



# POLISH-AMERICAN SOCIETY

## NEWS

<http://www.polishamericansociety.org>

<http://stowarzyszeniepolskoamerykanskie.org>

No. 1 January 2009

Memphis, TN

Dear Friends,

*We enter the New Year hoping that this new beginning brings prominence and prosperity to the country in which we live, to our Motherland, ourselves and ours. We keep good faith for a prosperous year in spite of the difficult economic conditions which affected us all in some way. Knowing it will not be easy, with good faith we stand up to the challenges ahead.*

*During such times we all seek and count on help, support, solidarity, or kind words from others; but from whom do we expect this type of comfort? It is natural to expect sympathy from our close ones, our compatriots, our Polish community which is like one family living here, far away from our old Homeland. We all share similar needs, common problems, and most of us use the same native language to communicate. This year will not be a particularly bountiful one in material terms but perhaps it will cultivate good moral values and experiences. It is up to us to come together, overcome barriers and strive for common good; for these types of acts reflect our traditions and our Polish Christian values.*

*We wish you, our dear compatriots and supporters, a healthy and happy year. May it bring you prosperity, satisfaction in your professional and private lives, and a sense of fulfillment from work toward the good of our Polish community.*

*The Executive Committee*

### THANK YOU

We would like to express our gratitude to our Polish and American friends for their help in funeral arrangements in memory of Karol Kaminski.

Our heartfelt thanks go to Rev. Kazimierz Abrahamczyk and Rev. Krzysztof Rusin for celebrating a mass in Karol's memory. We are grateful for beautiful music, touching sermon, beautiful flowers, and the prayers. We appreciate generous support, compassion, and condolences received not only from close friends but also from others who helped us in this time of loss.

All your moving words in remembrance of Karol have proven that he was not only a friend to his family but that he also touched lives of others. Your kindness, generosity, and support brought us comfort in this difficult time. Thank you and God bless you.

***Anna, Agata, Magda and Jan Pawel Kamiński, and Michael Gavetti***

## CURRENT NEWS

- **2009 BUDGET AND 2008 FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

The PAS planned budget for 2009 is attached to this newsletter. In addition, the PAS members will also receive a copy of the PAS financial statement for 2008.

- **2009 MEMBER FEES**

According to the By-Laws approved by the Members-Founders of the Polish-American Society, membership in our organization is acquired by registering and paying membership dues. Anyone interested in becoming a member can register by completing the registration form available on our website and mailing it together with membership dues to the Polish-American Society, P.O. Box 770927, Memphis, TN 38177-0927. The membership dues for 2009 have not changed; however, we are introducing a new, discounted fee for full-time students. The student discount is set to 50% of the regular fee.

2009 membership dues:

- Regular members - \$25 per person or \$50 per family (children younger than 18 are included in the family fee)
- Student members - \$12 per person (a person is considered a student member if he/she is between 18 and 24 years-old and attends a 2-year or 4-year college full-time).

- **FEBRUARY 7 - FILM SHOWING – “KATYN” BY ANDRZEJ WAJDA**

We invite enthusiasts of Andrzej Wajda cinema for a showing of “Katyn”, the first Polish film on the Katyn crime, nominated for Best Foreign Language Film, Academy Awards, 2007. The showing will take place February 7, 2009, at 3 pm, at the Memphis Cordova Library, 8457 Trinity Road, Cordova, TN 38018 (next to the Bert Ferguson Center). Admission is free.

- **FEBRUARY 21 – END-OF-CARNIVAL – “OSTATKI” - DANCE**

The "Ostatki" dance will be held on Saturday, February 21, 2009, from 7 pm to midnight, at the Willow Grove Barn, a club located at 401 N. Sanga Road. This is the same club that hosted our Polish Independence Day bonfire gathering.

This is a "potluck" event so please plan to bring a dish to share with others. Tickets are \$15 per person for PAS members and \$20 per person for non-members. Please send your check to Polish-American Society, P. O. Box 770927, Memphis, TN 38177-0927. Contact the event coordinator Edek Kozlowski, ph. 680-0194, for more information.

This year the dance costume theme is “WIGS” so wear your best wig for the evening ;-)

- **MARCH 15 – SPRING HIKE – MEEMAN-SHELBY FOREST STATE PARK**

The Meeman-Shelby Forest State Park is located north of Memphis. The park contains two lakes and many miles of hiking trails. We invite you to tour the park with us on Sunday, March 15, at 9 am. Please contact the tour organizer Ania Kaziow, ph. 752-9010, for details. More information about the park attractions can be found on the Park's web site <http://state.tn.us/environment/parks/MeemanShelby/>.

- **MARCH 27 – EASTER EGG PAINTING**

We encourage adult enthusiasts of Easter traditions to participate in our traditional egg painting event, which will take place on Friday, March 27, from 6 pm to 8 pm, at the Bert Ferguson Community Center, 8457 Trinity Rd., Cordova, TN.

- **MARCH 31 – LECTURE BY PROF. ANNA KAMINSKA**

On Tuesday, March 31, at 7 pm at the Poplar-White Station Branch Library, 5094 Poplar, Prof. Anna Kaminska will give a lecture on the subject of Polish mathematical school in the period between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> world wars. As part of the lecture she will show a documentary “Spaces” (Polish version with English translation) illustrating life and work of Wladyslaw Orlicz, one of the founding members of the Lwow Mathematical School.

