



# PROTECT AND DEFEND

... Poles and Polish Americans in service to the United States and to the World

TASTE AMERICA JULY 29, 2010

## Message from the President

DEAR VISITOR,

For the fifth consecutive year, I welcome to the exhibit of the Polish American Congress, one of the largest and oldest organizations representing the interests of more than 10-million Americans of Polish heritage. Our Washington, D.C. Office has once again gathered a large selection of materials and goods for your enjoyment and information. Let me briefly walk you through our display.

This year's theme – *Protect and Defend*– enabled us to showcase accomplishments and contributions of Poles and Polish Americans that were (and are) geared towards ensuring increased protection and well-being, in its broadest sense.

For that reason, we took the theme and applied it to different aspects of everyday life.

For example, we present the military aspects of the Protect and Defend theme through information about the achievements of such great Poles as Generals Thaddeus Kosciuszko and Casimir Pulaski on American soil .

We have also included information about Poles in the American armed forces as well as the Polish presence in Iraq and Afghanistan. In addition we added information about the 65th anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz, the German concentration camp in Poland, as well as about the 70th anniversary of the Katyn massacre, where more than 20,000 members of the Polish intelligentsia were murdered by Russian KGB in the early 1940s.

As you can see on our table, we also present the *Protect and Defend* theme in the context of the medical and health sciences professions. Here, for example, we showcase information about Casimir Funk, the discoverer of vitamins, or Hilary Koproski, who discovered the polio vaccine, to name a few.

Another angle from which we approached this year's theme, was to present efforts to protect and encourage Polish culture and heritage in the United States at both the local and federal levels. Please make sure to take a copy of a complimentary CD with music by the great Polish composer – Frederic Chopin – whose 200th birthday anniversary is celebrated this year.

Also please make sure to take a look at the timeline of main events and developments in the history of the Polish American Community. The story will take you through the centuries, starting in Jamestown in 1600 and ending with developments as recent as those of the last few years.

Our Community is very proud that we have been present on American soil since the very beginnings of this great nation. We are also very proud of the many great contributions that came to fruition thanks to the people of Poland and those of Polish heritage.

Finally, please make sure to try some of the Polish delicacies that we offer for tasting. Learning from past experience, this year we decided to present Polish chocolate and perfectly chilled fruit juices – in previous years very much appreciated in the sizzling heat of the Washington summer.

Please enjoy our display, make sure to take copies of any materials that you find of interest, and as always, please do not hesitate to ask questions –we will be happy to answer them all!

We wish you well 'til we see you again at the next Taste America celebration.

Most sincerely,

Frank Spula  
President

Polish American Congress

## HAPPY 100 YEARS IN THE NATION'S CAPITAL GENERALS!

### Thaddeus Kosciuszko Monument in Washington D.C.

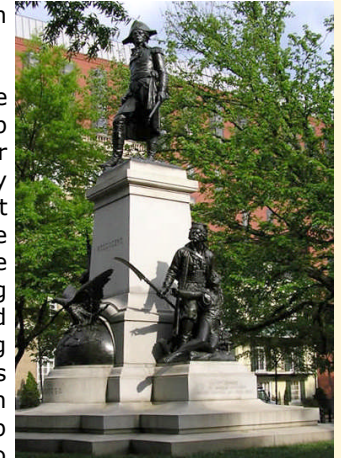


Location: Northeast corner of Lafayette Park, Pennsylvania Avenue, in front of the White House

Metro: McPherson Square (Blue, Orange lines)

The monument is the work of Polish sculptor Antoni Popiel (1865-1910) and was dedicated on May 11, 1910 by President William Howard Taft.

The standing portrait of General Kosciuszko is holding a map of the fortifications of Saratoga in his proper right hand. He rests the map against his extended proper right leg. He holds a sword in his proper left hand. His dress is that of the U. S. Continental Army military uniform consisting of a long coat with fringed epaulets and a sash at the waist, tall boots, and a hat. The sculpture rests atop a square tiered base adorned with bronze sculptures on all four sides. On the north side, there is an eagle perched on top of a globe showing



America with a flag, a sword, and a shield. On the south side, there is a globe showing Poland with an eagle fighting a snake on top. On the east side, there is a figure group depicting Kosciuszko dressed in a U. S. military uniform with a drum at his feet and a flag held in his proper left hand. With his proper right hand he unties a rope from around the waist of an American soldier who symbolizes the American army. On the west side, there is a figure group depicting Kosciuszko dressed in a Polish military uniform lying on the ground and pointing into the distance with his proper right hand. Assisting him is a Polish soldier dressed in peasant military attire to symbolize the Polish Army.

The inscription on the monument reads:

*"Erected by the Polish National Alliance of America and presented on behalf of Polish-American citizens, May 11, 1910."*



### Casimir Pulaski Monument in Washington D.C.

Location: Freedom Plaza, Pennsylvania Avenue and 13th, NW

Metro: Federal Triangle (Blue, Orange lines)

The Brigadier General Count Casimir Pulaski Memorial, by sculptor Casimir Chodzinski (1861-ca. 1920) and architect Albert Randolph Ross was dedicated on May 11, 1910 on the corner of Pennsylvania Avenue and 13th Street, NW, which is now the eastern end of Freedom Plaza. The 15-foot bronze equestrian statue sits atop a 12-foot granite base.

