



POLISH-AMERICAN SOCIETY

“NEWSLETTER” – Polish-American Society Bulletin – February 2026

<http://www.pasofmemphis.com>

February 2026

Memphis, TN

BOARD OF PAS 2026-2027

President	Justyna Zylka-O’Brien	
Vice President	Robert Drozdowski	
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Event Coordinator/Assistant Treasurer	Marta Misiun	

SUMMARY OF THE YEAR 2025 AND REFLECTIONS FROM THE CHRISTMAS EVE CELEBRATION

The year 2025 was a special year for our organization. One of the most important events was the Workshops of Polish Folk and National Dances conducted by professional dancers and a choreographer from Poland. We hope that participants of the program will have an opportunity to present their skills and train the remaining part of the Polish community who were unable to participate in the events.

The flagship event of the year was the Christmas Eve celebration. We enjoyed slideshows from previous years, Nativity plays performed by children from the Polish school, Christmas carols sung by children and adults, and of course Saint Nicholas. The evening was also an opportunity to thank individuals who were particularly involved in our organization: Grażyna Mustwiło for selfless annual preparation of pea soup and mulled wine; Miłka Mitchell for preparing Canva designs for PAS events; Rob Mitchell for creating the organization’s virtual songbook; Magda Mazur and Beata Gaye for long-term service on the board; and Magdalena Teodorowicz and Monika Rosikiewicz for dedicated leadership of the Polish school. We would also like to emphasize that Magdalena Teodorowicz planned, organized, and helped fund the Dance Workshops. She also continuously updates the PAS website and supports the Board in all initiatives. We thank all those recognized above and those not mentioned here. Your contribution to PAS matters and we really appreciate everybody’s efforts!

PAS CONTACT INFORMATION:

To contact the board, please send a message to pasofmem@gmail.com or leave a message at **901-646-1164**. This number is currently the official phone number of our organization.

WAVER AND PAS SURVEY

We invite everyone to actively participate in PAS. An important element of participation is completing the survey attached to this newsletter. The survey is also available on our website or via the QR code provided here. Families who have not yet done so are asked to sign the waiver. PAS Board counts on everyone in polish community. We are also inviting our youth, and we offer them **volunteer hours certificates**.



WEBSITE AND VIRTUAL NEWS

We encourage members to use the virtual version of the newsletter to reduce printing and mailing costs. **Individuals who do not opt for electronic delivery will continue receiving printed copies.** The virtual version is always available on pasofmemphis.com, which will be updated regularly.

JURAND FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP FOR STUDENTS

In May, a new scholarship competition for PAS student members will be announced. The scholarship coordinator is Zbyszek Stroiński who acts as an intermediary between the PAS board and the scholarship committee.

Information about the rules and theme of this year's competition will be sent to members of the organization by e-mail in the first days of May. The Scholarship Council will anonymously select best work, and selected author will receive a \$1,000 check in August of this year.

In connection with the positive opinions regarding the scholarship, the PAS board encourages financial support for the fund. Every, even the smallest contribution, beyond the membership fee, is a wonderful gift that extends the scholarship program and invests in our Polish youth.

POLISH SCHOOL NAMED AFTER NICOLAUS COPERNICUS

The Polish School operates independently but is an integral part of our community. The second semester began in January and concludes on May 12 with diploma presentations. Classes are held at Bert Ferguson Community Center in Cordova for four age and proficiency groups. For more information, contact Director Magdalena Teodorowicz at magdalenateodorowicz@yahoo.com.

SENATE COMPETITION

Rebecca and Marcin Arendt, Halinka and Jacek Dutkiewicz, and Magda Teodorowicz, together with the group in Poland, are again working to obtain funds from the Senate for the local Polish community. We will provide more information on the details of the project, once we receive the funds.

UPCOMING EVENTS

All of our events are updated on our website pasofmemphis.com and on the PAS Facebook page. We kindly encourage members and friends to follow current events regularly.

FEBRUARY 2 – MARCH 1 – ORDERS FOR POLISH PRODUCTS FROM CHICAGO

This year, for the first time, we are offering the opportunity to purchase Polish products at retail prices available to the Polish community in Chicago. An email with a detailed product list and price list was sent to everyone on our emails list at the beginning of February. Orders will be accepted **only until March 1**, and the products will be distributed **before Easter**. By placing orders, you support our organization and help fund our future events!

FEBRUARY 22, SUNDAY – CHOPIN IN PARISIAN SALONS

Recital by **Misook Yun** (soprano) and **Cicilia Yudha** (piano).

2:00–3:00 PM, Beethoven Club, Memphis, TN.

Free admission.

