



April 2024

PACOM'S BULLETIN

*Message from the President
- Looking Ahead to the Future*

Dear PACOM Members and Friends,

I trust this message finds you in good health and high spirits as we draw closer to the 2024 Election. At the outset of the year, we celebrated a remarkable milestone with our successful engagement with neighborhood representatives in the Benevolent Police Association. As demonstrated in numerous Miami River Commission meetings, their acceptance of our plans for the 8-story building propelled us toward a pivotal final meeting with the City Commissioners to secure approval for our Polonia Center's new zoning designation.

*My esteemed friends, we are making significant strides. **The zoning process is complete, giving us the green light to construct an impressive 8-story building!** The Executive Building Committee is poised to compile a comprehensive list of potential developers for our Center.*

As we approach the election of a new board, let us take a moment to reflect on the key achievements of the past year. Over the course of numerous Board of Directors meetings, held both virtually and in person, we have delved into various project intricacies and the overall welfare of PACOM.

Some notable accomplishments include:

- The formation of the Executive Building Committee, composed of Club members not on the Board, to ensure unbiased decision-making in the selection of a developer for our Polonia Center Project. I extend my gratitude to Committee members: Mr. Zbigniew Klonowski, Mr. Zbigniew Jarosz, Mr. John Roland, and Mr. Daniel Olech, who serves as the Committee's chairman.

- Sustained efforts to secure a loan to address our financial commitments, including debts owed to the Polish National Alliance, totaling over \$200,000, which have impeded progress on our project. It is imperative that we settle our debt to the Polish National Alliance in this coming year.

- The appointment of Mr. Buck as PACOM advisor and accountant.

- The establishment of a Nominating Committee tasked with overseeing elections, composed of Club members not on the Board. The role of the Nominating Committee is to solicit, receive, and review nominations for candidates for the Executive Committee and Board of Directors.

- The meticulous update and modernization of PACOM's Constitution, soon to be ratified by all PACOM members.

None of the aforementioned achievements could have been realized without the collaborative efforts of ALL Board Members.

Thank you for your unwavering dedication to these endeavors, and I eagerly anticipate our continued cooperation and advancement in the year ahead.

Warm regards,
Blanka Rosenstiel
President of PACOM



BOARD OF DIRECTORS**President:**

Blanka Rosenstiel

1st Vice President:

Jacek Schindler

Vice President:

Wesley Kwasniak

Vice President:

Les Surowiec

Vice President:

Lech Zalewski

Treasurer:

Rose Kruszewski

Director:

John Richard Turski

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Adoption of Conflict of Interest Policy for PACOM

Dear Members of PACOM,

As we continue to move forward with our ambitious projects and initiatives, we must uphold the highest standards of integrity, transparency, and accountability. In light of this, I propose that PACOM adopt a Conflict of Interest Policy to ensure that our actions are always aligned with the greater good of our organization and community rather than for personal gain.

As highlighted in the provided text and recognized by nonprofit governance best practices, a written policy on conflicts of interest is essential for effective management. Such a policy would require individuals with conflicts or potential conflicts to disclose them transparently. Furthermore, it would prohibit interested board members from voting on any matter in which a conflict exists.

Formalizing this policy demonstrates our commitment to ethical conduct and responsible stewardship of PACOM's resources. This policy will enhance transparency and accountability within our organization and strengthen public trust and confidence in our mission and activities.

Furthermore, compliance with conflict of interest policies is not just a matter of good governance; it also has legal implications. Failure to manage conflicts of interest appropriately can result in significant penalties, as outlined by the IRS. Therefore, adopting a robust conflict of interest policy is crucial for protecting both our organization's integrity and our members' interests.

In addition to adopting a written policy, we must establish clear procedures for managing conflicts and regularly review and update the policy as needed. This ensures that our governance practices align with regulatory requirements and best practices in the nonprofit sector. In conclusion, I urge all members to support the adoption of a Conflict of Interest Policy for PACOM. By doing so, we reaffirm our commitment to ethical leadership and responsible decision-making, thereby safeguarding our organization's long-term success and sustainability.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Jacek Schindler

First Vice President of PACOM

MEMBERSHIP MEETING
April 27, 2024; 3:00 PM EST

We are thrilled to announce a special membership meeting, wherein all active members in good standing will have the invaluable opportunity to vote on the amendment of our current constitution. This historic event signifies a pivotal step towards aligning our governing document with the demands and dynamics of contemporary times.

