



Regional Reports and Overviews of the Regions

**2023 PACT Annual Meeting
Saturday, November 11, 2023
Bryan, Texas**

Annual Report on the Members in the Region of South Texas

San Antonio

by Elaine Stephens Mazurek

Our Lady of Sorrows, 3107 N. St. Mary's St., offers a Polish Mass every Sunday at 8:00am celebrated by Fr. Marian Piekarczyk, SDS, the Polish priest-in-residence, 210-730-1234. This church also offers Mass and Rosary in Polish every first Saturday at 7 pm. Since September 1986, Our Lady of Sorrows has been the base of operations for the spiritual care of Polish immigrants, known as the Polish Catholic Mission. – First Polish church in San Antonio, later razed for Hemisfair'68 and rebuilt at a nearby location. . The church highlights the exquisite stained-glass windows from the original St. Michael's Church! <https://olssa.org/polish-catholic-mission>

Seraphic Sisters Shrine to Our Lady of Częstochowa, and Divine Mercy Chapel in San Antonio, 138 Beethoven St. It is a beautiful gathering place for families and small groups, with a museum providing opportunities for adoration and retreats. Visiting priests are often needed for Mass; please contact Sister Emilia at 210-337-8193 for more information. Mass times are M-Sat at 9 am and Sunday at 10 am.

The Leopold Moczygemba Foundation

by Elaine Stephens Mazurek

The Foundation continues to offer annual scholarships to youth through an essay contest. The FLMF actively promotes the heritage left to us by Fr. Leopold Moczygemba, and the pioneering Silesian settlers who came to Texas in 1854. FLMFoundation.org

Retired FLMF President, Msgr. Franciszek Kurzaj, has published several books about the Silesian Texans, the foundation, and more, available at many events. The organization maintains two websites, FLMFoundation.org and a *vast and beautiful website* – SilesianTexans.com, which is focused on the histories of Silesian-Texans, including priests, religious, families, and parishes. The site is professionally presented and researched

Bandera

by Elaine Stephens Mazurek

St. Stanislaus Catholic Church, Pastor – Msgr. Franciszek Kurzaj. The parish festival is the first Sunday in May. Church tours are offered on Fridays during Lent from 4:30-7pm or can be arranged through the office.

Bandera County Sister City Partnership; with Strzelce Opolski in Poland. Contact Roy Dugosh, brother of the Founder, the late Elenora Dugosh Goodley, former PACT Director. In 2023, Roy Dugosh worked with film directors, Artur Owczarski and Dakota Wortman, to produce “The Cowboy Capital,” a movie that premiered in Bandera and is also being shown in Poland in the summer of 2023.

Descendants of Bandera Mazurek Settlers – a private Facebook group. Must ask to join. The administrator is Elaine Mazurek Stephens, office@pactx.org

Panna Maria

Polish Heritage Center at Panna Maria

The Polish Heritage Center in Panna Maria, Texas celebrated the two-year anniversary of opening its doors to the public on October 23, 2023. Within the last two years, the Center has welcomed a myriad of guests ranging across all ages, ethnicities, and locations. The Center was the vision of Bishop Emeritus John Walter Yanta as a place to honor Polish ancestry and further educate visitors of the rich traditions and culture the Polish community built and continue to maintain: “I ask your daily prayer for our Center to be a place of pilgrimage for ancestry and education, asking the Blessed Virgin to intercede for us with her Divine Son Jesus under the title of Our Lady of Czestochowa, Patroness of Poland.” -Bishop John Yanta

The Center presents a state-of-the-art immersive experience for visitors. An award-winning twenty-six-minute film in the theatre provides visitors with an overview of the information and artifacts they will encounter throughout the galleries. Visitors can also enjoy an audio option that provides additional information to the label texts in the form of a hand wand that can be programmed in English, Polish, Spanish, and a children’s version. Part of Bishop Yanta’s vision was for the Center to be accessible to all groups and communities. Regardless of ancestry, there is something for everyone at PHC. Visitors can spend hours in the main gallery reading and listening to the sounds of Polish history from its origin to contemporary times. The PHC also contains a library containing a wide range of books focusing on all aspects of Poland including history, literature, language, and culture. The archives house those special objects that may be too fragile for everyday public use but can be researched and viewed upon appointment. The Center also provides families and researchers resources to track their family genealogy. The computer station in the library is equipped with tools such as Ancestry, and the center is proud to be in collaboration with the Silesian Profiles Committee where they have generously donated the digital and physical research and databases.

