

*"I came here where freedom is being defended,
to serve it and live or die for it"*

*Brigadier General Casimir Pulaski
To George Washington*



— OFFICIAL STATE OF ILLINOIS —

Pulaski Day

— VIRTUAL CELEBRATION —

Monday, March 6, 2023 at 10 a.m.

hosted by

The Polish Museum of America

and the

Polish Roman Catholic Union of America

Streamed live on

www.PolishMuseumOfAmerica.org

from the

Sabina P. Logisz Great Hall, 984 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL 60642







*The 2023 Official State of Illinois Pulaski Day Celebration
is generously sponsored by*





2023 PULASKI DAY COMMITTEE

Carlos Escobar
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Micheline Jaminski
Eugeniusz Jarzabek
Malgorzata Kot

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Barbara Kozuchowska
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SPECIAL THANKS TO

Mirosława Sojka-Topor

Daniel Szefer

Wesoly Lud Polish Folk Dance Company of PRCUA

Tadeusz Kosciuszko Polish Lancers Society





2023 VIRTUAL PULASKI DAY PROGRAM

GREETINGS

Richard Owsiany
President, The Polish Museum of America

James J. Robaczewski
*President, Polish Roman Catholic Union of America;
Chairman, The Polish Museum of America; PMA Life Member*

PRESENTATION OF COLORS

Tadeusz Kościuszko Polish Lancers Society

NATIONAL ANTHEMS

Mirosława Sojka-Topór
soprano
Daniel Szefer
pianist

WELCOME

Hon. Michael Frerichs
Treasurer, State of Illinois

REMARKS

Consul General Paweł Zyzak
Consulate General of the Republic of Poland in Chicago

OBEREK with KUJAWIAK

Wesoly Lud Polish Folk Dance Company of PRCUA

REMARKS

Hon. Lori Lightfoot
Mayor, City of Chicago

VIDEO REMARKS

Hon. Richard Durbin
U.S. Senator, State of Illinois





REMARKS

Consul General Serhiy Koledov
Consulate General of Ukraine in Chicago

Frank J. Spula
*President, Polish American Congress;
President, Polish National Alliance*

PAST PULASKI DAY COMMEMORATIONS AT THE PMA

PRELUDE No. 13, Op. 28

Musical composition by Frederic Chopin, 1839
Daniel Szefer

REMARKS

Hon. Robert Martwick
IL State Senator, 10th District

RECOGNITION OF PSFCU UNDERWRITING

Frank Robert Piwowarczyk
*Grand Marshal, 2023 Pulaski Day Parade, New York;
Deputy Chief of Police, Irvington, New Jersey;
Director, Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union*

PULASKI, KOSCIUSZKO, AND POLONIA

Dominic Pacyga, PhD
Emeritus Professor of History, Columbia College Chicago

THE PULASKI COLLECTION at the Polish Museum of America

REMARKS

Hon. Maria Pappas
Treasurer, Cook County

RECOGNITION OF PNC UNDERWRITING

Beata Mikita-Glenn
*Senior Vice President, Regional Manager,
Chicago Northwest Suburbs, PNC Bank*



POLISH ARMY VETERANS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA AWARDS

Andrzej Janczak

Commander, Polish Army Veterans Association of America, Post 90

REMARKS

Hon. Aurelia Pucinski

Appellate Court Justice, IL First District

THE BATTLE OF SAVANNAH

A Painting by Stanislaw Kaczor Batowski

REMARKS

Hon. Lindsey LaPointe

IL State Representative, 19th District

HYMN OF THE MORAVIAN NUNS OF BETHLEHEM

At the Consecration of Pulaski's Banner

Written by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, 1839

UNVEILING OF POLISH HERITAGE CORRIDOR SIGN

LAYING OF THE WREATH

Polskie drogi

Composed by Andrzej Kurylewicz, 1976

Daniel Szefer

BENEDICTION

Rev. Andrzej Totske, SChr

Pastor, Holy Trinity Polish Mission;

