

**POLISH AMERICAN
COUNCIL OF
TEXAS**

**2022-2023
DIRECTORY**



Everything Polish in Texas!



**Calendar
Photos**

www.PACTX.org

**Members
& More**

DIRECTORY INDEX

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

Bartosiewicz, Roger	26
Bielamowicz, Jerome	26
Brown, Maureen	13
Cebrowski, John & Amanda	13
Conger, Marilyn	26
Coughlin, Laura	26
Ellisor, Jane	26
Gmurowski, Art	13
Kraus, Genny	14
Kruzel, Dr. Marian	26
Kubiak, Denis	14
Kurtin, Michael	15
Lukaszewski, Dr. Witold	15
Malak, Clara	26
Mazewski-Dryden, Jolanta	15
Mazik, Nicholas	15
Mazurkiewicz, James	16
McCarthy, Marguerite Sue	16
Moczygemba, Elaine & Virgil	16
Moczygemba-McKinsey, Susan	16
Mushinski, Bradley	17
Opiela, Eric	26
Ostrowski, Tom	26
Pienkos, Dr. Mark	17
Pienkos, Ann	17
Rusiecki, Robert - Consulate General of the Republic of Poland	13
Schirmer, Mary Ann Kotara	18
Sontag, Marie	18
Stephens, Elaine Mazurek	18
Walicki, Mark	19
Yanta, Bishop John W.	19, 20
Zawistowski, Thaddeus	26
Zielinski, Rafal	26
Zientek Jr., John	19

FAMILY MEMBERS

Brzezinski, Debbie	21
Czyz, Joseph	26
Dunal, Artur & Magdalena	26
Dylla, Laura & Paul	21
Korzekwa, Bertha & Gabriel	21
Kotara, Susie & Sam	21
Kowalik, George & Betty	22
Kubiak, Nick	14
Kusinski, Grzegorz & Stephanie	22
Kundrotas, Dr. Leon & Mrs. Alina Ordon	26
Mazurkiewicz, Dr. Jim & Kathy	23
Maroney, Joan & Dave	27
Mitchell, Pamela & Dwight	26
Notzon, Aloys & Angela	23
Priebe, Dr. Waldemar	26
Przybylski, Dr. Piotr	24
Schaefer, Amanda & Steven	26
Sikorski, Mark & Zhanna	26

Skrobarcek, Eddie & Debbie	26
Skrobarczyk, John & Denise	23
Titzman, Lambert & Rosalie	23
Wojtaszczyk, John & Christie	24

ORGANIZATION MEMBERS

Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church, St. Hedwig	27
Austin Polish Society	28
Bandera County Sister Partnership Association ..	28
Bremond Chamber of Commerce	29
Chappell Hill Historical Society	30
Father Leopold Moczygemba Foundation	30
General Casimir Pulaski Society	31
Holy Cross Catholic Church, Yorktown	31
Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church, Panna Maria	32
Jagoda Polish Folk Dance Ensemble	32
Jan Karski Polish School of Dallas	33
Our Lady of Czestochowa Parish	33
Panna Maria Historical Society	34
Polish American Chamber of Commerce	34
Polish American Priests Association	35
Polish Heritage Center at Panna Maria	36
Polish National Alliance	35
Sacred Heart Historical Society	37
St. Ann's Catholic Church, Kosciusko	37
St. Michael Catholic Church	38
St. John Paul II Institute, University of St. Thomas	25
St. Stanislaus Catholic Church, Bandera	38
St. Stanislaus Catholic Church, Chappell Hill	39
University of Texas at Austin Center for European Studies	39
University of Texas at Austin Center for Russian, East European & Eurasian Studies ...	40

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Texas A&M Polish Association	41
University of Texas Polish Club	41

CORPORATE MEMBERS

Apolonia Catering	41
Anna Palka-Boyett, Certified Translator	42
Beata Burgeson, Real Estate Agent	42
Burzynski Clinic	43
Yvonne Chauvin, Compass	43
European in Texas Market Café	44
Kotara Enterprises LLC	44
Polonia Restaurant and Polish Food Store & Deli	45
Re-Excel Realty, Mark Hunek	45
Rekieta Supply Appliance	46
Wilson County News	46
Ziggy's Kielbasa House	47



PACT President, Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz opened the 2021 Annual Meeting in the beautiful hall at St. Joseph church in New Waverly. Attendees included members from all over Texas who discussed PACT business and plans for the future.

POLISH AMERICAN COUNCIL OF TEXAS



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Maureen Brown
Jola Mazewski-Dryden
Susie Kotara
Genny Kraus
Michael Kurtin
Dr. Witold Lukaszewski
Sue McCarthy
Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz
Eric Opiela
Dr. Waldemar Priebe
Dr. Piotr Przybylski
Joanna Sikorski
Elaine Mazurek Stephens
John Wojtasczyk
John Zientek, Jr.

Honorary Director: Consul General of the Republic of Poland in Houston, Robert Rusiecki

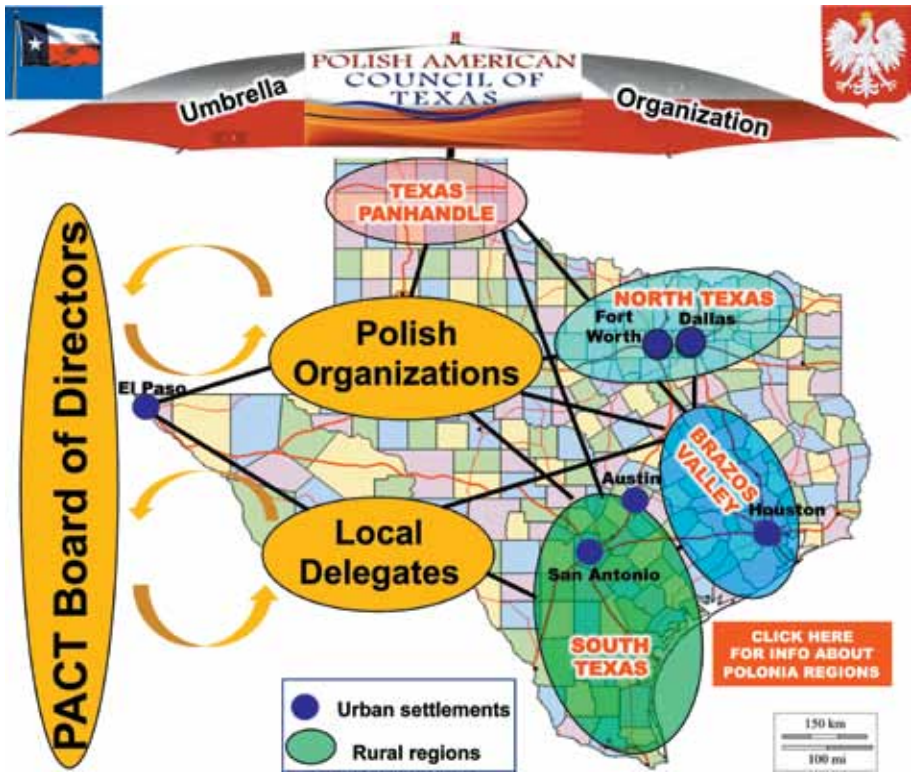
OFFICERS 2022

President: Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz
1st Vice President: Dr. Piotr Przybylski
2nd Vice President: Eric Opiela
3rd Vice President: Elaine Mazurek Stephens
Secretary: Jola Mazewski-Dryden
Treasurer: John Wojtasczyk
Youth Vice President: Josephine Jaraczewski,
President of the Texas A&M Polish Association
Youth Vice President: Nathan Silverstein,
President of the University of Texas Polish Club
Chairman Emeritus: Bishop Emeritus
John W. Yanta D.D.
Directory/Membership Chairman:
Elaine Mazurek Stephens
Silent Auction Chairman: Maureen Brown

