

NEWS POLONIA

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MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

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
PO Box 20363
Raleigh, NC 27619**

PAC Website:

<http://www.polamrtp.com/>

LETTER FROM THE PAC'S PRESIDENT

My Dear All:

I extend to you and your families my very best wishes for the Holiday Season. As we finish 2009 and begin the new 2010 year, it is good to reflect on the successes of the past year. We have a lot to be proud of. Besides our usual Majowka and Ognisko, we have started several new activities.

Polish classes have resumed after a long break. It is great to see our little ones learning Polish phrases at the Polish Honorary Consulate. Memories from the Choinka and a visit from Polish "ŚwiętyMikołaj" (Santa Claus) for sure will stay in their minds for a long time.

The Constitution of the 3rd of May Symposium with Professors Holmgren, Grol and Fountain started a cycle of lectures and seminars celebrating our rich culture and history. An afternoon with Juliusz Slowacki followed and this hopefully will start an ongoing tradition.

The food and cultural booths at the International Festival were a great success.

I would like to sincerely thank all of our volunteers, especially our teachers for the Polish classes, the Honorary Consul Dr. Mark Fountain, our leadership team, and you for your participation in the Club.

We definitely look forward to the New Year's Eve Party and to celebrating with you. Soon after, we plan to commemorate Katyń. We hope to be even more active as a Club next year. We should organize a Polish Festival or simply make a small event such as a Polish Day.

I wish you and your loved ones a very peaceful and joyous Holiday Season. Merry Christmas!
Wesołych Świąt i Do Siego Roku!

With best regards,

Ryszard Kotek
President
Polish-American Club of the Triangle

HOLIDAY EVENTS:

PASTERKA / MIDNIGHT MASS

When: Dec. 24, 2009, at 12:00 PM

Where: St. Joseph Church, 2817 Poole Rd. Raleigh, NC 27610

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY / SYLWESTER

December 31, 2009, Hours: 8:00PM – 2:00AM

Cost: \$30.00 per person for members, \$40.00 per person for non-member

PAC will provide place, music, soft drinks, ice, champagne, dessert, and utensils

Please bring main cover dish to share with others, (liquor for your own consumption only)

Reservations: Piotr Nowak, tel. 919-828-2810, or pnowak@earthlink.net

Please make reservation and ticket payment by December 24, 2009. No tickets sale at the door.

THE KATYŃ MASSACRE – SYMPOSIUM

March of 2010 will mark the 70th anniversary of the mass murder of some Polish 15,000 officers and 7,000 civilians who had been taken prisoner by Soviet troops in 1939, in the war crime which became known as the Katyn massacre. The Polish military officers, policemen, intellectuals and civilians in the Kozelsk prisoner-of-war camp, have been executed by the Soviet secret police, NKVD. Kremlin officially admitted this crime only in 1990.

On the pictures, respectively: the mass graves at Katyn cemetery, the graves of Generals Mieczysław Smorawiński and Bronisław Bohatyrewicz and Polish banknotes and epaulets recovered from mass graves.



The Polish-American Club will commemorate this tragic event by organizing a symposium at the end of March 2010, at one of the local universities.

The event will include a presentation by Mr. Allen Paul, the author of the book "Katyn: The Untold Story of Stalin's Polish Massacre." The book, first published in 1991, is a harrowing account of the Katyn Forest Massacre. On Thursday, April 2, 2009, during an official ceremony at the Polish Embassy in Washington, D.C., Allen Paul was presented with the Commander's Cross of the Order of Merit, awarded to those who have rendered great service to the Polish nation.

The Symposium will also present the film "Katyn" by Andrzej Wajda, which was nominated for Academy Award (Oscar) in foreign movie category.

Details on date and location of this event will be provided shortly.

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, NC

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 published quarterly and posted on PAC's website (www.polamrtp.com). Occasionally, it is also distributed via mail as a paper copy.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE POLISH AMERICAN-CLUB!