The second-year anniversary marked a very productive year for PHC. First, Angelica Docog, the previous Executive Director, left in March to pursue a new position as the Executive Director of the State Museum of Pennsylvania. but remains in constant contact planning future exhibits with the staff at PHC. Her departure led to a national search to hire a new Executive Director. Board Secretary Susan Moczygamba McKinsey volunteered and did an outstanding job as Acting Executive Director in the interim. In August, the Polish Heritage Center hired a new Executive Director, Alice Poore, a local resident, with 48 years of experience in education. One of her goals for the center is to honor Bishop Yanta’s vision of educating our future generations about the culture and heritage of the first Polish immigrants. The center is incorporating a new educational plan by providing units of study in Social Studies with emphasis on Polish history to grades 3-8 to surrounding school districts in South Texas. The culminating activity for hundreds of school children will be a visit to the Polish Heritage Center which will start in November.

These last few months the Polish Heritage Center has had the pleasure of sponsoring several outstanding virtual lectures. In September, Dr. T. Lindsay Baker shared a wonderful presentation on his book, Discovering Texas Polish History before It Was Cool. After the presentation, Dr. Baker held a book signing which included his donation of first edition copies available to the public. That same month, Ewa Barczyk shared her book, Footprints of Polonia in North America in a presentation depicting beautiful examples of Polish art, sculptures, and buildings designed by Polish immigrants. In collaboration with the City of San Antonio World Heritage Office and the Polish Heritage Center, Texas Public Radio Great SA presented the Polish Culinary heritage in Texas since the mid-1800s. In October, Professor James Pula presented an outstanding pictorial presentation of his book, Poles in

the US Civil War. Author Sonya Zalubowski is scheduled to present a discussion on her book, Eye on Solidarity, A Firsthand Account of How Poles set the Groundwork for Democracy in a Movement the Reverberates to this Day in Ukraine, November 16.

The highlight of this Fall was the dedication of the Bishop John W. Yanta Room. Bishop Yanta was an extraordinary man, visionary, priest, and friend to so many that it was no surprise that he was honored by friends and family on September 30th with an incredible 7X6 foot portrait, along with a champagne toast, to celebrate his contribution to the Polish Heritage Center, his Polish ancestors and Panna Maria, Texas.

On September 23rd, The Polish Heritage Center opened a beautiful exhibit, which honors the 150th anniversary of Cestohowa's community and church, Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic church. The CCD children from the area presented a beautiful "stick dance" depicting the birth, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

In addition to all these activities, information on 343 names have been researched by the Silesian Profile Committee which is now available in the archives and the library at the Polish Heritage Center. The new gift shop at PHC displays a variety of beautifully crafted Polish items unique to visitors.

We graciously thank all our generous donors and supporters, and look forward to more years to come, and we remember the visionary behind the Polish Heritage Center, Bishop John Yanta. For more information about the Polish Heritage Center please visit our website at <http://www.polishheritagecentertx.org/> or visit us on Facebook.

Panna Maria Historical Society

by Elaine Stephens Mazurek

Operates the Visitor Center and has been open for many years, recording PM history. Maintains the outstanding museum. Visit their pretty website PannaMariaTexas.com.

Immaculate Conception of the BVM Catholic Church – Elaine Mazurek Stephens

Father Iwanec Wieslawa, pastor. Christmas is especially beautiful and features Polish Christmas carols by the choir. Has a large number of descendants of the original 1850s Polish settlers.

St. Hedwig

by Elaine Stephens Mazurek

Annunciation of the BVM, Pastor, Rev. Boleslaw Zadora SDS. The parish annually holds Masses for the Polish American Priests Association. A beautiful church in a rural farming and ranching setting. Many parishioners are descendants of the 1800s Polish/Silesian settlers.

Kosciusko

by Elaine Stephens Mazurek

St. Ann Catholic Church, built in 1898 following the establishment of a Polish school in 1892.

Named for Polish General Thaddeus Kosciusko. Spelling is accepted in several ways. The annual picnic is on the 1st Sunday in August. Parishioners include many descendants of original 1850s Polish/Silesian settlers.

Czestochowa

by Elaine Stephens Mazurek

Nativity of the BVM, many parishioners are descendants of original 1850s Polish/Silesian settlers. Spelling adopted by parishioners. Watch for more info on the upcoming new PACT website.

Falls City

by Elaine Stephens Mazurek

Holy Trinity Catholic Church. a large number of parishioners are descendants of original 1850s Polish/Silesian settlers.