The Polish American Council of Texas (PACT) has become the umbrella organization bringing together all of Texas Polonia. We want to express our appreciation to our members and sponsors as PACT moves into our second decade, continuing the vision of our founder Bishop John W. Yanta Emeritus and several key Polonia leaders. Their vision of furthering the knowledge of Polish culture, traditions, history, language, arts, current affairs, and statewide events in Texas by networking among Polonia in Texas, nationally and abroad, has guided our way. The PACT's achievements and business model of working together as one Polonia has been most successful and is recognized and admired in the US, Poland, and internationally. There is strength in unity.

— **Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz, President**
Polish American Council of Texas

VIEW ALL OUR DIRECTORIES ON PACTX.ORG!



4 Major Waves of Polish Immigration to Texas

- I Silesia Region (Prussian partition) since 1854
- II Wielkopolska / Kujawy (Prussian partition) and Malopolska / Galicia (Austrian partition) since 1867
- III Marshall Law, Poles came from all over Poland since 1980 and 1945 after World War II
- IV All of Poland and from California, the US Mid-West and East Coast since 2000-present

- I – II waves "za chlebem" (for bread)
- III wave "Solidarnościowa" (solidarity)
- IV wave "dla gospodarki" (for the economy)



Congratulations to the 2021 Polish Texan Lifetime Achievement Awardees

Raymond Belinowski
Joe Malak, Jr (Posthumously)
Virginia Felchak Hill



Congratulations to the recipients of the 2021 Polish Texan Lifetime Achievement Awards, standing with PACT Officers at the 2021 Annual Meeting. L-R; John Wojtasczyk, Eric Opiela, Polish Consul General Robert Rusiecki, Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz. With awards, Clara Malak accepting for her late husband, Joe Malak, Jr, Virginia Felchak Hill, and Raymond Belinowski. PACT Officers from right; Jola Mazewski-Dryden, Krzysztof Gajda, Susie Kotara, Elaine Mazurek Stephens, Dr. Piotr Przybylski.

Gratulacje!

We are proud to announce the winners
of our 2021 Scholarship Essay Contest.
Each student received a \$1000 scholarship,
payable to their university.



Kendell Lyssy
- attends Falls City
High School, will
attend University of
Texas San Antonio



Jeralyn Wiatrek
- attends Poth
High School, will
attend Texas Tech
University



Jacob R. Campbell
- attends Texas A&M
University



Emily Glowski
- attends Texas A&M
University

***Visit our website for details about our Scholarship Program.
We welcome donations to this fund, www.PACTX.org***

Scenes
from 2021

Member Events



Jagoda Polish Dance Ensemble continued to entertain with their beautiful, traditional Polish dances!



In October 2021, The Polish Heritage Center at Panna Maria celebrated its Grand Opening with special blessings by the Founder, Bishop John W. Yanta.



Valentine's Day at the European in Texas Market Cafe (Southlake, TX) was filled with sweetness and family fun!

Bishop Yanta's 90th birthday party on October 5, 2021, was attended by many of his loving friends and family, including the Archbishop of San Antonio, His Excellency, Gustavo García-Siller, MSPS. Also celebrating with Bishop Yanta were several PACT officers. L-R: Sam Kotara, Genny Kraus, Matt Kraus, Elaine Mazurek Stephens, Kathy and Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz, Archbishop García-Siller, and Maureen Brown.



We appreciate the many people who have shared photos with us and welcome all photos of member events!

MEMBER EVENTS 2022~2023

Please check the Member website for details and up-to-date information.
Check www.PACTX.org for more events.

January

1 PACT dues become due

TBA Polskie kolędy - Chappell Hill - St. Stanislaus

5 Mini Wawel Bonfire Party - Houston - Our Lady of Czestochowa

30 Deadline to pay dues in order to be included in the next PACT directory

February

TBA Polish Film Fest - Austin - Austin Polish Film Festival/Austin Polish Society

16 Shana Penn, speech online - Polish Club at UT

17 Dr. Russell Hittinger on JPPII online - Univ. of St. Thomas - JP II Institute

March

19 Bigos Cook-Off and Hike - Austin - Austin Polish Society

19 Dr. Norman Davies, speaker online - The Polish Club at UT Austin

April

6 Deadline PACT Essay Scholarship contest

9 Pisanki Easter Egg decorating and hunt - Austin - Austin Polish Society

9 Family Day Program "Celebrating Polish Easter Traditions" - Panna Maria - Polish Heritage Center

16 Easter Basket Blessing - Houston - Our Lady of Czestochowa

18 Deadline FLMF Essay Scholarship contest

Last Sunday Parish Feast Day - St. Hedwig - Annunciation of the BVM

April 29-May 1 Houston Polish Festival - Houston - Our Lady of Czestochowa Catholic Church

May

1st Sunday Annual Parish Festival - Bandera - St. Stanislaus

3 Musical performance by Tekla Klebetnico - Panna Maria - Polish Heritage Center

TBA Annual Bazaar - Stoneham - St. Joseph

21 Polski karnawal - Dallas - Jagoda Dance Ensemble

June

24-25 Polski Dzień - Bremond Bremond Chamber of Commerce

August

1st Sunday Annual Picnic - Kosciuszko - St. Ann

2nd Sunday Parish Festival - Yorktown - Holy Cross

TBA Annual Homecoming Bazaar - Plantersville - St. Mary

TBA Homecoming Bazaar - Anderson - St. Stanislaus

September

1st Sunday Annual Homecoming/Bazaar & Dożynki - Chappell Hill

TBA Annual Bazaar - New Waverly - St. Joseph

16-19 Polish Harvest Festival - Houston - Our Lady of Czestochowa

30 Deadline to pay dues in order to vote at PACT Annual Mtg.

October

Polish Heritage Month

TBA Polish Heritage Day in the Park - Cypress - Harris Co Pct. 4

2nd Sunday Annual Homecoming & Turkey Dinner - Panna Maria - Immaculate Conception of the BVM

TBA Annual Dożynki - Chappell Hill

November

TBA Polish Film Festival - Houston

11 Polish Independence Day

12 PACT Annual Meeting - St. Hedwig - Annunciation of the BVM church

December

TBA Polish Home Christmas Party - Houston

TBA Kolędy Events - Chappell Hill & Bremond

24 Wigilia - St. Hedwig - Annunciation of the BVM Church

TBA New Exhibit Celebrating Women's History Month - Panna Maria - Polish Heritage Center

TBA Opening of the PHC Library - Panna Maria - Polish Heritage Center

COVER PHOTOS:

A Wawel Dance Group selfie with Yessica Krozal, left, and Magdalena Chyrk [and] PACT members and friends attending Mass at St. Joseph's in New Waverly during our annual meeting in 2021.

