

NEWS POLONIA

April / May 2009



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MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

The Club exists and functions only through your membership!

If you have not done so already, please pay club dues for 2009 as soon as possible.

Who's Who in PAC 2009:

PRESIDENT president@polamrtp.com	Ryszard Kotek
VICE-PRESIDENT vice.president@polamrtp.com	Hanna Pelka
SECRETARY secretary@polamrtp.com	Arthur Reichert
TREASURER treasurer@polamrtp.com	Piotr Nowak
EDUCATION / ELECTION COMM. polish.classes.kids@polamrtp.com	Hanna Gracz
NEWSLETTER news.polonia@polamrtp.com	Margaret Federkiewicz
POLISH FESTIVAL CHAIR	Sandra Stuckey
INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL CHAIR	Mark Fountain
SCHOLARSHIP CHAIR	Ewa Ochman
FILM & THEATRE arts@polamrtp.com	Margaret Federkiewicz
WEBSITE info@polamrtp.com	Piotr Gucwa

PAC Address:

Polish American Club

PAC Website:

polamrtp@googlegroups.com

LETTER FROM THE NEW PRESIDENT

Dear All:

I would like to thank you for electing me as the new president of the Polish-American Club of the Triangle. It is a great pleasure and honor to serve Polish-American community in Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill area.

I will strive to revitalize the Club, bring new members, organize new events and boost activities. A great leadership team was also elected and will be working together. We invite each and every one of you, your families and friends to join us in celebrating and promoting Polish culture and have lots of fun along the way! I am looking forward to share excitement with all of you in cultivating the Polish-American heritage and friendship.

Sincerely,

Ryszard Kotek
President
Polish- American Club of the Triangle

Kochani,

Serdecznie dziękuje za zaufanie i wybranie mnie prezydentem Polisko-Amerykańskiego Klubu w Triangle, NC. Czuje się zaszczycony i uhonorowany pełnić te funkcje i pragnę pracować ze wszystkimi Polakami, i zainteresowanymi Polakami, zgrupowanymi w Raleigh, Durham i Chapel Hill.

Będzie pracował wraz z niezwykle przynym, nowo wybranym zarządem. Jesteśmy w pełni zobowiązani ożywić działalność Klubu, przyciągnąć nowych członków i organizować imprezy zadowalające różne gusta i potrzeby. Zapraszamy WSZYSTKICH do klubu, Wasze rodziny i przyjaciół, aby kultywować Polskie obyczaje i tradycje, a przy okazji dobrze się wspólnie bawić! Podzielcie się pomysłami i propozycjami, jakie chcielibyście widzieć w przyszłości i działalność Klubu, aby służył on KAŻDEMU z Nas. Cieszę się ogromnie, bo wiem, że wspólnie osiągniemy cel utrzymywania i propagowania polskości i naszych polskich narodowych tradycji.

Pozdrawiam,
Ryszard Kotek
Prezydent
Polish- American Club of the Triangle

CLUB'S ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

2009 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

It is time to apply for one of the scholarships being offered by the Polish American Club. Take advantage of this great opportunity and a benefit of your membership! The applications for 2009 program need to be submitted to:

Via mail to: Polish American Club, PO Box 20363, Raleigh, NC 27619
Electronically to: Ewa Ochman at eoehman@nc.rr.com.

The deadline for receipt of the completed applications is April 30, 2009. Please note, only members of the Polish American Club are eligible. Please contact Ewa Ochman at # (919) 848-2067, for more details. The scholarships will be awarded at the Majowka / Picnic, Sunday, May 3, 2009.



MAJOWKA

Please note, this year we will have a two-part celebration of the Constitution of May 3, 1791.

In addition to our regular celebration at Lake Montague, we will also host a small symposium on Saturday, May 2, at the office of Honorary Consulate. We will be having a presentation by the Honorary Consul, Dr. Mark Fountain, on the Constitution with discussion and questions and points of view. Prof. Beth Holmgren of Duke University will also give a lecture on life and works of Helena Modrzejewska. Prof. Regina Grol of Empire State College will give a talk about Juliusz Slowacki and recite some of his greatest works. Topic discussion and service of light refreshments will follow.

We hope that you'll all come out for both of these events in celebration of Poland's great contribution to constitutional law during the 18th century.