Yorktown

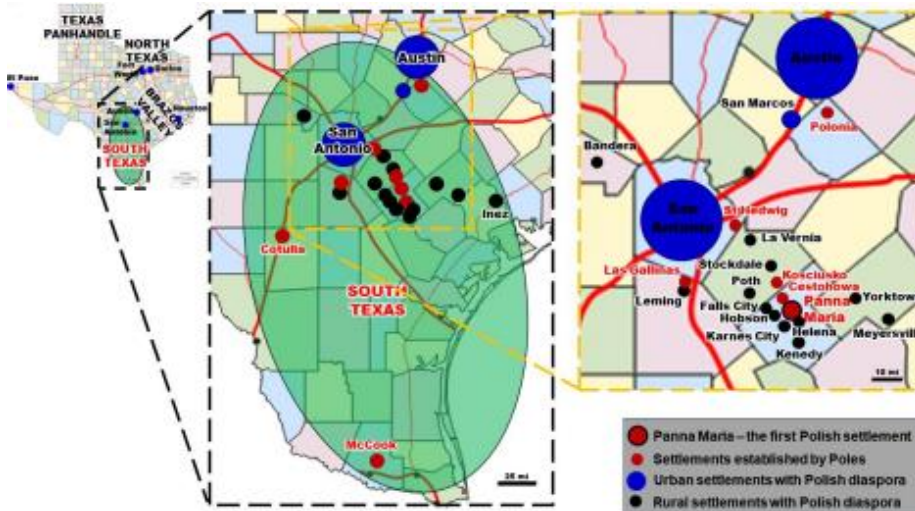
by Elaine Stephens Mazurek

Holy Cross Catholic Church of Yorktown, today a large and thriving parish, was a mission of Meyersville, in 1866. For a short time in 1868 there was a resident pastor, Father John Frydychowitz, but again, it soon became Panna Maria's mission church.

In tracing the history of the Catholic Church in Yorktown, we learn that its founders were Polish families who came from villages in Upper Silesia, Poland, then under German rule. These early settlers arrived in Texas between 1854 and 1856.

More South Texas communities with Polish diaspora:

McCook, Meyersville, Inez, Las Gallinas, Karnes City, Leming, Kenedy, Cotulla, Hobson, La Vernia (my home!).



Map created by Dr. Piotr Przybylski.

Brazos Valley Regional Report

- **Established:** Sister City between Bryan/College Station and Toruń, Poland

Bremond and St. Mary's Catholic Church – Denis Kubiak/Hector Davila

The following information are activities that the Polish community of Bremond participated in this past year.

NOVEMBER

- All Souls Day: Lighting candles, placing flowers and praying at St. Mary's cemetery

DECEMBER

- Christmas parade, downtown.
- Kolędy (Saturday after Christmas)
Jakob Marshall led this year's Kolędy, visited several homes, ate and drank plenty, sang many old-time Polish Christmas carols.
- Polish Night - Polish National Alliance Lodge #128, Bremond, along with the Chamber of Commerce and the City of Bremond hosted " Iskierczanie " an authentic Polish village band from Debica, Poland. PNA Hall was standing room only. The trio provided listening and dancing music for their crowd. Brian Marshall accompanied the trio. Members of PNA and the Chamber of Commerce provided a Polish meal for all.

JANUARY

- Bremond Chamber of Commerce appreciation dinner.
(Gathering of merchants and members)

FEBRUARY

- Polish food store opening.

Andrzej and Sharon Szpak opened their second Polish food store. (the other store is located in Houston). Diplomats and residents were treated to many Polish Delicacies. Brian Marshall provided music. The store is located at 304 North Main Street. The event lasted all day.

JUNE

- Annual " Polski Dzień " Friday and Saturday June 23rd and 24th, downtown Bremond, The consulate general of Poland Ms. Monika Sobczak attended and participated in the opening ceremonies. Polish musicians and Czech Polka bands provided dancing and listening to music all day. Many Polish vendors. Many participated in the annual " Polish pickle run, " giving all runners kielbasa and piwo.
Jagoda Polish Folk Dance ensemble from Dallas performed to the audience's delight.

OCTOBER

- St. Mary's Catholic Church annual Picnic / Bazaar.

GENERAL

- Represented Bremond at several Polish and Czech Festivals and church picnics.
- PNA lodge #128 is closed until further notice.

St. Joseph in New Waverly by Clara Malak

Host of the November 2022, PACT Annual Meeting, New Waverly, Texas

St. Stanislaus (Bishop) Catholic Parish in Chappell Hill, Texas

(est. 1889) in Chappell Hill, Texas (Washington County) "The Birthplace of Texas"

