

1966-2015

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Tickets Available at the Shrine & on the Festival Grounds during the Festival. Drawing Sunday, Sept. 13 at 7:30 PM on the Main Stage You need not be present to win. The Pauline Fathers Welcome You to the

50th Annual **Polish American** Family Festival & Country Fair 2015

Sept. 5, 6, 7 (Labor Day Weekend) Sept. 12 & 13 11:00 AM - 8:00 PM

WWW.POLISHAMERICANFESTIVAL.ORG



The National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa 654 Ferry Road ♦ PO Box 2049 ♦ Doylestown, PA 18901 Tel: (215) 345-0600 ♦ Fax: (215) 348-2148 Web: www.czestochowa.us ♦ Email: info@czestochowa.us

The Pauline Fathers & Brothers

Wish to thank the members of the 2015 Festival Committee and all the Festival Volunteers for their dedication, hard work & support in organizing the 50th Annual Polish-American Family Festival and Country Fair.

We also wish to thank all the Festival Volunteers, who made a commitment and dedicated their time during the past 50 years to make the Annual Festival possible!

We remember in prayer all those Volunteers who have already passed. Be assured that you will remain in our hearts and memories.

Without all of YOU, there would be no festival!

THANK YOU!



The Committee for the 2015 Polish American Family Festival & Country Fair

wishes to express its sincere appreciation to the following Companies & individuals for their generous donation of products, equipment, services and support for this year's Festival.





Polish-American Family Festival & Country Fair 1966 - 2015

The 'original' festival was a simple picnic that was held by volunteers, their families and friends during the year of the Shrine's dedication. As a good time had by all at this event, it inspired its continuation and expansion for the following year. The Festival was the brainchild of Dr. Raymond Chase and his wife, Virginia along with Father Michael Zembruski, the founder of the Shrine. Their idea was to create an ethnic celebration combined with an old-fashioned country fair.

Back then, events of this type were not the norm, so despite the hard work of many volunteers, questions remained as to its success. Doubts were quickly allayed when thousands of people arrived to join in the festivities at this relatively unknown shrine. Pennsylvania State Police had to be called in to handle the miles-





long traffic jams. Brother (now Father) Edward Volz, who was responsible for food service, could hardly keep up with the overwhelming demand for kielbasa sandwiches. No hot dogs were served!

The festival included a professional art exhibit of Polish artists, which graced the walls of a historic Bucks County barn located on the shrine grounds. In the background, strains of Chopin works could be heard continuously played on an Aeolian grand player piano. Noted helicopter aviation pioneer and *National Medal of Technology and Innovation* recipient, *Mr. Frank Piasecki*, graciously donated a helicopter to give rides to excited guests. The lively beat of the *Polish-American String Band* had many visitors toe tapping and has remained a regular event each year.

The original festival was simply called the Annual Festival and Country Fair. But in the second year, it was renamed the Polish Festival and Country Fair, and was moved to the upper grounds where the new Shrine basilica had been built. To better accommodate the ever-increasing number of visitors, several years later the festival dates were expanded to include a second weekend. Still later, the name was shortened to simply the Polish-American Festival. To call attention to its Polish American origin and to emphasis the family nature of the festival, in 2010 we have again renamed it, now calling it the **Polish American Family Festival and Country Fair**.