Scenes
from the
2021



PACT Annual Meeting

in New Waverly, TX
Nov. 13, 2021



PACT President, Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz, right, prepares to lead the procession to the church, including members from regions all over Texas and special guests, Chairman of the St. Joseph Host Committee, Clara Malak (center), the Mayor of New Waverly, Nathaniel James (with bread and salt), Walker County Judge, Danny Pierce (red tie), and Walker County Commissioner Pct. 4, Jimmy Henry, second from right.

Once again, we say
Dziekuje bardzo!
to New Waverly and
St. Joseph Catholic Church
for making our annual
meetings fun and outstanding!
Visit our NEW website for
MORE photos of the 2021
Annual Meeting at PACTx.org.



Mass was celebrated by Reverend Daokim Nguyen at St. Joseph Catholic Church who welcomed PACT warmly.



Wawel
Dancers
lead us in a
fun dance
contest!

Photos courtesy of Maureen Brown, Elaine Stephens and others who graciously shared.



St. Joseph parishioners welcomed our Annual Meeting in New Waverly with great food and beautiful decorations!



The Wawel Polish Dance Group also performed for us!



Polish songs were sung at Mass by soloist, Yessica Krozel.



Lt. Andrzej Feliks Wardzinski, one of 43 Polish "Freedom Fighters" from the Texas Revolutionary War in 1836. Recognized war hero from the Battle of San Jacinto assisting in the capture of General Santa Anna.



See more photos on next page.

More from the 2021 PACT Annual Meeting



The procession to Mass included PACT members from all over Texas!



Of course, there is always delicious food and lots of fun at the annual meetings!

**Join us November 12,
in St. Hedwig, TX
for the 2022 PACT
Annual Meeting.**



PACT 2021 scholarship winner, Emily Glowski, attended the PACT Annual Meeting with her family.



Each year, all proceeds from the beautiful silent auction benefit the PACT Scholarship fund.

Photos courtesy of Maureen Brown, Elaine Stephens and others who graciously shared.

Polish American Council of Texas

Accomplishments 2021

■ The PACT board addressed the issue of discrimination concerning the book "100 Dresses" by Eleanor Estes published in 1944.

■ Krzysztof Gajda suggested supporting the PHC with the idea of hosting the ACPC annual meeting in San Antonio.

■ January 2021: Dr. Piotr Przybylski coordinated a Texas visit of Piotr Orlowski from Polish Radio 1030 and TV Polonia to record a movie about Polonia in Texas. Several recordings were made: 1. New Polish Studies Program and St. John Paul II Studies programs at the University of St. Thomas in Houston by Dr. John Hittinger and Urszula Szuleta 2. Consulate General of the Republic of Poland by Consul Robert Rusiecki 3. Burzynski Clinic by Dr. Stanislaw Burzynski 4. Mikolajus Copernicus Polish Saturday School by Dir. Hanna Tomaszewicz 5. NASA and Galveston by Dr. Piotr Przybylski 6. Houston Polonia by Dr. Zbigniew Wojciechowski 7. Texas Polonia, Polish Kolędy celebrations (singing, playing) and other traditions by Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz.

■ Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz provided a lecture about "Polish Texans – The History of Texas Polonia" for promotion of Polish Studies Program at the University of St. Thomas on October 4 – Organized by Dr. John Hittinger and Dr. Piotr Przybylski.

■ On October 4 at the University of St. Thomas, a painting of Lt. Feliks Wardziński was presented to St. Thomas University by Master Robert Kraszewski, music on the violin by Maestro Hubert Pralitz and a dramatic recitation of homily of Bl. Fr. Jerzy Popieluszko by famous Hollywood actor Marek Probosz. – Organized by Dr. John Hittinger and Dr. Piotr Przybylski.

■ Met with a prospective donor for lunch on July 19 in Houston.

■ Polish Ambassador Piotr Wilczek was hosted virtually by the TAMU Bush School of Government on February 23, 2021, and the PACT helped promote the event.

■ In August of 2021, discussed a live broadcast to be held at the PHC "Condition of American Polonia," to be held October 9 but this did not materialize.

■ Extensive research has been undertaken by Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz, Krzysztof Gajda, and others concerning Lt. Andrzej Feliks Wardzinski and the "43 Freedom Fighters" for Texas Independence.

■ A sketch of Lt. Andrzej Feliks Wardzinski and a brief history was accepted by the Jacinto Museum from Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz, and it is now available to the public.

■ Held the PACT Annual Meeting with St. Joseph's Catholic Parish in New Waverly, Texas on November 13, 2021.

■ Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz held a meeting on March 1, 2021, with Brian Patterson a successful developer in Poland concerning collabora-

tion, business opportunities, and hosting Texas Polonia in Warsaw.

■ On April 27, 2021, Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz did an interview discussing the history of the Brazos Valley immigration to the region for the documentary for the 150th Anniversary Celebration of the city of Bryan.

■ On behalf of PACT, Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz submitted a letter on May 28, 2021, to Ambassador Piotr Wilczek concerning the Holocaust and the failure of human beings to understand the commonality of their fellow human species.

■ Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz furnished a list of potential speakers for both the Texas A&M Polish Association and the University of Texas Polish Club.

■ On April 27, 2021, Jola Mazewski-Dryden prepared a PACT donation receipt for all donors to have for the Income Tax Returns.

■ Elaine Mazurek Stephens chairs the PACT membership and prepares a detailed summary of the PACT Membership and contact information as well as administers the PACT Directory.

■ On January 21, 2021, Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz provided a 90-minute lecture virtually for the Polish Heritage Center in Panna Maria (PHC) virtually with guests from Texas, the United States, and Poland online.

■ Eric Opiela made a presentation in October 2021 for the University of Texas Polish Club about the PACT and Texas Polonia.

■ The PACT supported HB 506 by Texas House of Representative James White, District 19. Eric Opiela was the PACT representative on this House Bill.

■ Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz furnished a letter of support for the Polish musicians that played for the 2018 PACT Annual Meeting in Chappell Hill, Texas.

■ Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz gave a program on Monday, November 8 about the "Polish Texans – The History of Texas Polonia" to the Huntsville Public Library.

■ Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz gave a program on Sunday, November 7 about the "Polish Texans – The History of Texas Polonia" to the St. Stanislaus Catholic Parish and public in Chappell Hill, Texas.

■ Eric Opiela and John Wojtaszczyk completed and submitted the PACT 2020 Income Tax Returns.

■ Justyna Lopez translating the Andrzej Feliks Wardzinski book from Polish into English.

■ On June 15, 2021, Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz provided several historical edits and corrections of Dr. James Olsen's scholarly work about the Polish Ethnoreligion of East Texas: The Case of St. Joseph's Parish, 1866-1900, published in the East Texas Historical Journal.

See more accomplishments on next page.

Polish American Council of Texas

Accomplishments 2021

■ On January 9, 2021, Dr. Jim and Kathy Mazurkiewicz hosted a Kolędy Party for TVP Polonia.