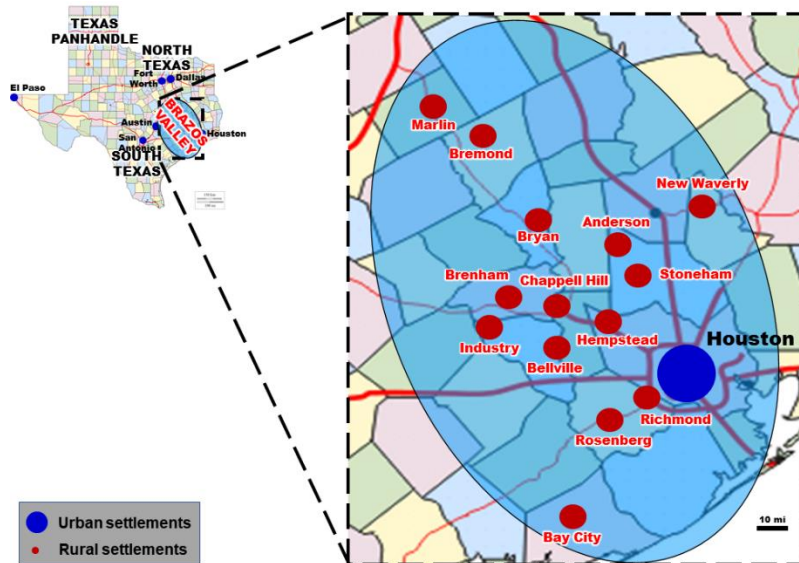
- Mass Schedule: Saturday Vigil – 6:00 p.m.; Sunday – 8:00 a.m. Wednesday – 6:00 p.m. Thursday and Friday – 8:00 a.m.
- Parish Website: <https://www.ststanislauschappellhill.com/gallery>
- Pastor: Father Thaddeus Tabak, SDS; Bishop: Diocesan Bishop Joe S. Vasquez of Austin
- 15th Annual Poliskie Kolędownia – Annual Kolędownia in Chappell Hill, Texas was held on Saturday, December 31, 2022 and 16th annual will be held on December 30, 2023
- The 86th Annual Homecoming Festival and "Dozynki Mass" celebrating 134 years of St. Stanislaus (Bishop) Catholic Parish in Chappell Hill, Texas held on Sunday, September 3, 2023
- Celebrating Father Thaddeus Tabak's birthday with a Polish meal following mass on Saturday, December 4, 2023
- Józwiak family reunion held on Saturday, September 9 with Polish folk music from the 19th century ancestors.
- Cegielski family reunion was held on Saturday, October 14, 2023 with Polish folk music from the 19th century ancestors.
- Derkowski family reunion was held on Saturday, April 28, 2023

Chappell Hill Museum and Historical Society

- Polish room dedicated to the Polish immigrants to Washington County
- Polish photos, information, and documents have been archived, scanned, and kept for historical access
- October 2023 - Overview of new St. John Paul II classes and Polish Studies classes and events for Chappell Hill Historical Society by Dr. Piotr Przybylski
- Hosted Polish Christmas Carolers on Saturday, December 31, 2022
- Distributed the PACT directories and information

St. Stanislaus in Anderson & St. Joseph in Stoneham – by Mike Kurtin

- Spring Festival, May 26, 2024
- Fall Homecoming and Bazaar , October 13., 2024
- St. Joseph Church in Stoneham, Annual Bazaar May 26, 2024



Map created by Dr. Piotr Przybylski

Houston Regional Report

by Piotr Przybylski and Jolanta Mazewski-Dryden

Polish Consulate General:

- Consul General: Monica Sobczak
- Support Polish organizations, Polish school children, and local Polish diaspora with grants (e.g., Pact, UST)
- Polish Passport renewal program
- Organize events, e.g., annual Polish Independence Day celebration

Our Lady of Czestochowa Church:

- Sunday Masses:
 - 9am English Mass
 - **11am Polish Mass**
- Pastor: Fr. Tadeusz Rusnak
- OLOC Activities:
 - **Polish Festivals** - twice a year:
 - May Festival (1st weekend of May to commemorate the May 3rd Polish Constitution of 1791) –
 - Polish Harvest Festival / Dożynki - September
 - **January:**
 - Oplatek
 - Sylvester (New Year's Eve Gala)
 - § Jasełka (Christmas Caroling by Polish school children and parish musicians)
 - **February:** Karnawał (Mardi Gras Ball) organized by the Polish School
 - **Lent:** Lenten Fish Fry
 - **Easter:** Święconka (food blessing)
- **May:**
 - Nicolaus Copernicus concert (org. by the Polish Consulate General)
 - Children's competition of Pilecki drawing
- November
 - Garage Sale organized by the Knights of Columbus
 - Singing of Polish Patriotic Songs
 - Polish Independence Day celebration (org. by the Polish Consulate General)
- **December:**

- Św. Mikołaj (St. Nicolaus) organized by the Polish School
- Polish National Alliance annual gala
- Wigilia (Christmas Eve supper)

Nicolaus Copernicus Polish School Houston Saturday School:

- This school year's enrollment is 89 students and 12 teachers. Principal- Hanna Tomasziewicz.
Regular classes every Saturday from 10 am – 2 pm from August until May
- School Principal: Hanna Tomasziewicz
- <https://szkolapolskahouston.com/en/main-page/>
- Polish school in Houston is highly active. Every month school parents prepare picnics to raise money for the school
- The most important events are:
 - October - Teachers Day plus students' reunion
 - Pasowanie na ucznia
 - Polish Bilingual Day



- Polish Heritage Day
- November - Polish Independence Day
- December- Mikolajki
- School's Wigilia
- January- Jaselka
- February- Carnival Ball for adults which is the biggest fundraiser for the school Carnival Ball for students
- April - Easter Egg Hunt
- May- Mother's, Father's and Children's Day
- June/ July- Polish summer camp

St. John Paul II Institute (University of St. Thomas):

Offers classes of Polish history, language, and culture, and on philosophy and encyclicals of St. John Paul II, on campus and online, for the UST students and for non-students as audit. Academic scholar exchange with KUL (Lublin), Papal University (Krakow).