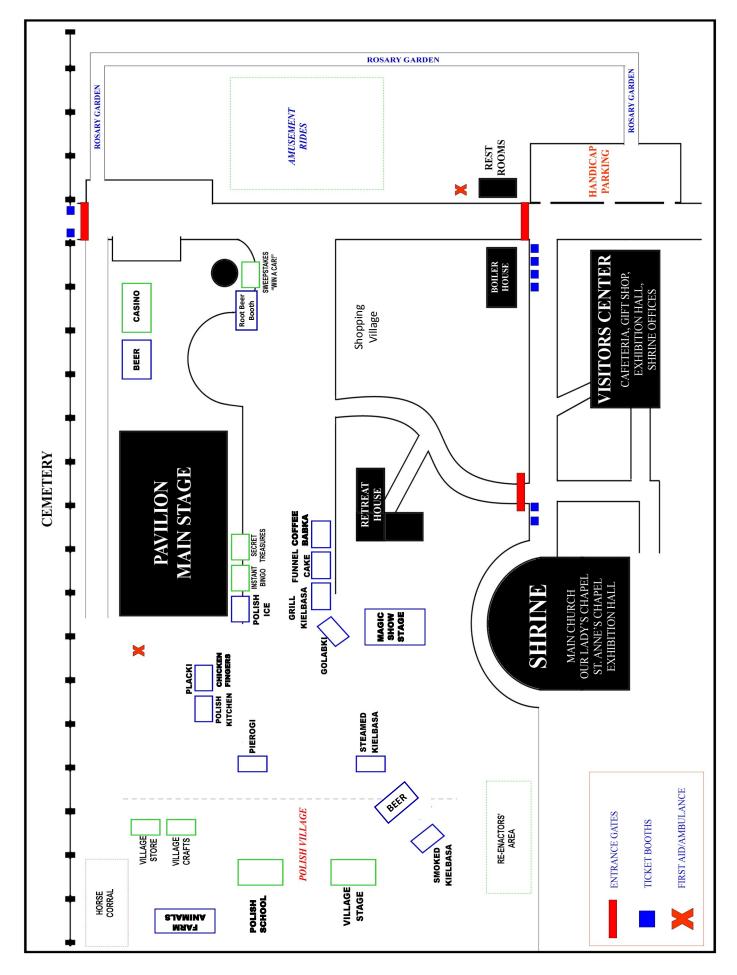
One of our most notable visitors over the years was **President Ronald Reagan**, who enjoyed a Placki (Potato Pancakes) on the festival grounds

Many individuals continue to volunteer innumerable hours to create this festival which is one of the oldest and largest ethnic events of its kind... Some of the current volunteers are 2nd or 3rd generation. Over the years the festival has grown in its offering but the same basic format remains: to create a cultural and fun atmosphere for the entire family, charge fair prices and treat every visitor as a guest.

We trust that the time that you spend with us will provide you with long lasting memories.



(Contributed by: Chris Magnuson)





Saturday, September 5, 2015

Walt Wagner and the Polka Serenaders 12:00 noon - 4:00pm / Main Stage

DJ Joe Narodowski 12:00 noon - 4:00pm / Village Stage

The Boys 4:00 - 8:00pm / Village Stage

Goralsi (Poland) 6:00 - 8:00pm / Main Stage

Also performing throughout the day... Belmont's Magic Show: 2:00 & 5:00pm Give & Take Jugglers present: The Little Circus: 3:00 & 6:00pm Dzianiszanie (Chicago) Jedliniok Polish Folk Dance Ensemble (Wroclaw, Poland) MAKI Children's Polish Dance Ensemble (New Jersey)

Sunday, September 6, 2015

Svitanya 12:00 - 12:30pm / Main Stage

DJ Grzegorz 12:00 noon - 4:00pm / Village Stage

> **Tamburitzans** 1:00 - 3:00pm / Main Stage

John Gora and Korona 4:00 - 8:00pm / Village Stage

Goralsi (Poland) 6:00 - 8:00pm / Main Stage

Also performing throughout the day... Belmont's Magic Show: 2:00 & 5:00pm Give & Take Jugglers present: The Little Circus: 3:00 & 6:00pm Dzianiszanie (Chicago) Jedliniok Polish Folk Dance Ensemble (Wroclaw, Poland) MAKI Children's Polish Dance Ensemble (New Jersey)

Monday, September 7, 2015

John Gora and Gorale 12:00 noon - 4:00pm / Main Stage

DJ Grzegorz 2:00 - 6:00pm / Village Stage

Tony Blazonczyk's New Phaze 4:00 - 8:00pm / Main Stage

Also performing throughout the day... Belmont's Magic Show: 2:00 & 5:00pm Jedliniok Polish Folk Dance Ensemble (Wroclaw, Poland)

