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July 2024

## **PACOM'S BULLETIN**

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

*My dear members of the Board and all members at large,*

*I am in Charlottesville, Virginia and at last, I can sit down in a quiet place and write to you about the accomplishments our Board was able to achieve.*

*As you remember, we have already celebrated the new Constitution. It was approved and recorded by our lawyer, Mr. Richard Bolko. I wanted to thank Mr. Bolko for attending to this very important issue. Unfortunately, in spite of our best wishes, the Constitution was approved too late this year, which did not allow for a properly organized election of the Board of Directors.*

*We can now celebrate another milestone: we have secured a loan to repay all PACOM debts, which exceeded \$2 million. I am happy to report now that all PACOM debts have been repaid.*

*During my presidency, Jacek and I established a new committee, the Executive Building Committee, responsible for reviewing proposals from developers to build our new building. Now, in light of our recent accomplishments, the Committee can proceed, and I hope they will have a final proposal within the next few months, as we need to act quickly.*

*Since assuming control of PACOM in 2017 and shouldering the financial burdens mostly myself, we have seen substantial growth in the value of PACOM's land: from \$4 million in 2017 to \$7.4 million in 2019, \$9.2 million in 2022 and \$13.3 million in 2024. If the debts I paid myself had not been settled, we could have lost the land. The rest of the Board, with the exception of Rose Kruszewski, Wesley Kwasniak, and Lech Zalewski, did not participate in any expenses.*

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*Our financial position remains strong despite the \$3.6 million in loans. The loan funds have been securely deposited into a special bank account, with any surplus to be used for approved payments under the oversight of the Board of Directors. We send a certain amount of money to Rose Kruszewski, our treasurer, whenever needed to pay the small monthly bills. Before making the final decision regarding the builder and investor, I will manage the funds and provide you with reports.*

*Summer (hurricane seasons, many members out of town, etc.) is not an appropriate time to gather all electees for the necessary voting. Thus, we have to postpone the elections until early November (which is also a usual time per our Constitution), and I remain in charge until election time.*

*Under my Presidency, no harm will occur to the progress in accomplishing our goal. Yes, this dream, our dream to build a Polish Club, is held on schedule.*

*I want to share with you the following: We have established four dates for Zoom meetings (please write them down and remember them):*

*July, 28th 2:00-4:00 PM  
August 25th, 2:00-4:00 PM  
September 22nd, 2:00-4:00 PM  
October 20th, 2:00-4:00 PM*

*Before each date, we will send out a detailed agenda along with the Zoom link and information on how to access the meeting. With that information, everyone will be able to prepare in advance for meaningful discussions. Everyone is invited to attend this meeting.*

*I would like to bring an order to our meeting, and I hope all Board Members will adhere to that. I wish you all a blessed summer, and I hope to see many of you during our Zoom meetings!*

*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

**Contact**

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



[polishamericanclubofmiami.org](http://polishamericanclubofmiami.org)



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**INVITATION TO MONTHLY MEETINGS**

Dear PACOM Members,

As the summer season brings both the threat of hurricanes and the reality of many members being out of town, we have decided to postpone our elections until early November, which is in line with our Constitution. I will remain in charge until then, ensuring no disruption in our progress towards achieving our dream of building a Polish Club.

In the meantime, I invite you to join our monthly summer Zoom meetings on the following dates:

July 28th, 2:00-4:00 PM  
August 25th, 2:00-4:00 PM  
September 22nd, 2:00-4:00 PM  
October 20th, 2:00-4:00 PM



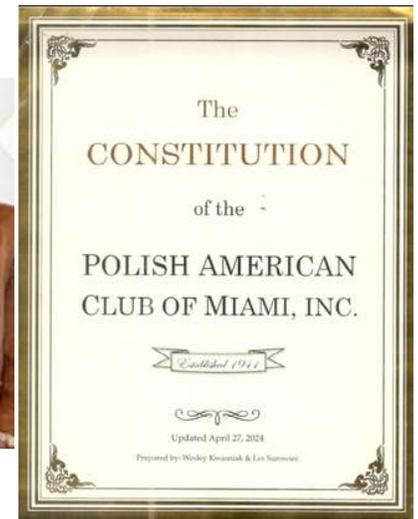
Everyone is encouraged to attend. Before each meeting, we will send out a detailed agenda, Zoom link, and access instructions. This will allow for meaningful and productive discussions. I hope all Board Members will adhere to this for orderly and effective meetings.