■ The St. John Paul II Institute, a PACT member at the University of St. Thomas, was hosted the Polish Independence Day Celebration in Houston on November 10, 2021, organized by the Consulate General of the Republic of Poland.

■ Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz and the St. John Paul II Institute provided support to a new music festival in Texas – International Paderewski Music Festival. I am hoping that the inaugural edition will take place in November 2022, with 3 – 5 events including one on November 11 – The Polish Independence Day and American Veterans Day organized by Maestro Mariusz Smolij.

■ Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz provided a brief overview of PACT to Mitchel Panek, Mark Pienkos, and the Polish American Association of Sarasota, Florida with the Polish Heritage Center presentation in the April and August of 2021.

■ Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz and Kathy visited the home and birthplace of Father Leopold Moczygemba in Pluznica Wielka, Poland representing PACT and Texas Polonia on September 25, 2021.

■ Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz provided suggestions for student internships for PACT youth members.

■ As PACT President Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz attended a virtual program hosted by the Polish Investment and Trade Agency in Houston “In November Bridge Event” between Texas and Poland held on April 4, 2021.

■ Dr. Mazurkiewicz helped coordinate the birthday celebration for Bishop John Yanta held in San Antonio on October 2.

■ Dr. Mazurkiewicz organized the showing of an award-winning film about the Auschwitz Volunteer Witold Pilecki “the Death of Captain Pilecki” hosted by the Texas A&M University and co-hosted by PACT, PAoTT in Dallas, Texas A&M Polish Association, and UT Polish Club. The showing of the film was held on November 11, 2021, on Polish Independence Day. The event is financially sponsored by The Polish Consulate General in Houston and Dr. Jim & Kathy Mazurkiewicz and Dr. Malgorzata Gajda and Krzysztof Gajda.

■ Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz contacted the PHC and the priest at Our Lady of Czestochowa in Houston for Krzysztof Gajda about Paul Piekarczyk and his musicians playing in Houston on October 22 and in Panna Maria for the second day of the PHC opening on October 23.

■ The PACT sponsored 4 \$1000 collegiate scholarships for students in 2021 from our 2020 earnings.

■ The PACT sponsored \$5,000 to the Polish Heritage Center in Panna Maria and two additional anonymous \$5,000 sponsorships were added to the PACT donation to make it a \$15,000 donation to the PHC. This gave the PACT recognition at the Kosciusko level and the PACT asked to have a mural of the map of Texas immigration hung in the Polish Heritage Center to highlight all four major Texas Polish immigrations to the present day.

■ Dr. Mazurkiewicz on behalf of PACT, has supported the grant to the Polish Government for the past three years in support of the Polish Heritage Center requesting financial support from the Polish government.

■ Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz did three interviews with Waldmar Biniecki, Editor of Kuryer Polski in 2021.

■ Dr. Mazurkiewicz did an interview with Witold Gadowski in Krakow, Poland about Texas and Texas Polonia on September 22, 2021, representing PACT and Texas A&M University.

■ On September 17, 2021, in Warsaw, Poland, Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz, President of PACT was recognized by SGGW University in Warsaw for his work between Texas and Poland.

■ PACT was represented at a wide variety of events throughout the year with PACT directory being distributed via Polish Events & Happenings – Jolanta Mazewski-Dryden: Taste of Poland Festival Houston (May), Sts Cyril and Methodius Slavic Festival – Houston (September), Dożynki Festival Houston (October), St. Stanislaus Catholic Church – 67th Homecoming Bazaar (October), Polish Heritage Center Grand Opening in Panna Maria (October).

■ Jolanta Mazewski-Dryden submitted quarterly articles on Texas Polonia in the Polish National Alliance Magazine Zgoda - <https://pna-znp.org/fraternal-benefits/zgoda-magazine-for-members-of-pna-and-more/>

■ October - Mike Kurtin and the Polish Club at the University of Texas taught the traditional Polish dance, Polonaise, to the students.

■ October 30th – Bryan, College Station, Texas – Meeting of the Universities: Texas A & M Polish Association and the University of Texas Polish Club had a joint meeting at Dr. Jim & Kathy Mazurkiewicz's home in Bryan. Home-made Polish Food was served and prepared by the club members. Dr. Jim discussed the upcoming events and Polish Texas History.

■ Jolanta Mazewski-Dryden working with Maureen Brown for a June 16th, Live Virtual Zoom Program on Traditional Polish Dancing in Texas; presented by Genny & Dr. Matthew Kraus of Mazurka Polish Dancers of San Antonio & Erica Dryden & Lukas Bielecki of Wawel Houston Dancer, PNA Polish Progressive members



In memory of my great-great-grandparents, John Kush and Josephine Opiela Kush.

They both came to Texas from the region of Silesia, in Poland. John arrived on the first ship in 1854 and was a stonemason who settled in downtown San Antonio and helped build many churches and buildings, including St. Michael's Church that stood in the footprint of the Tower of Americas, and where the couple wed in 1868. Josephine had come to Texas with her parents, Nicolaus and Josephine Opiela (buried in Panna Maria) and seven siblings in 1856. Their family home John Kush built remains in its original location in Hemisfair Park. I hope to honor them by serving as Director for the PACT and Marketing Director for the Polish Heritage Center at Panna Maria. I only learned of my Polish ancestors after working with the PHC, Bishop Yanta, and the communities and now I am blessed and will treasure this heritage and will pass on to my family.

— Maureen "Mo" Brown



John & Amanda Cebrowski

In Memory of...

**Wacław Siekierski
and
Jozefa Rzańska Siekierski**



**Consulate General
of the Republic of Poland
in Houston**

3040 Post Oak Blvd., Suite 525
Houston TX, 77056, USA
www.gov.pl/web/usa @PLinHouston



**In Memory
of
Romuald Gmurowski
1938-2021
Beloved Husband, Father,
and Grandfather
— Art Gmurowski —**

*I'm a proud
descendant
of 1850 Polish
settlers, the
Kosub & Ploch
families.*

Genny Kraus

**Mazurka Polish Dancer
PACT Member**



**Proudly helping
Grimes County
and beyond with
genealogy and
translations!**

Michael Kurtin
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Na cześć naszych polskich rodzin



Mikolaj Kubiak &
Katherina Kuzniarek
Parents of Marcin Kublak - standing

We Remember
and
Honor Our
Beloved Bremond
Ancestors

Denis Kubiak
Bremond

Nicholas Kubiak
& Family
Rockwall



Jan Slawkow & Marisa Filip
On Wedding Day (date unknown)

Dr. Witold Lukaszewski



Then & Now

Jolanta A. Mazewski- Dryden



- ◆ Secretary – Polish American Council of Texas
- ◆ Fraternal Advisor – Region H, Polish National Alliance (Texas, Colorado, Florida, Missouri & Nebraska)
- ◆ Sales Representative – Polish National Alliance Fraternal Insurance
- ◆ President, Polish Progressive Lodge 2336 & Council 182 Representative
- ◆ Polish Events and Happenings in Texas & Beyond

Immigrated from Poland in the early 60's to Texas. Actively involved in the Polish community and organizations since the age of 5, performed with the Polish Eagle dancers for over 30 years. Held a variety of positions in the Polish community for five decades. Active promoter of the Polish culture, history, language, arts, and heritage via Polish displays throughout Texas. Involved in festivals, consumer events, bazaars, and private events. Does speaking engagements and TV promos. Check out Polish Events and Happenings in Texas and Beyond on FB for up-to-date info in the Polish community. Owns a consulting, PR, marketing, and event production firm – Dryden Event Productions. Contact: jola@drydeneventproductions.



