



# POLISH-AMERICAN SOCIETY

## NEWSLETTER

<http://www.pasofmemphis.com>

February 2024

Memphis, TN

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### ELECTIONS RESULTS FOR THE 2024 - 2026 PAS BOARD

Email contact: [pasofmemphis@gmail.com](mailto:pasofmemphis@gmail.com)

The newly elected board members met in January and board positions for years 2024-2026 are as follows:

President	Magda Dutkiewicz Vaughan
Vice President	Beata Gaye
Treasurer	Dana Zabielski
Secretary	Justyna Żyłka O'Brien
Event Coordinator	Magdalena Mazur

### WELCOME TO THE NEW YEAR - NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear PAS Members and Supporters,

I want to welcome you all to the first edition of the Polish-American Association Newsletter in 2024.

We are excited to work together towards our organization's goals of strengthening bonds, solidarity, and mutual support within our Polish community and its supporters. We are also focused on cultivating Polish traditions, culture, language, and promoting our Polish values. We want to support any and all initiatives taken on by anyone in our Memphis Polish Community that aim to achieve these goals.

In past years we have supported valuable initiatives such as Polish lessons for children and adults, camping trips for children and teenagers, book clubs, bridge clubs and many others. We have also coordinated many traditional social gatherings such as Polish Independence Day cookouts and Wigillia dinner. This year, we are expanding the list of these types of activities which we hope you come to and participate in.

We encourage all of our members to also come out to support other Polish organizations that have similar goals to ours, such as the Polish Catholic Mission and the Memphis in Poland Festival.

Magda Dutkiewicz Vaughan, President, PAS Board

### EXPANDED ACTIVITY PROGRAM FOR THE COMING YEAR

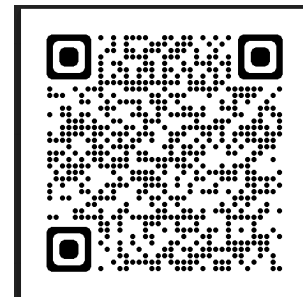
To help achieve our goals and mission outlined above, the new PAS Board reviewed and considered past successful events put on by our organization to decide on this year's program agenda. There are many events planned for this coming year. Some of the events are the same as last year's, and are known to be favorites and historically supported by our entire Polish community, such as the Spring and Fall Picnics. We are also excited to bring back past favorites, such as Easter egg decorating, joint trips to farms for fruit picking, and a holiday meet up to walk through the Pink Palace's Festival of Lights to enjoy the PAS Christmas Tree together. As we continue to plan our future events, we

invite you all to go to our website PASofMemphis.com and indicate your interest in participation by RSVPing to each of the events directly on the site or by completing the attached survey.

### **PAS SURVEY**

We invite and encourage everyone to have a voice and actively participate in the PAS organization. Our organization operates for our members, the Polish community and its supporters. We invite you to complete the survey attached to this Newsletter about how the goals of this organization will continue and your opinions on how to attain a broader reach of the American Polish community. Please return the completed survey by March 15 by post or electronically by scanning this QR code, or logging in to our website pasofmemphis.com.

The opinions are very valued and will be taken into account in future activity planning and overall approach to attaining our goals.



### **WEBSITE AND VIRTUAL NEWS**

We offer and invite you all to take advantage of our new digital ways of receiving news and updates about the organization. Please opt into a more economical and environmentally friendly option of receiving this Newsletter in an electronic form, and check our website for upcoming short video reels highlighting past and upcoming events. Most up to date information can be found and is accessible at any time on pasofmemphis.com. Remember that the website will offer more up-to-date information and/or changes that go on in our organization.

You can let us know your preferred Newsletter delivery method when you complete our survey. Don't forget to include your current email or address to which you would like the Newsletter sent to.

### **REFLECTIONS FROM CHRISTMAS EVE**

Our Polish Christmas Eve is a very important annual PAS event.

The evening began with a performance by children led by Magda Teodorowicz. Of course, the carolers and our talented musical group did not disappoint us.

However, the greatest joy among children and adults was caused by Santa Claus, who had already promised a similar visit next year.

Each of your efforts has made the event a great success. Thank you all very much!