Families with school-age children are welcome.

FEBRUARY 23, MONDAY – CHOPIN IN PARISIAN SALONS

Panel discussion and recital by **Misook Yun** (soprano) and **Cicilia Yudha** (piano).

6:00–8:00 PM, Scheidt Family Performing Arts Center, Memphis, TN.

Free admission.

MARCH 8, SUNDAY – WALK IN MEEMAN–SHELBY FOREST STATE PARK

The first hike of the year will be led by **Magdalena Kamińska** (tel. 901-288-4841).

We will meet in front of the Visitor Center at **10:00 AM**.

Website: www.tennessee.gov/environment/parks/MeemanShelby

MARCH 21, SATURDAY – EASTER EGG DECORATING AND PALM MAKING

We warmly invite both children and adults to participate. Easter egg painting and making traditional Easter palms will take place at **9:00 AM** at the **Bert Ferguson Center**. The organization will provide decorating materials. Please bring **hard-boiled eggs** for decorating.

Registrations and questions: **Marta Misiun** (901) 550-0391.

<https://memphisparcs.com/park/bert-ferguson-park-community-center/>

MARCH 28, SATURDAY – HERB PARSONS LAKE

The hike around Herb Parsons Lake will be led by **Mitka Mitchell** (tel. 901-361-7008).

The **6.5-mile trail** is located in Fayette County near Collierville.

We will meet in the park parking lot at **10:30 AM**.

More information: <https://www.alltrails.com/trail/us/tennessee/herb-parsons-lake-trail>

MAY 2, SATURDAY – SPRING PICNIC & MAY 3rd CONSTITUTION DAY

The traditional spring Polish-American picnic will take place from **4:00–8:00 PM** at **Germantown Municipal Park**.

The organization will provide traditional grilled Polish sausage and beverages. Participants are encouraged to bring a dish to share.

Event coordinator: **Marta Misiun** (901) 550-0391.

Everyone is warmly invited!

MAY 9, SATURDAY – STRAWBERRY PICKING

We invite everyone to join us for strawberry picking at **Jones Orchard**, 7170 Hwy 51, Millington, TN, at **10:00 AM**.

PAS will sponsor **one basket per family** for members whose **2026 membership dues are paid** and who are present during the picking.

JUNE 6, SATURDAY – FAMILY DAY & CHILDREN’S DAY

We are planning a group trip to **Discovery Park of America** in Union City, TN.

Trip details will be announced later.

GENERAL INFORMATION

FINANCIAL MATTERS

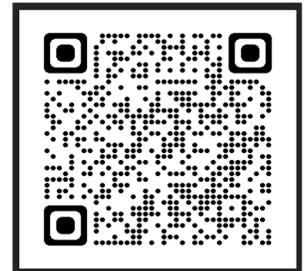
PAS expenses incurred in 2025 amounted to \$8,612. We received \$2,853 from membership dues, \$3,832 from Festival in Jackson, TN, and \$1,730 from Christmas Eve. In the scholarship account our organization has \$7,071. This year we invested in projector, long tablecloths, and table runners. We also paid for storage till July 2027. Details are provided in the attachment included with this newsletter. Members interested in additional information are asked to contact the organization's treasurer, Dana Zabielski (901-216-7963). Several events were financially supported by the **Polish Consulate in Washington**, which covered the costs of the folk dance workshops, supported PAS in promoting Polish food at the International Festival in Jackson, TN (\$1,500), and helped organize our annual Christmas Eve celebration (\$620). We also received **three new Christmas trees** from a private sponsor, Don Losordo, which decorated the Christmas Eve stage.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

To remain a member of the Polish-American Society, annual dues must be paid:

- \$40** per individual
- \$80** per family (children under 18 are exempt)
- \$20** for adult students enrolled full-time

Members with paid dues are eligible for **free or reduced admission** to PAS events.



Checks or money orders, along with a completed and signed membership form, should be mailed to:

Polish-American Society
P.O. Box 770927
Memphis, TN 38177-0927

The form can be found at the end of this newsletter or on the PAS website. Those who prefer electronic forms and payments are asked to log in to pasofmemphis.com.

PAS MEMBERS IN 2025

In 2025, PAS had **117 members** (including 3 honorary members and 6 students).

We welcomed **20 new members and their families**, including:

Tiffany De Groot, Cynthia Griffin, Edward Ganschinetz, Nicole Guyout, Don Losordo, Toni and Brian Issing, David Olszewski, Steven Sauck, Renata and Przemysław Scibisz, Pavica and Luke Sheldon, Katarzyna Soczek and Adrian Grzybowski, Ola Krzyżanowski, Katarzyna Szołtysek, Steve Ulrich, **Agnieszka Karnecka with family**, and student Nathaniel Cambers.