What: SYMPOSIUM AND DISCUSSION ON THE CONSTITUTION 1791

When: Saturday, May 2nd, 2009, 2:00 PM

Where: Office of Honorary Consulate, Spring Hill House, 705 Barbour Drive in Raleigh

Cost: Free and open to everyone

What: PICNIC

When: Sunday, May 3rd, 2009, 3:00 to 7:00 PM

Where: LAKE MONTAGUE, 10301 Penny Road, Cary NC.

The Club will provide hamburgers and hotdogs, soft drinks, chips, and other condiments. Please bring a dish, or desert, to share.

Cost: Free for PAC members who paid 2009 dues (you will have a chance to sign up there!) or \$5.00 per person. Kids 12 and under free.

NOTE: Fundraising for PAC Scholarship will be conducted during the event. Please be generous to support one of our outstanding students.

Bring your families and friends for great fun, great music, and lots of activities for kids!

ADVERTISING THROUGH PAC

The Club decided to provide advertising opportunity to local businesses utilizing our web site. The annual cost of placing an ad is \$100 for members and \$160 for non-members.

For more information please contact Arthur Reichert, at: secretary@polamrtp.com , or Richard Kotek, at: president@polamrtp.com

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LOOKING BACK AT 2008

A LETTER FROM THE PAST PRESIDENT

My warmest greetings to all members and supporters of the Polish-American Club! Please allow me to express my deepest thanks and gratitude for the opportunity to be your President of the Polish-American Club for the last four years.

THIS IS OUR CLUB! Together, we can let it grow and flourish here in the Triangle area and its vicinities. Let me take this opportunity to commend last four years Club activities;

OSTATKI parties, POLISH FESTIVAL, MAJOWKA picnic (May 3rd celebration)
OGNISKO picnic, INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL, CHRISTMAS DINNER,
SYLWESTER (New Year's Eve party), Project - Our Lady of Czestochowa Shrine in St. Joseph Catholic Church,
ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM,
POLISH LANGUAGE CLASSES etc.

Thanks to all who participated and made our events a success!

I would like to recognize the following Club members for their time, talent and leadership they contributed to club activities in last four years:

Ewa Ochman – V-President (2005 - 2008) and PAC Scholarships
Marcin Wolak – V-President (2005, 2006) and International Festival
Leszek Mazur – Treasurer (2004 – 2007)
Piotr Nowak – Treasurer (2007-2008)
Lillian Michniak – Secretary (2004 – 2008)
Sandra Stuckey – Chairman of the Polish Festivals
Malgosia Federkiewicz – Polish newsletter and film
Mark Fountain – Chairman-International Festivals and Honorary Polish Consul
Ania Wolak – for design and service of the Club website (2004-2006)
Piotr Gucwa - for design and service of the Club website (2006-2008)
Hanna Gracz – for coordinating Polish Language School
Kasia Gracz – for decorating places for Sylwester Parties,
and many, many more other CLUB members and friends. THANK YOU ALL.

Also, I want to congratulate Ryszard Kotek for being elected our next President. I am sure that his skills, energy and talent will bring new activities, new members to the Club and that the Club will continue to grow. I encourage all of you to support and cooperate with Ryszard and new elected Board to bring success and prosperity to our organization. See you all around.

Pozdrawiam
Marek Kucharski

KRYSTIAN KOZEK – PAC SCHOLARSHIP 2008 RECIPIENT

Presenting a recipient of PAC's 2008 scholarship: Krystian Kozek. Since Krystian is a very modest young man, the following is information copied from last year's News & Observer. The newspaper presented the valedictorians from all high schools in the Triangle graduating in spring of 2008. Krystian was representing the Apex High and, as such, made a list of "THE BEST OF THE BEST OF THE CLASS OF '08".

Congratulations to Krystian and his parents Lucyna and Marian, active members of the Club!

Name: Krystian Andrzej Kozek

School: Apex High School

Parents and place of residence: Lucyna and Marian Kozek, Apex

GPA: (weighted, unweighted) 5.15, 4.00

Class size: 559

College plans: N.C. State University, materials science and engineering

Favorite leisure activity: watching Polish movies with my family.

Favorite book: "A Tale of Two Cities" by Charles Dickens

Favorite movie: "Mr. Deeds"

What I want to say on graduation day: I plan to address the problems associated with idleness and how my generation will need to change the universal way of thinking in order to solve the current problems and prevent future ones.

