



POLISH-AMERICAN SOCIETY

NEWS

<http://www.polishamericansociety.org>

No. 1 January 2010

Memphis, TN

Dear Colleagues and Friends:

Our wish for you in the New Year is happiness and good health. We hope that the New Year will be a year of prosperity, free from worries, and that it will bring everyone much joy and satisfaction in their personal lives, in their work, and in their social activities. We begin yet another new year with the hope and the optimism that it will be a successful time for all people of goodwill who desire peace, friendship, honesty, mutual kindness, tolerance and cooperation. Let us encourage all those who are close to us to aspire to these ideals, to hope that these ideals become more widespread and become a permanent feature in the lives of our families, our communities, the countries in which we live, and for people around the world.

The Executive Committee

CURRENT NEWS

- **FEBRUARY 13 – END-OF-CARNIVAL DANCE “OSTATKI”**
According to our Polish tradition, we will end the Carnival at the "Ostatki" party on Saturday, February 13, from 7 pm to midnight, at the Country Hills Clubhouse, 1610 Oaken Bucket, in Cordova. This is a potluck event so please bring a dish to share with others. Witek Kaziow, ph. 752-9010, is in charge of the event and the menu so please contact him about the dish or a dessert you plan to bring. The tickets are \$15 for PAS members and \$20 for non-members. This year we will all wear costumes so dress up in your favorite Mardi Gras attire. We will have prizes for best costumes.
- **FEBRUARY 19 – BOWLING NIGHT**
We will meet on Friday, February 19, at 7 pm at All Star Lanes (White Station & Quince). Come to join us and have some fun!
- **FEBRUARY 28 – TABLE TENNIS TOURNAMENT**
The table tennis tournament will be held on Sunday, February 28, from 1 pm to 7 pm, at the Gym of the Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, 2564 Hale Ave. If you plan to compete, please contact Czarek Lemański, ph. 490-2980.
- **MARCH 7 – SPRING HIKE AT THE MEEMAN-SHELBY FOREST STATE PARK**
Our spring hike last year was quite successful so we are turning it into a yearly event. This year we invite you to tour the park with us on Sunday, March 7, at 9 am. Please contact the hike organizer Ania Kaziow, ph. 752-9010, for details. The Meeman-Shelby Forest State Park is located north of Memphis. The park contains two lakes and many miles of hiking trails. More information about the park attractions can be found on the Park's web site..
- **MARCH 26 – EASTER EGG PAINTING**
As every year, we will meet before Easter to decorate traditional "pisanki" - colored and painted eggs. The egg painting event will take place on Friday, March 26, from 6 pm to 8 pm, at the Bert Ferguson Community Center, 8457 Trinity Rd., Cordova, TN. Let's keep this tradition alive!

- **APRIL 7 – PROF. JORDAN ZJAWIONY’S SEMINAR ON PSYCHOACTIVE MUSHROOMS & PLANTS**
Our cycle of seminars on topics of interest continues. This time we have a pleasure to invite you for a seminar by Prof. Jordan Zjawiony on Wednesday, April 7, at 7 pm, at the Poplar-White Station library, 5094 Poplar. The subject of lecture will be “Psychoactive mushrooms and plants - Beneficial or harmful?” Everyone is welcome!
- **APRIL 10 – GERMANTOWN INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL**
The Rotary Club of Germantown and the International Baccalaureate program at the Germantown High School proudly announce that second annual Germantown International Festival will take place on April 10 at the Varsity Gymnasium on the campus of the Germantown High School. Last year 10 ethnic groups participated in the event and presented their folklore and customs. The Festival was a resounding success, in spite of the downpour. The Polish-American Society will participate in the event also this year. We will need volunteers to help prepare and man our booth.

MISCELLANEOUS

- **FINANCES**

The projected budget for 2010 is attached to the current newsletter.
Those of us who were the members of the PAS in 2009 will also receive a financial statement for the past year.

PAS membership dues are as follows:

- \$25 per person or \$50 per family (children up to 18 years old are exempt)
- \$12 per student (full time student age 18 to 24)

Please send the membership dues along with the attached coupons in the enclosed envelope to PAS, P. O. Box 770927, Memphis, TN 38177-0927. Please remember - the by-laws of the Polish American Society describes all the rights and obligations of its members and is available on our Internet site.

- **ASSOCIATION AFFAIRS**

The Polish American Society received some good news about its tax status at the end of 2009: ***Status Public Charity 509 (a) (2) & tax exempt status from Federal income tax under section 501 (c) (3), contribution deductibility under section 170 of the Code.***

How we, the members, will benefit from this decision, please see: ***Publication 1771 Charitable Contribution & Publication 526.*** Copies may be obtained from the IRS website: <http://www.irs.gov>.

- **CONTACT WITH THE POLISH EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON**

Based on preliminary conversations with the head of the Consular Section of the Polish Embassy, the Consul Vladimir Sulgostowski may visit Memphis in May 2010, provided there will be an adequate number of people interested in the consular services. One of the objectives of this visit will be to help PAS members to renew or apply for Polish passports and answer other legal questions they may have. We ask all who would like to take advantage of this opportunity to contact Jacek Dutkiewicz, ph. 385-7333, no later than February 15.

- **MEMORABILIA ASSOCIATED WITH HELENA & IGNACY PADEREWSKI**

The Polish American Society is fortunate to have obtained some valuable mementos of Ignacy Paderewski and his wife Helen. This gift was forwarded to the Association by Halina Dutkiewicz, who received it from a friend, Neil (Chip) Smith, whose son is close friends with the Paderewski family. Chip's parents helped financially support the Polish White Cross, an organization created by Helena PADEREWSKA with the goal to get medical attention for Polish soldiers who fought on various fronts during the 1st World War.