In Memory of Joseph and Ursula Maziuk

**From Grodno, Poland
Married June 19, 1911**

– *Nicholas Mazik*

**Descendant of
Wielkopolska and
Kujawsko-Pomorskie
whose ancestors settled
in Chappell Hill, Texas
Washington County
"The birthplace of Texas"
in the 1880's**

James Mazurkiewicz

Equine Field Service
Equine Dentistry Technician
Texas A&M University
Large Animal Hospital

Cell: (979) 229-0780
jmazurkiewicz@cvm.tamu.edu
jamesmaz4m@hotmail.com



*Happy to be part of the
PACT as it fosters
continued interest in the
wonderful Polish Heritage.*

— Sue McCarthy

MOCZYGEMBA,
Virgil and Elaine

*In Memory of our
Lyssy and
Moczygemba
Parents*

**Blessings
from**

**Susan
Moczygemba-
McKinsey**

Panna Maria, TX

**3rd generation
Polish-American.**

**Born in New Jersey.
Relocated to Houston
to attend the University
of Houston. Acquired a
Master's Degree in
Public Policy.**

**Currently employed
with Harris County
Precinct 4 Commissioner,
R. Jack Cagle.**



Bradley V.Z. Mushinski

Graduate Student | University of Houston

*"Best wishes to the Polish
American Council of Texas
throughout 2022!"*



Dr. Mark Pienkos
National First Vice President
Polish American Congress
markpienkos2012@gmail.com
262-325-8039 • pac1944.org

*"Continued Great
Success in 2022!"*



Ann Pienkos
President of The Polish-American
Association of Sarasota, Inc.
www.PolishSarasota.org
annpienkos@gmail.com



*Mary Ann
Kotara Schirmer*
**5th Generation
in Panna Maria**
Best Wishes to All!

Underground Scouts

Marie Sontag, PhD

Tadzio and Magdalena
weren't prepared for their
Polish Scoutmaster's
challenge. Not until their
parents disappeared.



"Underground Scouts is an homage to all Polish teenagers who fought the German evil so bravely during WWII. A must read."

— Julian Kulski, author of *The Color of Courage*, and
a Polish teen insurgent in Warsaw during WWII

Coming August, 2022

YA Historical Fiction
Amazon, Barnes & Noble

www.MarieSontag.com

Honoring the 1855 Polish Pioneers in Bandera, Texas



1930 - Last survivors of the original Polish settlers who came to Bandera in 1855.

Top Row: Annie Haiduk, Mary Anderwald, Joe Anderwald,
Josephine Pyka, John Pyka, Francis Moravietz, Mr. and Mrs.
Gabe Anderwald. Front Row: Annie Anderwald, Coustian
Dugosh, Agnes Dugosh, Constantina Adamietz,
Rose Jureczki, Leonard Jureczki.

Elaine Mazurek Stephens

In memory of



Jerzy-Piotr Walicki

who arrived in the United States
from the region of Bialystock
in Poland on October 27, 1949.

Born: June 28, 1920

Deceased: June 2, 2007

— *Mark G. Walicki, son*

Richard Walicki, son

Kristina Cashin, daughter

John Zientek Jr. 3rd generation

*In Memory of
John and Stella
Zientek*

Founder & Chairman Emeritus of the Polish American Council of Texas:

Bishop John W. Yanta



Above: President of the Republic of Poland, Andrzej Duda, presenting the highest award to a non-citizen of Poland, the **Commander's Cross of the Order of Merit** during his Presidential visit to Our Lady of Częstochowa Church, Houston, Texas, June 13, 2019. This award was presented for Bishop Yanta's long history of promoting, supporting, and preserving Polonia not only here in Texas, but throughout America.

On right: the **Commander's Cross of the Order of Merit** award with certificate of authenticity.

**Founder & Chairman Emeritus
of the Polish American Council of Texas**
Most Rev. John W. Yanta,
Bishop Emeritus, Diocese of Amarillo



ORDAINED PRIEST: March 17, 1956, San Antonio, Texas
ORDAINED BISHOP: December 30, 1994, Panna Maria, Texas

Founded PACT: January 27, 2011

Founder and charter member of group of priests which launched the Polish American Priests Association of Texas (P.A.P.A.), 1970, which grew into a national entity.

Founder of the Texas Division of the Polish American Congress, 1971.

Founder and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Polish Heritage Center at Panna Maria Foundation, 2011.

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Paul & Laura Dylla

In Memory of
Engelbert & Elenora Krawietz
and
Lawrence & Alice Dylla

Gabe & Bertha Dworaczyk Korzekwa



In Memory Of

Hagan Dworaczyk
& Pelagia (Wiatrek)
Dworaczyk

Benedict Korzekwa
& Hattie (Hoffmann)
Korzekwa

Sam & Susie Kotara

Honoring the Polish
heritage of the
Broll, Kotara, and
Wojtasczyk families
while being actively
involved in the
development of the
Polish Heritage Center
USA at Panna Maria
and the PACT.



George & Betty Kowalik

Supporting the Polish Heritage Center to instill pride and knowledge of our ancestors' Polish heritage, faith, family and community and working to keep their history from being lost.

*We pay Tribute
to our ancestors
and honor their
sacrifices.*



**Greg and Stephanie Kusinski
Hania, Amelia, and Adela**

**Descendant of Wielkopolska
and Kujawsko-Pomorskie
whose ancestors settled
in Chappell Hill, Texas
Washington County
"The birthplace of Texas"
in the 1880's**

Dr. Jim & Kathy Mazurkiewicz

*President & PACT Board Member
Director, Polish Heritage Center
at Panna Maria
Board Member, Polish American Chamber
of Commerce in Texas
Professor, Regents Fellow &
Leadership Program Director
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service
Department of Agricultural Leadership,
Education and Communication
Texas A&M University*

1470 William D. Fitch Parkway, Ste. 121 A
College Station, Texas 77843-2137
Cell: 979-229-8855 • j-mazurkiewicz@tamu.edu
<http://tall.tamu.edu>

**Al & Angela
Notzon**



I have been working with Bishop John Yanta and have been involved in the Polish Heritage Center from its inception. I am so thankful that my Polish ancestors risked so much to come to America and am humbled by the sacrifices they made for their future generations. I have sponsored the St. Michael's Cemetery window representation since my great-grandfather and great-grandmother Notzon are buried there, and I want to honor their memories as well as all my Polish ancestors through my gifts to the Polish Heritage Center at Panna Maria.