Chaplain, The Polish Museum of America

FINALE

God Bless America





CASIMIR PULASKI

A Biography by Jan M. Lorys

Casimir Pulaski was born in Warsaw, Poland. Named after a Polish saint, his birthday has been established as March 6, 1745. Part of the aristocracy, he was educated on the family estate at Warka, south of Warsaw, and participated in activities befitting his rank and gender. In 1762, he was a page in the court of the Duke of Courland, a vassal of the Polish King. The Duke's court was interned by Russian forces occupying the area. Pulaski was later released and returned to Warka. Based on his experiences of Czarist expansionism, he learned contemporary military tactics. He was also educated in running farming estates, and took part in responsibilities of local and national government, as the aristocracy was the class that defended the State, elected the King, set foreign policy, and oversaw the economy.

THE BAR CONFEDERATION

In 1764, along with his family, he participated in the election of King Stanisław Augustus Poniatowski. The Polish monarchy was elective, not hereditary, and only the nobility, which made up around 14% of the population, had the right to vote. Unfortunately, the system was open to bribery and intimidation. By 1766, a significant part of

the nobility became convinced that the King was a weak monarch, and that the Russian ambassador was directing Polish decisions.

The Polish nobility invoked a Confederation on February 29, 1768, a feudal move consisting of a general mobilization of the nobility when the country was threatened. Based in the southeastern town of Bar, the Bar Confederation counted the Pulaski family amongst its leaders, and young Casimir became one of its military commanders. With the Royal Army divided on its loyalty, and as the Confederation did not maintain a standing army, its forces were composed of retainers representing various degrees of military training and equipment. Their well trained and equipped opponents, the Russian Army, was one of the largest in Europe. Relying on what would later be known as guerilla tactics, the Confederation forces, knowing the terrain and grouped as small bands, attacked elements of the Russian Army. Sometimes they would form larger bands and try to fight larger numbers of Russians. Sometimes they won, sometimes they lost.

Pulaski was one of the luckier commanders, winning some battles, but losing others. Though of an offensive frame of mind, he became proficient at fighting defensive battles, first at Berdyczów, then at Okopy Świętej Trójcy, or the bastions of the Holy Trinity. The war ebbed and flowed. Bar was captured early on, but the Confederation found a temporary ally in the Austrian monarchy. France, under the old maxim, the enemy of my enemy is my friend, secretly supported the Poles as a counterweight to the Russians. Reinforced, Pulaski captured the shrine at Częstochowa. Pulaski held off the Russians, but this was not a decisive victory to end the war.

Confederation forces found refuge in Austria, which remained neutral. Here, the leaders of the Confederation proposed a plan to kidnap the King and have him become the figurehead of the struggle and rally the country to defeat the invaders of Poland. Pulaski at first opposed the plan, but eventually saw that the nation had to rally around someone. He stipulated that no harm come to the King.



The abduction on November 3, 1771 happened in such an amateurish style, that the king managed to outwit his captors. The Russians quickly declared that the king had been the target of an assassination attempt and named Pulaski as the chief instigator and accused him of attempted regicide. The botched kidnapping turned Austria against the Confederation, and lost support among those European powers that had been secretly supporting the Confederation against Russia. Pulaski, seeing that further struggle was pointless, ordered his troops in Częstochowa and other detachments to disband. He left Poland for good. In 1773, the Polish Royal Tribunal sentenced him to death *in absentia* and stripped him of "all dignity and honors."

Pulaski found himself in exile in the Ottoman Empire, then at war with Czarist Russia. He convinced the Ottoman Turks to organize a force of exiled Poles with him in command, but the Turks surrendered before these troops could be organized and trained. He barely managed to escape to Marseilles. In France, he tried to obtain a commission in the French Army, but was rebuffed. Stripped of his lands and income and with no other prospects of employment, he was placed in debtor's prison until his friends were able to raise funds to pay off his debts.



THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Fortunately, there were other wars going on in the world. It was 1777, and the American Revolution against King George III had been going on for nearly two years. At first, the Colonists fought to preserve their rights as British subjects, but on July 4, 1776, they declared independence from the British crown. As a fighter against the Czar of Russia and perceived of regicide, Pulaski had a certain renown among those recruiting European experts to train the Continental forces. The American agents were Silas Dean and Benjamin Franklin. Franklin wrote a letter of introduction to the American Commander in Chief, presenting Pulaski in glowing terms: "Count Pulaski of Poland, an officer famous throughout Europe for his bravery and conduct in defense of the liberties of his country against the three great invading powers of Russia, Austria... may be highly useful to our service."



Pulaski arrived in Marblehead, Massachusetts, near Boston on July 23, 1777, as a volunteer. He wrote ahead to General Washington, famously stating: "I came here, where freedom is being defended, to serve it and to live or die for it." Although Washington did not have the authority to appoint Pulaski to any position or salary, Pulaski appeared at the Continental Army headquarters, near Philadelphia on August 20, 1777. While still without a command or rank, he participated in his first battle at Brandywine. When the tide began to turn against the American forces, Washington gave Pulaski command of his 30-man bodyguard to scout out what the British were attempting. The reconnaissance mission discovered that the British outflanked the Americans and



planned to cut off their line of withdrawal. Washington told Pulaski to hold off the British with his 30 horsemen and any infantry that would fight until the army could retreat. This Pulaski did, allowing the main Army to escape in rather good order, and incidentally, saved the life of Washington. Had Washington been killed or captured, the Revolutionary cause would have died out, because the Americans did not have anyone with his prestige and determination.

On September 15, 1777, Congress issued orders commissioning Count Pulaski a Brigadier General and in charge of the few hundred men in the four regiments of American cavalry. The next day, Brigadier General Pulaski, doing a job normally performed by a lieutenant, spotted British forces moving towards the American lines. Heeding Pulaski's warnings issued in French and Polish, Washington organized for battle. However, severe weather discouraged both sides from engaging.

On October 4, 1777, he fought at Germantown, the last battle before both sides went into winter camps. Pulaski and his cavalry spent the winter of 1777/78 in the Valley Forge area. Pulaski, who had fought the Russians in Poland in the winter months, argued that military operations should continue. However, he was overruled and instead trained his four cavalry regiments. The American cavalry was not considered a decisive arm of battle. Rather than being a screening force, to keep the enemy from finding out your intentions, the regiments were used as escorts for supply columns, dispatch riders and bodyguards for the higher officers. Pulaski rewrote the cavalry regulations based on his experiences. He even tried to get the Americans to adopt the lance.

With winter coming to an end, General Anthony Wayne, one of the better junior generals of the Continental Army, was sent on a foraging mission to gather supplies. He requested support from the cavalry. On February 29, 1778, 50 horsemen led by Pulaski convinced the British that they were being attacked by a much larger force. The British retreated back into Pennsylvania.

Despite his good relations with the senior American officers, Pulaski and other foreigners were resented by some American who thought that they should hold higher ranks. Also, while Pulaski spoke a few languages, English was not one of them; often, his orders were misinterpreted or ignored. Congress was always behind in paying the soldiers and reimbursing the commanders for their expenses. Pulaski's request to arm his cavalry with lances was also denied. Under such conditions, Pulaski resigned his command and left the cavalry under the command of Colonel Michael Kovats, a Hungarian volunteer.

At Yorktown in Virginia, Pulaski met with General Horatio Gates, who recommended that Pulaski organize a new unit that would act independently and according to his desires. This unit, a mixture of cavalry and infantry, would be named Pulaski's Cavalry Legion. The unit was filled with European volunteers and some Americans and headquartered in Baltimore. It numbered about 330, mostly infantry. Due to Congress' chronic financial shortages, Pulaski supported the unit from his personal fortune. The Legion received a standard from the Moravian Sisters, a Christian religious grouping.