General Pulaski is dressed in the uniform of a cavalry commander from his native Poland that consists of a military jacket with a long cape and a hat adorned with fur and feathers. His feet are in the stirrups and he holds the horse's reins with both hands. The horse trots with its head raised up and its proper right foot raised. The sculpture rests on an

oval base decorated with a band of foliage and Greek key design. Wreaths flank the inscriptions which appear on the long sides of the base. Three steps lead up to the base.

The plaque reads:

*"Brigadier General Casimir Pulaski 1748-1779. The bronze equestrian statue of Brigadier General Casimir Pulaski portrays the Revolutionary War hero in the uniform of a Polish cavalry commander. Born in Winiary, Poland on March 4, 1748 to a noble family. Pulaski gained prominence in Europe for his role in defending liberty in Poland. Excited by the struggle of the emerging American Republic, Pulaski joined in its fight for independence, arriving in Boston on July, 1777. Pulaski was given a commission as Brigadier General and Chief of Cavalry in command of all cavalry of the American forces. He was present at Germantown, Pennsylvania and led his legion at Haddonfield, New Jersey; Egg Harbor, New Jersey; Charleston, South Carolina; and Savannah, Georgia. At Savannah, Pulaski was mortally wounded and was taken aboard the American brig, WASP, where he died and was buried at sea on October 11, 1779. He was 31 years old. The statue was designed by the sculptor Kazimierz Chodzinski and architect Albert R. Ross. It was erected in 1910."*



# THANK YOU

OUR DISPLAY WAS MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH THE GENEROSITY OF MANY OF OUR FRIENDS, INCLUDING:



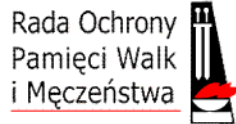
The American Institute for Polish Culture  
[www.ampoloinstitute.org](http://www.ampoloinstitute.org)



The Embassy of the Republic of Poland  
[www.washington.polemb.net](http://www.washington.polemb.net)



American Council for Polish Culture  
[www.polishcultureacpc.org](http://www.polishcultureacpc.org)



The Council for the Protection of Memory and Martyrdom Warsaw, Poland  
[www.radaopwim.gov.pl](http://www.radaopwim.gov.pl)



[www.cato.org](http://www.cato.org)



National Katyn Memorial Foundation  
[www.katynbaltimore.com](http://www.katynbaltimore.com)



[www.polishmuseumofamerica.org](http://www.polishmuseumofamerica.org)



Kielbasa Factory, Rockville MD  
<http://kielbasafactory.com>



POLISH & SLAVIC CENTER  
[www.polishslaviccenter.org](http://www.polishslaviccenter.org)



Polish National Alliance  
[www.pna-znp.org](http://www.pna-znp.org)



[www.psfcu.com](http://www.psfcu.com)

# PROTECT... DEFEND...

## PROTECT YOUR HERITAGE

During the last decade, more than 200 Poland and Polonia-related state legislation has been introduced/passed nationwide. During the same period, hundreds of similar legislation was introduced/ passed on the federal level.



## DEFEND AGAINST ENEMIES



In 1778, Polish General Thaddeus Kosciuszko was made chief engineer of West Point, New York. This fortification became known as the American Gibraltar because it was unable to be penetrated by the British Army. Eventually West Point became a military academy.

## PROTECTING WORLD PEACE

Currently there are 2,600 Polish soldiers serving in Afghanistan. The Polish contingent is the seventh largest of 43 International Security Assistance Force participants.

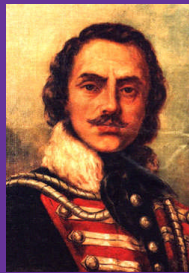


The Polish contribution for reconstruction goals in Afghanistan for 2009 was \$12,5 million, five times more than in 2008.

For details on all those items and more ... PLEASE SEE OUR DISPLAY!

## DEFEND A LIFE

Another Pole, Casimir Pulaski, the "Father of American cavalry", during the American Revolutionary War, saved the life of George Washington. He later became a general in the Continental Army.



## PROTECT YOUR HEALTH



Casimir Funk, a Polish biochemist, was the first one to formulate the concept of vitamins in 1912, which he called *vital amines* or *vitamines*.



## DEFEND YOUR RIGHTS

In 1619, when Polish settlers in Jamestown Colony were denied voting rights, they organized the first, and successful, strike for civil rights on the American continent!



## DEFEND AGAINST DEADLY VIRUSES



A Pole, Hilary Koproski, discovered the Polio vaccine. The vaccine was used for the first time on February 27, 1950.

NATIONAL OFFICE  
5711 N. Milwaukee Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60646-6294

Tel. 773-763-9944, Fax: 773-763-7114  
E-mail: [pacchgo@pac1944.org](mailto:pacchgo@pac1944.org)



Protecting the interests of  
American Polonia and  
Poland since 1944

WASHINGTON OFFICE  
1612 K. St., N.W., Suite 410  
Washington, DC 20006-2802,  
Tel. 202-296-6955, Fax: 202-835-1565  
E-mail: [pacwash@pac1944.org](mailto:pacwash@pac1944.org)

Please visit us online: [www.pac1944.org](http://www.pac1944.org)