**John & Denise
SKROBARCZYK**

**5th generation descendants
of immigrants**

**Josef & Joanna Skrobarczyk
who arrived in Panna Maria
in 1855**



***In Memory
of Parents***

Joe Vincent 1913-1972
& Theresa (Wollney) 1918-1986
PAWELEK

and

John Ignatz 1903-1967
& Eleanor (Keller) 1909-2005
TITZMAN

By Lambert & Rosalie Pawelek Titzman

Dr. Piotr Przybylski

- 1st Vice President of PACT and PACT Board Member
- Born and raised in Kraków, Poland
- University of St. Thomas Assistant Director for Polish Studies



John (Treasurer for PACT) & **Christie Wojtasczyk;**

Descendants of
Morawiecz, Schlesia, Pawlik,
Hagel, Migura, Bednorz,
Brzezina, Skrobarczyk,
Grabon, Kowalik, Respondek,
Czerner, & Ibrom

Don't be left out!

If you are interested in placing
an ad in next year's
PACT Directory,
contact us at Office@PACTx.org
or visit www.PACTx.org

**POLISH AMERICAN
COUNCIL OF
TEXAS**





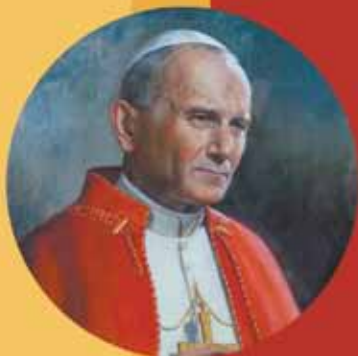
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713.525.3148 | przybyp@stthom.edu

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Additional PACT Members

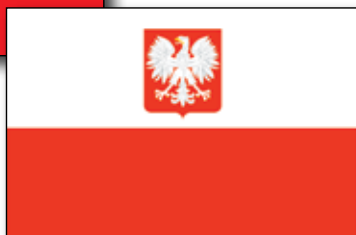
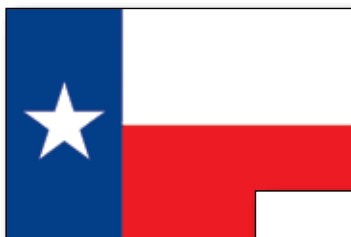
INDIVIDUALS

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Marilyn Conger	Tom Ostrowski
Laura Coughlin	Thaddeus Zawistowski
Jane Ellisor	Rafal Zielinski
Dr. Marian Kruzel	



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Artur & Magdalena Dunal
Dr. Leon & Mrs. Alina Ordon Kundrotas
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Dr. Waldemar Priebe
Amanda & Steven Schaefer
Mark & Zhanna Sikorski
Eddie & Debbie Skrobarcek



Interested in joining PACT?
Join online at PACTx.org



Pray for our country the way
Saint Faustina prayed for Poland.

Learn, Live and Spread
the Divine Mercy
Message and Devotion

*From her [Poland] will come forth the spark that
will prepare the world for My final coming.
(Jesus to St. Faustina, Diary 1732)*

DIVINE MERCY FOR AMERICA.ORG
Mother of Mercy Messengers - Center Point, TX
An apostolate of the Marian Fathers at the National Shrine of Divine Mercy, Stockbridge, MA

*The Church
was
founded
in 1855.*



Annunciation BVM Church



St. John Paul II Parish Center

**Pastor, Fr. Bill (Boleslaw)
Zadora, SDS**

14011 FM 1346, P.O. Box 100
Saint Hedwig, TX 78152
210-667-1232 • FAX: 210-667-9088
annun@sthcc.org • www.sthcc.org

**Feast Day
Celebration**
Last Sunday in April
beginning with
Mass at 9:30 am



Austin Polish Society

*Celebrating Polish Heritage,
Culture, Language, and Arts*



A U S T I N
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AustinPolishSociety.org

*Presenting Polish films,
poster art, and artists
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AustinPolishFilm.com

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Endowment at the University
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at the Public Library**

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Cooking Classes

Traditional Holiday Events

Social Events

***JOIN us!
We are on Facebook and Twitter***

BANDERA COUNTY SISTER PARTNERSHIP ASSOCIATION

The Mission of the Bandera County Sister Partnership (BCSPA) is to advance peace through lasting relationships and international understanding, friendships, and diplomatic relations.

We take the United States of America, Texas, and Bandera County with us when we go abroad. Our goal is to spread peace and goodwill through sister partnerships with international cities, counties, schools, citizens, and diplomatic exchanges; to promote Bandera as the USA's best western cowboy culture vacation attraction helping to expand economic development in the city and county of Bandera.

The BCSPA promotes tourism, culture, and the cowboy traditions of Bandera County, Texas since first established in 2004.



The world is opening their
arms and ready to embrace
Bandera County and the
City of Bandera,

***“The Cowboy
Capital of the
World.”***

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Presents

Bremond Chamber of Commerce

Polski Dzień



Friday
6-11pm

Saturday
8am-1am

June 24-25, 2022

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For More Information, Please Visit Our Website @
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SEE YOU IN JUNE!!



9220 Poplar St., Chappell Hill, TX 77426

ChappellHillMuseum@gmail.com

979-836-6033

ChappellHillHistoricalSociety.com



Father Leopold Moczygemba Foundation



In the early 1850s, Father Leopold Moczygemba, from Pluznica, Silesia, a region in Europe, now southwest Poland, came to south Texas to help his friends and families. He had encouraged them to move to Texas, settling in Panna Maria and many other Texas communities.

The Foundation sponsors an annual essay scholarship contest, and maintains two websites, resulting in the building of bridges and relationships between Silesia and Texas.

www.FLMFoundation.org
www.SilesianTexans.com



These books are available free with a \$5 donation (each) for shipping and handling.

Both books are available in limited supplies.

•**The Father Leopold Moczygemba Foundation** book prepared in 2019 answers the questions, "What is the purpose of the Foundation?" "How did it get started?" "Who is involved in this organization?"

•**Silesia for Silesian Texans**, a book researched by the Silesian Profiles Committee, presents the history of Silesia and the villages of the ancestors of the Silesian Texans. ISBN 978-83-7342-687-0.

Please send your mailing address and a check payable to FLMF, P. O. Box 23568, San Antonio, Texas, 78223. The FLMF is a 501-C-3 nonprofit organization.

General Casimir Pulaski Society



GCPS is located in El Paso, Texas and serves people in West Texas, southern New Mexico and Juarez (Mexico).



Regular cultural and social events make GCPS a little piece of Poland in the heart of the Sun City. We might not be big, but we sure are great!

www.poloniaelpaso.org • E-mail: polishsocietyelpaso@gmail.com
[Facebook.com/PolishAmericanSocietyElPaso](https://www.facebook.com/PolishAmericanSocietyElPaso)



Holy Cross Catholic Church

Rev. Roger Hawes

1214 ZORN ROAD
YORKTOWN, TX 78164
361-564-2893

HOLYCROSSYORKTOWN.NET

Mass: Sat. 5 pm; Sun. 9:30 am

PARISH FESTIVAL - 2ND SUNDAY IN SEPTEMBER

"We are proud of our Holy Cross Catholic Church Cemetery and our ancestors whose memories we honor there."