The Legion's first mission was to defend Egg Harbor, New Jersey, near present day Atlantic City. Without artillery, this was a mission beyond the capability of the Legion. The British force, made up of American Loyalists, was led by a deserter from the Legion. They launched a surprise attack on the infantry, killing 50 in their sleep and taking few prisoners. Pulaski led the Cavalry in a counter maneuver and drove off





the attackers. From here, the Legion was transferred to lower New York in a campaign against American Loyalists and Native Americans supported by the English. He was unhappy that his European trained soldiers were best used against British regulars and that feeding the right fodder to the mounts was a constant problem.

Pulaski and his Legion were rescued by the British decision to hold in the North and take the offensive to the Southern colonies. On February 2, 1779, he was ordered to build up his Legion and to move to South Carolina. Pulaski arrived with his cavalry in Charleston on May 8, 1779. The city was threatened by the British under Brigadier General Prevost. Pulaski launched a series of attacks that stopped the British and also stopped the city officials of Charleston from surrendering to the British.

While Pulaski suffered from malaria in the South, he remained on active duty. The American commander, General Benjamin Lincoln, reinforced by the French Army and Navy, decided to retake Savannah from the English. The plan was to cutoff the city from British naval power by means of the French fleet under the command of Admiral Charles Hector d'Estaing. The American and French armies were to prevent the British from

escaping and stopping any help that might come. Hopefully, the garrison would be starved into surrendering. Pulaski was placed in charge of the American and French cavalry. His missions were to prevent the British from going out into the countryside for food and to scout for any British units coming to the aid of Savannah.

Unfortunately, a large British fleet was reported to be sailing towards the South and Admiral D'Estaing decided for an assault rather than a siege. Plans were made for an all-out assault to take Savannah. Again, treachery was afoot. An American Loyalist, posing as an American soldier, warned the British. During the attack, Admiral D'Estaing was wounded and the French forces wavered. Pulaski led his cavalry to rally the French and was wounded by grapeshot. Taken off the battlefield, he never regained consciousness. He was placed on the brig the *WASP* to be taken to Charleston for better medical treatment. On October 11, 1779, he died aboard the *WASP*. Knowing that Czarist Russia's reward for Pulaski, either dead or alive, might be taken up by the British, they reported the body being buried at sea. In truth, he was buried at the Greenwich plantation, near Savannah, Georgia. His remains were disinterred in 1853, and placed in Casimir Pulaski Monument in Monterrey Square in the historic center of Savannah the following year.

Illustrations:

Postcard images featuring Pulaski from the 1939 series, *Pictures from the Glorious Days of the Polish-American Fraternity*, by Arthur Szyk. *From the PMA Archives Postcard Collections*

Color photographs of the Pulaski Monument in Savannah, Georgia, with detail. *From the PMA Photography Archives Collections*



RICHARD J. DURBIN

ILLINOIS

MAJORITY WHIP

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1304

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,
NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

March 6, 2023

Dear Friends:

It is my pleasure to welcome you this morning to the Polish Museum of America to celebrate Pulaski Day. This gathering is a special opportunity to recognize the great work of the Polish Museum of America and the life of General Casimir Pulaski.

As you celebrate the life and legacy of General Casimir Pulaski, it is appropriate to honor his courageous service to both Poland and the United States. Pulaski's contributions to our nation's fight for independence have earned him a special place in history, and his memory continues to inspire us to strive for a better future.

I commend the Polish Museum of America for its dedication to preserving and promoting Polish culture and heritage. Your commitment to educating future generations about the rich history of Poland and its people is truly admirable. It is also timely amid Poland's unwavering support for democracy and freedom as Ukraine defends against Russia's brutal invasion. The kindness of the Polish people in welcoming Ukrainian refugees with open arms and providing materiel support has been admirable.

