Recruitment poster by Władysław T. Benda, published in the USA in 191

The Polish American Congress, Wisconsin Division

cordially invites you to the annual luncheon in celebration of the

POLISH INDEPENDENCE DAY
VETERANS DAY

featuring

Congressman Zablocki Award Ceremony

See back of this invitation for the
2026 award recipients and other 2026 honorees

Sunday, November 8, 2026

The Polish Center of Wisconsin
6941 S. 68th Street, Franklin WI 53132

Cash Bar/Silent Auction begins at **12:00 P.M.,** luncheon at **1:00 P.M.**
Tickets are $60.00 per each adult, and $20.00 per each child 12 and under

Please use the **RSVP form** included in this mailing to indicate the number of attendees, choices of vegetarian/non-vegetarian dinners, and seating preferences.

The RSVP form and payments must be received no later than October 28, 2026.

Following its 80th anniversary in 2024
the Polish American Congress, Wisconsin Division commemorates1060 years of Polish Christianity and celebrates Polish contributions to 250 years of American history

As one of the most active PAC state divisions, and we take great pride in its many accomplishments. Among these are our members' participation in the historic efforts leading to Poland's ascension to NATO in 1999, the design of the informative booklet "*Do You Know Poland?*" and the organization of memorable events commemorating significant milestones in Polish history and heritage.

To help us continue these important activities and support our future initiatives, please consider making a sponsorship donation and/or placing an ad in our 2026 commemorative program booklet.

Advertisement Rates per Size (HxW):

$200 - inside/outside cover (8½ x 5½);
$150 - full page (8½ x 5½)
$100 - half page (4¼ x 5½);
$70 - quarter page (2¼ x 5½);
$20 per line - patron or memorial listing

Please send your print-ready ad artwork to ***irfra111@gmail.com*** by October 28, 2026

Sponsorship opportunities (with included benefits):

St. John Paul II Level	$2,500+	up to 8 paid guests
Thaddeus Kosciuszko Level	$1,000+	up to 6 paid guests
Casimir Pulaski Level	$500+	up to 4 paid guests
Marie Skłodowska Curie Level	$250+	up to 2 paid guests
Ignacy Paderewski Level	$125+	up to 1 paid guests

Each donation includes one paid PAC WI membership for 2027.
Names of all sponsors will be listed in the program booklet

Please send checks in the enclosed return envelope. *Thank you for your support!*

Additional information will be available online at **www.pacwisconsin.com**
Direct any remaining questions to **Irena Frączek** at **(414) 439-3830** or **irfra111@gmail.com**

Congressman Clement Zablocki Civic Achievement Award

Awarded annually by the Polish American Congress, Wisconsin Division

Archbishop Emeritus Jerome E. Listecki

Widely known as the first Polish-American Archbishop of Milwaukee, Archbishop Jerome Listecki was born into a Polish family and raised in the historic parish of St. Michael the Archangel Church on Chicago's Southeast Side. His Polish upbringing helped shape his deep commitment to faith, family, service, and hard work. Throughout his distinguished ministry, Archbishop Listecki has maintained strong connections with Polish communities in both Milwaukee and Chicago, serving as a spiritual leader, celebrant, and valued presence at numerous religious celebrations and community events. The Polish American community has also greatly appreciated his leadership of pilgrimages to Poland, helping to strengthen the spiritual and cultural bonds between Polish Americans and their ancestral homeland. As we commemorate the 1060th anniversary of Poland's Baptism this year, the occasion is particularly meaningful for recognizing Archbishop Listecki's longstanding support for Poland and Polish heritage. On this Veterans Day, we will also pay tribute to his dedicated military chaplaincy service in the U.S. Army Reserves.

Dorota Grejner-Brzezińska

A native of Olsztyn, Poland, she serves as Vice Chancellor for Research at the University of Wisconsin-System and as a faculty member in the UW-Madison Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering. An internationally recognized expert in the Global Positioning System (GPS) and Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS), she has distinguished herself through exceptional achievements in research, and an entrepreneurial spirit. She makes us profoundly proud as a cutting-edge addition to the long tradition of Polish-born scientists, engineers, inventors , whose contributions have helped advance our nation and strengthen the standing of Polish-American community.

Steven Karcz

A descendant of one of the first four settlers who arrived in the Pulaski area from Milwaukee in 1877, Steven serves as Vice President of the Polish Heritage Society of Northeast Wisconsin and as a lead researcher and curator for the Pulaski Area Historical Society. Steven's dedicated service exemplifies the very spirit of civic achievement. Through tireless historical and genealogical research, public talks, virtual tours, and social media programs, he has created a lasting resource documenting the Polish-American experience and tools for appreciating the important role that Polish immigrants and their descendants have played in shaping the history of our state and our nation.

John P. Kaminski - Special Recognition

As we commemorate the 250th anniversary of the United States, we proudly recognize Professor Kaminski's extraordinary contributions to preserving, interpreting, and sharing the history of America's founding. A grandchild of a Polish immigrant from Chicago, he is a distinguished constitutional scholar widely known for assembling the monumental collection entitled *Documentary History of the Ratification of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights* and for founding/directing the *Center for the Study of the American Constitution* (CSAC) in the UW-Madison Dept. of History. Through his scholarship, teaching, and public engagement, he has ensured that the ideas and principles underlying the American constitutional experiment remain accessible to scholars, educators, and general public.

Bolesław Kochanowski - Lifetime Membership

A Wisconsin sculptor, third-generation master blacksmith, former president of the Polish Heritage Awareness Society of Central Wisconsin (PHAS), and longtime member of PAC Wisconsin, Bolesław has devoted his life to creating sculpture, architectural metalwork, and monumental public art that often reflects the ideals shared by Poland and the United States. Two of his particularly meaningful creations are the monument *For* Your Freedom and Ours (Za Wolność Waszą i Naszą) in Stevens Point, Wisconsin, and the bronze bust of General Casimir Pulaski at Jefferson Barracks Park in St. Louis, Missouri. Through lasting landmarks such as these, Kochanowski preserves important chapters of Polish-American history to be remembered and appreciated by generations to come.