

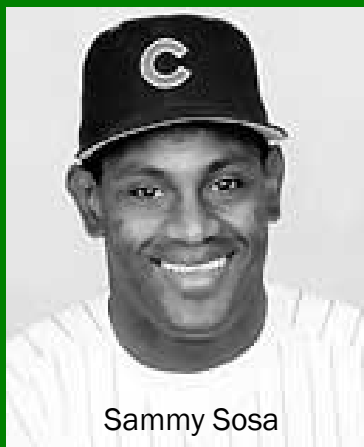


San Luis Obispo
Chamber of Commerce
Diversity Committee

At its best!

S A N L U I S O B I S P O D I V E R S I T Y C O M M I T T E E
N E W S L E T T E R

NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH



Sammy Sosa

Hispanic Heritage Month begins on September 15, the anniversary of independence for five Latin American countries—Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. In addition, Mexico declared its independence on September 16, and Chile on September 18.

The term Hispanic, as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau, refers to Spanish-speaking people in the United States of any race. On the 2000 Census form, people of Spanish/Hispanic/Latino origin could identify themselves as Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, or "other Spanish/Hispanic/Latino." More than 35 million people identified themselves as [Hispanic or Latino](#) on the 2000 Census.

Image from: <http://www.factmonster.com/spot/hhmbio2.html>

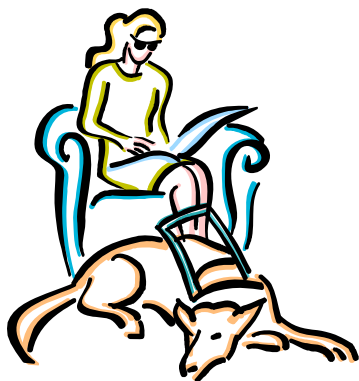
Info from: <http://www.factmonster.com/spot/hhm1.html>

GREETINGS . . .

Enjoy and celebrate some of September and Octobers' diversity celebrations (Proclaimed by the President of the US and other "unofficial" Month celebrations)! Take some time to read this newsletter as well as take the time to inform others about the great history involved! Diversity celebrations for the month of September and October are:

- NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH
- NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT DISABILITY AWARENESS MONTH
- ITALIAN AMERICAN MONTH
- POLISH AMERICAN MONTH
- GERMAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH
- EUROPEAN AMERICAN DAYS

(Info From <http://diversitystore.net>)



October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month

Congress designated each October as National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM). The Office of Disability Employment Policy has the lead in planning NDEAM activities and materials to increase the public's awareness of the contributions and skills of American workers with disabilities. Various programs carried out throughout the month also highlight the specific employment barriers that still need to be addressed and removed.

This effort to educate the American public about issues related to disability and employment actually began in 1945, when Congress enacted a law declaring the first week in October each year "National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week." In 1962, the word "physically" was removed to acknowledge the employment needs and contributions of individuals with all types of disabilities. In 1988, Congress expanded the week to a month and changed the name to "National Disability Employment Awareness Month."

(Info From: <http://www.dol.gov/odep/faqs/ndeam.htm>)



October is Italian American Heritage Month

Federico Fellini, the movie director, once said that "language is culture and culture is the language," and nowhere is this more true than in Italy. There was a time when speaking Italian was considered a crime, but nowadays many Italian Americans are learning Italian to discover more about their family heritage. Looking for ways to identify, understand, and bond with their family's ethnic background, they getting in touch with their family heritage by learning their ancestors' native language.

(Info from: <http://italian.about.com/library/blniahmspecial.htm>)



Things to Do During Polish American Heritage Month

Listed below are suggested activities for your October celebration.

Community Wide

1. **Meet with your local Polish American organizations** to discuss a successful, well-coordinated Polish American Heritage Month event.
2. **Sponsor an event to honor noted men and women of Poland.** During October we mark the death of American Revolutionary War Hero General Casimir Pulaski on October 15th. You can conduct a tribute ceremony in front of a portrait of Pulaski. You can also consider honoring people such as Ignacy Jan Paderewski, Fryderyk Chopin, Marie Skłodowska Curie and others.
3. **Encourage people to display Polish and American flags and Polish American Heritage Month posters in their homes, organizational headquarters, banks, businesses, etc.** Flags, posters and banners help bring attention to the fact that October is National Polish American Heritage Month and that Polonia is celebrating proudly. Sample posters are available from the Heritage Month link on the Museum's Internet site at: PolishAmericanCenter.com
4. **Sponsor a lunch or dinner social** with Polish food, music and entertainment.

(Info From: <http://www.polishamericancenter.org/ThingstoDo.htm>)

Pierogi (singular **pieióg**) are served in a variety of forms and tastes (ranging from sweet to salty to spicy) in Polish cuisine. Pierogi were traditionally peasants' food, but eventually spread in popularity throughout all social classes, including nobles. They are served at many festivals, playing an important role as a cultural Polish dish. At the 2007 Pierogi Festival in Krakow, 30,000 pierogi were consumed daily.
(Info from: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pierogi#Poland>)



German American Heritage Month*



Germans, like other immigrant groups, settled with other speakers of their language from the area of their birth, where they felt at home away from home. They settled in areas where farm land was reasonably priced, and where churches and schools already existed. While there were attempts to form a new German state in the colonies, such as in Texas in the 1840s, none came into fruition. The majority of Germans in the 19th century settled in the states of Ohio Missouri, Michigan to North Dakota through Nebraska. Craftsmen went to the cities of Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Indianapolis, Louisville, St. Louis and Chicago, as well as the already well-established cities of New York, Philadelphia, and Baltimore. The southern states held no attraction for German immigrants following the Civil War, though several state governments had established agencies to attract immigrants.

*Not an official Presidential Proclamation

(Info from: http://www.germany.info/relaunch/culture/ger_americans/paper.html)





21-23 September 2007: events marking the 2007 European Heritage Days in Belgrade, Serbia*

(Not an official Presidential Proclamation)

The events marking the 2007 European Heritage Days will take place on Friday 21 September in Belgrade with an International Round Table on "Common heritage in Europe on the move adding values to the development potential of European regions" and the Ceremony at Kalemegdan - Belgrade Fortress.

*Not an official Presidential Proclamation

(Info From: <http://www.ehd.coe.int/sdx/jep/index.xsp> & Image from <http://www.ehd.coe.int/sdx/jep/index.xsp>)

Coming to Cal Poly October 11, 2007

Cal Poly's Provocative Perspective series will kick-off with author and poet Luis Rodriguez, who will speak on "Hearts and Hands: Creating Community in Troubled Times." Rodriguez is the author of the bestseller, *Always Running: La Vida Loca, Gang Days in L.A.*, a vivid memoir that explores the motivation of gang life and cautions against the death and destruction that inevitably claim its participants.

(Info From: <http://www.calpolynews.calpoly.edu/eventsindex.html>)

Be Sure to check <http://studentlife.calpoly.edu/mul/events.asp?dept=mul> for upcoming events happening at Cal Poly's Multicultural Center!