I wish you a happy and meaningful Pulaski Day celebration. May this day be filled with pride, joy, and renewed commitment to the values and ideals that General Pulaski embodied.

Very truly yours,

Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator

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(309) 786-5173

250 W. CHERRY STREET
SUITE 115-D
CARBONDALE, IL 62901
(618) 351-1122

durbin.senate.gov



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF CHICAGO

LORI E. LIGHTFOOT
MAYOR

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Chicago is home to a proud and vibrant Polish American community that has undoubtedly impacted culture and industry by influencing the arts and education, business and government, social service, and scientific and technological advancements near and far; and

WHEREAS, Casmir Pulaski, known as the "Father of the American Cavalry," was a military leader who fought for independence and freedom in Poland and against British troops during the Revolutionary War in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Pulaski's heroic efforts on the battlefield earned him the title of Brigadier General and the first Commander of the American Cavalry; and

WHEREAS, Polish Americans who had faced hardships championed Casimir Pulaski as a Polish American hero, and in 1977 the Polish American Congress successfully lobbied to designate the first Monday of March as Casmir Pulaski Day; and

WHEREAS, many tributes to Casmir Pulaski can be found around Illinois including Pulaski County, the Pulaski International School in Chicago, and Chicago's well-known Pulaski Road; and

WHEREAS, the Polish Museum of America was founded in 1935 and opened to the public in 1937 with the mission of promoting the legacy, traditions, and history of Polish Americans in Chicago and beyond; and

WHEREAS, Pulaski Day is celebrated on the first Monday of March to commemorate Casmir Pulaski's birthday and is commemorated by the Polish Museum of America and celebrated across the city with parades, gatherings, and ceremonies:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LORI E. LIGHTFOOT, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO, do hereby proclaim March 6, 2023 to be CASMIR PULASKI DAY IN CHICAGO in recognition General Pulaski's heroic efforts and the many contributions of Polish Americans.

Dated this 6th day of March, 2023.

A blue ink signature of Lori E. Lightfoot, written in a cursive style.
Mayor



Konsulat Generalny
Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej
w Chicago

Chicago, 24 lutego 2023 r.

Pan Ryszard Owsiany
Prezes Muzeum Polskiego w Ameryce

Pani Małgorzata Kot
Dyrektor Wykonawcza
Muzeum Polskiego w Ameryce

*Szanowny Panie Prezesie,
Szanowna Pani Dyrektor,*

Dziękuję Państwu za możliwość udziału w obchodach Dnia Pułaskiego w Muzeum Polskim w Ameryce. Jest to szczególny czas nie tylko w kalendarzu Polonii ale też całych Stanów Zjednoczonych Ameryki: oddajemy bowiem hołd znakomitemu synowi naszej Ojczyzny, bohaterowi narodu polskiego i amerykańskiego. Jestem dumny, że w obecności liderów Polonii Amerykańskiej, przedstawicieli władz stanu Illinois oraz miasta Chicago mogę wskazywać Państwa jako symbol niezmiennego dbałości o pamięć i dziedzictwo naszego Narodu.

Kazimierz Pułaski, zapamiętany dzięki swym militarnym talentom, jest dla nas wzorem bohaterstwa, patriotyzmu i honoru żołnierskiego. Myśląc o zasługach generała dla Polski i Stanów Zjednoczonych myślimy przede wszystkim o człowieku walczącym o realizację pewnej idei. Dla Pułaskiego i jego współbraci w mundurach wolność nie była ulotnym marzeniem, ale czymś za co warto przelać krew i oddać życie. Generał kawalerzysta jest dla nas wyjątkowym symbolem, gdyż jego męstwo do dziś ceni się na dwóch kontynentach, jego życiorys wzbudza szacunek dwóch narodów i od dwóch stuleci łączy Polskę i Amerykę.