Sincerely,

*Blanka Rosenstiel*  
President of PACOM

*Jacek Schindler*  
First Vice President of PACOM

## NEW UPDATED CONSTITUTION



I am excited to highlight the PACOM meeting that took place on Saturday, April 27th. Though the meeting was initially scheduled to be held at the Hungarian Club, I requested that it be moved to my apartment so that we could host a magnificent celebration of our recent achievements. That Saturday was filled with joy and a look towards a bright future!

First and foremost, we celebrated the successful update of our PACOM constitution. It was a challenging task that took considerable effort and time to achieve. Thanks to the dedicated contributions of Mr. Wesley Kwasniak and Mr. Les Surowiec, we now have a new, updated constitution. This updated document ensures that we can continue to serve our community effectively for years to come.

Our updated Constitution, however, this approval was conditional since there was no second reading as it should have been per the original Constitution, is a significant milestone, marking a new chapter for PACOM. It reflects our commitment to continuous improvement and our dedication to the community. I am confident that with this strong foundation, we will achieve even greater success in the future. Thank you all for your ongoing support and dedication.



Blanka Rosenstiel  
PACOM President

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## Celebrating Polish Heritage: Festivals and Events Across the United States

Polish culture and traditions significantly contribute to America's cultural tapestry. From lively celebrations of Polish heritage to delectable cuisine, Poland's cultural impact is both vibrant and enduring.

### Polish Festivals in the U.S.

Across the United States, Polish festivals celebrate Poland's heritage, bringing traditions to life. These events showcase music, dance, and food, providing a deep dive into Polish culture. For Polish-Americans, these festivals are a vital link to their roots, featuring traditional dances like the polonaise, Polka bands, and authentic Polish dishes. They are not just enjoyable events but crucial for preserving Polish culture.

For those unfamiliar with Polish traditions, these festivals offer a fantastic cultural exchange. Imagine participating in a pierogi cooking class, watching a folk dance performance, and ending the day with a Polka band. These festivals also feature stalls selling Polish crafts, allowing visitors to take home a piece of Poland.

### Traditional Polish Cuisine

A highlight of Polish festivals is the cuisine, reflecting the country's history and culture. Dishes like pierogi (dumplings), kielbasa (sausage), and bigos (hunter's stew) are not just food but symbols of Poland's agricultural roots and community spirit. These foods keep Polish traditions alive, especially among the diaspora in America, by sharing these meals at festivals and family gatherings.

Polish cuisine continues to evolve, blending traditional flavors with modern techniques, showing its dynamic nature.

### Folk Music and Dance

Polish culture in America shines through its folk music and dance, capturing the essence of Polish traditions. Instruments like the accordion and violin connect listeners to Poland's countryside origins, while dances like the Mazurka and Polonaise showcase grace and strength, reflecting Poland's history. These cultural expressions link Polish Americans to their roots and invite others to explore Polish heritage.

Events like folk festivals or dance performances provide lively, authentic experiences of Poland's artistic legacy, enriching the cultural tapestry of the wider community.

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### Community and Cultural Organizations

Polish Americans have created a network of cultural centers, heritage schools, folk dance ensembles, and choirs that keep their cultural heritage alive. These organizations offer language classes, history lessons, and performances that help Polish Americans maintain their cultural identity while sharing it with a broader audience.

### Conclusion

Polish culture and traditions are thriving in the U.S., thanks to community efforts and cultural organizations. From festivals and traditional cuisine to folk music and dance, Polish culture enriches America's diversity and ensures that Polish heritage continues to be celebrated and passed down to future generations.

### **Upcoming Polish events:**

#### PIEROGI FEST® - July 26, 27, & 28th 2024

"Held in Downtown Whiting, Pierogi Fest provides an annual opportunity for people to return to their roots, celebrate their heritage, and have a lot of fun. The incredible event draws more than 300,000 people from across the nation and the world. Numerous live music acts will be performing throughout the three-day event across multiple stages, and dozens of food vendors will be serving up tasty eats to enjoy."