The proposed amendments to our constitution were disseminated via email on Saturday, April 12, 2024, by the Nomination Committee. If, by any chance, you have not received the proposed constitution, please promptly reach out to Mr. Leszek Ladowski for assistance.

We earnestly encourage each and every PACOM member to actively participate in this significant meeting, as your input and engagement are vital to the evolution and enhancement of our organization.

Please note that only active members in good standing will be eligible to vote. For your convenience, we present the most up-to-date members list for your reference.

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Eva Kordos | 22. Ada Kwasniak |
| 2. Dr. Ewa Piacentie | 23. John Roland |
| 3. Leszek Ladowski | 24. Andrzej Lach |
| 4. Jadwiga Ladowski | 25. Adrian Grobelny |
| 5. Jacek Schindler | 26. John Kolasinski |
| 6. Iga Henderson | 27. Beata Bezen |
| 7. Jadwiga Garbacik | 28. Wojciech Bezen |
| 8. Mariusz Sosnowski | 29. Katarzyna Bezen |
| 9. Katarzyna Sosnowski | 30. Les Surowiec |
| 10. Vanessa Bijak | 31. Maximilian Surowiec |
| 11. Tomasz Osinski | 32. Blanka Rosenstiel |
| 12. John Turski | 33. Rose Kruszeski |
| 13. Ewa Linder | 34. Wesley Kwasniak |
| 14. Daniel Olech | 35. Lech Zalewski |
| 15. Malvina Olech | 36. Charles Korzeb |
| 16. Duane Treeman | 37. Monika DeMari (suspended member) |
| 17. Liliana Treeman | |
| 18. John Kruszewski | |
| 19. Zbigniew Klonowski | |
| 20. Aska Klonowski | |
| 21. Anna Klonowski | |
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ANNUAL ELECTIONS FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2024A graphic with a red top bar and a yellow bottom bar. The text "ELECTIONS DAY" is written in large, bold, black letters in the center of the yellow bar.

ELECTIONS DAY

The Nominating Committee seeks individuals interested in leadership roles within the Polish American Club of Miami, Inc. for the upcoming elections.

If you're a paid member with time to spare and innovative ideas for the club's future, we warmly invite you to consider joining the Board of Directors. To express your interest, submit your resume specifying the position you're interested in. Each candidacy will be thoroughly reviewed.

Please send your nominations to the Nominating Committee at: leszek.ladowski@ceefedecham.com

Along with your nomination, kindly attach your:

CV/Bio,

Picture ID,

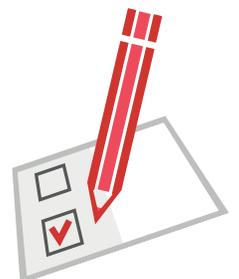
Proof of 2023 & 2024 Membership Payments.

Join us in proudly serving our club until the completion of the Polonia Center, which will provide us with a new and cherished home. With your input, we can strive for greatness.

Your participation is crucial to our success, and we eagerly await your involvement. Together, let's shape the future of our club and create a welcoming and vibrant community. The Nominating Committee encourages everyone to submit their resume and picture ID or nominate a trusted individual.

We look forward to receiving your submissions. Let's work together to make a positive impact, not only for the PACOM Community and Polonia in Florida but for the Polish community worldwide, through the creation of the Polonia World Center of the Americas.

The Election Date will be announced after the new constitution is approved.



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 \$100 check to the address below:

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



Celebrating May 1st and May 3rd in Poland: A Reflection on Tradition and Independence

In Poland, the beginning of May is marked by two significant events, both of which hold deep historical and cultural importance: May 1st, known as Labor Day, and May 3rd, the anniversary of the adoption of the Constitution of May 3, 1791. These dates are celebrated with various events and activities throughout the country, reflecting on Poland's resilience, determination, and unity.

May 1st: Labor Day

May 1st, or Labor Day, is celebrated worldwide, and Poland is no exception. However, the significance of this day in Poland goes beyond the recognition of workers' rights. It is a day when people come together to honor the achievements of the labor movement and the workers' contribution to the country's development.