Saturday, September 12, 2015

Dennis Polisky and the Maestro's Men 12:00 noon - 4:00pm / Main Stage

DJ Joe Narodowski 12:00 noon - 4:00pm / Village Stage

> **Polka Family** 4:00 - 8:00pm / Main Stage

Effect Band 5:00 - 10:00pm / Village Stage

Also performing throughout the day... Belmont;'s Magic Show: 2:00 & 5:00pm Give & Take Jugglers present: The Little Circus: 3:00 & 6:00pm Tanew Polish Folk Dance (Bilgoraj, Poland)

Sunday, September 13, 2015

Polish American String Band 12:45 - 2:30pm / Main Stage

Pectus (Poland) 3:00 - 5:00pm / Main Stage

T.K.O. 4:00 - 8:00pm / Village Stage

Also performing throughout the day... Belmont's Magic Show: 2:00 & 5:00pm Give & Take Jugglers present: The Little Circus: 3:00 & 6:00pm Tanew Polish Folk Dance (Bilgoraj, Poland)

Other Events Taking Place During the Festival...

LIVING HISTORY GROUPS

The Banner of Jasna Gora (17th Century) World War II History Group

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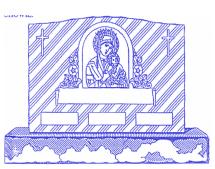
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from Czestochowa in Doylestown, PA in the Polish Language

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Sunday 12:30 P.M. to 1:30 P.M. - 860 AM Polish Language Variety Program with hostess Barbara Ilnicka

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In memory of Lou Rakszawski

Longtime Shrine volunteer, usher and Festival Committee Chairman

With love from his wife Ann Rakszawski, his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchild











Our Lady of Czestochowa Youth Group



Our Lady of Czestochowa Youth Group thanks you for your support as we fundraise our way to World Youth Day 2016 in Krakow, Poland.

Please come to the **Prayer Bond Tent** on the festival grounds to obtain your prayer bond where we will pray for your intention while we are at World Youth Day.

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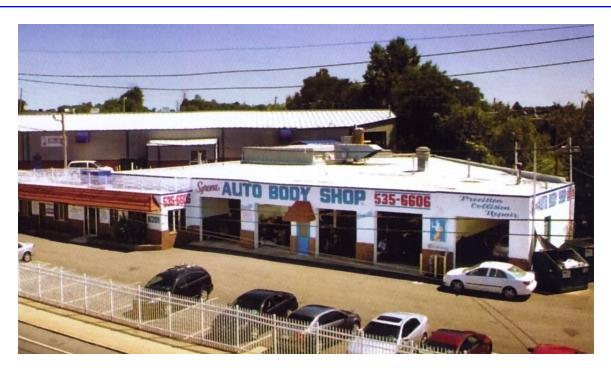
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The **Banner of Jasna Góra** is a living history/educational group which portrays the Polish Lithuanian Commonwealth during the 17th Century. Nominally based at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa in Doylestown, we portray both military and civilian aspects of Polish society during that period. We are also affiliated with the Sienkiewicz Society and the Czarniecki Division.

We are available to provide living history demonstrations as well as displays and lectures on the history of the Polish Lithuanian Commonwealth for schools and cultural and civic organizations. To contact us, please contact Richard Golazeski at <u>rlgol613@aol.com</u> or by phone (732) 249-0983.

On Saturday Sept 4, 2010 the Unit's banner was blessed during the Festival's opening ceremony on the main stage.





Gift Basket Donations

A special thank you to all the Sponsors/Donors who contributed to the Gift Basket Raffle.

Gift Basket Raffle will take place several times a day at the Main Stage. Be sure to get your tickets for a chance to win some really nice prizes!

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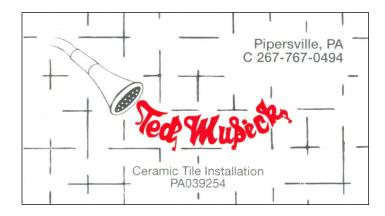
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