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church



**The Oldest Polish
Permanent Settlement
in the Nation
Founded 1854**

Mass:

Sat. 4:30 pm
Sun. 8:30 am

Saint John Paul II quote September 13, 1987: "In Poland, Panna Maria, Texas is very famous. Everyone knows of Panna Maria and those first Polish immigrants who responded to the call of their pastor and spiritual leader, Father Leopold Moczygemba. All of our great American Polonia credits its origin to you. Panna Maria, as the first nest built on American soil by Polish immigrants inspiring others to follow in your footsteps."

**Annual
Homecoming
and Turkey
Dinner**
2nd Sunday
in October

P.O. Box 9, Panna Maria, Texas 78144 • 830-780-2748

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Students learn reading, writing, and speaking
in Polish, the history and geography of Poland,
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We prepare our students to Seal of Bilingual exam.

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or visit our website www.polishschooldallas.org.



OUR LADY OF CZESTOCHOWA PARISH

Serving Polish Community under the spiritual guidance of Society of Christ Fathers



Church Services:

Saturday, 6:00 PM in Polish
Sunday, 9:00 AM in English
Sunday, 11:00 AM in Polish



Our school was established at the Our Lady of Czestochowa Polish Parish in 1982. We accept children 4 to 11 years old. We provide classes of Polish language, literature and history, geography and religion; also dance and singing.

Classes at the Polish Church
1731 Blalock Road
every Saturday
from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.
www.szkolapolskahouston.com

**If you are interested in Catholic faith, which flows forth from a 1000-year
of the Polish culture, traditions and customs please visit our church.**

phone: 713 973-1081 • e-mail: proboszcz@parafiahouston.com • website: www.parafiahouston.com



PANNA MARIA

Visitors' Center & Historical Society

Located in the Panna Maria Historic District on FM 81 in the historic Pilarczyk's Store building

OPEN Thursdays:

March thru October 10 am–4 pm

November thru February 10am–3 pm

Every 3rd & 4th full weekend of the month:

Saturdays 10 am–4 pm, Sundays 1–4 pm

Call for tours and information

830-780-4471

or email: pmhs.vstrctr@gmail.com.

13860 FM 81, P.O. BOX 52, Panna Maria, TX 78144

www.pannamariatexas.org



POLISH AMERICAN
CHAMBER of COMMERCE
IN TEXAS

Founded in Houston in 2017, the Polish American Chamber of Commerce in Texas is a non-profit organization serving to connect and facilitate business interests between Poland and Texas; and in a broader sense between Poland and the USA.

We aspire to collaborate with businesses regardless of industry and ranging from the smallest businesses to the largest multi-nationals on both sides of the Atlantic as well as with all relevant governmental, academic and non-profit organizations.

www.polchamtx.org • Email: office@polchamtx.org • Twitter: [@PolchamTx](https://twitter.com/PolchamTx)



Greg Kusinski, Ph.D., EMBA - President • Email: gkusinski@polchamtx.org • Twitter: [@kusinski_greg](https://twitter.com/kusinski_greg)



Polish American Priests Association

Honorary Members of PACT

“The Polish American Council of Texas honors and prays for all Texas priests from Poland and those of Polish descent.”

Polish National Alliance

Show your love by providing for the unexpected!

PNA is the largest Polish-American fraternal benefit society proudly serving families since 1880. It provides a wide array of life insurance and annuity products, supporting its members through fraternal benefits.

PNA OFFERS:

- LIFE INSURANCE
- ANNUITIES

BENEFITS FOR PNA MEMBERS:

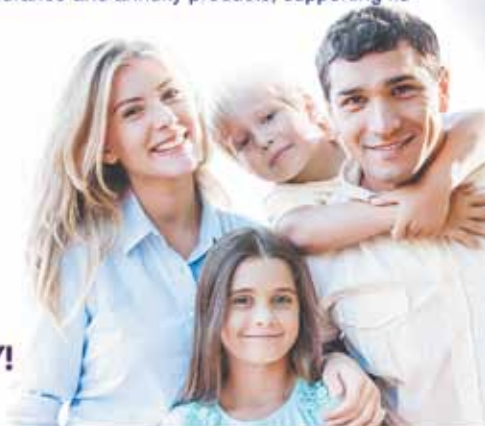
- College Scholarship Programs
- Support of Polish Cultural Programs
- Quarterly Magazine Zgoda
- Kids Contests, and more!

BECOME A MEMBER OF OUR FRATERNAL FAMILY!



Polish National Alliance
6100 N. Cicero Ave Chicago, IL, 60646
www.pna-znp.org

Call 773-805-5810
1-800-621-3723



Come & Learn



About Polish immigrant ancestry and be a part of the new 16,500 square foot state-of-the-art Heritage Center!



The Polish Heritage Center at Panna Maria opened its doors to visitors in the Fall of 2021 and has been established on location of the oldest permanent Polish settlement in the U.S. The Center is a destination for families, educational groups, scholars, researchers, and tourists and includes the following:



•**Permanent & Temporary Exhibits** – interactive & immersive experiences from early Polish history to the present. Highlights focus on early Polish immigrant settlements & lifeways in TX.

•**Archives & Collections** – to house & preserve photographs, documents and artifacts

•**Library & Reading Room** – will have a variety of books in Polish and English

•**Genealogy Room & Oral History** to have computer stations for visitors to access family research and photographs

•**Visitor tours, educational programs & workshops**

•**Theater, concessions, conference meeting rooms & event center**

Please join us in the celebrating & preserving our Polish heritage!

Open to Visitors: Thursday- Sunday, 10:00am – 4:00pm

The Polish Heritage Center at Panna Maria is a 501(c)(3) Foundation. Donations to support educational programs and the development of the library and archives are greatly appreciated!



<https://polishheritagecentertx.org>



SACRED HEART HISTORICAL SOCIETY

*"Thankful for our
Polish ancestors"*

*Window from the original church,
moved to the present church
built in 1961*

P.O. BOX 427 WHITE DEER, TEXAS 79097



ST. ANN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Kosciusko, or more properly spelled Kosciuszko, was named for the Polish General Thaddeus Kosciuszko when it was established March 12, 1880 by sixty-five Polish families. In 1892 a Polish Catholic school was built.

The first Church was built in 1898. The people gathered together and with \$2,000 built the first Church and named it St. Ann's. The wooden church measured 80ft x 40ft.