A warm welcome to our Polish community!

CONGRATULATIONS

Asia and Mac Kamiński, as well as Jessica and Edward Ganschinetz, received Visa gift cards from the organization this year on the occasion of the birth of their children. We wish the babies good health and the parents strength and happiness!

FAREWELLS

In 2025, we sadly said goodbye to **Ruth**, the wife of Dr. Jurand, who together with her husband was a very active member of our organization and a sponsor of a scholarship that annually awards **\$1,000** to the scholarship recipient.

LIBRARY

We remind members that the organization owns a large collection of Polish books. A list of titles is available at pasofmemphis.com. The library is managed by **Edek Kozłowski**. Phone: (901) 262-5854.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POLISH-SPEAKING DENTIST

- **Mateusz Kieta**, a third-year dental student at the University of Tennessee College of Dentistry in Memphis, TN, invites adults and children for consultations with X-rays (\$90).
 - Services include teeth cleaning, cavity treatment, crowns, root canals, and dentures.
- Phone: (865) 978-7136 (cell), (901) 448-6468 (clinic)
Email: mkieta@uthsc.edu

LEGAL ASSISTANCE IN POLAND

- For those seeking legal representation before administrative authorities and courts throughout Poland, we recommend **Attorney Dariusz Miksiewicz**.
- Phone: +48 663-892-274
- Email: dariusz.miksiewicz@gmail.com (also via WhatsApp and Messenger)
- Facebook: www.facebook.com/darek.miksiewicz

POLISH CUISINE

- **HALINKA'S POLISH EATERY – THE FIRST POLISH FOOD TRUCK IN MEMPHIS**

- Offers Polish cuisine at festivals, cultural events, and city celebrations.
- The food truck can be found around town or **booked for corporate catering or private events**.

Contact: **Magda Dutkiewicz-Vaughan**

Phone: (615) 618-1615



- If you are interested in purchasing delicious, **TRADYCYJNYCH POLISH FOOD** please contact **Iwona Gaye**.
 - Phone: (901) 864-5251

INSTALACJE ELEKTRYCZNE

- **Janusz Hofman**
Phone: (901) 289-6986 (Janusz is a **licensed electrician**)

PRESSURE CLEANING

Andrzej Kamiński (Andrzej offers cleaning of terraces, sidewalks, driveways, etc.)

- Phone: (901) 859-1122

PAS EVENT CALENDAR FOR 2026

We cordially invite PAS members and supporters to participate in the events we have planned for this year.

January	February	March
	<p>February 1 – March 1 Polish Food Orders from Chicago</p> <p>February 22, 23 - Chopin in Saloons</p>	<p>March 8 - Meeman Park Hike Shelby Forest</p> <p>March 21 – Easter Egg Painting & Eastern Palm decorations in Bert Ferguson Center (A)</p> <p>March 28 - Herb Parsons Lake hike</p>
April	May	June
<p>April 5 - Easter</p>	<p>May 2 - Spring Picnic in Germantown Municipal Park (B)</p> <p>May 9 - Strawberry Picking at Jones Orchard (C)</p> <p>May 30 - Scholarship Competition</p>	<p>June 6 – Family Day & Kids Day; trip to Discovery Park w Union City, TN (D)</p>
July	August	September
<p>July 31 – deadline for Scholarship Competition</p>		<p>September 12 – Fall Picnic in Cameron Brown Park Germantown (B)</p> <p>September 26 - International Food & Art Festival, Jackson, TN</p>
October	November	December
<p>October 2 - 4 - Family Camping in Pickwick State Park (E)</p> <p>October 17 - Pumpkin Patch w Menagerie Farms w Collierville (F)</p>	<p>November 7 - Polish Independence Day at Ulrich’s Farm in Olive Branch, MS (G)</p> <p>November 21 - Preparing Christmas Decorations (H)</p>	<p>December 5 - Polish Christmas Eve</p>

- (A) We provide materials for decorations. Please bring boiled eggs for the Easter eggs.
- (B) Potluck type event. The organization will provide sausage for the grill, bread and drinks.
- (C) PAS will provide drinks and provide a basket of strawberries for one member family.
- (D) A trip only for PAS members. Pas will help in financing group tickets.
- (E) A trip only for PAS members. We will cover campsite reservations from the budget.
- (F) PAS will pay for admission for a child - a PAS member. Non-members use group tickets.
- (G) Potluck type event. Pea soup and bread will be purchased from the PAS budget.
- (H) The organization will provide materials.