



of Berks County

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

[www.facebook.com/pahabc](https://www.facebook.com/pahabc)

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

The Mission of this Association is to foster and preserve the history and heritage of the Berks County Polish-American community and, in conjunction with other organizations, to promote and to share public awareness and appreciation of our Polish heritage through cultural, educational and social activities.

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GoggleWorks Center for the Arts  
201 Washington Street Room 509  
Reading, PA 19601

# HISTORY

## THE POLISH AMERICAN HERITAGE ASSOCIATION of Berks County (PAHABC) was founded in 1992.

Since its inception, PAHABC has sponsored and participated in events designed to spotlight Polish culture, traditions and heritage. We also have brought recognition to the accomplishment of people of Polish descent.

These included an ethnic artifacts exhibit at the Reading Public Museum and the Ethnic Diversity of Berks County in the Berks History Center.

Over the years the organization has sponsored numerous polka dances and bus trips. We have designed floats with Polish-American themes for parades in Berks as well as surrounding counties.

In 2007, PAHABC coordinated the presentation of the movie "It's Happiness," a polka documentary, and offered a workshop on a SZOPKA, a Polish puppet theater, at the Goggle-Works Center for the Arts.

The establishment of the annual Wigilia dinner has been well received by members and non-members.

In 2008, our website was established, and in 2009 our first Polish Open Golf Tournament was held.

The sale of two historic Polish-American clubs, the Knights of St. Casimir and the Polish Falcons, Nest 55, both founded by the Polish immigrants who settled on the south side of Reading, gave impetus to the establishment of the Polish-American Cultural Center. In 2005, PAHABC and the Berks County Polish-American Board of Education joined together to create the Center in order to preserve artifacts associated with the history of the people of Polish descent.

Exhibits presented included memories of First Holy Communion, customs and traditions associated with Christmas, Easter, Dozynki (harvest festival), original art from Poland, art depictions of our Lady of Czestochowa in various mediums, history of the Bernardine Sisters in Berks County, Discover Poland, Marie Curie, Frederic Chopin.

Currently the Cultural Center is supported entirely by The Polish American Heritage Association.

### Membership Benefits Include:

- PAHABC Newsletter
- PAHABC Sponsored Event Discounts
- Discount on Purchases at PAHABC Cultural Center

### Monthly Meetings held at:

GoggleWorks Center for the Arts  
Room 325 (elevators available)  
201 Washington St., Reading, PA

October thru March - 3rd Sunday - 2:00PM  
April thru September - 3rd Wednesday - 6:00PM

**Polish American Heritage Association Membership Application** (Annual Dues Expire December 31<sup>st</sup>)  
Annual Membership Dues (Please check one): \_\_\_\_\_ \$10.00 Individual \_\_\_\_\_ \$15.00 Family/Same Household

Make check payable to PAHABC and mail to: Mrs. Marilyn Wlazewski, 804 Gibraltar Road, Reading, PA 19606

List Each Individual Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Month & Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Month & Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Month & Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Month & Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Note: Name announced on Sunday during the week of your birthday on the Polka Show (10 am to 1 pm) on WRAW 1340 AM Radio.

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: Home \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ I am interested in being a Volunteer. \_\_\_\_\_ I am interested in serving on a Committee