### **SCHOLARSHIP FOR STUDENTS COUNTRIES OF JURANDS**

In May, another competition for a scholarship for students - Members of the Association will be announced.

Zbyszek Stroiński became the Scholarship Coordinator and will act as an intermediary between the PAS management board and the scholarship committee.

As in previous years, information about the rules and theme of this year's competition will be sent to the organization's members by email in the first days of May. The Scholarship Council will anonymously award one work, and the Association's Management Board will deliver a check to the author of the work in August this year.

Due to the positive opinions about the scholarship, the PAS management encourages you to financially support the fund. Any payment, even the minimum, apart from the membership fee, is a great gift extending the scholarship program and an investment in our Polish youth.

### **EVENTS**

All of our events are updated on the website pasofmemphis.com or our Facebook page Polish-American Society of Memphis. Please RSVP to the events on our website, our Facebook page, or contact the meeting organizer at least 1 week before the planned event. RSVPing will help us better accommodate all participants by arranging proper amounts of supplies, food etc. Given many of the events this year will be open to both Members and Non Members, we will be setting up welcome/check-in stations at bigger gatherings. Please be sure to visit these stations upon your arrival to check-in and be welcomed by one of the board members.

You can also indicate your interest in helping organize events when completing our survey. Thank you in advance for your consideration!

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11 - POLISH MASS**

Our sister organization, the Polish Catholic Mission provides an opportunity to celebrate Catholic Mass in Polish. For more information please visit their website [www.polskamisjakatolicka.org](http://www.polskamisjakatolicka.org)

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25 - WALK IN THE PARK AT MEEMAN - SHELBY FOREST STATE PARK**

The first hike this year will be led by Gosia Stroińska [pasofmemphis@gmail.com](mailto:pasofmemphis@gmail.com) on Sunday, February 25. Meeting spot is in front of the Visitor Center at 9:00. For details regarding the park or directions on how to get there please visit [www.tennessee.gov/environment/parks/MeemanShelby](http://www.tennessee.gov/environment/parks/MeemanShelby)

**SATURDAY, MARCH 23 - PAINTING OF EASTER EGGS**

Both children and adults are invited to participate in this event. Easter egg painting will take place at the Bert Ferguson Center at 11:00. PAS will provide decorating supplies and light refreshments. Please RSVP to ensure the proper amount of supplies. All who participate are responsible for bringing their own cooked eggs to the decorating. For questions contact Magdalena Mazur [pasofmemphis@gmail.com](mailto:pasofmemphis@gmail.com)

**SUNDAY, MARCH 31 - EASTER**

Our sister organization, the Polish Catholic Mission provides an opportunity to celebrate Easter in Polish. For more information please visit their website [www.polskamisjakatolicka.org](http://www.polskamisjakatolicka.org)

**SATURDAY, APRIL 13 - WALK IN THE PARK AT PARSONS LAKE**

The hike around Herb Parsons Lake will be led by Miłka Mitchell [pasofmemphis@gmail.com](mailto:pasofmemphis@gmail.com). The 6.5-mile trail is located in Fayette County, not far from Collierville. We will meet in the parking lot of this park at 10:30. More on the website:  
For more information about the park and directions please visit [www.alltrails.com/trail/us/tennessee/herb-parsons-lake-trail](http://www.alltrails.com/trail/us/tennessee/herb-parsons-lake-trail)

**SATURDAY, APRIL 27 - SPRING PICNIC**

The traditional Polish Spring Picnic will take place on Saturday, April 27, from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m., at Cameron Brown Park Germantown (entrance from Farmington Blvd). We invite all PAS members, supporters and friends to the picnic. The organization will host the event providing grilled Polish sausage and drinks. We ask all to RSVP to the event to help estimate the amount of provisions needed for the event so we can accommodate all who plan to attend. We also ask that all participants bring a dish to the share. For questions, contact Magdalena Mazur [pasofmemphis@gmail.com](mailto:pasofmemphis@gmail.com)