Other comments: I was born in Kolbuszowa, Poland. I moved to New York when I was 4. I came to Apex at the end of seventh grade.



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR 2008

PAC 2008 current account annual statement:

Beginning	\$5902	Ending	\$6670
Income (\$)		Expenses (\$)	
Membership	1540	Newsletter	460
Sylwester2007	1076	Ostatki	344
Ostatki	780	Manekin	130
Gifts	90	Website	77
		Majowka, Ognisko	380
		Scholarship	500
		Laski-school	600
		Flowers+misc.	227
Total	3486	Total	2718
Earnings	\$768		

PAC 2008 festival account:

Beginning	\$3139	Ending	\$3051
Income (\$)		Expenses (\$)	
Gift	50		
Int. Festival	4918	Int. Festival	2507
Christmas D.	1380	Christmas D.	4298
Auction	369		
Total	6717	Total	6805
Loss	\$88		

Financial statements submitted by PAC's treasurer Piotr Nowak.

PLANS AND PENDING INITIATIVES

CHOPIN AND SLOWACKI CELEBRATIONS

Chopin's bicentennial is coming up next year. He was traditionally thought to have been born on February 22, 1810, and that is the date that is placed on the walls of his birthplace in Zelazowa Wola on the basis of the parish birth record. But now the more accurate date appears to be March 1--one week later--by virtue of his mother's statement in a letter to him in 1837 and by his own use of the March 1 date in a letter in 1833 over his own signature. As a general rule, the mother's opinion should rule; the birth of her son was certainly a more memorable occasion in her life than in that of the parish priest. In addition, the 160th anniversary of his death in 1849 will come up this year, in 2009, on October 17.

The events commemorating Chopin's bicentennial are being planned and details will be announced.

We are also organizing an event to recognize Juliusz Slowacki's bicentennial. He was born on September 4, 1809. He died on April 3, 1849, 160 years ago today. The years 1809 and 1810 were quite remarkable and eventful.

INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL 2009

This year's festival will take place on a three-day schedule: Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, October 2, 3, 4, 2009, at the Convention Center, in Raleigh's downtown. The initial organizational meeting for the Festival will be held on May 1 at 6:30 pm at the Brooks Avenue Church of Christ.

PAC had a most successful Festival last year. With the extra day re-added this year, we should do even better. No theme has thus far been announced, but we can go with Slowacki, Chopin, or any one of many possibilities. One of the great boons of celebrating a long and fruitful national culture and tradition is that we never lack for something to celebrate.

We will probably go with the same general team that worked so well together last year--with the hope that we will add many new hands as well. In charge of the all-important kitchen preparations will be Marek Wiktor--with the great, traditional kapusta preparation ritual. Piotr Nowak will, as always, act as inspiration and task-master. We will need a great many volunteers for the 30 hours necessary to cover the 24 official hours that the Festival will be open. Mark Fountain will want help with the Cultural Booth.

Don't wait for the phone call. Volunteer early and often. Your Club officers cannot do everything alone!

ABOUT PAC:

MEETINGS:

Our monthly meetings are scheduled every 1st Wednesday of the month. The agendas and summaries are posted on www.polamrtp.com few days prior, and after each meeting.

Meetings' location: Office of Honorary Consulate, Spring Hill House, 705 Barbour Drive in Raleigh

CLUB ACTIVITIES:

Social events: Sylvester, Ostatki, Majowka, Ognisko, Christmas Dinner

Promotion of culture: Polish Festival, International Festival, Exploris Museum programs, Polish language classes, participation in local events promoting Polish culture and traditions

Annual Scholarship Program

Sports events: ski trips, chess tournament, bowling, soccer games

MEMBERSHIP:

Family: \$40.00 per family

Single: \$25.00

Senior over 70: FREE

You may now pay your dues on line at: www.polamrtp.com.

PAC E-MAIL LIST:

You can subscribe to our internet group by going to groups.google.com. **NOTE:** After subscribing to googlegroups initially, you will receive an email from googlegroups asking for confirmation.

Visit our homepage at <http://www.polamrtp.com>.

CLUB'S NEWSLETTER:

"News Polonia" is distributed via mail, and also posted on PAC's website (www.polamrtp.com).

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE POLISH AMERICAN CLUB!