.00 per year.

Packages to Poland.

Contact Anna Rossi: polamhar@gmail.com.

Membership

If you would like to join our Association please send an e-mail indicating your interest to: polamhar@gmail.com or download the membership form at:

<http://www.polamhar.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/MembershipForm.pdf> and send with your payment to: **Anna Rossi, 850 Waltonville Rd., Hummelstown, PA17036**

Yearly Membership:

\$15 Individual

\$10 Senior (over 65)

\$35 Family

\$100 Sobieski or Jagiellonka Patron

\$150 Business/Corporate Patron

THANK YOU!

Zainteresowanych przystąpieniem do Stowarzyszenia prosimy o wysłanie e-maila na adres: polamhar@gmail.com lub wydrukowanie <http://www.polamhar.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/MembershipForm.pdf> i wysłanie wypełnionego formularza wraz z opłatą na adres: **Anna Rossi, 850 Waltonville Rd., Hummelstown, PA17036**

Roczny koszt:

\$15 Osoba poniżej 65

\$10 Osoba powyżej 65

\$35 Rodzina

\$100 Sobieski albo Jagiellonka

\$150 Business/Corporate

DZIĘKUJEMY!