ANNUAL PICNIC

1st Sunday in August

830-745-2541 • stannskos.com

Corner of FM 541 & 1347, Kosciusko, TX 78160

MASS:
SAT. 5:30 PM
SUN. 8:00 AM

St. Michael Catholic Church



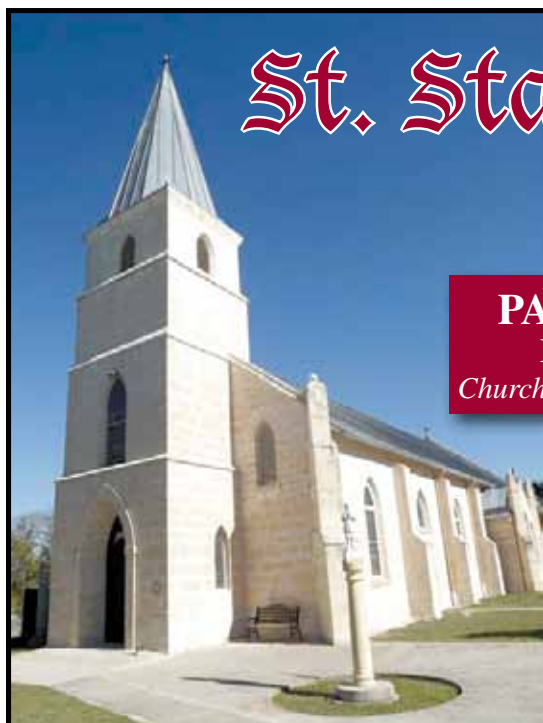
The original St. Michael Catholic Church was the center of the third oldest parish in San Antonio, Texas, and a nucleus for the Polish people of the city. It began with the arrival of Father Vincent Barzynski of the Resurrectionist Order who was the earliest resident pastor. On November 18, 1866, the first Mass of the newly organized parish was celebrated in the San Fernando Cathedral. St. Michael's divine services were initially held in a rented one-story, rock building owned by Emanuel Rzeppa.

In 1922, the original church was torn down and a larger edifice of white brick was erected. The cornerstone of this majestic church was laid on July 4, 1922, followed by the dedication on October 25, 1922. The blessing of the beautiful stained glass windows took place on December 2, 1923.

This historic church, with St. Michael the Archangel as its standard bearer, was demolished to make room for the 1968 HemisFair. Info courtesy of SilesianTexans.com.

Please see SilesianTexans.com for beautiful images and more information about this historic church.

The modern St. Michael Catholic Church is located at 418 Indiana St., San Antonio, Texas 78210. For information please call 210-263-7270.



St. Stanislaus Catholic Church & Cemetery

PARISH FESTIVAL

First Sunday in May

Church grounds, 7th St. & Cypress St.

Mass: Saturday 5 pm

Sunday 8 am,

11 am (Bilingual), 4 pm

Monsignor Frank Kurzaj

311 7th St.,

Bandera, TX 78003

830-460-4712

www.ststanislausbandera.com

St. Stanislaus Catholic Church



Pastor: Reverend Jozef Musiol, SDS, JCD
9175 FM 1371, Chappell Hill, TX 77426
979-836-3030 • www.ststanislauschappellhill.org

EVENTS

*Check the website
for event dates.*

Annual Homecoming Bazaar & Dożynki (Harvest) Mass & Celebration

1st Sunday in September
*Food, Games, Live Auction,
Polish Music*

Polskie Kolędy (Christmas Caroling) December

*Polish Traditions, Polish Food,
Polish Singing, Polish Music*



The Center for European Studies (CES) at University of Texas at Austin promotes the study of Europe in the form of: language study; providing courses on European culture, history, economics, business, and politics; creating opportunities for study abroad and internships abroad; and assisting students in pursuing work opportunities connected to Europe.

CES also serves civic, nonprofit, and business associations with activities in Europe; academic leaders and institutions from Europe with collaborative agreements with UT; governmental and multilateral agencies dedicated to social and economic betterment in Europe; and the general public in Texas and the U.S. whose world outlook includes Europe.

For inquiries, please contact CES at ces@austin.utexas.edu.



Photo by Mihaela Holhos



Please consider giving
to the Polish Studies
Endowment.

Funds from this
endowment shall be used
to support study and/or
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related to promoting
Polish Studies, scholarly
research related to
Poland, or instruction of
the Polish language,
history, or culture by
faculty at the University.

Visit our department site
for ways to help.

Polish Studies at UT!

The Department of Slavic & Eurasian Studies offers first through third year Polish language classes in addition to coursework on Central Europe that features Polish history, literature, film and culture!

In partnership with UT's Center for Russian, East European & Eurasian Studies (CREEES) and Center for European Studies, we also offer prestigious Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship awards for studying Polish at UT and abroad.

The **Polish Studies Endowment** currently funds student scholarships for Polish language learning or research during the summer and we're hoping to build the endowment to additionally support a full-time lecturer position in Polish Studies.



The University of Texas at Austin
Department of Slavic
& Eurasian Studies
College of Liberal Arts



Center for Russian,
East European,
and Eurasian Studies
The University of Texas at Austin



@UTCREEES

www.liberalarts.utexas.edu/slavic/

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY



TO RAISE AWARENESS AND
TO PROMOTE POLISH HERITAGE
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Cześć!

We are the UT Polish Club, students
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Wednesdays 7pm
45-minutes via Zoom

We discuss Polish politics, food, history,
and more! We also have esteemed
guest speakers, participate in Polish
community events, cook Polish food
together, offer Polish movie nights, and
host social events. Join the UT Polish
Club, meet like-minded Longhorns, and
indulge in Poland's rich culture.

***"Everybody is welcome, whether you
are Polish or not."***

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ATA-CERTIFIED TRANSLATOR OF POLISH
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Yvonne Chauvin is a Master Certified Negotiations Expert (MCNE), an Accredited Luxury Home Specialist (ALHS), and a Certified New Home Specialist (CNHS). She balances tenacity and empathy to create exceptional client experiences and successful outcomes. Fiercely loyal when pursuing her client's goals, she is endlessly patient, attentive, and supportive. Since her first day in the business, Yvonne has been devoted to treating every client like a close family member and a lifelong friend. Her clients' satisfaction is always her greatest reward.

"When I see the look of joy and satisfaction in their faces — after completing a complicated transaction or finding their dream home — those are my favorite moments."

Yvonne was born and raised in Poland and speaks Polish. She is a longtime Houstonian serving the Greater Houston area, including Katy, Sugar Land, Pearland, Fulshear, Spring, Magnolia, Waller, Montgomery, Conroe, Kingwood, and Cypress.



EUROPEAN IN TEXAS
market café

CAFE • STORE • EVENTS

2777 E. SOUTHLAKE BLVD #100, SOUTHLAKE 76092 TX
EUROPEANINTEXAS.COM

The advertisement features a collage of European food and products. On the left, a plate holds a large, folded cabbage roll (pierogi) topped with a red sauce and a small garnish of green herbs. To the right of the plate, a variety of European grocery items are displayed, including a bottle of Pilsener beer, a carton of Hortex milk, a jar of jam, a bottle of Kosciuszko Lager Beer, and several sausages. The background is a vibrant green with a sunburst effect emanating from behind the central logo.



Kotara Enterprises LLC

Polonia Restaurant

Special Events ~ Catering ~ Reservations

Polish favorites as pierogi, golabki
(cabbage rolls) original Polish sausage,
bigos (hunter stew) golonka
(pork shank) & much more



Polish Food Store

Extensive selection of authentic,
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MISSION STATEMENT

PACT is a 501-C-3 non-profit organization established with the following mission: To further knowledge of Polish culture, traditions, history, language, arts, current affairs, and statewide events in Texas. To facilitate networking among Polish American groups in Texas.

WHO WE ARE

Our members include Polish American individuals, clubs, organizations, churches, professionals, societies, artists, genealogists, teachers, cultural events, businesses and more. We welcome you!

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