**SATURDAY, MAY 4 - POLAND REPRESENTED AT THE BOTANIC GARDENS “WORLD OF PLANTS”**

This year PAS members will be representing Poland at the Botanic Garden’s “World of Plants” festival. During this event, the members will share how Poles use different types of herbs for health and wellness purposes. The event will take place on Saturday, May 4th from 10 to 2. Everyone is invited to either participate or stop by to support and visit. For questions, please contact Magda D Vaughan by email [pasofmemphis@gmail.com](mailto:pasofmemphis@gmail.com)

**SATURDAY, MAY 11 - STRAWBERRY PICKING**

Members, supporters and friends of the organizations are invited to join us for a trip to a local farm for strawberry picking. The event will take place at Jones Orchard 7170 Hwy 51 in Millington, TN at 10 am. The organization will provide refreshments for all participants and will fund a basket of picked strawberries for each PAS family who RSVP to participate. Sign up to be a member today, and have the membership fee pay for itself in this one single event!

**SATURDAY, JUNE 1 - FAMILY DAY AND CHILDREN'S DAY (MEMBER ONLY EVENT)**

This year, Family/Children’s Day Celebration, will be for PAS members only. The ceremony will take place at Shelby Farms in the clearing near the stables at 11 am. Sign up to be a member today, and come join us to participate in this super fun event!

### **SATURDAY, JULY 13 - PEACH PICKING**

Members, supporters and friends of the organizations are invited to join us for a trip to a local farm for peach picking. This event will take place at Jones Orchard 6824 Big Creek Church in Millington, TN at 9:00. Peaches picked by participants will not be funded by PAS; however all will be hosted with ice cold refreshments by the organization.

### **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

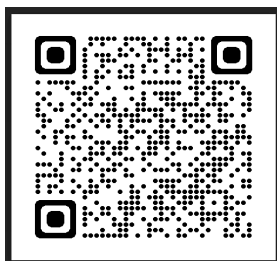
The fiscal year for PAS ended on the last day of January 2024. All members of the organization have access to the financial summary report for 2023 which is attached to this Newsletter. The details of the financial records of the organization are available upon request.

### **HIGHLIGHTS OF EXPENSES INCURRED IN 2023**

The operational costs for PAS in 2023 are as follows: \$260 printing and sending the newsletter, \$250 maintenance costs for the PO box, \$180 maintaining the PAS website, \$300 spring and autumn picnic, \$710 Family Day and PAS anniversary, \$280 Camping for children, \$1520 Elections and Election Dinner, \$190 Independence Day, and \$1,310 Christmas Eve.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

To renew your membership with the Polish-American Society, please pay \$25 per individual or \$50 per family (children under 18 are exempt from membership fees). Full-time students pay \$12 per year. If you are not a member, please consider becoming one today. Members who have paid their dues will benefit from events exclusive to PAS members or from discounted fees for events. Please send checks or money orders along with your completed/signed membership form to: Polish American Society, P.O. Box 770927, Memphis, TN 38177-0927. A paper form is attached to this Newsletter. If you prefer to complete this form and pay membership fees electronically, please log in to our website [pasofmemphis.com](http://pasofmemphis.com).



### **PAS MEMBERS**

In 2023, our organization had 123 members (including 5 honorary members and 4 students). We welcomed 24 new people and their families. The new members are Kasia Bielanska and her husband, Joanna and Scott Haefer, Kristi and Brian Hall, Jessica and Edward Kime, Marzena and John Krahel, Sonia and John McGuire, Jerry Miczek, Pawel Misiun and Marta Szyszka, Matthew Pudzisz, Christopher Rusin, Ela Skorupska and Claude Stevens, Karol Szlacha with his wife, Aneta and Ryan Sweeney and Paweł Wójtowicz. The PAS board welcomes you all and we are excited to see you at this year's events!

### **CONGRATULATIONS**

On January 10, Szymon Kaminski was born. The son of Asia and Mac Kaminski. Weighing 8 pounds, 9 ounces the young parents are enjoying their new baby boy! We wish the family happiness and health.

### **DONATIONS**

As a non-profit we very much cherish donations provided by members and non-members. Last year we received donations from Marilin and Radosław Bieniek, Ruth and Jerry Jurand, and Alicja Michaud. Thank you very much for your generosity!