The mementos include portraits of the great Polish pianist and statesman, signed in his own hand, numerous letters and postcards from Helena Paderewska, and other interesting memorabilia.

We have decided to make electronic copies of the memorabilia and publish them on the PAS website. The originals will be given to the Polish Embassy in the United States in a ceremony which will probably be held in Memphis in May of this year.

- **PAS MUSIC GROUP'S CONCERT AT THE NURSING HOME**

Recently, the PAS Band entertained nursing home residents one evening in West Memphis with an instrumental performance and singing in Polish folk costumes. The charity concert was held on January 15, at Broadway Healthcare Center and was met by an enthusiastic audience with great applause. The residents' gratitude was touching, and provided them with entertainment, which allowed them to take a break from the daily monotony of their lives. Following the performance, there was much conversation, memories shared of times past, and even some piano-playing by one of the residents.

- **TRAGIC EARTHQUAKE IN HAITI**

The Polish American Society donated \$300 to the Red Cross to help the victims of the tragic earthquake in Haiti

- **EQUIPMENT FOR RENT**

PAS members can rent our audio equipment to service family gatherings, weddings, and other events. There is a very reasonable rental fee.

Also available for rent is a rotisserie big enough to cook a piglet or a lamb. The rotisserie picture is posted on our website. If you are interested in renting any equipment, please contact the Executive Committee.

- Please visit our Website for latest news about planned events and schedule changes. We also publish pictures from our events and celebrations. The website can be accessed using this link:

<http://www.polishamericansociety.org>

SCHOOL LIFE

After the holiday break, the second semester of the 2009/2010 school year started again January 16.

Our cast of teachers has changed. We wish Magda Dutkiewicz happiness, success, and satisfaction in Nashville, her new home. We will miss her commitment and hard work, from which we have been fortunate to benefit since the beginning of the school's existence. She led many of the school's programs, created the plays and stage designs for many Jaselka events, and worked well with children of all ages. We are left with good memories and the groundwork she put in place. Her enthusiasm spread to the students; and having everyone working together made each project a success.

Magda, please accept our heartfelt Thank You!

New teacher assignments are as follows:

Nursery Class:	Basia Scarbecz and Grazynka Szlachetka,
Class "Zerowka":	Halina Dutkiewicz, Ania Gorska, Magda Szymanek,
Class of younger youth:	Milka Mitchell and Agnieszka Przetak
Class for older youth:	Gosia Stroinska, Jacek Dutkiewicz, Magda Kaminska, and Edek Kozlowski

We have new teachers – Ania Gorska, Agnieszka Przetak and Edek Kozłowski. We wish them perseverance and satisfaction in their work.

Since the Carnival season is almost over, we would like our students to also have fun at the kids' "Ostatki" party. The tentative date and time is before noon, February 13, 2010, at the Country Hills Clubhouse in Cordova, the same place that is reserved for adults in the evening. The school will provide masks for children, however the organization of this event needs the help of students, parents and friends of the School. If you would like to help, please contact Halina Dutkiewicz, ph. 385-7333, before February 6, 2010.

The Polish Consulate in Washington expressed interest in our school. We look forward to the Consul's visit and hope for his support in providing materials to help teach the language and cultivate our heritage.

The last Saturday before Easter Week (March 27, 2010), we will decorate eggs during classes. We invite everyone to participate. We will not have classes on Holy Saturday, April 3, 2010.

The current school year will end on May 8, 2010. The end-of-school year celebration will take place at Bert Ferguson Center at 10:30 am. The event will also commemorate the Polish Constitution of May 3rd and the students will celebrate Mother's Day and Father's Day. We invite everyone to come and join us.

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. 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 PAS Bridge Club meets once a month on Saturdays. If interested in participating please contact Ania or Mirek Wozniak at 385-2881, email awozniak@bellsouth.net. All levels of playing abilities are welcome; this will be a great opportunity to learn and practice this “mental exercise”. See our website for the next meeting date.

Executive Committee of the Polish-American Society of Memphis:

Jacek Dutkiewicz	President 9570 Grove Rd., Cordova, TN 38016, ph. 385-7333
Mark Scarbecz	Treasurer 8278 Bluff View Drive, Memphis, TN 38018-6726, ph. 752-0273
Grażyna Mustwillo	Secretary 9378 Owl Hill Drive, Lakeland, TN 38002, ph. 937-5329
Witold Kaziow	Coordinator, Cultural Events 9125 Dalgety Cove, Memphis, TN 38018, tel. 752-9010
Zbigniew Stroiński	Coordinator, Public Relations 5285 Brantford Rd., Memphis, TN 38120, ph. 761-5147

PAS EVENT CALENDAR FOR 2010

(Our calendar is regularly updated on our Internet website)

January	February	March
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • February 13 at 7 pm – - „Ostatki” – End-of-Carnival dance • February 19 at 7 pm – Bowling Night – All Star Lanes • February 28 at 1 pm – Table Tennis Tournament 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March 7 – Spring Hike – Meeman-Shelby Forest State Park • March 26 - - Easter egg painting (for adults)
April	May	June
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April 7 at 7 pm – Lecture by Prof. Jordan Zjawiony – Poplar-White Station Library • April 10 – Germantown International Festival 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May 8 – End-of-School year at Polish School 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • June 12 – Picnic – Cameron-Brown Park, Germantown
July	August	September
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • August 21 – Farewell to Summer – for children 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • September 11 – School year start at Polish School • September 18 – Picnic
October	November	December
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • October 1-2 – Campout • October 16 – Oktoberfest 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • November 6 – Bonfire gathering – celebration of Polish Independence Day • November 27 – „Andrzejki” Party 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • December 11 – Polish „Wigilia” dinner • December 31 – New Year’s Party