



# POLISH-AMERICAN SOCIETY

## NEWS

<http://www.polishamericansociety.org>

No. 2 April 2010

Memphis, TN

*Dear Colleagues and Friends:*

*From this year on, April 10 will be noted in Polish history books as a day of two tragedies – tragedies separated by seventy years but united by a place where they happened - Katyn. The first tragedy, in 1940, encompasses the murder of 22 thousand members of Polish intellectual elite, in the second tragedy we lost the President, the leaders of our political establishment and military, and the relatives of Poles who died in Katyn in 1940. We mourn with our Polish brethren and express our condolences to families of the dead.*

*On the same day, i.e. on Saturday, April 10, 2010, the Polish American Society of Memphis participated again in the Germantown International Festival, which was held at the Germantown High School. There were displays and food, and an extensive program of dance and music from countries around the world. Our PAS booth included displays of art and crafts, and other items representing the culture and traditions of Poland. Our grilled Polish kielbasa from Chicago was an unquestionable hit. Visiting children enjoyed the Prince Polo candy bars. In a show of respect for President Lech Kaczynski and all others who perished in the plane crash near Katyn, PAS members wore black ribbons and the Polish flag was draped with a black scarf. The music program presented by the PAS Musical Group was toned down. In place of the prepared folk and popular songs, Gosia Stroinski and Halinka Dutkiewicz sang two prayers in memory of the crash victims. PAS members were interviewed by a reporter from the Commercial Appeal and by a reporter from the Fox 13 News. Despite the somber nature of the day, we were very successful in presenting Poland and Polish culture at the festival. Many guests visiting our booth expressed their condolences due the tragic event.*

*Our thanks go to all who worked at the display, at our booth, and on the grill, and thanks to all who attended the festival and visited our booth.*

*The Executive Committee*

## CURRENT NEWS

- **DEATH OF POLISH PRESIDENT AND MILITARY AND POLITICAL ELITE IN PLANE CRASH**  
The Polish-American Society sent a condolence letter to the Embassy of the Republic of Poland in Washington. The letter is published on our Internet website.
- **MAY 8 – END OF SCHOOL YEAR AT POLISH SCHOOL**  
The students will end this school year with dances, songs and a fashion show. Traditionally, we invite all the School sponsors and friends to take part in the event and help us celebrate the End of School Year ceremony for the 4<sup>th</sup> time in the School history. The students and the teachers prepared a program which will be devoted also in part to the anniversary of the declaration of the May 3rd Constitution and to Mother's and Father's Days. The event will take place on May 8<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am at the Bert Ferguson Community Center, 8505 Trinity Rd. in Cordova.

- **JUNE 12 – PICNIC AT HOUSTON LEVEE PARK**

Our June picnic will be held at the Houston Levee Park, Clayton Drive, Germantown, TN, from 4 pm to 8 pm.

As usual, PAS will have Polish kielbasa for the grill as well as soft drinks. Please bring an entrée or a dessert to share with others.

Witek Kaziow, ph. 752-9010, will coordinate the event. We need volunteers to man the grill so if you are willing to help, please give Witek a call.



- **CONSULAR VISIT IN MEMPHIS**

At the invitation of our Society, Consul Michał Sikorski, from the Consulate of the Republic of Poland in Washington D.C., will visit Memphis on September 18 & 19, 2010.

Part of the visit will be devoted to consular matters so that interested people will not need to travel to the Consulate in Washington, DC. Mr. Sikorski will assist people with issues concerning their passports and with other matters, dealing for instance with current or future citizenship status. Please consult the official information received from the Embassy and published in this Newsletter.

The program of the Consul's visit will begin on Saturday morning, September 18<sup>th</sup> with a meeting with members of our Polish-American community. The Consul will talk about the details of the scheduled consular office visits on the following day and will take questions on all other matters e.g. concerning Polish citizenship, either current or future status. The second part of the meeting will be devoted to the presentation of the original documents associated with Helena and Ignacy Paderewski, received by PAS thanks to Halinka Dutkiewicz from her American friends. These valuable items will be transferred by the Embassy to a museum in Poland. On the same day, in the afternoon, the Consul will take part in our traditional Polish picnic.

More details about the Consul's visit will be published on the PAS web site at [www.polishamericansociety.org](http://www.polishamericansociety.org)., pending possible further information which we may receive from the Embassy.