- November 2022 – International Fest on UST Campus
- December 2022 – Christmas at the Mall with Polish ornaments
- March 2023 – two lectures of Bp. Slawomir Oder on the Canonization process of Pope John Paul II
- April 2023 – Lecture about Polish Saints by Fr. Dr. Witold Kania
- April 2023 - Piotr Orłowski, CEO at Ellocco Production in Florida who also represents Telewizja Polska (Polish Television) to do a Polish TV1 News interview about the St. John Paul II Institute in Houston
- May 2023 – Concert of Polish classical music related to Karol Wojtyła
- May 2023 – lecture about Korfanty by Dr. Piotr Przybylski
- June 2023 – annual students fieldtrip to Poland following the footsteps of St. John Paul II
- September 2023 - Poetry Night of Wislawa Szymborska by children of the Houston Nicolaus Copernicus Polish School (org. by the Polish Consulate General)
- September 2023 - ZOOM lecture – “The Treasure of His Youth: The Life and Death of Jan Rodowicz "Anoda.”” – Kurtyka Foundation; Dr. John Hittinger as a panelist
- October 2023 - Polish Texans class Graduation by Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz; reception
- October 2023 - Overview of new St. John Paul II classes and Polish Studies classes and events for Chappell Hill Historical Society by Dr. Piotr Przybylski
- November 2023 – Lecture about Eucharistic renewal in the school of John Paul II and Benedict XVI by Fr. Dr. Boguslaw Migut

- November 2023 - John Paul II and the Coming of Ages - Introduction to Integral Leadership by Dr. Michal Luczewski
- November 2023 – Lecture about the Ulm Family by Dr. Piotr Przybylski at the Holocaust Museum
- October 2023 – Lecture Series (5 virtually) Polish Texas History: The History of Texas Polonia by Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz\
- October 2023 – Lecture Series class graduation and reception by the St. John Paull II Institute at the University of St. Thomas

Other Polish organizations and events in Houston:

➤ **Wawel Dance Group (Director: *Yessica Krozel*, Director Emeritus: *Elzbieta Winiarska*):**

- Over 50 members
- 3 subgroups: Adults, Mini Wawel (children and teenagers), and Babcia Wawel (elderly)
- Performing at a wide variety of events throughout Texas
- Performing for many International Festivals throughout the major cities of Texas (Houston, Galveston, Katy, Sealy, and Austin)
- Performers for the annual PACT Meeting
- Supporting and performing the annual Bremond, TX Polish Days Festival
- Polish Heritage Day performers at John Paul 2 Landing Park
- Annual Houston Slavic Festival members and performers
- Representatives of Poland for the Texas Independence Day Celebration in Washington-On-The-Brazos
- Supporting and promoting Polish culture throughout Texas
- Part of the Polish Folk Dance Association of the Americas (Yessica Krozel is a board member and secretary for the association)
- Honorary members, performers, and organizers of the annual Houston Polish Festivals
- Supported by the Consulate General of the Republic of Poland in Houston as well as Wspólnota Polska in Warsaw, Poland Mini Wawel will be representing USA and Polish-Texans in the 31st Annual ŚWIĘTO DZIECI GÓR Festival, which will take place in Nowy Sącz, Poland in July 2023!



- Special thanks to all for your generous donations for the Mini Wawel Folk Dance Ensemble from Houston, Texas! Our participation at the Swieto Dzieci Gor Festival in Nowy Sacz, Poland, was truly outstanding! Please see the attached photos of our trip. We have made amazing memories and consider ourselves lucky to be able to experience such a trip, thanks to you all. We not only represented Texas, but we also represented Polonia of Houston and beyond. We have made friends from around the world and cannot wait to promote what we learned overseas back at home. The theme of the event was comradery. This is what we wish to spread amongst our youth generations. THANK YOU TO ALL OUR MAJOR SPONSORS ONCE AGAIN! DZIEKUJEMY!
- Our Lady of Częstochowa Parish in Houston
- Fr. Leopoldo Moczygamba Foundation in Panna Maria