W Państwa Muzeum możemy znaleźć historie nie tylko bohaterów minionych wojen, ale i tych którzy zasłużyli się dla budowania małych ojczyzn na amerykańskiej ziemi. Pielęgnowanie pamięci o budowniczych polskiej diaspory ma równie istotne znaczenie co katalogowanie zasług weteranów.


1530 North Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60610



Jako kustosze narodowej dumy z dokonań naukowych, literackich czy politycznych doskonale rozumiem Państwo znaczenie swojej misji dla zachowania polskości. Cieszę się, że Konsulat Generalny RP w Chicago od lat może Państwa w tej pracy wspierać. Niezwykle cenię sobie to partnerstwo i chciałbym, by rozkwitało w następnych latach.

Dziękuję Muzeum Polskiemu w Ameryce za pielęgnowanie historii i tradycji Polski oraz propagowanie wiedzy o zasłużonych bohaterach naszej ojczyzny.

Życzę Państwu dalszych sukcesów oraz radości z obchodów dzisiejszego święta.


Paweł Zyzak
Konsul Generalny

1530 North Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60610





James J. Robaczewski, ALMI, FIC, ACS
NATIONAL PRESIDENT

March 2023

Dear Friends of The Polish Museum of America,

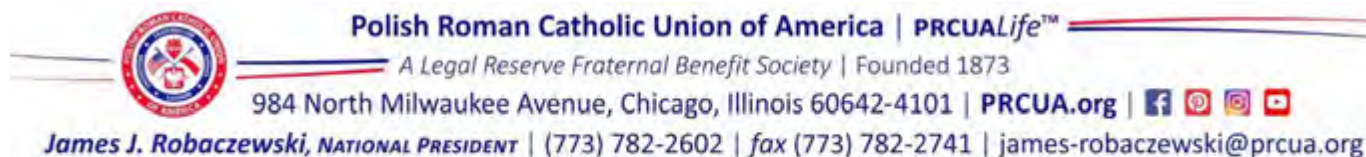
Since 1977, the state of Illinois has been celebrating General Casimir Pulaski Day. Celebrating the man who, through his untraditional tactics, saved the life of George Washington at the battle of Brandywine. Mourning the loss of his life at Savannah, while he was fighting for the freedom of his adopted country.

On Pulaski Day, we, Poles, have a chance to reflect on the achievements of our ancestors, some famous like Pulaski and Kosciuszko or others who are our close relatives who came to the United States to escape oppression. Those people had great internal fortitude to withstand the challenges they were facing in a new world, as they forged futures and secured their families. They, too, should be considered great patriots for what they did to help create this great country of ours.

With this in mind, let us look to places where we, as Americans, can assist the oppressed and help them achieve the freedoms that we enjoy in our nation.

Fraternally yours,

James J Robaczewski, ALMI, FIC, ACS
President





OFFICE OF THE CITY TREASURER
MELISSA CONYEARS-ERVIN • TREASURER • CITY OF CHICAGO

Re: Pulaski Day

Monday, March 6, 2023

Polish Museum of America

Dear President Owsiany and Directors of the Polish Museum of America,

I want to take this opportunity to wish you and yours a very happy Pulaski Day. Today, all Illinoisans come together to recognize General Casmir Pulaski's courageous legacy, whether fighting against Russian aggression in Poland or serving with George Washington as the "Father of the American Cavalry."

Throughout his life, Casmir Pulaski demonstrated that no matter who you are, or where you come from, those who love freedom, and their country can overcome tremendous odds to make a difference.

Chicago is proud to host the largest Polish community outside of Poland, and Pulaski Day reminds us of the important role Polish immigrants have played in the history of our great city and state, and indeed, throughout the United States.

I'm very proud to join with the Polish Museum of America and the residents of Chicago in celebrating the life and accomplishments of General Pulaski, and all that he gave to our city and nation.

