

Mary Ellen Tyszka Acting President



Mary Ellen Tyszka, a native of Detroit, Michigan, is a graduate of Wayne State University with a degree in Business Administration majoring in Management and minor in Finance. She is an active supporter and promoter of Polish culture. She is very proud of the accomplishments of her two brothers and two sisters, and their children and two great grandnephews.

She is active with the Friends of Polish Art, serving as President for six years and continues to serve on the Board as Financial Secretary. She has co-chaired two American Council for Polish Culture, National Conventions for FPA and three ACPC National Board meetings.

She currently serves as Acting President of American Council for Polish Culture. She has held various positions on the ACPC Board since 1994 including First & Second Vice President, Director, Audit Committee Chair, Investment Committee and Nominating Committee, just to name a few areas of activity.

Mary Ellen was Executive Vice President for the Polish American Congress - Michigan Division for five years and has served as Vice President of American Affairs for four years, and as a National Director for six years. She is on board

of the PAC-MI Charitable Foundation. She serves as assistant Treasurer for the PAC-MI Polish Day Parade Committee and serves on the fund raising committee for the annual Roast of local leaders of Polonia. Mary Ellen received the Central Citizens Pulaski Medal in 2004, for her services to the Polish community.

Orchard Lake Schools is an important part of her activities. In May 2009 she became an Honorary Alumna of the school, and the 2009 "Women of the Year". She's a member of the Chancellors Senate, and has served on the OLS Ladies Day Committee since 1999, chairing three of the fund raising events. She organized the OLS Polish Mission, Friends of the Galeria committee and is currently on the Board. She also is a member of the National Polish Apostolate Committee, under the aegis of Cardinal Adam Maida of Detroit.

She was President of the Grosse Pointe Classical Music League and served as Director, taking advantage of the opportunity to promote Polish composers and local musicians. At her parish church St. Louise de Marillac, she is on the Parish Council and serves as Lector.

She is a retiree of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Michigan, where she held management positions, primarily in Customer Service and Marketing. As a retiree, she served as the Chairperson of the Operations Committee of the BCBSM Retiree Association Board.

She enjoys spending time with her family and all the interesting things they do. She has many diverse activities including membership in an investment club since 1972, reading mystery stories, and traveling the world.

One of her greatest experiences was personally meeting Pope John Paul II in the Vatican in 2003; the second greatest was to attend JP II's beatification in Rome last year. It was the trip of a lifetime.

She was honored in 2004 by the Detroit Central Citizens Committee, and received the General Kazimierz Pulaski Medal for her contributions to Polonia. Last year she received the American Council for Polish Culture Founders Award in Williamsburg Virginia, and this year was honored by Polish American Congress - Michigan Division at their Installation Banquet.

*Wishing all the dear
ACPC member/friends
a happy reunion
at the
66th Annual Convention
and
continued success in our
mutual endeavors*

Mary Heslin