In Poland, May 1st is a public holiday, and people typically take the opportunity to relax, spend time with family, and engage in various leisure activities. Parades, concerts, and picnics are organized in many cities and towns across the country, providing a platform for workers' organizations, trade unions, and political parties to voice their concerns, advocate for workers' rights, and celebrate their achievements.



May 3rd: Constitution Day

May 3rd is one of the most important national holidays in Poland. It commemorates the Constitution of May 3, 1791, which was the first modern constitution in Europe and the second in the world, after the United States Constitution.

The May 3, 1791, Constitution was a landmark achievement that aimed to reform the political system and strengthen the Polish state. It enshrined the principles of political equality, religious tolerance, and parliamentary democracy. Despite being short-lived due to foreign intervention, the Constitution of May 3rd remains a symbol of Polish national identity, democratic aspirations, and the struggle for independence.

On May 3rd, various events and ceremonies are held throughout Poland to honor the significance of the constitution. These include official gatherings, patriotic parades, historical reenactments, concerts, and exhibitions. Schools, government institutions, and cultural organizations play an essential role in educating people, especially the younger generation, about the historical significance of May 3rd and its enduring legacy.

Celebrating May 1st and May 3rd is not merely about looking back at history; it is about embracing the values that these days represent and reaffirming the commitment to build a better future. It is a time for Poles to come together, to remember their past, and to celebrate their unity, resilience, and determination. These celebrations serve as a reminder of the sacrifices made by previous generations and the responsibility of current and future generations to uphold the values of democracy, freedom, and solidarity.



PACOM Project in Media

We're thrilled to share that the Polish newspaper "White Eagle" has published an article about PACOM's Polonia Center project! The article, written in Polish, delves into the details of our ambitious endeavor. You can read the full piece on the newspaper's website to learn more about our exciting initiative and the impact it will have on the Polish-American community. Check it out for an in-depth look at our progress and vision for the future!

Imponujący projekt

8 marca 2024

785 0



8 pięter, 40 tys. stóp kwadratowych powierzchni biurowych, sale bankietowa i konferencyjna na 20 tys. stóp kwadratowych, a dodatkowo przestrzenne powierzchnie handlowo-usługowe na parterze – projekt Polsko-Amerykańskiego Klubu w Miami robi wrażenie, ale czy i kiedy zostanie zrealizowany? Koncepcja powstała już kilka lat temu, jednak teraz jest szansa, że sprawy nabiorą rozpędu.



Wizualizacja projektu nowego budynku Polsko-Amerykańskiego Klubu w Miami. Fot. polishamericanclubofmiami.org

Polsko-Amerykański Klub w Miami istnieje od 1938 roku. W długiej historii klubu były okresy dynamicznego rozwoju, ale i czas, gdy klub działał nieco mniej prężnie. Zmienić ten stan rzeczy ma nowa siedziba klubu, zlokalizowana przy 1250 Northwest 22nd Avenue w Allapattah, tuż nad rzeką Miami. W nowoczesnym budynku w samym centrum Miami swoją siedzibę miałyby znaleźć głównie polskie instytucje – od Konsulatu RP poprzez Fundację Chopinowską, Amerykański Instytut Kultury Polskiej czy polskie sklepy, restauracje i biznesy.

Pomysłodawczynią budowy nowego Polonijnego Centrum w Miami jest Blanka Rosenstiel – od ponad dwóch dekad honorowa konsul RP w Miami, założycielka Fundacji Chopinowskiej, Amerykańskiego Instytutu Kultury Polskiej, jak również dożywotnia członkini i prezes Polsko-Amerykańskiego Klubu w Miami. Pierwsze rozmowy na ten temat odbyły się już w 2017 roku. Rok później dokonano rozbiórki hali zbudowanej w 1941 roku, która służyła za miejsce spotkań i imprez. W tym samym czasie rozpoczęło się planowanie budowy nowej siedziby.



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Chopin Foundation of the United States
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Email: info@chopin.org
www.chopin.org

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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The American Institute of Polish Culture Inc.

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vanessa.bijak@poloniumfoundation.org
to talk about Polish Scientific Diaspora in the USA

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