- **APRIL 11 – GARAGE SALE**

We plan to hold a garage sale on Saturday, April 11, to raise funds for PAS general activities. Isn't it time that you cleared out all of these unwanted items from your life? Your surplus items will be a great contribution to our Garage Sale. Please contact Grazyna Mustwillo, ph. 937-5329, if you can donate clothing, dishes, linen, small electronics, furniture, other. We greatly appreciate your help.

- **BALLROOM DANCING CLASS**

The previously announced ballroom dancing class will start in April. It is not too late to sign up. We invite all who are interested to contact Zbyszek Stroński, ph. 761-5147.

- **MAY 2 – END-OF-SCHOOL YEAR IN POLISH SCHOOL AND GERMANTOWN INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL**

May 2, 2009 looks like a very exciting day. In the morning, we will meet to celebrate the end of school year at the School of Polish Language and Culture. In the afternoon, we will participate in the Germantown International Festival. The Festival will be held from 12 noon to 6 pm at the Pickering Center in Germantown. Ten ethnic groups will present their folklore, food, and crafts. We need help to plan and prepare our Polish booth and the Polish program. Please contact Ania Kaziow, ph. 752-9010, if you can help with preparations.

## MISCELLANEOUS

- **ADDRESS BOOK**

We are working on a PAS information book. The book will include phones and addresses of PAS members (with their prior consent), and other information useful and beneficial to our Polish community. We are open to your suggestions about the information book content. Please send us your comments.

- A group of Polish ladies decided they would like to make their own Polish folk costumes. Such costumes are very expensive if bought at a store in Poland. All interested in making your own folk costumes please contact Gosia Stroinski, ph. 761-5147, or Ania Wozniak, ph. 373-3114. You do not have to be a master seamstress; others will help you with your sewing project. If you have your own Polish folk costume but know how to sew, you are also invited to join the group and give helping hand to others.
- The latest news about planned events and changes to our calendar are published on the PAS website. It can be accessed using these links: <http://www.polishamericansociety.org> or <http://www.stowarzyszeniepolskoamerykanskie.org>.
- We have encouraged all of you to actively participate in activities of our new organization and are seeing results. Our big thanks go to all who offered their time, talents, and direct monetary donations. We need more of you to help organize cultural events and other affairs important to our Polish community. Please contact any member of the Executive Committee to offer your ideas, initiatives, and/or assistance.

## SCHOOL LIFE

- Classes for children at the Mikołaj Kopernik School of Polish Language and Culture are held at the Bert Ferguson Center, Cordova every Saturday from 10:30 am to 12 noon. Classes for adults are held at the Bert Ferguson Center every Thursday at 7 pm. Contact School Coordinator Halinka Dutkiewicz, ph. 385-7333, if you need more information.

## HOBBY CORNER

- **VOLLEYBALL FOR ADULTS**

All interested in getting some cardio exercise are encouraged to join the volleyball team on Wednesdays, at 7 pm, at the gym of the Blessed Sacrament Church, 2534 Hale Ave., Memphis, TN. Please contact Zbyszek Mustwillo, ph. 937-5329, for details.

- **BRIDGE CLUB**

The next meeting of the PAS Bridge Club will take place on Saturday, February 28, 2009. If interested in participating please contact Ania or Mirek Wozniak at 373-3114 or 379-0046, email [awozniak@bellsouth.net](mailto:awozniak@bellsouth.net). All levels of playing abilities are welcome; this will be a great opportunity to learn and practice this “mental exercise”.

**Executive Committee of the Polish-American Society of Memphis:**

Jacek Dutkiewicz	President 9570 Grove Rd., Cordova, TN 38016, ph. 385-7333
Zbigniew Stroiński	Treasurer 5285 Brantford Rd., Memphis, TN 38120, ph. 761-5147
Grażyna Mustwillo	Secretary 9378 Owl Hill Drive, Lakeland, TN 38002, ph. 937-5329
Edward Kozłowski	Coordinator, Cultural Events 1596 Massey Pointe Ln., Memphis, TN 38120, ph. 680-0194
Anna Kaziow	Coordinator, Public Relations 9125 Dalgety Cove, Memphis, TN 38018, tel. 752-9010

## PAS EVENT CALENDAR FOR 2009

*(Our calendar is regularly updated on our Internet website)*

January	February	March
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>February 7 at 3 pm</b> – Film showing – “Katyn” by Andrzej Wajda</li> <li>• <b>February 21 at 7 pm</b> - „Ostatki” – End-of-Carnival dance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>March 15</b> – Spring Hike – Meeman-Shelby Forest State Park</li> <li>• <b>March 27</b> - - Easter egg painting (for adults)</li> <li>• <b>March 31</b> - Lecture by Prof. Anna Kaminska</li> </ul>
April	May	June
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>April 11</b> –Garage Sale – fundraiser for PAS</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>May 2</b> – End-of-School year at Polish School Germantown International Festival</li> <li>• <b>May 23</b> – Picnic – <i>Cameron-Brown Park, 8628 Farmington Road, Germantown, TN</i></li> </ul>	
July	August	September
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>August 22</b> – Farewell to Summer – for children</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>September 19</b> – Picnic</li> <li>• <b>September 26-27</b> – Campout for children</li> </ul>
October	November	December
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>October 23</b> – Election meeting – voting for the new PAS Executive Committee</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>November 7</b> – Bonfire gathering – celebration of Polish Independence Day</li> <li>• <b>November 28</b> – „Andrzejki” Party</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>December 12</b> – Polish „Wigilia” dinner</li> <li>• <b>December 31</b> – New Year’s Party</li> </ul>