- **INFORMATION FROM THE CONSULATE OF THE EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND**

The Consular Division of the Embassy of the Republic of Poland in Washington D.C. informs that it will have its office opened in Memphis on Sunday, September 19, 2010. Consul Michał Sikorski, of the Embassy of the Republic of Poland in Washington D.C. will be handling inquiries regarding all consular matters. Mr. and Mrs. Bute have graciously offered their private offices at 1604 Kirby Parkway, Memphis, TN 38120 to accommodate the Consul's office.

Requests for a meeting with the Consul can be made via e-mail ([washington.consular@msz.gov.pl](mailto:washington.consular@msz.gov.pl)) or by calling 202 234 38 00 (ext. 2201). Please make sure you have all necessary documents in original form and photocopies. Please read carefully the content of the passport information page at <http://www.washington.polemb.net/index.php?document=427> (special attention should be paid to the requirements for the photos) and clarify any questions by phone or by emailing the Consular Division of the Polish Embassy in Washington. We remind you that the passport application requires a "PESEL" number. In the absence thereof, please provide advance notification of that fact when writing or calling to the Consulate.

During the visit, all consular issues can be considered, not just those related to passport matters.

- **FEBRUARY 28 – 1<sup>ST</sup> “INTERNATIONAL” TABLE TENNIS TOURNAMENT**  
The table tennis tournament was held on Sunday, February 28, from 1 pm to 7 pm, at the Gym of the Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, 2564 Hale Ave. Competition was tough. The winners got prizes funded by the Polish-American Society. The tournament will be held again next year so plan to sign up. Congratulations to the winners and a big thank you to Czarek Lemański for organizing the event.
- **PROF. JORDAN ZJAWIONY’S SEMINAR RESCHEDULED**  
The seminar on “Psychoactive mushrooms and plants - Beneficial or harmful?” planned for April 24 was cancelled due to the inclement weather. We will publish the new date on our website.
- **THANK YOU LETTER FROM AMERICAN RED CROSS**  
We received a thank you letter from the American Red Cross for our donation to help the victims of the tragic earthquake in Haiti. The letter is published on our website.

## MISCELLANEOUS

- **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**  
Recently, nine new members joined our organization – our warmest welcome.  
  
We also thank you all PAS members for paying their dues for 2010. We encourage you to take active part in our events and activities. We need your help to make our organization vibrant and beneficial to our community.
- **INFORMATION ON PENSIONS AND SOCIAL BENEFITS (RE-PUBLISHED PER SPECIAL REQUEST)**  
Social Security: Polish version of US regulations regarding pensions and retirement/disability benefits is located here:

*<http://www.socialsecurity.gov/>*

*click "Other Languages" (top right-hand corner) & "Witamy Polish".*

Polish-American agreement about pensions and social benefits – detailed information is located here:

*<http://www.zus.pl/default.asp?p=4&id=2402>*

- **PAS LOGO MODIFICATION**  
Our logo has been modified. The intent of the modifications was to make the inscriptions more legible. In addition, the new format allows us to use it also in a seal format. Please see the modified logo in the header of this newsletter.
- **FOR SALE - T-SHIRTS WITH PAS LOGO**  
We are selling t-shirts and long-sleeve shirts with the logo of the Polish-American Society. If interested, please contact Zbyszek Stroiński, ph. 761-5147. The pictures of shirts are available on our website.  
  
Pricing:
  - T-shirts – blue, red, and ice grey, sizes M, L & XL - \$12/each for PAS members, \$16 for others
  - Long-sleeve shirts in white, sizes M, L & XL – \$18/each for PAS members, \$22 for others

- **EQUIPMENT FOR RENT**  
PAS members can rent our audio equipment for use at family gatherings, weddings, and other events.

Also available for rent is a rotisserie big enough to cook a piglet or a lamb. The rotisserie picture is posted on our website.

- 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>

We are currently working on a new look and format for our website. The new format will go live in the very near future at a different Internet address. The current address will still work until our current domain expires. Due to increased visibility of our activities we are getting inquiries from Poles from other countries and our new Internet address will better identify our organization.

## SCHOOL LIFE

- **FAREWELL TO SUMMER**

This time around we plan to bid farewell to summer vacation by visiting the Memphis Zoo on August 28<sup>th</sup>. This is the last Saturday of August. We will meet at 10:30 am at the main entrance of the Zoo. All current and new Students are invited as well as their Parents and the School Friends. More details about the event will be announced at a later time and also can be obtained directly from the School Coordinator, Halina Dutkiewicz, tel. 901/385-7333.

- **BEGINNING OF THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR**

If you are interested in sending your student to the School of Polish Language and Culture in the next school year, please contact the School Coordinator, Halina Dutkiewicz, at 901/385-7333. We plan to continue the soccer activities for the School kids during the fall season.

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