



The Polish – American Society

News

Issue No. 1 January 2008

Memphis, TN

Dear Readers,

We would like to welcome you to the premier issue of „The News ” published by the recently reestablished Polish-American Society.

Our ideals as an organization are: to strengthen the bonds, solidarity, and alliances of the Polish community and its devotees, to nurture the Polish language, culture and traditions, and to share our traditional values in the midst of the American heartland.

As The Polish – American Society, we want to support and practice these ideals in as many ways as possible. We have already taken several steps in this direction. Some examples are: the establishment of The Polish Language and Cultural Arts School for children, teens and adults, exploratory camping trips for children and teens, holiday talent shows and performances, discussion panels about Poland for the American audience, volleyball practices and tournaments, and the choir group which participates in important Polish Masses. We have also celebrated anniversaries that pertain to Polish history and planned many social gatherings (such as New Year’s Eve, Carnival, “Andrzejki”, and picnic parties).

We want to endorse and encourage these types of support, so that we not only preserve our current devotees but also expand and branch out to the broader Polish-American public.

Nourishing and embracing the Polish language and culture with the younger generation is a priceless investment. We should be proud of our ancestry and share our family values with our children, so that when they are grown they will honor their roots regardless of where they live. At the same time we must not forget to appreciate the opportunities and positives that come from living in America, our new home.

We also invite and welcome other Polish organizations with similar goals to join us and participate in our cause. Recently we reached out to the Polish American Congress, the main Polish organization that officially represents the American-Polish community in the eyes of both the Polish and American governments. We also hope for a beneficial and productive alliance with our local sister organization, The Polish Catholic Mission of Memphis.

Organizing Committee

CURRENT NEWS

- Registration of the Polish-American Society is in progress. Required documents were submitted to the Division of Business Services of the Tennessee Department of State, and to the Internal Revenue Service. An internet site was established and pre-paid for a period of 5-years, and is still under development at the moment. The site is under two domain names: www.polishamericansociety.org and www.stowarzyszeniepolskoamerykanskie.org

- The preliminary budget for the organization was prepared, which will allow the membership dues to be determined. The proposed budget is enclosed on a separate page. Please send any comments on this topic to: PAS Organizing Committee, 5285 Brantford Rd., Memphis, TN 38120
- Following the example of other similar organizations, we have chosen “sponsorship” as a means of raising additional funds for the Society over and above membership dues. Each of us will be able to become a sponsor of PAS, donating our time and/or money for the activity of our choice. In this way we will be able to promote select events and activities, which are important to us and popular in our Polish community.
- In February, the Organizing Committee will meet with Father Kazimierz Abrahamczyk, to officially distribute the physical and financial assets of the original Polish Catholic Mission, as well as divide the functions between the two organizations. Based on the decision of the General Meeting of the Members on November 17, 2007, the Mission was divided into two organizations: civilian, which reestablished former Polish-American Society, and religious, which retained the name of the original Polish Catholic Mission.
- Please direct any questions or suggestions concerning the newly created organization to the Organizing Committee, composed of:

Viola H. Bute - 1335 East Crestwood, Memphis, TN 38119 - tel. 685-2945
 Jacek K. Dutkiewicz - 9570 Grove Rd., Cordova TN 38016 - tel. 385-7333
 Zbyszek M. Stroinski - 5285 Brantford Rd., Memphis, TN 38120 - tel. 761-5147

EVENTS

- **OSTATKI DANCE**
 FEBRUARY 2nd at 7: 00 PM - A costume Party will take place at the Country Hill Clubhouse, 1610 Oaken Bucket, Cordova. To attend, please call Czesiek Grabowicz, tel. 737-5130, or Marcel Skulina, tel. 737-3717.
 Jola Kaminska, tel. 372-0838 will be coordinating the meals. Organizers anticipate a few surprises for the persons with the most original costumes. The admission fee is \$15 per person and will be collected at the door.
- **EASTER EGG PAINTING**
 We encourage enthusiasts of Easter traditions to participate in a traditional egg painting event, which will take place on Friday, March 14, 2008 at 6:30 pm at St. John Church, 2742 Lamar Ave., Memphis. Please contact Gosia Stroinski, tel. 761-5147.
- **EASTER**

*We would like to extend best Easter wishes to
 all Members of the Polish Community,
 wishing everyone a healthy, peaceful and joyful holiday.*

Happy Easter!

- The schedule for the Holiday Holy Mass, confessions and visiting of Christ’s tomb can be found on the website of the Polish Catholic Mission www.polishcatholicmission.org

- **INAUGURAL MEETING AND ELECTION TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The most important event for the new organization will be our very first General Meeting for all members, arranged by the Organizing Committee. The goal of this meeting, which will take place on February 23, 2008, will be the election of the Board of Directors of PAS. Information about the time and place of the meeting, as well as electoral materials, will be sent to everyone who has declared or will declare their membership in the newly formed organization.

SCHOOL LIFE

- **THE ELECTION OF A SCHOOL PATRON**

We would like to invite all members to help us find a patron for The Polish School. Please submit names of famous Poles to: SJP, 9570 Grove Rd., Cordova, TN 38016 or telephone (385 -7333)

- **CLASS SCHEDULE**

Classes for children take place at the Bert Ferguson Center, Cordova, every Saturday from 10:30 to 12:00, and for adults every Tuesday at 6:15PM at St. Mary's Catholic Church, 155 Market Ave.

For more information about the school, please call Halinka Dutkiewicz – School Coordinator Tel: 385-7333

- **PARENTS OF CHILDREN 4-5 YEARS OLD**

Starting February 9, 2008, we plan to open a new class for preschoolers. At the beginning it will be mostly games and entertainments. This will become the foundation for later education in the Polish language. Activities will take place at the Bert Ferguson Center, Cordova each Saturday from 12:00 to 1:00.

To enroll please call Mika Mitchell, tel. 255-2790 or Halinka Dutkiewicz, tel. 385-7333.

- **ADULTS WANTING TO LEARN POLISH LANGUAGE**

Anyone who is interested in learning the Polish language at a beginners' level please contact Monika Lux-Huserick, tel: 722-4107 or Edek Kozlowski, tel: 680-0194.

- **EASTER EGG PAINTING**

On March 15, between 11:30 – 1:00 PM, students at the Polish School will decorate Easter eggs as part of their class. All children who do not normally attend school are also invited to participate.

ATHLETIC CORNER

- **VOLLEYBALL PRACTICE** takes place each Wednesday at 7:00 pm in the gym next to Blessed Sacrament Church, 2564 Halls Ave., Memphis. For more information please contact Zbyszek Mustwillo, tel: 937-5329.

OUR FAMILIES

- We ask the Ziemianski family to accept our deepest sympathy for the loss of Przemek. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.