With thanks and respect,

City Treasurer Melissa Conyears-Ervin



Save the Date! October 1, 2023 - **PRCUA 150th Anniversary Celebration**



*Proudly Supporting the
2023 Pulaski Day Celebration*

Polish Roman Catholic Union of America
founder, sustaining financial contributor and home of
The Polish Museum of America

FROM THE PRCUA NATIONAL EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

James J. Robaczewski
PRESIDENT

Micheline I. Jaminski
VICE PRESIDENT

Agnieszka J. Bastrzyk
SECRETARY-TREASURER



POLISH ROMAN CATHOLIC UNION OF AMERICA

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202302-PMA-PD



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Director, Fryderyk Chopin Polish School

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Veterans Association of America*

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Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture

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Director, First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association

Maria Baran
Director, Holy Trinity Polish School

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United Polish Club of Elyria

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Rev. Andrzej Bartos
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Congress - Illinois Division*

Colleen Bonkowski
Director, PRCUA District 10



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*Director, Ignacy Domeyko Polish Library,
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Anna Buchmann
Director, Polish Museum in Rapperswil, Switzerland

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Hon. Nikki Budzinski
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Hon. Walter Burnett, Jr.
Alderman, City of Chicago 27th Ward

Thomas & Ann Burzycki
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Pastor, St. Stanislaus Kostka

Marcella Bush
President, Polish Educational & Cultural Foundation

Hon. Nick Caiafa
Mayor, Schiller Park

Krzysztof Calka
*Chief Specialist, Division III for Financing Ministry
Programs, Department of Finance, Ministry of Culture
& National Heritage, Poland*

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Illinois Governor Daniel Walker signing the Pulaski Day bill
at the Polish Museum of America, September 9, 1973.
From the PMA Photography Archives Collections



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Dear General

I have taken my quarters about seven miles
from Savannah, at the widow Gibbons's house, on the
way to Ogeechee's ferry, it is very essential post, the
enemies got an advanced one about two miles from
the town, that they have posted there since last
night, being alarmed by the detachment which was
on their lines yesterday. it will be necessary that
my detachments should be reinforced not only by
the Cavalry, but with some infantry to give me
the facility of attacking their pickets. I shall pursue
two miles further on the Sunbury's road to keep a
free communication with Count D'Arting, the enemies
send on that road very often some parties.

I have the honour to be
with respect Dear General

your most humble
De: d: Pulaski

September the 14th 1779
at three o'clock in the morning.

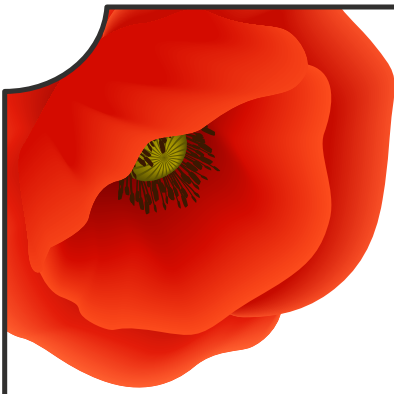
Handwritten letter by Pulaski, reporting to General Benjamin Lincoln on the enemy at Savannah, on
September 14, 1779 – less than one month before the assault in which he was mortally wounded.

From the PMA Archives Gen. Kazimierz Pulaski Collection



The Polish Heritage Corridor designation was passed by the Illinois General Assembly on March 31, 2022 and signed into law by Governor JB Pritzker on June 10, 2022. Thanks to State Representative Delia Ramirez and State Senator Cristina Pacione-Zayas who sponsored the legislation, and ensured HB 5581 was passed by both Chambers. The Polish Museum of America and the Polish American Chamber of Commerce supported the legislation and worked with the legislators for the bill's passage. The bill designates the Polish Heritage Corridor as part of Illinois Route 21, otherwise known as Milwaukee Avenue, that begins at Sangamon Street in Chicago, just south of the PMA, and ends with Greenwood Road in the Village of Niles. The sign was designed by artist and graphic designer Tania Chwala. At today's Pulaski Day Commemoration state officials unveil the sign that will be posted along the Milwaukee Avenue Polish Heritage Corridor.





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