- Polish National Alliance United States of North America
- Polish American Council of Texas
- Polish National Alliance - Kościuszko Lodge
- Cavender's
- Polish National Alliance - Progressive Lodge
- Kundrotas Family
- Consulate General Monika Sobczak
- PV American
- Sienko Precision
- Kościuszko Foundation - Texas Chapter
- The American Sliding Door LLC
- Ciaston Family
- Nicolaus Copernicus Polish School in Houston
- Here are a couple more links for you all to see more photos:
- <https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.710883661036638&type=3>
- https://www.facebook.com/PolishConsulateHouston/posts/pfbid0vA5tYT8kxfzYMqQERPuuGTNu3hdTC7jEtpNTGJPtH5xV8Zr7p1bmhE2pzuxjirfwl?comment_id=241155108235977¬if_id=1690467486760070¬if_t=feedback_reaction_generic&ref=notif
- <https://wavelhouston.com/index.html>
- **Polish Theatre Groups:**
 - **Associated with OLOC, Director: Michal Szpak**
 - **Associated with Holy Name Retreat Center, Director: Fr. Nicholas Divine**
- **Kosciuszko Foundation Texas Chapter - Dr. Waldemar Priebe**
- **Classical Music Group: Duo Dramatique – Dominika Dancewicz**
- **Polish National Alliance Texas Chapter – Region H**, exhibits or displays at a majority of the events in the region Co-sponsors or supports all events.
- **Dom Polski (Polish Home)** – Annual Christmas Party, Quarterly meetings, Sponsoring Polish Events and groups
- **Polish Progressive Lodge 2336 – PNA**, Meetings, supporting and sponsoring Polish Events and Groups and Sponsorships
- **Kosciuszko Lodge 165 – PNA** - PNA, Meetings, supporting and sponsoring Polish Events and Groups and Sponsorships - PNA, Meetings, supporting and sponsoring Polish Events and Groups and Sponsorships
- **Council 182 – PNA – Supporting events with Lodge 2336 and 165 and Polish Home Inc in additional to PNA event in general**
- **Houston Slavic Heritage Festival** (September) – yearly festival celebrating its 60th year! Polish-Ukrainian-Czech-Croatian. This year was the Polish Year and was extraordinarily successful
- **Polish Film Festival** (October-November) Houston: Dr. Zbigniew Wojciechowski, Adam Siuk
- **Polish Bridge Club** – 40 members
- **Polonia Restaurant** - Catering and Deli: (Houston/Bremond) Polish Pavilion at Renaissance Festival
- **Polki w Houston**
- **Polacy w Teksasie (FB)**
- **Polish American Chamber of Commerce in Texas**

October 2023 – 2nd Annual Polish Day at the John Paul II Landing Park in Cypress by PACT

Polish Media in Texas:

- Forum Polonia Houston
- Zgoda newspaper by PNA
- PNA Region H

- Polish Events and Happening in Texas
 - Various Polish Groups Facebook
 - WEBR Radio hosted by Andrew Gołębiowski, The Polish American Radio in Buffalo, New York about Polskie Kolędowanie in Chappell Hill, Texas January 1, 2022.
 - Piotr Orłowski, CEO at Ellocco Production in Florida and who also represents Telewizja Polska (Polish Television) to do a documentary about the Polish people involved in the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo March 16 & 17.
 - Polish TV Interview in Warsaw discussing “US Beef Promotion” by the National Cattleman’s Beef Council promoting US Beef on June 2.
 - Polish TV Interview in outside of Warsaw at an agricultural conference discussing Texas/Poland bi-lateral visits on June 6, 2022.
 - Polish TV Interview in Warsaw discussing the “Our Futures Forum” on June 3, 2022
 - Brazos Valley Insite Magazine - A Polskie Kolędy Celebration: Caroling tradition in Chappell Hill takes place on New Year’s Day 2022 – November 2021
 - Brenham Banner Press Newspaper: Kolędowanie December 2021 and Dożynki August 2021
 - “Good Morning America” Zapytanie z TVN Warner Bros Discovery Poland in Warsaw featuring Poles living in the United States – October 11, 2022
 - June 2021 – Futures Forum, Young Farmers Annual meeting, NCBA Beef Promotion in Warsaw, Meeting with the Deputy Prime Minister - TVN News: Prime time
 - A written tribute about Bishop John W. Yanta for the Wilson County News about the life and impact of Bishop Yanta on August 11, 2022.
 - *Texas Monthly* contacted Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz to conduct an interview concerning the Texas Silesians in Panna Maria and the history of Polish Texas more broadly on September 15, 2022.
 - Tomasz S. Wicherkiewicz, Professor from Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan who visited Chappell Hill, Texas and prepared a paper on the Wielkopolska immigrants “The Second Wave to Texas” New Wavery/Brazos Valley September 16, 2022.
- hosted “Dzien Dobry” TVN Poland Discovery Channel to document the Mazurkiewicz family, Texas A&M University, and the Polish immigrants to the Brazos Valley October 8 & 9, 2022.
- TVP Polish Television
 - TVN Polish Television
 - Wilson County News
 - Brenham Banner Press
 - TV Stations in Houston (list them)
 - Brazos Valley Insight Magazine
 - Texas Monthly Magazine

