



October 2023

PACOM'S BULLETIN

**One never notices what has been done;
one can only see what remains to be done.**

Maria Skłodowska-Curie

My dear Friends, dear Members of PACOM,

I'm currently in Charlottesville, and I'm wondering why there is so little understanding of our beautiful project in Miami. A project that in 2017 seemed extraordinary and unique to us. All of us who gathered in the American Institute of Polish Culture offices at that time shared the same ideas, especially when we saw the beautiful rendering of our future home - Polonia Center - prepared by our architect, Jacek Schindler.

If I remember correctly, almost 90 members signed up that evening to support us in achieving our goals. Could anything be more beautiful than building the Polonia Center in Miami, in a city that millions of people visit during the winter? And then we heard that LOT Polish Airlines just opened a direct flight from Warsaw to Miami. Oh, what a miracle! We would have an even greater influx of Poles to host and welcome at our new Polonia Center

In our enthusiasm, we lived for almost a good year or two. Then, unfortunately, the COVID pandemic stopped us and our exciting plans for nearly two years. During those two years, we learned that the Polish club had many problems, including loans and unpaid debts. The club and the building were falling into disrepair under the last administration, to the point where it was rented out as a wrestling place.

What was supposed to be in our newly built Polish club, our dream Polonia Center? First, the Polish club is beautifully furnished, elegant, capable of hosting distinguished and honorable guests, and a place for entertainment, parties, and family gatherings (baptisms, birthdays, holidays). Most importantly, we could have a Polish language school for children and adults. We could have a library. We could have a dance school where we would teach Polish folklore dances.

We planned a place for Polish offices. I myself was thrilled with the idea of relocating AIPC, Chopin Foundation, and the consulate to the new Polonia building (just to let you know, for our offices, we now pay over \$ 100,000 / year). We wanted a Polish bakery, a café, and a place to eat Polish pastries. Maybe a medical office, a Catholic chapel, and whatever else the Polish soul desires.

We all felt like one big Polish family. We wanted to show the history of Poland, both the good and the sad times in our long one-thousand-year history. We believed that by giving the opportunity to live in a warm climate to people from Boston, Buffalo, and other cold places, they could be members of the Polish club. Young people who love to relax, to spend time with their families, or those who come from Poland could stay there.

The entire Polonia Center would be filled with the love and unity of our Polish community. We would show how much we support each other, respect each other, and love and help each other for all the neighbors to see.

And what happened to all of our dreams, our great efforts, including my personal effort, my over 50 years of work promoting Poland and Poles — their history, joys, and sorrows? Those of you who received now this message from me know best. I won't dwell on this topic any longer. I assure you of one thing: what we started, we will continue with positive people who believe in the success of the Polish home. Success on a large scale in America.

Our actions, although slow, are very well thought out.

I invite you to actively participate to learn how to live and work together. I deeply believe that in 2026, we will be able to dance the Polonaise in our beautiful new ballroom.

Please be patient and understanding.

With warmest regards,

Blanka Rosenstiel

President of PACOM

Establishment of the Executive Building Committee



The Board of Directors, during the August 12th meeting, voted by majority to form an Executive Building Committee, comprising four or five individuals. Their primary responsibility will encompass not only identifying the most suitable investor and builder but also engaging in negotiations on behalf of PACOM. Furthermore, we aim to secure funding for legal counsel to safeguard PACOM's interests effectively.

The Executive Building Committee is an independent organ from the Board of Directors and will play a pivotal role in presenting their choices for scrutiny and discussion to the Board of Directors. Subsequently, these recommendations will be shared with the entire PACOM membership for voting and approval, ensuring complete transparency and clarity. No individual will be permitted to enter into independent agreements.

At this moment, the Executive Building Committee assignment is to start the search for an investor and builder.

Serving on the PACOM Board of Directors is considered an honor and is not associated with any form of compensation.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS**President:**

Blanka Rosenstiel

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A very important message after the Board of Directors Meeting, on August 12, 2023

We had some time to think through our situation, and we have developed an essential action plan for our success. The urgency of our situation demands it; we are against the wall, and we have to do it.

If we don't pay the Polish National Alliance and President Mrs. Sweet, we face potential litigation and property loss. I, Blanka, previously communicated my inability to contribute more funds to PACOM, but no plan was devised to secure the necessary funds. Now, we, Jacek and Blanka, have a solution.

Our financial situation is dire, and we can barely cover basic expenses. To address this, we (the Board of Directors) voted (5 votes for, and 3 votes against) on taking a loan. This will enable us to meet all our financial obligations.

Meanwhile, our board will actively seek investors and builders.