### **LIBRARY**

We received quite a large collection of books in Polish and we found someone who shares the passion for books and is willing to help us organize them. The books will be cataloged and detailed. Stay tuned on how to check out the books in future communication on our website [pasofmemphis.com](http://pasofmemphis.com)

For questions you can also contact Edek Kozłowski (901) 262-5854.

**POLISH LESSONS**

The second semester of Polish language classes began in January and will end on May 18, 2024 with the ceremonial presentation of diplomas for participation and awards for diligent students. Classes are held at Bert Ferguson Community Center, 8505 Trinity Rd in Cordova, for 4 groups of appropriate age and level of Polish language proficiency on Tuesdays and Wednesdays in the 2023/2024 school year. For more information, please contact Magda Teodorowicz by email: magdalenateodorowicz@yahoo.com.

**POLISH FOOD**

If you are interested in purchasing delicious traditional Polish dishes, please contact Iwona Gaye at 901-864-5251. Enjoy your meal!

**ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS**

Janusz Hofman 901 289-6986 (electrician's license)

**PRESSURE CLEANING**

Andrzej Kamiński 901 859-1122 (terraces, sidewalks, entrances, etc.)

**LEGAL ASSISTANCE IN POLAND**

We recommend that people looking for a representative before all administrative authorities and courts throughout Poland contact Attorney Dariusz Miksiewicz, tel. +48 663-892-274; email: [dariusz.miksiewicz@gmail.com](mailto:dariusz.miksiewicz@gmail.com), and also via WhatsApp, Messenger: [www.facebook.com/darek.miksiewicz](https://www.facebook.com/darek.miksiewicz)

**PAS EVENT CALENDAR FOR 2024**

PAS members and our supporters are asked to RSVP on the website [pasofmemphis.com](http://pasofmemphis.com) for us to properly accommodate each event. For specific details about events you can also contact the meeting organizer. **Please submit your RSVP at least a week before the planned event.** We look forward to seeing you!

January	February	March
	<p><b>February 11</b> - Polish Mass - 1:30 pm St. Ann's, Bartlett</p> <p><b>February 25</b> - Meeman Park Hike</p>	<p><b>March 23</b> - Easter egg painting at Bert Ferguson (A)</p>
April	May	June
<p><b>April 13</b> - Herb Parsons Lake Hike</p> <p><b>April 27</b> - Spring Picnic at Cameron Brown Park Germantown (B)</p>	<p><b>May 4</b> - Poland represented at World of Plants - Botanic Gardens</p> <p><b>May 11</b> - Strawberry picking at Jones Orchard (C)</p> <p><b>May 30</b> - Scholarship Competition</p>	<p><b>June 1</b> - Family Day and Children's Day at Shelby Farms Park (D) CANCELED DUE TO WEATHER</p>
July	August	September
<p><b>July 13</b> - Peach picking in Jones Orchard(E)</p>	<p><b>August 24 RESCHEDULED</b> - Family Day and Children's Day at Shelby Farms Park (D)</p>	<p><b>September 14</b> - Autumn picnic (B)</p> <p><b>September 20-22</b> - Family Camping (F)</p> <p><b>September 28</b> - Germantown International Festival</p>
October	November	December
<p><b>October 19</b> - Pumpkin Patch at Menagerie Farms (G)</p>	<p><b>November 2</b> - Making Christmas tree decorations (H)</p> <p><b>November 9</b> - Polish Independence Day (I)</p>	<p><b>December 8</b> - Festival of Trees at the Pink Palace Museum</p> <p><b>December 14</b> - Polish Christmas Eve</p>

- (A) We provide paints, eggs, and drinks.
- (B) Potluck type party. The organization provides sausages for barbecue, bread, and drinks.
- (C) PAS will provide drinks and one basket of strawberries for each PAS member family present.
- (D) The holiday is for PAS members only. The organization provides pizza, drinks and attractions.
- (E) PAS will provide drinks. Buying your own fruit.
- (F) Trip only for PAS members. We cover camping site reservations from our budget.
- (G) PAS will pay the admission fee for a child - a PAS member. Non-members benefit from group tickets.
- (H) The organization provides materials and drinks.
- (I) Potluck type party. Pea soup and bread will be purchased from the PAS budget.