DFW Metroplex Regional Report **Polish Association in Texas (Dallas-Sherman)**

1. April 2, 2023 – Dallas – meeting with IPN Director Mr. Lukasz Witek – “Presentation of the 20th Century History of Poland” in the North Texas Region”.
2. March-April-May-June, 2023 – ZOOM platform meetings concerning WW II reparations for Poland – IPN, Polish Embassy, and Polish MSZ and American Polonia organizations participated in the meetings.
3. September 23, 2023 – “Katyn” movie screening, Frisco, TX; *
4. September 26, 2023 – “Katyn” movie screening, Plano, TX; *
 - Both movie screenings were planned jointly by PAiT and IPN for the general public.
 - IPN Internet based presentations concerning the history of Poland – educational materials prepared for the general public:
 - Szlaki Nadziei Odyseja Wolności <https://szlakinadziei.ipn.gov.pl/sne>
 - Przystanek Historia <https://przystanekhistoria.pl/pa2/tematy/english-content>

- Kanał IPN na YouTube (polecam filmy dokumentalne) <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC5G4MtGuS9o88U9DjOan3yA>

Jan Kariski Polish School of Dallas

Katarzyna Włodek, Polish School of Dallas, Director

Regular classes including a celebration of the first and last day of

school <http://www.polishschooldallas.org/>

Special events:

November

- All Saints Memorial and meeting on the Calvary Hill cemetery
- Celebration of the Independence Day (school and church)

December

- Meeting with Santa and Christmas fest
- Christmas party for students and their families

January

- The Great Orchestra of Christmas Charity

February

- Carnival Ball for adults

March:

- Egg hunt
- Spring performance and traditional drowning a straw Marzanna doll

May

- Breakfast for Parents made by Teachers
- Spring family campout, Grapevine Lake

September

- Fire fighters' visit
- History classes with Institute of National Remembrance

October:

- Fall family campout, Grapevine Lake



Austin Regional Report

By Art Gmurowski for Margaret Meub, AUSTIN POLISH SOCIETY

APSI in 2023, APS had the following events/activities:

1. Polish Language Classes for children
2. Bigos Cook-Off competition (John Cebrowski won first place for best Bigos)
3. Ognisko (Polish bonfire event) - with Polish food and campfire songs
4. 18th annual **Austin Polish Film Festival** (Nov 2 - Nov 5) with the following special guests:
 - Mishael Porembski (director of *Burning Questions* documentary about Catholic Poles in Holocaust)
 - Paulina Pytlak (leading actress in *Feast of Fire (Święto Ognia)* feature film)
 - Marcin Ciastoń (screenwriter of *The Breach (Wyrwa)* feature film)
 - Piotr Przybylski (speaker for historical films *The Pilecki Report* and *The Prophet (Prorok)* feature films)
 - Sebastian Smoliński (Master of Ceremonies)

5. APS donated \$2,000 to **PASI Educational Organization** for legal defense costs of Katyń Memorial in New Jersey.
6. APS donated \$2,000

El Paso Regional Report

By General Casimir Pulaski Polish American Society of El Paso

Joanna Ruszczyk, President, Joanna Sikorski, Director for Arts and Culture

Hello from El Paso TX GCPPA Society. Being a PACT member, we would like to share with you our most significant accomplishments YTD.

- On March 5th, Ms. Monika Sobczak, Consul General of the Republic of Poland in Houston, landed at El Paso International Airport La Placita. Ms. Sobczak is the third Consul General of the Republic of Poland invited to El Paso TX by GCPS.
- On March 7th, 2023, Ms. Monika Sobczak met with the Polish American group at a local historical boarder pub Rosa's Cantina.
- On March 8th General Casimir Pulaski Polish American Society celebrated the International Women's Day at Coronado Country Club. The guest of Honor was Ms. Monika Sobczak, Consul General of the Republic of Poland in Houston. Opening address by Adam Baginski, President of GCPS.
- GCPS co-sponsored the first edition of Borderland Chopin Festival organized by University of Texas at El Paso Music Department. During the Festival, the guest stars were two pianists from Poland: Magdalena Baczewska and Prof. Andrzej Pikul.
- On April 1st, Krystyna Robbins, an artist of Polish heritage, run the traditional egg painting "pisanki" workshops for the Polish American community.
- On Easter Saturday the traditional Polish Easter Food blessing took place in two El Paso locations: the Queen of Peace Catholic Church and Holy Family Catholic Church.
- GCPS observed the 3rd of May Polish Constitution Day, attending the holy mass celebrated by a Polish Franciscan, father Jaroslaw Wysoczanski, OFM.
- June 27th - Happy 95th birthday to Dr. Anthony Kruszewski- UTEP Political Science Professor Emeritus, world-class scholar in the area of border, ethnic and economic studies; WWII veteran, longtime leader of Polonia and a member of the General Casimir Pulaski Polish Society of El Paso!
- For five years already GCPS sponsors the Plaza Film Festival, promoting Polish cinematography. This year the international public was able to watch a social comedy-drama by Krzysztof Kieslowski: Three Colors – White.
- On September 17th we celebrated Bertha Evans 100 birthday, she was the "founding father" of GCPS in 1960. Our ladies prepared special Polish food, including gołabki and pierogi.
- On November 25th, an art exhibit of oil works "Painting Poland from North to South" will be inaugurated. The exhibit will run for six weeks at the Magoffin Historical Site of Texas. The collection of paintings is the result of a plein air co-organized by GCPS in Poland in 2022.
- In December we plan to organize: a Polonia Congress, a Christmas party with fundraising and promote Polish Christmas traditions at Magoffin Historical Home of Texas.