#### The 49th Annual Boyne Falls Polish Festival - August 1-4, 2024

#### Annual Polish American Family Festival & Country Fair - August 31, September 1-2 & 7-8, 2024

"The Polish American Family Festival and Country Fair has been held at our Shrine for over 50 years! It is a five-day celebration of family, fun, and heritage! Attracting over 25,000 visitors a year, our festival is the region's largest Polish American festival."

#### The 25th Annual Polish Film Festival Los Angeles

"Poland produces incredible films. This year we will celebrate the 25-year long camaraderie with Polish films. Polish film-makers are recognized worldwide for their superb skills, talents, and dedication to the art of motion pictures. Directors such as Krzysztof Kieslowski, Roman Polański, Andrzej Wajda, and Agnieszka Holland are the pride and joy of Polish contemporary culture. With the intention of being exposed to Los Angeles audiences, it is only natural to bring Polish films to Hollywood."

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# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

 Name: \_\_\_\_\_  Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_  E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

What is your address?

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What is your nationality?

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What is your occupation?

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Are you resident of Florida?

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What are your reasons for joining the Club?

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How did you hear about PACOM?

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Please send the application form along with a \$100 check to the address below:

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



Mr. Hale has informed us that the attached letter was sent to Mr. Pawlowski, but no response has been received. We sincerely hope this matter can be resolved without escalating to a court case

**CHRISTOPHER D. HALE, P.A.**

A FLORIDA PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

CHRISTOPHER D. HALE \*

\* Also Admitted to Practice in:  
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FACSIMILE (954) 530-3073  
CHALE@HALEPALAW.COM

June 18, 2024

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

Michel Pawlowski  
109 Kings Quarry Lane  
St. Augustine Beach, FL 32080**Re: The Polish American Club of Miami, Inc.  
Cease and Desist Letter**

Dear Mr. Pawlowski,

Please be advised that this office represents the Polish American Club of Miami, Inc. ("PACOM"). Please direct all further correspondence to the undersigned. It has been brought to my attention that you have been repeatedly harassing various board members of PACOM and have been deliberately disseminating misrepresentations of fact and false accusations pertaining to these board members, including, but not limited to, Lady Blanka Rosentiel, Jacek Schindler and Rose Kruszewski. Moreover, you have made patently false accusations to State of Florida Department of State, Department of Agriculture and the Attorney General accusing PACOM board members and representatives of committing felonious acts, which are absolutely false and without legal cause. Furthermore, an email delivered by you on May 27, 2024 is riddled with false statements alleging that the Board was complicit in your admittedly false and fraudulent SBA EIDL loan application and which further defames Ms. Rosentiel and Mr. Schindler. You have gone so far as to write that the various State Departments listed above have initiated investigations against PACOM and various Board members and representatives. All of the above was committed by you knowingly and with the intent to harm the reputations of the above people and PACOM as a whole.

**THIS LETTER IS PACOM'S SPECIFIC AND EXPRESS DEMAND THAT YOU IMMEDIATELY CEASE ANY AND ALL SUCH ACTIVITY. FURTHERMORE, YOU ARE DIRECTED TO IMMEDIATELY CONTACT ANY AND ALL PERSONS, FIRMS, COMPANIES AND GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, IN WHICH YOU HAVE MADE ANY SUCH STATEMENTS OR REPRESENTATIONS AND PROVIDE A FULL WRITTEN RETRACTION OF SAME. THIS INCLUDES REMOVING ANY SUCH REFERENCE(S) FROM SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS.** My client is to be copied with all such communications pertaining to any retraction. Should you refuse to do so, PACOM and its affected board members shall swiftly avail themselves of all available legal remedies including seeking monetary and punitive damages, injunctive relief, and recovery of their costs and attorney's fees as provided by Florida law.

GOVERN YOURSELF ACCORDINGLY.

Sincerely,

CHRISTOPHER D. HALE, P.A.