To ensure transparency and responsible decision-making, we voted to establish an Executive Building Committee. This committee will recommend choices to the board and members for voting and approval. Being on the PACOM board is an honor, not compensated financially.

The Board of Directors will meet on a monthly basis, and meetings has been scheduled till the end of the year. In my absence, Jacek Schindler shares the role of President, proving his dedication and competence.

I, Blanka, would like to acknowledge Jacek's vision for the Polonia Center, which has generated enthusiasm and support. Our property's value has risen from \$3 million to \$9.2 million.

Our goal is to build the Polonia Center as a historical monument, honoring the first Polish arrivals in Miami.

Our mission is clear, and we must work together positively for its success.

Blanka Rosenstiel
President

Jacke Schindler
First Vice President
Acting President

Appreciation Notes and Good News

“Focus on an ocean of positives,
not a puddle of negatives.”
— Kevin Ansbro

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our friends from the Hungarian Center, with special thanks to President **Valeria Berki** for warmly inviting us to participate in their remarkable events. Your kindness and hospitality mean the world to us.

We wholeheartedly recommend that ALL members, past, present, and incoming, attend the fantastic events organized by the Hungarian Center. There's something for everyone to enjoy, as they offer a diverse range of engaging activities.



We extend our heartfelt gratitude to **Mr. John Richard Turski** for graciously accepting the role of Chairman of the membership within our organization. His willingness to take on this responsibility is a testament to his commitment to our community.

As we move forward, Mr. Turski will play a vital role in managing and overseeing all aspects related to your membership. Whether it concerns your current membership status or any future membership-related matters, you can expect to hear from him directly.

We are fortunate to have Mr. Turski's dedication and leadership within our organization, and we look forward to the positive impact he will undoubtedly bring to our membership community. Please feel free to reach out to him for any membership-related inquiries or assistance you may require in the future. Together, we can continue strengthening our community and making it an even more vibrant and welcoming place for all.



We wish to express our sincere appreciation to the esteemed members of the Executive Building Committee, **Mr. Zbigniew Klonowski, Mr. Daniel Olech, Mr. John Roland, and Mr. Zbigniew Jarosz**, for graciously accepting their pivotal roles in this endeavor.

Their dedication and willingness to take on these responsibilities reflect their unwavering commitment to our shared vision. With their expertise and guidance, we are confident that we are in capable hands as we embark on this important project.

Their involvement is instrumental in steering this initiative toward success, and we are truly fortunate to have such dedicated individuals at the helm. Their collective efforts will undoubtedly leave a lasting and positive impact on our community.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to each of them for their valuable contributions and look forward to the journey ahead under their capable leadership.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

 Name: _____  Phone: _____
 Date of birth: _____  E-mail: _____

What is your address?

What is your nationality?

What is your occupation?

Are you resident of Florida?

What are your reasons for joining the Club?

How did you hear about PACOM?

Please send the application form along with a \$40 check to the address below:

1440 79th Street Causeway
Suite 117, Miami, FL 33141



Please note that membership dues will increase to \$100 from January 2024.

Radiant Resplendence: A Pictorial Anthology of Lady Blanka's Accolades

We are presenting these awards in recognition of Lady Blanka's outstanding contributions and unwavering dedication to promoting Poland and Polish culture for over five decades. Lady Blanka is an accomplished philanthropist and a trusted individual whose commitment to her endeavors is genuinely exceptional.

Throughout her remarkable journey, Lady Blanka has accumulated numerous medals and diplomas from prestigious institutions in Poland and abroad. These accolades reflect her passion and her undeniable success in championing the cause she holds dear.

Lady Blanka Rosenstiel's enduring commitment, trustworthiness, and remarkable ability to see her undertakings through to successful completion make her a shining example of what can be achieved through dedication and passion. We honor her today for her exceptional service to Poland and its culture, and we look forward to many more years of her inspiring work.

In addition to honoring Lady Blanka today, we would like to extend our gratitude to the esteemed members of our board of directors. Your continued support is invaluable to us. As we move forward, we aspire to showcase the dedication and contributions of each board member in our future bulletins. To achieve this, we kindly ask all board members to get in touch and share insights, experiences, and achievements that we can feature and celebrate. Together, we can amplify the impact of our collective efforts in promoting Poland and its rich cultural heritage. Thank you for your ongoing commitment and collaboration














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We are delighted to announce that preparations for the **12th Chopin Piano Competition** in 2025 are already underway! We are just a few steps away from another extraordinary edition, and the anticipation is truly thrilling. Stay tuned for more updates as we get closer to this exciting event!



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