Texas A & M Polish Association Report

By Emily Glowski TAMPA President and Jennie Szefer

TAMPA has grown a lot this semester. As usual we still have meetings about every 2-3 weeks. The turnout for these meetings has been surprising to the fellow officers who have experience with the club due to the fact that we have gone through midterms with 20+ individuals still showing up to meetings.



We have been advertising as much as possible around campus with flyers and the officers and I have created a program to reward new students coming to the club (giving candy)

The turnout to events was also great, recently we went to the Brazos County Rodeo and everyone who attended had a great time. Everyone is always eager to come to the cooking events and one-off events we throw (archery, bingo).

I believe that our core membership will continue to stick around for the rest of the semester as they are very enthusiastic about the club. As the president of the club, I have received many emails and text messages from members asking about the next events which shows the club is growing!

Polish Club at the University of Texas at Austin

By Nathan Silverstein, Founder and President Polish Club at UT

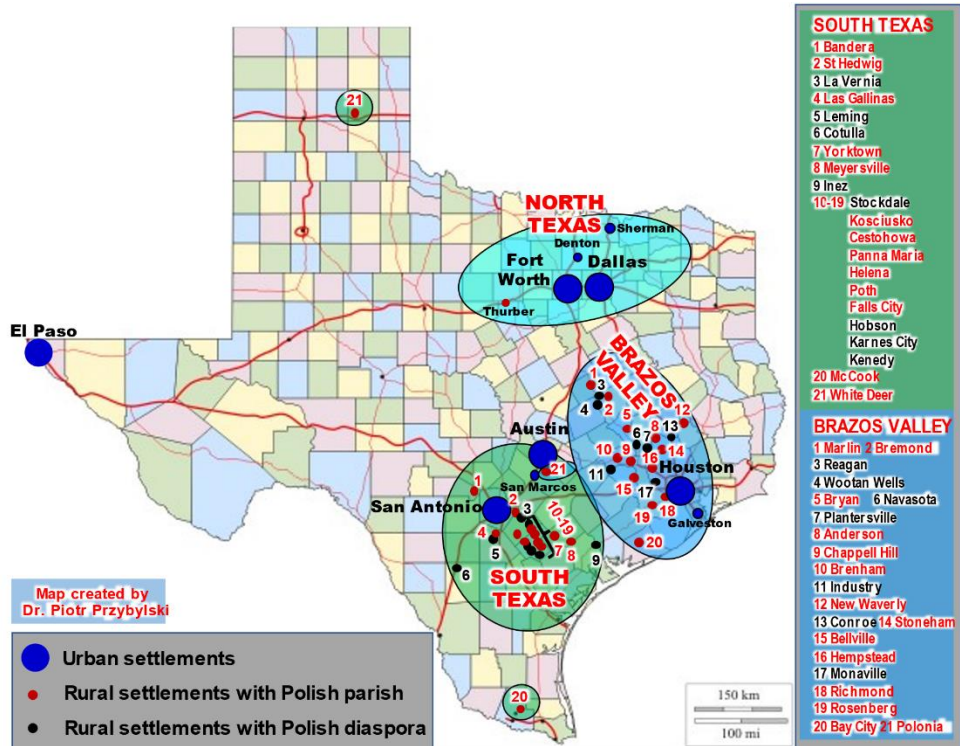
The Polish Club at UT has become a leading Polish-American student organization. We have over 500 members and have hosted events with many top Polish and American officials. These include three former presidents of Poland and the current U.S. Ambassador to Poland.

The Club also promotes Polish culture by traveling to Polish heritage sites in Texas and hosting Polish movies, baking, and holiday-themed events. For example, every year, we take Club trips to the Polish Heritage Center in Panna Maria and to Dr. Jim's Christmas party.

For a detailed list of our past events, we kindly direct you to our website, TexasPolishClub.org, and our social media. Instagram: @PolishClubatUT Facebook: Polish Club at UT. The Club is one of the most active Polish-American student organizations.

As always, we would like to express our gratitude to the Polish American Council of Texas (PACT), its board of directors, and its membership for their generosity and support. We would like to thank Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz, Mr. Eric Opiela, Ms. Jolanta Mazewski-Dryden, and Ms. Elaine Mazurek-Stephens for going beyond to help the Club succeed. We are proud to be a PACT member.

We look forward to continuing to grow, develop, and achieve. Happy Holidays and New Year!
Wesołych Świąt i Szczęśliwego Nowego Roku!



Note :PACT assumes no responsibility or liability for any errors or omissions in the content of this report.