  
Christopher D. Hale  
For the Firm

CDH/mfg

cc: Blanka Rosentiel @ [blankarosenstiel7@gmail.com](mailto:blankarosenstiel7@gmail.com)  
Jacek Schindler @ [jws@schindlerarchitects.com](mailto:jws@schindlerarchitects.com)

## Wianki: The Midsummer Night Celebration

In Poland, June is marked by the enchanting celebration of Wianki, also known as Noc Świętojańska or Kupala Night. This ancient Slavic tradition, which coincides with the summer solstice, is one of the most anticipated cultural festivities of the year. Wianki, translating to "wreaths," is a night filled with folklore, rituals, and community gatherings that honor the natural world and the mysteries of midsummer.

The heart of Wianki is the wreath-making ritual. Young women weave intricate wreaths from flowers and herbs, which are then set afloat on rivers and lakes. According to tradition, the path of the wreath on the water predicts the future of the woman who made it. If a wreath floats steadily, it signifies good fortune and a forthcoming marriage, while a sinking wreath might foretell less favorable outcomes. This charming custom is often accompanied by music, dancing, and bonfires.

Bonfires play a significant role in the celebrations, symbolizing the power of the sun at its peak and its impending decline. People gather around the fires, singing traditional songs, and sometimes daring to leap over the flames as a rite of passage and a means of ensuring good health and prosperity.

Wianki is not only a celebration of nature and love but also a night imbued with magical undertones. Folklore suggests that on this night, the boundary between the physical world and the mystical realm is thin, making it a time when supernatural forces are at play. People engage in various customs and superstitions, such as searching for the mythical fern flower, believed to bring good luck and happiness to its finder.

Celebrations of Wianki can be found across Poland and among Polish communities worldwide, often accompanied by concerts, performances, and communal festivities. In cities like Kraków, the tradition has evolved into a large cultural event, drawing locals and tourists alike to partake in the joyous and mystical midsummer night.



#Wianki on the National Mall! Polish folk groups perform by the Lincoln Memorial reflecting pool in Washington, DC!

Make sure to mark your calendars for the next year!

## Echoes of Polish History

### The Battle of Grunwald (July 15, 1410)

The Battle of Grunwald, also known as the Battle of Tannenberg, stands as one of the most significant and largest battles in medieval European history. Fought on July 15, 1410, it saw the forces of the Kingdom of Poland and the Grand Duchy of Lithuania, under the joint command of King Władysław II Jagiełło and Grand Duke Vytautas, clash with the formidable Teutonic Knights.

#### Historical Significance

The Battle of Grunwald is celebrated as a symbol of Polish and Lithuanian unity and strength. It marked a pivotal moment in the struggle for regional dominance and the defense of sovereignty against foreign aggression. The victory bolstered the prestige of both Poland and Lithuania, paving the way for the future consolidation of their territories and the eventual formation of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth.

#### Legacy and Commemoration

Today, the Battle of Grunwald holds a cherished place in Poland and Lithuania's national memory. It is commemorated annually with various events, including reenactments, ceremonies, and educational programs. The site of the battle is a popular historical landmark, attracting visitors who wish to pay homage to this momentous chapter in medieval history.

The Battle of Grunwald remains a testament to the enduring spirit of resilience and cooperation between Poland and Lithuania. It reminds us of the importance of unity in the face of adversity and the power of collective action in shaping the course of history.



Jan Matejko - Battle of Grunwald - MP 443 - National Museum in Warsaw



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**Advertise with PACOM Bulletin: Reach a Growing Audience!**

Are you looking to connect with a vibrant and engaged Polish American community? Look no further than the PACOM Bulletin! Each month, our publication reaches an ever-growing number of members and enthusiasts who are passionate about Polish culture, heritage, and community events.

With our readership expanding steadily, advertising in the PACOM Bulletin offers you a unique opportunity to showcase your business, services, or events to a dedicated and appreciative audience.

Whether you're promoting a local business, upcoming event, or special offer, the PACOM Bulletin is the perfect platform to get your message out. Our advertising options are flexible and affordable, designed to meet the needs of both small businesses and larger organizations.

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!

**CHICAGO**  
OCTOBER 18-20  
2024

**60 MILLION**  
CONGRESS  
U.S. GLOBAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE




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